

# **Arcadia Middle School**

# **Curriculum Guide**

**Course Offerings, Requirements, Descriptions**



**2017-2018**

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

## 2017-2018

This curriculum guide is for you and your parents. It has been developed to provide you with information about all of the course offerings available at Arcadia Middle School. Elective courses will be offered and run provided there is sufficient enrollment and teachers available.

### **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ARCADIA – POLICY 2260**

#### **NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of any characteristic protected under State or Federal law including, but not limited to, sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability in any of its student programs and activities.

# Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ARCADIA – POLICY 2260..... | 2 |
| PROGRAMS OFFERED.....                         | 3 |
| 6TH GRADE .....                               | 3 |
| 7TH GRADE .....                               | 3 |
| 8TH GRADE .....                               | 2 |
| 6TH GRADE COURSES .....                       | 2 |
| Reading/ELA .....                             | 2 |
| Read 180 .....                                | 2 |
| Corrective Reading .....                      | 2 |
| Math .....                                    | 2 |
| Math Essentials .....                         | 2 |
| Science .....                                 | 2 |
| Social Studies.....                           | 2 |
| Physical Education.....                       | 2 |
| Study Hall .....                              | 2 |
| Study Skills.....                             | 2 |
| 6TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES .....               | 3 |
| Health.....                                   | 3 |
| Computers.....                                | 3 |
| Art .....                                     | 3 |
| Music Appreciation.....                       | 3 |
| 6TH GRADE ELECTIVES .....                     | 4 |
| Band .....                                    | 4 |
| Choir .....                                   | 4 |
| 7TH GRADE COURSES .....                       | 5 |
| English/Reading 7.....                        | 5 |
| Math 7 .....                                  | 5 |
| Accelerated Math 7 .....                      | 5 |
| Math Essentials .....                         | 5 |
| Science 7 .....                               | 5 |
| Accelerated Science 7 .....                   | 6 |
| Geography.....                                | 6 |
| Physical Education 7.....                     | 6 |
| Read 180 .....                                | 6 |
| Corrective Reading .....                      | 6 |
| 7TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES .....               | 7 |
| 7th Grade Computers Explore .....             | 7 |
| Family and Consumer Science Education .....   | 7 |
| Foreign Language .....                        | 7 |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Technology Education- Design and Modeling ..... | 7  |
| 7TH GRADE ELECTIVES .....                       | 7  |
| 7th & 8th Grade Art .....                       | 7  |
| Digital Art .....                               | 8  |
| Drama.....                                      | 8  |
| 7th & 8th Grade Band.....                       | 8  |
| Jazz Ensemble.....                              | 8  |
| Choir .....                                     | 8  |
| 8TH GRADE COURSES .....                         | 9  |
| English/Reading 8.....                          | 9  |
| Math 8.....                                     | 9  |
| Algebra 1.....                                  | 9  |
| Math Essentials .....                           | 9  |
| Science 8.....                                  | 9  |
| Accelerated Science 8.....                      | 10 |
| History.....                                    | 10 |
| Physical Education 8.....                       | 10 |
| Read 180 .....                                  | 10 |
| Corrective Reading .....                        | 10 |
| 8TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES .....                 | 11 |
| 8th Grade Computers .....                       | 11 |
| Family and Consumer Science Education .....     | 11 |
| Agri - Science .....                            | 11 |
| Human Growth & Development.....                 | 11 |
| 8TH GRADE ELECTIVES .....                       | 11 |
| 7th & 8th Grade Art .....                       | 11 |
| Digital Art .....                               | 11 |
| 7th/8th Grade Band.....                         | 12 |
| Jazz Ensemble.....                              | 12 |
| Choir .....                                     | 12 |
| Drama.....                                      | 12 |
| Gateway to Technology .....                     | 12 |
| Spanish I.....                                  | 13 |

## PROGRAMS OFFERED

The following are the required and elective courses available to middle school students.

### 6TH GRADE

#### Required Classes

English/Reading (2 periods) or Corrective Reading

Math 6

Science

Social Studies

PE

Explore Rotation (*Health, Computers, Music Appreciation, Art*)

Study Hall

#### Elective Choices

Band

### 7TH GRADE

#### Required Classes

English/Reading

Math

Science (*Science 7 or Accelerated Science*)

Geography

PE

Explore Rotation (*Ag Ed, Business Ed, FACE, Foreign Languages, Human Growth & Development, Tech Ed, )*

#### Elective Choices

Art

Digital Art

Band

Choir

Drama

Study Hall

## **8TH GRADE**

### **Required Classes**

English/Reading

Math (*Transmath, Math 8, or HS Algebra 1*)

Science (*Science 8 or Accelerated Science*)

History

PE

### **Elective Choice 1**

Art

Band

Choir

Gateway to Technology

Spanish I

### **Elective Choice 2**

Digital Art

Agriculture

Business Education

Drama

Family & Consumer Education

## **6TH GRADE COURSES**

### **Reading/ELA**

This course is a combination of the traditional reading and English classes. Instruction focuses on reading, writing, grammar, and spelling. The class meets for two periods each day throughout the entire school year.

#### **Read 180**

*(Reading Intervention/Support)*

READ 180 is an intensive reading intervention program designed to help raise reading achievement for struggling readers in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. The program provides educators with the opportunity to focus instruction based upon students specific areas of reading needs using technology, print, assessment, and professional development. READ 180 is proven to meet the needs of struggling readers whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, whole-group and small group instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills.

#### **Corrective Reading**

*(Reading Intervention/Support)*

This intervention program provides sustained direct instruction for students with a focus on the areas of decoding and comprehension. It is intensive reading program that covers phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and vocabulary.

### **Math**

The sixth grade will use Big Ideas Math curriculum which is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. The class allows the student to explore new concepts through investigations as well as direct instruction from the teacher. Also, the student will apply their learning to real-life situations. A technology component allows parents to access the online textbook and many of its resources.

## **Math Essentials**

Math Essentials is an intervention program for the struggling math student. Supportive software and other resources will be used to assist students to learn, review, and develop confidence in math skills.

Topics that may be covered in this course include whole numbers and fractions, working with data, multiplication and division of fractions, tools for measurement and construction, working with mixed numbers, tessellations, geometry, and measurement, decimals and operations on decimals, triangles, and quadrilaterals, area of two dimensional shapes, percents and percent problems and graphs, scientific notation, probability, integers and operations with integers, finding points on a graph, and coordinate graphs and transformations.

## **Science**

This required sixth grade course teaches concepts in life science. Topics include bacteria, plants, animals, cells, heredity, and environmental science.

## **Social Studies**

In sixth grade Social Studies the students study Geography. The first half of the year is an introduction to geography and what it is. Students will learn what the five themes of geography are along with human vs. physical geography. Second semester the students will apply what they learned about geography to study specific countries on the North and South American continents. Throughout the year students will be using maps, GPS units, computers, and will participate in projects.

## **Physical Education**

Grade 6 Physical Education meets every other day all year. The students will have a P.E. locker and will need to change their clothes before and after P.E. Physical fitness and leading a healthy lifestyle will be emphasized throughout the year. Fitness testing will be completed twice a year. The goal of grade 6 P.E. is to introduce a variety of activities to the students in hopes they continue to stay active throughout their lives.

## **Study Hall**

All sixth grade students are scheduled in a study hall with one of the sixth grade teachers. This time is spent working on organization, completing homework, and having small group instruction.

## **Study Skills**

All sixth grade students that do not have a class scheduled opposite of physical education will be provided with a course in study skills. This course will help students identify their learning strengths, develop organizational skills, and provide practice applying study techniques.

## **6TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES**

### **Health**

6th grade Health is offered to all students for one quarter. Students will gain knowledge about the health triangle, wellness, stress management, building self-esteem, their body systems, the physical changes that occur during puberty, hands only CPR, basic first aid, and nutrition.

### **Computers**

While learning about digital citizenship, Internet safety, computer history, Internet research and citing sources, and computer parts, students will learn to use Moodle (an online classroom), Google docs and Google presentations, Audacity, and other Web 2.0 applications. In addition, students will develop their keyboarding skills and learn software features.

### **Art**

During this nine-week course, students will participate in discussion, examination and creation of art. Students will focus on developing creative problem solving skills, visual literacy and personal expression. In Art 6 - students will be introduced to basic art foundations through experimentation in drawing, painting, and sculpture. Students will incorporate writing and visual literacy skills into their projects.

Projects to Expect:

- Zentangles / Optical Illusions
- Mutant Super Heros / figures in motion / written profiles
- Clay Pinch Pot Monsters / storytelling
- Water Color Painting

### **Music Appreciation**

Music Appreciation is a class that meets every day for one quarter. In this course students will continue to build upon the following music concepts: vocal and instrumental performance, music reading and composition, listening and analysis, and music history. The objectives of this class are for students to improve music reading, learn to play the guitar, learn to work as a group, gain self confidence, make connections with music and everyday life, appreciate music from a variety of cultures and periods, and to express ideas through music rather than words.



## 6TH GRADE ELECTIVES

### **Band**

Due to numbers and educational purposes, we have split the middle school band into two ensembles (*6th Grade Band and 7 & 8 Band*). Membership is open to all students who have successfully completed a band class in the previous year. The course will be a continuation of the technical training started in the beginning class. We will meet higher levels of music performance as well as participate in activities that help us learn the history behind our pieces. The 6th grade band meets on Days 1, 3, and 5 or Red Days during 5th hour. The 6th grade band will have two concerts, and perform with the 7th/8th grade band for our halftime show and during Arcadia Broiler Days. Students may join as a 6th grader, as long as they schedule private lessons with the instructor before joining the ensemble.

### **Choir**

In Middle School Choir, we will be singing a variety of styles of music including pop or country songs you hear on the radio, standard choral pieces, spirituals, and acapella music! In the classroom we also learn how to sing properly with good posture and breathing techniques. There are multiple opportunities for solos, and there are also chances to perform in Solo and Ensemble and to audition for state Middle Level Honors Choirs.

## 7TH GRADE COURSES

### English/Reading 7

This course is a combination of the traditional reading and English classes. Instruction focuses on reading, writing, grammar, and spelling to meet the ELA standards. The combined classes meet each day for approximately 90 minutes throughout the entire school year.

### Math 7

Math 7 is for students who were in regular math 6. In this class, students will learn how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers and rational numbers, solve equations, write, graph, and solve inequalities, write and solve ratios and proportions, compare and order fractions, work with decimals and percents, work with the percent equation and percent proportion, find the percent of increase and decrease, find the discount, markup, and simple interest, construct and work with angles, triangles, and quadrilaterals, make a scale drawing, find the perimeter and area of circles, and composite figures, find the surface area and volume of prisms, pyramids, and cylinders, find the experimental and theoretical probability of an event, and work with and compare samples and populations.

### Accelerated Math 7

Accelerated Math 7 is for 7<sup>th</sup> graders who are great at math and need the challenge of learning more material in a shorter amount of time than the regular math 7 class. Students are selected for this class based on MAP scores, WKCE scores, 6<sup>th</sup> grade math grades, and teacher recommendation. Students that take this class successfully will take algebra as 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Topics covered in this class will be the same as the 7<sup>th</sup> grade topics plus some of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade topics. Students must maintain a C- or better to stay in this class.

### Math Essentials

Math Essentials is an intervention program for the struggling math student. Supportive software and other resources will be used to assist students to learn, review, and develop confidence in math skills.

Topics that may be covered in this course include whole numbers and fractions, working with data, multiplication and division of fractions, tools for measurement and construction, working with mixed numbers, tessellations, geometry, and measurement, decimals and operations on decimals, triangles, and quadrilaterals, area of two dimensional shapes, percents and percent problems and graphs, scientific notation, probability, integers and operations with integers, finding points on a graph, and coordinate graphs and transformations.

### Science 7

Seventh grade science begins the year studying introductory principles of earth science. Students will understand the patterns of change and constancy in the Earth and its history, including plate tectonics, minerals, rocks and rock layers. The latter part of the year involves the structure of matter and its characteristics, including chemical and physical properties, elements, mixtures and pure substances. Students will learn and use scientific procedures, the metric system, scientific tools and the scientific method.

## **Accelerated Science 7**

The Accelerated Science program was designed to accommodate students who expect to take all the science the district has to offer in high school, as well as to allow for complementing their course studies with the math offerings and still be able to enjoy courses in other areas. The ultimate goal of Accelerated Science students is to proficiently cover enough science content to enter Biology in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade rather than taking Physical Science, which will be an integral part of Accelerated Science. Because of the amount of content covered in the two years of the program, it is a challenging course designed for motivated, ambitious students with an aptitude for science, high interest in science, a strong intent to further pursue scientific study in high school and even as a career.

## **Geography**

In 7th grade the students will study Eastern Hemisphere Geography. Students will consider poverty, conflict, environmental stewardship, the influence of physical geography on the economy etc. using different regions of the Eastern Hemisphere as case studies. The content material will be manipulated in a variety of ways including computers, maps, essays and group work to ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn in the medium that best suits their unique, individual needs.

## **Physical Education 7**

Classes will meet every-other day for the whole year. Students are required to change into PE clothes (shorts, T-shirt, tennis shoes) for activity. Students will receive a lock to be used in the locker room to keep PE clothes in. Classes will consist of game, sport and fitness activities. Each unit will have a brief quiz on rules, vocabulary, and strategies of the activity. The Fitness Gram fitness test will be administered once in the fall and once in the spring semesters.

## **Read 180**

*(Reading Intervention/Support)*

READ 180 is an intensive reading intervention program designed to help raise reading achievement for struggling readers in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. The program provides educators with the opportunity to focus instruction based upon students specific areas of reading needs using technology, print, assessment, and professional development. READ 180 is proven to meet the needs of struggling readers whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, whole-group and small group instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills.

## **Corrective Reading**

*(Reading Intervention/Support)*

This intervention program provides sustained direct instruction for students with a focus on the areas of decoding and comprehension. It is intensive reading program that covers phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and vocabulary.

## **7TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES**

### **7th Grade Computers Explore**

Students will learn document formatting and software features for personal use. Reports, correspondence (including letters, memorandums, and email), and tables will be covered. In addition, students will use an online keyboarding program to develop their keyboarding skills, use Google docs, and use Moodle (an online classroom environment).

### **Family and Consumer Science Education**

Students will explore the process of making a career decision using hands-on activities, self-discovery surveys, performance assessments, and Internet sites. Students will also explore the basic culinary concepts of kitchen safety, measuring, and meal preparation.

### **Foreign Language**

The 7th Grade Language Explore class is a fantastic way to sample a variety of languages! In this course you can expect to learn basic Spanish greetings, colors and numbers. You will also learn basic sign language and dabble with other languages like German and French!

### **Technology Education- Design and Modeling**

Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design different objects, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk Inventor design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. Students will also get an opportunity to operate a 3D printer to help make their designs come to life.

## **7TH GRADE ELECTIVES**

### **7th & 8th Grade Art**

In this course students are prepared for the future by learning to think creatively and problem solve with hands – on (experiential) learning. Students will explore a multitude of mediums with lessons that emphasize the elements and principles of design and incorporate art history. Every other year, an entire semester will be devoted to exploring art through art history. Students will discover the secrets of Ancient Egypt, Greece, The Middle Ages, and the Renaissance. The semester will end with a visit to Castlerock museum and the Marine Art Museum. Students will develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and various other art mediums.

## **Digital Art**

Explore the world of art and technology and get behind the scenes in an environment filled with graphic images and technology. Combine your artistic and creative sides with technology to effectively communicate ideas through creative expression. Using technology, students will understand how to digitally use colors, effects and enhancements to design digital portfolios, produce stop-motion animations, and compose complex print and media works. Take this opportunity to become a photographer, a graphic designer, and a movie-producer as you learn techniques of the digital world: digital cameras, photo editing, stop-animation videos, and more!

## **Drama**

Drama class is a performance or experience class in which students learn the basics of acting and stage movement. Students will develop production techniques including: directing, acting, lights, sound, scenery, props, costumes, make-up, and publicity with a production. Students will use life skills such as cooperation, concentration, and creativity.

## **7th & 8th Grade Band**

The 7th/8th grade band meets every day during 2nd hour. Students are acquainted with a variety of marching and symphonic literature and are given the opportunity to develop high standards of musicianship. Emphasis is placed on artistic performance that corresponds with the maturation level and experience of the group. This band will perform at the fall, spring and March Mystery concert, as well as march in Blair Cheesefest and Broiler Days. Furthermore, we participate at a band festival in Wisconsin Dells or our own local band festival.

## **Jazz Ensemble**

The Arcadia Middle School Jazz Ensemble is an ensemble where students perform a variety of jazz music including swing, blues, Latin, funk and pop. In the Jazz Ensemble, most parts are played by only one student and it is therefore mandatory for students in this group to be at every performance and rehearsal. If a student misses more than three rehearsals without excuse they will be unable to perform at the next concert. The jazz band will perform two concerts for the community, one in Fall and one in Spring. In addition, the Jazz Ensemble will compete in one jazz festival. Class time is yet to be determined.

## **Choir**

In Middle School Choir, we will be singing a variety of styles of music including pop or country songs you hear on the radio, standard choral pieces, spirituals, and acapella music! In the classroom we also learn how to sing properly with good posture and breathing techniques. There are multiple opportunities for solos, and there are also chances to perform in Solo and Ensemble and to audition for state Middle Level Honors Choirs.

## 8TH GRADE COURSES

### English/Reading 8

This course is a combination of the traditional reading and English classes. Instruction focuses on reading, writing, grammar, and spelling to meet the ELA standards. The combined classes meet each day for approximately 90 minutes throughout the entire school year.

### Math 8

Math 8 is for students who were in regular math 7. In this class, students will solve equations, work with transformations such as reflections, dilations, rotations, and translations, graph and write linear equations, solve systems of equations, work with functions, find square roots, use the Pythagorean theorem, find the volume of cylinders, cones and spheres, find the surface area of and volumes of similar solids, work with exponent and scientific notation, find angle measure, use similar triangles, and learn to use scatter plots and lines of best fit. This class will prepare students to take 9<sup>th</sup> grade algebra.

### Algebra 1

Algebra 1 is for students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade who have taken the accelerated math 7 class successfully. Algebra is a branch of mathematics that teaches students how to turn patterns into symbols. Topics will include evaluating algebraic expressions, variables, proportions, graphing, solving systems of equations, linear relationships, exponential relationships, quadratic relationships, and inequalities. This course is recommended for students who plan to do advanced work in math and/or science and for all students who plan to continue their education beyond high school. This is a required course for geometry, Algebra II, FST, pre-calc, calculus, physics, and chemistry.

### Math Essentials

Math Essentials is an intervention program for the struggling math student. Supportive software and other resources will be used to assist students to learn, review, and develop confidence in math skills.

Topics that may be covered in this course include whole numbers and fractions, working with data, multiplication and division of fractions, tools for measurement and construction, working with mixed numbers, tessellations, geometry, and measurement, decimals and operations on decimals, triangles, and quadrilaterals, area of two dimensional shapes, percents and percent problems and graphs, scientific notation, probability, integers and operations with integers, finding points on a graph, and coordinate graphs and transformations.

### Science 8

Eighth grade science continues to study chemistry, specifically the structure of atoms, the periodic table, chemical bonds and chemical reactions, acids, bases, and solutions. We end the year with life science, focusing on the characteristics of living things, classification and taxonomy. Students will build on their prior knowledge of the scientific method and focus on the skills of collecting qualitative and quantitative data, reinforcing their metric measurement skills in the process.

## **Accelerated Science 8**

The Accelerated Science program was designed to accommodate students who expect to take all the science the district has to offer in high school, as well as to allow for complementing their course studies with the math offerings and still be able to enjoy courses in other areas. The ultimate goal of Accelerated Science students is to proficiently cover enough science content to enter Biology in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade rather than taking Physical Science, which will be an integral part of Accelerated Science. Because of the amount of content covered in the two years of the program, it is a challenging course designed for motivated, ambitious students with an aptitude for science, high interest in science, a strong intent to further pursue scientific study in high school and even as a career.

## **History**

Students will be studying and critically evaluating the history of the United States from the early 1700s through the end of World War II. During this course students will use a variety of sources, both primary and secondary, to evaluate the political, economic, social history of the United States in order to better understand the country they live in as well as understand that their positive participation is vital to the future success of the country.

Additionally, this well-constructed history curriculum will build background knowledge and literacy through challenging students to ask questions, propose solutions, and form and evaluate opinions using evidence they have researched.

## **Physical Education 8**

Classes will meet every-other day for the whole year. Students are required to change into PE clothes (shorts, T-shirt, tennis shoes) for activity. Students will receive a lock to be used in the locker room to keep PE clothes in. Classes will consist of game, sport and fitness activities. Each unit will have a brief quiz on rules, vocabulary, and strategies of the activity. The Fitness Gram fitness test will be administered once in the fall and once in the spring semesters.

## **Read 180**

*(Reading Intervention/Support)*

READ 180 is an intensive reading intervention program designed to help raise reading achievement for struggling readers in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade. The program provides educators with the opportunity to focus instruction based upon students specific areas of reading needs using technology, print, assessment, and professional development. READ 180 is proven to meet the needs of struggling readers whose reading achievement is below proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, whole-group and small group instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills.

## **Corrective Reading**

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This intervention provides sustained direct instruction for students with a focus on the areas of decoding and comprehension. It is intensive reading program that covers phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency and vocabulary.

## **8TH GRADE EXPLORE CLASSES**

### **8th Grade Computers**

What technology will I need for high school and beyond? In this quarter course, you will review word processing, learn many formulas in spreadsheets, be introduced to using a database and review how to professionally use presentations. If time permits, you will learn to create and edit a video complete with sound and effects.

### **Family and Consumer Science Education**

This course covers topics in family and relationships, as well as beginning sewing.

### **Agri - Science**

Every student has the opportunity to take Ag Explore for a quarter. As an Agriscience Instructor it is my goal for all students of this class to be aware of where their food comes from and the importance of agriculture in their lives. We also cover natural resources, small and large animals, food safety, plant science, agricultural careers and leadership.

### **Human Growth & Development**

During this course students will study human development (physical, mental, emotional and social) from infant through the entire life span.

## **8TH GRADE ELECTIVES**

### **7th & 8th Grade Art**

In this course students are prepared for the future by learning to think creatively and problem solve with hands – on (experiential) learning. Students will explore a multitude of mediums with lessons that emphasize the elements and principles of design and incorporate art history. Every other year, an entire semester will be devoted to exploring art through art history. Students will discover the secrets of Ancient Egypt, Greece, The Middle Ages, and the Renaissance. The semester will end with a visit to Castlerock museum and the Marine Art Museum. Students will develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery and various other art mediums.

### **Digital Art**

Explore the world of art and technology and get behind the scenes in an environment filled with graphic images and technology. Combine your artistic and creative sides with technology to effectively communicate ideas through creative expression. Using technology, students will understand how to digitally use colors, effects and enhancements to design digital portfolios, produce stop-motion animations, and compose complex print and media works. Take this opportunity to become a photographer, a graphic designer, and a movie-producer as you learn techniques of the digital world: digital cameras, photo editing, stop-animation videos, and more!



## **7th/8th Grade Band**

The 7th/8th grade band meets every day during 2nd hour. Students are acquainted with a variety of marching and symphonic literature and are given the opportunity to develop high standards of musicianship. Emphasis is placed on artistic performance that corresponds with the maturation level and experience of the group. This band will perform at the fall, spring and March Mystery concert, as well as march in Blair Cheesefest and Broiler Days. Furthermore, we participate at a band festival in Wisconsin Dells or our own local band festival.

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The Arcadia Middle School Jazz Ensemble is an ensemble where students perform a variety of jazz music including swing, blues, Latin, funk and pop. In the Jazz Ensemble, most parts are played by only one student and it is therefore mandatory for students in this group to be at every performance and rehearsal. If a student misses more than three rehearsals without excuse they will be unable to perform at the next concert. The jazz band will perform two concerts for the community, one in Fall and one in Spring. In addition, the Jazz Ensemble will compete in one jazz festival. Class time is yet to be determined.

## **Choir**

In Middle School Choir, we will be singing a variety of styles of music including pop or country songs you hear on the radio, standard choral pieces, spirituals, and acapella music! In the classroom we also learn how to sing properly with good posture and breathing techniques. There are multiple opportunities for solos, and there are also chances to perform in Solo and Ensemble and to audition for state Middle Level Honors Choirs.

## **Drama**

Drama class is a performance or experience class in which students learn the basics of acting and stage movement. Students will develop production techniques including: directing, acting, lights, sound, scenery, props, costumes, make-up, and publicity with a production. Students will use life skills such as cooperation, concentration, and creativity.

## **Gateway to Technology**

**Prerequisite: 8th graders will need to have achieved a "B" average in their 7th grade Design and Modeling course.**

Gateway to Technology is a year-long course that is divided into four, nine-week units. Unit 1 – Automation and Robotics: Students design and build automated systems incorporating the principles of electronics, physics, and robotics to gain an enriched understanding of the contemporary mechanized world. Unit 2 – The Science of Technology: Students apply scientific principles and concepts of simple machines and energy to solve real-world problems. Unit 3 – The Magic of Electrons: Engaged in relevant hands-on projects, students unravel the mystery of digital circuitry. Unit 4 – Energy and the Environment: Students investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the environment. They design and model alternative energy sources and participate in an energy expo to demonstrate energy concepts and innovative ideas. Students evaluate ways to reduce energy consumption through energy efficiency and sustainability

## **Spanish I**

This course is the first of many Spanish courses offered to Arcadia students. You will learn about geography, basics like shapes and numbers, and a plethora of other topics! This course is considered advanced for 8th graders, and a grade of at least a C must be maintained throughout the course.