

2011-2012 CURRICULUM GUIDE



**Northern Lehigh middle
school**

NORTHERN LEHIGH MIDDLE SCHOOL

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Northern Lehigh School District is an equal opportunity educational institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, color, national origin, sex, handicap or limited English proficiency in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX and Section 504.

If you are physically or mentally handicapped, you may qualify for special services and instruction and equipment modifications so you can successfully complete the educational program or participate in activities.

For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact Mr. Michael Michaels, Title IX Coordinator, Title VI Coordinator, and Section 504 Coordinator at the Northern Lehigh School District Office located at 1201 Shadow Oaks Lane, Slatington, PA 18080, Office of the Superintendent, (610) 767-9800.

For information regarding services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and useable by handicapped persons, also contact Mr. Michaels.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The Northern Lehigh School District, either directly or indirectly through various other education agencies including the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit #21, provides special education services which may be required by children with special needs. The special education contacts are Special Education Coordinator, Mrs. Mary Kay Williamson, and school psychologist Ms. Heather Rehrig. They can be contacted at (610) 767-9858 regarding special education services. Similarly, guidance counselors may be contacted regarding specific special education issues at the building level.

The Types of Programs and Services Are:

1. Academic Support
2. Life Skills Support
3. Emotional Support
4. Sensory Support
5. ESL Support

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GRADE SEVEN

10070 MUSIC 7

Students will study the basic elements of music history. Students will be brought into contact with concepts, which will give them the knowledge and skills to appreciate the art of music and to become active, well-rounded listeners and music consumers.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10071 ART 7

The seventh grade art curriculum focuses on the fundamentals of two-dimensional design. Students will apply basic elements to projects involving lettering, commercial art, op art and pop art. Drawing skills, numerous art processes, and a variety of tools are used with an emphasis on creativity. The works of Cezanne, Dali, Magritte, Warhol, Picasso and others will be explored.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10072 TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 7

Seventh grade technology is an introductory course. Using hands on learning, students will be introduced to IBM compatible computers and their uses in today's ever-changing technological environment. Students will experience everyday use of the computers to better understand the processes and applications used in the market place. Students will focus their attention on the visual communications aspects by learning CAD (computer aided design), and computer graphic design.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10073 FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE 7

The seventh grade Family & Consumer Science Class centers on introducing the student to life skills. The foods unit will concentrate on proper measuring techniques, learning and using basic cooking terms, and practicing skills by preparing several recipes. The sewing unit will consist of an introduction to the use and care of the sewing machine and the construction of a basic sewing project. The students will discuss health and safety when caring for young children.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10074 COMPUTER BASICS

Computer Basics is a seventh grade technology course that meets 45 consecutive days during the school year. No experience is assumed. Touch keyboarding of the alphabetic keys is the primary goal with the emphasis on training the students to use proper techniques so that they will develop the ability to type accurately *without looking at the keys*. This course provides the students the opportunity to experience and appreciate the computer as a useful tool for personal work such as homework, reports, and other projects. The skills learned in this course will be reinforced and built upon next year in the Computer Basics course.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10091 PSSA PREP 7

This course will focus on test-taking skills and strategies, preparing the students for not only the PSSA's but for the newly instituted Keystone Exams. It will reinforce their mathematical and reading skills. This course is a pass/fail course and required for all students.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10171 ENGLISH 7

Seventh grade English is a course of study, which continues the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills necessary for individual expression and communication with others. During the course, students will read novels, drama, short stories, poetry, conversation, criticism, and direction. The class will be given opportunity to speak and listen in small and large groups, read aloud, and prepare and deliver speeches. Seventh grade English will also review the function and usage of the eight parts of speech, punctuation, and capitalization in sentences.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10174 DEVELOPMENTAL READING 7

The reading program is structured to provide students with opportunities to appreciate and learn from a variety of fiction and non-fiction literature. Students learn essential skills and strategies through literature based thematic and interdisciplinary units. The thematic units consist of a series of learning experiences that are focused on a particular topic, idea, or author. Several pieces of literature that will fit the theme or unit become the basis for major reading and writing experiences. In addition, the students' basic knowledge of the library and its uses is enhanced by introducing more advanced references and research skills.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10271 OLD WORLD CULTURES

One of the objectives of the social studies course in seventh grade is to study ideas we use today. We learn where these ideas originated, how we modified these ideas and most importantly how we use these ideas today and how they affect our lives. The course stresses man and his environment and how man changes his environment to suit his needs. The ancient cultures of Egypt, Rome and Greece as well as the modern cultures of Europe are studied to give the students a background for American History, which is studied in eighth grade.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10371 MATH 7

This course is intended to prepare those students who are not yet ready for Pre-Algebra in grade 7. It will concentrate on developing a student's skills in the following areas: enumeration, basic arithmetic operations for whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents, ratios, proportions, problem solving skills, informal geometry, measurements and calculator skills.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10372 PRE-ALGEBRA

This course will develop a transition between elementary math and algebraic concepts. Areas of concentration include the following: integers and other subsets of real numbers, scientific notation, variables and expressions, inequalities, probability, proportion, statistics, geometric concepts, and an introduction to the coordinate plane.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10471 LIFE SCIENCE

Life Science is a scientific, standards-based investigation of the structure and function of organisms within the framework of their environmental relationships. The core principles and concepts of Life Science will develop a foundation for interpreting the general characteristics of life present in every organism and those special characteristics that distinguish one species from another. This scientific knowledge base will be expanded to include the areas of microbiology, genetics, and heredity.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10770 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The seventh grade program focuses on developing an acceptable level of fitness, developing skills necessary to participate in various activities, and fosters an atmosphere of cooperation with other students. Beginning in 7th grade physical education, students have the opportunity to earn a computerized "Fitness Gram" if they complete their Physical Fitness tests on the Fit America equipment and Pacer Test.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10772 HEALTH/SKILLS FOR ADOLESCENTS

This seventh grade course includes the following topics of instruction: skills for adolescence, personality, relating to others-friends, stress and mental health, exercise & fitness, nutrition, skeletal & muscular system, AIDS, drugs & alcohol, and first aid. The All Stars program is used to help students make commitments to not engage in risky behavior. Parents participate in All Star homework assignments.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GRADE EIGHT

10080 MUSIC 8

Students will study the basic elements of music and music history. Students will be brought into contact with concepts, which will give them the knowledge and skills to appreciate the art of music and to become active, well-rounded listeners and music consumers.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10081 ART 8

The eighth grade art curriculum reinforces design fundamentals through a series of projects requiring creative problem solving. Lettering skills become more advanced as they are being used in conjunction with many of these projects. Some creative drawings, as well as new drawing techniques are covered at this level.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10083 FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE 8

The eighth grade Family and Consumer Science Class will continue with the study of foods and nutrition. The students will be taught about meal management, the relationship between diet and health, and being a wise consumer. The students will prepare a variety of cooking labs. The students will continue learning about sewing by preparing a pants or shorts project. They will also learn about fabric fibers and their characteristics. They will learn about the effect of color and design when making clothing and decorating choices in the home.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10086 TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION 8

The eighth grade technology education course is designed with the visual communications area of technology in mind. Students will be instructed in the use of AutoCAD drawing software related to this area. C.A.D. (computer aided design) is a major part of this class. The students will learn measuring and scale, drawing techniques and the basic vocabulary related to the drafting profession. Students will also experience desktop publishing by using various software, scanners, and digital cameras.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10092 PSSA PREP 8

This course will focus on test-taking skills and strategies, preparing the students for not only the PSSA's but for the newly instituted Keystone Exams. It will reinforce their mathematical and reading skills. This course is a pass/fail course and required for all students.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10181 ENGLISH 8

In 8th grade English you will learn to communicate effectively in school and in life. You will read, analyze, and interpret literature. Your written communication skills will improve through writing narrative, persuasive, and expository pieces of quality. Listening and speaking skills will be refined. All of these skills will be complimented by your 8th grade reading curriculum.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10184 DEVELOPMENTAL READING

In the eighth grade you will experience many different types of reading and learn strategies and skills to be successful in your literary growth. You will read selected pieces literature, which complement your English curriculums. You will choose literary pieces for independent reading covering many genres. There will be varied types of written responses, group discussions, oral presentations, and projects designed to enhance your growth in reading. Emphasis will be put on critical reading across the content areas. While studying a variety of literary genres, the focus will be on reading comprehension, reading strategies, and reading tools.

Full year 1.0 Credit

10281 UNITED STATES HISTORY

The social studies program in the eighth grade concentrates on the history of the United States. The course starts with the discovery, exploration, and colonization of this country. Special emphasis is placed on why people left Europe to settle in America. The second point of emphasis deals with the American Revolution and the many problems faced by this nation prior to, during, and after the war. After studying about the formation of a new government with its accompanying Constitution, we move to the nation's growth both geographically and industrially. The course also deals with the many conflicts that arise not only within our country but beyond its borders as well. During this period, the Mexican War, Indian Wars, and eventually the Civil War are studied. The nation's rapid growth after the Civil War is our next area of study. Included in this time period are immigration, industrialization, and the birth of the United States as a world power.

Full year 1.0 Credit

10381 PRE-ALGEBRA 8

This course will develop a transition between elementary math and Algebraic concepts. Areas of concentration include the following: integers and other subsets of real numbers, scientific notation, variables and expressions, inequalities, probability, proportion, statistics, geometric concepts, and an introduction to the coordinate plane.

Full year 1.0 Credit

10382 ALGEBRA I

This course will concentrate on developing a student's knowledge base in various algebraic concepts. Some of the areas of study include the following: algebraic operations, integers, exponents, polynomials, factoring, linear equations and inequalities, rational expressions, problem solving, and informal geometry.

Full year 1.0 Credit

10481 EARTH-SPACE SCIENCE

The eighth grade science course is primarily involved with focusing the attention of the student on the scientific processes that surround him in the real world. It is important that the student be aware of these processes because of the many judgments and decisions he/she will have to make later as a citizen of his community. This will have a direct bearing on both his environment and his/her quality of life.

The course encompasses the major subdivisions of science which include geology, meteorology, cartography, physiography, and astronomy.

Full year

1.0 Credit

10680 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & SAFETY

Information Technology and Safety is an eighth grade technology course which meets each day for one marking period of the school year. Alphabetic keyboarding by touch will be reviewed. *Touch keyboarding* of the *numeric keys* and the *keypad* will receive the emphasis with the goal of training the students to use proper techniques so that they will develop the ability to key accurately *without looking at the keys*. In addition, students will explore computer fundamentals and Microsoft Word Processing, Excel, and PowerPoint concepts through assigned class projects. This course is designed to enable the students to enjoy the computer for both recreational and academic needs. Students will do a unit involving how to research a topic which will be used for a powerpoint presentation.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10780 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The eighth grade program builds upon the skills and fitness levels attained in seventh grade with an added emphasis on teamwork, a conceptual knowledge of the activity and further development of social skills. The Fit America equipment and Pacer Test will be used to increase fitness levels.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

10782 HEALTH 8

The eighth grade health course is designed to provide students with knowledge in these six major areas: mental and social health, body systems, fitness and wellness, nutrition, drugs and high risk behaviors, and AIDS awareness. In addition, those physical, mental, and social dimensions of health necessary for one to live a balanced lifestyle are included.

Each day for 1 marking period

0.25 Credit

ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The adaptive program in the middle school contains a modified phase, which includes students who are unable to participate in regular physical education classes because of illness or injury and a remedial phase that includes students with conditions that may be improved or corrected through specific exercise programs.

This program is available to all students in grades 7& 8 on a permanent or temporary basis upon the recommendations of (1) school or family physician, (2) parents, and (3) school. Students remain in the program only as long as they benefit from personalized instruction.

Occasionally a scheduling conflict may result. Attempts will then be made to schedule this class in the high school.