

**8th GRADE**

**Course Selection Guide**

**2022-2023**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Mapleton Middle School 8th Grade Course Selection Guide outlines the courses available to our students. Information is also provided to assist students and their parents with future planning. We hope you find this document helpful as you consider your student’s scheduling options. Please contact the school counselor, administrators, or teachers at any time throughout the registration process for assistance.

**Every effort is made to ensure accuracy regarding the course information provided before the Course Selection Guide is printed. Since the Guide is printed so early for scheduling purposes, some changes in course offerings may occur for the school year.**

**COURSE OFFERINGS 2020-2021**

All 8th grade students will take the following required courses:

* English Language Arts
* US History
* Science
* Math 8
* Physical Education (9 weeks) + Art (9 weeks) + Coding (9 weeks) + Agxplore (9 weeks)

Electives are subject to availability. Some courses may not be offered or available to all students depending on factors such as course demand, available space in a student’s schedule, or the overall curricular needs of the school.

* Science Literacy (18 weeks) +
* Pre-Engineering CAD (18 weeks)
* Desktop Publishing (18 weeks)
* Medical Detectives (18 weeks)
* Yearbook (All year)
* Success (All year)
* Career Exploration (18 weeks)
* Conspiracy Theory (18 weeks)
* 8-12 Band (All year)
* 8-12 Choir (All year)

**SUCCESS**

Course Length: Year

For the duration of this course, students will work to build a strong foundation of skills that will benefit them throughout middle school and beyond. Academic enrichment activities will be provided to all students to help ensure success in all classes. The Life Skills Training program, a substance abuse and violence prevention program, will also be utilized throughout the year. As part of this program, students will learn about setting goals, making decisions, keeping friends, staying calm, and communicating with others.

**CODING**

Course Length: 9 Weeks

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) courses at the middle school will engage students in activities that not only build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, but also empower students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance.

This courseexposes students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

Digital citizenship will also be a focus of this course, helping students develop the skills and knowledge to effectively use the Internet and other digital technology. The safe, responsible, and legal use of technology will also be emphasized.

**DESKTOP PUBLISHING**

Course Length: 18 weeks

Description Pending…

**MEDICAL DETECTIVES**

Course Length: 18 weeks

Description Pending..

**YEARBOOK**

Course Length: full year

Students will create and design the Mapleton Middle School yearbook. Students will learn elements of design, picture editing, and meeting timelines. Students will help promote and sell the yearbook along with being responsible for creating pages in the yearbook that relate to specific school events, sports teams, and/or club activities. Students may need to attend events after school to take pictures.

**SCIENCE LITERACY**

Course Length: 18 Weeks

*These are skills we can take wherever we go in life, no matter what we do.*    -Millie Hogue

Schools have traditionally been the institution to explore academic interests and grow in content skills and understandings.  Skills, routines, and information taught in the home have traditionally balanced the academic rigor of schools with the practical lessons that apply to the eb and flow of life.

The Science Literacy Elective Course attempts to merge these learning situations with the resources that can provide students with a more well rounded and valuable educational experience.  Students in our school have a variety of life skills and experience. Many students will know some of the wide breadth of life skills from the world, but not all will know everything. In this way, the school can offer a variety of life skills education in which the students fluidly find themselves mentors to peers in some situations, and learning from peers and teachers in others.

To clarify, the life skills we speak of is to aim for our students to be competent and effective in the world.  To do so students must acquire literacy skills to be able to handle themselves in a variety of situations.

As we explore more and more science concepts and possibilities we will see that there are limitless pathways of learning and shared experiences waiting for the participants of this elective course.

**PRE-ENGINEERING CAD SOFTWARE**

Course Length: 18 Weeks

Using Autodesk Inventor, students will be introduced to computer aided drawing software that is used in high school engineering classes. As a result, this course is strongly encouraged for anyone thinking about perusing and engineering pathway. Students will use CAD software to create items and then have the opportunity to use 3-D printers to see the end results. Students will be required to give presentations on their projects.

**CAREER EXPLORATION**

Course Length: 18 Weeks

*COURSE DESCRIPTION TO COME*

**AGXPLORE**

Course Length: 18 Weeks

Middle school students will explore the daily impact of agriculture in their lives over one semester. This course introduces the topics of: Ag in the Past, Plants We Grow, Natural Resources, Animals in Ag, Food We Eat, Ag in my Future.

Projects throughout the course prepare students for selecting exploratory SAE projects they can implement after completing the course. All students enrolled in the class will have the opportunity to participate in chapter activities throughout the school year.

**CONSPIRACY THEORIES**

Course Length: 18 weeks

This class will allow students to explore US conspiracy theories in an informed, critical, and engaging manner.  Activities include background research for and against conspiracy theories, critical website analyses, and student presentations.

**8-12TH GRADE BAND**

Course Length: Year

The primary goal of the Mapleton Middle School band is to provide young people with an experience in instrumental music that is both enjoyable and educational. Students will participate in a variety of instrumental performances throughout the year. Participation in the middle school band program prepares students to be members of the high school marching, concert, and pep bands.

**8-12TH GRADE CHOIR**

Course Length: Year

Choir is a course that provides the opportunity for students to excel in vocal music. Students will participate in vocal performances throughout the year. Participation in the middle school choir program prepares students to be members of the high school choir.