

2022-2023

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES

*"Preparing Students for College & Career"*



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# Accountability

## **Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP)**

Students in middle school are required to participate annually in an English language arts/literacy and mathematics assessment by Every *Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA). The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) assessments associated with the grade in which the student is currently enrolled meet this requirement. In addition, Maryland requires that a student participate in the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA) and a comprehensive social studies assessment, both administered in eighth grade. Students may also participate in the Algebra I in middle school to meet the high school graduation requirement.

The MCAP are challenging tests that measure student achievement of the state's Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards (MCCRS), which are identified by the Maryland State Department of Education as the skills and knowledge necessary to show understanding of each course's content and which are embedded in the Washington County Public Schools (WCPS) *Essential Curriculum*.

## **MCAP Proficiency**

To be considered proficient, students must meet the minimum scores below.

<b>MCAP Assessment</b>	<b>Passing Score</b>
Math/ELA	TBD
MISA	TBD
Social Studies	TBD

## **Algebra I**

Students enrolled in Algebra I are required to take an end of the course assessment. Maryland State Department of Education has not yet determined when it will account for 20 percent of the student's final grade.

## **Alternate Assessment ELA and Math and Alternate Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (Alt-MISA)**

The Alternate Assessment for English/language arts and mathematics are administered in grades 3 through 8 and 11. The Alt-MISA is administered in grades 5, 8, and 11. Students who participate in the alternate assessments have been determined eligible for participation by their IEP teams and must participate in all three content areas.

## **Credits from Middle School**

Credit will be awarded for courses taken prior to enrollment in high school in each academic curricular area (e.g. Algebra 1, World and Classical Languages and Foundation of Technology) under the following circumstances:

- The course is identified as an approved course for high school credit;
- The middle school course follows the outcomes and rigor of the approved high school

- course; and
- The student passed the approved middle school course.

Credit awarded in the middle school will not be calculated in a student's high school grade point average (GPA). Only grades earned for courses taken in high school will be used in the calculation of a student's high school GPA.

Credit will not be awarded in the middle school when it is determined that the course should be repeated before continuing with the sequence of courses in any given content area.

### **Middle School Requirements for *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) Well-Rounded Curriculum**

The following outlines well-rounded curriculum measures for Middle School as submitted in the ESSA state plan:

- Credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum: 8th grade students passing one each of coursework in mathematics, ELA, social studies, and science.
- Access to a well-rounded curriculum: 8th grade students enrolled in fine arts, physical education, health, and computational learning during middle school.





# Advanced Programs & Course Descriptions

WCPS Advanced Programs is the umbrella term for programs that serve gifted and talented learners and highly able learners. WCPS Magnet Programs are designed to meet the unique academic strengths and social/emotional needs of the Gifted and Talented (GATE) student with gifts and talents in specific content areas.

## Definitions

### Gifted and Talented

A **gifted and talented learner** is defined by Maryland's Annotated Code § 8-201 as an elementary or secondary student who is identified by professionally qualified individuals as:

- (1) Having outstanding talent and performing, or showing the potential for performing, at remarkably high levels of accomplishment **when compared with other students of a similar age, experience, or environment**;
- (2) Exhibiting high performance capability in intellectual, creative, or artistic areas;
- (3) Possessing an unusual leadership capacity; or
- (4) Excelling in specific academic fields.

Students are formally identified as "gifted and talented" (GATE)\* based on CogAT results and on multiple criteria of ability/aptitude, performance, and potential.

### Highly Able

A **highly able learner** is one who demonstrates above average ability and/or performs at advanced levels in one or more content areas.

### WCPS Merit Courses:

Every WCPS Middle School has merit courses designed for both highly able learners and gifted learners. Every rising Grade 6 student is reviewed by the Office of Advanced Programs for placement in one or more merit courses based on performance and/or ability. Merit courses are available for English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. WCPS merit courses follow the WCPS Essential Curriculum as do the grade-level courses. The pace of WCPS merit courses is typically faster and content is more in-depth in its exploration. In Merit Math, the student will also experience acceleration to the next grade level of a given topic. In all other merit courses, the readings tend to be above grade-level, which demands that students are reading and performing above grade level. Multiple criteria are used for placement in WCPS Merit Programs and no student is guaranteed placement in merit courses.

### WCPS Magnet Programs

**Magnet Programs** serve academically gifted and/or creatively gifted (GATE) learners and are located at specific middle schools throughout Washington County. All students are screened for WCPS Academic Middle School Magnet Programs during Grade 5, using the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) and available performance data. Students are invited to apply to Academic Magnet Programs based on qualifying scores. The magnet programs are highly competitive and thematically-based. A student placed in a magnet program school takes the magnet program courses offered at the school. All magnet students are expected to complete summer assignments, which "front-load" content and allow magnet teachers to increase the depth of unit exploration throughout the school year. The magnet program participant may or may not have merit courses for the other subject areas in their schedule. WCPS Academic Magnet Program courses follow the WCPS Essential Curriculum. They are regularly taught 1-2 years above the current grade level. Resources used in the Academic Magnet Programs include those designed by nationally and



internationally-recognized Centers for Gifted Education and Research, such as the College of William and Mary.

Since openings are limited in WCPS Academic Magnet Programs, the WCPS Merit courses in the “home” school (school in their attendance zone) are a great option for students with gifts and talents in one or more academic areas. Multiple criteria are used to determine placement in WCPS Magnet Programs and no student is guaranteed placement.

## **Academic Magnet Program Descriptions**

### **Boonsboro Middle Magnet School for Global Citizenship**

Magnet students will study the impact of language and global culture on communications while building global literacy and examining their roles and responsibilities as global citizens. Students will analyze culture and language through collaboration, global literature, and current events. Problem-based learning related to global issues is a primary focus to provide students with the opportunity to promote awareness and create action plans to help solve problems within school, the community, and/or globally. In addition, students will be provided the option to join various clubs to be able to implement these action plans. Students with aptitudes for/interests in reading, writing, and learning about other cultures and languages will enjoy this program. Each year, magnet program students take special English language arts (ELA) and social studies classes that infuse the magnet theme into the curriculum; they are also enrolled in a full-immersion Spanish course. Upon successful completion of three years in Spanish, students will enter high school with two language credits. They may also earn a high school credit for Foundations of Technology. Coursework moves at an accelerated pace that is one to two years above grade level in terms of breadth and/or depth. Within this program, students will take action and create community projects to promote the global theme at both the local and global community levels. In addition, students will frequently collaborate with other students in Maryland and globally via digital exchange, online discussions, written communications. Past program activities have included guest speakers, field experiences, multimedia projects using various technology tools, student-led social action projects, ongoing digital exchange with Peru and Japan, student-led conferences, and other “showcase” events; all promoting and celebrating diversity and multiple perspectives. In addition, our magnet students participate in the school-wide Multicultural Night.

- Gifted Focus: ELA, Social Studies, & Spanish
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: verbal

### **E. Russell Hicks Magnet Program for the Humanities**

Students with aptitudes for and interests in the humanities (literature, social sciences, history of the arts) will enjoy this program. Magnet program students take specialized, cross-curricular English Language Arts and social studies classes that infuse the magnet theme into the curriculum. These courses, which move at an accelerated pace one to two years above grade level in terms of complexity, utilize the William and Mary curriculum for gifted and talented students, incorporating a wide selection of both classical and modern literature. Students will take deep dives into primary source materials to interpret their historical importance and impact on our changing world. Each summer, students complete a multi-disciplinary project that allows them to extend their learning and hit the ground running at the start of the next school year. The ultimate goal of this magnet program is

not only to provide students with the skills necessary to be successful in advanced placement opportunities in high school and beyond, but more importantly to prepare them to participate as informed, critically-minded global citizens. Students are granted unique academic experiences that encourage analytical thinking and creativity, including field experiences in the Smithsonian Forensics program and the Holocaust museum, participation in our consistently top-rated choral, band and orchestra programs, art club, and the Morning Announcements Crew. Additionally, students have the opportunity to earn high school credit in both Spanish and Career Technical Education (CTE).

- Gifted Focus: ELA & Social Studies
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: verbal

### **Northern Middle School IB Middle Years Programme (IB MYP)**

As an IB World School, Northern Middle School provides competitive IB MYP students with a well-rounded preparation for high school. International Baccalaureate programs represent the gold standard of internationally-recognized, rigorous curriculum. The IB Middle Years Programme is a five-year programme, starting in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and culminating with the awarding of an IB MYP Credential in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The Middle Years Programme aligns vertically with both North Hagerstown High School's IB Career-related Programme and their IB Diploma Programme. The IB MYP consists of eight subject groups, which all students take throughout their MYP journey: Language Acquisition (French, Spanish, and German), Language and Literature, Individuals and Societies, Science, Mathematics, Arts, Physical and Health Education, and Design. Inquiry is used in all subject areas to expand student knowledge and understanding of the world around them. The student-centered framework, which is built around the ten traits of the IB Learner Profile, enhances the WCPS Essential Curriculum by building critical thinking skills in an internationally minded classroom. All of our students are expected to participate and contribute to our Service in Action initiative. Additionally, students complete a compacted math curriculum that would permit them to take Magnet Algebra I in Grade 7 and Magnet Geometry in Grade 8.

- Gifted Focus: ELA & Math
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: verbal and quantitative

### **Springfield Magnet Program for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math**

Magnet students will connect the study of technology to the areas of math and science as they enhance the problem-solving skills needed for success in S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, and math) related fields. Students with aptitudes for/interests in math, science, and technology will enjoy this program. Magnet program students take rigorous math and science classes that infuse the magnet theme into the curriculum. This coursework moves at an accelerated pace in terms of breadth and/or depth. Students will take Magnet Algebra I and Magnet Geometry during this program to allow more time for AP Math courses in high school. Students also have the option to take Foundations of Technology for a high school credit in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students have regular access to laptop computers and probeware that will enhance assignment/project production and new learning. Past activities have included field experiences, a campus-wide engineering day, and guest speakers.

- Gifted Focus: Math & Science
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: quantitative and nonverbal

# **Creative and Performing Arts Magnet Program Description**

## **Western Heights School Arts: SCAPE Avenue A**

Arts: SCAPE provides expanded opportunities to magnet students in the visual and performing arts, while incorporating best practices through arts integration (AI) throughout all content areas.

Avenue A (Academic) is designed for students who are highly gifted in English Language Arts and Creative Writing. These academically gifted students will be invited to apply following the current screening model. Advanced level coursework will utilize best practices from gifted education and arts integration (AI).

Students invited to apply to Avenue A may also apply to Avenue B – the Creative Performing Arts Avenue. Dual applicants must also engage in the Avenue B audition process, in addition to completing the interview and task associated with the Avenue A application process.

- Gifted Focus: ELA & creative writing
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: verbal and nonverbal
- Requires audition or portfolio depending on area of talent

## **Western Heights Middle School Arts: SCAPE Avenue B**

Arts: SCAPE is designed to provide expanded opportunities to magnet students in the visual and performing arts, while incorporating best practices through arts integration (AI). WHMS offers two Avenue – Academic and Creative. The ultimate goal of Arts: SCAPE is talent development for all students.

Avenue B is designed for students who have demonstrated talent or the potential for exceptional talent in the creative and performing arts. Any current Grade 5 student may apply for Avenue B. Avenue B will be accessed via the audition/portfolio process, which mirrors the current criteria used for admission to the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA). These creatively gifted and talented students will select a visual/performing arts concentration path. Avenue B applicants may apply for entrance to two (2) of the offered areas; Band, Orchestra, Chorus, Dance, Graphic Design, Creative Writing, Theatre, and Visual Arts. Students may enter into one area.

- Gifted Focus: non-Academic Program; creative and performing arts
- Qualifying Ability Score Area: none, but strongly suggested for students with a high nonverbal ability score

# Signature Program Descriptions

## **Signature Integrated Instruction**

These programs are designed for students who are interested in a particular theme and may or may not be identified as gifted and talented (GATE). Signature Integrated Instruction Programs are located at the student's home school, open to all students in that school and do not require a formal application at the county level. Signature programs are not typically extended through the competitive application process to other students in the county. These programs integrate the theme into content area instruction and offer specialized enrichment opportunities through Encore or classroom instruction. These two programs include:

- **Arts Integration at Western Heights Middle School (School-Wide)**
  - Content courses infuse the arts into instruction and often offer student choices for products that incorporate the arts.
  - Elective opportunities include band, chorus, creative writing, dance, graphic design, orchestra, theater, and visual arts.
- **International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) at Northern Middle School (School-Wide Program)**
  - All students in NMS participate in IB MYP.
  - A limited number of special permissions to attend NMS for the IB MYP may be offered at the Principal's discretion.
  - The IB MYP student participates in MYP Years 1, 2, and 3 of courses. Assigned courses may be Merit and/or Grade Level.
  - Students who transition to North Hagerstown High School will complete Years 4 and 5 of IB MYP along with the Personal Project.

## **Transportation**

Transportation is not provided to WCPS Magnet Program participants who reside outside the attendance zone of the magnet program school. For this reason, WCPS Merit Programs are an option for qualified students at every WCPS middle school.

## **Identification and Placement**

More information regarding WCPS Magnet Programs may be found at <https://sites.google.com/wcps.k12.md.us/advancedprograms/home>.



# Career & Technology Education Course Descriptions

In Career and Technology Education, students develop an understanding of the progression and scope of technology. Through group and individual activities, students will develop an awareness of the designed (human-made) world. Through analyzing technological products and processes, students will assess the impacts of technology. Students will begin to identify that core technologies are the building blocks to all technological systems. Problem-solving skills are enhanced throughout the course using hands-on activities.

## Middle School Career and Technology Education Pathways

<b>8th Grade</b>	Grade 8 Technical Education (808)	Grade 8 Foundations of Technology (FOT) (870)	Grade 8 Honors Foundations of Computer Science (A350H)
<b>7th Grade</b>	Grade 7 Technical Education (807)		
<b>6th Grade</b>	Grade 6 Technical Education (806)		
	<b><i>ON GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</i></b>  All students must take on grade level Technical Education classes.		
Technical Education and FOT are all grade level classes.			



**COMMUNICATION**

850/850SM                      Grade Level 6

Students are introduced to the history of the computer and internet. This course also examines the intent and correct usage of social media, develops basic computer programming skills, and introduces students to the Google platform and its various capabilities.

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

806/806SM                      Grade Level 6

Students develop an understanding of the progression and scope of technology. Through group and individual activities, students will develop an awareness of the designed (human-made) world. Students will begin to see the relationships among technologies and the connection between other fields of study, specifically math and science. Through analyzing technological products and processes, students will assess the impacts of technology. Students will begin to identify that the core technologies are the building blocks to all technological systems. Problem-solving skills are enhanced throughout the course using hands-on activities.

**AEROSPACE**

863/863SM                      Grade Level 7

Students are introduced to the historical development of flight, while engaging in interesting, hands-on aviation and space-related STEM activities.

**COMMUNICATION**

851/851SM                      Grade Level 7

Students are introduced to the evolution of technology and specific milestones in history of the computer and Internet. This course also examines Adobe Photoshop and develops higher-level computer programming skills through computational thinking.

**DESKTOP PUBLISHING**

794/794SM                      Grade Level 7

Students are introduced to desktop publishing and/or word processing software to teach them to produce documents in a professional, effective manner. Students learn to communicate ideas to readers. These skills help students produce effective documents with any software program.

**INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE**

800/800SM                      Grade Level 7

Students will learn the scientific and technological concepts involved in the production of agricultural commodities, such as food, fiber, horticultural crops, and other plant and animal products. The course also explores food processing and marketing, health, nutrition and food consumption, and the conservation of land and water resources. Available at Boonsboro Middle School.

## **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

807/807SM                      Grade Level 7

Students will focus on the design process. Brainstorming, modeling, testing, evaluating, and modifying will be used to apply the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Students participate in engineering design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect design. Throughout the design process, students will develop skills to communicate design information. Students will learn how various inventions and innovations impact their lives.

## **COMMUNICATION**

852/852SM                      Grade Level 8

Students are introduced to the Microsoft platform and examine the intent and correct usage of those programs. This course also develops advanced computer computational thinking skills and enhances students' knowledge of the Google platform and its various capabilities.

## **FOUNDATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY**

870/870SM                      Grade Level 8                      1 High School Technology Credit

Students will focus on the three dimensions of technological literacy: knowledge, ways of thinking and acting, and capabilities with the goal of students developing the characteristics of a technologically literate citizen. The course is designed to engage students in exploring and deepening their understanding of "big ideas" regarding technology and makes use of a variety of assessment instruments to reveal the extent of understanding. Students will develop an understanding of the influence of technology on history by learning how people have increased their capability by using their skills to innovate, improvise and invent. They will gain an understanding of how technological innovation results when ideas, knowledge, or skills are shared within a technology, among technologies or across other fields of study. Students will develop an understanding of engineering design, the formal process that transforms ideas into products or systems of the designed world. They will select and use manufacturing technologies and understand that modern manufacturing technologies influence peoples' quality of life. Students will select and use construction technologies that impact the design of structures. Students will select and use energy and power technologies and explore the processing and controlling of energy resources. They will become familiar with information and communications technologies and their role in maintaining competitive economic growth. The course will conclude with the synthesizing of major ideas through an understanding of the core concepts of technology with an emphasis on systems-thinking and related principles. This course fulfills the graduation requirement for Technology Literacy.

## **HONORS FOUNDATIONS OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**

A350H

Grade Level 8

1 High School Technology Credit

Foundations of Computer Science, the first course in the computer science completer, is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues. This course includes a broad range of topics in computing, including robotics; programming in several languages such as Processing and Java; and cyber security.

## **INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE**

800/800SM

Grade Level 8

Students may select several occupational families, which are related to the areas of interest initially investigated during the sixth and seventh grades. Learning activities should be provided which emphasize "hands-on" experiences in realistic or simulated work environments. Activities such as constructing small wood or metal projects, distributing and selling a product, or landscaping a portion of the school campus enable students to examine various work roles and acquire manipulative skills and knowledge related to the occupational area. The subject areas of mathematics, science, social studies and English should be integrated with the learning activities of the program. Offered at Boonsboro Middle School.

## **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

808/808SM

Grade Level 8

Students will learn how technological systems work together to solve problems and extend human capabilities. A technological system consists of parts (such as electrical and mechanical) working together to accomplish a task. Systems have inputs, processes, outputs, and feedback. This course will give students a general background on the different types of systems, how systems have evolved over time, how systems can be modified, and how systems work together.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME DESIGN SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Design Subject Group. The Design Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Perspective* and *Adaptation* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Scientific & Technical Innovation* and *Identities & Relationships*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Digital Arts and Technology Education**

MYP806/MYP806SM Grade Level 6

MYP807/MYP807SM Grade Level 7

MYP808/MYP808SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Foundations of Technology**

MYP870/MYP870SM Grade Level 8



# English Course Descriptions

Students are required to complete three courses in middle school English Language Arts (ELA). In each course, students will work to enhance their skills in reading and writing through participation in the Essential Curriculum. Student progress toward grade-level standards will be assessed each year using the MCAP (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) exam for English Language Arts/Literacy.

## Middle School English Pathways

<b>8th Grade</b>	English Language Arts 8 (108)	Merit English Language Arts 8 (118)	Magnet English Language Arts 8 (118MG)
<b>7th Grade</b>	English Language Arts 7 (107)	Merit English Language Arts 7 (117)	Magnet English Language Arts 7 (117MG)
<b>6th Grade</b>	English Language Arts 6 (106)	Merit English Language Arts 6 (116)	Magnet English Language Arts 6 (116MG)
	<b>ON GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</b>  <i>Students with on grade level reading and writing skills.</i>	<b>MERIT / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  <i>Students with on or above grade level reading and writing skills.</i>	<b>MAGNET / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  <i>Students placed in the Magnet Program at Boonsboro, E. Russell Hicks, Northern or Western Heights Middle Schools</i>
<p><i>Students entering middle school will be recommended for placement according to multiple criteria of ability/aptitude, performance, and potential as reviewed by the current elementary school, Office of Advanced Programs, and the Middle School ELA Content Specialist. Students in the on-grade level pathway in Grade 6 may advance to Merit in Grades 7 and/or 8 based on performance data.</i></p> <p><i>Placement in the more advanced Merit course is not guaranteed.</i></p>			



## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6**

106                      Grade Level 6

English Language Arts 6 is a standard course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. Language Arts (grade 6) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes.

## **MERIT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6**

116                      Grade Level 6

Merit English Language Arts 6 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. This course introduces pre-Advanced Placement (AP) strategies and is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. This course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes.

## **MAGNET ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6**

116MG                      Grade Level 6

Magnet English Language Arts 6 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards and is designed for gifted readers and writers. Best practices from gifted education and Advanced Placement (AP) strategies are used to deliver content. Research-based gifted education resources, such as those from the College of William and Mary, are woven into the WCPS Essential Curriculum ELA Standards. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet Social Studies and units integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme. This course is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Students independently read significantly complex works of fiction and literary nonfiction and participate in discussions to evaluate the texts for content, organization, and language. Research and writing serve to support the analysis of literary and informational texts. Research exercises focus on developing thought-provoking questions and a plan for collecting information to address those questions. Writing exercises focus on implementing the writing process in its entirety, from generating a topic to publishing the final draft. Integrated grammar and vocabulary study enhance students' comprehension and communication skills. Instruction in magnet classes is at a rigorous pre-AP level. Students are expected to complete above grade-level assignments, both in class and for independent practice. The *successful* magnet ELA student will be prepared to bypass Honors English 9 and enter into Honors English 10 at the North Hagerstown High International Baccalaureate Programme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro, E. Russell Hicks, Northern, or Western Heights Middle Schools.

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7**

107                      Grade Level 7

English Language Arts 7 is a standard course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. Language Arts (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections.

## **MERIT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7**

117                      Grade Level 7

Merit English Language Arts 7 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. This course utilizes pre-Advanced Placement (AP) strategies and is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Language Arts (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections.

## **MAGNET ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7**

117MG                      Grade Level 7

Magnet English Language Arts 7 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards and is designed for gifted readers and writers. Best practices from gifted education and Advanced Placement (AP) strategies are used to deliver content. Research-based gifted education resources, such as those from the College of William and Mary, are woven into the WCPS Essential Curriculum ELA Standards. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet Social Studies and units integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme. This course is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Students independently read significantly complex works of fiction and literary nonfiction, applying strategies for text annotation, to prepare them for a rich analysis of the texts for content, organization, and language. Research and writing serve to support the analysis of literary and informational texts. Research exercises focus on evaluating the relevance of several sources to select those that most sufficiently address the research questions. Writing exercises focus on refining individual use of the writing process, with specific attention to editing and revision. Integrated grammar and vocabulary study enhance students' comprehension and communication skills. Instruction in merit classes is at a rigorous pre-AP level. Students are expected to complete above grade-level assignments, both in class and for independent practice. The *successful* magnet ELA student will be prepared to bypass Honors English 9 and enter into Honors English 10 at the North Hagerstown High International Baccalaureate Programme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro, E. Russell Hicks, Northern, or Western Heights Middle Schools.

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8**

108                      Grade Level 8

English Language Arts 8 is a standard course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. Language Arts (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections.

## **MERIT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8**

118                      Grade Level 8

Merit English Language Arts 8 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards. This course utilizes pre-Advanced Placement (AP) strategies and is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Language Arts (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections.

## **MAGNET ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8**

118MG                      Grade Level 8

Magnet English Language Arts 8 is a rigorous course of study that is aligned with Maryland's College and Career-Ready Standards and is designed for gifted readers and writers. Best practices from gifted education and Advanced Placement (AP) strategies are used to deliver content. Research-based gifted education resources, such as those from the College of William and Mary, are woven into the WCPS Essential Curriculum ELA Standards. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet Social Studies and units integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme. This course is designed to prepare students for the challenges posed by Advanced Placement English courses in high school. Students independently read significantly complex works of fiction and literary nonfiction, using annotation strategies to monitor their thinking and develop questions to guide analysis. Those self-selected questions serve as the basis for evaluation of texts for content, organization, and language. Research and writing serve to support the analysis of literary and informational texts. Research exercises focus on evaluating the credibility and accuracy of several sources to develop a larger, contextual understanding about the issue under investigation. Writing exercises focus on demonstrating command of the writing process, with emphasis on producing written work in which they have selected, organized, and analyzed relevant content for a range of audiences and purposes. Integrated grammar and vocabulary study enhance students' comprehension and communication skills. Instruction in this magnet classes is at a rigorous pre-AP level. Students are expected to complete above grade-level assignments, both in class and for independent practice. The *successful* magnet ELA student will be prepared to bypass Honors English 9 and enter into Honors English 10 at the North Hagerstown High International Baccalaureate Programme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro, E. Russell Hicks, Northern, or Western Heights Middle Schools.

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

130                      Grade Level 6-8

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or playwriting).

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Language and Literature Subject Group. The Language and Literature Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Perspective* and *Style*, that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Fairness & Development* and *Identities & Relationships*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Language and Literature**

MYP106                      Grade Level 6

MYP107                      Grade Level 7

MYP108                      Grade Level 8

### **MYP Merit Language and Literature**

MYP116                      Grade Level 6

MYP117                      Grade Level 7

MYP118                      Grade Level 8

### **MYP Magnet Language and Literature**

MYP116MG                      Grade Level 6

MYP117MG                      Grade Level 7

MYP118MG                      Grade Level 8



# English Learner Course Descriptions

English Learner (EL) courses develop academic English language proficiency by narrating, explaining, arguing, and informing content from a variety of sources from English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Guided by WIDA English Language Development Standards and Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards, the WCPS EL program adjusts instruction to students' strengths and needs in order for ELs to communicate effectively in English with cultural proficiency, to achieve in academic subjects, and to fully acquire English. Proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking is measured annually on the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP), ACCESS for ELLs assessment.

## English Learner Course Pathway

Accelerated English Learner	Long term learner
Advanced EL	Level 4 Proficiency Level
Intermediate EL	Level 3 Proficiency Level
Beginner EL	Level 2 Proficiency Level
Newcomer EL	Level 1 Proficiency Level



**NEWCOMER ENGLISH LEARNER (EL)**

181/181SM                      Grade Level 6, 7, 8

Students focus on developing social and academic language in listening, speaking, reading, and writing while targeting academic vocabulary and academic skills. This course is designed for students who are new to the country with limited English proficiency and is aligned to the WIDA English Language Development Standards.

**Prerequisite:** Level 1 Proficiency

**BEGINNER ENGLISH LEARNER (EL)**

180/180SM                      Grade Level 6, 7, 8

Students continue to develop social and academic language while building speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. This course aligns to the WIDA English Language Development Standards and the Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. The course is for beginning level EL students (Level 2) and/or those recommended by the EL teacher and the counselor.

**Prerequisite:** Level 2 Proficiency

**INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH LEARNER (EL)**

182/182SM                      Grade Level 6, 7, 8

Students focus on developing listening, speaking, reading, and writing with an emphasis on more complex text, reading comprehension, and academic writing. This course aligns to both the WIDA English Language Development Standards and the Maryland College and Career-Ready English Standards. The course is for intermediate level EL students (Level 3) and/or those recommended by the EL teacher and the counselor.

**Prerequisite:** Level 3 Proficiency

**ADVANCED ENGLISH LEARNER (EL)**

184/184SM                      Grade Level 6, 7, 8

Students develop fluency in reading critically and in crafting well written compositions including the use of descriptive, narrative, and argumentative techniques. This course aligns to both the WIDA English Language Development Standards and the Maryland College and Career-Ready English Standards. It expands and bridges ELs' critical reading, writing, and thinking skills. Complex informational texts are used to teach literacy skills in English that transfer to academic content areas to ensure more independent success and work toward career and college readiness.

**Prerequisite:** Level 4 Proficiency

**ACCELERATED ENGLISH LEARNER (EL)**

186/186SM                      Grade Level 6, 7, 8

Developed for Long-Term English Learners, this course integrates high-interest subject-matter content to accelerate English literacy, language development, and academic vocabulary. Students will read and respond to multiple genres of text with a focus on comprehension, vocabulary development, and advanced grammatical structures needed to read and write academic, grade-level language. This course aligns with the Maryland College and Career-Ready English Language Development Standards. Students are enrolled upon recommendation of the EL teacher.





# Fine Arts

## Course Descriptions

The Washington County Public Schools fine arts curriculum is aligned with the National Core Arts Standards and the Maryland State Department of Education's Fine Arts Standards. These standards address four areas/artistic processes including Creating, Presenting/Performing, Responding, and Connecting within the framework of developing 21st century skills. Students learn arts-specific techniques, as well as how to present and perform their works. Analysis, evaluation, and refinement of artistic products and learning to think and produce creatively through the sequential pathway of the middle school fine arts program enables students to make personal, cultural, and historical connections and helps prepare students for achievement and lifelong learning within and through the arts.

**ART 6**

606/606SM

Grade Level 6

Students study fundamental visual art elements (e.g., color, line, shape, etc.) and principles of design (e.g., balance, rhythm, contrast, etc.). Students survey art history and appreciation, demonstrate basic skills (e.g., drawing) and conceptual experiences, as well as use a wide variety of techniques and materials. Evaluation (critique/grading) of student works are teacher-directed with participation from students. Students improve their artwork and are held accountable for the respect of materials and other students in the class.

**BAND 6**

636/636SM

Grade Level 6

Students learn to produce a characteristic sound on their instrument and perform as a part of an ensemble. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of band literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Band is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

**ORCHESTRA 6**

646/646SM

Grade Level 6

Students learn to produce a characteristic sound on their instrument and perform as a part of a string ensemble. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of orchestra literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Orchestra is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

**GENERAL MUSIC 6**

616/616SM

Grade Level 6

Students learn the basic elements of music with emphasis on developing critical listening skills and gaining an understanding of music's role as part of the wider context of history and culture through time. Listening materials are drawn from a wide variety of sources including classical music, non-Western music, American popular music and the American folk music tradition.

**ADVANCED DANCE 6**

676ADV

Grade Level 6

Students learn the advanced techniques associated with the American dance disciplines of ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz and hip hop. Each unit culminates in student created choreography, which combines advanced technique and history associated with each discipline. Students will be placed in this course based on prior studio experience.

**BASIC DANCE 6**

676

Grade Level 6

Students learn the basic techniques associated with the American dance disciplines of ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz and hip hop. Each unit culminates in student created choreography, which combines basic technique and history associated with each discipline.

## **KEYBOARD/GUITAR 6**

662/662SM

Grade Level 6

Students learn basic guitar and piano technique. Topics studied include playing single notes of several scales; chords; reading guitar and keyboard notation, lead sheets, and standard notation; and students will learn a variety of guitar and piano styles encompassing both classical and modern performance techniques. The class will take a student from a complete beginner to an early intermediate player.

## **ART 7**

607/607SM

Grade Level 7

Students continue to study fundamental visual art elements (e.g., color, line, shape, etc.) and principles of design (e.g., balance, rhythm, contrast, etc.). Students survey new periods of art history and appreciation, demonstrate developing skills (e.g., drawing) and conceptual experiences, as well as use a wide variety of techniques and materials. Evaluation (critique/grading) of student works are teacher-directed with increasing participation from students. Students improve their artwork focusing on refining and evaluating. Students also are held accountable for the respect of materials and other students in the class.

## **ADVANCED ART**

607ADV

Grade Level 7

Students expand upon observational drawing skills learned during the previous semester. Students will focus on proportion, composition, shading and form as they explore the use of a variety of art media. Additional focus will be placed on the exploration of the art world through studio habits such as developing craft, envisioning, and understanding art works.

## **BAND 7**

637/637SM

Grade Level 7

Students continue the development of a characteristic sound on their instrument as part of an instrumental ensemble experience. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of band literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Band is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

## **ORCHESTRA 7**

647/647SM

Grade Level 7

Students continue the development of a characteristic sound on their instrument as part of a string ensemble experience. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of orchestra literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Orchestra is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

## **GENERAL MUSIC 7**

617/617SM

Grade Level 7

Students learn the basic elements of music with emphasis on developing critical listening skills and gaining an understanding of music's role as part of the wider context of history and culture through time. Listening materials are drawn from a wide variety of sources including classical music, non-Western music, American popular music and the American folk music tradition.

## **ADVANCED DANCE 7**

677ADV

Grade Level 7

Students learn the advanced techniques associated with the American dance disciplines of ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz and hip hop. Each unit culminates in student created choreography, which combines advanced technique and history associated with each discipline. Students will be placed in this course-based performance in the 6th grade year. The technique taught builds upon the 6th grade course.

## **BASIC DANCE 7**

677

Grade Level 7

Students learn the basic techniques associated with the American dance disciplines of ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz and hip hop. Each unit culminates in student created choreography, which combines basic technique and history associated with each discipline. All technique will build upon the 6th grade coursework.

## **KEYBOARD/GUITAR 7**

762/762SM

Grade Level 7

Students learn basic guitar and piano technique. Topics studied include playing single notes of several scales; chords; reading guitar and keyboard notation, lead sheets, and standard notation; and students will learn a variety of guitar and piano styles encompassing both classical and modern performance techniques. The class will take a student from a complete beginner to an early intermediate player.

## **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

614/614SM

Grade Level 7 and 8

Students are introduced to the technology of producing, printing and filing digital images. Students will be introduced to design principles as they apply to Photography. A variety of subjects will be covered including Portraiture, Still Life, Landscape, Action, Abstract and others as time permits. A brief overview of the history of Photography will introduce students to major Artists and trends in Photography.

## **ART 8**

608/608SM

Grade Level 8

Students learn the advanced study of fundamental visual art elements (e.g., color, line, shape, etc.) and principles of design (e.g., balance, rhythm, contrast, etc.). Students survey new periods of art history and appreciation, demonstrate advanced skills (e.g., drawing) and conceptual experiences, as well as use a wide variety of techniques and materials. Evaluation (critique/grading) of student works remain teacher-directed with a continuing shift towards student ownership of the process. Students further refine their artwork and begin to focus on preparing pieces for presentation. Students continue to be held accountable for the respect of materials and other students in the class.



## **ADVANCED ART**

608ADV

Grade Level 8

Students expand upon the elements and principles of art with continued exploration of basic art media and techniques in drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media. This course will consist of a more in-depth study of art history, aesthetics and criticism. Students will develop the ability to talk about their work and the work of others during in classroom critiques.

## **PRINTMAKING**

880/880SM

Grade Level 8

Students learn the basic principles and concepts of the relief printmaking processes, etching, and screen printing. Students are introduced to linoleum and progress to more advanced additive, reductive, and color methods of printing. Students will learn to edition prints as well as explore experimentation.

## **BAND 8**

638/638SM

Grade Level 8

Students continue the development of a characteristic sound on their instrument as part of an instrumental ensemble experience. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of band literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Band is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

## **ORCHESTRA 8**

648/648SM

Grade Level 8

Students continue the development of a characteristic sound on their instrument as part of a string ensemble experience. In addition to learning proper tone production and control, students learn music reading skills, sight-reading skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of orchestra literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their knowledge and skill level. Orchestra is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

## **GENERAL MUSIC 8**

618/618SM

Grade Level 8

Students learn the basic elements of music with emphasis on developing critical listening skills and gaining an understanding of music's role as part of the wider context of history and culture through time. Listening materials are drawn from a wide variety of sources including classical music, non-Western music, American popular music and the American folk music tradition.

## **DANCE 8**

678

Grade Level 8

Students learn the advanced techniques associated with the American dance disciplines of ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz and hip hop. Each unit culminates in student created choreography, which combines advanced technique and history associated with each discipline. The technique taught builds upon the 7th grade course. This course is intended for all 8th grade dancers, regardless of past experience.

## **KEYBOARD/GUITAR 8**

862/862SM                      Grade Level 8

Students learn basic guitar and piano technique. Topics studied include playing single notes of several scales; chords; reading guitar and keyboard notation, lead sheets, and standard notation; and students will learn a variety of guitar and piano styles encompassing both classical and modern performance techniques. The class will take a student from a complete beginner to an early intermediate player.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

656/656SM                      Grade Level 6

657/657SM                      Grade Level 7

658/658SM                      Grade Level 8

Students demonstrate knowledge of a wide variety of musical topics. Students learn to read rhythms and play them on instruments. They learn the development of classic and modern music history, gain an understanding of musical form, compare and contrast pivotal points in music history and representative musicians. Students develop understandings of careers in music performance, business, and technology.

## **CHORUS**

626/626SM                      Grade Level 6

627/627SM                      Grade Level 7

628/628SM                      Grade Level 8

Students learn to use their vocal instrument to create a characteristic vocal sound. In addition to learning proper vocal production technique, students learn music reading skills, sight-singing skills, and performance/ensemble skills through their interaction with and study of choral literature from various musical time periods and cultures that is developmentally appropriate for their vocal knowledge and skill level. Chorus is a performance-based class and participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME ARTS SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Arts Subject Group, which includes Visual and Performing Arts. The Arts Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Perspective* and *Composition* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Orientation in Time & Space* and *Personal & Cultural Expression*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Art**

MYP606/MYP606SM Grade Level 6

MYP607/MYP607SM Grade Level 7

MYP608/MYP608SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Band**

MYP636/MYP636SM Grade Level 6

MYP637/MYP637SM Grade Level 7

MYP638/MYP638SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Chorus**

MYP626/MYP626SM Grade Level 6

MYP627/MYP627SM Grade Level 7

MYP628/MYP628SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Orchestra**

MYP646/MYP646SM Grade Level 6

MYP647/MYP647SM Grade Level 7

MYP648/MYP648SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Performing Arts**

MYP656/MYP656SM Grade Level 6

MYP657/MYP657SM Grade Level 7

MYP658/MYP658SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP General Music**

MYP616/MYP616SM Grade Level 6

MYP617/MYP617SM Grade Level 7

MYP618/MYP618SM Grade Level 8

## **WESTERN HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTS: SCAPE AVENUE B MAGNET PROGRAM**

The following courses are offered only at Western Heights Middle School. Discover more about the Avenue B Magnet Program in the Signature Programs Descriptions section.

These courses are designed for students who have demonstrated talent or the potential for exceptional talent in creative and performing arts. Participation in these courses is reserved for students who have been accepted to the Avenue B Magnet Program through the audition/portfolio process.

### **Magnet Band**

636MG Grade Level 6

637MG Grade Level 7

638MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Orchestra**

646MG Grade Level 6

647MG Grade Level 7

648MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Chorus**

626MG Grade Level 6

627MG Grade Level 7

628MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Creative Writing**

130MG Grade Level 6-8

### **Magnet Dance**

676MG Grade Level 6

677MG Grade Level 7

678MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Graphic Design**

806MG Grade Level 6

807MG Grade Level 7

808MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Theatre**

656MG Grade Level 6

657MG Grade Level 7

658MG Grade Level 8

### **Magnet Visual Arts**

606MG Grade Level 6

607MG Grade Level 7

608MG Grade Level 8



# Mathematics Course Descriptions

The Washington County Public Schools mathematics curriculum follows the Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. The standards concentrate on a clear set of math skills and concepts that students need to be prepared for mathematics in college, career and in life. Students learn concepts in an organized way both during the school year and across grade levels. The standards provide opportunities for students to not only determine *how* to solve a problem, but also *why* a solution makes sense and *when* it is appropriate to use various methods to solve real-world problems.

## Middle School Mathematics Pathways

<b>8th Grade</b>	Grade 8 Mathematics (308)	Grade 8 Algebra (318)	Magnet Grade 8 Geometry (328MG)
<b>7th Grade</b>	Grade 7 Mathematics (307)	Grade 7 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics (317)	Magnet Grade 7 Algebra (327MG)
<b>6th Grade</b>	Grade 6 Mathematics (306)	Grade 6 Enriched Mathematics (316)	Magnet Grade 6 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics (326MG)
	<b>ON GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</b>  Students with on grade level mathematics skills.	<b>MERIT / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  Students with above grade level mathematics skills.	<b>MAGNET / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  Students placed in the Magnet Program at Northern or Springfield Middle Schools.
<p><i>Students entering middle school will be recommended for placement according to multiple criteria of ability/aptitude, performance, and potential as reviewed by the current elementary school, the Office of Advanced Programs and the Middle School Mathematics Content Specialist. Students may be considered for Merit based on performance data when they move from Grade 6 to Grade 7. They would move from Grade 6 Mathematics to Grade 7 Accelerated and Enriched Mathematics.</i></p> <p><i>Placement in the more advanced Merit course is not guaranteed.</i></p>			

## **GRADE 6 MATHEMATICS**

306                      Grade Level 6

Grade 6 Mathematics is a standard course of study aligned with the Grade 6 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will study numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions); ratio concepts; algebraic expressions and one-variable equations and inequalities; geometry (including area, surface area, and volume); measurement; and concepts of data analysis (including statistical variability). The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 6 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

## **GRADE 6 ENRICHED MATHEMATICS (Merit Program Course)**

316                      Grade Level 6

Grade 6 Enriched Mathematics is a rigorous course of study aligned with the Grade 6 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will study numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order with positive and negative rational numbers - whole numbers, fractions, decimals); ratio concepts; algebraic expressions and one-variable equations and inequalities; geometry (including area, surface area, and volume); measurement; and concepts of data analysis (including statistical variability). The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 6 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

## **MAGNET GRADE 6 ACCELERATED & ENRICHED MATHEMATICS**

326MG                      Grade Level 6

Magnet Grade 6 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics is a rigorous course of study aligned with all of the Grade 6, all of the Grade 7 and some of the Grade 8 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. In this accelerated course, students will compute with positive and negative rational numbers and will expand their understanding of real numbers to also include irrational numbers. Students will build an understanding of ratio concepts and use that understanding to analyze proportional relationships in context and to compare relationships represented in graphs, tables and equations. Students will use the operations of rational numbers to formulate expressions and equations in one variable and will use these linear equations to solve problems with one solution, no solutions, or infinitely many solutions. Students will solve mathematical and real-world problems involving area, surface area, and volume. Students engage in learning experiences around statistics and probability which allow them to draw inferences and to compare two populations, and to evaluate probability to models. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 6 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the Magnet program at Northern or Springfield Middle Schools during Grade 6, only.

## **GRADE 7 MATHEMATICS**

307                      Grade Level 7

Grade 7 Mathematics is a standard course of study aligned with the Grade 7 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will study the number system (including proficiency in skills involving positive and negative rational numbers and operations); ratio concepts to analyze proportional relationships; algebraic expressions and one-variable equations and inequalities with rational numbers; algebraic formulas; measurement and geometry (including area, surface area, volume, and angle relationships); and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 7 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

## **GRADE 7 ACCELERATED & ENRICHED MATHEMATICS (Merit Program Course)**

317                      Grade Level 7

Grade 7 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics is a rigorous course of study aligned with all of the Grade 7 and some of the Grade 8 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. In this accelerated course, students will study the number system (including proficiency in skills involving positive and negative rational numbers and operations, and understanding irrational numbers); ratio concepts to analyze proportional relationships (including comparison of relationships represented in graphs, tables and equations); algebraic expressions and one-variable equations and inequalities with rational numbers (including linear equations with one solution, no solution, or infinitely many solutions); algebraic formulas; measurement and geometry (including area, surface area, volume, and angle relationships); and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 7 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

**Prerequisite:** Outstanding performance during Grade 6 Math, or satisfactory performance during Grade 6 Enriched Mathematics, all determined using multiple data points.

## **MAGNET GRADE 7 ALGEBRA**

327MG                      Grade Level 7

1 Algebra Mathematics High School Credit

Magnet Grade 7 Algebra is a rigorous course of study aligned with the remaining Grade 8 and all of the high school Algebra 1 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. All of this includes properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations. This advanced course, for high school credit, includes additional standards integrated into the course. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Algebra 1 MCAP assessment during this course and must attain a state-determined score to meet high school graduation requirements.

**Prerequisite:** Magnet Grade 6 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics at Northern or Springfield Middle Schools, only.



## **GRADE 8 MATHEMATICS**

308                      Grade Level 8

Grade 8 Mathematics is a standard course of study aligned with the Grade 8 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will study real numbers (including irrational numbers, and proficiency in skills involving rational numbers and operations); one- and two-variable linear equations (including one, zero, or infinitely many solutions in context); linear functions (including representation and comparison graphically, algebraically, numerically in tables, and by verbal descriptions); measurement and geometry (including volume, similarity, congruency, transformations, angle relationships, and right triangles using the Pythagorean Theorem); and statistics (including patterns of association in bivariate categorical data). The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Grade 8 Mathematics MCAP assessment during this course.

## **GRADE 8 ALGEBRA (Merit Program Course)**

318                      Grade Level 8

1 Algebra Mathematics High School Credit

Grade 8 Algebra is a rigorous course of study aligned with the remaining Grade 8 and all of the high school Algebra 1 Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. All of this includes properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations. This advanced course, for high school credit, includes additional standards integrated into the course. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Algebra 1 MCAP assessment during this course and must attain a state-determined score to meet high school graduation requirements.

**Prerequisite:** Outstanding performance during Grade 7 Accelerated & Enriched Mathematics, determined using multiple data points.

## **MAGNET GRADE 8 GEOMETRY**

328MG                      Grade Level 8

1 Geometry Mathematics High School Credit

Magnet Grade 8 Geometry is a rigorous course of study aligned with the remaining Grade 8 and all of the high school Geometry Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards. Students will explore complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations and justifications of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments or proof. This exploration includes, but is not limited to, concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion. This advanced course, for high school credit, includes additional standards integrated into the course. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course, and together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that provides opportunities for students to reason and problem solve with real-world situations. Students will take the Geometry MCAP assessment during this course.

**Prerequisite:** Magnet Grade 7 Algebra credit earned at Northern and Springfield Middle Schools.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME MATH SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Language and Literature Subject Group. The Language and Literature Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Perspective* and *Models* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Globalization & Sustainability* and *Orientation in Time & Space*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Math**

MYP306	Grade Mathematics 6
MYP307	Grade Mathematics 7
MYP308	Grade Mathematics 8

### **MYP Grade 6 Enriched Mathematics (Merit Program Course)**

MYP316	Grade Level 6
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### **MYP Magnet Grade 6 Accelerated and Enriched Mathematics**

MYP326MG	Grade Level 6
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### **MYP Grade 7 Accelerated and Enriched Mathematics (Merit Program Course)**

MYP317	Grade Level 7
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### **MYP Magnet Grade 7 Algebra**

MYP327MG	Grade Level 7
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### **MYP Grade 8 Algebra (Merit Program Course)**

MYP318	Grade Level 8
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### **MYP Magnet Grade 8 Geometry**

MYP328MG	Grade Level 8
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# Physical Education/Health Course Descriptions

The Washington County Public School's middle school Physical Education and Health Education programs are aligned with the Maryland State Department of Education's Health and Physical Education Standards. Classes and units are designed so students will learn decision-making skills and techniques that will assist in promoting responsible and safe behaviors. Through Health and Physical Education classes students will develop and modify skills and strategies to assist them in employing behaviors that promote healthy active lifestyles.

## Middle School Physical Education & Health Pathways

<b>8th Grade</b>	Grade 8 Physical Education (708)	Grade 8 Health (718)
<b>7th Grade</b>	Grade 7 Physical Education (707)	Grade 7 Health (717)
<b>6th Grade</b>	Grade 6 Physical Education (706)	Grade 6 Health (716)
	<b><i>GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</i></b>  All students must take on grade level Physical Education classes.	<b><i>GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</i></b>  All students must take on grade level Health Education classes.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6**

706/706SM                      Grade Level 6

Physical Education (grade 6) courses involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport a physically active lifestyle and social development through physical activity. Activities include those that increase strength endurance and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol sexual education and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

## **HEALTH 6**

716/716SM                      Grade Level 6

Health (grade 6) Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely but typically include personal health (nutrition mental health and stress management drug/alcohol abuse prevention disease prevention and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health personal development and/or community resources.

Parents of Grade 6 students will receive information about the family life unit of instruction prior to the start of classroom instruction. Parents may request that their child be excused from this unit of study.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7**

707/707SM                      Grade Level 7

Physical Education (grade 7) courses involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport a physically active lifestyle and social development through physical activity. Activities include those that increase strength endurance and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol sexual education and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

## **HEALTH 7**

717/717SM                      Grade Level 7

Health (grade 7) Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely but typically include personal health (nutrition mental health and stress management drug/alcohol abuse prevention disease prevention and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health personal development and/or community resources.

Parents of Grade 7 students will receive information about the family life unit of instruction prior to the start of classroom instruction. Parents may request that their child be excused from this unit of study.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8**

708/708SM                      Grade Level 8

Physical Education (grade 8) courses involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport a physically active lifestyle and social development through physical activity. Activities include those that increase strength endurance and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol sexual education and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

## **HEALTH 8**

718/718SM                      Grade Level 8

Health (grade 8) Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely but typically include personal health (nutrition mental health and stress management drug/alcohol abuse prevention disease prevention and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health personal development and/or community resources.

Parents of Grade 8 students will receive information about the family life unit of instruction prior to the start of classroom instruction. Parents may request that their child be excused from this unit of study.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME SCIENCES HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Health & Physical Education Subject Group. The Health & Physical Education Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Communication* and *Adaptation* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Identities & Relationships* and *Fairness & Development*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Physical Education**

MYP706/MYP706SM Grade Level 6

MYP707/MYP707SM Grade Level 7

MYP708/MYP708SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Health**

MYP716/MYP716SM Grade Level 6

MYP717/MYP717SM Grade Level 7

MYP718/MYP718SM Grade Level 8



# Science Course Descriptions

Each middle school science course contains standards called “Performance Expectations” (PEs) from the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Each PE is written to include a science and engineering practice, crosscutting concept, and disciplinary core idea. This 3-dimensional approach to science learning is the key innovation of the NGSS. Instruction with the NGSS should engage students in the science and engineering practices, along with the crosscutting concepts, in order to learn the disciplinary core ideas. Each middle school grade level science course contains disciplinary core ideas from life, earth and physical science. Student understanding of science content and practices should grow increasingly more sophisticated as concepts build throughout the middle school science curriculum.

## Middle School Science Pathways

<b>8th Grade</b>	Science 8 (408)	Merit Science 8 (418)	Magnet Science 8 (418MG)
<b>7th Grade</b>	Science 7 (407)	Merit Science 7 (417)	Magnet Science 7 (417MG)
<b>6th Grade</b>	Science 6 (406)	Merit Science 6 (416)	Magnet Science 6 (416MG)
	<b>ON GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</b>  Students with on grade level reading and writing skills.	<b>MERIT / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  Students with on or above grade level reading and writing skills.	<b>MAGNET / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  Students placed in the STEM Magnet Program at Springfield Middle School.
<p><i>Students entering middle school will be recommended for placement according multiple criteria of ability/aptitude, performance, and potential as reviewed by the current elementary school and the Office of Advanced Programs. Students in the on-grade level pathway in Grade 6 may advance to Merit in Grades 7 and/or 8 based on performance data.</i></p> <p><i>Placement in the more advanced Merit course is not guaranteed.</i></p>			



## **SCIENCE 6**

406                      Grade Level 6

In sixth grade science students begin by describing Earth processes and Earth's place in the universe. They then investigate the forces that act between objects including chemical, electrical, gravitational, and magnetic forces. The course ends with a study of the importance of resources and interactions within ecosystems. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation.

## **MERIT SCIENCE 6**

416                      Grade Level 6

In sixth grade science students begin by describing Earth processes and Earth's place in the universe. They then investigate the forces that act between objects including chemical, electrical, gravitational, and magnetic forces. The course ends with a study of the importance of resources and interactions within ecosystems. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation. Merit science address the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In merit classes students are expected to engage with the science content, practices, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application.

## **MAGNET SCIENCE 6**

416MG                      Grade Level 6

In sixth grade science students begin by describing Earth processes and Earth's place in the universe. They then investigate the forces that act between objects including chemical, electrical, gravitational, and magnetic forces. The course ends with a study of the importance of resources and interactions within ecosystems. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation.

Magnet Science addresses the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In the magnet class, students are expected to engage with the science content, processes, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources from the College of William and Mary and Gallagher's Problem Based Instructional Units, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap the Magnet 6 Accelerated and Enriched Math course and integrate the school's STEM Magnet Program Theme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance to Magnet Program at Springfield Middle School in Grade 6, only.

## **SCIENCE 7**

407                      Grade Level 7

In seventh grade science students investigate the relationships between cells, tissues, and systems in living organisms. Students then describe the role of chromosomes and genes in the production of proteins, and inherited traits that impact the survival of populations. The relationships between energy and matter are then studied in the concepts of photosynthesis, respiration, cycling of matter and waves. Students finish the year differentiating between weather and climate, and analyzing technologies to predict, inform and mitigate their effects. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation.

## **MERIT SCIENCE 7**

417                      Grade Level 7

In seventh grade science students investigate the relationships between cells, tissues, and systems in living organisms. Students then describe the role of chromosomes and genes in the production of proteins, and inherited traits that impact the survival of populations. The relationships between energy and matter are then studied in the concepts of photosynthesis, respiration, cycling of matter and waves. Students finish the year differentiating between weather and climate, and analyzing technologies to predict, inform and mitigate their effects. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation. Merit science address the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In merit classes students are expected to engage with the science content, practices, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application.

**Prerequisite:** Outstanding performance during Science 6 or satisfactory performance during Merit Science 6.

## **MAGNET SCIENCE 7**

417MG                      Grade Level 7

In seventh grade science students investigate the relationships between cells, tissues, and systems in living organisms. Students then describe the role of chromosomes and genes in the production of proteins, and inherited traits that impact the survival of populations. The relationships between energy and matter are then studied in the concepts of photosynthesis, respiration, cycling of matter and waves. Students finish the year differentiating between weather and climate, and analyzing technologies to predict, inform and mitigate their effects. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation. Magnet Science addresses the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In the magnet class, students are expected to engage with the science content, processes, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources from the College of William and Mary and Gallagher's Problem Based Instructional Units, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap the Magnet Algebra 7 course and integrate the school's STEM Magnet Program theme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance to Magnet Program at Springfield Middle School in Grade 6, only.

## **SCIENCE 8**

408                      Grade Level 8

In eighth grade science, stability and change are key understandings. Transfer of energy and engineering designs to regulate this transfer are the beginning concepts of 8th grade science. Students then investigate evidence to support explanations of changes to Earth's structures and populations of organisms over time. The uneven distribution of Earth's resources and the impacts of rising populations and human consumption on Earth systems are key points of integration in the final 8th grade module. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation.

## **MERIT SCIENCE 8**

418                      Grade Level 8

In eighth grade science students investigate the relationships between cells, tissues, and systems in living organisms. Students then describe the role of chromosomes and genes in the production of proteins, and inherited traits that impact the survival of populations. The relationships between energy and matter are then studied in the concepts of photosynthesis, respiration, cycling of matter and waves. Students finish the year differentiating between weather and climate, and analyzing technologies to predict, inform and mitigate their effects. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation. Merit science address the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In merit classes students are expected to engage with the science content, practices, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application.

**Prerequisite:** Outstanding performance during Science 7 or satisfactory performance during Merit Science 7.

## **MAGNET SCIENCE 8**

418MG                      Grade Level 8

In eighth grade science students investigate the relationships between cells, tissues, and systems in living organisms. Students then describe the role of chromosomes and genes in the production of proteins, and inherited traits that impact the survival of populations. The relationships between energy and matter are then studied in the concepts of photosynthesis, respiration, cycling of matter and waves. Students finish the year differentiating between weather and climate, and analyzing technologies to predict, inform and mitigate their effects. Students interact with these content ideas by making observations, asking questions, designing and conducting investigations, analyzing data, developing models and communicating evidence through scientific argumentation. Magnet Science addresses the same science standards with greater emphasis on rigor, creativity, and problem solving. In the magnet class, students are expected to engage with the science content, processes, and crosscutting concepts in greater depth and with more refined modeling and application. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources from the College of William and Mary and Gallagher's Problem Based Instructional Units, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap the Magnet Geometry 8 course and integrate the school's STEM Magnet Program theme.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance to Magnet Program at Springfield Middle School in Grade 6, only.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME SCIENCES SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Sciences Subject Group. The Sciences Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Perspective* and *Models* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Globalization & Sustainability* and *Scientific & Technical Innovation*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Science**

MYP406/MYP406SM Grade Level 6

MYP407/MYP407SM Grade Level 7

MYP408/MYP408SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Merit Science**

MYP416/MYP416SM Grade Level 6

MYP417/MYP417SM Grade Level 7

MYP418/MYP418SM Grade Level 8



# Social Studies Course Descriptions

The Middle School Social Studies curriculum emphasizes instruction in Maryland's core learning goals for Social Studies: History, Geography, Economics, Political Systems and Peoples and Nations of the World. The WCPS curriculum is built on the foundations of Maryland's State Curriculum and places a heavy emphasis on the development of Social Studies Skills and Processes as identified in Maryland's Standard 6.0. The standards provide opportunities for students to engage deeply with history, to effectively integrate valuable skillsets, and to make meaning of the past in the context of the present.

## Middle School Social Studies Pathway

<b>8th Grade</b>	United States History I (208)	Merit United States History I (218)	Magnet United States History I (218MG)
<b>7th Grade</b>	Geography and World Cultures (207)	Merit Geography and World Cultures (217)	Magnet Geography and World Cultures (217MG)
<b>6th Grade</b>	Ancient World History (206)	Merit Ancient World History (216)	Magnet Ancient World History (216MG)
	<b>ON GRADE LEVEL PATHWAY</b>  <i>Students with on grade level reading and writing skills.</i>	<b>MERIT / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  <i>Students with on or above grade level reading and writing skills.</i>	<b>MAGNET / PRE-AP PATHWAY</b>  Students placed in the Magnet Program at Boonsboro or E. Russell Hicks Middle Schools
<p><i>Students entering middle school will be recommended for placement according to multiple criteria of ability/aptitude, performance, and potential as reviewed by the current elementary school and the Office of Advanced Programs. Students in the on-grade level pathway in Grade 6 may advance to Merit in Grades 7 and/or 8 based on performance data.</i></p> <p><i>Placement in the more advanced Merit course is not guaranteed.</i></p>			

## **ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY**

206                      Grade Level 6

Ancient World History students study the growth of the first civilizations and the history of groups such as the Ancient Romans and Greeks, Medieval Europe, and the Transitional Americas. The focus of this course is on the development of these major civilizations and their impact on the expansion of global interactions. Students study people and societies from historical, cultural, geographic, political and economic perspectives in order to gain insight into the human experience of different cultural groups in various settings and at different times in history. In addition to the study of these Ancient Civilizations, students are also introduced to the practices of Historical Research and Investigation through a unit of study specifically focused on these skills.

## **MERIT ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY**

216                      Grade Level 6

Merit Ancient World History students study the growth of the first civilizations and the history of groups such as the Ancient Romans and Greeks, Medieval Europe, and the Transitional Americas. The focus of this course is on the development of these major civilizations and their impact on the expansion of global interactions. Students study people and societies from historical, cultural, geographic, political and economic perspectives in order to gain insight into the human experience of different cultural groups in various settings and at different times in history. In addition to the study of these Ancient Civilizations, students are also introduced to the practices of Historical Research and Investigation through a unit of study specifically focused on these skills. The merit level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class.

## **MAGNET ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY**

216MG                      Grade Level 6

Magnet Ancient World History students study the growth of the first civilizations and the history of groups such as the Ancient Romans and Greeks, Medieval Europe, and the Transitional Americas. The focus of this course is on the development of these major civilizations and their impact on the expansion of global interactions. Students study people and societies from historical, cultural, geographic, political and economic perspectives in order to gain insight into the human experience of different cultural groups in various settings and at different times in history. In addition to the study of these Ancient Civilizations, students are also introduced to the practices of Historical Research and Investigation through a unit of study specifically focused on these skills. In addition to the study of these Ancient Civilizations, students are also introduced to the practices of Historical Research and Investigation through a unit of study specifically focused on these skills. The magnet level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet English Language Arts 6 and integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro or E. Russell Hicks Middle Schools.

## **GEOGRAPHY AND WORLD CULTURES**

207                      Grade Level 7

Geography and World Cultures students study the world and its peoples through various topics stemming from an approach that considers modern issues framed through geographic, political, historical, social and economic lenses. This course explores different customs, traditions, and other unique characteristics of people and places around the globe. Students build and extend their skills by creating and interpreting maps, constructing timelines, reading primary and secondary sources, using atlases and globes, and interpreting cultural artifacts. Students also study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the development of and interaction between nations. Additionally, in 7th grade, students complete a Student Service Learning (SSL) Project as part of the state curriculum; successful participation in this curricular component earns the student 15 SSL Hours toward High School Graduation.

## **MERIT GEOGRAPHY AND WORLD CULTURES**

217                      Grade Level 7

Merit Geography and World Cultures students study the world and its peoples through various topics stemming from an approach that considers modern issues framed through geographic, political, historical, social and economic lenses. This course explores different customs, traditions, and other unique characteristics of people and places around the globe. Students build and extend their skills by creating and interpreting maps, constructing timelines, reading primary and secondary sources, using atlases and globes, and interpreting cultural artifacts. Students also study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the development of and interaction between nations. Additionally, in 7th grade, students complete a Student Service Learning (SSL) Project as part of the state curriculum; successful participation in this curricular component earns the student 15 SSL Hours toward High School Graduation. The merit level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class.

## **MAGNET GEOGRAPHY AND WORLD CULTURES**

217MG                      Grade Level 7

Magnet Geography and World Cultures students study the world and its peoples through various topics stemming from an approach that considers modern issues framed through geographic, political, historical, social and economic lenses. This course explores different customs, traditions, and other unique characteristics of people and places around the globe. Students build and extend their skills by creating and interpreting maps, constructing timelines, reading primary and secondary sources, using atlases and globes, and interpreting cultural artifacts. Students also study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the development of and interaction between nations. Additionally, in 7th grade, students complete a Student Service Learning (SSL) Project as part of the state curriculum; successful participation in this curricular component earns the student 15 SSL Hours toward High School Graduation. The magnet level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet English Language Arts 7 and integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme.  
**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro or E. Russell Hicks Middle Schools.



## **UNITED STATES STUDIES I**

208                      Grade Level 8

United States Studies I provides students with the opportunity to study American history from the Colonial Era through the late nineteenth century. Following a brief overview of the exploration of North America, students study in more depth the causes and events of the American Revolution, the creation of the Constitutional government, and the growth, expansion, and conflict within America during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Additional topics of study include the Federalist and Jeffersonian Eras, the Industrial Revolution, Manifest Destiny, the American Civil War, Reconstruction, Immigration, and Progressive Reforms of the era. Students use primary source documents to examine political, economic, social, cultural, and geographic perspectives. They study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the building of this nation and its growth as a world power.

## **MERIT UNITED STATES STUDIES I**

218                      Grade Level 8

Merit United States Studies I provide students with the opportunity to study American history from the Colonial Era through the late nineteenth century. Following a brief overview of the exploration of North America, students study in more depth the causes and events of the American Revolution, the creation of the Constitutional government, and the growth, expansion, and conflict within America during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Additional topics of study include the Federalist and Jeffersonian Eras, the Industrial Revolution, Manifest Destiny, the American Civil War, Reconstruction, Immigration, and Progressive Reforms of the era. Students use primary source documents to examine political, economic, social, cultural, and geographic perspectives. They study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the building of this nation and its growth as a world power. The Merit level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class.

## **MAGNET UNITED STATES STUDIES I**

218MG                      Grade Level 8

Magnet United States Studies I provide students with the opportunity to study American history from the Colonial Era through the late nineteenth century. Following a brief overview of the exploration of North America, students study in more depth the causes and events of the American Revolution, the creation of the Constitutional government, and the growth, expansion, and conflict within America during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Additional topics of study include the Federalist and Jeffersonian Eras, the Industrial Revolution, Manifest Destiny, the American Civil War, Reconstruction, Immigration, and Progressive Reforms of the era. Students use primary source documents to examine political, economic, social, cultural, and geographic perspectives. They study significant events, critical movements, and people of various backgrounds that led to the building of this nation and its growth as a world power. The Magnet level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Best practices from gifted education, as well as gifted education resources, are woven into the curriculum. Projects and topics often overlap Magnet English Language Arts 8 and integrate the school's WCPS Magnet Program Theme. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class. Projects and topics are integrated with Magnet English Language Arts 7.

**Prerequisite:** Acceptance into the WCPS Magnet Program at Boonsboro or E. Russell Hicks Middle Schools.

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Individuals & Societies Subject Group. The Individuals & Societies Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Time* and *Culture* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Globalization & Sustainability* and *Orientation in Space & Time*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP Ancient World History**

MYP206/MYP206SM Grade Level 6

### **MYP Merit Ancient World History**

MYP216/MYP216SM Grade Level 6

### **MYP Geography and World Cultures**

MYP207/MYP207SM Grade Level 7

### **MYP Merit Geography and World Cultures**

MYP217/MYP217SM Grade Level 7

### **MYP US Studies I**

MYP208/MYP208SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Merit US Studies I**

MYP218/MYP218SM Grade Level 8

# Special Education Course Descriptions

These course descriptions include only courses for students who have been determined eligible by their IEP teams to receive instruction through the Alternate Achievement Standards (AAS). These courses do not meet graduation requirements. Therefore, the longer a student is instructed with the AAS and participate in the statewide alternate assessments, the less likely they are to earn a Maryland High School Diploma.

### **ESSENTIALS OF ENGLISH**

916/916SM Grade Level 6

917/917SM Grade Level 7

918/918SM Grade Level 8

This course is reserved for students who have been determined eligible by their IEP team to receive instruction based on the alternate academic standards. Instruction is provided through a conceptual approach, where students build essential skills in reading, writing, listening, and communicating necessary for independent functioning as an adult. The instructional standards are aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards, however, do not cover the breadth and the depth of the general education curriculum.

### **ESSENTIALS OF MATHEMATICS**

936/936SM Grade Level 6

937/937SM Grade Level 7

938/938SM Grade Level 8

This course is reserved for students who have been determined eligible by their IEP team to receive instruction based on the alternate academic standards. Instruction is provided with a real-world learning application approach to understanding mathematical concepts. Core concepts in counting, cardinality, base ten numbers and operations, geometry, ratios, and the math practices associated with problem-solving are a focus of instruction. The instructional standards are aligned with the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards, however, do not cover the breadth and the depth of the general education curriculum.

### **ESSENTIALS OF SCIENCE**

946/946SM Grade Level 6

947/947SM Grade Level 7

948/948SM Grade Level 8

This course is reserved for students who have been determined eligible by their IEP team to receive instruction based on the alternate academic standards. Instruction is clustered into domains or themes that include Physical, Life, and Earth and Space Science that build on foundational knowledge from the mathematics and English/language arts content areas. The instructional standards are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards but do not represent the breadth and the depth covered by the general education curriculum.

### **ESSENTIALS OF SOCIAL STUDIES**

926/926SM Grade Level 6

927/927SM Grade Level 7

928/928SM Grade Level 8

This course is reserved for students who have been determined eligible by their IEP team to receive instruction based on the alternate academic standards. Instruction includes information that easily falls within the areas of vocational skills, real-world learning skills, social communication, adaptive behavior skills, and home and community safety. Students study the human experience of different cultural groups in various settings and at different times in history to gain insight into the human experience.



# World Languages Course Descriptions

World language instruction enables students to communicate in a second language in a culturally appropriate manner by integrating communication skills. World language instruction and assessment use a proficiency-based approach, which focuses on what students can do with the language and to what degree they are able to function in the language. Instruction and assessment use authentic tasks that are performance-based. The study of culture is an integral part of the curriculum; it sets the stage for language use and heightens students' sensitivity to and appreciation for diverse groups of people, cultures, and customs.

The University of Maryland Completer program requires that students study a minimum of two years of the same language, while some colleges prefer three to four years of language study.

Please speak with your School Counseling Office for your school's language offerings.

## World Language Pathways

8th grade	Level IB	Level II	Level I	Level II/IIB
7th grade	Level IA	Level I		Level II A
6th grade	World Language 6	World Language 6		Level I
	<b>Honors</b>	<b>Honors</b>	<b>Honors</b>	<b>Magnet/Honors</b>

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

506	Grade Level 6
506SM	Grade Level 6

World Languages provides students with the introduction of Honors French I/IA, German I/IA and/or Honors Spanish I/IA about the spoken and written languages and introduces the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the associated cultures.

### **HONORS LEVEL I**

1 High School World Language Credit

547	Honors French I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
547SM	Honors French I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
580	Honors German I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
580SM	Honors German I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527	Honors Spanish I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527SM	Honors Spanish I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527MG	Magnet Spanish I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527MGSM	Magnet Spanish I	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8

Designed to introduce students to language and culture, level I world language courses prepare students to communicate authentically in the target language by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on a variety of topics. They introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the target cultures. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice mid proficiency level.

### **HONORS LEVEL IA**

537	Honors French IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
537SM	Honors French IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
581	Honors German IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
581SM	Honors German IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
517	Honors Spanish IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
517SM	Honors Spanish IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
527MGA	Magnet Spanish IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7
527MGASM	Magnet Spanish IA	Grade Levels 6 or 7

Designed to introduce students to language and culture, level I world language courses prepare students to communicate authentically in the target language by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on a variety of topics. They introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the target cultures.

**HONORS LEVEL IB**

1 High School World Language Credit

538	Honors French IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
538SM	Honors French IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
582	Honors German IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
582SM	Honors German IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
518	Honors Spanish IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
518SM	Honors Spanish IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527MGB	Magnet Spanish IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8
527MGBSM	Magnet Spanish IB	Grade Levels 6, 7, or 8

Designed to introduce students to language and culture, level I world language courses prepare students to communicate authentically in the target language by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on a variety of topics. They introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the target cultures. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice mid proficiency level. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice mid proficiency level.

**Prerequisites:** Honors Level IA

**HONORS LEVEL II**

1 High School World Language Credit

548	Honors French II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
548SM	Honors French II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
583	Honors German II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
583SM	Honors German II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528	Honors Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528SM	Honors Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MG	Magnet Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MGSM	Magnet Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8

Students continue to expand and develop their language skills in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing using authentic tasks. Students participate in exchanges about familiar and personal topics in the present, past and future in the target language. Students communicate needs and desires in everyday living and travel situations. Students make presentations and write simple paragraphs on familiar topics in the target language. Students read to understand the main idea and some essential details. Students can demonstrate culturally appropriate etiquette and perspectives. Students will end the course at an ACTFL Novice High proficiency level.

**Prerequisite:** Honors/Magnet Level I or Honors Level IA and Honors Level IB



**HONORS LEVEL IIA**

549	Honors French IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
549SM	Honors French IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
584	Honors German IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
584SM	Honors German IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
529	Honors Spanish IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
529SM	Honors Spanish IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MGA	Magnet Spanish IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MGASM	Magnet Spanish IIA	Grade Levels 7 or 8

Level II world language courses build upon skills developed in level I, preparing students to communicate authentically in the target language by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on concrete topics. Level II world language courses introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the target cultures. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice high proficiency level.

**Prerequisite:** Honors Level I or Honors Level IA and Honors Level IB

**HONORS LEVEL IIB**

1 High School World Language Credit

550	Honors French IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8
550SM	Honors French IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8
585	Honors German IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8
585SM	Honors German IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8
530	Honors Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
530SM	Honors Spanish II	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MGB	Magnet Spanish IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8
528MGBSM	Magnet Spanish IIB	Grade Levels 7 or 8

Level II world language courses build upon skills developed in level I, preparing students to communicate authentically in the target language by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on concrete topics. Level II world language courses introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of the target cultures. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice high proficiency level. Students will end the course at an ACTFL novice high proficiency level.

**Prerequisite:** Honors Level I and Honors Level IIA

## **INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME LANGUAGE ACQUISITION SUBJECT GROUP COURSES**

The following courses are offered only at Northern Middle School. Discover more about the IB MYP at Northern Middle School by reading the **Signature Programs Descriptions** section. Each of these Grades 6, 7, 8 courses are part of the Language Acquisition Subject Group. The Language Acquisition Subject Group is one of the 8 MYP Subjects in which MYP students must participate. These courses include the content of the foundational courses that are similarly-named on the preceding pages. IB Language B, Middle Years Program courses enable students to gain competence in modern language; these courses also encourage respect for and understanding of other languages and cultures. Additionally, the curriculum includes the following components:

- **Key Concepts and Related Concepts**, such as *Connection* and *Audience* that are explored over an MYP student's time in the Programme.
- **Global Contexts**, such as *Globalization & Sustainability* and *Personal & Cultural Expression*.
- **Approaches to Learning** skills, such as *Self-Management* and *Communication Skills*.
- **Statements of Inquiry**, which allow the students to explore the content and skills through a conceptual lens.

### **MYP World Languages**

MYP506/MYP506SM Grade Level 6

MYP507/MYP507SM Grade Level 7

MYP508/MYP508SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP Spanish IA**

MYP517/MYP517SM Grade Levels 6 or 7

**MYP Spanish IB** 1 HS World Language Credit

MYP518/MYP518SM Grade Levels 7 or 8

### **MYP French IA**

MYP537/MYP537SM Grade Level 7

**MYP French IB** 1 HS World Language Credit

MYP538/MYP538SM Grade Level 8

### **MYP German IA**

MYP581/MYP581SM Grade Levels 6 or 7

**MYP German IB** 1 HS World Language Credit

MYP582/MYP582SM Grade Levels 7 or 8

**MYP German I** 1 HS World Language Credit

MYP580/MYP580SM Grade Level 7

**\*\* Please note that availability of this course is dependent upon coordinated schedules between Northern Middle and North Hagerstown High Schools.**

**MYP German II** 1 HS World Language Credit

MYP583/MYP583SM Grade Level 8

**\*\* Please note that availability of this course is dependent upon coordinated schedules between Northern Middle and North Hagerstown High Schools.**

# Additional Educational Opportunities

### **ACADEMIC SKILLS AND CONCEPTS**

336/336SM	Grade Level 6
337/337SM	Grade Level 7
338/338SM	Grade Level 8

Students improve capability to manage school tasks and improve academic performance. Instruction and support in specific academic, social, and/or self-management skills may be provided. Areas of focus include: pre-teaching re-teaching, and individualized academic intervention, study skills, organizational tasks, long-range planning for projects, test-taking skills, and self-advocacy.

### **READING INTERVENTION**

156/156SM	Grade Level 6
157/157SM	Grade Level 7
158/158SM	Grade Level 8

Students improve vocabulary, critical thinking, reading rate, and/or comprehension level through targeted intensive specially-designed or intentionally-designed instruction. Each student who requires this level of instruction is assessed through a variety of measures to determine specific needs and a plan is developed and implemented by the instructional team to meet those needs. This can be addressed through a customized learning plan and/or a structured intervention program. For students with disabilities in the area of reading, reading intervention will specifically target the goals that have been developed to address the identified disability-related area(s) of need. This course must be in addition to a student's grade-level, core English course.

### **READING APPRENTICESHIP**

146/146SM	Grade Level 6
147/147SM	Grade Level 7
148/148SM	Grade Level 8

Reading Apprenticeship is a course for students who require more targeted reading instruction and strategies to access the English curriculum and grade level texts. Students in this class read high-interest texts that are at their independent reading level for sustained periods under the direction of the reading teacher or a reading specialist. Students also receive small-group targeted instruction based on periodic assessments of their specific reading gaps. Reading intervention programs may be delivered through this class as appropriate. This course must be in addition to a student's grade-level, core English course.

### **MATH INTERVENTION**

166/166SM	Grade Level 6
167/167SM	Grade Level 7
168/168SM	Grade Level 8

Math Intervention is intended to improve a student's conceptual and procedural understanding of critical mathematics concepts from prior grades and problem-solving skills that support WCPS transfer goals through targeted, intensive, specially-designed or intentionally-designed instruction. Each student who requires this level of intervention is assessed through a variety of measures to determine the specific needs, and then a plan is developed and implemented by the instructional team to meet those needs. This can be addressed through a customized learning plan and/or a structured intervention program. For students with disabilities in the area of mathematics, intervention will specifically target the goals that have been developed to address the identified disability-related area(s) of need. This course must be in addition to a student's grade-level, core mathematics course (e.g. Grade 6 Math, Grade 7 Math, Grade 8 Math).



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