

PRE-ALGEBRA I (Grade 8)

The student is expected to work out daily assigned problems and exercises. The content of this course includes modern mathematics, terminology, making and using formulas, simple equations, directed or signed numbers, computing with polynomials, problems solved by equations, irrational numbers, real numbers, inequalities, lines and their slopes, systems of linear equations, factoring, algebraic fractions and fractional equations, square roots, quadratic equations, and complex numbers.

ART (Sampling for 7)

This course is a survey course introducing the student to the various art media, tools and techniques with both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional projects. Activities include problems in drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, design, art history and art appreciation. An overview of careers in art is provided through homework assignments.

BAND (7, 8)

During their two years in Junior High Band, third year and level three objectives are taught as listed in instrumental curriculum guide. Competition, creativity, and self discipline begins to become more important at this level. Enjoyment and pride are instilled from performing good music well and being able to take a few trips (ex. marching competitions, jazz competitions, when available). Three to four concerts (Veteran's Day Program, Christmas Concert, Music Contest, Spring Concert) are performed and trips are taken when possible during Junior High Band. Junior high students perform in pep band (when available) at football, volleyball and basketball games.

CAREER PERIOD (7, 8)

This year long class meets 5 times a week for 20 minutes per day and is focused exploring careers. They learn about the sixteen career clusters and understand how foundation knowledge and skills apply to each cluster; students get a chance to apply the foundation knowledge and skills to individual and group assignments and projects throughout the year. Students also investigate the education and training required for various careers and the entrance requirements for a wide variety of postsecondary options. Last, they will develop Personal Learning Plans which will serve as flexible and relevant plans of study for high school graduation and for seamless transition to postsecondary options. A sample of the curriculum is found on the school website wausaweb.esu1.org/.

EARTH SCIENCE (8)

Earth Science exposes students to a variety of topics dealing with the earth and its surroundings such as astronomy, meteorology, geology, and oceanography. Earth structures are discussed including rocks, minerals, and the internal workings of our planet. The care and preservation of

our planet is stressed. All students are required to develop a scientific experiment dealing with earth science related topics in which they practice using the scientific method.

ENGLISH (7)

In the seventh grade, the curriculum focuses on vocabulary and writing skills, applied grammar and literature. Literature consists of poetry, plays, short stories, and novels. The vocabulary study is taken from the literature read in class, and novels. The second semester vocabulary is taken from *Wordskills* and utilizes a weekly lesson and quiz. One quarter is devoted to writing and applied grammar. Students may utilize the computer lab for this quarter and use process writing to write on a variety of topics.

ENGLISH (8)

In the eighth grade, the curriculum focuses on vocabulary, writing skills, applied grammar, and literature. Literature consists of poetry, plays, short stories, non-fiction and fiction. Emphasis is placed on reading comprehension, elements of literature, and figurative language. Vocabulary study is taken from the literature read in class and focuses on definition and usage. The second source for vocabulary development is taken from the *Wordskills* workbook utilizing a weekly lesson quiz. The vocabulary study is spread over the course of the school year. Along with vocabulary, spelling is taught utilizing placement tests, pretests and post-tests. Much of the curriculum is state standards assessment driven with special attention given to descriptive writing in preparation for the statewide writing assessments. Other course work involves a review of library skills and resources, note taking, listening, oral presentation and writing conventions.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE (Sampling 8)

This semester class meets 5 times a week per semester and is focused on an introduction to foods and nutrition. The semester starts with students learning about MyPyramid and the nutrients. Then students get to step into the kitchen to learn about food safety, kitchen safety, kitchen equipment, grocery shopping, lab planning, and basic etiquette. Foods labs will be interspersed throughout the semester.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY (WOODWORKING) (7)

This class has a nine week introduction course of beginning drafting. Some of the areas that are covered at this level are: basic techniques of drafting, tool skills, basic knowledge of lines, multi-view drawings, history of drafting and why it is important. This provides students with an introduction into training and experience to meet these needs in a expanding industrial society.

KEYBOARDING (8)

The students complete a check-writing packet that teaches the skills necessary to maintain a personal checking account--from opening an account to making deposits, writing checks and reconciling the bank statements. The students are taught to operate the microcomputer using proper techniques and to plan and organize typewritten material in an orderly and acceptable

business-like format. The typewritten material includes: memoâ€™s, letters, and reports. Students will also be introduced to spreadsheets. They will practice writing formulas and produce charts. Finally, students will work on career oriented technology, as well as working in cohort (team teaching) with other perkins funded programs in the school.

LIFE SCIENCE (7)

The main topics covered in Life Science are the human body its systems and cell functions--and the characteristics and grouping of living things. In the study of cells, students will examine the structures and processes in the cell and relate them to everyday activities. All students will be required to develop a scientific experiment dealing with living things in which they practice using the scientific method.

MATH (7)

Math 7 is designed to continue to build understanding of the fundamental concepts of mathematics. The content of this course includes problem and equation solving, computation with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Number theory, geometry, measurement with customary and Metric conversion, probability, statistics, ratios, and Pre-Algebra concepts are also introduced, developed and reinforced in preparation for high school mathematics.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ HEALTH (7, 8)

During seventh and eighth grade physical education, there will be units in flag football, volleyball, basketball, track and field, and soccer. Rules, field or court dimensions, skills, and strategy will be covered in the sports units. Jr. High sports practices will also coincide with this class. Extra curricular activities will also take place during this block schedule period. Students will have Health Education units blocked together throughout the course. During this time students will study units on health awareness, self-responsibility, decision-making, refusal skills, mental health, stress management, suicide prevention, communication skills, loving relationships including friendships and dating, marriage and parenthood, body systems, nutrition, diet, weight management, eating disorders, physical fitness, chemical dependence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco.

SOCIAL STUDIES (8)

The curriculum for eighth grade social studies is based on United States history. Students will examine the history of the U.S. and learn how it grew into a powerful nation. Students will study significant events focusing on the Colonial Period, Revolutionary War, forming of the Constitution, and the Civil War.

VOCAL MUSIC (7, 8)

Junior High Vocal Music is a class for 7th and 8th grade students. The focus of the group is on performance. Students will learn basic knowledge of healthy singing, confidence in the ability to

perform, and an appreciation of various forms of music. The group will perform at concerts, clinics, and various other scheduled events.