8th Grade Courses:

All 8th Grade core courses are yearlong.

American History 8- Eighth grade social studies is a two semester course that includes the study of United States history from the Colonial period through to U.S. Reconstruction. This course also includes an introduction to U.S. government with study in the U.S. Constitution. In addition, the course also includes an introduction into basic economics. Tools used throughout the course include the Discovery Education online textbook, primary source documents, and videos as ways for students to analyze the impact of people, events, and ideas upon U.S. History.

Language Arts 8- These classes will integrate reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be expected to use reading strategies while analyzing various types of grade appropriate literature including short stories, novels, poetry, and informational text selections. We will use the writing process to develop expository, persuasive, and creative writing pieces. Grammar instruction will focus on standard English use and application through various activities.

Science 8- Eighth grade science will no longer be focusing on the area of Physical Science, but will now be Integrated Science as students will explore varying topics in the areas of Physical, Life and Earth Science and discover how the areas of all sciences are connected. Topics of discussion will include, but not limited to: Newton's Third Law of Motion, gravitational forces, electrical forces, magnetic forces, kinetic energy, stored (potential) energy, and characteristic properties and behaviors of waves. The class will also explore: selection for specific traits, roles involved in selective breeding, analyzing data from the fossil records, and constructing explanations for similarities in organisms. Additionally, topics in Earth Science include the Earth's place in relation to the solar system, Milky Way galaxy, and universe. There is a strong emphasis on a systems approach, using models, and problem solving in this course as students gather, analyze, and communicate evidence while formulating answers to questions and explaining real-world phenomena.

HS Physical Science-

High School and Middle School Dual Credit

This course is designed to investigate introductory areas of physics and chemistry and will build a knowledge base for the continued study of science. The curriculum will integrate the nature of science with topics of physical science including the following: evidence, models, and explanations; measurement, accuracy, and precision; scientific inquiry; structure and properties of matter; interaction and conservation of matter and energy; motion and forces; structure and interaction of atoms. Investigations will be approached in a qualitative and quantitative matter and will reinforce the developing mathematical skills of the students. Students must meet requirements approved by the SCS Board of Education to enroll in the course.

Mathematics 8 - Eighth grade math covers two semesters. Students will be working with number reasoning skills, building into irrational numbers and exponential expressions. Algebraic concepts will build into using the Pythagorean Theorem, solving equations and inequalities. Geometry will cover transformations and characteristics of two-dimensional shapes. Data analysis work includes scatter plots and making predictions to approximate line of best fit. Students in this class are preparing to move to the Algebra I course.

HS Algebra-
High School and Middle School Dual Credit Course
The following topics are discussed: linear equations, quadratic equations, properties of equations and the real numbers, negative numbers, inequalities, solving and factoring polynomials, functions, fractions, factoring, graphing, systems of equations, radicals, probability and statistics and associated word problems. Students must meet requirements approved by the SCS Board of Education to enroll in the course.

7th Grade Courses:

All 7th Grade Courses are yearlong.

Social Studies 7- World Geography and Cultures is a two semester course that overviews the physical and human geography of each continent of the World. This course explores the world's geographic regions in terms of the 6 Essential Elements of Geography: The World in Spatial Terms, Places and Regions, Human Systems, Physical Systems, Human/Environment Interaction, and the Uses of Geography .

Language Arts 7-These classes will integrate reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be expected to use reading strategies while analyzing various types of grade appropriate literature including short stories, novels, poetry, and informational text selections. We will use the writing process to develop expository, persuasive, and creative writing pieces. Grammar instruction will focus on standard English use and application through various activities.

Science 7 -7th grade science is changing this year. Instead of having one topic, Life Science, which we have had in the past, we will now be focusing on integrating the different sciences into one year. The topics covered during the Physical Science portion will include looking at the structure of matter as well as how chemical reactions take place in nature. This particular area will include many projects, experiments, and labs that will help the students grasp these abstract concepts in a more concrete way. When discussing the topic of Life Science our focus will be on ecosystems and everything that is encompassed within that topic. Including but not limited energy flow through an ecosystem, relationships that occur between parts of an ecosystem, and struggles that are occurring in our world's ecosystems that are both natural and man-made. Finally, we will be looking at Earth Science. Our main focus here will be on earth's many and

varied systems as well as the history of Earth and how it evolved over time to become the planet we are able to live on today.

Mathematics 7- Within a well-balanced mathematics curriculum, the primary focal points at Grade 7 are developing fluency with rational numbers and operations to solve problems in a variety of contexts, representing and applying proportional relationships, using expressions, equations, and inequalities to describe relationships in a variety of contexts including geometric problems. Students will communicate geometric concepts and measurement using multiple representations to solve problems, also including formulas. Lastly students will interpret and apply concepts of probability, including data analysis and graphic representation.

6th Grade Courses:

All 6th grade courses are yearlong.

Science 6- 6th grade Science is a year long course that allows students to become life-long learners and grow in their understanding of Science. Students will be able to participate in hands-on labs, create 3-D models, utilize technology and contribute to critical thinking prompts as they discover the following: The Scientific Method, The Earth's Systems, Weather and Climate, Growth Development and Reproduction of Organisms, Structure and Function of Information Processing, and Energy. Students will be expected to follow classroom and lab guidelines as they explore the Earth and make their way off of our planet and into the solar system.

Language Arts 6- These classes will integrate reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be expected to use reading strategies while analyzing various types of grade appropriate literature including short stories, novels, poetry, and informational text selections. We will use the writing process to develop expository, persuasive, and creative writing pieces. Grammar instruction will focus on standard English use and application through various activities.

Mathematics 6- All students will take Mathematics 6. Students will demonstrate relationships among fractions, decimals, percents, and integers. Communicating algebraic concepts using multiple representations to reason, solve problems, and make connections within mathematics. In the area of geometry the following areas will be a key: identify and create nets, coordinate planes, and perform and compare measurements and apply formulas. Lastly, students will communicate data analysis/probability concepts using multiple representations.

Social Studies 6-To understand today's world, students must learn about its past since many ancient civilizations laid strong foundations for modern cultures. In this course, students will learn how ideas, events, and people of those early ages have shaped our lives. We will study their culture, their beliefs and gods, and how the geography of the land influenced their way of life. Through interactive textbook with online student access, primary documents, videos, world

atlases, and writing, students will learn, analyze, and apply information from past to life in the present and plan for the future.

Specials/Exploratory Courses:

Physical Education and Health 6-Yearlong on A or B Days
This PE course will focus on the basics of fitness with bodyweight exercises such as push-ups, squats, and sit-ups. Fitness with be assessed by fitness testing four times a year in each quarter. This year will cover the introduction into sports such as volleyball, football, basketball and more.

Physical Education and Health 7-Year long
This class will build off the 6th grade level courses by adding in the element of officiating and the introduction of health for students. 7th grade year will continue to assess the level of fitness with testing four times a year and the introduction of weight lifting for the students.

Physical Education and Health 8-Year long
Fitness testing that will be done four times a year in each quarter. This year we will build on the element of fitness by teaching students how to create their own effective workout program. Sports will be organized to focus on mastering the basic skills along with understanding the strategy that is used in the various sports covered in this course.

6th Grade Art Course Description: Quarterly
Prerequisites- None
6th Grade Art is a Quarter course that will focus on the Elements & Principles of Design. Students will work with Line, 2D Shape, 3D Form, Balance, Value, Gradation, Color & Color Wheel and Pattern.

7th Grade Art Course Description-Quarterly
Prerequisites- None
7th Grade Art is a Quarter course that follows thru with the Elements & Principles of Design. Students will do project based works that deal with Line, Value & Gradation to change 2D shapes to 3D forms, Balance, Color, Texture, Space, Pattern and the study of 1 Point Perspective.

8th Grade Art Course Description-Quarterly
Prerequisites- None
8th Grade Art is a Quarter course that focuses on Graphic Design projects, 1 & 2 Point Perspective and Pottery. Continued emphasis is placed on the Elements & Principles of Design.

8th Grade Advanced Art Course Description: Semester

Prerequisites- 8th Grade Art and 7th Grade Art Preferred, Teacher Recommendation
This is a Semester course that covers Graphic Design, 2 Pt Perspective, Scratchboard, Grid Drawing, Pointillism, Surrealism, Clay Sculpture & developing a Sketchbook of Drawings.

Skills and Technical Sciences 6-Quarterly
The purpose of technology instruction is to give each student an introduction to possible future careers in technology and create an understanding of how they can use technology. The class combines computer based testing and instruction with practical hands on problem solving skills. Each student will work with a partner over eight days to complete a task or research a given topic. Topics include Rocket Science, Green Machines, CNC Manufacturing, Engineering bridges and many others. Students will also learn skills in record keeping, documentation, note taking and research techniques. Activities are designed to be educational, informative, challenging, creative and fun.

Skills and Technical Sciences 7-Quarterly
The purpose of technology instruction is to give each student an introduction to possible future careers in technology and create an understanding of how they can use technology. The class combines computer based testing and instruction with practical hands on problem solving skills. Each student will work with a partner over eight days to complete a task or research a given topic. Topics include Rocket Science, Green Machines, CNC Manufacturing, Engineering bridges and many others. In addition, students will be completing units in Discovery Education engineering and communications systems. During the quarter, students will have the opportunity to improve in skills such as record keeping, documentation, note taking and research techniques. Activities are designed to be educational, informative, challenging, creative and fun.

Skills and Technical Sciences 8- Quarterly-
The purpose of technology instruction is to give each student an introduction to possible future careers in technology and create an understanding of how they can use technology. The class combines computer based testing and instruction with practical hands on problem solving skills. Each student will work with a partner over eight days to complete a task or research a given topic. Students will focus in the area of robotics while completing other topics including Rocket Science, Green Machines, CNC Manufacturing, Engineering bridges and many others. Students will also learn skills in record keeping, documentation, note taking and research techniques. Activities are designed to be educational, informative, challenging, creative and fun.

Choir7/8 - Year long - Elective/No prerequisites
Students will acquire a basic knowledge of music theory and listening skills through in class performance, ear training and listening assignments. Students will explore music of varying styles and cultures by developing listening skills and musical understanding and sensitivity. This course will also emphasize developing good vocal production (with special attention to the changing voice) and the skills necessary to participate in unison, two-part, and three-part choral singing. Students will be involved in public performances, and attendance is mandatory.

General Music 7/8 - Semester
Students will acquire the basic knowledge of rhythm by exploring and learning the basics of different types of percussion music.

Choir/General Music 6 - Year long on A/B Days
Students will learn to read and sing 2 - and 3 - part music in this course. Students will be exposed to a variety of music genres and styles. They will enhance their knowledge of basic music concepts and will learn to use technical accuracy and expression in singing. The third quarter of this course is dedicated to project designed to enhance the students in their roles as music consumers. Students participate in one concert during the year.

Band 6-Year long
Prerequisites- 5th grade band or instructor approval
Students will continue to learn how to play their instruments. Although the curriculum is designed for students with one year of playing experience, students with no prior experience are welcome to participate. Students in 6th grade band will learn how to take care of and maintain their instruments. They will develop their tone, rhythm, reading and notation skills. They will be exposed to vocabulary of musical terms. Experiences in reading and performing in unison, as well as in harmony are included. In addition to large group ensembles, students are encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble contests. Students in 6th Grade band will perform in at least two concerts.

Band 7-Year long-
Prerequisites- 6th grade band or instructor approval
Seventh Grade Band is an ensemble whose primary focus is on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills begun the previous year that are necessary for effective performances. The 7th and 8th grade band will march in the labor day parade together. In addition to large group ensembles, the students are encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble contests. Students in 7th Grade band will perform with the 8th grade band in at least 2 concerts and a band contest if the director so desires.

Band 8-Year long-
Prerequisites- 6th and 7th grade band or instructor approval
Eighth Grade Band is an ensemble whose primary focus is on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills begun the previous year that are necessary for effective performances. The 7th and 8th grade band will march in the labor day parade together. In addition to large group ensembles, the students are encouraged to participate in solo ad ensemble contests and honor bands. Students in 8th Grade band will perform with the 7th grade band in at least 2 concerts and a band contest if the director so desires.

Computer Literacy 6-Quarterly
Students will demonstrate proficiency in the touch method of keyboarding, emphasizing accuracy; demonstrate personal responsibility for actions, exhibit a positive attitude toward technology that supports collaboration, learning and productivity and digital citizenship.

Computer Literacy I-Semester
This course exposes students to a variety of real-world technology skills essential for school success and beyond. The main focus is to master basic digital skills with an emphasis on responsible and ethical technology use. Students learn more about specific topics such as digital citizenship and safety, productivity skills using Google apps, and media literacy. The course integrates the Common Sense Media curriculum throughout the semester.

Computer Literacy II-Semester
*No prerequisite; Computer Literacy I preferred***.**
This course expands on the real-world technology skills essential for students' school success and beyond. The main focus is to master advanced digital skills with a continued emphasis on responsible and ethical technology use. Specific topics include the nine elements of digital citizenship, advanced productivity skills with GSuite apps, cross-curricular technology projects, and an introduction to coding. The course also integrates the Common Sense Media curriculum throughout the semester.

Coding I-Semester
Open to 7th and 8th graders.
Coding I is a hands-on introduction to computer science, where students use Code.org's program to learn how to create animations, web sites, and hands on problem solving skills. Students will also learn the importance of working together collaboratively, all while developing and expanding computational thinking skills to solve technology specific problems.

Coding II-Semester
Prerequisite: Successful completion of Coding I, Successful completion of Math 7 and ELA 7.
Coding II incorporates Code.org's Computer Science (CS) Discoveries curriculum. Students will use foundational computational thinking skills from Coding I and apply them to topics in this inquiry-based course. Units covered are Problem Solving; Design Process; and Physical Computing. Students will also be challenged to create their own app prototype in App Lab.

Financial Literacy 7-Quarterly
Students will learn key concepts about saving, budgeting, financial goals, identity theft, and the wise use of credit. Students will practice applying learned concepts through the discussion of concrete examples in preparation for playing Financial Soccer at the end of each quarter.

Personal Finance 8-Quarterly
Students will be introduced to finance vocabulary and will use terms to complete simulations where they will apply strategies to monitor income and expenses, plan for spending and save for future goals. The learning goal is to help students become financially responsible, conscientious members of society.

Family and Consumer Science 6-Quarterly
Students start the quarter by learning about the 6 Character Traits and applying them to real-life situations. Then, students are introduced to nutrition and its importance in their lives. This includes understanding how to use MyPlate, how to read a nutrition label, and how to make healthy choices in their everyday lives. We wrap up the quarter with a short unit on babysitting, which includes how to perform CPR, the Heimlich Maneuver, and how to use the AED.

Family and Consumer Science 7-Quarterly
Students will learn about hand sewing tools and how they are used. They will use the tools to demonstrate 3 different stitches and how to sew on a button. After that, students will identify the sewing machine parts and functions, so they can use it to construct their sewing project. The end of the quarter is used to learn about careers the students may be interested in and how to attain their career, including how to interview.

Family and Consumer Science 8-Quarterly
Students start the quarter by learning about relationships and recognizing the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships. Students will then identify and master the safety and sanitation procedures of the food lab. Finally, students will learn how to measure, use proper knife skills, how to read a recipe, and how to prepare different types of food. Students will participate in 5 cooking labs.

Broadcasting 1-Semester
Open to 7th and 8th grade students.
This course provides an overview of the broadcasting industry and how society communicates using media. Subjects to be covered include journalistic ethics, pre-production and post-production, scripting and storyboarding, equipment care, studio setup and safety. This course provides “hands on” experiences through the production of high school varsity events and class projects. Students will be expected to work in and out of class on the creation of the projects. Students will need access to a computer and internet capabilities after school hours to meet weekly submission deadlines. Students will be required to attend evening/weekend varsity events occasionally.

Broadcasting 2-Semester
Prerequisite: Successful completion Broadcasting 1, Open to 8th Students Only
This course provides a review of the broadcasting industry and how society communicates using media. Students will prepare and present information for a monthly TV news show. The course will include advanced broadcast writing, advanced audio techniques, advanced video

editing, live video production, and using media to tell stories. A working knowledge of the studio and study of station departments will be covered. Students will be expected to work in and out of class on the creation of the projects. Students will need access to a computer and internet capabilities after school hours to meet weekly submission deadlines. Students will be required to attend evening/weekend varsity events occasionally.

Yearbook 1-Yearlong
Open to 7th and 8th grade students, Instructor Approval

Students learn basic principles of yearbook production and develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines; interviewing; digital photography; desktop publishing; marketing and sales; layout and design; and using appropriate technology tools for media production. Students will be expected to work in and out of class on the creation of the yearbook. Students will need access to a computer and internet capabilities after school hours to meet weekly submission deadlines. Students will be required to attend evening/Saturday work sessions occasionally as deadlines approach.

Spanish I

Elective-Year Long

"B" or better average from 7th ELA during the previous year, Teacher Recommendation

Reading selections and conversations provide the background material for the development of basic vocabulary words. Grammar and language structures will be learned using thematic units. The cultural emphasis gives students an understanding of the way in which the people of the Hispanic world live. Students taking Spanish must be willing to spend time memorizing the extensive vocabulary, as well as use it to communicate orally.

Special Services

Newcomer ELA Course-Year long

Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. It is available all year long. In our program students learn survival vocabulary along with academic and content vocabulary through different selections of nonfiction and fiction literature. Our focus emphasizes the language development and acquisition in four main domains: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The course is taught in English with the support of the students' native language and are aligned to the Nebraska ELA and ELP Standards. In this class, students also learn to acculturate to U.S. schools and explore educational opportunities available in school.

Newcomer Science Courses-Year long

Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. It is available all year long. The main focus of this course is to learn the content and continue acquiring the language through the exploration of different concepts and implementation of various learning media modes: textbooks, articles, and videos. The course is taught in English with the support of the students' native language and is aligned to the Nebraska Science Standards. The main goal is to build a solid foundation in science before entering a more traditional ELL program or mainstream classroom.

Newcomer 6th Social Studies Course-Year long

It is available all year long. The main focus of this course is to learn about ancient cultures and explore the world while continuing acquiring the English language. The course is taught in English with the support of the students' native language and is aligned to the Nebraska Social Studies Standards. The main goal is to build a solid foundation in social studies before entering a more traditional ELL program or mainstream classroom.

Newcomer 7th/8th Social Studies Course-Year long

It is available all year long. The main focus of this course is to learn about the main events in the United States history, the US constitution, and also many historical and current facts about North and South America. Students continue acquiring the English language through a variety of exploring activities. The course is taught in English with the support of the students' native language and is aligned to the Nebraska Social Studies Standards. The main goal is to build a solid foundation in social studies before entering a more traditional ELL program or mainstream classroom.

Newcomer ELA Resource-Year long

Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. It is available all year long. In our program students receive a math resource class, in which skills and topics covered in the regular math class are reinforced with the support of visuals and the student's native language.

English Learners Courses-Yearlong

Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade ELL identified students. They are available all year long. These courses builds on the skills that were obtained during their year in Newcomers courses.

English Learners Resource-Yearlong

Open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade ELL identified students. It is available all year long. This course reinforces skills and topics that are covered throughout the day in his/her other classes.

Special Education Courses-Yearlong

Open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in the special education program. They are available all year long. These courses are available for students deemed by their IEP Team and/or case manager and administration.

Special Education Resource-Yearlong

Open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in the special education program. It is available year long. This course reinforces skill and topics that are covered throughout the day in his/her classes. Specific interventions are also incorporated into this time.