

## Planned Course Instruction Summary

### Art 6

The Art 6 course was changed to reflect a connection and transition into the new Art 7 course. Art 6 will focus on perspective drawing, grid enlargement, color theory, pop art, and op art. Furthermore, students will have the opportunity to develop skills and techniques within each focus area, as well as, have the ability to appreciate the artwork they have created. These changes will create a consistent flow into the Art 7 course and build on the foundations learned in Art 6.

### Art 7

The Art 7 courses changes were developed because Art 8 was removed from the curriculum. It was redesigned to build on skills, techniques, and creative instincts from the Art 6. Furthermore, the students will be able to focus on some new areas of 3D and 2D design, as well as, further develop their artistic creative endeavors through technology integrated focus areas. Students will gain the ability to appreciate and justify his/her work within the Art 7 course.

### Computer 3, 4, and 5

Through Educational Reform, the recommendation was to allow students the opportunity to build computer skills at a younger age. These courses were designed to allow 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to have computer as part of their 'specials' rotation.

### Computer 6

Computer 6 is a semester elective course that focuses on internet safety and exposing students to a wide variety of online tools, software, and media arts.

### Computer 8

Computer 8 is a semester course (formerly 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade computer courses that were each a 9-week course) designed to educate and discuss digital citizenship, internet safety, word processing skills, presentation and spreadsheet introductions, and Web 2.0 skills.

### English Language Arts

There were revisions to all the ELA courses for 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Additionally, the ELA three of the ELA elective courses were pushed down to the middle level as elective course offerings for students in grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

### ELA Elective 6 - Reading and Writing Unlimited

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> grade middle level elective for English Language Arts. This course is designed to enrich a student's reading and writing experiences. Through guided lessons, students will read various genres and write on multiple topics.

### ELA Elective 7 - Creative Writing and Drama

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> grade middle level elective for English Language Arts. This course is designed to motivate the creativity of young writers and performers. It includes the reading and writing of poetry, mythology, short stories, and/or drama. Additionally, this course is an introduction to the elements of drama through the use of skits and/or dramatic performances.

### ELA Elective 8 - Science Fiction Fantasy

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle level elective for English Language Arts. Students will read works that examine the development of the mystery/detective genre and science fiction/fantasy genres. The course will include reading and analysis through discussion and writing.

### Reading 101 and Reading 201

These are the Reading 9, 10, 11, and 12 courses that are now Reading 101 and Reading 201. With the new Read 180U program, the program has students in the course for two years rather than spending four consecutive years in a tier II reading. Revisions were made to the planned course.

### Family Consumer Science 6

This is a new course that came from Educational Reform. Students will now learn about careers, babysitting and other essential life skills.

### Family Consumer Science 7

This course was made into a semester course which blended the FCS 7 and FCS 8 courses. Cooking and sewing were made into this semester elective course for middle level students.

### Health K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Health courses in elementary have been revised to begin 2018-2019.

### Health 7 and Health 9

Revisions took place with these two courses.

### Physical Education K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

P.E. courses in elementary have been revised to begin 2018-2019.

### Physical Education 6

This course was revised to add an additional 9-weeks to the course. The course was originally one-day per week for a year. It is now 90-day semester course for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### Physical Education 8

This course was revised to add an additional 9-weeks to the course. The course was originally one-day per week for a year. It is now 90-day semester course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### Introductory Spanish

This is similar to the former Spanish 8 course that used to be taught within the district approximately five to six years ago. Introductory Spanish is an introductory course designed to expose students to the Spanish language and culture. Students will learn basic words and phrases in Spanish, important cultural traditions throughout the Spanish-speaking world, where Spanish is spoken, and why knowing a second language is important and beneficial. This course is designed to serve students whom intend to take Spanish at the high school level, but is not a necessary precursor to Spanish One. New supplemental materials were purchased for this course.

### Research and Study Skills 6

This is a 9-week mandatory class for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students via Educational Reform. Students will learn research and study skills that will equip them to be ready for a career or college.

### Research and Study Skills 7

This is a 9-week mandatory class for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students via Educational Reform. Students will learn research and study skills that will equip them to be ready for a career or college.

### Statistics

This is a mathematics course that used to be a semester course. The course is now combined into one year-long mathematics high school course that will be considered a core mathematics credit for students. New textbooks were also purchased for this course.

### Mathematics 6 Elective – Math Collides with Real World

Students will learn how math intersects with sports, art, cooking, reading, and design. Through project based learning the connections between math and the real world will be discovered. Concepts of this course include mean, median, and mode; ratios in cooking; area and surface area; art and reading within mathematics; and 3-D designs.

### Mathematics 7 Elective – Authentic Math

Through project based learning the students will use math skills to solve real world situations. Concepts of this course include ratios and proportions; probability and statistics; planning a trip; money; and mathematics within the world of art.

### Mathematics 8 Elective – Financial Literacy

Students will apply mathematical skills into everyday living such as, budgeting money, paying bills, shopping and entertainment, etc. Students will learn about budgeting, recordkeeping, debit cards, credit cards, interest, loans, writing checks, and Online/Mobile banking.

## Science

All high school science courses were revised and high school textbooks were purchased during the 2017-2018 school year. In all, 24 courses were revised or created new. The new high school science electives are listed below.

### Science 6 – Elective – Astronomy and Space Science

Astronomy and Space Science is a one semester elective designed for sixth grade students. It will reinforce the middle level Earth science standards. Students will examine how the earth is part of a larger system in the universe. Students will learn how the sun and moon affect the earth as well as our solar system and the stars and galaxies that lay beyond it. Students will learn how scientists study such large and distant expanses of our universe.

### Science 7 – Elective – Exploring our Environment

Exploring Our Environmental is a one semester elective designed for seventh grade students. It will reinforce the Environmental and Ecology standards. Students will study populations and communities and the divisions of the earth into regions of study called Biomes. Students will be introduced to environmental and natural resource issues as they affect, and are affected by the human population. Focus will be placed on Pennsylvanian region. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology

### Science 8 – Elective – May the FORCE be with you

May the FORCE be with you is a one semester elective designed for eighth grade students. Students will explore wave, light, and electrical energies along with a look at magnets. Exploration of each of these will include careers, everyday life applications and include both activities and laboratories that focus on scientific inquiry

### Aquatic Ecology

This course will study the complex interactions within the aquatic ecosystem. An emphasis will be placed on the identification and classification of Pennsylvania aquatic species. The basic principles of Aquatic resource management and protection as well as aquatic resource are also discussed. Students will develop skills in making informed decisions and taking constructive actions. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology.

### Land Ecology

This course introduces students to the complexities of land ecology and soil types including structure, land habitat use, and evaluation of land forms, soil characteristics, and conservation

that impact habitat and society interactions. Students will develop skills in making informed decisions and taking constructive actions. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology.

Spring Semester Only

#### PA Habitat Ecology

This course focuses on Pennsylvania habitats, their biotic and abiotic parts, their identification, taxonomy, anatomy, physiology, growth and reproduction. The basic principles of forest habitats, habitat management, and environmental protection are discussed. Students will develop skills in making informed decisions and taking constructive actions dealing with habitat management and mediation. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology. Classroom studies are combined with field exercise.

Fall Semester Only

#### Wildlife Ecology

This course introduces the student to wildlife biology, ecology, and management. An emphasis will be placed on the identification and classification of PA wildlife species. The basic principles of wildlife ecology, conservation and issues involving wildlife, and society's impact on wildlife are also discussed. Students will develop skills in making informed decisions and taking constructive actions. Relevant lab activities will be incorporated throughout, utilizing scientific inquiry and appropriate technology. Classroom studies are combined with field exercise.

Spring Semester Only

#### Environmental Science and Environmental Science CP

This course went from a semester course to a year-long course. These courses will allow for additional understanding of Biology for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students prior to taking the Keystone exam(s) during the year of the Biology course. In addition, Earth Science was made into an elective course.

#### Social Studies 6

Revision of social studies 6 curriculum to combine PA Cultures with American Civics. This goes from semester courses to a year-long course and removes any overlap in each course.

#### Social Studies 6 Elective – Geography

This class is designed to lead students on an exploration of the world's continents. As they travel around the globe, they will discover new lands, new people, new cultures, and new ideas through the use of map skills, cooperative activities, and simulations.

#### Social Studies 7 Elective – World Investigations

Become a world investigator! How do we know what is going on around us? How do world events affect us? Through hands on research, activities, simulations and projects, students will explore current key themes and issues affecting countries around the world.

#### Social Studies 8 Elective – Histories Mysteries

Become a world detective! Who built Stonehenge? What was the purpose of the Terracotta Warriors? Was Atlantis real? Who was King Arthur? History is full of unexplained events. Through exploration, cooperative activities, and simulations students will examine numerous mysteries of World and American History.

#### Technology Education 7

Exploring and Applying Technology were 9-week courses in both 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. These courses were combined into a semester-long course via educational reform.

#### Technology Education 8

Creating Technology was made into a semester-long 8<sup>th</sup> grade elective course rather than a mandatory 9-week course. Revisions were designed to build an additional 9-weeks to this course for students who elect to take the course.

#### Character Education

Creation of character education course for special education.

#### Social Skills

Creation of social skills course for special education.

#### STEM 6, 7, and 8

*THESE COURSES ARE DONE THROUGH PROJECT LEAD THE WAY WHICH WILL ALLOW FOR THEIR SCOPE AND SEQUENCE TO BE FOLLOWED. HOWEVER, A PLANNED COURSE INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM MAP WILL BE DESIGNED BASED OFF OF THE PLTW CURRICULUM PURCHASED BY THE WCSD.*