



# Christa McAuliffe Challengers

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## Course Guide



Welcome to  
CMMS!

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Middle School

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# Christa McAuliffe Middle School

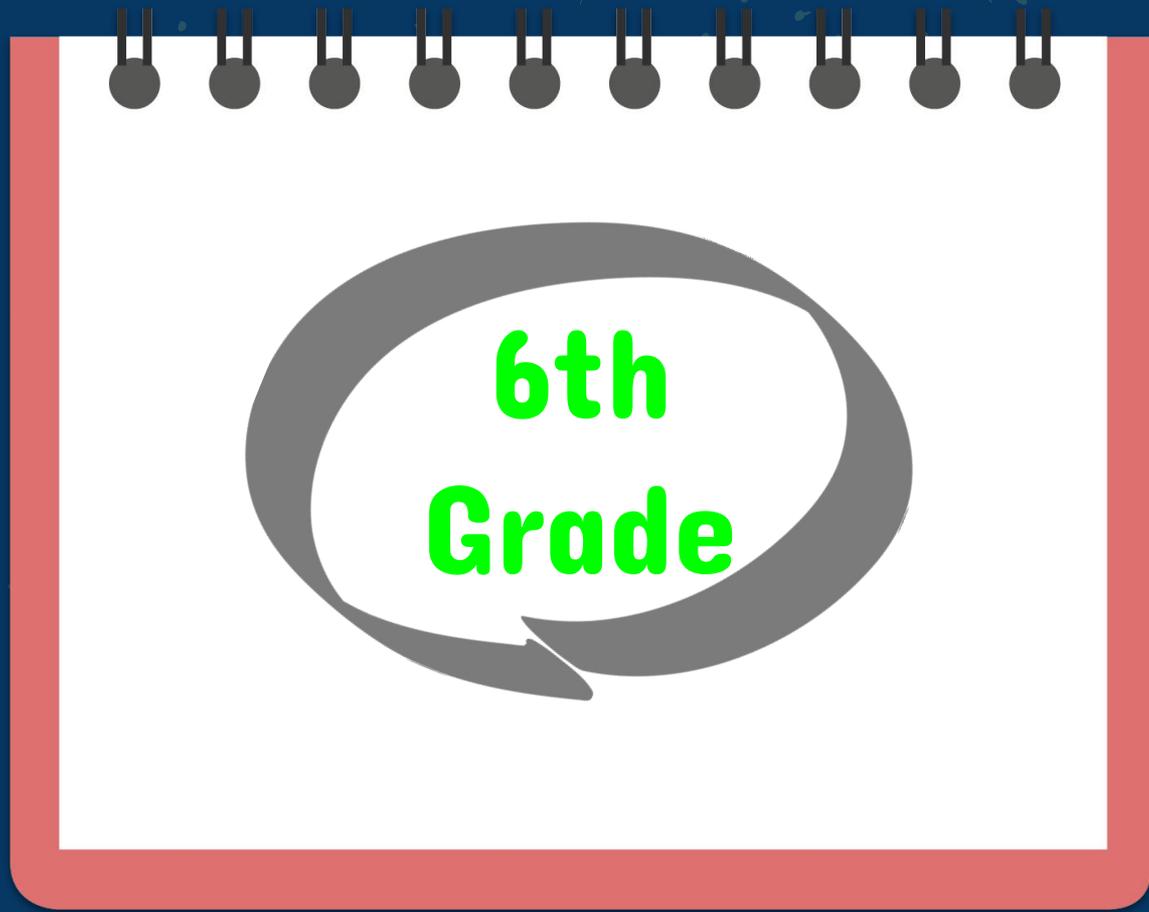
Nestled in the heart of Boynton Beach, Our school has a rich history and is an Information Communication Technology Academy. CMMS also has a plethora of high school credit classes that allows our students the opportunity to excel here. We challenge every student to become “1% Better Everyday” and to be the best version of themselves.



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# Courses

By Grade Level



**6th  
Grade**

# 6th Grade Required Courses

## US History:

Primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of American history from the Exploration and Colonization period to the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to explore those fundamental ideas and events which occurred after Reconstruction.

## English Language Arts:

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 6 students, using texts of high complexity, advanced integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness

Language is integral to exploring and sustaining personal development and cultural identity, and provides an intellectual framework that supports the construction of conceptual understanding.

# 6th Grade Required Courses



## Math:

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Instructional time should focus on six critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking; (5) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; and (6) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations.

Mathematics provides an important foundation for the study of sciences, engineering and technology, as well as a variety of application in other fields.

## Science:

Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) recommends that at the middle school level, all students should have multiple opportunities every week to explore science laboratory investigations (labs). School laboratory investigations are defined by the National Research Council (NRC) as an experience in the laboratory, classroom, or the field that provides students with opportunities to interact directly with natural phenomena or with data collected by others using tools, materials, data collection techniques, and models.

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# Electives

## Spanish Beginning

M/J Spanish Beginning introduces students to the target language and its culture.

Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing.

Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this course.

## Business Keyboarding-ICTA

Keyboarding is designed to provide an opportunity to learn to touch type on the computer keyboard using correct techniques as well as the development of speed and accuracy.

Students will be introduced to the formatting of personal and business letters, tables, notes, memos, and reports.

# Electives

## Chorus

This is a vocal music course for middle school students who have a desire to learn, sing and perform music. The goal of this course is to teach students the fundamentals of music, help create independence while learning and singing music and to become confident singers and develop an appreciation for music.

Chorus students will also enjoy participating in vocal music, working cooperatively with other students in chorus, and serve the school by participating in performances.

## Band

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature.

Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

# Electives

## Physical Education

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle.

The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to: Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

## Exploring Two-Dimensional Art

Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both an historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. Student artists reflect on their own artwork and that of others through critical analysis to achieve artistic goals related to craftsmanship, technique, and application of 21st-century skills. Opportunities are provided for creative decision-making in the context of the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

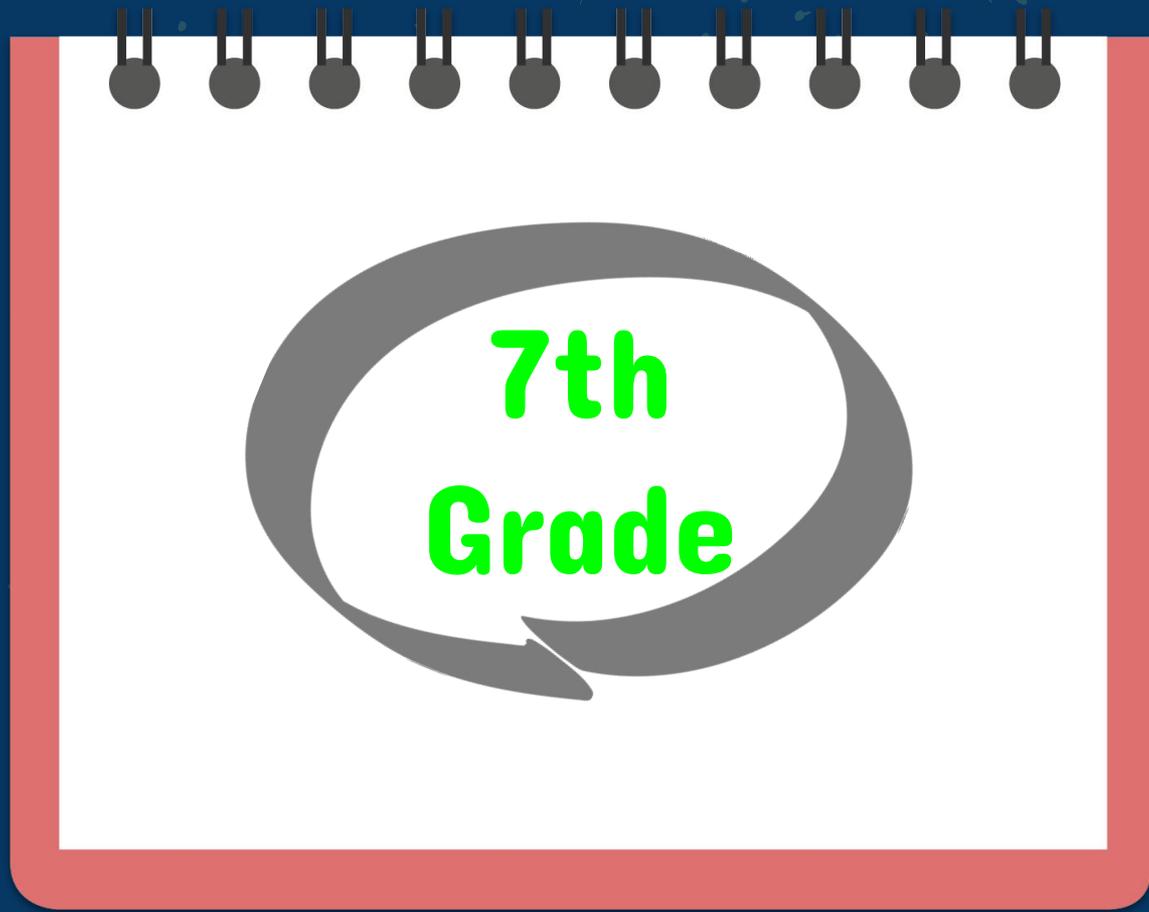
# Electives

## TV Productions

TV Production is a course that encompasses script writing, filmmaking, footage editing, and news reporting using multimedia technology. Students create and film news segments and features that will be of interest to all CMMS students.

## Health

Health Education provides students with knowledge, attitudes, and skills to make health-promoting decisions. This class also address the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.



**7th  
Grade**

## 7th Grade Required Courses



**Civics:** The primary content for the course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system. The course is embedded with strong geographic and economic components to support civic education instruction.

Civics is infused with historical, contemporary, geographical, political, social, economic, religious, technological and cultural factors that have an impact on individuals, societies and environments.

It encourages learners, both students and teachers, to consider local and global contexts.

**Math:** Instructional time should focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Mathematics aims to equip all students with the knowledge, understanding and intellectual capabilities to address further courses in mathematics, as well as to prepare those students who will use mathematics in their studies, workplaces and everyday life.

Mathematics provides an important foundation for the study of sciences, engineering and technology, as well as a variety of application in other fields.



# 7th Grade Required Courses



**English Language Arts:** The purpose of this course is to provide grade 7 students, using texts of high complexity, advanced integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

Language and literature are integral to exploring and sustaining personal development and cultural identity, and provides an intellectual framework that supports the construction of conceptual understanding.

As students interact with a range of texts, they generate insight into moral, social, economic, political, cultural and environmental domains. They continually grow in their abilities to form opinions, make decisions, and reason ethically.

**Science:** Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) recommends that at the middle school level, all students should have multiple opportunities every week to explore science laboratory investigations (labs). School laboratory investigations are defined by the National Research Council (NRC) as an experience in the laboratory, classroom, or the field that provides students with opportunities to interact directly with natural phenomena or with data collected by others using tools, materials, data collection techniques, and models.

Laboratory investigations in the middle school classroom should help all students develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work, as well as the skills to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations. Learners should understand measurement error; and have the skills to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data.



# Electives

## Spanish 1

Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

## Digital Discoveries-ICTA

Digital Discoveries is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing.

# Electives

## Chorus 2 or 3

Students build on previous choral experience to expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality choral literature. Singers focus on increasing knowledge of music theory, music literacy, and aesthetic response. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## Band 2 or 3

Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature.

Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

# Electives

## Physical Education (Team Sports)

This course is designed for 7th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course.

## Health 2

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to promote healthy living. This comprehensive course focuses on making wise personal decisions and respecting and promoting the health of others.

# Electives

## TV Productions (Intro. Arts, A/V)

Beginning with a broad overview of the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster, students are introduced to the terminology, careers, history, required skills, and technologies associated with each pathway in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. Additionally, they will be provided with opportunities to acquire and demonstrate beginning leadership skills as well as opportunities for hands-on activities.

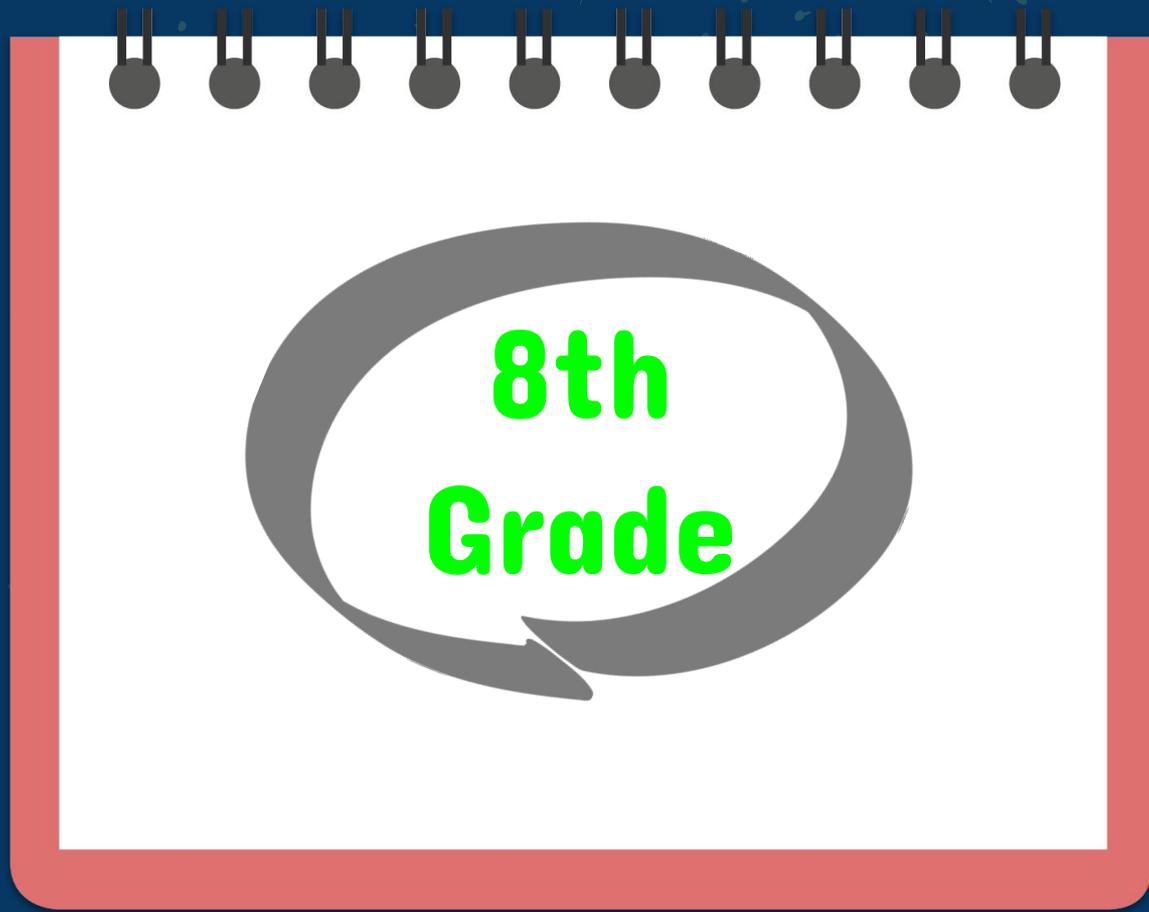
## Robotics (Engineering)

The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of robotics technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of robotics technology on our everyday lives.

# Electives

## Journalism

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.



**8th  
Grade**

## 8th Grade Required Courses



### World History:

The primary content for this course pertains to the world's earliest civilizations to the ancient and classical civilizations of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Students will be exposed to the multiple dynamics of world history including economics, geography, politics, and religion/philosophy. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents.

### Math:

In grade 8, instructional time will emphasize six areas: (1) representing numbers in scientific notation and extending the set of numbers to the system of real numbers, which includes irrational numbers; (2) generate equivalent numeric and algebraic expressions including using the Laws of Exponents; (3) creating and reasoning about linear relationships including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation; (4) solving linear equations, inequalities and systems of linear equations; (5) developing an understanding of the concept of a function and (6) analyzing two-dimensional figures, particularly triangles, using distance, angle and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.



# 8th Grade Required Courses



## English Language Arts:

This course defines what students should understand and be able to do by the end of the grade level. Knowledge acquisition should be the primary purpose of any reading approach. The systematic building of a wide range of knowledge across domains is a prerequisite to higher literacy. At this grade level, students are building their facility with rhetoric, the craft of using language in writing and speaking, using classic literature, essays, and speeches as mentor texts.



## Science:

8th graders will learn about the physical and chemical properties of matter and the difference between mass and weight. They will also discuss the relationship between density, mass and volume. Additionally, students investigate atomic theory, particle motion and groups in the periodic table.



Also, the Florida Science Standards cover four bodies of knowledge, which are:

- Nature of Science
  - Earth and Space Science
  - Physical Science
  - Life Science
- 



# Electives

## Spanish 1

Spanish 1 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued.

## Computer Fundamentals-ICTA

In this course, students will become familiar with the basic principles of a personal computer, including the internal hardware, the operating system, and software applications. Students will gain practice in using key applications such as word processors, spreadsheets, and presentation software, as well as understanding social and ethical issues around the Internet, information, and security. Throughout this course, students will focus on the fundamentals, learning and using the applications, and understanding the basic roles and responsibilities of the software, hardware, operating system, gathering data, analyzing data, and on using the right tools and methods to collect and present data.

# Electives

## Band 2 or 3

Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists extend their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

## Health 4

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to become healthy, productive citizens. This comprehensive course focuses on the development of positive life-long knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors, which promote an active and healthy lifestyle.

# Electives

## Physical Education (Ind/Dual Spt)

The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of offensive and defensive strategies, tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within both competitive and noncompetitive activity settings. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

## Chorus 2 or 3

Students with previous choral experience build intermediate-level knowledge of vocal technique, musical literacy, ensemble skills, and related musical knowledge through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality 2-, 3-, and 4-part choral literature. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

# Electives

## Ex. of Pdct. Tech (Engineering)

The purpose of this course to provide information regarding careers in the Engineering and Technology Education career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to providing the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of production technology on our everyday lives. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

## Journalism (Yearbook HS Credit)

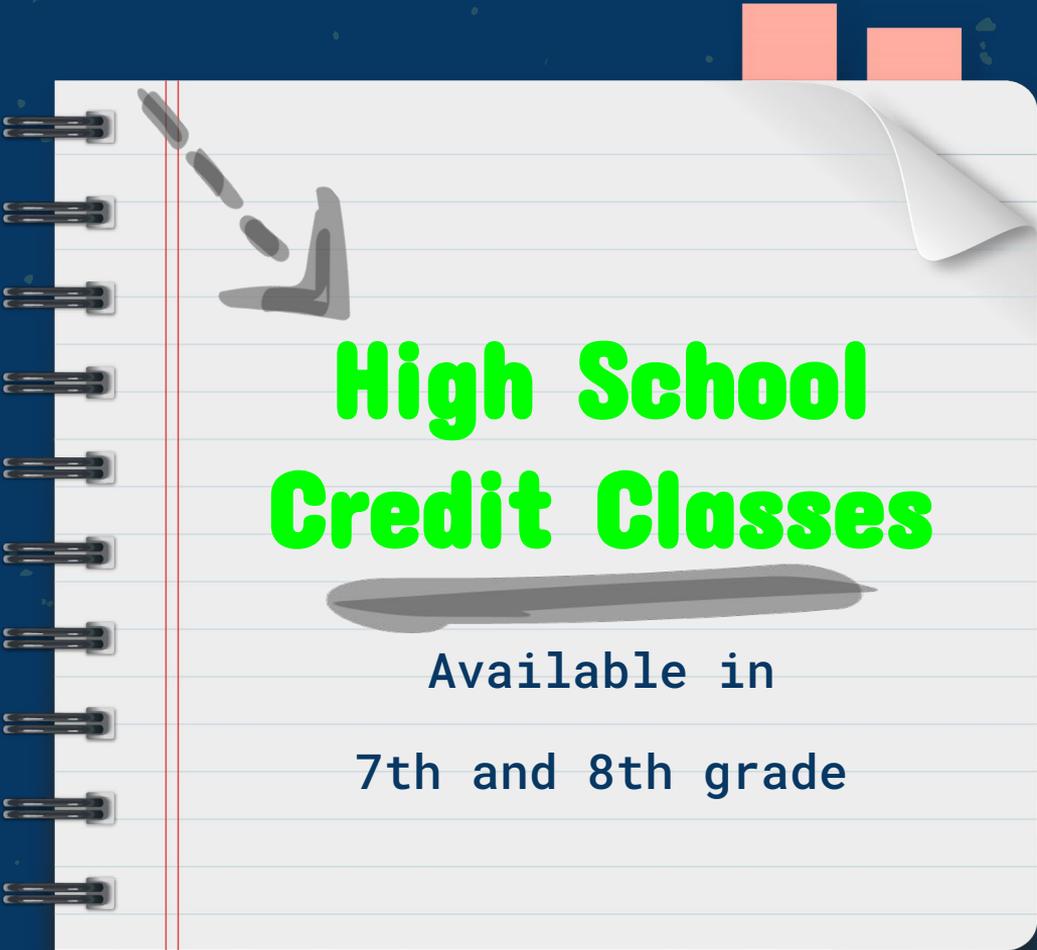
The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.

This course will also assist in the production of our school yearbook and newsletter.

# Electives

## TV Productions (CNN) (Intro. Arts, A/V)

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. The content includes, but is not limited to, technology literacy; the importance of Arts and A/V technology; the role of science, math, reading, writing, history, and technology in the Arts and A/V; and digital media. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

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# High School Credit Classes

Available in  
7th and 8th grade

# High School Credits

**Computer Fundamentals**

**Spanish 1**

**Spanish 2**

**Physical Science**

**Journalism**

**Exp. Tech. Design**

**Geometry**

**Algebra I**

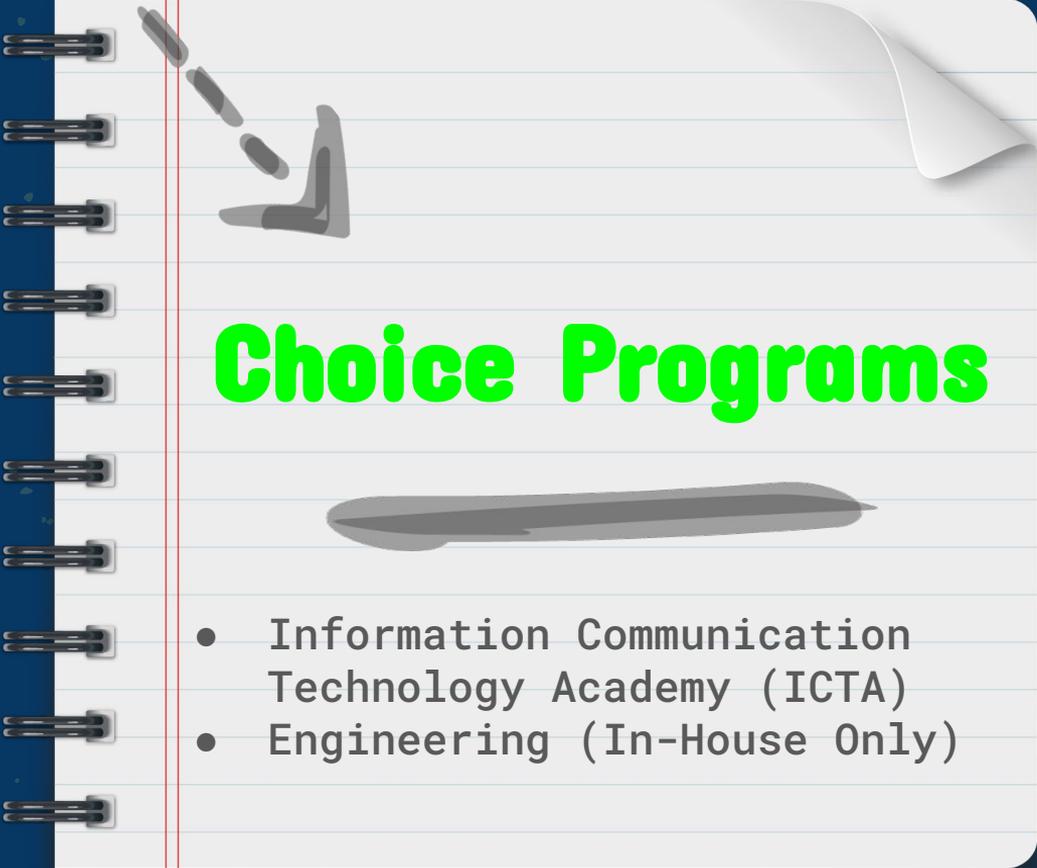
# High School Credit: Math

## Algebra 1:

In Algebra 1, instructional time will emphasize five areas: (1) performing operations with polynomials and radicals, and extending the Laws of Exponents to include rational exponents; (2) extending understanding of functions to linear, quadratic and exponential functions and using them to model and analyze real-world relationships; (3) solving quadratic equations in one variable and systems of linear equations and inequalities in two variables; (4) building functions, identifying their key features and representing them in various ways and (5) representing and interpreting categorical and numerical data with one and two variables.

## Geometry:

In Geometry, instructional time will emphasize five areas: (1) proving and applying relationships and theorems involving two-dimensional figures using Euclidean geometry and coordinate geometry; (2) establishing congruence and similarity using criteria from Euclidean geometry and using rigid transformations; (3) extending knowledge of geometric measurement to two-dimensional figures and three-dimensional figures; (4) creating and applying equations of circles in the coordinate plane and (5) developing an understanding of right triangle trigonometry.



# Choice Programs

- Information Communication Technology Academy (ICTA)
- Engineering (In-House Only)

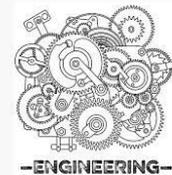
# Information Communication Technology Academy (ICTA)

The Information Communication Technology Academy offers an innovative, integrated learning environment focused on computers, technology and communications. Students who participate in ICTA acquire foundational knowledge and skills in basic programming techniques, software and web development, and emerging digital technologies. Emphasis is placed on a college preparatory curriculum directly linked to career pathways in the IT career cluster.



# Engineering (In House Only)

Affordable housing design. Biofuel production. App development. These are all hands-on, real-world challenges students will face in our Engineering courses. Throughout the program, students step into the varied roles engineers play in our society, discover new career paths and possibilities, and develop engineering knowledge and skills. In addition, as students work in teams to design and test solutions, they're empowered to develop transportable skills like collaboration, critical thinking, and communication.



# 6th Grade Tracks

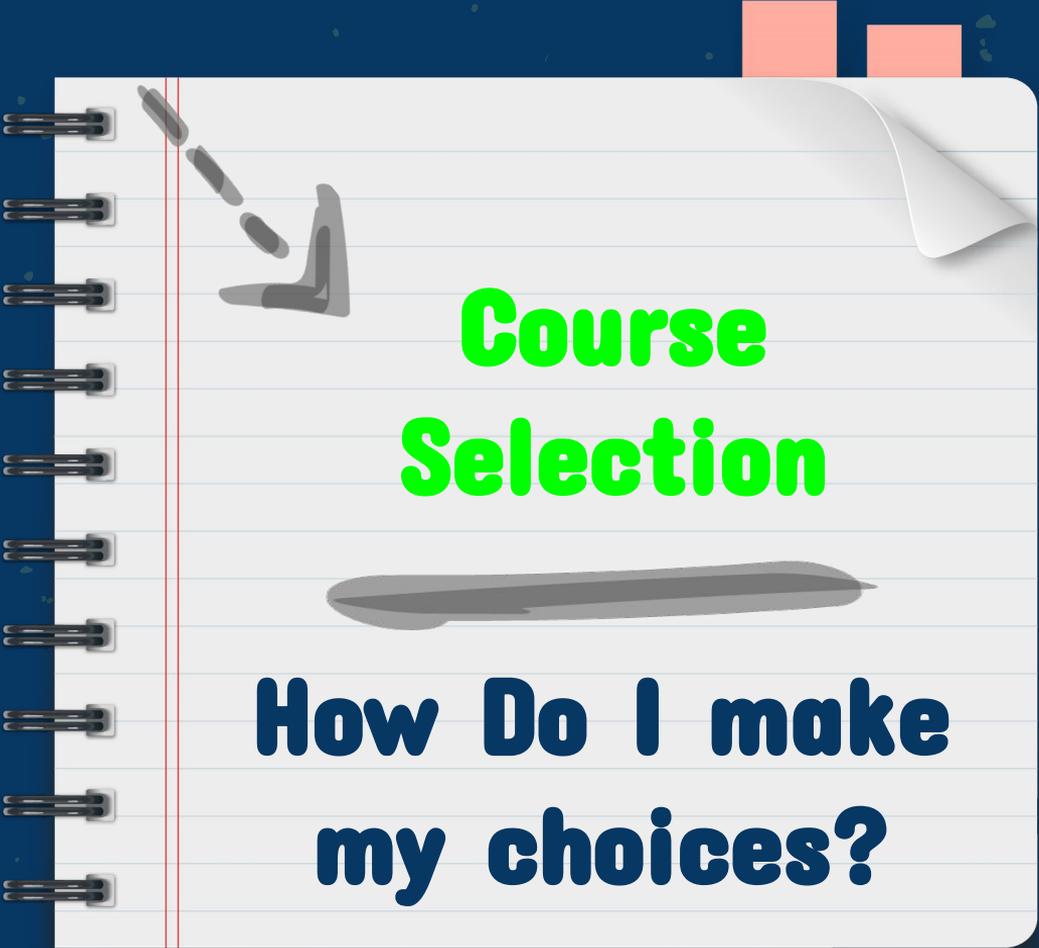
<i>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choice Tracks</i>		
<b>Accelerated (In House Only)</b>	<b>ICTA (In &amp; Out of Boundary)</b>	<b>Engineering (In House Only)</b>
Lang. Arts 1 Gifted	Lang. Arts 1 Gifted / Lang. Arts 1 Adv.	Lang. Arts 1 Gifted / Lang. Arts 1 Adv.
Science 1 Gifted	Science 1 Gifted / Science 1 Adv.	Science 1 Gifted / Science 1 Adv.
US History-CP Gifted	US History-CP Gifted / US History Adv.-CP	US History-CP Gifted / US History Adv.-CP
Math 6 Acc. / Math 7 Acc.	Math 6 Acc. / Math 7 Acc.	Math 6 Acc. / Math 7 Acc.
<b><u>Spanish Beginners</u></b>	<b><u>Keyboarding / Info. &amp; Comm. Tech</u></b>	<b><u>Exploring Engineering Tech.</u></b>
Elective / PE	Elective / PE	Elective / PE

# 7th Grade Tracks

<i>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choice Tracks</i>		
<b>Accelerated (In House Only)</b>	<b>ICTA (In &amp; Out of Boundary)</b>	<b>Engineering (In House Only)</b>
Lang. Arts 2 Gifted	Lang. Arts 2 Gifted / Lang. Arts 2 Adv.	Lang. Arts 2 Gifted / Lang. Arts 2 Adv.
Science 2 Gifted	Science 2 Gifted / Science 2 Adv.	Science 2 Gifted / Science 2 Adv.
Civics Gifted	Civics Gifted / Civics Adv.	Civics Gifted / Civics Adv.
Math 7 Acc. / Algebra 1 (HS)	Math 7 Acc. / Algebra 1 (HS)	Math 7 Acc. / Algebra 1 (HS)
<b><u>Spanish 1 (HS)</u></b>	<b><u>Digital Discoveries</u></b>	<b><u>Exploring Robotics Tech.</u></b>
Elective / PE	Elective / PE	Elective / PE

# 8th Grade Tracks

<i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choice Tracks</i>		
<b>Accelerated (In House Only)</b>	<b>ICTA (In &amp; Out of Boundary)</b>	<b>Engineering (In House Only)</b>
Cambridge Lang. Arts 3	Cambridge Lang. Arts 3 / Lang. Arts 3 Adv.	Cambridge Lang. Arts 3 / Lang. Arts 3 Adv.
Physical Science (HS) / Science 3 Gifted	Physical Science (HS) / Science 3 Gifted / Science 3 Adv.	Physical Science (HS) / Science 3 Gifted / Science 3 Adv.
World History Gifted	World History Gifted / World History Adv.	World History Gifted / World History Adv.
Algebra 1 (HS) or Geometry (HS)	8 <sup>th</sup> Pre Alg./Algebra 1(HS)/Geometry(HS)	8 <sup>th</sup> Pre Alg./Algebra 1(HS)/Geometry(HS)
<b><u>Spanish 2 (HS)</u></b>	<b><u>Computer Fundamentals</u></b>	<b><u>Exploring Tech. Design</u></b>
Elective / PE	Elective / PE	Elective / PE



# Course Selection

**How Do I make  
my choices?**



## **Main Courses**

Course Levels for your main courses will be based on teacher recommendation, choice selection, and FAST Scores.



## **Electives**

Elective choices will be made in SIS, once you have had your grade level meeting with our Guidance Team. Some electives are determined by your choice selection.

# CHALLENGERS S.O.A.R

