



## GRADE LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

New York State learning standards outline what a student should know and be able to do by the end of the grade level or band. There are also additional skills that a well-rounded student should possess. Listed below are examples of Batavia City Schools' academic expectations for eighth grade students. These should be viewed holistically and are not meant to determine promotion or retention; a student may demonstrate or be on track for proficiency without having mastered every skill.

Teachers intervene as appropriate to support skills development.

### READING

- Provide relevant, specific details from text to support answers, inferences
- Identify and analyze the central idea of a text
- Analyze text structure, point of view, use of dialogue
- Analyze how elements of plot & individuals, events, & ideas are developed

### WRITING AND LANGUAGE

- Produce both on-demand and process writing in various forms, using transitional words and phrases
- Use appropriate strategies to analyze and annotate a text when close reading
- Produce writing with appropriate development, organization, and style

### VOCABULARY

- Use context clues to determine the meaning of unknown words
- Understand figurative language in a text and identify the nuances in meaning
- Acquire and use grade-appropriate general academic and content area words

### LISTENING & SPEAKING

- Engage effectively in discussions with classmates, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly

### MATH

**Grade Level Fluencies:** Solve  $2 \times 2$  systems by inspection

**The Number System:** Approximate irrational numbers by rational numbers

**Equations and Expressions:**

- Work with radicals and integer exponents
- See connections between proportional relationships, lines, & linear equations
- Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations

**Geometry:**

- Understand congruence and similarity
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem
- Solve real-world problems involving volume of cylinders, cones spheres

## GRADE 8

Grade 8 students are screened three times per year to ensure that they are on track for reading and math skills. If screening results indicate that a student is at risk of not achieving proficiency, teachers will adjust instruction and intervene to address the need.

Likewise, students take periodic assessments in mathematics, English language arts, science and social studies to measure their progress toward standards.

**Grade 8 students take State Assessments in Mathematics, Science and English Language Arts.**

### TIPS FOR PARENTS

Set aside a designated homework space. Your student should do school work each night, even if work isn't due right away.

Ensure your student has a system for staying organized including recording dates that assignments are due, note taking, etc.

Encourage students to write daily. Keep a journal for students to make daily entries. They should use the strategies they learn in school. Writing about what they have read improves comprehension.

Ask your student to solve math mentally; expect a quick verbal response. Practice multiplication tables if answers are not automatic. Involve your student in tasks at home that require math like

### **Statistics and Probability:**

- Recognize a line of best fit for a data presented in a scatterplot
- Read and interpret a 2 way table

### **Functions:**

- Define, evaluate and compare functions
- Use functions to model relationships between quantities

### **SCIENCE**

- Understand & apply concepts, principles, theories related to the living environment
- Recognize the historical development of the ideas in life science: scientific method; cells; genetics; human body; evolution; ecology; classification
- Use scientific equipment to take measurements using standard metric units
- Complete conversions based on the standard units of grams, liters, and meters.
- Recognize that objects have properties that can be observed, described, and/or measured (e.g., density, temperature, mass, volume, etc.)
- Use scientific inquiry to demonstrate understanding of the scientific process and science concepts by making observations and testing proposed explanations, analyze using both conventional and invented methods, to provide insights into different phenomena.

### **BAND/ORCHESTRA**

- Practice new concepts introduced during lessons
- Apply them to music and exercises being practiced during Band/ Orchestra
- Learn universal practice and work disciplines
- Learn more advanced working-with-other skills in an ensemble capacity

### **CHORUS**

- perform a variety of repertoire while applying expressive qualities and an understanding of the context
- refine performances through teacher and student feedback
- explain reasons for selecting music based on interest, purpose, and context
- discuss strategies for reaching an important musical goal

### **HEALTH**

- Apply prevention and risk reduction strategies to adolescent health problems
- Demonstrate personal and social skills which enhance personal health and safety
- Distinguish between valid and invalid health information, products and services
- Analyze the multiple influences which affect health decisions and behaviors.
- Analyze how media and technology influence the selection of health information, products and services.



cooking, measuring, building, etc.

Teenagers benefit from a regular sleep schedule.

You should expect your student to catch up on missing work when they are absent. It is their responsibility to contact their teachers when they are missing from instruction.

If they are involved in Band, Orchestra or Chorus, it is recommended they practice at least 15 - 20 minutes a day.

Check SchoolTool Parent Portal regularly to ensure that your student's grades are up to date. Contact your student's teachers if you have questions regarding your child's assignments.

Encourage your student to participate in extracurricular activities. Involvement in sports and school clubs increases engagement in school.



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## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- Analyze the many post-Civil War efforts to heal the nation, the effects of Reconstruction on the South and the many negative impacts on the African American Population
- Understand and explain how industrialization and immigration led to urbanization of many northern cities and the growth of progressive reforms within the United States
- Continued analysis from early American history on causes of continued westward expansion , the long lasting impacts on Native populations and the expansion of the continental United States
- Analysis of the evolving American foreign policy with American Imperialism in Latin America and the Pacific Islands
- Analyze the various causes that contributed to WWI and how American involvement in the war significantly altered the lives of Americans during and after the war
- Describe the varying causes of the Great Depression on American society and the different governmental responses that bring more involvement of the Federal Government into American life
- Analyze WWII long term causes, progression of the war, the aftermath of war throughout the world and the international efforts to prevent future wars and human atrocities
- Analyze and describe international relationships post WWII during the Cold War, Korean War and Vietnam War

## **ART**

- Analyze, reflect, discuss and interpret artwork, identifying artists' inferences
- Research, discuss and demonstrate art from diverse cultures throughout time
- Use Elements of Art/Principles of Design to share meanings & ideas with others
- Use a variety of materials and tools, including digital technology media

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

- Demonstrate competence in varied motor and specialized manipulative skills
- Apply tactical concepts in physical activity
- Demonstrate safe, responsible, personal and social behavior

## **Family & Consumer Science**

- Demonstrate management of consumer resources, clothing, age-appropriate
- finances, human development, interpersonal relationships, personal environments and nutrition/wellness through hands-on, practical application
- Research and explore career options and their connection to the community

## **Career and Technical Education**

- Demonstrate introductory understanding of the personal skills, abilities, and aptitudes needed for success in technical careers.
- Demonstrate introductory understanding of systems of measurement and the ways accurate measurements assist technical workers.
- demonstrate appropriate and consistent use of policies, equipment, and techniques that foster workplace safety in technical careers.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

- Understand simple vocabulary and language structures in face-to-face dialogue & main ideas of longer conversations with unfamiliar vocabulary & structures
- Understand the main idea and some details of simple informative materials written for native speakers
- Compose short, informal notes and messages
- Understand some key cultural traits of the societies speaking the target language