

PESHTIGO MIDDLE SCHOOL



COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

2021-2022

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
2020-2021**

SEVENTH GRADE-REQUIRED COURSES

| Core Courses | Selection Courses | Survey Courses | Survey Courses |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| English 7 (1) | Band (1) and/or Chorus (1) | Phy Ed 7 (¼) | Art 7 (¼) |
| Area Studies 7 (1) | or | Healthy Liv 7 (¼) | Tech Ed 7 (¼) |
| Math 7 (1) | Math/Reading Literacy (1) | Tech Lit 7 (¼) | Span 7 (¼) |
| Science 7 (1) | Academic Support (1) | Stem 7 (¼) | Study Skills 7 (¼) |

EIGHTH GRADE-REQUIRED COURSES

| Core Courses | Selection Courses | Survey Courses | Survey Courses |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| English 8 (1) | Band (1) and/or Chorus (1) | Art 8 (½) | Phy Ed 8 (½) |
| History 8 (1) | or | Tech Ed 8 (½) | Life Skills 8 (¼) |
| Science 8 (1) | Math/Reading Literacy (1) | Spanish I (1) (HS Credit) | Careers 8 (¼) |
| Pre-Algebra 8 (1) or Algebra I (1) (HS Credit) | Academic Support (1) | | |

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 and multimedia 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. Geography, history, and current issues of the people within these regions will be studied.

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 learn about the processes of Science by focusing on Earth & Space. Earth & Space Science will study our planet's physical characteristics such as weather, earthquakes, fossils, floods. In this class students will look at geology (study of Earth's rocks), meteorology (study of Earth's weather and climate), oceanography (study of Earth's oceans and waters), and astronomy (study of the universe).

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. This course is designed as a precursor to Spanish 1, providing students with a foundation to build upon in their future studies.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 7 (Quarter)

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

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 (Quarter)

UNITS COVERED

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Basketball | Floor Hockey |
| Volleyball | Biking/Park Choices |
| Flag Football | Fitness/Challenges |
| Weight Training | Soccer |

1. A student is required to take one quarter of physical education during seventh grade.
2. The class will meet five days a week for one quarter. Units may vary based on weather.
3. Uniforms: School-Issued shirt, shorts/Jogging Pants, 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 (Quarter)

This class may include the following units: presentation & communication skills, video production, video game production, Chrome/Google, career research skills, internet safety, 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 social/emotional health, nutrition, fitness, personal wellness, substance abuse, and mental health.

STEM 7 (Quarter)

Stem is the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. The course focuses on a variety of different hands-on and interactive challenges that students work on in small groups or teams.

Art 7 (Quarter)

Seventh grade Art is a survey class, which introduces students to art concepts, terms, techniques, and artists. Students will work with different media with an emphasis on the creation of Art. Students will learn art terms relevant to the projects assigned.

STUDY SKILLS 7 (Quarter)

Study Skills is designed both as an academic support class as well as a skill-building course. There will be time allotted daily for activities related to individual self-management skill development as well as time for academic support and work completion. Daily activities will be tailored to fit the individual needs of each student.

READING LITERACY 7 (Semester/Year)

This class is an extension of our English curriculum based on 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.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT(Semester/Year)

This class is designed to help students study effectively and develop a strong work ethic. Students will use class time to complete homework assignments, to prepare for quizzes/tests, to get help from a teacher, to complete projects and to engage in reading. Students are expected to be on task for the entire hour, bring a completed planner to class, bring all homework assignments to work on, and have their reading books on a daily basis. Students can be recommended for the course by either guardian and/or teacher. Grades will be issued on a pass/fail basis.

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. 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? How does matter interact? 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 study Physical Science (Physics and Chemistry) during their eighth grade year.

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: High School Credit: Year course; 1/2 credit per semester

*A prerequisite for this course is a cumulative GPA of a 3.0 or higher and/or instructor approval.

**Students will need to maintain a grade point of a B- through each grading period. 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 an 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.

ART 8 (Semester)

Eighth grade Art is a survey class, which introduces students to art concepts, terms, techniques, and artists. Students will work with different media with an emphasis on the creation of Art. Students will learn art terms relevant to the projects assigned.

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.

CAREER EXPLORATION 8 (Quarter)

Career Exploration introduces students to a variety of career fields. The job market is studied so that students learn which career areas are in demand. Salaries and job growth outlook is evaluated using updated websites like the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Students also explore their interests, aptitudes, and skills plus their individual learning styles in order to find possible career matches. Students will explore a variety of career options plus use the steps in the decision-making process to develop their own career plan. A variety of post-high school opportunities will be discussed to help students make and achieve career goals.

LIFE SKILLS 8 (Quarter)

Life skills are essential to job functioning and are incorporated in the instruction for students. Appropriate life skills are included so students will possess the potential to live and work in the community. The life skills curriculum blends academic, daily living, personal/social, occupational skills, and basic health concepts to ensure success and well being designed to help students function independently in society.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 (Semester)

UNITS COVERED

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Speedball | Floor Hockey |
| Basketball | Track & Field |
| Flag Football | Team Challenges/Fitness |
| Softball | Wrestling |
| Weight Training | Archery |
| Volleyball | Gaga Ball/Disc Golf |

1. The class will meet five days a week for the full semester.
2. Uniforms: School-issued shirt, shorts/jogging pants, 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.
3. 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.

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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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