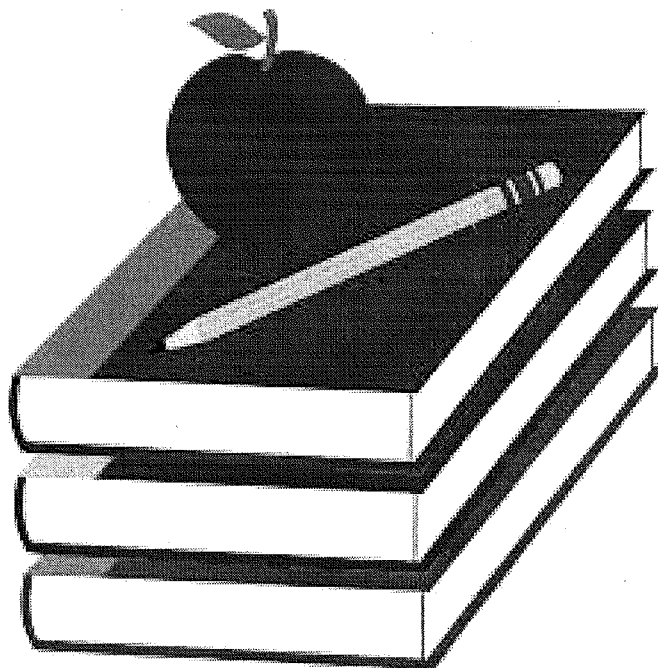


PESHTIGO MIDDLE SCHOOL



COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

2017-2018



LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Students:

Peshtigo Middle School focuses on reasons students should feel good about themselves and encourages students to try new things and appreciate the wonderful possibilities of learning. We strive for our students to develop a real sense of self-worth.

Committed to the education of the whole child, Peshtigo Middle School aspires to such goals as academic excellence, athletic and extracurricular participation, personal integrity, respect for others and community service. To help each student reach these goals, Peshtigo Middle School provides a warm, supportive atmosphere in which a child can develop self-esteem, the confidence to be self-reliant and a sense of responsibility.

We have dedicated teachers who strive to provide learning opportunities so that every student can reach his or her maximum potential. Our staff encourages students to take advantage of a wide variety of classes, enrichment activities, or one of the numerous athletic and musical programs offered.

Students can learn much and the middle school years provide many opportunities to create great memories during this critical developmental stage in children's lives, a unique time not ever repeated. We encourage our middle school students to make the most of this learning adventure. On behalf of the entire staff, I wish for all of our middle school students to enjoy a productive and fulfilling middle school experience. We have staff and administrators committed to provide the most well rounded educational experience possible for all the students of our district. We ask parents to please let us know if we can provide assistance in helping their children to successfully negotiate this exciting stage in their children's lives.

Your Partner in Education,

Chad Sodini

**PESHTIGO MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSE OFFERINGS
2016-2017**

SEVENTH GRADE-REQUIRED COURSES

Core Courses	Survey Courses	Survey Courses	Selection Courses
English 7 (1) Area Studies 7 (1) Math 7 (1) Science 7 (1)	Tech Lit 7 (½) and Tech Ed 7 (½)	Phy Ed (½) and Healthy Liv (¼) Spanish (¼)	Band (1) and/or Chorus (1) or Math/Reading Literacy (<i>Staff Placement</i>)

EIGHTH GRADE-REQUIRED COURSES

Core Courses	Survey Courses	Survey Courses	Selection Courses
English 8 (1) History 8 (1) Science 8 (1) Pre-Algebra (1) or Algebra I (1) (HS Credit)	Art (½) and Phy Ed 8 (½)	Spanish 1 (1) (HS Credit) or Tech Ed 8 (½) MS Yearbook (½)	Band (1) and/or Chorus (1) or Math/Reading Literacy (<i>Staff Placement</i>)

NOTE:
(1): *Indicates a year long course*
(1/2): *Indicates a semester long course*
(1/4): *Indicates a quarter long course*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS SEVENTH GRADE

ENGLISH 7 (Year)

This year round experience in language arts for seventh grade students alternates between literature and English grammar with an emphasis on reinforcing the recognition and correct use of the eight parts of speech, correct use of phrases and clauses, and paragraph and short essay writing in the first semester. In the second semester this course emphasizes reading and discussing literature and writing paragraphs and short essays in response to the literature. The study of the English grammar consists of reinforcing the use of the eight parts of speech, as well as writing, listening, and speaking skills. As a further requirement each quarter, students will read a book and submit either a written or oral report. In addition, students will work on spelling. Students will learn to write descriptive, narrative, persuasive, expository, and summary paragraphs.

AREA STUDIES 7 (Year)

This course is a continuation of world studies that began in 6th grade. Students will continue to study the people and places of various regions of the world. Class material and ideas will come from several of the social studies disciplines. Map skills will be taught throughout the year. The cultural areas of Europe will be the main object of the first third of the year. The second third covers the cultural areas of Asia. The remainder of the year will be the study of Africa, Oceania, New Zealand and Antarctica.

MATH 7 (Year)

Students will review problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, mixed numbers and integers. Other topics covered include inverse operations, ratios and proportions, percents, probability, graphing, multi two-step equations, inequalities, and geometry.

SCIENCE 7 (Year)

Students will be introduced to life science which covers cells and body systems; Earth Science which includes earth's structures, minerals, and plate tectonics; and Science and Technology including branches of science, careers, and technological advances. Students will be working with microscopes and looking through slides to see the hidden world, and learning the names of new equipment and how to use it.

SPANISH 7 (Quarter)

All 7th grade students are required to take a foreign language survey class in Spanish. This will be a nine week course meeting five days per week. Emphasis will be on listening and speaking skills and investigating the cultural differences and similarities in Hispanic and American cultures. Although the emphasis will be on Spanish, other languages will be briefly examined as to their influence on English.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 7 (Semester)

Students will explore technological tools and devices used in industry today. Areas of technology covered are construction, communication, manufacturing, and transportation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 (Semester)

UNITS COVERED

Fitness Testing
Basketball
Volleyball
Flag Football
Softball
Weight Training

Soccer
Floor Hockey
Track & Field
Team Challenges
Wrestling

1. A student is required to take one semester of physical education during seventh grade.
2. The class will meet five days a week for the full semester.
3. Uniforms: Approved shirt and shorts, non-marking tennis shoes, and socks. Each student must have clothes to change into. Failure to dress for class four (4) times during a semester may lead to dismissal from class.
4. Students with valid medical excuses for an extended period of time will be assigned to a study hall for the duration of the excuse. If the student misses more than 9 weeks for the semester they must retake the course.

TECHNOLOGY LITERACY 7 (Semester)

This class may include the following units: presentation & communication skills, video production, photo editing, copyright/fair use, robotics, video game production, coding, Chrome/Google, research skills, internet safety, Destiny, and the process/steps of design thinking.

HEALTHY LIVING 7 (Quarter)

The 7th grade health curriculum is designed to familiarize students with issues they will encounter during their middle school years. It is designed to provide knowledge and experiences, which will enable them to make choices which will have a positive impact on their health. Units covered include communicable diseases, wellness, tobacco, and fitness.

READING LITERACY 7 (Semester/Year)

This class is an extension of our English curriculum based in the principles of having a student understand, use, reflect on and engage with written texts. The goal is to have the students develop their knowledge and potential to participate in school and society.

MATH LITERACY 7 (Semester/Year)

This class is an extension of our Math curriculum based in the process of problem solving, reasoning, and analyzing information. Students will use numbers to solve real world problems. This course will also help students decipher questions and understand math terminology.

BAND (Year)

The Middle School Band begins the refinement of the “basics” each student has learned thus far. Students gain more concert experience at this time and undertake a more sophisticated level of music in preparation for what they will encounter as senior band members. Also, students will enter competition as a group in the “Class C” or “Middle School Band” category in the music festival held annually in the spring. The Middle School Band performs at a Christmas Concert, a Spring Concert, and the District Concert Groups Festival. PARTICIPATION IS MANDATORY.

MIXED CHOIR (Year)

In this course, major emphasis is placed on continued vocal development, continuation of music reading skills, ear training and the study of more complex choral literature. Students will perform in concerts, solo and ensemble, music festivals, assemblies, musicals, and other special events. A short singing assessment is necessary for proper part placement. PARTICIPATION AT THESE PERFORMANCES IS MANDATORY.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS EIGHTH GRADE

ENGLISH 8 (Year)

This year round experience in language arts for eighth grade students alternates between literature and English grammar with an emphasis on reinforcing the recognition and correct use of the eight parts of speech, an introduction to the verbals, correct use of phrases and clauses, and paragraph and short essay writing in the first semester. In the second semester this course emphasizes reading and discussing literature and writing paragraphs and short essays in response to the literature. The study of the English grammar consists of reinforcing the use of the eight parts of speech, as well as writing, listening, and speaking skills. As a further requirement each quarter, students will read a book and submit either a written or oral report. In addition, students will work on spelling. Students will also learn to write descriptive, persuasive, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, process, narrative, and summary paragraphs. Throughout the year they will also learn to compose various forms of essays.

UNITED STATES HISTORY 8 (Year)

Students will begin the study of early America, through the discovery and settlement of America by the French, Spanish, and English. Students will trace the development of the country from its beginning to the adoption of the U.S. Constitution. At this time, students will examine how our government works and operates. Study will continue through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Subject matter will be presented by lectures, class discussion, student projects, and films. During the year students will be asked to compare current problems with related events in United States history. Materials needed for the course are a notebook and a curiosity for the past and present.

SCIENCE 8 (Year)

This class explores the world around us. Scientists are explorers who seek the answers to such questions as: What is matter made up of? What is the nature of light, electricity, and magnetism? What is a force and how does it cause motion? Students will find out how scientists in the past tried to find out the answers to such questions and how scientists today continue to seek answers to their questions. Students will also venture into space learning about what causes seasons, phases of the moon, constellations, planets, and humans attempts at past and future space exploration.

PRE-ALGEBRA (Year)

Pre-Algebra will help develop the skills necessary to be successful in Algebra. In this class; variables, expressions, equations, and inequalities will be dealt with. Polynomial equations and factoring will be covered in detail. Graphing of equalities and inequalities will be covered in the second semester. Ratio, proportion, and probability will end the year.

ALGEBRA 1 (Year)

Criteria used to determine eligibility:

1. Current grades and successful completion of Math 7
2. Performance on Star Math Assessment/Orleans-Hanna Algebra Prognosis Test
3. Teacher Recommendation

***Algebra 1 bridges the gap between the near-concrete ideas of arithmetic and the more abstract ideas of higher mathematics. For this purpose, extensive development of the following areas constitutes the major subject matter:

1. A study of the fundamental properties of the real number system and the use of deductive reasoning to develop some basic theorems.
2. An introduction to algebraic notation, graphing, the study of functions, and functional notation.
3. Working with algebraic manipulations in the solving of equations and inequalities, and in applying these techniques to the solution of worded problems.

High School Credit: Two-semester course; One-half credit per semester

SPANISH I (Year)

Criteria used to determine eligibility:

3.0 GPA or above in 7th grade and/or Instructor approval

Students enrolled in MS Spanish I will be monitored closely as to their academic success.

Failure to maintain strong academic status may result in enrollment in an alternate class.

Spanish I is designed to introduce students to the Spanish language and culture. Primary objectives are the acquisition of a basic vocabulary, the pronunciation of the Spanish sounds and the fundamentals of Spanish grammar, with emphasis on oral proficiency. Students are familiarized with certain features of the Spanish culture through a variety of activities. Career goals and knowledge of foreign language to achieve them will be discussed.

High School Credit: Two-semester course; One-half credit per semester

ART 8 (Semester)

Eighth grade Art is a semester survey class, which introduces students to various artists, media, and professional techniques with an emphasis on imagination. Students will learn art terms relevant to the projects assigned.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 (Semester)

UNITS COVERED

Fitness Testing

Speedball

Basketball

Flag Football

Softball

Weight Training

Volleyball

Soccer

Floor Hockey

Track & Field

Team Challenges

Wrestling

Archery

Gaga Ball/Disc Golf

1. A student is required to take one semester of physical education during eighth grade.
2. The class will meet five days a week for the full semester.
3. Uniforms: Approved shirt and shorts, non-marking tennis shoes, and socks. Each student must have clothes to change into. Failure to dress for class four (4) times during a semester may lead to dismissal from class.
4. Students with valid medical excuses for an extended period of time will be assigned to a study hall for the duration of the excuse. If the student misses more than 9 weeks for the semester they must retake the course.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 8 (Semester)

This semester course is designed to give the student a basic understanding of four areas in technology education. Each area will prepare students for high school level technology education courses as well as give them useful information to be used in everyday life. Areas of study include drafting, electricity, small engines, and woodworking.

MS YEARBOOK (Semester)

This semester course is designed to teach the skills necessary to produce the middle school yearbook, which offers a complete record of an entire school year. The year begins by planning the coverage for the school year and designing a unifying theme for the book. This course provides the study of and practice in gathering and analyzing information, note taking, and photography.

READING LITERACY 8 (Semester/Year)

This class is an extension of our English curriculum based in the principles of having a student understand, use, reflect on and engage with written texts. The goal is to have the students develop their knowledge and potential to participate in school and society.

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PARTICIPATION AT THESE PERFORMANCES IS MANDATORY.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE ADVANCEMENT

GRADE 7

Students are expected to pass all of their classes. Failures must be made up by participating in after-school programs, attending summer school, or repeating failed class(s), the following school year.

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