



Middle School Curriculum Guide



Curriculum Guide

District Vision: To be the top producer of successful students in the nation

District Mission: To lead our students to success with the support and involvement of families and the community

Welcome to Orlando Gifted Academy, where we value respect, creativity, and collaboration! A caring and dedicated staff is eager to make your time at OGA an exciting and challenging learning experience. This curriculum guide will be a vital tool in planning a course of study for the school year. This guide includes general school information, the registration process, as well as course descriptions for all core and elective courses offered. Please note the master schedule and number of course offerings are subject to change based on availability and class size.

Administration

Britt Despenza
Principal

Address

Orlando Gifted Academy
1121 N. Fern Creek Ave., Orlando, FL 32803
Telephone: 407-897-6410
Fax: 407-897-2417

Office Hours

7:30am - 4:30pm

School Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8:45 am- 3:00 pm
Wednesday: 8:45am- 2:00 pm

Job Title	Name	Email	Phone Extension
School Counselor	Niccarra Brown	Niccarra.brown@ocps.net	3472253
Staffing Specialist	Dawn Cannon	Dawn.cannon@ocps.net	3472273
Instructional Coach	Mary Anne Dunn	Maryanne.dunn@ocps.net	3472254
Curriculum Resource Teacher/Dean	Andrea Hale	Andrea.hale@ocps.net	3472261
Behavior Specialist	Ericka Scheid-Atkins	Ericka.scheid-atkins@ocps.net	3472225
Behavior Specialist/ESE Teacher	Jodi Wuthrich	Jodi.wuthrich@ocps.net	3472281

High School Ready Students

Parents/guardians and students are to become partners with school personnel in career exploration and educational decision-making. Clear academic course expectations that emphasize rigorous and relevant coursework shall be made available to all students by allowing both student and parent/guardian choice.

Required Curriculum

Students must be enrolled in a minimum of 4 classes to be considered a full time Orlando Gifted Academy student. The successful completion of four core classes (math, science, social studies, and language arts) are required to promote to the next grade level. There is a contract which must be completed with a counselor to enroll the student in an alternative schedule, less than 7 periods a day. A student must meet the minimum requirements to be promoted to next grade level, and if the minimum passing score is not met, the student will need to complete summer school, or credit recovery to promote to the next level.

The student must successfully complete academic courses as follows:

(a) English Language Arts. Three middle grades or higher courses in English Language Arts, which shall emphasize literature, composition and technical text. An intensive reading course shall be provided at each grade level for those students for whom the district deems such reading instruction appropriate.

(b) Mathematics. Three middle grades or higher courses in mathematics. To earn high school credit for an Algebra I or Geometry course, a student must take the associated statewide EOC for 30% of the course grade.

(c) Social Studies. Three middle grades or higher courses in social studies, one of which must include the study of state and federal government and civics education. (i) Each student's performance on the statewide, standardized Civics EOC Assessment shall constitute 30% of the student's final grade.

(d) Science. Three middle grades or higher courses in science, to include life science, earth space science, and physical science strands.

(e) Physical Education. The equivalent of one class period per day of physical education for one semester of each year is required for students enrolled in grades 6 through 8. A student may waive out of this physical education requirement if he/she meets one of the following criteria:

(i) The student is enrolled or required to enroll in a remedial course.

(ii) The student's parent/guardian or legal guardian indicates in writing to the school that: a. The parent/guardian or legal guardian requests that the student enroll in another course from among those courses offered as options by the district; or b. The student is participating in physical activities outside the school, which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirement.

Proper documentation must be provided each year that the student's parent/guardian is requesting to waive physical education. A new signed request form from the student's parent/guardian is required for each additional year that a student is eligible and requests to waive physical education.

(f) Electives. Students are provided opportunities in performing/fine arts, academic electives, and specialized programs. The students will chose from these offerings to complete a 7 course full schedule.

(g) Intensive Reading and Math Remediation Requirements

(i) For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on FSA ELA, the student may be enrolled in and complete an intensive reading course the following year. Reading courses shall be designed and offered pursuant to the district comprehensive reading plan.

(ii) For each year in which a student scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on FSA Mathematics, the student must receive remediation the following year, which may be integrated into the student's required mathematics course.

Accelerated Placement

Accelerated education experiences may be provided to students within their assigned grade levels and acceleration options will be provided as advanced, high school level, or career technical certification courses.

Grading Scale

A	90-100	Outstanding Progress
B	80-89	Above Average Progress
C	70-79	Average Progress
D	60-69	Lowest Acceptable Progress
F	0-59	Failure

For secondary courses, students cannot receive less than 50% for each quarter grade, semester grade, or final grade.

Final Examination

Statewide EOC Assessments and Final Examination Grades

(i) All students who take statewide EOC dependent courses, the final examination will count for 30% of the overall course grade. The Semester 1 and Semester 2 grades will each be 35% of the overall course grade. The semester and exam grade will be averaged.

(ii) Courses which include a statewide EOC at the middle school level: Algebra I, Geometry, and Civics.

Common Final Exams and Final Examination Grades

(i) All Common Final Exams must count for 20% of the overall course grade for secondary courses. The Semester 1 and Semester 2 grades will each be 40% of the overall course grade for full year courses. For semester courses, the calculation will be conducted as 80% semester grade and 20% CFE grade. The semester and exam grade will be averaged.



Language Arts



English Language Arts Progression Plan

GRADE 6

Language
Arts 1,
Advanced



GRADE 7

Language
Arts 2,
Advanced



Course Descriptions

M/J Language Arts 1, Advanced 1001020

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 6 students, using texts of appropriate complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness. See advanced descriptions.

M/J Language Arts 2, Advanced 1001050

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 7 students, using texts of high complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness. See advanced descriptions.

Advanced Courses:

Advanced courses offer scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc.



Math



Math Progression Plan

GRADE 6

Grade 6
Math,
Advanced

Grade 7
Math,
Advanced

GRADE 7

Grade 7
Math,
Advanced

Algebra 1
Honors
(high school
credit)



Course Descriptions

M/J Grade 6 Mathematics Advanced 1205020

In this Grade 6 Advanced Mathematics course, instructional time should focus on six critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking; (5) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; and (6) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations.

M/J Grade 7 Mathematics Advanced 1205050

In this Grade 7 Advanced Mathematics course, instructional time should focus on five critical area: (1) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (2) drawing inferences about populations based on samples; (3) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (4) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (5) analyzing two- and three dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean

Algebra 1 Honors (High School Credit) 1200320

The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. The Standards for Mathematical Practice apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.



Social Studies



Social Studies Progression Plan

GRADE 6

World
History,
Advanced



GRADE 7

Civics,
Advanced



Course Descriptions

M/J World History, Advanced 2109020

The primary content for this course pertains to the world's earliest civilizations to the ancient and classical civilizations of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Students will be exposed to the multiple dynamics of world history including economics, geography, politics, and religion/philosophy. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents. See advanced descriptions.

M/J Civics, Advanced 2106020

The primary content for the course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system. The course is embedded with strong geographic and economic components to support civic education instruction. See advanced descriptions.

Advanced Courses:

Advanced courses offer scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc. Students will develop and demonstrate their skills through participation in a capstone and/or extended research-based paper/project (e.g., history fair, participatory citizenship project, mock congressional hearing, projects for competitive evaluation, investment portfolio contests, or other teacher-directed projects).



Science



Science Progression Plan

GRADE 6

Comprehensive
Science I,
Advanced

Life Science
Honors

GRADE 7

Earth/Space
Science Honors
(high school credit)



Course Descriptions

M/J Comprehensive Science 1, Advanced 2002050

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities for students to study concepts of science through exploratory investigations, activities, and applications. Science content includes: earth structures, earth systems and patterns, organization and development of living organisms, energy transfer and transformations, motion of objects, forces and changes in motion. Scientific processes include: the role of theories, laws, hypotheses, and models; laboratory investigations, experimental procedures, problem solving, and the characteristics of scientific knowledge. See advanced description.

M/J Life Science, Honors 200020

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities for students to study concepts of science through exploratory investigations, activities, and applications. Science content includes: earth structures, diversity and evolution of living organisms, heredity and reproduction, interdependence, forms of energy and energy transformation. Scientific processes include: the role of theories, laws, hypotheses, and models; laboratory investigations, experimental procedures, problem solving, and the characteristics of scientific knowledge. See advanced description.

Earth Space Science Honors (High School Credit) 20013209

This is a rigorous course focusing on high-school level science standards and will require students to be highly motivated, organized and capable of independent learning. Course topics include astronomy, plate tectonics, minerals, rocks and landforms, surface processes, oceans, weather and climate. This course will also include scientific investigations, which incorporate the use of measurement, laboratory apparatus, problem solving and experimental procedures (designing and performing valid experimental procedures, using mathematics and information for computational thinking to analyze data). This course provides extensive technical reading and writing opportunities in the form of multiple independent science research projects. This honors course is a high school course. Upon successful completion of this class, students will be awarded high school credit in Earth/Space Science.

Advanced Courses:

Advanced courses offer scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc. Students will develop and demonstrate their skills through participation in extended research-based paper/project.



OGA Electives

Every OGA student will have one performing/fine art elective and one academic elective.

<u>Performing/Fine Arts</u>	<u>Academic</u>
Chorus	French
World Music Drumming	Journalism
Theater	Speech & Debate
2D Art I	Project Lead the Way
2D Art II	Advanced Academics
Information & Communications Technology Program	
Keyboarding	
Photography	
Music Technology	
Dance	
Video Production	

Every student will chose a full year of physical education classes from the box below.

Fitness Grade 6 (1 semester)/Comprehensive PE Grade 6/7 (1 semester)

Comprehensive PE Grade 7/8 (1 semester)/Team Sports Grade 7 (1 semester)

Please note: Electives listed above are not available to all grade levels. See Course Descriptions and Request Form for grade-level specific details.

Levels of classes may be determined based on Prerequisites, Application, or Directory Placement. Electives are possible offerings and are not guaranteed. Offerings will be



Visual & Performing Arts





Course Descriptions

M/J Chorus 1 1303000

Students with little or no choral experience will begin in Chorus 1 and develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J World Music Drumming 1302110

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic skills on percussion/vocal music from other cultures and non-Western musical traditions in an ensemble setting using varied middle/junior high literature. Performance techniques and the development of music knowledge are central to this course.

M/J Keyboard 1 1301030

Students with little or no prior experience develop fundamental piano techniques, learn to read music, apply basic music theory, and explore the role of keyboard music in history and culture. Beginning pianists explore musical creativity in the form of basic arranging and improvisation, and develop analytical listening and problem-solving skills. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Music Technology 1303150

Students investigate the fundamental applications, tools, history, and aesthetics of music technology. Student musicians explore traditional, current, and emerging technologies, including personal devices; and use them to explore, capture, create, arrange, manipulate, reproduce, and distribute music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Theater 1 0400000

Students learn the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Students practice writing for the theatre and explore various theatre roles and functions. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.



Course Descriptions

M/J 2D Studio Art 1 0101005

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

*This course requires a course fee of \$20

M/J 2D Studio Art 2 0101020

Open to students who have taken 2D Art-1. Students in this course will refine art skills and techniques in two dimensional (2D) media. Students will continue to work with the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as a way to promote creative risk-taking. This course combines art production with study in art history, aesthetics and art criticism of artworks. Students continue to use written effort to communicate the art criticism process as a way to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course consists of consumption of art materials and will require a sketchbook as instructed by the teacher.

M/J Creative Photography 1 0102040

Students explore the aesthetic foundations of art using beginning photography techniques. This course may include, but is not limited to, color and/or black and white photography via digital media and/or traditional photography. Processes and techniques for image capture and printing may include, but are not limited to, handcrafted pinhole cameras, hand tinting photographs, mixed media, photo collage, cross-processing, emerging technologies and new media. Content covers the basic mechanics of a camera, including lens and shutter operation, compositional foundations, printing an image for display, and evaluating a successful print. Craftsmanship and quality are reflected in the surface of the print, care of the materials, attention to compositional conventions, and expression of personal ideas and feelings. Student photographers use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J Dance 1 0300000

Students develop dance technique and movement vocabulary in two or more dance forms. In the process, dancers demonstrate use of class and performance etiquette, analytical and problem-solving skills, and studio practices in a safe dance environment. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Students in this class may need to obtain (e.g., borrow, purchase) appropriate footwear and/or dance attire from an outside source.



Course Descriptions

Fundamentals of AV & Print Technology 8260300

This course will assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to the development of leadership skills, communication skills, and employability skills; resource management; exploration of Arts and AV careers. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

Introduction to Arts, AV Tech, & Communication 8209350

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Additional CTE Programs/ Courses career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to: exploration of basic principles, concepts, processes, and knowledge of subject areas to which the student is exposed, specific content based on selected intended outcomes from existing courses, instruction in making career choices and basic employability skills. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

Information and Communications Technology I (CTE) 9009110

This course introduces students to core concepts associated with computers and their use. The content includes computer, digital and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes, but is not limited to digital technologies associate with multimedia, word processing, internet communications and cybersecurity.

Information and Communications Technology II (CTE) 9009120

This course builds on the core concepts associated with computers and their use. The content includes computer, digital and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. The content includes hands-on opportunities to explore various software applications, including the creation of template based webpage and a base compute program.

Students will have an opportunity to earn the following digital tool certificates before completion of eighth grade:

- ICT – Gaming Essentials
- ICT – Multimedia Essentials
- ICT – Programming & Logic Essentials
- ICT – Web Design Essentials
- ICT - Communications Essentials
- ICT - Computing Essentials
- ICT - Cybersecurity Essentials
- ICT - Spreadsheet Essentials
- ICT - Word Processing Essentials





Academic Electives



Course Descriptions

M/J French Beginning 0701000

This French course introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this one-year course.

M/J Journalism I 1006000

Prerequisite: Application Required for II **A contract will be required to participate as this course requires outside of the classroom activities** The purpose of Journalism I is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Some activities may be required outside of the school day. The purpose Journalism II is to enable students to develop skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Some activities may be required outside of the school day.

M/J Speech & Debate 1 1007000

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings.

Advanced Academics 7855040

This course is designed to enable exceptional students to acquire and apply the skills and abilities needed to enhance academic achievement through experiences which provide enrichment, in-depth learning, and / or accelerated study of academic curriculum requirements. Students who are gifted have learning needs that go beyond what is traditionally offered in the regular classroom. The nature of their abilities, demonstrated or latent, requires differentiated learning experiences and opportunities for them to maximize their potential. Teachers need to develop the depth and quality of their students' experiences while adjusting the pace to meet individual needs. This course is meant to be used at each 6-8 grade level and has been designed for the teacher to select and teach only the appropriate standards corresponding to a student's individual instructional needs.



Course Descriptions

Project Lead the Way Program (CTE)

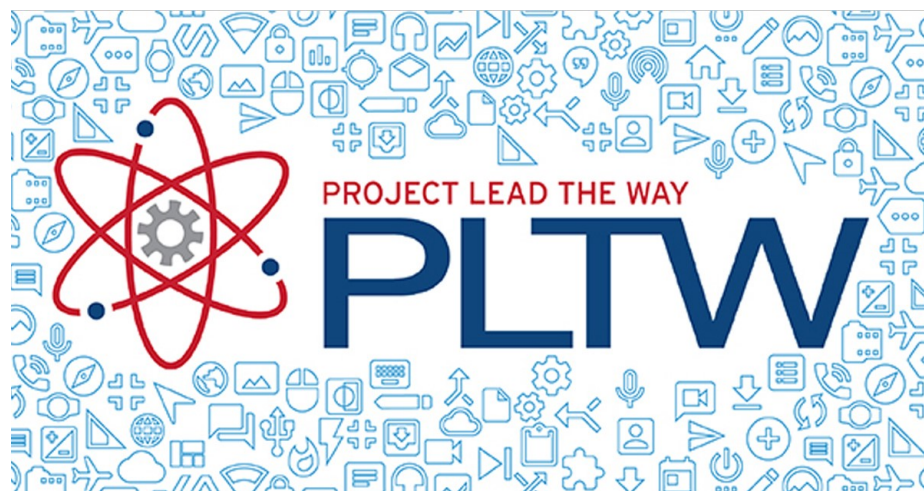
In this program, students will engage in rigorous PLTW courses which is a non-profit organization that gives students a chance to identify a challenge, apply their knowledge, find unique solutions and lead their learning in a project based environment. PLTW is designed to include three full years of courses to be started 6th grade year. Each year the student will take a new STEM course. Descriptions of each year is listed below. **A contract will be required to participate as this course requires outside of the classroom activities**

STEM I 8600012/8600220

In this course, students will engage in rigorous PLTW courses in Science of Technology and Medical Detectives. Students will participate in both course topics that discuss the impact of technology of yesterday, today and future. Students will apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology as well as solve medical mysteries through hands on projects and labs. Activities include making ice cream, construction roller coasters, investigating medical outbreaks, and dissecting sheep brains. *This course requires a course fee of \$20.

STEM II 8600052/8600360

In this course, students will engage in rigorous PLTW courses in Design & Modeling and Computer Science for Innovators and Makers. Students will participate in both course topics that discover the design process and develop and understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. *This course requires a course fee of \$20.





PE Electives



Course Descriptions

Fitness Grade 6 1508000

This fitness course is designed for middle school students and is intended to be 1 semester in length. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness which are critical for students' success.

Comprehensive PE Grade 6/7 1508060

This course is designed for middle school students and intended to be 1 semester in length. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to: Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics and Dance, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Comprehensive PE Grade 7/8 1508070

This course is designed for 7th and 8th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which include, but is not limited to: Outdoor Pursuits/Aquatics, Individual/Dual Sports and Alternative/Extreme Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Grade 7 Team Sports 1508200

This course is designed for 7th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course.