



Nazareth Area School District

Nazareth Area Middle School - Required Student Courses

Grade 7

→ English

- ◆ Seventh Grade English integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening to further develop students' literacy skills. The reading portion of this course emphasizes skill development in vocabulary, comprehension, reading response, and higher level thinking through the reading of a variety of contemporary and classic literature. Students will also continue to develop their listening, speaking, and writing skills through various writing assignments, many of which stem from their reading. Independent reading is required in the seventh grade curriculum to encourage lifelong reading.

→ Writing

- ◆ Seventh grade Writing is a course that emphasizes the importance of grammar and composition skills through the various genres of writing. Students will begin the year with a focus on the foundations of grammar. They will review the parts of speech and determine how each one functions in a sentence while also paying attention to the conventional details of capitalization and punctuation. As we progress through the year, the students will cover writing genre units such as narrative, informational, and argumentative through writing-based projects that highlight a variety of interests; no two writing units will be alike, showing students that writing is anything but boring! Our ultimate goal in this course is to prove to students that writing is invaluable, and the words we choose to communicate, whether in speaking or in the written form, are powerful tools that help lifelong learners succeed in all careers.

→ Social Studies

- ◆ This course will cover the themes of geography, landforms and water features, wind and ocean currents, climate and vegetation, and Earth's natural environments, resources, and interaction of people around the world.

→ **Science**

- ◆ In this course students will be enhancing their content knowledge and critical thinking skills within the branches of Physical, Earth, and Life Science. The course aims to teach scientific and engineering practices with a focus on exploration of core ideas and concepts in science.

→ **Math**

- ◆ The Algebra 1 curriculum parallels the PA Core Standards and Keystone Anchors. Concepts covered are variables and equations, operations with real numbers, solving equations and problems, operations with polynomials, factoring polynomials, operations with algebraic fractions, ratios and proportions, fractional equations, percent problems, equations and functions in two variables, systems of linear equations, inequalities in one and two variables, rational and irrational numbers, and the quadratic formula.
- ◆ The Math 7 curriculum parallels the 7th Grade PA Core Standards. Concepts covered include algebraic expressions and integers, ratios, proportions and percents, factors, exponents, operations with rational numbers, solving and writing equations/inequalities, spatial thinking, area and volume, data analysis and probability. This course prepares students to take Algebra 1.
- ◆ The Foundations of Math 7 curriculum parallels the 7th Grade PA Core Standards. Concepts covered include operations with integers, operations with fractions and decimals, exponents, algebraic expressions, ratios, proportions and percents, factors, solving and writing equations/inequalities (with an emphasis on one and two step), spatial thinking, area and volume of basic shapes, data analysis and probability.

→ **Physical Education/ Wellness**

- ◆ The Middle School Physical Education and Wellness course is designed to provide opportunities to learn a variety of lifelong fitness activities and health concepts. The focus of the course includes personal fitness and safety, sport movement and strategy in addition to personal health knowledge. Physical Education units will include individual, team and cooperative based activities. Health units will cover topics that pertain to personal health and real world topics. The outcome of these courses is to help students develop skills and knowledge that will develop a positive perspective of overall wellness.

→ **Computer Graphics**

- ◆ This 30-day exploratory course introduces students to elements of graphic design using photo and image editing software. Students will develop their skills using various image editing tools and incorporate layers into their design to create unique projects. Additionally, students will participate and engage in a web-based resource called Everfi Ignition to learn responsible digital citizenship and how to be safe in an online community.

→ **Music**

- ◆ Students will continue their music education by applying note and rhythm reading skills to playing piano.

→ **Computer Programming**

- ◆ Students will use Scratch to learn basic coding and programming. Students will also be using Canva to learn beginner design techniques

→ **Family & Consumer Science**

- ◆ This 30-day exploratory course introduces students to the topics of Family & Consumer Science. We will be discussing and exploring some of the sub standards of the following state standards: 11.1 Financial and Resource Management, 11.2 Balancing Family, Work and Community Responsibility, 11.3 Food Science and Nutrition, and 11.4 Child Development. We will be completing units in the areas of food safety, basic kitchen knowledge, cooking and baking, laundry, and basic sewing. This class is a wonderful opportunity to explore important life skills!

Grade 8

→ **English**

- ◆ The 8th Grade English course is an integrated language arts class with emphasis on reading comprehension, writing, and vocabulary. The objective of this course is to develop students into well-rounded language arts students who are able to read and think critically while being exposed to numerous genres, growing as writers, and making connections between learning and one's own life experiences.

→ **Social Studies**

- ◆ In this United States History course, students will analyze events, documents, and people that shaped America's development from the Revolutionary War era through Westward Expansion. They will explore the creation of our nation, the writing of our Constitution, and Manifest Destiny.

→ **Science**

- ◆ Eighth-grade science is a skills related course that focuses on the application of the science and engineering processes. These concepts are focused on various scientific fields of study with the branches of Earth, Space, Life, Physical and Environmental Sciences.

→ **Math**

- ◆ The 8th grade Geometry curriculum is all encompassing and, sometimes, quite challenging. The course parallels the PA Core Standards. Concepts covered are essentials of geometry, reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, relationships within triangles, similarity, right triangles and trigonometry, quadrilaterals, properties of circles, measuring length and area, and surface area and volume of solids.
- ◆ The Algebra 1 curriculum parallels the 8th Grade PA Core Standards and Keystone Anchors. Concepts covered are variables and equations, operations with real numbers, solving equations and problems, operations with polynomials, factoring polynomials, operations with algebraic fractions, ratios and proportions, fractional equations, percent problems, equations and functions in two variables, systems of linear equations, inequalities in one and two variables, rational and irrational numbers, and the quadratic formula.
- ◆ The Math 8 curriculum parallels the 8th Grade PA Core Standards. Concepts covered are algebraic expressions and integers, ratios, proportions and percents, factors, fractions and exponents, operations with fractions, decimals and equations, solving equations, spatial thinking/area and volume and data analysis and probability.

→ **Physical Education**

- ◆ The 8th grade Physical Education course will give students the opportunity to participate in a number of team and individual sports that are developmentally/individually appropriate and support achievement of goals. All activities will be modified and inclusive to students of all ability levels. Students will learn about teamwork, game strategies, cooperation, communication, and good sportsmanship. They will also analyze factors that affect their physical activity as well as their interactions with others.

→ **Wellness**

- ◆ The 8th grade Wellness course will consist of both health and fitness and give students the opportunity to learn about several topics relating to their physical, mental/emotional, and social well-being. Students will analyze factors that impact health maintenance and disease prevention. The goal is for them to achieve and maintain a physically active and healthful life. Students will also be able to describe and apply the health and skill related fitness components to movement performance. They will engage in a number of activities that will enhance their understanding and knowledge of the following concepts: First Aid and Safety, Drugs and Alcohol, and Sexual Reproduction, Communicable/ Non-Communicable Diseases, Genetics, and Human Growth & Development.

→ **World Language**

- ◆ The 8th grade World Language program is designed to give students an introduction to the process of language learning, basic structures and sounds of each language, and increased knowledge of and appreciation for the cultures related to each language. Students will be introduced to French, German, and Spanish.

→ **Digital Careers**

- ◆ The eighth-grade Career Exploration course, based on the Pennsylvania State Career Standards, provides opportunities for academic, career, and personal/social development. This is a 45-day course. In the digital careers course, students will explore their interests, skills, and abilities to discover which career path suits them best. They will be introduced to various professions and learn about the requirements necessary to pursue those careers. The course is designed to guide students through the investigation process and help them develop an education and career readiness plan. They will also learn how to create resumes, request references, and improve their interviewing skills. Furthermore, students will be introduced to financial concepts through Everfi FutureSmart, a web-based resource that teaches them about practical financial decisions and the benefits of long-term financial planning.

→ **Robotics**

- ◆ Students will use coding to program physical and virtual robots to complete tasks autonomously. Students will create videos using video editing software.

→ **Art**

- ◆ The curriculum for 8th grade Art focuses on a portion of the elements, color theory, and principles of design. The elements that are explored in class will help to create the backbone of students' middle school art experience. Line, value, color, texture and repetition are all investigated through the various projects completed in class. Students will develop observation and technical skills through the use of various art mediums that will enable them to explore their own creativity and originality as an artist.

→ **Technology Education**

- ◆ Technology Education is a very diverse field that encompasses everything from traditional woodshop and metal shop all the way through graphic design, technical drawing and beyond. With such a large area to cover, the Middle School is the perfect environment to introduce students to a variety of fields and allow them to see if they wish to further pursue these fields when they get to the High School.

→ **Music**

- ◆ Students will continue their music education by applying note and rhythm reading skills to playing guitar.