

# Core Classes

- Every student will be enrolled in: **Language Arts, Math, History, Science and an Elective.**
- If students are interested in taking an honors class, they may indicate so on their course registration form. **Honors classes are offered for all core classes.** Placement will be dependent on CA state tests, district assessments and current transcripts.



## Pathways

Students may choose from 1 of the 3 pathways below. *Each Pathway has an application .*

### AVID

- (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is designed to increase school-wide learning and performance. Students learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable.

### International Baccalaureate (IB)

- Middle Years Program for International Baccalaureate. A rigorously challenging academic program for students that are self-motivated with a desire to achieve scholastic excellence. MYP is a challenging framework that encourages students to make practical connections between their studies and the real world.

### Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)

- This path is beneficial for any student with an interest in careers related to engineering, architecture, or robotics. Application Required. In two years, you will be instructed in:
- Computer Science Discoveries
- Robotics
- 3D Printing

## World History 7

- Students in grade seven study the social, cultural, and technological changes that occurred in Europe, Africa, America, and Asia from 500-1789. Students examine the growing economic interaction among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. They learn about the resulting growth of Enlightenment philosophy and the new examination of the concepts of reason and authority, the natural rights of human beings, and the divine rights of kings, experimentalism in science and the dogma of belief. Finally, students assess the political forces let loose by the Enlightenment, particularly the rise of democratic ideas, and they learn about the continuing influence of these ideas in the world today.

## U.S. History 8

- Eighth grade students study U.S. History and Geography as they learn about growth and conflict. The goal of the course is for students to learn about democracy, civic values, content knowledge, and culture. Units include our Colonial Heritage, American Revolution, Constitution, Civil War, and Rise of Industrial America. Students do presentations, develop magazines, research books, use the internet, and many simulations. Students learn to appreciate and understand the development of American, its history and its culture.

## Language Arts 7

- This course focuses on the development of the student's ability to use the writing process in response to literature and informational texts through the integration of reading, writing, speaking and listening standards. Writing standards identify three main types of writing applications - arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives. Spelling, vocabulary, and grammar are also included in the course of instruction.

## Language Arts 8

- This course focuses on the further development of the student's ability to use the writing process in response to literature and informational texts through the integration of reading, writing, speaking and listening standards. Writing standards identify three main types of writing applications - arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives. Eighth-grade students build on the communication and collaboration skills from earlier grades by analyzing literature as a means of increasing comprehension and critical thinking skills while citing textual evidence to support analysis of a text.

## Life Science 7

- Seventh grade science curriculum is the study of life sciences. Students will study and expand their knowledge of living systems to include the study of cells, genetics, the life-cycle, the theory of evolution and adaptation, the anatomy and physiology of living organisms, physical principles of living systems and the scientific method.

## Physical Science 8

- Eighth grade physical science is the study of motion, forces, and the structure of matter. Other areas addressed include the Earth, the solar system, chemical reactions, the chemistry of biological processes, the periodic table, density, and buoyancy. Mathematical rigor will be interwoven throughout the science curriculum.

## Math 7

- This course reinforces and builds upon mathematical skills taught in previous classes in order to prepare students for Algebra. The course content follows the California State Standards for 7th grade. Students will study fractions, decimals, percent, positive and negative numbers, and rational numbers; ratios and proportions; and practice solving algebraic equations. Students will develop and expand problem solving skills in order to solve word problems. Students will use manipulative, calculators, and some computer programs. A strong emphasis will be on understanding mathematical principles required for success in this course and as a foundation for future mathematics courses.

## Math 8

- The course content includes working with properties of real numbers, solving linear equations, graphing linear equations and functions, writing linear equations, solving and graphing linear inequalities, systems of linear equations and inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, quadratic equations and functions, polynomials and factoring, rational expression and equations, and radicals and connections to Geometry.