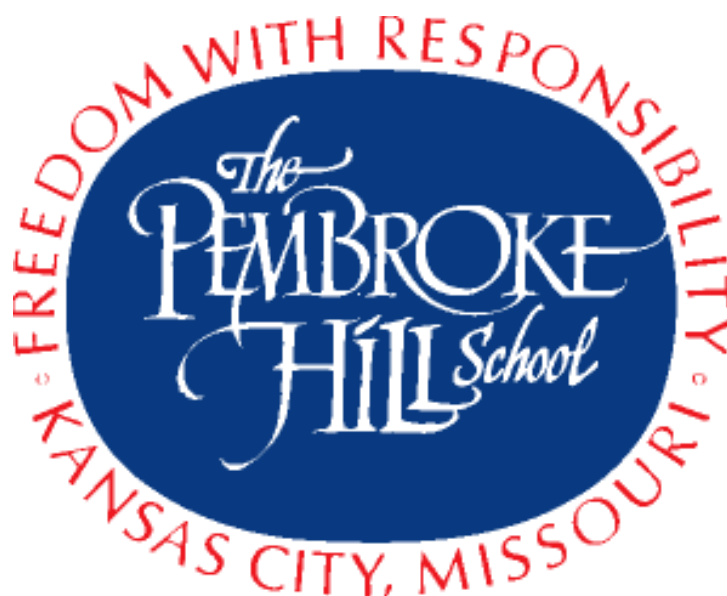


THE PEMBROKE HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

GRADE 7

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2019 – 2020



SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ALGEBRA I – YEAR 1

The seventh grade mathematics curriculum is Algebra I. Most students will take a two-year Algebra I sequence during the seventh and eighth grades. The Algebra I curriculum during the seventh grade year is focused on order of operations, algebraic properties, integers, graphing relations and functions, analyzing linear equations and solving linear inequalities. Emphasis will be placed on a step-by-step approach to problem solving and making connections of these skills to real world applications.

ALGEBRA I ACCELERATED

A select group of seventh grade students will be ready to take an accelerated Algebra I course. The intent of the course is to allow capable students the opportunity to complete the algebra curriculum in one year. Placement in this course will be determined by the student's performance in sixth grade mathematics (grades and work ethic), the recommendation of the sixth grade mathematics teacher, and the outcome on a placement test that all sixth grade students **will take at the end of the year**. The decision made by the mathematics department takes into consideration the best educational interests of the student.

This course is very fast-paced and has challenging expectations. Students should be able to handle the work without significant struggle and/or assistance. The main goal of the mathematics department is to be sure that each middle school student has a solid foundation in algebra. To be sure that the goal is met, we require students taking this course to maintain a B-average or better. If a student's mid-quarter or quarter grade is below B-, that student may not continue in accelerated algebra.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & CIVICS

Students will study the origins of the Constitution, the three branches of government, separation of powers, checks and balances, and federalism. On the state and local levels, students will learn about the structure of Missouri and Kansas government as well as local city and county governmental organization. Students will learn about the responsibilities of citizenship through projects and activities. Lastly, students will receive an overview of our national economy.

ART

The seventh grader will build upon their knowledge of the elements and principles of design by experiencing more complex media processes in drawing, painting, ceramics, fiber, sculpture and printmaking. Students will learn to analyze their own and others artwork through written and verbal exercises.

CHORAL MUSIC

Choral Music is open to any seventh or eighth grader. The girls' choir and the boys' choir will meet separate days and rotate every other day with the Physical Education class. First semester focus is on foundational skills for performance of classical and seasonal music culminating in the annual Winter Concert. Second semester features *Showcase*, a full-scale musical production, which includes large and small ensembles, solos, staging and choreography. **Reminder:** You must enroll in the Showcase elective (3rd quarter) in conjunction with this course.

DRAMATIC ARTS

Students build on skills introduced in 6th grade Drama in using the voice and body for creative expression and character interpretation. Dramatic creative writing using the play building technique as well as advanced training of the voice are introduced. Students will perform scripted and original dramatic works.

ENGLISH

Seventh Grade English further develops oral and written communication skills along with reading comprehension skills. The curriculum exposes students to a variety of literary genres, including the novel, historical fiction, fiction, the memoir, poetry and short stories. Composition skills complement the genres and focus on a wide variety of writing styles: expository, creative short stories, poetry, and memoir. In an effort to convey the inseparable boundary between social studies and art, many integrated units are utilized. The nuances of grammar are further studied, with an emphasis on application. Vocabulary is bolstered through vocabulary workshop exercises and assigned readings. Students also incorporate technology (Word, Publisher, Power Point, internet searches, etc...) into many of the activities that they complete. Above all, the curriculum is set forth to develop a student's appreciation and interest in literature and writing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The objectives of the seventh grade physical education program are to provide an environment conducive for the student to attain an acceptable physical fitness level, to develop an appreciation of lifetime sports, and to develop the skills and desire to continue with a healthy lifestyle as they progress through their middle school years. Students will also develop an understanding for the basic rules, strategies and skill set for each curriculum unit. The physical education staff will instill the concepts of good sportsmanship, leadership abilities, being a team player and character building skills throughout the seventh grade curriculum.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – ELITE INDEPENDENT STUDY

The Elite Independent Study program provides seventh and eighth grade students with an opportunity to earn Physical Education credit for exceptional dedication to fitness outside of The Pembroke Hill School. Students applying for Independent study must meet all Elite Independent Study requirements in order to qualify (see the application in the middle school office for details). Interested applicants must turn in their applications at least a week prior to the start of the quarter. Qualified students can earn a maximum of four credits (four quarters) of Physical Education during their 7th and 8th grade years. The remainder of their credits must be obtained through regular attendance in class.

SCIENCE

The objective of 7th grade science is to apply problem solving and inquiry skills individually and cooperatively to investigate and explore authentic issues. Students will discover that all fields of science are interrelated and affect the global community and environment. A focus of collecting, interpreting, evaluating and effectively communicating data will be implemented throughout the year. General topics to be studied include: the metric system, scientific processes, general scientific principles, astronomy, basic structures of life, classification of living things, and basic life science processes. Students should expect to study a wide variety of subject matter throughout the year using basic study skills like note taking, problem solving, laboratory investigations, and inquiry-based projects.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SEVENTH GRADE FRENCH

This course is the first half of a two-year program designed to complete one full level of French I. Continuous development of oral skills and vocabulary, as well as an emphasis on both the spoken and written word, will accompany cultural studies of the Francophone world.

SEVENTH GRADE LATIN

This course is the first half of a two-year program designed to complete one full level of Latin I. Students will develop their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar and will continue to sharpen their reading and translating skills. English word study is a prominent feature of the course. Students will also study life in the Roman Empire, especially in Roman Pompeii. Mythological gods will be an additional focus for the year.

SEVENTH GRADE MANDARIN CHINESE

This course continues the development of the four major communicative skills begun in 6th grade: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will expand their vocabulary and be able to comprehend and participate in more extensive conversations, to read and write more complex sentences. The students will gain more understanding of Chinese culture.

SEVENTH GRADE SPANISH (Blue)

This course is the first half of a two-year program designed to complete one full level of Spanish I. Continuous development of oral skills and vocabulary as well as an emphasis on both spoken and written Spanish will accompany cultural studies of the Spanish speaking world.

SEVENTH GRADE SPANISH (Red)

This course is a continuation for the 6th grade Red course and will elaborate on skills developed in speaking, listening, reading, writing, and grammar. The course will use formal textbook and supplementary materials as well as novels, movies, and other culturally immersive materials. This class will primarily be conducted in the target language, by the end of the year students should feel confident and able to converse in Spanish in many varied real life situations. Students will begin the Level II textbook mid-year.

ELECTIVES

****7th gr. Wellness - All 7th gr. Students will be assigned one quarter**

7th graders will discuss what it means to be well through the lenses of social health, mental health and physical health. Social conflict, stereotypes and bias, empathy, social media, self-care, stress management, suicide prevention, benefits of sleep, body image, growth mindset, substance abuse prevention, and peer pressure will all be explored through this course. When not in classroom conversation, students will spend time in the gym furthering their physical education.

Art Studio - 1st and 4th quarter

This course will involve **all things Art!!** Students will have the opportunity to take their knowledge learned in art class and continue to explore those techniques further. The options are endless... painting, printmaking, hand-building with clay, mixed-media collage and fibers. Students can create their own curriculum or have guidance by the instructor!

Basketball Skills - 2nd quarter

Tune up your skills for basketball season by getting individual instruction on shooting and skills of the game. Learn drills to do on your own to improve your ball handling, shooting, and passing. The class also involves fun, competitive games and drills.

Be Awesome - 4th quarter

A creative mix of activities over the course of each week.

Monday - Acts of Kindness (idea phase)

Tuesday - Gaming Day

Wednesday - Acts of Kindness (activity phase)

Thursday - Study Hall

Friday - Outdoor activity/sport

Broadcast - 1st and 3rd quarter

Broadcast as an elective is back! For students interested in being part of our news crew, you will get the chance to film, edit, create storyboards, work with teleprompters, play with green screens, and compile the videos into our blue week broadcasts. Our news crew is dedicated to bringing students the news that is relevant to them: stories from around the building, what's happening at Pembroke, events in our community, and world news that matters. If you are hoping to get a jump start in the journalism field, this is a great place to start!

Concert Band - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th quarters

The middle school concert band is open to all instrumental music students in grades 6, 7, & 8. This year-long elective provides a creative and educational environment for students to develop successful ensemble and music performance skills. The ensemble rehearses during the school day and studies/performs a variety of music that is stylistically and culturally diverse. Focus is routed in developing music performance skills/concepts, self-expression, creativity, rehearsal etiquette and ensemble/social skills. In addition to assemblies & school-related events, students are required to perform for two major concerts (winter and spring). Band members may also elect to support PHS by participating in the Raider Pep Band and Chamber Music Club.

Creative Writing/Journalism - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarters

Calling all wordsmiths! Hone your creative writing skills, contribute to the school newspaper, *The Voice*, and learn to craft a query letter to get that favorite story published. We will also venture into the worlds of poetry and podcasting. Bring your creative spirit to class and get ready to have some fun!

Dance/Cheer - 1st quarter

The cheer portion of the electives will work on cheer jumps, chants, stunts, and basic cheer movement. The dance section will learn about different types of dancing and learn some routines in each. We will have an opportunity or two to show them off in action at some of our middle school athletic events: including the Homecoming parade and partner up with the Varsity cheerleaders at a Varsity football game. This elective is open to anyone--no experience needed.

Exploring Tech - 2nd and 4th quarter

Explore and sample different technologies in this course. We'll try coding, program Sphero robots, 3D design and printing, and more. Each unit will last 2-3 weeks.

Fantasy Football - 1st quarter

Look at the statistical side of sports. How do math and sports relate? Can we find patterns and trends that help to predict future outcomes? Look for free agent pickups on the open market and analyze trades and values in your fantasy league. Each week will culminate with our own game of flag football in the quad!

Foreign Language French Film Festival - 1st quarter

Unleash your cinematic creativity! Write, produce, and film an original short French film for the Foreign Language Film Festival at Central Missouri State University. Attend the festival in the spring to compete against other schools from Missouri and Kansas.

Foreign Language Spanish Film Festival - 2nd quarter

Unleash your cinematic creativity! Write, produce, and film an original short Spanish film for the Foreign Language Film Festival at Central Missouri State University. Attend the festival in the spring to compete against other schools from Missouri and Kansas.

Intro to Geometry - 2nd quarter

This elective will be an introduction to the basics and fundamentals of understanding geometry. We will explore geometric vocabulary and relationships between different types of polygons and their angles. We will investigate logical reasoning and problem solving with puzzles and geometric models. Come build, learn, and explore what geometry is all about!

Math Contest Club - 2nd quarter

Get ready to challenge mathletes all over the city and the country! In a fun and relaxing setting, you will practice challenging math problems, learn higher level math skills (Geometry and Algebra II), and fine-tune your test-taking strategies. Also, become a part of Math Madness, an online math competition set up like the Basketball March Madness NCAA tournament. This course will focus on preparing you for upcoming math contests like MATHCOUNTS and MCTM Math League contests.

Raider Fit - 2nd and 3rd quarter

Get faster, stronger, more athletic, and more flexible! In this elective we learn how to use exercise to improve athletic performance and health. This course will give you the tools to be the best athlete you can be. We focus on developing strength, speed, and agility through weight lifting fundamentals.

Robotics - First Lego - 1st quarter

Robotics will use information and skills taken from Robotics 1 and apply them to new problems. The projects will be designed to expand programming ability, but increase teamwork and problem-solving skills. The challenges will be based on the *First LEGO League* and include in-house competitions between teams. Students will also have the opportunity to explore various careers related to coding, programming, and robotics.

Scratch Programming - 4th quarter

This programming class will be a self-paced curriculum where students will create animations, games and apps utilizing Scratch, a visual programming language developed by the MIT Media Lab and Combat Code. Other computer languages will be explored based on the levels of the students.

Showcase - 3rd quarter

Showcase is open to any seventh or eighth grader who is enrolled in Choral Music. The girls' choir and the boys' choir will meet on separate days, but will occasionally combine for mixed-voicing rehearsals. When students are not singing, they are scheduled into a proctored study hall. Second semester features *Showcase*, a full-scale musical production, which includes large and small ensembles, solos, staging and choreography.

Study Hall - 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarter

What in the World? - 4th quarter

Yikes! There is a lot to discuss in the world today! This is a student run and student structured elective. You will decide what topics to discuss, where to get the information and what we should debate on fun Fridays. You are in control!

Yoga - 1st and 4th quarter

Experience the benefits of daily yoga practice! We will explore the foundations of yoga, learning basic postures with a focus on controlled breathing and safe alignment. As the quarter progresses, you will develop strength, flexibility, and balance, and we will experiment with more challenging poses. This elective will give you a chance to practice mindfulness and breathing techniques to cultivate focus, balance, and positivity both on and off the mat! No yoga experience necessary! Bringing your own yoga mat is recommended, but not required.