

Junior High Registration Booklet

**Grade 7 - 8
2022 - 2023**



**Independent School District #332
Mora, Minnesota 55051**



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INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT 332

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Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to Mora High School! Our goal is for all students to explore their interests, and graduate on time with a plan to be successful in the path they choose to pursue after high school. We offer a challenging and engaging curriculum to prepare students for the rigor of post-secondary education.

Required courses are those that you must take in order to graduate from MHS. Elective courses are those that you may take to explore options for your future. Junior High is a great time to learn more about yourself, your future career options, and to explore your personal strengths and interests. We encourage you to take a variety of courses to learn what your interests for the future might be, and to do your best in all of your classes to set you up for success in high school. Read this guide carefully. It will help you in selecting the courses best for you and your goals. Please look over your options carefully, and review your plans with your parents, school counselor, and teachers.

Mora High School is a better place with you here. We hope you will get involved in our school community and set high goals for yourself.

Principal

Brent Nelson

Counselors

Samantha Koland
(Last Names A-K)

Assistant Principal

Nick Bakke

Sarah Ellstrom

(Last Names L-Z)

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INTRODUCTION

This registration booklet has been prepared primarily so students can better plan their junior high course plan.

Grade 7

REQUIRED CLASSES

English.....1 credit
Math.....1 credit
Social Studies.....1 credit
Science.....1 credit
Computer Apps*.....1/2 credit
*(Must be taken in 7th or 8th grade)
Physical Education.....1/2 credit

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

7th Grade Advisory.....1 credit

MUSIC ELECTIVES

Band 7.....1 credit
Choir 7.....1 credit
Both Band & Choir 7.....1 credit

ELECTIVES OPTIONS

ART A.....1/2 credit
FaCS A.....1/2 credit
IT A1/2 credit
AGRICULTURE A1/2 credit

Grade 8

REQUIRED CLASSES

English.....1 credit
Math.....1 credit
Social Studies.....1 credit
Science.....1 credit
Health.....1/2 credit
Physical Education.....1/2 credit

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

*Computer Applications.....1/2 credit
(If not taken in 7th grade)

MUSIC ELECTIVES

Band 8.....1 credit
Choir 8.....1 credit
Both Band & Choir 8.....1 credit

ELECTIVES OPTIONS

Art B.....1/2 credit
FACS B.....1/2 credit
IT B.....1/2 credit
AGRICULTURE B.....1/2 credit

PLEASE NOTE:

The seventh grade math level is based on sixth grade teacher recommendation and test scores.

* Reading courses will be offered to students in grades 7 and 8. Students will be placed in these courses based on teacher recommendation and test scores.

** The electives available in grades 7 & 8 are considered to be "lab" classes and the enrollment sizes must be limited. Since many of these electives are "shared" between 7th and 8th grade students, it is NOT always possible to give students their first choice.

CORE REQUIRED COURSES

MATHEMATICS COURSES

Mora High School requires students to successfully complete 3.5 credits of math to be earned in grades 9-12. Math skills are essential for future options and the skills learned in grades 7-8 provide essential building blocks for future success.

Grade 9-12 High School students who plan to continue with a post-secondary education should plan to take 4 credits of Math, at least Intermediate Algebra, Algebra II and Geometry during high school. Most post-secondary schools will require students to take a math entrance exam. Students who score "below college level" in math on these exams may be denied entrance or be required to take additional and/or remedial math courses. Students will need to consult the post-secondary institution to determine specific math requirements. The stronger the background a student has in math, the more options he/she will have available.

The progression of difficulty for upper level math courses is as follows:

	Track C (High School Graduation)	Track B (2-yr college prep)	Track A (2 to 4-yr college prep and college credit)
7th Grade	Pre-Algebra C	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I
8th Grade	Algebra I C	Algebra I	Intermediate Algebra
9th Grade	Intermediate Algebra C	Intermediate Algebra	Geometry
10th Grade	Geometry C	Geometry	Algebra II
11th Grade	Algebra II C	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus Probability & Statistics
12th Grade	Probability & Statistics	Pre-Calculus, Probability & Statistics	College Calculus, Probability & Statistics

MATHEMATICS

2225/2227 ALGEBRA (Grade 7) – 1 credit

Course objectives will follow those listed below in Pre-Algebra, but more time will be spent working with algebraic expressions/equations and linear functions. Students will be prepared for Algebra I in 8th grade.

2229/2230 PRE-ALGEBRA (Grade 7) - 1 credit

The course includes the 4 main areas of the 7th grade Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments: Number and Operation, Algebra, Geometry and Measurement and Data Analysis and Probability. Students will review and further develop their skills with the basic operations of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, integers and percents. These skills will be taught in conjunction with algebra concepts. Students will begin to solve equations, as well as write equations to solve real world problems. Other areas of study include geometry, consumer math, statistics and probability.

2231/2233 PRE-ALGEBRA C (Grade 7) – 1 credit

This is a modified version of Pre-Algebra. There are many opportunities to receive assistance and practice math skills. Students will also cover the 4 main areas included on the MCA tests.

2262/2264 ALGEBRA 1 (Grade 8) – 1 credit

This course consists of using the operations to write equivalent algebraic expressions, using rational and irrational numbers. Students will also get introduced to the process needed to solving equations and the concept of equivalence. Significant time is spent on graphing linear functions on a coordinate plane. Special attention is given to working with patterns using graphs and tables. Other topics covered can be found in the Minnesota Academic Standards.

2278/2279 ALGEBRA 1 C (Grade 8) – 1 credit

This class is a modified version of ALGEBRA 1. Curriculum is adapted and taught at a slower pace, with lots of opportunity to receive assistance and to practice skills. Emphasis will be placed on learning how to solve single-step word problems, as well as learning the math concepts addressed in the Minnesota Academic Standards. We will be using a calculator for most activities.

2210/2212 INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA 8 (Grade 8) - 1 credit

In intermediate Algebra the following topics will be covered: solving equations and inequalities, writing functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, graphing and solving quadratics, graphing exponential growth, intro to data and statistics. The major objective in this class is to help students develop the power to reason; to analyze and to think clearly.

ENGLISH

0501/0503 ENGLISH 7 - 1 credit

The first semester of this English course will begin with a review of the literary elements. Students will explore the literary elements through a study of short stories. Then, students will complete the writing process (brainstorming, drafting, editing, revising) to compose an original narrative. A research project will be conducted with an emphasis on searching for credible sources, paraphrasing information, and citing. Students will complete a novel study of *Bud, Not Buddy* which will include an argumentative writing assignment.

The second semester will begin with an exploration of poetry which will have students investigate a variety of poems and write many of their own. Students will focus on deepening skills in reading with a class novel study of *The Wednesday Wars*. Writing skills will also be strengthened with the writing of a five-paragraph essay. The influence of media will be explored in a variety of facets. Lastly, students will gain experience with writing and giving speeches in front of the class.

0601/0603 ENGLISH 8 – 1 credit

The first semester of English will focus on reinforcing the basic skills of English: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The year will start off with a unit exploring the purpose of school. Then we dive into short stories and literary elements, which lead into reading the novel *The Giver*. The semester ends with writing an argumentative essay.

Semester two begins with a narrative research paper unit, which focuses on creative writing and research skills. Then, students will examine media in a variety of ways. Then, we will read *American Born Chinese*. Writing is further examined as students write a fractured fairytale. The year will end with a unit focused on public speaking skills.

The goal of the 8th grade curriculum is to expose students to the four main areas of English within each unit. In doing so, students should obtain the necessary skills needed to pass the MCA II test that is given each Spring.

SCIENCE

3350 SCIENCE 7 - 1/2 credit

The first semester of Science 7 offers an extensive introduction to the basics of life science, building a strong foundation for an exciting junior high science experience. Students will study the diversity of life on Earth, while focusing on the characteristics of living things and the structure and function of various cells. The compound light microscope will be widely used to assist students in studying different types of cells, as well as cellular components. Students will also study the interactions of human systems by focussing on the various organ systems, organs, and tissues along with their interactions within the body.

3352 SCIENCE 7 - 1/2 credit

The second semester of Science 7 builds upon topics introduced during semester one. Students will learn about the concepts of heredity and adaptation by studying the fossil record and its relation to modern organisms. Students will learn how the structure and function of DNA determines the hereditary features of organisms. Students will also become familiar with the theory of evolution and how species change through natural selection. The connection between living things and the non-living environment will also be discussed through the study of populations and ecosystems.

3363 SCIENCE 8 - 1/2 credit

Science 8 is an introduction to Earth & Space Science and is a required course for 8th grade students. The course is a mixture of direct instruction and hands-on learning through projects, activities and labs. In the first semester of this course, students will study the Nature of Science by creating and designing their own experiments. This is followed by a basic unit on physical science, but mainly focusing on astronomy; Earth's atmosphere, climate and weather.

3365 SCIENCE 8 - 1/2 credit

The second semester of 8th grade Earth & Space science brings students back to Earth by focusing on historical and physical geology, studying the shape and structure of the Earth and how minerals and rocks are formed. Plate tectonics, and weathering and erosion of Earth's surface round off the year.

SOCIAL STUDIES**1171 AMERICAN HISTORY 7: COLONIZATION TO THE U.S. EXPANSION – 1/2 credit**

We will be studying the foundations of the American Government. Through documents like the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution we will study how our government works. This course will also include U.S. Expansion from "Sea to Shining Sea" as well as Industrialization in American in the 1800's.

1172 AMERICAN HISTORY 7: INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION TO RECONSTRUCTION – 1/2 credit

A continuation of course 1171 American History, the second half of the year will finish up U.S. Expansion and Industrialization and then move on to how slavery impacted the economies of both the North and the South and how that was a factor in the Civil War. The causes and effects of the Civil War as well as the Reconstruction will be another main focus in this course.

1180 WORLD GEOGRAPHY 8 - 1/2 credit

This course is an introduction to the five themes of geography (place, location, movement, regions, and human-environment interaction) as well as implementation of necessary map skills. The regional study component of the course includes North America (U.S.A. and Canada), Central America, and South America. World current events are a major concentration of the course throughout the semester.

1182 WORLD GEOGRAPHY 8 - 1/2 credit

A continuation of 1180 World Geography 8, this course focuses primarily on regional studies of our world, using the Five Fundamental Themes of Geography to "map" our "journeys" to far away places. The course begins by examining Western Europe, and continues with Eastern Europe and Russia, Asia, Africa, Australia and Oceania, and Antarctica. World current events are a major concentration of the course throughout the semester.

ELECTIVE COURSES

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Courses listed in this category are intended to provide junior high students with "hands-on" learning opportunities. Courses are taught through the following departments: Family and Consumer Science, Industrial Technology, Business Education, and Agricultural Education.

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

8812 AGRICULTURE A - 1/2 credit

Discover Minnesota Agriculture and how it impacts our everyday life. This course will focus on animals and plants. Students will be engaged in hands on activities that will lead us to discover Minnesota agriculture products. We will travel from northern Minnesota to Southern Minnesota and explore the diverse products raised. Plant life will be explored through various plant experiments.

8814 AGRICULTURE B - 1/2 credit

Agriculture directly affects our natural resources and our food supply. This course will focus on Natural Resources and Food Science. Making the connections between the two and focusing on where and how the food is grown, harvested and processed. Students will be engaged in hands on activities that will explore our natural environment and food supply. Students may spend several class periods outside on projects depending on the weather.

ART

7905 ART A - 1/2 credit

This course consists of an in-depth study of the basic elements of art and principles of design. Students will be challenged to define what art is, and express ideas through original artworks in a variety of media. Each project we create will emphasize a specific art element or principle. Students will use a variety of media with expanded skill development. I will focus on using a "growth mindset" to build art skills.

7907 ART B - 1/2 credit

This course offers a variety of experiences in drawing, painting, collage, weaving, and other mixed media. The lessons extend student's perception of artistic styles, historical periods and cultural backgrounds. Evaluation will be based on assignment completion, written artist statements, class critiques and overall participation. I will focus on using a "growth mindset" to build art skills.

BUSINESS EDUCATION

5581 COMPUTER APPLICATIONS – 1/2 credit *(Must be taken in 7th OR 8th grade)

Proficiency in computers skills is essential for future success in the 21st Century. This course is designed to introduce new technologies that will assist students in their current and future academic success. Students will learn the fundamentals of current and emerging technologies. Students will have the opportunity for word-processing enrichment along with an overview to Microsoft Office, Google Docs, Web 2.0 tools, and the basics of computer programming. After finishing this class students will be able to make their own digital footprint in a technology driven world.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

7782 FACS A - 1/2 credit

FaCS A is an introduction to two areas of Family and Consumer Science. The first area covered is food preparation, where students will learn basic skills to help them prepare healthy food on their own and make cooking fun! The second area covered will be sewing and textiles where students will learn the basics of how to run a sewing machine, how to hand sew and how to fix various clothing rips and tears. This introductory course will get students excited about FACS and what it has to offer.

7784 FaCS B – 1/2 credit

Students in FACS B will develop skills, knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors that are needed to be successful both in the classroom and life outside of school. Students in FACS B will learn to find their way around the kitchen, and develop basic food preparation skills to produce healthy, delicious meals and snacks. They will explore their hidden talents in the kitchen and learn how to make cooking FUN! Outside of the kitchen students will go through units on babysitting, CPR and first aid, color wheel, hand sewing and much more! FACS B is an introductory course that opens their minds to what Family and Consumer Science is all about.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

6657 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY A - 1/2 credit

This is an introductory class designed to give 7th Grade students exposure to different trades careers and the skills necessary for them. Through experience-based instruction students will learn basic measurement, plan reading, as well as learn the importance of soft-skills associated with different careers within the trades and elsewhere. Some topics may include, but are not limited to: Safety Practices Woodworking, Welding, Fabrication, Mass production, Career Research, Computer Aided Drafting (CAD), Engineering Structures, Manufacturing, Etc. Curriculum will have employability and soft skills development embedded within. Projects required for class will NOT have an extra fee to the student.

6659 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY B - 1/2 credit

This is an introductory class designed to give 8th Grade students exposure to different trades careers and the skills necessary for them. Through experience-based instruction students will learn basic measurement, plan reading, as well as learn the importance of soft-skills associated with different careers within the trades and elsewhere. Some topics may include, but are not limited to: Safety Practices Woodworking, Welding, Fabrication, Mass production, Career Research, Computer Aided Drafting (CAD), Engineering Structures, Manufacturing, Etc. Curriculum will have employability and soft skills development embedded within. Projects required for class will NOT have an extra fee to the student.

MUSIC – CHOIR

Choir at the Junior High level gives students the opportunity to explore singing in a group and to learn more about their voice in a fun atmosphere. **No experience or particular skill level are necessary** to be in choir - learning to sing is the point! The learning goals for these junior high centered ensembles are to develop the individual's ability to sing with healthy and free tone quality and to perform, in public, as a team. We also focus on concert etiquette, rehearsal expectations, and the history of choral music.

GRADING PROCEDURE: Grading is based on rehearsal progress, concert participation, music tests, and skill development. **Full year participation is required.**

7000/7003 CHOIR 7 - 1/2 credit for small day; 1 credit for a large day

This class is open to all 7th grade students, without audition, and meets daily to learn vocal music of contrasting styles and historical periods. The choir performs four concerts per year (Fall, Holiday, Winter, and Spring). This course includes fundamentals of music, rehearsal technique, quality choral literature, sight-singing, ear-training, movement, and healthy vocal technique. Students who are also in the 7th grade band will have choir every other day.

8000/8003 CHOIR 8 - 1/2 credit for small day; 1 credit for a large day

This class is open to all 8th grade students, without audition, and meets daily to learn vocal music of contrasting styles and historical periods. The choir performs four concerts per year (Fall, Holiday, Winter, and Spring). This course includes fundamentals of music, rehearsal technique, quality choral literature, sight-singing, ear-training, movement, and healthy vocal technique. Students who are also in 8th grade band will have choir every other day.

MUSIC - BAND

The band program offers students a unique learning process. Through private lessons and rehearsals, students are learning the basics of music as well as aesthetic values. Band provides students with a sense of accomplishment, responsibility and self-discipline, and adds to their quality of life. Students are exposed to a variety of music and experiences in the following groups. This learning experience represents Mora here and outside our community with pride. The band program includes: Junior Band, Varsity Band, Concert Band, Wind Band, Music Theory, Marching Band (Rifle Corps & Flags), Pep Band, Jazz Band, Solo/Ensemble Work. **Full year participation is required for students who register for band.**

7007/7008 Sem. 1 & 7009/7010 Sem. 2 BAND 7 - 1/2 credit for small day; 1 credit for a large day.

Students will be responsible for mastering the skills assigned each quarter - including scales, etudes, terms, and writing assignment. Small day students will have additional playing/writing assignments. Students will need to attend three concerts a year and will be encouraged to attend a variety of additional community service performances/projects we have throughout the year.

8004/8005 Sem. 1 & 8010/8011 Sem. 2 BAND 8 - 1/2 credit for small day; 1 credit for a large day.

Students will be responsible for mastering the skills assigned each quarter - including scales, etudes, terms, and writing assignments. Small day students will have additional playing/writing assignments. Students will need to attend three concerts a year and will be encouraged to attend a variety of additional community service performances/projects we have throughout the year.

Band 7 & 8 is open to all 7th and 8th graders with sufficient instrumental background as determined by the director. The Jr. Band marches at the annual Mora Fair Parade. A Jr. High Jazz Band will meet on Wednesday mornings.

GRADING PROCEDURE: Grading is based on concerts, lesson grades, rehearsal, testing and scale performance. Challenges are available and bands are re-seated each quarter.

PRIVATE LESSONS: Open to all students in grades 7-12 who desire to either begin to learn to play an instrument or who wish to achieve added technique and facility on an instrument. No prerequisite. Lessons are offered during the student's day or before or after school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

9511 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 - 1/2 credit

Students will participate in a variety of activities that will develop motor skills, teamwork, an understanding of the rules, strategies, and etiquette in those activities. Activities may include softball, tennis, football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, recreational games, floor hockey, skating, and bowling.

9522 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 – 1/2 credit

Students will participate in a variety of activities that will develop motor skills, teamwork, an understanding of the rules, strategies, and etiquette in those activities. Activities may include softball, tennis, football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, recreational games, floor hockey, skating, and bowling.

9945 HEALTH 8 - 1/2 credit

This course will give students the information that will enable them to make decisions that enhance individual, family, and community health. Eighth grade Health will focus on developmental factors that affect behavior, sexual harassment, body systems, nutrition, exercise and fitness, drug abuse, safety and first aid and communicable and non-communicable diseases. Students will make informed decisions regarding ways to promote physical, mental and social health.

READING

o809/o810 JH READING CLASS - 1 credit (Grades 7 & 8) (Teacher recommendation required)

The reading course offered at the junior high level is designed to help students become efficient, strategic, independent readers. During the course, students build a repertoire of research proven and effective reading strategies to use in all subject areas. Students also increase their vocabulary knowledge as they read both fiction and nonfiction texts. Standardized test scores and teacher recommendations, determine initial student placement. A combination of standardized test data, academic grades, and relevant behaviors are used to exit students from this intervention class.

o820/o821 JH READING FOR FUN – (Grades 7 & 8) - 1/2 credit

This class is designed to promote and encourage independent leisure reading as a pleasurable, meaningful, and educational experience. Classroom activities will include reading books both as a class and independently. The class will emphasize both literal and inferential thinking with a variety of activities. * Not offered in the 22-23 school year*

ADVISORY

9985 7TH GRADE ADVISORY – 1 credit

Advisory 7 allows students to explore various aspects of life, while also building upon their academic skills. Students will be exposed to a curriculum focused on character building, organizational skills, and academic progress. digital citizenship, and community building within school. In addition, students will be given designated reading and homework time to aid in their academic progress.

9989/9992 8TH GRADE ADVISORY – 1/2 – 1 credit (Teacher Recommendation ONLY)

Eighth Grade Advisory is a teacher recommended class for students to receive support from Mora staff and help students commit to making the high school experience positive and successful. Advisory students will learn to identify and overcome obstacles in an effort to achieve academic and personal success. During the Advisory class, students will be exposed to a curriculum focused on character building, organizational skills, and academic progress. digital citizenship, and community building within school.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

0269 JH SOCIAL THINKING - The purpose of this class is teaching individuals how to think about the social world in order to communicate more effectively. Strategies will be taught to help students learn to interpret and respond to abstract social information and produce related social skills for use in the classroom, home, and community. Students will learn about how they perceive students and how students perceive them in various situations. (Teacher Recommendation Needed, Grades 7-8)

0130 JH LITERACY - This class is a study of basic reading and writing skills. Students will use guided reading, which focuses on comprehension skills through exposure to a wide range of literature experiences; word study, which incorporates phonics, phonemic awareness, and vocabulary instruction; self-selected reading, which provides students experiences in independent reading time; and writing, focusing on the mechanics of composition and on communicating effectively. (Teacher Recommendation Needed)

0259 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 7: This course focuses on students' individual education goals and will vary based on student needs. This course offers the reteaching of general education classes at a level that is appropriately based on individual student needs. This class will also focus on learning social skills, organizational skills and preparing for their classes. After having a lesson focusing on these skills, students will be provided with time to work on goals or get organized. (Teacher Recommendation Needed)

0259 EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS 8 This course focuses on students' individual education goals and will vary based on student needs. This course offers the reteaching of general education classes at a level that is appropriate based on individual student needs. This class will also focus on learning social skills, organizational skills and preparing for their classes. After having a lesson focusing on these skills, students will be provided with time to work on goals or get organized. (Teacher Recommendation Needed)

**Make your decisions for future classes carefully,
so they become stepping stones to your future plans.**