

# Mapleton Jr. High

## 8th Grade Course Descriptions 2020-2021

### Required Classes

#### Mathematics

##### **8th Grade Mathematics**

Full Year / 1.0 Mathematics Credit

In 8th Grade Mathematics students will focus on 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; grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

##### **8th Grade Mathematics Honors**

Full Year / 1.0 Mathematics Credit

In 8th Grade Mathematics Honors students will focus on 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; grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, congruence, understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. The honors course includes extra depth and additional topics.

#### Languages Arts

##### **English 8**

Full Year / 1.0 Language Arts Credit

This is a well-rounded course focusing on the basic communication skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening and especially thinking. Students will enhance and practice these skills by studying units in literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing.

#### Science

##### **Integrated Science 8**

Full Year / 1.0 Science Credit

This is a foundation course which emphasizes the broad perspective of science rather than the specific, theoretical details. The topics covered in this class will include: chemical and physical change, food webs, photosynthesis and respiration, force, motion, energy and weather.

#### Social Studies

##### **U.S. History**

Full Year / 1.0 Social Studies Credit

The students will be introduced to a study of U.S. History from colonization up to and including the present. The course will focus on the "Epic of America," the history and economic development of the country. The course will include a unit of study on the process and Constitution. The student's responsibility to the law will be emphasized.

#### Physical Education

##### **Intermediate Fitness (Boys) or (Girls)**

Semester / .5 PE Credit

This course continues to develop participation skills and techniques in a variety of team and individual games and dance activities with emphasis on leadership, courtesy, respect, and fairness. The course also provides aerobic instruction and activity to improve and maintain physical fitness.

#### Health

##### **Health 8**

Semester / .5 Health Credit

Encourages students to take positive actions to improve their own health. Students learn that good health habits can prevent illness as well as improve school performance and overall fitness. The curriculum covers several important topics, including mental health, nutrition, drugs, disease, environment, growth and development, consumer health and first aid.

#### Digital Literacy OR Exploring Business

##### **Digital Literacy**

Semester / .5 Credit

8<sup>th</sup> grade only

This class consists of a basic introduction to gaining essential computer skills in word processing, spread sheets, presentation software, and basic Internet and email skills. Students will learn to effectively use professional software programs like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. In addition, they will learn the various components and terminology of the computer field.

##### **Exploring Business and Marketing (85352)**

See description under CTE Section. **Please Note: If you have already taken this class with Mr. Gillies as a 7th grader, you must sign up for Digital Literacy.**

## Elective Classes

### Fine Arts

#### **Band I** (Woodwind -OR- Brass)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit

**\$20 Fee Required** - Prerequisite: None

Beginning Band – This class is for students with no prior experience playing woodwind or brass instruments. Only a desire to learn is required. Fundamentals of wind playing and music literacy are the main curriculum. Students who play larger instruments may rent from the school for a \$150/year fee.

#### **Band II** (Woodwind/Brass)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit

Prerequisite: Band 1 (or its equivalent) and

**\$20 Fee Required** - Teacher Approval

Concert Band - Intended for students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of playing woodwind and brass instruments. Opportunities for performance include music festivals (music performance assessments) in the spring. Students who play larger instruments may rent from the school for \$100.00.

#### **Percussion I**

Full Year / 1.0 Credit

**\$20 Fee Required**

Prerequisite: Prev. piano experience recommended

Beginning percussion instruction for those in their first year of percussion. Skills will be developed on Snare Drum, Timpani, Auxiliary Percussion, and Keyboard Percussion (Xylophone, etc.). Students will use a practice marimba and practice pad or a standard beginning percussion kit (may be rented from a local music store).

#### **Percussion II**

Full Year / 1.0 Credit

**\$20 Fee Required**

Prerequisite: Percussion I

Intended for students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of playing percussion. Opportunities for performance include music festivals (music performance assessments) in the spring.

#### **Orchestra I - Beginning**

**\$20 Fee Required**

Full Year / 1.0 Credit

This course is for students who want to play the violin, viola, cello and string bass. No previous experience is required, only a desire to learn how to play a string instrument. Viola, cello and bass instruments may be rented from the school for a \$150.00/year fee. Violins must be rented or purchased from a local music store.

#### **Orchestra II**

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit

**\$20 Fee Required**

Prerequisite: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra

This course will expand musicianship skills on the violin, viola, cello and string bass through the third year of development. Viola, cello and bass instruments may be rented from the school for \$150.00/year fee. Violins must be rented or purchased from a local music store.

#### **Men's Chorus**

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit

**\$20 Fee Required** - Grades 7, 8 & 9

This class is open to any 7th, 8th or 9th grade young man that loves to sing. No audition is required. We will learn choral habits and sight-reading skill. We will also learn more about music throughout history. Students will perform at 4 concerts. This is a full year performing class.

#### **Women's Chorus**

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit

**\$20 Fee Required** - Grades 7, 8 & 9

This class is open to any 7th, 8th or 9th grade young lady that loves to sing. No audition is required. We will learn choral habits and sight-reading skills. We will also learn more about music throughout history. Students will perform at 4 concerts. This is a full year performing class

#### **Concert Choir**

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Grades 8 & 9

**\$45 Fee Required** (Choir Fee/Uniform Fee)

This is an auditioned class for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade singers. Students must be able to sing on pitch and have a basic grasp of choral habits. Equal numbers of boys and girls will be selected. Sight-reading skill, memorization and high quality vocal production will continue to be improved upon. Concert attire will be issued to each student. This is a full year performing class.

#### **Bella Voce (Chorus III)**

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Grades 7-9

**\$45 Fee Required** (Choir Fee/Uniform Fee)

This is an auditioned Class for 7th, 8th, and 9th grade female singers. Students must be able to sing on pitch and have a basic grasp of choral habits. Sight-reading skills and high quality vocal production will continue to be improved upon. Concert attire will be issued to each student. This is a full year performing class.

#### **Drama I**

Semester (Half Year) / .5 Credit - **\$10 Fee Required**

This Class is designed to introduce students to theatre and will improve student's ability to speak and present themselves in front of an audience. Various techniques and fundamentals of theatrical performance will also be introduced, such as communication and movement skills, improvisation, character development, and basic storytelling. Students will prepare and perform a class play at the end of the semester.

#### **Drama II**

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit

Grades 8 & 9 - **\$10 Fee Required**

Drama II continues to build upon the performance skills learned in Drama I, though all students are welcome. Students develop skills in script-writing, improvisation, and character development and are introduced to Radio Drama, Stage Combat, Greek Theatre, and Shakespearean works. We also learn how to critique live theatre productions. Students will prepare and perform a class play at the end of the semester.

### **3-D Design**

Semester / .5 Fine arts Credit

**\$10.00 Fee Required** - Grades 8 & 9

This course is for art students with a desire to emphasize their art studies in 3-dimensional work. Creativity and art medium exploration will guide this course. Modern art forms, sculpture using a variety of mediums, and clay will be some of the projects explored in this class. Drawing skills will be improved as well. Students will have experiences with art criticism, art history, and aesthetic awareness as well. This does fill a high school fine arts credit if in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Painting 1**

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit

**\$10.00 Fee Required** - Grades 8 & 9

This studio class encourages experimentation with various painting mediums. Basic and advanced techniques will be taught and assessed. Color theory, art history, and composition will be incorporated as well. It is expected that students taking this course are comfortable in basic drawing and mark making skills.

**Prerequisites:** Art 7 or Art Foundations 1 (Drawing is also highly recommended)

### **Drawing 1**

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit

**\$10.00 Fee Required** - Grades 8 & 9

Drawing 1 is designed to help students to improve their drawing skills, including in areas such as proportions, texture, edges, value or shading. A variety of drawing surfaces and drawing tools will be experimented. Principles of perspective will be introduced. Also expressive and creative drawing processes will be explored. This course is intended to include both traditional academic and contemporary approaches to drawing. Students are expected to be self-driven and motivated.

### **Photography I**

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit

Grades 8 & 9 only - **\$10 Fee Required**

This class is designed to teach students how to take quality pictures. They will learn how to compose and modify photos digitally using the program Photoshop CC. Students will also use light and photographic equipment to create inventive art. Access to a digital camera is highly recommended.

## **Career Technology Education**

### **Exploring FACS A - Foods and Clothing Combo**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$10 Fee Required**

8th Grade only

This course is a combination course that includes one term of the Exploring FACS C curriculum and one term of the Exploring FACS F curriculum together making a one-semester course (half year). This course allows students to participate in BOTH Foods and Clothing in one class.

### **Exploring FACS C - Clothing**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit

8th Grade only

The goal in this class is to create a love for sewing in each student! Girls and boys are encouraged to take this class. Students will learn how to operate the sewing machine and serger, be introduced to sewing tools, a sewing pattern, and then complete construction techniques in a variety of fun projects. Projects include: a small bag with quilting and a zipper, a diva or chef apron, Craft kits (stuffed footballs, soccer balls, gym bags, stuffed animals), a quilt block during the Interior Design unit, and a maxi skirt or project of choice for boys.

### **Exploring FACS F - Foods**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$10 Fee Required**

8th Grade only

This course is designed to teach Food Preparation Skills and Nutrition Principles. Emphasis is placed on My Plate, with descriptions of the benefits of Dairy, Protein, Carbohydrates, Fats, Fruits and Vegetables. We learn of Kitchen Safety and Food Safety topics, especially in relation to children. Careers in the Food Industry and Marketing Techniques are discussed. Etiquette techniques are also presented.

### **Exploring Business & Marketing**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit

8th Grade only

Have you ever tasted chocolate economics, invested \$100,000 in the stock market, or swam in the Shark Tank? This course will introduce students to the great world of business and computers in a fun way. Students will learn about economics as they play Monopoly, barter for chocolate, and play The Price is Right. They will explore marketing by virtually touring Disneyland, judging old and new television commercials, and checking out the successful ways products are marketed to us. In addition, students will be introduced to many successful entrepreneurs and use today's desktop publishing software to develop different advertisements. As we learn about the stock market, we will also use Internet sites and spreadsheet applications to gain an understanding of personal financial skills.

### **Exploring Technology / Robotics**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit

Grades 7, 8, & 9th

The purpose of this course is to have the students increase their technology knowledge and be more aware of the technology around them and in their future. Hands-on activities carry students into the learning of many scientific and technological concepts. The students will be given multiple opportunities to develop and display problem solving skills. A sample of some activities contained within this course are: **programming robots** (more extensive than CCA Introduction), racing air propelled vehicle, flight computer aided drawing, manufacturing a product made with power tools or hand tools. Material Expense is based on student choices. Average expense for multiple activities is approximately \$5.

### **Exploring Computer Science (85342)**

Semester / .5 CTE Credit

8th Grade only

Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers and societal and ethical issues.

### **Creative Coding (86142)**

Semester / .5 Credit

Grades 8 & 9

This course is designed to attract and reach a broad and diverse range of students, including those who may have never considered programming. Students learn how to code by working in a real software development environment to design, program and publish mobile apps and games. Learning to code by creating real products, students discover how to make amazing things and have an impact on their world. You will learn how to design animated skits, games, and apps using simple programming concepts and JavaScript. You'll work with others to generate ideas, solve problems, and create programs you can use on your own device.

## **Healthy Lifestyles / Physical Education**

### **Dance Conditioning I**

Semester/ .5 P.E. Elective Credit

Grade 7, 8 & 9

This class is a one semester class for beginning dancers with no previous dance experience required. Students will learn basic dance skills in flexibility, technique and all genres of Jazz dance. Various dance styles will be taught including - Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and others. Students will have an opportunity to perform at school assemblies and an end-of-semester program. Grading is based on participation.

### **Dance Conditioning II**

Semester/ .5 P.E. Elective Credit

Grade 7, 8 & 9

Prerequisite: Previous Dance Experience Needed

This class is a one-semester class for dancers with previous dance experience. This is an auditioned class and requires a signature on the registration form. Students will advance in their technique and all genres of Jazz dance. Styles taught will include Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and others. Students will have an opportunity to perform at school assemblies and an end-of-semester program. Grading is based on participation.

### **Body Conditioning (Girls)**

Semester / .5

Grades 8 & 9

Students will learn the foundations of fitness in a hands on class that will include learning through working hard and developing their own ideas of fitness. This class will be student driven through their desire to learn different concepts about working out and reaching their fitness potential. This class will be a HIGHLY active class and students will be required to work out every class period. We will explore several different fitness areas including cardio training, cross fit, yoga, pilates, Zumba, weight training and students interests. This class may not be used to replace Participation Skills which is required for High School graduation.

### **Weight Training (Boys)**

Semester / .5

Grades 8 & 9

This class places special emphasis on weight training and will also offer a total body-conditioning program that combines cardiovascular health, flexibility, strength training, along with nutritional and core training exercises. This class may not be used to replace Participation Skills which is required for High School graduation

## **Additional Electives**

### **Spanish I**

Semester / 1.0 Elective Credit

Grades 8 & 9

Special emphasis is placed on conversational speaking, presentation (written and spoken) and comprehension (reading and listening). Gaining basic language skills and vocabulary acquisition are the major focus of the class.

### **Yearbook**

Semester / .5 Elective Credit

**Application Required** - Grades 8 & 9

This exciting class is offered to students that would like to write, edit, and publish the school newspaper and yearbook. Students will study the collection and editing of news and the production of a newspaper as well as creating multimedia. Students will also be required to attend multiple after school events. A signed recommendation/application from an English teacher is required.

### **Literature and Film**

Semester / .5 Elective Credit

Grades 8 & 9

This class will focus on film as literature and the analysis of film as a mode of presenting complex ideas. We will look at the tools filmmakers use to present their ideas, as well as their ability to adapt and modify themes using these tools. This class will involve reading, watching, writing, and presenting as we study films.

**Peer Tutoring**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

Application required – Grades 8 & 9

This is a course designed to help students learn about and interact with peers with special needs. Peer helpers may assist students with education goals, physical activities, classroom activities, and occasional community field trips as part of this daily course. Formal application is required including parent signature and recommendation from at least two teachers. Applications available in the counseling office.

**Teacher Assistant**

Semester /.5 Elective Credit

Application in the Counseling Office

3.0 GPA is required. Grades 8 & 9

Students will assist teachers in basic organizational functions such as passing back student work, running errands and otherwise helping the teacher in day-to-day tasks other than teaching. Cooperation, responsibility and honesty are essential. Grading is on a Pass/Fail basis.

**Front Office Assistant**

Semester /.5 Elective Credit

Application in the Counseling Office

3.0 GPA is required. Grades 8 & 9

Students will assist the front office personnel as needed - This may include organizing materials, making deliveries to classrooms, and running notes to teachers. Cooperation, responsibility and honesty are essential. Grading is on a Pass/Fail basis.

**Library Assistant**

Semester /.5 Elective Credit

Application in the Counseling Office

3.0 GPA is required. Grades 8 & 9

Students will assist the school Librarian as needed - This may include organizing books, working on special projects etc. Cooperation, responsibility and honesty are essential. Grading is on a Pass/Fail basis.