
Lake Highland Preparatory School Mission Statement



Within an atmosphere of love, concern,
and mutual respect,

**Lake Highland
Preparatory School**

is committed to instilling Christian values,
to inspiring patriotism, to developing future leaders,
and to preparing students for college and lifetime
learning through academically challenging programs
and affirming competitive experiences.

Highlander Honor Code

Each Highlander is a unique child of God whose actions are based upon these fundamental beliefs:

A Highlander's word is the truth.

A Highlander's work is completely his or her own.

A Highlander respects the rights, feelings, and property of others.

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NOTE:

All courses listed in this Curriculum Guide are subject to change, whether by addition, deletion or modification, at the sole discretion of Lake Highland Preparatory School, Inc. Lake Highland Preparatory School, Inc. does not guarantee or warrant that all courses that are listed in this Curriculum Guide will be available or offered during any academic school year. This Curriculum Guide is provided only for information about the possible scope of courses available or offered during an academic year. It is not intended to be a representation, guarantee, or warranty that all courses listed will, in fact, be available or offered during any academic year.



A Message from the Director

The middle school curriculum prepares each student individually for the transition from elementary school to the challenging college preparatory program of grades 9–12. Lake Highland Preparatory Middle School inspires students and provides them with the tools necessary for lifetime learning.

Our goal at the Middle School is to provide students with an atmosphere that encourages them to blossom into young adults who strive to balance a commitment to individual excellence with a commitment to the welfare of others. Serving the needs of the whole child is at the heart our middle school program; thus, support for the student’s spiritual, physical, social, and artistic needs complements what is being achieved academically. The development of character is a critical ingredient to the mission of the school.

We have an exceptional team of supportive and enthusiastic administrators and faculty who recognize the unique needs of middle school students. The middle school’s team teaching approach, faculty mentors, and small class size foster the academic, intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth of every middle schooler.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Bennett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Head of the Charles Clayton Campus
Director of the Middle School

Levels of Academic Study

Students in the eighth grade at Lake Highland Middle School are offered two levels of academic study: College Prep and Honors. Once prerequisites are met, parents and students may choose among these courses, as appropriate. Counselors and teachers will work together with parents and students to design a personalized course of study for each LHPS Middle School student.

Course Prerequisites

Advanced-level courses in the Lake Highland Preparatory School curriculum require certain prerequisites. These include all Honors courses, foreign language for high-school credit, and all mathematics courses. Students should give thoughtful consideration to not only the advanced nature of each individual course, but also to the workload requirement of an accelerated schedule. The teacher and counselor will work with the student in recommending honors classes.

General Prerequisites for all Honors Courses

1. "B" or better in previous year's regular course or in previous placement
2. National Stanine of 8 or above or Independent Stanine of 6 or above on a standardized test
3. Teacher and/or counselor recommendation

Summer Classes: Transcript Policies

Courses which students take in the summer typically fall into two categories: enrichment classes and credit classes.

Many colleges and educational institutions offer summer enrichment programs. These programs provide excellent opportunities to reinforce scholastic skills and begin laying foundations for new fields of study. They are usually not intended by the offering institutions to be taken for official high-school credit and are not granted credit by Lake Highland.

Some students may wish to take courses for credit during the summer. This can be a sound strategy in some cases, while in others it may be academically inadvisable. The challenging nature of some classes makes them more suitable for year-long study, allowing the student time to assimilate and practice new concepts. For this reason, students who wish to take a summer course for credit must submit a pre-approval form to the school Director or Associate Director. The request will be considered in consultation with school guidance counselors, and the Directors will make the final decision on whether to accept summer courses for credit on the student's transcript.



Middle School Curriculum

SAMPLE SEVENTH-GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

7TH GRADE CORE CLASSES: REQUIRED FOR ALL

English 7 Honors
Math 7, Pre Algebra 7, Pre Algebra Honors, or Algebra I Honors*
Earth Science Honors
American History 7 Honors
Foreign Language: French 1A, Latin 1A, Mandarin Chinese 1A, or Spanish 1A
Computer 7 (semester)
Physical Education (semester)

ONE ELECTIVE CREDIT:

Select either *one* Full-Credit or *two* Half-Credit courses from the lists below.

7th Grade Yearlong (Full-Credit) Electives

Concert Band
String Orchestra I

7th Grade Semester (Half-Credit) Electives

Art I, Art II
Dance I, Dance II (satisfies seventh grade P.E. requirement)
Directed Study
Journalism
Musical Theater (Fall Semester Only)
Musical Theater Workshop (Spring Semester Only)
Physical Education (one additional semester)
Robotics (Fall Semester, by invitation only)
Video Production 7 (one semester only)



Middle School Curriculum *(continued)*



SAMPLE EIGHTH-GRADE COURSE OF STUDY

8TH GRADE CORE CLASSES: REQUIRED FOR ALL

English 8 or English 8 Honors
Introduction to Algebra, Algebra I*, Algebra I Honors*, or Geometry Honors*
Physical Science or Physical Science Honors
American History 8 or American History 8 Honors
Composition 8 (on alternate day with LMS)
Life Management Skills* (on alternate day with Composition 8)
Physical Education (semester)

ONE AND ONE-HALF ELECTIVE CREDIT:

Select either one Full-Credit plus one Half-Credit course OR three Half-Credit Courses.

8th Grade Yearlong (Full-Credit) Electives

Concert Band
String Orchestra I or II
Foreign Language: French IB*, Latin IB*, Mandarin Chinese IB*, & Spanish IB*

8th Grade Semester (Half-Credit) Electives

Art I, Art II, Art III,
Dance I, Dance II (satisfies eighth grade P.E. requirement)
Directed Study
Speech* (one semester only; satisfies Upper School Speech requirement)
Debate I* (one semester only; satisfies Upper School Speech requirement)
Debate I Honors: Lincoln Douglas/Public Forum (Spring semester only)
Journalism
Musical Theater (Fall Semester)
Musical Theater Workshop (Spring Semester)
Physical Education (one additional semester)
Robotics (Fall Semester, by invitation only)
Video Production 8

* Algebra I, Algebra I Honors, Geometry Honors, Speech, Debate I, Debate I Honors and LMS are high school-level courses that will be included on the student's high school transcript. Additionally, the combination of French IA & B, Latin IA & IB, Mandarin Chinese IA & IB, and Spanish IA & IB are equivalent to French I, Latin I, Chinese I, and Spanish I, and upon successful completion of both A & B students will receive one high-school credit. *High School transcript credits earned in seventh and eighth grade will not be counted toward the 24 credits required for graduation.*

All course requirements and offerings are subject to change.

Middle School Course Descriptions

LANGUAGE ARTS

English 7 Honors – 1001050

One Year

English for the seventh grade introduces the study of the elements of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. In-depth grammar study enables students to employ standard English usage in communication. Composition is practiced with expressive writing assignments, expository paragraphs, and basic research skills. Vocabulary study includes words in context from students' reading and vocabulary lessons. Literature study incorporates the classics with current young adult fiction.

English 8 – 1001070

One Year

The English 8 course stresses the foundations of literary analysis through the study of novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and various other print sources. Grammar includes an in-depth study of sentence mechanics and syntax with a review of grammar and usage. Composition is practiced in various forms including, but not limited to essays, letters, journals, and poems. Vocabulary is enhanced by studying word meaning, uses in context, and word parts.

English 8 Honors – 1001080

One Year

The English 8 Honors course stresses the foundations of literary analysis through the study of novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and various other print sources. Grammar includes an in-depth study of sentence mechanics and syntax with a review of grammar and usage. Composition is practiced in various forms including, but not limited to essays, letters, journals, and poems. Vocabulary is enhanced by studying word meaning, use in context, and word parts. The honors course is broader in scope and format than the English 8 course.

Composition 8 – 1009020

One Year

Composition is a required workshop-style course designed to supplement and reinforce writing, word processing and research skills. During three quarters of the school year assignments on which the students work in their composition classes are collaboratively developed and implemented in conjunction with the English, Science and History departments. Working with experienced writers from the upper school, students begin to develop confidence and command their own writing style. Through immersion and repetition, students practice the basics of the writing process, including brainstorming, drafting, editing, revising, and publishing. Students use computers in the writing lab for mind-mapping, on-line database research, and word processing.

Debate I (Elective, Satisfies US Speech Requirement)

1007330

One Semester

This course is offered to eighth-grade students only. This course will be offered for those who would like a basic introduction to the debate events that are featured in competitive high school forensics. These events include: legislative debate (student congress), public forum debate, and Lincoln-Douglas debate. Students will spend 6–8 weeks with each of the debate categories which will be utilized as a vehicle to develop critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, basic elements of argumentation, case construction, research skills, and a basic introduction to political and ethical philosophy. At the end of the course, they will have the opportunity to showcase what they've learned in an end-of-course competition that will be evaluated by members of the high school debate team. *See note below.

Debate I Honors: Lincoln Douglas/Public Forum (Elective, Satisfies US Speech Requirement) – 0007335

Spring Semester Only

Introduction to Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Debate is an intensive competition-level preparatory course that will provide a background for both events and will focus on all of the conceptual and strategic attributes that will enable students to compete on a national level in high school debate. The course will focus on research, case construction, rebuttal strategy, in-round story-telling, tutorials on basic philosophy, and a number of critiqued practice rounds. Each grading period will include one debate resolution for each discipline. This course will be for 8th grade students who are interested in competing in Lincoln-Douglas Debate or Public Forum debate. Students must have a recommendation from either a history or English teacher and approval of the Upper School Debate Coach. *This course is a prerequisite for any student wishing to compete in Lincoln-Douglas or Public Forum debate at the high school level.* *See note below.

Speech (Elective, Satisfies US Speech Requirement)

1007300

One Semester

This course is offered to eighth-grade students only. This course will introduce public speaking skills that are utilized in competitive high school forensics. These events include: original oratory, extemporaneous speaking, and interpretive events. Students will spend 6–8 weeks with each of the speech categories which will be utilized as a vehicle to develop critical thinking skills, public speaking skills, confident and persuasive presentation styles, and the opportunity to develop performance-based interpretation skills. At the end of the course, they will have the opportunity to showcase what they've learned in an end-of-course competition that will be evaluated by members of the high school speech team. *See note below.

**Speech, Debate I, and Debate I Honors are high school-level courses and will each appear as one-half credit on the high school transcript. These credits will not be counted toward the 24 credits required for graduation from LHP, but they will satisfy the upper school Speech course requirement.*

SCIENCE

Earth Science Honors – 2001020

One Year

This course is designed to give seventh-grade students an understanding of the Earth, its origin, its motions, its external and internal forces, and its relationship to other bodies in the planetary system and universe. The major areas of Earth Science are astronomy, meteorology, geology, and oceanography. Topics of emphasis include the solar system, lifecycle of stars, the sun, Earth's moon, space exploration, composition of rocks and minerals, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and the land-shaping processes of erosion. In addition, students will examine Earth's atmosphere, weather and storms, and the many roles the oceans play in the dynamic changes of Earth's surface and climate. Students will experience inquiry-based science laboratories, teacher demonstrations, and interactive multi-media explorations. The learning process is supported by weekly hands-on activities to develop and enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills. All seventh-grade students research scientific topics and practice communication skills involving essays and multi-media presentations.

Physical Science – 2003010

One Year

This eighth-grade course is divided into two semester-long units of chemistry and physics. During the chemistry unit, students cover matter, atomic structure, chemical bonding, and chemical reactions. The physics unit covers the study of motion, work, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and energy. The students learn through traditional science laboratories, teacher demonstrations, written assignments, and interactive multimedia explorations. Students will participate in a variety of open-ended inquiry projects which enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Physical Science Honors – 2003020

One Year

This eighth-grade course is divided into two semester-long units of chemistry and physics. During the chemistry unit, students cover matter, atomic structure, chemical bonding, and chemical reactions. The physics unit covers the study of motion, work, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and energy. The students learn through traditional science laboratories, teacher demonstrations, written assignments, and interactive multimedia explorations. Students will participate in a variety of open-ended inquiry projects which enhance critical thinking and problem solving skills. Honors students will apply more advanced problem solving and analysis procedures in the study of both chemistry and physics.

Co-requisite: Student must be enrolled in Algebra I or higher to be considered for Physical Science Honors.

SOCIAL STUDIES

American History 7 Honors – 2100006

One Year

Colonization through American Imperialism: American History in middle school is taught with a thematic approach. It is a topical course designed to develop a broad foundation and instill an appreciation for our heritage and culture. The course is taught chronologically, beginning with an overview of exploration and colonization and progressing into the American Revolution, Creation of our US Government, Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny, Causes of the American Civil War, The American Civil War, Reconstruction, Industrialization, and American Imperialism.

American History 8 – 2100010

One Year

20th Century: This course is designed to develop a broad foundation and instill an appreciation for our American heritage and culture. American History 8 is taught thematically, beginning with an overview of America's change in foreign policy from an isolationist country, to one of continued expansionist and imperialistic ideals. The course then proceeds into World War I, The Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression, and World War II. During the second semester we will look at post-World War II America and discuss the arising tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union in the Cold War. Additionally, we will analyze The Civil Rights Movement, and Challenging Issues of the Modern Era. This course offers an overview of the Foundations of our Government, the Three Branches of Government, and Roles of the Citizen, as well as important court cases that have affected our nation through today.

American History 8 Honors – 21000

One Year

20th Century: This course covers the same core topics as the college prep course, with the addition of a fourth-quarter Civics unit, and topics are addressed, discussed, and assessed in a more challenging and in-depth manner.

Each of these courses provides a framework for learning about the way things were and how they influence the nation we have become today within a global community. Evaluating facts and weighing evidence are valuable skills taught to help students learn to make sound and reasonable decisions.



MATHEMATICS

Math 7 – 1205040

One Year

This course is designed for seventh-grade students to prepare them for future work in Pre-Algebra and high school Algebra. Topics include, but are not limited to, fractions, decimals, integers, variables, ratios, proportions, percent, sets, equations, exponents, formulas, the rectangular coordinate system, and algebraic expressions.

Pre-Algebra 7 – 1200305

One Year

This course is for seventh-grade students who are ready for abstract mathematical reasoning. It will prepare them for a high school-level Algebra course as an eighth grader. Topics will include, but are not limited to, expressions and formulas, solving equations, properties and basic number concepts, algebraic fractions, word problems, ratio and proportion, and linear equations as well as 2- and 3-D Geometry.

Pre-Algebra Honors – 1200300

One Year

This course enables the most capable seventh-grade students to take a high school-level Algebra course as an eighth grader. All material covered in Pre-Algebra is included. In addition, more complex topics, such as irrational numbers and Pythagorean Theorem, operations with polynomials, and possible independent projects combine to offer a challenging study of Pre-Algebra.

Introduction to Algebra – 1205080

One Year

This course is designed to help students develop skills necessary to be successful in Algebra I. It will review basic number theory skills and enhance critical thinking. Topics include, but are not limited to, using variables, simplifying algebraic expressions, properties of real numbers including an emphasis on the distributive property, exponents, proportions, probability, solving equations, and graphing linear functions. Throughout the course, emphasis will be placed on problem-solving using real-world examples.



Algebra I (High School-Level Course) – 1200310 One Year

This course is designed to provide a complete and comprehensive study of algebra. Topics include, but are not limited to: operations and properties associated with the real number system; algebraic and graphical solutions of equalities and inequalities with one and two variables; relations and functions; direct and inverse variations; operations with rational/irrational numbers and expressions; and quadratic functions, equations, and inequalities. Students earning below a “C” for either semester must retake the course in full. Students earning a “C” are strongly encouraged to repeat the course.

This is a high school-level course and will appear as one credit on the student’s high school transcript.

Algebra I Honors (High School-Level Course) – 1200320 One Year

This course is designed to provide a rigorous, in-depth study of algebra and create a foundation for the application of these skills to other scientific and mathematical fields. Topics include, but are not limited to, operations and properties associated with the real number system, algebraic and graphical solutions of equalities and inequalities with one and two variables, relations and functions, direct and inverse variations, operations with rational/irrational numbers and expressions, and introductions to complex numbers, quadratic functions, probability, and counting methods. Throughout the year, problem-solving strategies and word problem applications will be emphasized. If at the end of the first grading period, a student has not attained a “B,” we strongly recommend that the student transfer to Algebra I.

This is a high school-level course and will appear as one credit on the student’s high school transcript. Pre-requisites: “B” or better in a previous honors math course or an “A” in a previous college course, 8 Stanine on CTP4, teacher recommendation.

Geometry Honors (High School-Level Course) – 1206320 One Year

This course is designed to provide a rigorous, in-depth study of geometry with emphasis on the methods of proof and the formal language of mathematics. Topics shall include, but are not limited to, the structure of geometry, logic, angle concepts, triangles, quadrilaterals, hexagons, proofs, perpendicularity and parallelism in a plane and in space, similar polygons, circles and spheres, constructions, area and volume, coordinate geometry, and transformational geometry.

This is a high school-level course and will appear as one credit on the student’s high school transcript. Pre-requisites: “B” or better in a previous honors math course or an “A” in a previous college course, 8 Stanine on CTP4, teacher recommendation.

Note: TI 89 calculators are not permitted in any math course.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

French

French IA – 0701000

One Year

(Part I, Satisfies MS Foreign Language Requirement)

This year-long course will introduce seventh-grade students to the French language and culture. Students will develop conversational skills as they are introduced to basic vocabulary and grammatical structures. The learning activities designed for this course will be varied and hands-on, fostering maximum language acquisition. Concurrently, students will explore the culture and customs of the French community. Students will practice reading appropriate selections and writing in the French language. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable middle school students to learn the language within a meaningful, integrated context.

French IB (Part II, Elective) – 0701010

One Year

This year-long course, when combined with French IA, will be the equivalent of Level I high school French and will appear on the student's high-school transcript. The main focus of this course is to maintain communicative proficiency by expanding on the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in French IA. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable eighth-grade students to learn the language within a meaningful integrated context by reinforcing concepts the student will learn in other subject areas of the eighth-grade curriculum. Students will read selections of poetry, ads, and news articles and they will also be asked to write several compositions, poems, and skits in French.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French IA.

Students who successfully complete French IA and French IB in the seventh and eighth grade will earn credit for French I on their High School transcript.

Please Note: Foreign language credits earned in Middle School do not count toward the Upper School Foreign Language graduation requirement.

Latin

Latin IA – 0706000

One Year

(Part I, Satisfies MS Foreign Language Requirement)

This course is designed to introduce all seventh graders to the Latin language, the Roman people, their history, their culture, and mythology. This course is intended to enhance not only general language skills, including a deeper understanding of English grammar, but also to enrich students' vocabulary and SAT scores through a study of Latin derivatives and etymology. This study also includes the roots of modern Romance languages. This course creates an awareness of Latin as a living language as students experience the language through practice in reading and speaking.

Latin IB (Part II, Elective) – 0706010

One Year

The purpose of this course is to enable students to comprehend the Latin language through practice in reading and speaking. Using the reading approach, students will study the Roman culture and history and its relevance to their own. Students will also increase their general language skills, particularly grammar, vocabulary, and derivatives.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin IA.

Students who successfully complete Latin IA and Latin IB in the seventh and eighth grade will earn credit for Latin I on their High School transcript.



Please Note: Foreign language credits earned in Middle School do not count toward the Upper School Foreign Language graduation requirement.

Mandarin Chinese

Mandarin Chinese I A – 0707000

One Year

(Part I, Satisfies MS Foreign Language Requirement)

This year-long course will introduce seventh-grade students to the Chinese language and the culture. Students will increase their conversational skills as they are introduced to basic vocabulary, grammatical structures and Chinese characters. The learning activities designed for this course will be varied and hands on, fostering maximum language acquisition. Concurrently, students will develop cross-cultural understanding through exploring the culture and customs of the Chinese community. Students will practice reading appropriate selections and writing in the Chinese characters. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable middle school students to learn the language within a meaningful, integrated context.

Mandarin Chinese IB (Part II, Elective) – 0707010

One Year

This year-long course, when combined with Chinese 1A, will be the equivalent of Level 1 high school Chinese and will appear on the student's high-school transcript. The main focus of this course is to maintain communicative proficiency by expanding on the vocabulary, grammatical structures and Chinese characters learned in Chinese 1A. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable eighth-grade students to learn the language within a meaningful integrated context by reinforcing concepts the students will learn in other subject areas of the eighth-grade curriculum. Students will read selections of Chinese books, songs, poetry and news articles and they will also be asked to write essays and skits in Chinese characters.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Mandarin Chinese 1A.

Students who successfully complete Mandarin Chinese IA and Mandarin Chinese IB in the seventh and eighth grade will earn credit for Chinese I on their High School transcript.



Please Note: Foreign language credits earned in Middle School do not count toward the Upper School Foreign Language graduation requirement.

Spanish

Spanish IA – 0708000

One Year

(Part I, Satisfies MS Foreign Language Requirement)

This year-long course will introduce seventh-grade students to the Spanish language and the cultures of the Hispanic world. Students will increase their conversational skills as they are introduced to basic vocabulary and grammatical structures. This course will build upon skills acquired during the student's FLES experience in the Lower School. Students will become proficient in a variety of daily use conversational topics. The learning activities designed for this course will be varied and hands on, fostering maximum language acquisition. Concurrently, students will explore the culture and customs of five Hispanic countries/communities. Students will practice reading appropriate selections and writing in the Spanish language. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable middle school students to learn the language within a meaningful, integrated context. The use of videos and technology enhances interactive activities will help students experience the Hispanic cultures and practice their emerging communicative skills.

Spanish IB (Part II, Elective) – 0708010

One Year

This year-long course, when combined with Spanish IA, will be the equivalent of Level I high school Spanish and will appear on the student's high-school transcript. The main focus of this course is to maintain communicative proficiency by expanding on the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned in Spanish IA. The curriculum for this course has been specifically designed to enable eighth-grade students to learn the language within a meaningful integrated context by reinforcing concepts the student will learn in other subject areas of the eighth-grade curriculum. Students will read selections of poetry, ads, and news articles and they will also be asked to write several compositions, poems, and skits in Spanish. The use of videos and technology enhances interactive activities will help students experience the Hispanic cultures and practice their emerging communicative skills. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Spanish IA.

Students who successfully complete Spanish IA and Spanish IB in the seventh and eighth grade will earn one high school credit, which will appear on the student's high school transcript.

Please Note: Foreign language credits earned in Middle School do not count toward the Upper School Foreign Language graduation requirement.

ADDITIONAL COURSES

Art I – IV (Elective)

One Semester

I: 0101000; II: 0101010; III: 0101020, IV: 0104020

Students may elect to enroll in Art one, two, three, or all four of their middle school semesters. All students will initially be enrolled in Art I, which includes an overview of 2-D design, studies on perspective and shading, mimetic drawing techniques, introductions to a variety of wet and dry media, and further investigation of color mixing and acrylic painting. If a student elects to enroll in Art again, they will be enrolled first in Art II and then, if they chose Art a third time, Art III. These courses expand in depth on the concepts learned in Art I, but also include exposure to a wider variety of media. The curriculum of Art IV will be differentiated to suit each student's specific interests.

Computer 7 (Required) – 0200000

One Semester

Presentation software such as Power Point and KeyNote, Excel spreadsheet computations and graph design, programming basics using Alice, file management, document design and presentation, improving keyboarding proficiency, "netiquette" and social networking safety, ethical issues and copyright laws and more! This fast-paced, lab-style collaborative learning will ensure that our middle school students gain the skills to optimize their computer use and the awareness of "the good, the bad and the ugly" of the technology tools available to them. Students will take a diagnostic assessment to begin the course and a post assessment as means to map maximum learning for all students in Computer 7. Dual-platform Windows/MAC computer lab.

Concert Band (Elective) – 1302000

One Year

This performance ensemble is open to experienced band students. This course will continue to focus on all performance aspects of the band instrument including: tonal production, ensemble skills, and sight reading development. There will be numerous concerts throughout the year that are required as part of the grade for this class. Concert Band members will have the option to perform with the Marching Highlanders during the football season. After-school rehearsals will be required only for the students participating as members of the Marching Highlanders.

Dance (Elective)**One Semester****Dance I: 0300000, Dance II: 0300010, Dance III: 0300020,
Dance IV: 0300030**

Middle School Dance offers students the opportunity to pursue a variety of styles of dance comprising the art form. In accordance with the national dance curriculum, students will be introduced to terminology, theory, history, and technique. Specific cross-training skills include balance, coordination, rhythm, posture, and timing, as well as strength building and overall fitness. It is expected that students will bring a mature sense of responsibility and a positive approach to learning within each level and assignment. Dance II, III, and IV are progressive courses, and evaluation is based on skill-level attainment and a demonstrated proficiency in technique, performance, theory, and terminology. Seventh- and eighth-grade students may choose to take Dance in place of the Physical Education requirement or as an elective.

Directed Study (Elective) – 0000950**One Semester**

Supervised study is offered for students who desire time during the school day to study, review, and work on school assignments. Opportunities for tutorial help will be available. Students receive grades of S or U, but the course provides no credit.

Journalism (Elective) – 1006000**One Semester**

This course is designed to provide middle school students with the opportunity to learn about print media while producing the middle school newspaper. Students will practice and improve a variety of skills including teamwork, writing, editing, research, design, and production of a newspaper. Students will also learn the basics of the influence of media on society, the laws and ethics in media, and the process and forms of journalistic writing. Journalism is open to both seventh and eighth-grade students and may be taken multiple times. Special writing ability is not required for this course.

**Life Management Skills – 0800300
(Required, High School-Level Course)****One Year**

Life Management Skills (LMS) provides students with the opportunity to discuss and explore topics that are essential to a balanced, healthy, and accomplished life. Topics include nutrition and health, substance use and abuse, first aid, responsible decision-making, time and stress management, organization, budgeting, and etiquette. LMS is a high school-level course and will appear as one-half credit on the high school transcript.

Musical Theater (Elective) – 0400050 **One Semester**

This course is required for all students who perform in the Middle School Musical Production. Students will prepare and rehearse a production during class time which will be presented at the end of each semester. Some after-school rehearsals are also required. Emphasis will be on acting, singing, and dancing in preparation for the production. This course is offered in the Fall Semester only.

Musical Theater Workshop (Elective) – 040010 **One Semester**

This workshop allows students to study musical theater in greater depth and to perform in a different venue. Students will continue working on elements of musical theater (Fall Semester) and will give a final performance in the intimate setting of the Jonny Holloway Blackbox Theater. This course is offered in the Spring Semester only.

Physical Education Boys (Required) – 150110 **One Semester**

The purpose of this course is to help students develop physically and socially through team and individual sports. Topics include, but are not limited to, physical fitness, volleyball, swimming, basketball, recreational games, aerobics, soccer, track and field, tennis, and introduction to weightlifting. One semester required, both seventh and eighth grade.

Physical Education Girls (Required) – 150120 **One Semester**

The purpose of this course is to help students develop physically and socially through team and individual sports. Topics include, but are not limited to, physical fitness, volleyball, swimming, basketball, recreational games, aerobics, soccer, softball, track and field, tennis, and introduction to weightlifting. One semester required, both seventh and eighth grade.

Robotics - Research and Critical Thinking (Elective)

0001700

One Semester

This course incorporates the disciplines of engineering, programming, and research. Students will work together using Lego Mindstorms® kits to design, build, and program robots for competition against other teams across the state. (See www.firstlegoleague.org for more information.) Each team will also create and present a research project based on a topic announced at the beginning of the course. Previous topics include nanotechnology, marine science, and Martian exploration. An extensive time commitment is required, including some weekends and occasional weekday afternoons. Class is by invitation only and restricted to 10 students. Fall Semester only. A \$50 lab fee will be charged. Prerequisite: An "A" in Science and teacher recommendation.

String Orchestra I & II (Elective)

I:1302040; II: 1302050

One Year

This performance ensemble is open to middle school strings students who have had at least one year of experience. Students with less than one year experience will be admitted at the discretion of the Director. The purpose of this class is to continue to build a musical foundation, including good sound production, musical literacy, and solo and ensemble performance skills. Students will have multiple performance opportunities through the year, as well as the option to represent the school while participating in Solo and Ensemble, and Concert Music Performance Assessment. String Orchestra is a year-long course. Students will enroll in Level 1 the first year and Level II the second year. Second year students will focus on shifting, vibrato, and more advanced techniques regarding sound production.

Video Production 7 (Elective) – 1100000

One Semester

This course is designed to teach students a creative approach to the beginning aspects of shooting and editing video. Students will use iMovie® to import and edit footage and create videos using titles, music, transitions, and special effects. Enrollment is limited. Offered to 7th-grade students, one semester only.

Video Production 8 (Elective) – 1100010

One Semester

Students will learn aspects of video creation in this hands-on class. Skills include camera operation, editing, special effects, titles, transitions, story boarding, and on-camera techniques. Cooperation is essential as students participate in collaborative project work, with the goal of a polished finished product. Students will produce the daily middle school announcements broadcast, and video projects as assigned. Enrollment is limited. Offered to 8th-grade students only.



Planning for the Future