

	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<p><b>Reading/Language</b></p> <p>The teachers recognize and build upon the rich language experiences that middle school students have. These prior experiences lay the foundation for formal reading and writing instruction. The teachers strive to provide the children with extensive language opportunities that will develop lifelong reading and writing behaviors. Our beliefs about reading and writing instruction stem from current research and from our experiences with and knowledge about how children learn to read and write. Activities that encourage the use of critical thinking skills are an integral part of instruction.</p>	<p>Students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compose and identify compound sentences</li> <li>• Written paragraphs of at least eight sentences</li> <li>• Use figurative language in both prose and poetry</li> <li>• Richness and relevance of detail in writing</li> <li>• Use of varied sentence beginnings</li> <li>• Synthesize information to produce original work (interview, editorial)</li> <li>• Compose poetry containing deeper meaning and themes</li> <li>• Apply varied points of view</li> <li>• Produce error-free final drafts</li> <li>• Reinforce the reading comprehension concepts of sequence, plot, theme, character, setting, and motivation through novel studies.</li> <li>• Additional reading comprehension concepts of inference, symbolism, alliteration, personification</li> <li>• Reinforce all parts of speech</li> <li>• Identify direct object, indirect, object, predicate noun, and predicate adjective</li> <li>• Compound and complex sentences and phrases</li> <li>• Increase word dissection skills</li> <li>• Introduce the SQ3R method for reading in the content areas</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced English is offered at this level.</p>	<p>The seventh grade Language Arts and Reading classes are designed to further master and elaborate on the grammar, composition, literature, and language skills studied in the sixth grade. Students are expected to apply the skills necessary to interpret literature and communicate ideas in both written and oral forms. Composition assignments, which incorporate the use of a thesis statement, are clear, logical, and creative, often ranging from five to seven paragraphs in length. Literature terms are used to give students the tools necessary to develop innovative interpretations. Students are challenged through a variety of genres, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel. In a culmination of previously learned skills, students will begin to study the parts of a research project.</p> <p>**Advanced English is offered at this level.</p>	<p>The eighth grade Language Arts and Reading classes are designed to further master and elaborate on the grammar, composition, literature, and language skills studied in the seventh grade. Students are expected to apply the skills necessary to interpret literature and communicate ideas in both written and oral forms. Composition assignments, which incorporate the use of a thesis statement, are clear, logical, and creative, often ranging from five to seven paragraphs in length. Literature terms are used to give students the tools necessary to develop innovative interpretations. Students are challenged through a variety of genres, including poetry, drama, the short story, and the novel. In a culmination of previously learned skills, students are able to produce a research project using note cards, outlines, and multiple drafts.</p> <p>**Advanced English is offered at this level.</p>
<p><b>Math</b></p> <p>Math covers a number of central topics- addition, subtraction, multiplication, fractions, decimals, percents, negative integers, and ratios, but places them in the context of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place value to the billions</li> <li>• Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division of decimals</li> <li>• Linear measurements and conversion</li> <li>• Multiplication and division of fractions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place value to trillions</li> <li>• Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of mixed numbers</li> <li>• Transformations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem Solving</li> <li>• Ratios and percents</li> <li>• Statistics and probability</li> <li>• Algebra</li> <li>• Graphing equations</li> </ul>

<p>problem solving and working with data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimation</li> <li>• Scientific notation</li> <li>• Measuring and labeling angles</li> <li>• Ratio and proportions</li> <li>• Scale, similarity, and congruence of figures</li> <li>• Circumference and area of circles</li> <li>• Exponents</li> <li>• Perfect squares and square roots (through 20)</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced math is also offered at this level.</p>	<p>(reflections, translations, rotations, and dilations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expressions</li> <li>• Equations and inequalities</li> <li>• Positive and negative integers</li> <li>• Positive and negative exponents</li> <li>• Conversion problems</li> <li>• Geometry and probability</li> <li>• Classifying three dimensional shapes</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced math is also offered at this level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geometry</li> <li>• Polynomials</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced math is offered at this level.</p>
<p><b>Science</b> The Middle School Science teachers stimulate the student’s curiosity about the natural world through experimental inquiry, field trips, and the use of technology. They believe that wonder leads the students to ask questions, browse, hypothesize, read, investigate, check many resources, collect data, consider various perspectives, solve problems, draw conclusions, revise, rethink, reformulate, and ask more questions. They strongly promote the research from the National Academy of Sciences that promotes inquiry-based teaching in science.</p>	<p>Students will investigate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific Method</li> <li>• Measurement Tools in Science</li> <li>• Characteristics of Living Things</li> <li>• Forces &amp; Motion</li> <li>• Simple Machines</li> <li>• Cells &amp; Body Systems</li> <li>• Chemistry (includes a study of the Periodic Table)</li> <li>• Vertebrates &amp; Invertebrates (Dissection of a frog)</li> </ul>	<p>Students will investigate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of the Earth</li> <li>• Plate Tectonics</li> <li>• Earthquakes &amp; Volcanoes</li> <li>• History of the Earth</li> <li>• Weathering &amp; Erosion</li> <li>• Oceans</li> <li>• Atmospheric Forces</li> <li>• Space</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced science is also offered at this level.</p>	<p>Students will investigate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cells and cell processes</li> <li>• Human Biology</li> <li>• Animal behavior</li> <li>• Cell Reproduction</li> <li>• Heredity</li> <li>• Science Process Skills</li> </ul> <p>**Advanced science is also offered at this level.</p>
<p><b>Social Studies</b> The Middle School Social Studies Curriculum is designed to enhance the textbook by involving students in real-world relevance, exciting current event assignments, and assignments that involve the use of technology.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive look at the following:</li> <li>• Globe and map projections; longitude/latitude</li> <li>• Different kinds of maps (political, physical contour, climate, geological, resource, and pop. density)</li> <li>• Interpretation of graphs, flow charts, and diagrams</li> <li>• Landforms</li> <li>• Cultures</li> <li>• The world’s people:</li> <li>• Unit 1 - The United States and Canada (Land, economy, people) Unit 2 - Mexico, Central America, and South America</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive look at the following:</li> <li>• Early Civilizations</li> <li>• Democracy and Reform (Great Britain, The Dominions, political struggle in France and America, Expansionism)</li> <li>• Nationalism (unification of Italy and Germany, Empire of Czars, and Austria-Hungary decline)</li> <li>• Age of Imperialism (pressures for expansion, partition of Africa, division of Asia, and Imperialism in America)</li> <li>• Asia and the Pacific (Japan’s economic rise, China in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive look at American History</li> <li>• Exploration and Peoples of North America</li> <li>• Colonial Settlements</li> <li>• The American Revolution</li> <li>• The Jefferson Era</li> <li>• Growth and Expansion</li> <li>• Manifest Destiny</li> <li>• Industrial Revolution</li> <li>• Progressive Reforms</li> <li>• Overseas Expansion</li> <li>• WWI</li> <li>• WWII</li> <li>• Civil Rights Era</li> <li>• Vietnam Era</li> <li>• Modern America</li> </ul>

		<p>revolution, and divided Korea)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa (African independence, Africa today and new challenges)</li> <li>• Middle East (Nationalism, war and peace, challenges ahead)</li> <li>• Latin America (Challenges for Mexico/Caribbean, Central/S. America)</li> <li>• Current events</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Bible</b> The Middle School Bible Curriculum is developed with the purpose of enabling each student to know and accept Christ as Savior and serve Him from a Biblical Worldview. The curriculum will provide strategies for teaching the Bible that goes beyond the mere “memorizing” truth to “doing” truth in everyday life.</p>	<p>The students will complete an in-depth study of the details and significance of the miracles and teachings of Christ.</p>	<p>In 7<sup>th</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students complete an in-depth study of Bible characters in the Old Testament. These studies help students apply biblical truths for facing life’s challenges.</p>	<p>The students will further master Biblical truths as they continue their study of Old Testament Bible characters.</p>