



Curriculum Guide
Grades 6-8
2025-2026



The Curriculum Guide can be found at our website at www.onstedschools.us along with the Board's comprehensive set of policies. If computer access is not available to you, please stop by our office and we will provide a paper copy of the Curriculum Guide. **Course offerings are subject to change due to the master schedule**

ONSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL

10109 Slee Road Onsted, MI 49265

Phone (517) 467-2174 **Fax** (517) 467-5603

District Administration

Jonathan Royce Superintendent

Board of Education

Jason Terakedis	President
Ray Tessier	Vice President
Dave VanBrunt	Secretary
Alex Gast	Treasurer
Calby Garrison	Trustee
Ryan Reynolds	Trustee
Craig McMichael	Trustee

Building Administration

Alaina Ellison Principal

Guidance Office

Tanya Anderson Behavior Specialist

Mission Statement

The Mission of Onsted Community Schools is to ensure individual growth and an excellent learning experience to foster active and creative minds, with compassion for others and courage to be leaders in a diverse global community.

District Vision Statement

Inspire – Challenge – Prepare
Every Person
Every Day

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of the Onsted Community Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression), disability, age, religion, military status, ancestry, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program or activity or in employment.

Any person believing that the Onsted Community School District or any part of the school organization has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (2) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1973, and (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, may bring forward a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the local Civil Rights Coordinator(s) also known as the District's "Compliance Officers" at the following address(es):

<p>Karen Springer Human Resources (517) 467-2173 10109 Slee Rd, Onsted MI 49265 springer.k@onstedschools.us</p>	<p>Tim Comden High School Principal (517) 467-2171 10109 Slee Rd, Onsted MI 49265 comden.t@onstedschools.us</p>
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Courses described in this guide may not be offered every semester and/or year.

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Scheduling

Academic Interventions

Advisory- All students at Onsted Middle School (Grades 6-8) will be scheduled into an Advisory class. Advisory is designed to allow students to be successful in all areas, allowing time for work completion, academic intervention and other opportunities within the educational setting.

Academic Lab/Resource Room- Onsted Middle School students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will be placed into Academic Lab or Resource Room determined by placement on the IEP. This will be a full-year (2 semesters) elective for students with an IEP only.

Math Foundations- The math intervention class is designed to provide targeted instruction and support to help improve student math skills over the course. Foundational skills that are necessary for success in math are the focus. Students are placed into this course based on assessments.

ELA Foundations- The reading intervention class is designed to provide targeted instruction and support to help improve student reading skills over the course. Foundational skills that are necessary for success are the focus. Students are placed into this course based on assessments.

Schedule Change Requests

At the middle school level, our philosophy is for students to be exposed to as many positive learning experiences as possible. One of the methods to achieve this is through the elective classes. Students in sixth-eighth grades will rotate through these electives classes each marking period (9-week rotations). Not all schedule changes are possible due to class sizes and teaching assignments as directed by administration. Students at all three grades have the chance to enroll in a music class. If a student takes a music class, this will reduce one of the elective rotations during the day. Eighth-grade students also have the opportunity to take Spanish I (Per course offerings) for high school credit. It is possible in the eighth grade year if a student takes Spanish I and a music class the student will not have another elective. Schedule changes will be granted only in extenuating circumstances, directed by an IEP, or by administration decision.

Students requesting a change should:

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1. Fill out a schedule change form
2. Have a face-to-face conversation with the teachers involved
3. Have approval from the administration prior to the start of the next semester or marking period.

The exception will be Semester 1, where the last day for changes will be the last day of the first week of school. Changes will be granted based on class availability and circumstances surrounding the request. Administration will have final approval.

*This can be changed per administration as different schedules can happen year-to-year

ONSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL
Curriculum Guide 6th Grade
Core Classes

English 6 (ELA)— Students will analyze different forms of Literature and compose narratives and formal essays according to the Michigan Common Core Standards.

Math 6 - Students will continue to strengthen their math foundation skills and explore concepts including fractions, decimals, integer and rational number operations, algebraic reasoning, ratios and proportional relationships, data analysis, graphing, geometry, graphing in the coordinate plane, and problem-solving.

Science 6 - This course introduces students to Earth and space science concepts through hands-on investigations, modeling, and real-world applications. Students will explore the Earth's systems—including geologic processes, weather and climate, and the role of water—as well as our place in the solar system. Emphasis is placed on using evidence to construct explanations, identifying patterns in natural phenomena, and understanding how human activities impact Earth systems. Aligned with the Michigan Science Standards, this course encourages curiosity, collaboration, and scientific thinking.

Social Studies 6 — In this course, students will examine a variety of global issues that result from human activities such as population change, migration, urbanization, culture and cultural diffusion, resource use, increased networks of trade and economic interdependence, and the interactions among nations.

Curriculum Guide 6th Grade

Electives

21 Tech Things 6 - 21 Tech Things is a class designed to help students build information literacy and digital citizenship skills. It also helps students to be knowledgeable about Cyberbullying and being Safe Online. The students complete performance-based activities based on 21st-century educational technology tools such as: Google Docs, spreadsheets and graphing, digital citizenship, copyright, presentation tools, etc.

Art 6- An exploratory class designed to help improve students' basic art skills; drawing, painting, and sculpting. Projects are engaging and include introductions to famous artists and the Elements and Principles of Design.

Art Around The World 6- Students will explore and create examples of arts and crafts from different cultures. Imagine African masks, Russian Felt Dolls, Japanese GyoTaku, and others. Around the World, the class will include geography lessons as well as note-taking, sketches, and self-reflection.

Band 6- Sixth-grade band is a performing class that meets daily. Students will learn the basics of rhythm, tone, and technique for their chosen instrument. By the end of the year, students should be able to play simple to moderately easy songs with a pleasing sound. Some evening performances will occur throughout the year and attendance at these events is a required part of the class. **[Band is a full-year elective]**

Google Learning Lab 6 - Students will explore, create, and collaborate, using Google Apps (Email, Classroom, Docs, Sheets, Forms, Slides). They will also be introduced to other web-based programs to support and enhance their learning across the curriculum.

Health 6- This course will be a health class but will include multiple opportunities for physical activity. The health portion will be based on the Michigan Model of Health curriculum along with additional resources and materials to supplement. Using a classroom setting, topics covered may include Social/Emotional Health, Personal Wellness, Personal Safety, Nutrition, and Physical Activity. The physical activity will be socially distanced and outside whenever possible.

History of Play 6- From ancient to modern, students will learn about how different cultures unwind, prepare for battle, and teach through "play". Students will learn the history of how and why certain sports and games were created; they will study the evolution of games/sports into their modern form; they will complete the term by completing a project on their choice of topic, or they can invent a game/sport/toy that must be playable in class. Units would be Sports, Board and Card Games, Toys and Dolls, and Video and Internet Games.

International Culture 6- Preparing students to become better citizens in their communities by exposing them to different structures and systems that make up various cultures around the world. Understanding these similarities and differences helps to create personal connections with individuals of other cultures and a deeper understanding of the events students see happening in their daily lives.

Life Skills 6- Life Skills class will focus on a variety of topics and situations that arise in everyday life. Students will learn about topics including growth mindset, executive functioning, interpersonal skills, study and organization skills, conflict resolution, and effective communication skills. Students will learn through reflection, discussion, and the application of knowledge.

Physical Education 6 (PE) – Sixth-grade students will be introduced to many team and individual sports, depending on the time of year, along with a basic conditioning program. Students will learn the basic skills and results of the sports they will be playing. The present curriculum includes flag football, soccer, tennis, softball, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, team handball, lacrosse, tumbling, gymnastics, and track. Physical conditioning includes agility, exercises, running, and strength training.

Robotics 6- Students will learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.

Spanish 6 – Students will utilize the Symtalk method of Level 3 in Spanish 6. With the first Symtalk lesson, students will be able to speak confidently in complete sentences in Spanish. Students will master core vocabulary through the use of symbol cards, class activities, and games that foster communicative proficiency

Tech Ed 6 (PLTW)- Students in Tech Ed will be using the Project Lead the Way curriculum, which focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S.T.E.M.) principles. A combination of drafting, designing, and CAD skills will be used throughout the course.

For 6th and 7th grade -introductory skills we are taught focusing on problem-solving, measurement, scientific method, and principles of the design process. Students will complete several projects during the course which will take some outside-of-class work and materials. This is an entry-level course that can be continued through high school and lead to courses at the Tech Center.

Trades Lab 6: Tools, Safety & Food Foundations-

This introductory course gives students hands-on experience with essential life skills, focusing on safety, basic tools, and agriculture. Students will learn how to measure accurately, use common hand tools, and follow personal safety protocols using PPE. Through engaging projects like building small projects and growing a plant from seed, students will also explore how food moves from farm to table. This course builds foundational knowledge for future courses in trades, agriculture, and home systems.

ONSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL

Curriculum Guide 7th Grade

Core Classes

Math 7- This math class will provide students with an in-depth approach to learning math concepts such as the number system, ratios, proportional relationships, expressions, equations, geometric figures, circumference, area, volume, statistics, and probability.

Pre-Algebra 7- *By Placement Only*

Students will be placed into Pre-Algebra 7 based on their successful completion of Math 6 as determined by assessments. This course moves at an accelerated pace and is designed for self-motivated students. Students will be expected to understand basic operations with integers, rational numbers, irrational, and real numbers; the use of variables; properties of numbers and equality; solving equations and inequalities; problem-solving; relations and functions; and basic polynomials.

Students who successfully complete the requirements of Pre-Algebra 7 will take Algebra I the following year.

English Language Arts 7 (ELA)- Language Arts 7 covers reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, and other creative forms of expression.

Literature - The Elements of Literature text incorporates short stories, novels, drama, non-fiction, poetry, myths, and legends. Additional novels are also implemented in the class.

Writing - Students continue to develop and improve writing skills by integrating the steps of the writing process. The fundamentals of grammar, mechanics, and usage are also a continuation of language arts. Students will work on expanding their writing skills and ideas through a variety of projects. Articles of the Week will be assigned at the teacher's discretion to enhance student understanding of Informational Writing. Various activities throughout the year will integrate language arts skills with science, math, and geography topics

Science 7- This course introduces students to core concepts in life science, focusing on the structures, processes, and interactions that support life on Earth. Students will investigate cells, heredity, ecosystems, and biological evolution through hands-on labs, interactive simulations, and inquiry-based projects. Emphasis is placed on developing scientific reasoning, constructing explanations based on evidence, and understanding how life systems are interconnected. Students will ask questions, analyze data, and

communicate findings using scientific practices outlined in the Michigan Science Standards.

Social Studies 7- The seventh-grade social studies curriculum focuses on early world history and geography with a deliberate focus on content literacy. Students begin their exploration of world history with a focus on historical thinking. By unpacking historical and geographic thinking, students learn how these disciplines are distinct in how they ask questions and frame problems to organize and drive inquiry.

Curriculum Guide 7th Grade

Electives

Art 7- An exploratory class that will help students continue to build their skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. Theory, famous artists, and techniques will be taught as well as the Elements and Principles of Design.

Band 7-Band 7, a performance group, is open to any student who has successfully completed Band 6 or the equivalent training on a musical instrument. Emphasis will be placed upon musical and technical development, advancing through the intermediate level. Performances will include fall, winter, and spring concerts and the District Band and Orchestra Festival. Solo and Ensemble playing will also be included. Attendance at performances is required as part of the coursework.

Students who have never played an instrument before may be allowed to join at the discretion of the band director. **[FULL YEAR COURSE]**

Career Pathways 7- An exploratory class that will encourage students to explore a variety of interests aligned with future careers. Students will explore different career pathways, resume building, job searching, and college and career pathways of interest.

CSIM 7-(Computer Science for Innovators and Makers) - Students will learn about coding and debugging coding in this class with the use of a micro:bit microcontroller. Students will create a code for a blinking message including text, images, and animation. Then students will explore and create actual physical computing projects using sensors and actuators for inputs and outputs. This is a PLTW course.

Electronics 7- Students in Electronics will examine the behavior and parts of atoms as well as the impact of electricity on the world around them. They learn skills in basic circuitry design and use what they know to propose designs.

For 6th and 7th grade introductory skills we are taught focusing on problem-solving, measurement, scientific method, and principles of the design process. Students will complete several projects during the course which will take some outside-of-class work and materials. This is an entry-level course that can be continued through high school and lead to courses at the Tech Center.

Fitness 7- This course will be a health class but will include multiple opportunities for physical activity. The health portion will be based on the Michigan Model of Health curriculum along with additional resources and materials to supplement. Using a classroom setting, topics covered may include Healthy Eating, Physical Activity & Exercise Science Basics.

The physical activity will be socially distanced and outside whenever possible.

Forensic Science 7- In this course, students will use their critical thinking skills to think like forensic scientists. Students will learn about types of evidence that can be left at a crime scene, including physical, impression, and DNA evidence. Inferencing skills will be utilized to hypothesize what has happened at a crime scene. This course is fun and interactive and will keep students intrigued about the forensic side of science.

Hands-On Local History 7-Local Lenawee County and Onsted Community data and history explorations. Hands-on research of Onsted Schools history, Lenawee County history, and the local Underground Railroad. Yearbook research, guest speakers, volunteerism, and possible field trips highlight this Hands-on Local History Class. The students will get practice at being historians by doing research, collecting and recording of data. They will (if applicable) also visit historical sites or sites with historical connections.

Health 7- This course will be a health class but will include multiple opportunities for physical activity. The health portion will be based on the Michigan Model of Health curriculum along with additional resources and materials to supplement. Using a classroom setting, topics covered may include Tobacco & Vaping, Social/Emotional Health & Bullying, Alcohol & other drugs. The physical activity will be socially distanced and outside whenever possible.

History of Play 7- From ancient to modern, students will learn about how different cultures unwind, prepare for battle, and teach through "play". Students will learn the history of how and why certain sports and games were created; they will study the evolution of games/sports into their modern form; they will complete the term by completing a project on their choice of topic, or they can invent a game/sport/toy that must be playable in class. Units would be Sports, Board and Card Games, Toys and Dolls, and Video and Internet Games

Leadership 7- This course is designed to develop and improve the leadership skills in students. Areas from goal setting to team building to personal relations to problem-solving will be covered. Learn what leadership is all about by learning about your leadership style, developing goal-setting skills, communication skills, decision-making skills, teamwork and much more.

Lit Lab 7- This course is designed for students to grow as readers and writers. In the reading workshop, students will engage with high-interest short stories, podcasts, and novels to encourage their love for reading and deepen their understanding of the texts through analysis and discussion. In the writing workshop, students will have the opportunity to write personal narratives while being guided through the writing process by their teacher. Throughout the process, students will develop their writing skills as well as learn to give constructive feedback to their peers.

Makerspace 7- Do you like to build? Come unleash your engineering and creative talents in Makerspace! In our elective, we'll learn the principles of good design while completing challenges ranging from building towers, making models, and constructing a powerless speaker system for your musical devices. There will be team and pair opportunities to construct the best projects! Later in the semester, we'll work on open-ended projects led by student interest. Possibilities include basic woodworking, and/or elaborate Rube Goldberg contraptions. Throughout the semester the class will emphasize Design Thinking, experimentation, exhibition, safety, and fun!

Medical Detectives 7- Students play the role of real-life medical detectives in identifying, treating, and preventing injury and illness in their patients. Students examine patient medical histories and investigate how these guide medical detectives to the correct diagnosis and treatment of a particular illness. Students also investigate and collect vital signs such as heart rate, blood pressure, and temperature. Finally, students research pathogens involved in foodborne illness and act as medical detectives in diagnosing and proposing a treatment plan for a patient with a mystery illness.

Physical Education 7 (PE)-Students will be improving their skills and knowledge of many team and individual sports along with a basic condition program. The present curriculum includes flag football, soccer, tennis, softball, basketball, volleyball, team handball, lacrosse, gymnastics, and track. Physical conditioning includes agility, exercises, running, and strength training.

Pop Culture 7- Students will create, participate, and engage in many different classroom discussions, projects, and other mediums pertaining to the study of national “Teenage” Culture. Students will examine the genre rules related to Pop-Culture Mediums (platforms, software, digital media) used in the modern world, as well as use movies, television, and music across the last half century to help gain generational appreciation for American culture.

Real Life Math 7- In this course students will study fundamental math concepts and how you can use them in real life. Students will learn basic math concepts through exploration of units on credit cards and bank accounts, recipes, and health/leisure activities.

Spanish 7- Students will utilize the Symtalk method of Level 4 in Spanish 7. With the first Symtalk lesson, students will be able to speak confidently in complete sentences in Spanish. Students will master core vocabulary through the use of symbol cards, class activities, and games that foster communicative proficiency.

Tech Ed 7 (PLTW)- Students in Tech Ed will be using Project Lead the Way curriculum, which focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S.T.E.M.) principles. A combination of drafting, designing, and CAD skills will be used throughout the course.

Trades Lab 7: Building, Circuits & Sustainability-

In this intermediate-level lab, students build on their foundational skills by working with power tools, constructing basic structures, and wiring simple electrical circuits. Students learn to use fasteners, understand basic electricity, and explore water systems, soil health, and food preservation techniques. Project examples include building a toolbox, wiring a working light switch, and designing a farm irrigation model. The course emphasizes sustainable practices and real-world problem-solving.

ONSTED MIDDLE SCHOOL

Curriculum Guide 8th Grade

Core Classes

Pre-Algebra 8- This class will review the basic operations of arithmetic on whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. These operations will be used in ratios, proportions, percentages, simple geometry, and algebra. As students master these basic concepts, they will move into introductory algebra concepts. Students will be expected to understand basic operations with integers, rational numbers, irrational, and real numbers; the use of variables; properties of numbers and equality; solving equations and inequalities; problem-solving; relations and functions; and basic polynomials.

Algebra I- *By Placement Only*

This course emphasizes the use of integers, probability, statistics, linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, operations with algebraic fractions, graphing, systems of equations, and further development of problem-solving skills in real-world situations

Per laws and regulations regarding the Michigan Merit Curriculum, any approved courses in the middle school for high school credit will follow the same grading, assessment, and curriculum standards as the equivalent high school course.

Geometry- *By Placement Only*

This course investigates the geometric properties of points, lines, planes, and other two-dimensional figures while emphasizing their relationship to transformations and deductive proofs. Properties of three-dimensional figures are investigated as well as construction techniques, logic, and basic trigonometry.

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English Language Arts 8 (ELA)-The literature text incorporates traditional and contemporary literature with extensions through writing and art. These selections include short stories, drama, non-fiction, poetry, myths, legends and folktales, and novels. Students will integrate the stages of the writing process with the fundamentals of grammar. Related skills such as speaking and researching will be incorporated.

English Explorations *-By Placement Only*

Learning focuses on the process of writing and the study of literature in the form of short stories, essays, poetry, novels, and drama. Students who successfully complete English Explorations 9 will receive a high school credit.

Per laws and regulations regarding the Michigan Merit Curriculum, any approved courses in the middle school for high school credit will follow the same grading, assessment, and curriculum standards as the equivalent high school course.

Honors ELA 8 --By Placement Only

Learning focuses on the process of writing and the study of literature in the form of short stories, essays, poetry, novels and drama.

History 8- (American History) This course introduces students to the history of the United States from the Declaration of Independence to the end of the 19th century and the start of the Industrial Revolution. Using primary and secondary sources, students will explore the time and place during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the United States of America. Beginning with the political and intellectual transformations that preceded the Declaration of Independence, students review the ideas and principles that form the basis of our constitutional republic. Students further their understanding of the American government from an in-depth study of the United States Constitution and the evolution of the government created during its first century.

Science 8- 8th Grade Physical Science explores the fundamental principles of matter, motion, energy, and forces that govern the physical world. Through inquiry-based investigations and real-world applications, students will examine how substances interact, how forces cause changes in motion, and how energy flows through systems. This course emphasizes the development of scientific thinking, problem-solving skills, and evidence-based reasoning. Students will engage in hands-on labs, data analysis, and collaborative projects aligned with the Michigan Science Standards.

Curriculum Guide 8th Grade

Electives

Art 8- An exploratory class that will improve students' art skills in drawing, painting, sculpting, and designing using a variety of media and techniques. This class will develop students' creativity and self-expression.

Band 8- Band 8, a performance group, is open to any student who has successfully completed Band 6 and Band 7 or the equivalent training on a musical instrument. Emphasis will be placed upon musical and technical development, advancing through the intermediate level. Performances will include fall, winter, and spring appearances and the District Band and Orchestra Festival. Solo and Ensemble playing will also be included. Attendance at performances is required as part of the coursework. **[FULL YEAR COURSE]**

Students who have never played an instrument before may be allowed to join at the discretion of the band director.

Communications 8 - As an exploratory class, Communications will focus on evaluating how information is presented in our world through various media outlets. This class will involve cooperative learning groups, the development of interpersonal skills, and the presentation of authentic technology-based projects.

CSIM 8- (Computer Science for Innovators and Makers) - Students will learn about coding and debugging coding in this class with the use of a micro: bit microcontroller. Students will create a code for a blinking message including text, images, and animation. Then, students will explore and create actual physical computing projects using sensors and actuators for inputs and outputs. This is a PLTW course.

Drawing 8- A class that will provide the 8th-grade student with the knowledge of drawing and designing as applied through the use of the Elements and Principles of Design. Two and three-dimensional activities will be created in a variety of mediums such as pencil, charcoal, pen and marker, and more. Subjects will range from drawing from observation to drawing with imagination.

Fab Lab 8- Eighth-grade students in Fab Lab will design items using multiple design programs to fabricate creations on a Cricut, Glowforge, and 3D printer. Their designs are purposeful for the school or themselves.

Fitness 8- This course will be a health class, but will include multiple opportunities for physical activity. The health portion will be based on the Michigan Model of Health

curriculum, along with additional resources and materials to supplement. Using a classroom setting, topics covered may include Healthy Eating, Physical Activity & Exercise Science Basics. The physical activity will be socially distanced and outside whenever possible.

Flight & Space 8- The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through the Flight and Space unit. Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

Health 8- This course will be a health class but will include multiple opportunities for physical activity. The health portion will be based on the Michigan Model of Health curriculum along with additional resources and materials to supplement. Using a classroom setting, topics covered may include Tobacco & Vaping, Social/Emotional Health & Bullying, Alcohol & other drugs. The physical activity will be socially distanced and outside whenever possible.

Leadership 8- Students will learn to communicate without an electronic device while learning more about themselves and gaining confidence through preparing and delivering speeches. We will also study the U.S. economic system and its relationship to personal finance, spending, and investing. Finally, the class will develop an understanding of our political system at all levels of government, its workings, and the role citizens have in our democracy.

Physical Education 8 (PE)- Students will be improving their skills and knowledge of many team and individual sports along with a basic conditioning program. The present curriculum includes flag football, soccer, tennis, softball, basketball, volleyball, team handball, lacrosse, gymnastics, and track. Physical conditioning includes agility, exercises, running, and strength training.

Publications 8- This course focuses on the many aspects of producing a great yearbook. Students will work with advertisers to sell and create ads. The yearbook staff will take photos using a digital camera. They will create a variety of yearbook page layouts using E-Design (an online yearbook program). Students will also deal with selling, bookkeeping, and distribution of yearbooks to the students of Onsted Middle School. Students will also create quarterly publications for the student body.

Robotics 8- Students will learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.

Spanish I- As an introductory course to the Spanish language it will be conducted in English and Spanish. Students will participate in activities to develop their communication, listening, reading, and writing skills in simple Spanish contexts. Students will be engaged in cultural and geographical activities. **[FULL YEAR COURSE]**

Per laws and regulations regarding the Michigan Merit Curriculum, any approved courses in the middle school for high school credit will follow the same grading, assessment, and curriculum standards as the equivalent high school course.

Tech Ed 8 (PLTW)-Students in Tech Ed will be using Project Lead the Way curriculum which focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S.T.E.M.) principles. A combination of drafting, designing, and C.A.D. skills will be used throughout the course to introduce students to aeronautical, mechanical, civil, electrical, and robotics engineering concepts. Students will complete multiple hands-on projects during the course which will take some outside-of-class work and materials. This is an entry-level course that can be continued through high school and lead to courses at the LISD Tech Center.

Trades Lab 8: Auto, Plumbing & Food Supply -This advanced lab challenges students to apply their knowledge to real-world systems, including automotive basics, home plumbing and electrical repairs, and agricultural logistics. Students will change a tire, fix a household leak, and build a mini hydroponic garden while learning about food distribution networks and career pathways in the skilled trades. The course strengthens students' independence, critical thinking, and readiness for high school pathways in applied technology and agriculture.

Yearbook 8-This course focuses on the many aspects of producing a great yearbook. Students will work with advertisers to sell and create ads. The yearbook staff will take photos using a digital camera. They will create a variety of yearbook page layouts using E-Design (an online yearbook program). Students will also assist with selling, bookkeeping, and the distribution of yearbooks to the students of Onsted Middle School.

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OCS Virtual

Online learning is educational content and instruction that is delivered via the Internet. Content and instruction are delivered through a variety of methods, including text, audio, video, simulations, and other interactive tools. Students and instructors most often interact asynchronously (interactions separated by time), through email, discussion forums, and announcements. Some courses require synchronous communication (no time lapse), such as through video conferencing tool,s depending on the provider.

Students must be able to use the keyboard and mouse for basic navigation and to interact with the quizzes, tests, and media in an online course. Basic familiarity with browsers, email, and word-processing programs may be required to complete an online course. The ability to access the internet is also REQUIRED. At school, you may or may not have these options: class time, after-school labs, and/or a possible laptop with internet capability.

Students who fail an online class will be recommended to take a full schedule of regular classes the following semester

OCS Virtual Courses with Description for Middle School

Math

Math 6 A/B-This semester-long middle school course will provide students with a deep understanding and mastery of the objectives that will prepare them for algebra. It is aligned to Common Core State Standards and is based on best practices in the teaching of mathematics and the disciplines of STEM learning. Students will develop 21st-century skills as they master ratios and proportional relationships; the number system; and number visualization. The course is highly engaging while being easy for teachers to customize and manage.

Math 7 A/B-Math 7 builds on material learned in earlier grades, including fractions, decimals, and percentages, and introduces students to concepts they will continue to use throughout their study of mathematics. Among these are surface area, volume, and probability. Real-world applications facilitate understanding, and students are provided multiple opportunities to master these skills through practice problems within lessons, homework drills, and graded assignments.

Math 8 A/B- This course is designed to enable all students at the middle school level to develop a deep understanding of math objectives and leaves students ready for algebra. The first semester covers objectives in transformations, linear equations, systems of equations, and functions. The second semester focuses on scientific notation, roots, the Pythagorean Theorem and volume, and statistics and probability. The course is based on the Common Core State Standards Initiative and on a modern understanding of student learning in mathematics.

Algebra I A/B- Algebra I v7.0 is a completely re-designed course that offers 100% alignment to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. The specific standard alignment for each lesson is visible to both educators and students. In addition to the emphasis on alignment, the lessons in the new course are designed to be shorter in length than lessons of previous versions, offering focused exploration of topics to make concepts more digestible for students. Practice questions are included with each lesson, including technology-enhanced items and explanations to assist students in their understanding of the concepts. New features to support student mastery include worksheets for practice and guided notes to help students record key takeaways as they move through the tutorial. The course is also built around student engagement, with more interactive lessons and videos that work through examples and model problem-solving skills. This fresh new look and feel for the course was inspired by educator feedback. Educators were also involved in the course at the design level, as many unit activities, worksheets, and video scripts were written by current algebra classroom teachers. Algebra 1 v7.0 reflects our commitment to standards alignment and putting the needs of educators and students first in all aspects of course design.

Social Studies

Middle School U.S. History A/B- In Middle School U.S. History, learners will explore historical American events with the help of innovative videos, timelines, and interactive maps and images. The course covers colonial America through the Reconstruction period. Learners will develop historical thinking and geography skills, which they will use throughout the course to heighten their understanding of the material. Specific topics of study include the U.S. Constitution, the administrations of George Washington and John Adams, the War of 1812, and the Civil War.

Middle School World History A/B- In Middle School World History, learners will study major historical world events from early human societies through to the present day. Multimedia tools including custom videos as well as videos from the BBC, custom maps, and interactive timelines will help engage learners as they complete this year-long course. They will explore the development of early humans and early civilizations. They will be introduced to the origins of major world religions, such as Hinduism and Buddhism. Also, learners will study the medieval period. Historical thinking and geography skills will be taught and utilized throughout the course.

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Michigan World History and Geography A/B-Michigan high school students taking this course will get a true survey of world history. Beginning with the study of early human societies and the invention of agriculture, this course takes the students on a journey through time, from ancient societies up to the modern era. This course employs many interactive features like maps and images with clickable hotspots that students can explore to get more information about things such as regions, cities, and geographical features on a map and artistic techniques and features in famous works of art. Best of all, this course is aligned to the Michigan state standards of learning and to the English Language Arts (ELA) Standards for History and Social Studies.

World Geography A/B-In an increasingly interconnected world, equipping students to develop a better understanding of our global neighbors is critical to ensuring that they are college and career-ready. These semester-long courses empower students to increase their knowledge of the world in which they live and how its diverse geographies shape the international community. Semester A units begin with an overview of the physical world and the tools necessary to explore it effectively. Subsequent units survey each continent and its physical characteristics engage students and encourage them to develop a global perspective.

English

English 06 A/B-This course provides a strong foundation in grammar and the writing process. It emphasizes simple but useful composition and language mechanics strategies with multiple opportunities for modeling practical, real-world writing situations that will enable students to improve their written communication skills quickly. Through a variety of grade-appropriate reading selections, students develop a clear understanding of key literary genres and their distinguishing characteristics.

English 07 A/B- English 7 Integrates the study of writing and literature through the examination of a variety of genres. Students identify the elements of composition in the reading selections to understand their function and effect on the reader. Practice is provided in narrative and expository writing. Topics include comparison and contrast, persuasion, and cause and effect essays, as well as descriptive and figurative language. Lessons are supplemented with vocabulary development, grammar, and syntax exercises, along with an introduction to verbal phrases and research tools.

English 08 A/B-Extends the skills developed in English 7 through a detailed study of parts of sentences and paragraphs to understand their importance to good writing. Students also acquire study skills such as time management and improved test-taking strategies. Other topics include punctuation, word choice, syntax, varying sentence

structure, subordination and coordination, detail and elaboration, effective use of reference materials, and proofreading.

Science

Life Science A/B-This inquiry- and lab-based course is designed to support modern science curriculum and teaching practices. It robustly meets NGSS learning standards associated with middle school life science. Content topics include cells and human body systems, structure and functions of living organisms, genes and adaptations, evolution, energy flow in ecosystems, and interdependence of ecosystems.

Each lesson includes one or more inquiry-based activities that can be performed online within the context of the lesson. In addition, the course includes a significant number of hands-on lab activities. Approximately 40% of student time in this course is devoted to true lab experiences, as defined by the National Research Council (2006, p. 3).

Physical Science A/B-This inquiry- and lab-based course is designed to support modern science curriculum and teaching practices. It robustly meets NGSS learning standards associated with middle school physical science. Content topics include structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, forces and motion, force fields, energy, and waves.

Each lesson includes one or more inquiry-based activities that can be performed online within the context of the lesson. In addition, the course includes a significant number of hands-on lab activities. Approximately 40% of student time in this course is devoted to true lab experiences, as defined by the National Research Council (2006, p. 3).

Earth and Space Science A/B-This inquiry- and lab-based course is designed to support modern science curriculum and teaching practices. It robustly meets NGSS learning standards associated with middle school Earth and space science. Content topics include Earth and space systems and interactions, the history of the Earth, the Earth's systems, weather and climate, climate change, and human impacts on the Earth. Each lesson includes one or more inquiry-based activities that can be performed online within the context of the lesson. In addition, the course includes a significant number of hands-on lab activities. Approximately 40% of student time in this course is devoted to true lab experiences, as defined by the National Research Council (2006, p. 3).

Electives

Academic Success- As in other areas of life, success in academics results from learning and practicing positive habits. This one-semester elective provides practical, hands-on guidance on developing and improving study habits and skills, regardless of a student's level of accomplishment. Academic Success includes five lessons and

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two-course activities in a flexible structure that is adaptable to the needs and circumstances of individual students. The course can also be used for college-level developmental education.

Career Explorations- The 21 lessons and additional activities in this one-semester course are fundamental to ensuring career readiness on the part of your students. Covering such essentials as developing and practicing a strong work ethic, time management, communication, teamwork, and the fundamentals of workplace organizations, Career Explorations develops not just essential skills, but the confidence in themselves and their abilities to present themselves that your students need as they prepare to embark on their chosen careers.

Digital Art and Design- There are so many different types of art in this world—fine art, classical art, visual art—but the impact of digital art and design is all around us, often in ways that you probably aren’t even aware of! After taking Digital Art and Design, you’ll enjoy a deeper understanding and appreciation for all things digital as you explore this special genre of art found in everything from advertising to animation to photography and beyond. In this course, you’ll learn about the evolution of art, the basic principles of art and design, and the role of art in politics and society. Additionally, you will actually create your own digital art and make it come alive. Give your creative side a boost with this Digital Art and Design course!

Essential Career Skills -This course helps students understand and practice critical life and workplace readiness skills identified by employers, state boards of education, and Advance CTE. These skills include personal characteristics, such as positive work ethic, integrity, self-representation, and resourcefulness, as well as key people skills, communication skills, and broadly applicable professional and technical skills. These skills are universally valuable but sometimes assumed or glossed over in more career-specific courses. For that reason, this provides students with a solid foundation in their career studies.

Exploring Business- Are you interested in business, leading people, or making decisions to help a business be successful? While there are many different career choices in the field of business, in this course, you’ll discover options such as management, human resources, business operations, information management, and accounting. Explore the skills you’ll need, common tasks, the technology used, and characteristics of various business careers.

Exploring Music- What comes to mind when you hear the word ‘music’? Do you think about your favorite band or artist? Do you think about instruments and scales and chords? The word ‘music’ means something different to everyone. This is why in Exploring Music there is a little bit of something for everyone! You will learn about how we hear music and how music affects our lives. You will explore important elements of music like rhythm, pitch, and harmony, as well as different musical genres. You will discover more about your singing voice and musical instruments and composition while

taking in the history and culture of music over the years. Tune up your understanding and appreciation for all things music by signing up for this course!

Exploring Health Science- Where do healthcare workers spend their days? What do they really do? From cruise ships to sports arenas, you can find healthcare workers in many places that you might not expect. Explore this field, including what it would be like to work in a medical lab. Learn what it takes to keep you and your patients safe, and begin to learn about the human body and basic first aid.

Fitness-Are you physically fit? What does being fit mean to you? Physical fitness is a lot more than just a number on a scale, and that's exactly what you'll learn in this course! Middle School Fitness helps you understand the basics of being physically fit and allows for a deeper understanding of your body's functions. You will learn about the complex science behind exercise and determine how you can test your current level of fitness. Explore what it means to be mindful and discover what inspires you. Improving your physical fitness is a smart choice to make at any age, and by signing up for this course, you will be taking the first step on your exciting journey to understanding and improving your physical fitness.

Game Design 1a: Introduction- We love to play video games, but have you ever wanted to build your own? If you are interested in a career in technology but also want a creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in this interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game.

Introduction to Forensic Science- This course is designed to introduce students to the importance and limitations of forensic science and explore different career options in this field. They also learn to process a crime scene, collect and preserve evidence, and analyze biological evidence such as fingerprints, blood spatter, and DNA samples. Moreover, they learn to determine the time and cause of death in homicides and analyze ballistic evidence and human remains in a crime scene. Finally, they learn about forensic investigative methods related to arson, computer crimes, financial crimes, frauds, and forgeries.

Journalism - Are you someone who likes to get the story straight? Do you always want to know more? Who? What? When? Where? How? These are the details that make for a great story. Knowing how to find these key facts and then write them up in a way that makes it easy for others to read about it is the skill of a true journalist. In Middle School Journalism: Tell Your Story, you'll learn how to ask the right questions, look for the details, and find the story in any situation. You'll learn how to gather information effectively, organize ideas, format stories for media production, and edit your articles. Get ready to break that news!

Music Appreciation- In a time of an increasing emphasis on STEM courses and skills, it remains essential to provide your students with opportunities to explore the arts from both an informational and career-oriented perspective. In Music Appreciation, students will explore the history and evolution of music, learn the elements of music and musical

notations, and the contributions of popular music artists and composers. A variety of lessons, activities, and discussions will help to develop an awareness and appreciation of music that will develop not only critical thinking skills but life-enriching skills as well.

Spanish 1 A/B- Spanish is the most spoken non-English language in U.S. homes, even among non-Hispanics, according to the Pew Research Center. There are overwhelming cultural, economic, and demographic reasons for students to achieve mastery of Spanish. Spanish 1A and B engage students and use a variety of activities to ensure student engagement and promote personalized learning. These courses can be delivered completely online, or implemented as blended courses, according to the unique needs of the teacher and the students.

Physical Education -This course's three units include Getting Active, Improving Performance, and Lifestyle. Unit activities elevate students' self-awareness of their health and well-being while examining topics such as diet and mental health and exploring websites and other resources. In addition to being effective as a stand-alone course, the components can be easily integrated into other health and wellness courses.

Introduction to Astronomy-Introduction to Astronomy is a one-semester course with 17 lessons that cover a wide range of topics, such as the solar system, planets, stars, asteroids, comets, galaxies, space exploration, and theories of cosmology. The target audience for this course is high school students.