

Asa Clark Middle School



COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE 2010-2011

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<http://www.pewaukee.k12.wi.us>

We are: ~ Passionate about academic excellence ~ Committed to fostering positive citizenship ~ Dedicated to inspiring all students to flourish

WELCOME TO ASA CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL'S COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

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MESSAGE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS AND STUDENTS

It is our desire that your child have the best opportunities possible to prepare them for high school and beyond. We feel that the middle school years should provide opportunities for exploration and for in-depth studies. Whatever the program is, it should be one that is well planned and thought out with the present and future in mind. It is our feeling that we have put together a strong middle school curriculum that is exciting as well as challenging.

The 2010-2011 school year promises to be exciting. The Asa staff has committed itself to looking for improved methods to deliver our curriculum to children. Our innovative 5 x 5 schedule:

- Offers a better setting for quality instruction and student learning
- Offers increased quality instruction in the critical areas of mathematics, language arts, and world language
- Maintains several key components of a quality middle school program, including our resource/academic support program and our team approach to working holistically with each child
- Offers students and parents a variety of allied elective choices
- Offers a better transition to, and preparation for the rigors of high school and beyond.

We hope you share our excitement regarding our educational program and the opportunities it brings for improved student success and achievement. We at Asa Clark Middle School want to challenge your child to reach their full potential while providing the support they need along the way.

Randy Daul
Principal

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMMING NEEDS

The Special Education program at Asa Clark Middle School provides for students with a variety of disabilities including learning disabilities, speech and language, cognitive disabilities, emotional/behavior disturbances, and visual or hearing impairment. Depending on each student's individual needs, an appropriate program is developed to accommodate his/her educational goals. The student's program is then implemented within the least restrictive environment.

STUDENT SERVICES/GUIDANCE

Student services are available for every student in the school. Student services are integrated throughout the curriculum and also include individual assistance with educational planning, career information, and other school and personal concerns.

TALENTED AND GIFTED PROGRAM (TAG)

The TAG program meets the needs of talented and gifted students through three levels of programming. Level 1 takes place in the regular classroom through differentiation. Level 2 programming continues in the regular classroom, but takes the form of acceleration, compacting, enrichment or an appropriate combination of these factors. In addition, students may participate in special events or activities either in or out of their classroom, including the National Geography Bee and Scripps Spelling Bee. Students identified as gifted and eligible for Level 3 programming meet by grade level approximately once a week during resource.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION PLAN: RESOURCE

To meet the individual needs of all students, the last period of the day is designated for "resource". This time is used for completing assignments, making up work missed, getting individualized help in any subject, receiving guided support services and utilizing additional resources available such as the computer lab and the library.

All students are assigned a resource teacher using multiple sources of data and teacher recommendations. We also take into consideration the many strengths of our staff here at Asa Clark and their abilities to work with students with varying needs. Within this resource model we have created a structure that allows the teacher more one-on-one time with each student, taking on an advisor/advisee role as well as the flexibility to change a resource placement if and when the needs of the student change.

THE SCHEDULING PROCESS

The scheduling process is the shared responsibility of students, parents, teachers and counselors. All of these people contribute ideas and information that result in effective educational programs for students. Since student educational programs have implications for post-high school education and eventual career choice, careful planning is required.

Parents assist students in the selection process by discussing alternatives with them and by helping them analyze their individual interests, needs and goals. Involvement of parents provides students with the support, encouragement and knowledge that are needed for this important step in educational career planning.

Teachers are available to discuss the curriculum with students in an effort to provide understanding of the many options that are available. Students are encouraged to seek their teachers' recommendations before enrolling in some courses so that they are appropriately placed and meet the prerequisites.

The counselor is available to assist students, parents and teachers in developing a sound educational program. The counselor has skills, experience and accessibility to the information needed to help students in the selection process.

Students are provided with information about all the subjects available to them. They must choose those subjects which give them knowledge and skills that are necessary as determined by their current educational and career plan.

The Importance of Course Selection

If students give careful thought to the future, they will realize that course selection is a means to an end, not an end in itself. They are encouraged to seek as much information as needed from parents, teachers, counselors and other students in order to make the wisest choices. Personal conferences can be arranged with teachers or counselors by calling the school office.

ART DEPARTMENT

ART I

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Fee: \$20

Whether or not you enjoy drawing, you will have fun in Art I. You will learn interesting facts about famous artists. For instance, did you know that a very famous American artist (that Time magazine called “Jack the Dripper”) couldn’t draw well? Did you know that Vincent van Gogh, creator of hundreds of drawing and paintings, only sold one painting in his lifetime? Students will discover these and many other facts about famous artists’ lives, times and artwork as they explore major art movements between the 1850’s through the 1950’s in this one semester elective class. Inspired by these artists, students will create a variety of colorful, unique self-expressive 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional projects using media such as gel pens, acrylic paints and Sculpey clay.

Art I culminates with a student-choice project. Students not only choose the media they would like to work with, but they design and create their own project as well.

ART II

Grade: 8

Elective Year - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: None

Fee: \$40

Do you long to paint, draw, sculpt, make prints and explore new media? In this year-long elective course, students will practice creative problem-solving as they experiment with a variety of 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional media that may include acrylic paint, pastels, digital photography, paper mache, clay and wire. All projects emphasize imaginative self-expression and visual literacy through a focus on the elements and principles of design. Students will explore artists and artwork from the Modern Art movement within the United States.

Art II students create artwork for the school community and for several state and local art shows. In the Spring, students travel to Chicago for a day-long field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago where they enjoy original artwork created by many of the famous artists studied in both Art classes.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

ASA ENTERPRISE (AE): Entrepreneurship

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Did you ever wish that someone would invent a machine to open your soda can, feed your fish or ring a bell for dinner? Someone has! All these machines were invented by students in Asa Enterprise: Entrepreneurship, a semester long course that focuses on innovation, invention and entrepreneurship. After learning about innovation and invention, students will work individually as they use an Inventor's Log to create a new or improved, simple useful product. After learning about entrepreneurship, simple machines and the patent process, students will work as part of a team to design and build a 10-step Rube Goldberg-style chain reaction machine that will perform a simple useful task. Students use higher-level problem-solving, reading, writing, communication and business math skills as they design and create their products, some of which will benefit the school and community.

ASA ENTERPRISE (AE): Career Exploration & Personal Finances

Grade: 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Students, do you like money? Learn how you can make it, manage it and spend it. Asa Enterprises: Career Exploration & Personal Finances is a semester long course in which students discover their own interests and abilities as they explore the world of work. In an exciting, applied, hands-on learning environment, students will explore careers; learn the difference between needs and wants; create and balance a budget; learn how to write checks and balance a checkbook; calculate income taxes; and learn about interest rates, credit and how to manage their money. Students will interact with the community as they design and organize a school/community-related project. Students will acquire first-hand knowledge of business-related careers as they participate in a community centered business experience.

COMPUTER PUBLICATIONS I

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Fee: \$15

Computer Publications I is a semester course that incorporates desktop publishing and web design. This

hands-on, project oriented course includes the following topics:

- **Desktop Publishing:** Introduction to basic publishing layout, publication design, creation of publications
 - **Web Design:** Introduction to web publishing, web site design and evaluation, creation of a web site
- Students will be given opportunities to select topics of interest in relation to class projects. Projects will include web pages, logo designs, and school and personal publications. Desktop publishing products may include t-shirts, flyers, bumper stickers, magnets, business cards, posters, calendars, and jewel case/CD labels.

COMPUTER PUBLICATIONS II

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: Computer Publications I

Fee: \$15

Computer Publications II is a semester course that integrates computer technology, decision-making, and problem-solving skills. Students will learn advanced elements of graphic design as they create a variety of computer-generated publications. Sample publications have included magazine covers, posters, newsletters, two-page layouts, autobiographical booklets, and Andy Warhol style artwork.

MULTIMEDIA

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Multimedia is a hands-on, project-oriented course that provides students with experience in using software application packages (MS PowerPoint, HyperStudio, and/or Star Presentation) to create multimedia products. Students will use a variety of digital imaging devices including cameras, scanners and video recorders. They will learn how to download and manipulate information from the Internet, including audio, image, and video files. Emphasis will be placed on how the hardware, original data and downloaded information can be interfaced with multimedia software packages to develop several projects and presentations. Students will have opportunities to select topics of interest in relation to class projects.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**** The middle school English Language Arts program has separate courses designed to meet the needs of our students. Student placements are made based on a variety of criteria including progress made in English Language Arts in the current school year; historical data regarding individual performance on standardized tests, district assessments, and in previously completed courses; and on the student's consistent task commitment to daily work and the ability to apply previous knowledge to current subject matter.**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Grade: 7, 8

Year - Daily

Middle school language arts courses encompass the different aspects of language, while maintaining the natural connection between each. Writing, reading and speaking skills are studied and used in conjunction to master new material that students then apply independently.

Throughout the year students write for a variety of purposes and publish their writing for other students who are then required to respond. This process builds authentic writing and reading skills, fostering the development of independence. The instructor uses the district writing rubric to monitor growth, and establishes independent goals through conferencing in order to meet the varied needs of students.

Fiction and non-fiction reading experiences are provided along with specific strategies to aid in comprehension and analysis. Students keep a working portfolio to monitor their progress throughout the year and through conferencing with the instructor, set reading goals, which reflect continual growth.

Formal and informal speaking skills are taught and assessed as students actively engage in class discussion to critically analyze fiction and non-fiction pieces.

SPEECH

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Are you reluctant to speak in front of peers and others? Would you like to develop confidence in your ability to converse with individuals or speak in front of groups of people? This course will help students learn strategies to overcome

discomfort when speaking with others in both informal and formal situations. Students will learn to consider their audience, select appropriate language, and prepare and deliver effective speeches. Effective oral communications skills will be practiced in a variety of situations and students will participate in self-evaluation and the constructive evaluation of peers. By the end of the semester, speech students will be more able to critically assess, evaluate, adapt and make decisions as competent oral communicators.

ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Grade: 7, 8

Year - Daily

This rigorous advanced-level course will challenge students who have demonstrated advanced writing skills, as well as a mastery of higher-level reading and thinking skills. Students will write in a variety of modes with an emphasis upon the development of non-fiction writing skills. Expository and persuasive writing techniques will be emphasized. Students will examine the writing of well-known authors and explore elements of syntax and style characteristic of quality-written communication. They will write on a daily basis, examine the writing of others, and assess their own writing development over time. Students will engage in literary analysis to gain a broader foundation of literature experiences. Students will read a variety of challenging literature covering complex issues we face in life. They will examine the function of symbolism, theme, plot, style, and structure in quality literature, producing formal written analyses of literary selections using the standard classical literary format. Technology will be used to encourage research, editing, and sharing quality student writing.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION

Family & Consumer Education (F/CE) I

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

Fee: \$25

Family and Consumer Education class is an eighteen week elective course that meets every other day for 70 minutes. Students will continue to explore Family and Consumer Education classes which first began in 6th grade. This course teaches essential life skills which students can use now and in their future including preparing foods, focusing on kitchen safety and sanitation, kitchen utensils and cooking skills and techniques. Students will have hands-on experience in applying their cooking knowledge and skills as well as demonstrating cooperation and teamwork. A small appliance unit covering 12 small appliances such as an ice cream maker, panini maker, food dehydrator, food processor, waffle maker, bread maker and others will be emphasized as students demonstrate how to use them. Decision-making in nutritional eating and portion control will also be stressed. Computer technology, operating a sewing machine safely and creating a locker caddy will also be implemented. This is one project many students will use and continue to use even in their high school days.

Family & Consumer Education (F/CE) II

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

Prerequisite: F/CE I

Fee: \$25

Family and Consumer Education II class is an eighteen week elective course that meets every other day for 70 minutes. Students will continue to build on the skills developed in Family and Consumer Education I classes as more advanced activities and projects are presented. In this course students will further develop their knowledge of food preparation. Students will learn advanced skills in sanitation, safety, meal planning, nutrition and etiquette as they make a complete meal and apply their time management skills and manners. Holiday projects include a gingerbread house. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of cooking, as well as cooperation and teamwork. Microwave meals, cookies and candy making are some examples of what we will prepare. Advanced skills in machine sewing will be applied as students complete a pair of shorts. This is one project they will wear proudly upon completion.

MATHEMATICS

**** The Middle School math program has separate courses designed to meet the needs of our students. Student math placements are made based on a variety of criteria including progress made in math in the current school year; historical data regarding individual math performance on standardized tests, district assessments, and in previously completed math courses; and on the student's consistent task commitment to daily work and the ability to apply previous knowledge to current subject matter.**

It is recommended that students use either a model TI-30XIIS or TI30XA scientific calculator for middle school math courses.

PRE-ALGEBRA A

Grade: 7

Year - Daily

Pre-Algebra A is a yearlong course which is comparable to the first half of regular Pre-Algebra. Students participate in activities designed to reinforce the fundamental skills of Pre-Algebra, thus preparing them for success in high school Algebra. Emphasis is placed upon the use of number theory and the extension of algorithm operations using whole numbers, integers, decimals, fractions and percents through real-world problem solving. Focus will also be placed upon addressing individual student skill development needs, including study skills, to ensure a successful transition to eighth grade Pre-Algebra B. Middle school students who successfully complete both Pre-Algebra A and Pre-Algebra B, have completed the equivalent of the regular Pre-Algebra course and are prepared to take Algebra 1.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade: 7

Year - Daily

Pre-Algebra prepares students for a successful transition to Algebra 1. Students acquire a variety of problem-solving strategies while investigating real-world mathematical applications. Emphasis is placed upon the use of number theory, algorithm operations, and data representation. Students acquire algebraic and geometric concepts through the use of a variety of problem-solving strategies.

HONORS ALGEBRA 1 **

Grade: 7

Year - Daily

Honors Algebra is an accelerated course designed to challenge students with advanced math skills and ability. Conceptual understandings, multiple representations and connections, mathematical modeling, and higher-level thinking and problem solving are emphasized. Reading and translating algebra is an on-going process connected to topics of geometry, probability, statistics, and trigonometry. Real world problem solving is emphasized. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to take Honors Geometry.

PRE-ALGEBRA B

Grade: 8

Year - Daily

Pre-Algebra B is the second half of a two-year pre-algebra sequence designed to prepare students for a successful transition to Algebra 1. This course is comparable to the second half of the regular Pre-Algebra course. Additional time is provided to reinforce essential pre-algebra skills and to engage students in problem-solving activities. Students will continue to develop an understanding of fractions, factors, equations, exponents, and basic geometry through a variety of applied math activities. Emphasis will be placed upon acquiring the ability to select and apply appropriate problem-solving strategies, as well as the development of effective study skills to ensure mathematical success. Students who successfully complete this course and the previous Pre-Algebra A course in the two-year algebra sequence are prepared to take high school Algebra 1. Others may elect to enroll in Algebra 1A for ninth grade and Algebra 1B for tenth grade.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade: 8

Year - Daily

Algebra 1 prepares students to develop higher level mathematical problem-solving skills by focusing upon working with formulas, describing patterns, identifying unknowns in problems, and representing data in graphic forms. Topics related to the study of geometry, statistics, and probability are integrated with the study of algebra in a variety of problem-solving activities. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to take high school Geometry.

HONORS GEOMETRY **

Grade: 8

Year - Daily

Honors Geometry is an accelerated course which provides experiences that link the informal exploration of spatial understandings to drawing logical deductions and inferences from geometric problem situations. Students work with models designed to help them develop ability to work with abstract ideas. They develop an ability to formulate and analyze challenging problems requiring higher-level thinking and the application of complex mathematical strategies and processes. A grade of B- or better in Honors Algebra 1 is recommended. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to take high school Honors Algebra 2.

MUSIC

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: Band

Jazz Ensemble introduces students to the world of jazz. Instrumentation is open to musicians who play drum set, guitar and bass guitar, piano, alto, tenor or bari saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone or tuba. Jazz Ensemble will perform at various concert events and will be featured at the spring “Pops” concert.

BAND

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Year - Alternating Days

Fee: \$50 fee for rental/use of school instruments

Students will build upon their musical skills learned in 6th/7th Grade band through varied and challenging musical repertoire. Students participate in several performances each year, including a winter concert, a spring concert and a “pops” concert. All students have the opportunity to participate in the Wisconsin School Music Association Solo and Ensemble Contest. Beginners are welcome—contact instructor prior to the start of the school year.

ENSEMBLE CHOIR

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Year - Alternating Days

Students gain knowledge in vocal function and production. Basic vocal production skills are learned through various warm up exercises and through singing a variety of songs. Basic rhythmic and sight singing skills are also developed. Students participate in at least one performance per semester. Members of Ensemble Choir will have the opportunity to participate in the Wisconsin State Music Association Solo and Ensemble Contest if they wish.

SWING CHOIR

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that students have previously taken Ensemble Choir prior to Swing Choir

Swing choir will prepare students to perform Broadway classics, pop, jazz and contemporary songs. Students will have the opportunity to create choreography to many of the songs they will be singing. Members of the swing choir will have the opportunity to perform outside of school and may choose to participate in the annual Wisconsin School Music Association Contest.

PERFORMING ARTS & COMPETITION

DRAMA

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

“All of the World is a Stage!” Well, at least it is in this class. Students taking this course will be introduced to the basic elements of drama focusing on verbal skills, movement, improvisation, memorization, cooperation and self-discipline. From basic drama skills and staging to lighting, props, and costuming, students will be immersed in many aspects of the theatrical world. Students will be given various opportunities, on and off the stage, to participate in assembling the Asa drama production. Some after-school time commitments and evening/weekend performances will be required. In addition to their own play production, students would explore the current theater of today. Awareness of current musicals and other dramatic performances would be part of the coursework. Let your creativity flow in this introductory Drama Class!

FORENSICS

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

Nervous giving presentations in front of the class? Forensics, the art of formal public speaking and presentation, will encourage and develop student’s ability to communicate effectively while gaining knowledge of a wide range of public speaking and presentation skills. This class will build a student’s self-confidence and provide opportunities for them to enhance their public speaking skills.

ROBOTICS

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

Do you want a creative, hands-on experience? Robotics incorporates activities from FIRST LEGO League (FLL) and *Project Lead the Way*. FLL is an international robotics program developed to inspire enthusiasm for science and technology. During the first half of the semester, students will design, build, and program a completely autonomous robot to perform specific missions. Simultaneously, students will use critical thinking and research to find solutions of a current or future scientific issue. The second half of the semester, with an engineering curriculum called “Project Lead The Way,” students will use fischertechnik parts to build, design, and use gears to demonstrate an understanding of speed, torque, and gear ratios. Ending the semester, students will create a fully autonomous assembly line simulating the cutting of a piece of wood. The robotics class is offered to seventh and eighth grade students during only the fall semester of the year.

INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester – Alternating Days

This class will introduce students to the importance of investing during their lifetimes. Wealth building strategies will include bank accounts, government bonds, stocks, and mutual funds. The impact of taxes, inflation, and credit on portfolios will also be covered. Students will participate in the Wisconsin Stock Market Simulation - a statewide contest in which they are given a budget of \$100,000 to invest for 10 weeks. This class will use computer software and the internet extensively; many activities require the use of reading and mathematics.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

FITNESS & HEALTH

Grade: 7, 8

Year - Alternating Days

Students will be empowered to make positive decisions regarding their physical, mental/emotional, and social well-being. They will participate in a variety of lifelong activities including individual and team sports and explore health-related topics. Students will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to take ownership for their own personal wellness. Focus will be placed upon the developmental needs of each individual student.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE

Grade: 7

Year - Alternating Days

Seventh grade students will cover a variety of topics in physical, earth and life sciences. The scientific method, a key curricular focus, is applied to all units of study. Chemistry and sound and light are physical science units that introduce students to the importance of chemicals and waves. In chemistry students will learn about atoms, the periodic table, chemical formulas and how to balance chemical equations. In sound and light, wave properties and characteristics will be addressed and students will see how waves are applied in the medical and technological fields. The study of oceanography and weather provides an earth science component as students determine the effect of ocean currents on climate. They also analyze live weather data from our weather station and use that to make weather predictions. In life science students experience an invertebrate simulation where animal classification, environmental adaptations, and decision making come to light. Students will apply this knowledge as they participate in an authentic environmental study analyzing river quality through a macroinvertebrate investigation.

SCIENCE

Grade: 8

Year - Alternating Days

Earth, life and physical science standards are covered through a variety of units within the eighth grade. Science Inquiry, a key curricular focus, will allow students to apply the scientific process to construct their own understanding of the concepts. An engineering curriculum, Project Lead The Way, guides the Flight & Space unit with its focus on the technology of aeronautics and hands-on projects combining math and science. The study of force and motion engages students in activities that help explain Newton's Three Laws of Motion and different forms of energy. In geology, students will explore concepts associated with the earth such as earth energy and plate tectonics. Formation of the universe and planets, as well as life cycle of stars will be studied in Astronomy. Lastly, students will engage in the life science study of cell structures and functions. Environmental issues encompass the human impact on the environment. Focus will be placed upon the application of the scientific method and the process of scientific inquiry within each unit.

Science inquiry is defined in the Middle School as the process of learning science. Students do not learn science concepts exclusively based off the teacher's instruction. Instead, the student will construct his or her own knowledge with minimal guidance. When inquiry-based labs are used, the teacher will facilitate and aid in ways the students need assistance, but the student will be responsible to come up with his or her own processes of how to solve an experiment. The students will be given the PHEOC process as a sample way to complete the scientific process, but it is not the exclusive format for science inquiry. PHEOC stands for Problem Hypothesis Experiment Observation Conclusion.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade: 7

Year - Alternating Days

World Geography focuses on the exploration of physical, human, and economic geographical concepts using the Five Themes of Geography. The study of the Five Themes of Geography which include human-environment interaction, region, location, place, and movement serve as the foundation for the course. Students develop an understanding of the importance of the interrelationship of various types of geography as they investigate world regions including Western Europe, Anglo-North America, Latin-North America, The Caribbean and South America. Included as well are current events topics to supplement student learning associated with the regions of the world studies.

SOCIAL STUDIES U.S. HISTORY 1600-1865

Grade: 8

Year - Alternating Days

Students study the historical period from Pre-Revolutionary War through the Civil War. They explore the historical development of the United States from 1600 through 1865. Students explore significant historical events including their causes, impact, and relationship to today's world. Units include Colonial Settlement, Revolutionary War, Articles of Confederation and Constitution, Early Years of the Republic, Westward Expansion and the Civil War. The role of Native Americans in United States history is also studied.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

TECHNICAL EDUCATION I

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Fee: \$25

Students are introduced to the world of industrial technology through a wide range of activities designed to give students hands-on understanding of various materials and processes. Many activities include the use of wood, metal, and plastic. Other units will include traditional technical drawing using pencils, t-squares, and triangles along with computer-aided drawing. Students will participate in graphic arts, aerodynamics and flight, and problem solving simulations.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION II

Grade: 7, 8

Elective Semester - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: Tech Ed I

Fee: \$25

Based on an engineering curriculum called "Project Lead The Way", Tech Ed II focus on design and modeling. Students use geometry, problem-solving, teamwork, and project management skills to design and develop products.

Tech Ed II provides experiences with more advanced power tools as students produce advanced projects using woods and plastics. Computer-aided drawing and automotive engineering units will provide students with experience in using specialized computer software. The safe use of power tools will be stressed.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Please note that a minimum of one year of World Language (Spanish/French) is required in the Middle School. Students may choose to complete this requirement in either 7th or 8th grade.

FRENCH I

Grade: 7, 8

Year - Alternating Days

French I is an introduction to the fundamentals of communication in world language. Students learn basic vocabulary, simple commands and verb conjugations (in present, past, and simple future tenses) that will enable them to converse in the language. They experience the respective cultures through activities such as music, films, art, and food sampling. This course prepares students for French II.

Note: Students who choose to take French I in 7th grade, but do not continue French II in 8th grade, will be required to repeat French I in the high school before advancing to higher levels of French.

FRENCH II

Grade 8

Year - Alternating Days

Prerequisite: The Staff strongly recommends a grade of B- or better in French I.

Students will continue their study of French by expanding their knowledge of French vocabulary and grammar, focusing on ten verb tenses and on conversation and composition. Students will continue to experience culture through a variety of activities to develop their appreciation of francophone culture. This course prepares students for French III.

SPANISH I

Grade: 7, 8

Year - Alternating Days

Spanish I is an introduction to the fundamentals of communication in world language. Students learn basic vocabulary, various verb conjugations, and simple commands which enable students to converse in the language. They experience the respective cultures through activities such as food, films, music and art. This course prepares students for Spanish II.

Note: Students who choose to take Spanish I in 7th grade, but do not continue Spanish II in 8th grade, will be required to repeat Spanish I in the high school before advancing to higher levels of Spanish.

SPANISH II

Grade 8

Year - Alternating Days

Prerequisite – Proficiency (B- or better) in every measured area.

Students will continue their study of Spanish by expanding their knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and grammar, and applying that knowledge through conversation. Students will continue to experience Spanish culture through a field trip and a variety of activities designed to develop their appreciation of Spanish and Latin American culture. This course prepares students for Spanish III.