



Westwood Grades 7-8
2020-2021 REGISTRATION GUIDE



A photograph of a graduation ceremony at dusk. Graduates in blue gowns and caps are seated in bleachers, many with their arms raised and caps tossed into the air. The sky is a mix of blue and orange from the setting sun.

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WELCOME TO WESTWOOD 2020-2021!

Families of 7th and 8th grade students:

This is the time to make plans for the 2020-2021 school year. During middle school, students begin to have choices in the courses they take. As they explore and make selections for next year, we want students – and our middle school families – to be well informed.

This guide provides descriptions of classes that are available for students in grades 7-8 at Westwood. There are courses with various levels of academic rigor along with opportunities in music and electives.

Middle school course selection is a good time to begin thinking about future plans for high school and beyond. Selecting classes with each student's educational goals in mind is very important to us, and our team is ready to support students in the process.

In middle school, we focus on helping students establish productive work and study habits that will carry them into their high school and college years. This is also a time to explore. As students have an opportunity to go deeper into their interests and passions, there is a growing sense of Panther Pride in our classrooms, at our performances and on the field.

As you have questions about the opportunities available or want to connect further, reach out to your counselor or contact any one of us.

Tom Larson, Principal, tlarso@district16.org
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Our Purpose

Our district purpose – “High expectations. High achievement for all. No excuses.” – provides our focus to meet the unique and varied needs of each student.

Our Vision

Our vision for the future is to be a world-class learning community aligned around:

- Fostering personalized experiences so that each student feels valued, inspired, and has a sense of belonging,*
- Resulting in college readiness, and the development of academic, life and career skills so that each student has aspirations for success.*

MEET THE WESTWOOD PRINCIPALS AND DEANS

Administration



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Your Student Support Services Team

Westwood Middle School counselors work with students every day to support their academic, career and personal/social growth. Their work includes proactive school-wide programs and targeted interventions. Their focus – working with teachers, students and families – is to support high levels of academic achievement, appropriate student behavior and social growth, healthy choice making and a positive learning environment.

School counselors may meet with a student at any time unless otherwise indicated by families.

Counselors help students with:

- Academic planning and support
- Course, college and career planning
- Decision making and conflict resolution
- Individual/group counseling
- Difficult family situations
- Friendship concerns/issues
- Bullying concerns
- Personal/social skills
- Self-awareness
- Study skills and learning styles

Deans help families and teachers with:

- Academic planning information
- Assessment results interpretation
- Community resources
- Consultation
- Navigating education systems



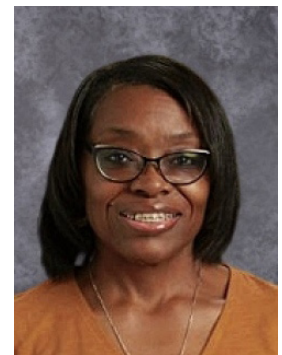
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HONORS COURSES

Honors Definition

An honors course parallels the curriculum offered in the corresponding standard course, yet should be qualitatively and quantitatively different, providing more depth and complexity to a range of students who are high achieving, passionate and/or innately curious. An honors course demands the highest level of participation, effort and quality, as well as the willingness to take academic risks from students.

As with any class, a teacher of an honors class develops and implements effective high-quality curriculum and experiences which recognize variance in learner needs. An honors course differs from the corresponding standard course in three ways: complex thinking, depth and use of time.

Complex thinking: Honors course learning requires the advanced ability to problem solve, synthesize knowledge, and use increased levels of divergent, critical, logical and abstract thinking. In an honors course, the content includes more abstract concepts and more interdisciplinary connections than in the regular classroom.

Depth: An honors course allows students to dive deeper into the content and moves students toward greater expertise in a subject area. Students will examine the big ideas, patterns and ethical dilemmas related to topics within the course. Students are encouraged to write, read, reflect and discuss like an expert in the field.

Use of time: An honors course allows for an increased amount of time for depth and breadth, with not as much time spent building recall knowledge. The content will have less repetition and fewer teacher led examples allowing students to engage more deeply with the content independently and collaboratively.

Recommendations for Student Success

Students should be prepared to develop or enhance their ability to:

- Advocate for their individual needs as a learner
- Access a challenging text independently
- Think creatively
- Manage time well
- Work independently and collaboratively
- Enjoy participating in dialogue and debate

Who can I speak with about whether an honors level class is the right fit?

Your teachers are the best place to start as they know a student's academic performance and skills the best. You can also contact your student's counselor. Find their contact information on page two.

AVID: ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION

What students are saying about AVID

“I’m way more organized than I was last year. It’s fun!”

–Sammy Brank

“It has given me confidence in public speaking. I love taking Cornell Notes. I love the method, it helps me remember everything we’ve done. It helps me be open to new experiences.”

–Kierionna Jackson

“It’s hard but I feel like it’s paying off. The tutorials really help you find answers to your questions and everyone is with you.”

–Adi Eminefendic

What is AVID?

AVID is a college readiness class for students in grades 7-11 at Westwood Middle School and Spring Lake Park High School. The AVID elective class opens the door to student’s college dreams, starting one period a day. In AVID, students practice organizational and study skills, learn to think critically, ask probing questions and receive academic help from peers and college tutors.

AVID prepares students to be college ready by enrolling them in the most appropriately rigorous courses, such as honors or Advanced Placement. AVID supports all students in achieving 12 college credits by the end of 12th grade (12x12).

AVID Anchors

The five main AVID anchors are known as WICOR, which incorporates teaching and learning methodologies in the following critical areas:

Writing, **I**nquiry, **C**ollaboration, **O**rganization and **R**eading.

Writing

- Students use formal writing to communicate

Inquiry

- Students build inquiry skills to be able to use higher-level thinking skills
- Students build questioning strategies to work through advanced classes

Collaboration

- Students become effective members of small and large groups

Organization

- Students use organizational tools in and outside of class
- Students learn to balance the demands of course work with outside activities

Reading

- Students use critical reading strategies to access and understand advanced text

Questions about AVID?

Contact Westwood at 763-600-5300 or Spring Lake Park High School at 763-600-5100.

Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: Language Arts

Honors Language Arts 7

Course Number: 7102

Grades: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students whose standardized test scores are in the range of 85th percentile and above

Students in 7th grade Honors Language Arts will engage in higher-level thinking skills, enabling them to meet the rigorous standards of the coursework. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are developed over the course of this class. An emphasis is placed on literary analysis which will be demonstrated through multiple engaging writing projects. Writing assignments will focus on well-developed paragraphs, multi-paragraph compositions and an extensive writing process. Students are encouraged to explore various genres for independent reading. These choices should challenge their reading ability. Students will need to be comfortable with text above grade level.

Language Arts 7

Course Number: 7101

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Language Arts is based on the Minnesota State Standards, which incorporate reading, writing, and speaking. Students will focus on reading and analyzing nonfiction and a variety of genres in literature that include grade-appropriate topics and vocabulary. Students will also have the opportunity to write for various audiences to inform, persuade and entertain. Finally, the class will focus on strengthening speaking and listening skills through the art of discussion.

Honors Language Arts 8

Course Number: 8102

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students who standardized test scores are in the range of 85th percentile and above

In addition to the Minnesota State Standards that are covered in Language Arts 8, students in 8th grade Honors Language Arts will continue to engage in established higher-level thinking skills, enabling them to meet the rigorous standards of the coursework. We want the students to take their learning and make global, political and cultural connections. Literature, writing, speaking and listening skills are developed over the course of this class. The content of the course focuses on fiction and nonfiction reading skills and strategies, as well as vocabulary building and literature analysis skills. There is an emphasis on developing student responsibility for independent reading. Writing requirements for 8th grade include a variety of writing assignments including but not limited to: response to literature, descriptive writing, compare and contrast, cross-curricular essay writing, and persuasive research essay. Writing assignments will focus on well-developed paragraphs and multi-paragraph compositions and developing independent revision skills through the use of a writing process. Students are expected to explore various genres for independent reading. These choices should challenge their reading ability.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Language Arts***

Language Arts 8

Course Number: 8101

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

This course further develops reading, writing and speaking skills as stated in the Minnesota State Standards. Reading skills include: topic, main idea, supporting details, fact and opinion, theme, inferences and drawing conclusions, author's purpose, point of view and vocabulary. Students in 8th grade Language Arts will work to develop higher-level thinking skills. Students are required to read independently on a daily basis. In addition to reading, students will enhance their writing skills through essays. The writing curriculum requires students to complete a research persuasive essay, character description, compare-contrast essay and a short story. Speaking components include large and small group discussions as well as, formal and informal presentations. Student development is assessed through a variety of projects, essays, tests and socratic seminars.

Math II (7th grade standards)

Course Number: 7111

Grade: 7th grade

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

During this course students will be learning the following skills and concepts:

- Operations on rational numbers (integers, positive/negative fractions and decimals)
- Ratio and proportion concepts (percent, similar figures, probability, unit rate, scale factor)
- Surface area and volume of 3-D figures
- Simplifying and evaluating numerical and algebraic expressions
- Solving basic equations
- Analysis and representation of data (histogram, stem-and-leaf plots, circle graphs and line plots)

Pre-Algebra (8th grade standards)

Course Number: 7112 (7th) or 8111 (8th)

Grades: 7th and 8th grade

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Post-Secondary Connection: Students in 6th and 7th grade are eligible for this class if they meet the criteria entering middle school

During this course students will be learning the following skills and concepts:

- Simplifying and evaluating algebraic expressions including absolute value
- Solving multi-step equations and inequalities
- Representing linear and exponential functions in patterns, graphs, tables, and equations/rules
- Using the Distributive Property to multiply
- Slope and associates
- Solving systems of equations
- Converting between various forms of linear equations (point-slope, slope-intercept, and standard form)
- Applying the Pythagorean Theorem to find missing parts of right triangles
- Simplifying expressions with exponents including Scientific Notation

Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Mathematics**

Quadratic Algebra (9th grade standards)

Course Number: 7113 (7th) or 8112 (8th)

Grades: 7th and 8th

Credits: 3 Middle School Credits and 3 High School Credits

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: successful completion of Pre-Algebra

Post-Secondary Connection: Students in 7th and 8th grade are eligible for this class if they meet the criteria entering middle school. This is a high school level course, successful completion earns 3 High School Credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School.

This course is a continuation of the Algebra course started in 8th grade that delivers traditionally rigorous algebraic content using a problem-based approach. It has strong threads woven throughout the course on multiple representations and the meaning of a solution. A major focus of the course is to develop multiple strategies to solve problems and to recognize multiple ways of understanding concepts, especially as it pertains to quadratic and exponential functions. Students will also maintain knowledge of linear functions.

Geometry (10th grade standards)

Course Number: 8113

Grade: 8

Credits: 3 Middle School Credits and 3 High School Credits

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: successful completion of Quadratic Algebra

Post-Secondary Connection: Students in 8th grade are eligible for this class if they meet the criteria entering middle school. This is a high school level course, successful completion earns 3 High School Credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School.

The course is structured around problems and investigations that build spatial visualization skills, conceptual understanding of geometry topics, and an awareness of connections between different ideas. It emphasizes several big ideas in an integrated algebra/geometry context. The key concepts addressed in this course are: inductive reasoning, deductive reasoning, construction, symmetry, transformations, congruence, similarity, Pythagorean Theorem, area, volume, and right triangle trigonometry.

Honors Life Science 7

Course Number: 7122

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

In 7th grade Honors Life Science students will complete a rigorous study of living things and the world around us, including: Matter, Cells, Genetics, Evolution, Interactions of Living Things, Disease and the process of “doing” science. This course moves at a faster pace and covers material in more depth than the standard life science class. Students are expected to maintain a high quality science notebook, work frequently in cooperative groups, problem solve, ask questions and apply their learning to new situations. Students will write and speak about science in an academic setting. This course requires some at-home work, however, students are expected to fully participate in a variety of in-class activities to meet their learning targets.

Life Science 7

Course Number: 7121

Grades: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

In 7th grade Life Science students will study living things and the world around us, including: Matter, Cells, Genetics, Evolution, Interactions of Living Things, Disease and the process of “doing” science. Students are expected to maintain a science notebook, work frequently in cooperative groups, problem solve, ask questions and apply their learning to new situations. This course requires little at-home work, however, students are expected to fully participate in a variety of in-class activities to meet their learning targets. There will be a heavy emphasis on learning and retaining vocabulary as it pertains to each of the units.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Science***

Honors Earth Science 8

Course Number: 8122

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

The aim of this course is to develop an understanding of the phenomena of the natural world through a study of the Earth Science. Topics will include Astronomy, Weather, Geology, Paleontology and Chemistry. Students will use the Argument-Driven Inquiry process to engage in hands-on activities to explain the 24 hour day, the phases of the moon and the effect of gravity/inertia. Students will engage in reading a novel around weather and the water cycle to teach the use of maps, the effect of global weather on local patterns and the ability to make forecasts based on weather patterns. Studies in Geology and Paleontology will help students understand Constructive and Destructive Forces in the formation of earthquakes, volcanoes and the rock cycle, as well as, how to use rock layers to infer fossil ages. Chemistry will cover the basics of acid/base reactions, the conservation of matter and chemical versus physical reactions.

Earth Science 8

Course Number: 8121

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

The aim of this course is to develop an understanding of the phenomena of the natural world through a study of the Earth Sciences: Astronomy, Weather, Geology, Paleontology and Chemistry. Students will use astronomy to explain the 24 hour day, the phases of the moon, and the effect of gravity/inertia. Studying weather and the water cycle will teach the use of maps, the effect of global weather on local patterns and the ability to make forecasts based on weather patterns. Studies in Geology and Paleontology will help students understand Constructive and Destructive Forces in the formation of earthquakes, volcanoes, and the rock cycle, as well as, how to use rock layers to infer fossil ages. Chemistry will cover the basics of acid/base reactions, the conservation of matter and chemical versus physical reactions. There will be an emphasis on learning and retaining vocabulary within each unit.

Honors American Studies 7

Course Number: 7132

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

This course is the study of United States history from early 1800s up to the War on Terror. In American Studies Honors, students are expected to be motivated to work independently in and out of the classroom. The class will move at a faster pace, involve significant research, critical thinking and students will be required to actively participate in rich classroom discussion. There will be more essay writing outside of the classroom and most reading materials will be above grade level. Student product and assessments will be held to a higher standard.

American Studies 7

Course Number: 7131

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

This course is the study of United States history from the early 1800s up to the War on Terror. In this course, students explore economic, political and social events from multiple perspectives. This is accomplished through investigating many sources, including primary and secondary sources. Students will be involved in small and large group discussions as well as individual work. Students will explore current world events and integrate them into the curriculum and connect to historical content throughout the year.

Honors Geography 8

Course Number: 8132

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Students in 8th grade geography will be exploring the regions of the world using geographic information from a variety of sources. Students will also analyze important trends in the modern world that will continue to impact our lives. In addition to human and physical geography, students will study historical events that have occurred in the last half century that have shaped the contemporary world.

Geography 8

Course Number: 8131

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Students in 8th grade Geography will be exploring the regions of the world using geographic information from a variety of sources. Students will also analyze important trends in the modern world that will continue to impact our lives. In addition to the geography of our world, students will study historical events that have occurred in the last half century that have shaped the contemporary world.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Social Studies***

Honors Spanish American Studies 7

Course Number: 7134

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students who are either in the Spanish Immersion track or have met the criteria for Juntos

Students will study the material of this course in the native language of Spanish. This course is the study of United States history from early 1800s up to the War on Terror. In American Studies Honors, students are expected to be motivated to work independently in and out of the classroom. The class will move at a faster pace, involve significant research, critical thinking and students will be required to actively participate in rich classroom discussion. There will be more essay writing outside of the classroom and most reading materials will be above grade level. Student product and assessments will be held to a higher standard.

Spanish American Studies 7

Course Number: 7133

Grade: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students who are either in the Spanish Immersion track or have met the criteria for Juntos

Students will study the material of this course in the native language of Spanish. This course is the study of United States history from the early 1800s up to the War on Terror. In this course, students explore economic, political and social events from multiple perspectives. This is accomplished through investigating many sources, including primary and secondary sources. Students will be involved in small and large group discussions as well as individual work. Students will explore current world events and integrate them into the curriculum and connect to historical content throughout the year.

Honors Spanish Geography 8

Course Number: 8134

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students who are either in the Spanish Immersion track or have met the criteria for Juntos

Students will study the material of this course in the native language of Spanish. Students in 8th grade geography will be exploring the regions of the world using geographic information from a variety of sources. Students will also analyze important trends in the modern world that will continue to impact our lives. In addition to human and physical geography, students will study historical events that have occurred in the last half century that have shaped the contemporary world.

Spanish Geography 8

Course Number: 8133

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: Students who are either in the Spanish Immersion track or have met the criteria for Juntos

Students will study the material of this course in the native language of Spanish. Students in 8th grade Geography will be exploring the regions of the world using geographic information from a variety of sources. Students will also analyze important trends in the modern world that will continue to impact our lives. In addition to the geography of our world, students will study historical events that have occurred in the last half century that have shaped the contemporary world.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Physical Education and Health***

Physical Education/Health 7

Course Number: 7141 or 7142

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5 (7141) or 3 (7142)

Type: Full year, every other day

Fee: Students will need to purchase a gym t-shirt for \$5

Physical fitness and wellness are promoted and supported throughout the curriculum. Pre-fitness testing is used as a tool for student goal-setting for fitness growth. Units that are studied include team, individual and recreational sports. Daily participation and sportsmanship are required. Students are expected to change into Phy. Ed clothes and wear tennis shoes. Health will be integrated throughout the school year. In 7th grade health, students will develop and practice health enhancing behaviors and learn to avoid health risks through units such as decision making, tobacco, alcohol, nutrition, body image and eating disorders.

Physical Education/Health 8

Course Number: 8141 or 8142

Grade: 8

Credits: 1.5 (8141) or 3 (8142)

Type: Full year, every other day or full year, every day

Fee: Students will need to purchase a gym t-shirt for \$5

Physical fitness and wellness are promoted and supported throughout the curriculum. Pre-fitness testing is used as a tool for student goal-setting for fitness growth. Units that are studied include team, individual and recreational sports. Daily participation and sportsmanship are required. Students are expected to change into Phy. Ed clothes and wear tennis shoes. Health will be integrated throughout the school year. In 8th grade health, students will develop and practice health enhancing behaviors and learn to avoid health risks through units such as communication, decision making, drug use, mental health awareness and abstinence based sex education.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Art***

Art 7

Course Number: 7111

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

This class builds on the concepts learned in Art 6, using different projects and art styles for more advanced learning. Students taking this class will learn how to analyze, design and create artworks in a variety of media; such as drawing, etching, painting, pastels and clay. Students in this class are challenged to develop 21st century skills such as creativity & innovation, critical thinking & problem solving, communication (visual and verbal) and collaboration to help them be successful in their 21st century lives.

Art 8

Course Number: 8011 or 8012

Grades: 8

Credits: 3 (8011) or 1.5 (8012)

Type: Full year, every day or full year, every other day

Students taking Art 8 will continue to learn how to analyze, design and create artworks in a variety of media including, but not limited to drawing, painting, clay and other sculpture materials. Artistic themes are incorporated into most of the projects, so students really have a chance to be creative and personalize their artwork. Students in this class are challenged to develop 21st century skills such as creativity & innovation, critical thinking & problem solving, communication (visual and verbal) and collaboration to help them be successful in their 21st century lives.

Juntos I

Course Number: 7051

Grades: 7

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: successful completion through Immersion Spanish or Pre-Juntos

Post-Secondary Connection: This is a high school level course. Successful completion earns 3 High School Credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School.

The word Juntos translated into English means "together." Juntos is a combination of students that have been in the Spanish Immersion track since elementary school and combine with Heritage Spanish speakers to learn Language Arts Targets in 7th grade. Students will engage in critical thinking skills through cultural exploration. This course emphasizes culture of Spanish speaking regions, literature, grammar, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students will learn the same targets as those in Language Arts 7, but will be in the target language of Spanish.

Juntos II

Course Number: 8051

Grades: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

Prerequisite: successful completion through Juntos I

Post-Secondary Connection: This is a high school level course. Successful completion earns 3 High School Credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School.

The word Juntos translated into English means "together." Juntos is a combination of students that have been in the Spanish Immersion track since elementary school and combine with Heritage Spanish speakers to learn Language Arts Targets in 8th grade. Students will engage in critical thinking skills through cultural exploration. This course emphasizes culture of Spanish speaking regions, literature, grammar, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students will learn the same targets as those in Language Arts 8, but will be in the target language of Spanish.

Intro to German

Course Number: 1071

Grades: 7 or 8

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

Herzlich Willkommen! This course is an introduction to the wonders and peculiarities of the German language and culture, and it is taught using engaging stories and personalized instruction! At the end of this course, students will be able to read, write, listen and speak in German using the most common vocabulary and phrases. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities and crafts, learn about German traditions and customs and maybe even try some interesting German foods. In taking Intro to German, students will acquire new perspectives, exciting opportunities and a strong foundation for language learning. Students may also gain advantages for high school and college studies (see German 1). This is just the beginning adventure in learning German, so all students are welcome!

Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **World Language**

German I

Course Number: 8071

Grades: 8

Credits: 3 Middle School Credits and 3 High School Credits

Type: Full year, everyday

Post-Secondary Connection: This is a high school level course. Successful completion earns 3 high school credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School. Students taking German in high school will have the option of earning up to 10 college credits through the University of Minnesota's College in the Schools (CIS) program.

Sprichst du Deutsch? ¿Quieres hablar alemán? Do you want to speak German? Taking German 1 is an excellent way to get a head start on language studies and try something different. This course is designed to be interactive, communicative, challenging and FUN! In German 1, students will explore the wonders and peculiarities of the German language and culture using engaging stories and personalized instruction! At the end of this course, students will be able to read, write, listen and speak in German using high-frequency vocabulary and phrases. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities and crafts, learn about German traditions and customs, and maybe even try some interesting German foods. In taking German 1, students will gain new perspectives, exciting opportunities, and advantages for high school and college studies (see Post-Secondary Connection). This is just the beginning adventure in learning German, so all students are welcome!

Intro to Spanish

Course Number: 1061

Grades: 7 and 8

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

This course will introduce students to the basics of Spanish language and culture. Students will use TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling), to learn many of the 100 most frequently used Spanish words! With fun and exciting stories, and a lot of repetition, students will be able to speak, write, read and listen to Spanish! The learning objectives include familiarizing students with basic vocabulary, plus oral and written use of vocabulary words. Students will study the culture to better understand the Spanish speaking people and their customs.

Spanish I

Course Number: 8061

Grades: 8

Credits: 3 Middle School Credits and 3 High School Credits

Type: Full year, everyday

Post-Secondary Connection: This is a high school level course. Successful completion earns 3 high school credits on the student's high school transcript through Spring Lake Park High School.

This first year Spanish course opens the door to experiences in the language and cultures of the Spanish speaking world. Language and culture are learned through a variety of activities including: videos, audio segments, online activities, paired communicative activities, cooperative work, language related projects, songs, games and storytelling. Students will learn structures and vocabulary, which will enable them to communicate about their families, friends, likes and dislikes, school, food, weather, leisure activities, time, numbers and other various common activities. Start the language adventure here in la clase de español uno!

STEM 7

Course Number: 7081

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

STEM is an integrated, interdisciplinary curriculum involving science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The curriculum involves students looking at and trying to understand real-world issues through exploration, inquiry and problem-solving experiences. This STEM class provides opportunities for students to think critically and creativity as well as practice effective collaboration, research skills and communication.

STEM 8

Course Number: 8081

Grade: 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

In STEM 8, students learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Students will learn to problem-solve and explore how STEM principles are used in activities such as manufacturing, farming, engineering and product development. Using research, experimentation and the scientific method, students will know that there are multiple ways to solve problems and that every solution has positive and negative aspects. With everyday STEM, students go more in-depth with projects like hovercraft building and testing, Java Script programming and experimental design. Experiments in everyday STEM include more variables, more data and more choice regarding projects.

STEM 8

Course Number: 8082

Grades: 8

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

In STEM 8, students learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Students will learn to problem-solve and explore how STEM principles are used in activities such as manufacturing, farming, engineering and product development. Using research, experimentation and the scientific method, students will know that there are multiple ways to solve problems and that every solution has positive and negative aspects. In every other day STEM, students work with experimental design situations with limited variables that allow students to complete their projects in the shorter time period.

Epic Design in Game-Making

Course Number: 1081

Grade: 7-8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, everyday

In this course, students will be introduced to the Technology, Engineering and Design and Business and Entrepreneurship Pathways through the design, creation and launch of a digital game. Students will have the opportunity to pitch, program, promote, and play while building on their strengths and/or interests in areas such as digital art, coding, storytelling and problem solving. Students will take on specific roles, set goals and complete game projects with a team.

*Westwood 2020-2021 Registration Guide: **Music***

Band 7

Course Number: 7031 or 7032

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5 or 3

Type: Full year, every other day or every day

7th grade band is a continuation of sixth grade band experience. It is a yearlong commitment and bands perform twice per year. Students receive individual/small group lessons. Rhythmic skills include rhythms up to dotted quarter notes and syncopation and includes playing in keys of Bb, Eb and F concert.

Band 8

Course Number: 8031 or 8032

Grade: 8

Credits: 1.5 or 2

Type: Full year, every other day or every day

8th grade band is a continuation of seventh grade band experience. It is a year-long commitment and bands perform twice per year. Students receive individual/small group lessons. Rhythmic skills include rhythms up to sixteenth note patterns and includes playing in keys Bb, Eb, F and Ab concert.

Choir 7

Course Number: 7041

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

This course further develops opportunities in creating, listening to, performing and responding to music. Through the study of vocal music, students will learn about the elements of melody, rhythm, form, texture, harmony, timbre and expression in music. Vocal development through the voice change will be a major theme. A variety of choral music representing many styles and cultures will be used throughout the year. Students will demonstrate their learning both in class and during public performances in the evening. Concerts take place approximately twice per school year.

Choir 8

Course Number: 8041

Grade: 8

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

This course provides extended opportunities in creating, listening to, performing and responding to music. Through the study of vocal music, students will learn about the elements of melody, rhythm, form, texture, harmony, timbre and expression in music. Vocal development through the voice change will be a major theme. A variety of choral music representing many styles and cultures will be used throughout the year. Students will demonstrate their learning both in class and during public performances in the evening. Concerts take place approximately twice per school year.

Music 7

Course Number: 7021

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.5

Type: Full year, every other day

This course further develops opportunities in creating, listening to, performing and responding to music. Keyboard will be the primary instrument, however a variety of instruments including percussion and the voice will be used to teach the elements of melody, rhythm, form, texture, harmony, timbre and expression in music. A major theme will be an exploration of several American cities and of the musical styles and composers that developed there. A variety of classroom performances and activities will take place.

AVID

Course Number: 7091 or 8091

Grade: 7 and 8

Credits: 3

Type: Full year, every other day

AVID Elective opens the door to a students' college dreams starting with one period a day, where 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. AVID places these students on the college track, requiring them to enroll in the most rigorous courses that are appropriate for them, such as Honors and Advanced Placement®. To support them in the rigorous coursework, AVID students learn organizational and study skills, develop critical thinking, learn to ask probing questions, receive academic help from peers and tutors and participate in enrichment and motivational activities to make their college dreams reality.



SPRING LAKE PARK SCHOOLS

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