



FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LEARN. GROW. PERFORM. LEAD.

CAREER & ACADEMIC PLANNING GUIDE



Ramay Junior High

**GRADES 7-8
2017-2018**



Woodland Junior High



**FAYETTEVILLE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
LEARN. GROW. PERFORM. LEAD.

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

Thank you for choosing Fayetteville Public Schools and for placing your trust in us. Since 1871, FPS has been the educational institution of choice for countless families, and our national award-winning school system continues to provide the best opportunities for young people today.

Educational choices and decisions are imperative to a rewarding and meaningful future. We are fortunate to offer courses, programs and co-curricular activities in the Fayetteville School District that provide unparalleled opportunities for students to excel. FPS is a place of inclusion and diversity highlighted by a vision that every student matters and will be prepared for their next step in life.

We want to have a strong partnership with you. In our rapidly changing society it is critical that students and their parents/guardians plan an educational program very carefully. I encourage you to study the academic opportunities available and make choices that will meet your personal ambitions.

Over the next several years, online learning will continue to expand and the number of college credit courses offered will increase. Take risks, step outside of your comfort zone, and consider the advantages of everything that is provided to you.

I believe the best days are ahead. As your superintendent, I want to assure everyone that our school district will retain long-standing traditions, continue to be a national leader and focus on efforts to make Fayetteville one of the best communities in America.

My very best,

Matthew A. Wendt, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Our Mission

The Fayetteville School District will provide a rigorous and relevant education in which all students gain the academic and personal skills needed for lifelong learning and success.

Goal 1: Continuously Improve Academic Performance of Each Student

Goal 2: Support the Personal Growth of Each Student

Goal 3: Maximize Human, Financial, and other Resources for Academic Excellence

Goal 4: Engage Fayetteville and the Broader Community

Ramay Junior High School

401 South Sang Avenue
Fayetteville, AR 72701
Phone #: (479) 444-3064
Fax #: (479) 444-3013

David Watkins, Principal
Katie Oliver, Assistant Principal
Lisa Morrison, Assistant Principal

Linda Kime, Counselor
Taylor Scott, Counselor

Woodland Junior High School

1 East Poplar Street
Fayetteville, AR 72703
Phone #: (479) 444-3067
Fax #: (479) 444-3039

David McClure, Principal
Joe McClung, Assistant Principal

Janet Collins, Counselor
Carolyn Jordan, Counselor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SPECIAL SERVICES	5
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION	6-7
SMART CORE/CORE	6-7
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS	8-21
7 TH Grade Required Courses	
English Language Arts	8
Math	9
Science	9
Social Studies	10
Physical Education	10
Information and Communications Technology	10
7 th Grade Electives	11-13
8 TH Grade Required Courses	
English Language Arts	14
Math	15
Science	16
Social Studies	16
Career Development	17
Physical Education/Athletics	17
8 th Grade Electives	18-21

Special Programs and Services

English Language Learners (ELL) must meet certain criteria for placement in the ESL Program

The designated placement is designed to accomplish the following:

1. Expose students to spoken communication in a variety of situations and forms.
2. Provide students with the skills to produce oral language in a variety of forms and for various purposes and audiences.
3. Address the skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking needed for successful performance in school.

Gifted and Talented Program

Services to meet the needs of gifted student are provided to the identified GT students in grade 7 and 8. Please contact the GT teacher in your student's building for more information.

Special Education Program

Assistance programs are available to any student who meets the state and federal regulations for these programs. Such programs may include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy and/or specialized instruction in the academics and/or emotional areas. Referrals can be made through the Special Education Designee.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate from Fayetteville High School, a student must earn a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits. Credits are earned at the rate of 0.5 credits per class per semester. Advisory classes are non-credit periods. Teacher Aide periods are also non-credit periods. SMART CORE graduation requirements were developed by the Arkansas Department of Education to prepare students for college and other post-secondary educational opportunities.

Subject	FHS Requirements	Smart Core Requirements
English	4 Total Credits	4 Total Credits
Math	<p style="text-align: center;">4 Total Credits</p> 1 credit Algebra I or its equivalent 1 credit geometry or its equivalent 2 additional mathematics credits	<p style="text-align: center;">4 Total Credits</p> 1 credit Algebra I or its equivalent 1 credit Geometry or its equivalent 1 credit Algebra II or its equivalent 1 credit of a fourth year math**
Science	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Total Credits</p> 1 credit of a physical science 1 credit biology 1 additional science credit	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Total Credits</p> 1 credit biology 2 credits from the physical sciences (physical science, chemistry, physics)
Social Studies	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Total Credits</p> 1 credit of U.S. History 1 credit of World History 0.5 credit of Civics 0.5 credit of Economics*	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Total Credits</p> 1 credit of U.S. History 1 credit of World History 0.5 credit of Civics 0.5 credit of Economics*
Physical Education	0.5 Credit	0.5 Credit
Health	0.5 Credit	0.5 Credit
Oral Communications	0.5 Credit	0.5 Credit
Fine Arts	0.5 Credit	0.5 Credit
Electives	8 Credits	6 Credits
Total Credits	24 Credits	22 Credits
*ADE Act 1280 requires all students to complete a digital learning course.		

**Fourth year math choices: Quantitative Literacy, Algebra III, Statistics, Advanced Topics and Modeling in Mathematics, Math Ready, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, College Algebra through NWACC, Finite Math through NWACC and Plane Trigonometry through NWACC. Comparable concurrent credit courses may be substituted where applicable.

Honors Diploma Requirements	
➤ Honors	3.5 GPA by 7 th semester, SMART CORE requirements, 2 same World Lang; 8 qualifying courses from table below
▪ High Honors	3.75 GPA by 7 th semester, SMART CORE requirements, 3** same World Lang; 10 qualifying courses from table below
➤ Distinguished Honors	4.0 GPA by 7 th semester, SMART CORE requirements, 3** same World Lang; 5 math credits; 12 qualifying courses from table below
**Class of 2020 and beyond. Two years of the same World Language are required for classes of 2018 and 2019.	

- Students graduating with Honors will receive a lavender tassel to wear at graduation.
- Students graduating with High Honors will receive a silver tassel to wear at graduation.
- Students graduating with Distinguished Honors will receive a white tassel to wear at graduation.

Qualifying Courses for Honors, High Honors and Distinguished Honors Graduates				
Math	English	Science	Social Studies	Other
Pre-AP Algebra I	Pre-AP English (9)	Pre-AP Phy Science (9)	AP U. S. History	French II, III, IV, AP
Pre-AP Algebra II	Pre-AP English (10)	Pre-AP Biology	AP World History	German II, III, IV, AP
Pre-AP Geometry	AP Eng Lang & Comp (APLAC)	AP Biology	AP European History	Spanish II,III, IV, AP
Precalculus	AP Eng Literature (AP Lit)	AP Physics I	AP Comp Politics	Chinese III
AP Calculus AB	English Comp I (1.0)	AP Physics II	AP Micro/Macro Econ	Latin III
AP Calculus BC	English Comp II (1.0)	AP Env Science	AP Human Geography	AP Studio Art
AP Statistics		Pre-AP Chemistry	AP Psychology	AP Music Theory
College Algebra (1.0)		AP Chemistry	AP U. S. Government	A Cappella Choir
Finite Math (1.0)		AP Physics C		AP Computer Sci Principles
Plane Trig (1.0)				AP Computer Science
				AP Art History

Arkansas Academic Challenge Lottery Scholarship

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education sponsors the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program to recognize selected students for scholastic achievement as measured by their ACT Assessment scores. To receive the Lottery Scholarship, a student must have a 19 composite score on their ACT. FHS will provide an opportunity for all juniors to take the ACT during the school day in the spring semester. Visit <http://www.adhe.edu> for more information.

7th Grade Course Description

7th grade students must take seven (7) classes.

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Information and Communications Technology – 1 Semester
- PE – 1 Semester
- 2 Electives – Options
 - *2 year-long classes (or)
 - *1 year-long class and 4 9-week classes (or)
 - *8 – 9 week classes

Note: Core recommendations will be made for each student from their current teachers. Recommendations will be available to view at CAP conferences. If your student was not recommended for a Pre- AP course in a desired content area, there is a waiver explaining Pre-AP expectations available at both junior highs that can be filled out to request that course.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Title: English 7	1 Year
Seventh grade language arts course combines rigorous development of writing and reading of complex text for multiple purposes. Students will closely read and analyze a variety of fiction, nonfiction, and multimedia that relate to specific themes of study. Students actively apply these strategies in order to summarize, compare/contrast, analyze and synthesize literary and nonfiction texts. Students continue their practice with the writing process in all three modes of writing: informational/explanatory, narrative, and argumentative. Formative and summative assessments will focus on content knowledge that includes reading and writing to assess higher level critical thinking skills. Students respond to literature in a variety of ways including projects and presentations that will allow them to collaborate with others while using technology.	

Course Title: Pre-AP English 7	1 Year
Pre- AP English 7 will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes in English along with covering the English 7 curriculum. Students in this course are expected to be self-motivated, to complete independent and group projects, and to read, write, and think more critically.	

MATHEMATICS

Course Title: Math 7

1 Year

Note: A TI-30 scientific calculator is suggested.

Using the Grade 7- Arkansas Mathematics Standards, students will extend and apply their knowledge of working with rational numbers in various forms while working with expressions, equations, and inequalities. To extend their study in geometry, they will solve problems involving scale drawings and work with two and three dimensional shapes to calculate area, circumference, and volume. In the study of statistics and probability, students will also infer, compute, and predict about populations and events based on samples.

Course Title: Accelerated Math 7

1 Year

Note: A TI-30 scientific calculator is suggested.

Accelerated Math 7 provides an opportunity to complete three years of math in two years. The course content includes all of Math 7 standards and half of the Math 8 standards. The content of the Grade 8 – Arkansas Mathematics Standards will include working with exponents, scientific notation, and Pythagorean Theorem including irrational numbers. Students will extend their knowledge of proportional relationships by graphing, learning key characteristics of functions, and slope.

SCIENCE

Course Title: 7th Science

1 Year

Seventh grade science students will practice science using Science and Engineering Practices as defined by Next Generation Science Standards. Students will have opportunities to engage, explore, and explain concepts outlined in the new Arkansas K-12 Science Standards. Concepts include: structure, properties and interactions of matter, organisms and their interactions with the environment, flow of energy and matter on Earth, Earth's natural processes including formation of rocks and minerals and geoscience processes, and natural resources impact on society. Students will participate in hands-on activities, laboratory investigations, computer simulations, class discussions, reading and writing informational scientific text, and research projects.

Course Title: Pre-AP 7th Grade Science

1 Year

Seventh grade science students will practice science using Science and Engineering Practices as defined by Next Generation Science Standards. Students will have opportunities to engage, explore, and explain concepts outlined in the new Arkansas K-12 Science Standards. Concepts include: structure, properties and interactions of matter, organisms and their interactions with the environment, flow of energy and matter on Earth, Earth's natural processes including formation of rocks and minerals and geoscience processes, and natural resources impact on society. Students will participate in hands-on activities, laboratory investigations, computer simulations, class discussions, reading and writing informational scientific text, and research projects. This course also will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course Title: 7th Geography**1 Semester**

Grade 7 social studies provides a study of both physical and human geography of the world through a geographic lens. As students study the continents and regions across the globe, they will learn about the historic, cultural, economic, and political development as well as interconnections that occur in both human and physical systems of each area. Students will develop and apply literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. They will examine primary and secondary sources and develop critical thinking skills essential for becoming productive.

Course Title: 7th Arkansas History**1 Semester**

Arkansas History is an in-depth and rigorous study of civics/government, economics, geography, and history of our state. Students will develop and apply the skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will examine a variety of primary and secondary sources and communicate responses in multiple ways including oral, visual and written forms. Students will learn how to evaluate sources of information, explore issues, examine data, and analyze events to develop critical thinking skills.

Course Title: 7th Pre-AP Geography/Arkansas History**1 Year**

Pre- AP Geography/Arkansas History 7 will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes in History along with covering the Geography/Arkansas History 7 curriculum. Students in this course are expected to be self-motivated, to complete independent and group projects, and to read, write, and think more critically.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH AND SAFETY

Course Title: Physical Education**1 Semester**

The intent is to provide a variety of health-enhancing activities in an attempt to foster lifelong active individuals. The 7th & 8th grade physical education program offers the students an age appropriate curriculum that promotes an understanding of a variety of activities that stress knowledge, competence, fitness, cooperation, and lifetime involvement in the benefits of being an active participant in sports and recreational endeavors. Physical Education provides educational experiences through movement activities. The general setting allows the development of social-emotional, psychomotor and cognitive skills as the students interact and have fun. The objective is to teach students to desire fitness as a lifelong goal. In today's world of technology, it is important to understand the value of movement in our day to day lives.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Course Title: Information and Communications Technology**1 Semester**

The purpose of this course is to meet the technology requirements adopted by Arkansas and to prepare students with technology skills before high school. This course is designed to be taught in a computer lab or mobile lab setting. Concepts covered will include: word processing application, data application, presentations, and a capstone project.

7TH GRADE ELECTIVES

7th Grade Full Year Electives

Course Title: Band 7

1 Year

Note: This is the only year students can join band with no experience.

Beginning band is a class offered during the regular school day that focuses on preparing students for participation in the Fayetteville High School Band Program. Students will meet with directors in the Spring of their sixth grade year to determine which instrument each student is most suited to play. Classes will be grouped by instrument with full band performances at concerts in the Fall and Spring. Instruments offered in year one are flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone and percussion.

Course Title: 7th Advanced Girls' Choir & Advanced Boys' Choir

1 Year

Note: Audition Required

At an advanced level, students will develop vocal music skills, work on sight-singing and study music theory, and strive to achieve a superior choral sound, while singing mostly 3-part music. The choir will participate in four major performances, compete at the Region Choral Performance Assessment, and audition for the Northwest Arkansas Junior High All-Region Choir.

Course Title: Concert Girls' Choir & Concert Boys' Choir

1 Year

Students will develop vocal music skills, work on sight-singing and study music theory, and strive to achieve a superior choral sound, while singing mostly 2-part music. The choir will participate in four major concerts, compete at the Regional Performance Assessment, and have the opportunity to audition for the Northwest Arkansas Junior High All-Region Choir.

Course Title: Orchestra

1 Year

Instrumental Music (String Orchestra)

Note: This is the only year students can join orchestra with no experience.

String orchestra is a performance group open to students who have beginning to advanced experience on the violin, viola, cello or bass. Emphasis is placed on improving individual and orchestral playing skills. Students will be required to attend rehearsals and performances outside of the regular school day, practice at home, and will have opportunities to audition for region and state competitions.

Course Title: Art 7

1 Year

The yearlong 7th grade Art class will study drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, mixed median, and art history. Skills will include the fostering and enhancement of creative and critical thinking, mastery of self-assessment/written reflections and expressing artist intent, and cultivating an appreciation of the arts.

7th Grade 9 Week Electives

Note: 7th Grade electives are meant to be exploratory and expose students to a variety of options before high school.

Course Title: Art

9 Weeks

Students will focus on developing skills which include drawing, painting, sculpture and collage. They will have the opportunity to experiment and refine skills using a variety of art media. Elements and principles of design will be emphasized in each project.

Course Title: Theatre Art

9 Weeks

Introduction to Theatre Arts is an exploratory course for students to determine if they might be interested in taking additional theatre or drama courses in the future. Students will develop self-expression through theatre arts and rehearse improvised and scripted scenes to demonstrate social skills. Students will also explore the structure of dramatic literature and use appropriate terminology to develop theatre vocabulary.

Course Title: Art of Writing

9 Weeks

The Art of Writing focuses on the production of student work in a supportive, student-centered environment where students can give and receive feedback on their writing in small and large group settings. Students will engage in craft exercises in genres that will improve their confidence in themselves as writers as well as improve their "art." The most important concepts in the course are description, revision, editing and style.

Course Title: Foreign Language Acquisition – French

9 Weeks

This course is a 9 week Foreign Language introductory course in French that focuses on strands in communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. This course is aligned with Arkansas Disciplinary Literacy Standards which will help support student achievement in literacy. This course supports the personal growth of all students by giving them the opportunity to explore a foreign language and build capacity to improve student academic success as they progress through the FPS foreign language offerings.

Course Title: Foreign Language Acquisition – German

9 Weeks

This course is a 9 week Foreign Language introductory course in German that focuses on strands in communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. This course is aligned with Arkansas Disciplinary Literacy Standards which will help support student achievement in literacy. This course supports the personal growth of all students by giving them the opportunity to explore a foreign language and build capacity to improve student academic success as they progress through the FPS foreign language offerings.

Course Title: Foreign Language Acquisition – Spanish

9 Weeks

This course is a 9 week Foreign Language introductory course in Spanish that focuses on strands in communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. This course is aligned with Arkansas Disciplinary Literacy Standards which will help support student achievement in literacy. This course supports the personal growth of all students by giving them the opportunity to explore a foreign language and build capacity to improve student academic success as they progress through the FPS foreign language offerings.

Course Title: Flight and Space

9 Weeks

Flight and Space is a Project Lead the Way STEM course designed for middle school students. The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an aircraft. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel.

Course Title: Green Architecture**9 Weeks**

Green Architecture is a Project Lead the Way STEM course designed for Middle school students. Today's students have grown up in an age of "green" choices. In this unit, students learn how to apply this concept to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using Autodesk's® 3D architectural design software.

Course Title: Magic of Electrons**9 Weeks**

Magic of Electrons is a Project Lead the Way STEM course designed for Middle school students. Through hands-on projects, students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design, and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.

Course Title: Science of Technology**9 Weeks**

Science of Technology is a Project Lead the Way STEM course designed for Middle school students. Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. Students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to STEM activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nano-materials.

Course Title: Leadership and Service Learning**9 Weeks**

Leadership and Service Learning will emphasize the importance of leadership skills, volunteerism and professionalism in the development of personal qualities. This course focuses on the benefits of community service, leadership roles and civic responsibilities. Course projects and activities incorporate and reinforce academic skills such as math and science. Students are encouraged to explore areas of critical and creative thinking, responsibility, and cultural awareness as they relate to character development. Current technology is used to enhance communication skills and promote professionalism.

8th Grade Course Description

8th grade students must take seven (7) classes.

- English Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Career Development – 1 Semester
- PE – 1 Semester (Athletics satisfies PE requirement)
- 2 Electives

Note: Core recommendations will be made for each student from their current teachers. Recommendations will be available to view at CAP conferences. If your student was not recommended for a Pre- AP course in a desired content area, there is a waiver explaining Pre-AP expectations available at both junior highs that can be filled out to request that course.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course Title: English 8	1 Year
English 8 focuses on close reading a variety of complex texts and developing writing for multiple purposes and situations including information, argumentative, and narrative. Vocabulary study will focus on academic language that is prevalent in complex text. Assessments over reading and writing will be grounded in evidence from text, literary and informational.	

Course Title: Pre-AP English 8	1 Year
Note: This course is not required for Pre-AP English in the ninth grade, but is strongly suggested.	
Pre- AP English 8 will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes in English along with covering the English 8 curriculum. Students in this course are expected to be self-motivated, to complete independent and group projects, and to read, write, and think more critically.	

Course Title: Strategic Reading	1 Year
This course is designed to dramatically accelerate reading growth by strengthening comprehension outcomes in junior high. In a context of meaningful content, on-going assessment, and focused explicit instruction, students will evaluate literary and informational texts and multicultural literature in diverse formats (e.g. print media, web-based texts, literary and informational books and articles) and genres. In addition, student will engage in learning activities tied to a variety of literary and informational texts with increasing complexity. Additionally, students will demonstrate competencies through purposeful applications based on individual and collective literacy goals.	

MATHEMATICS

Course Title: Math 8

1 Year

Note: A TI-84 graphing calculator, for home use, is suggested.

The content of the Grade 8 – Arkansas Mathematics Standards will include working with exponents, scientific notation, and Pythagorean Theorem including irrational numbers. Students will extend their knowledge of proportional relationships by graphing, learning key characteristics of functions, slope, and solving systems of linear equations. They will extend their study of geometry by identifying and describing transformations of two dimensional figures on the coordinate plane, investigate line and angle relationships, and compute surface area and volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres. Students will also investigate patterns by constructing scatterplots and equations for linear models between two quantities of data.

Course Title: Pre-AP Algebra I (Algebra I High School Credit)

1 Year

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Accelerated Mathematics

Note: ALL students who successfully complete this course will receive high school graduation credit.

Note: A TI-84 graphing calculator, for home use, is suggested.

Students demonstrating advanced mathematical aptitude may be considered for placement. This course will include the remainder of Math 8 standards not taught in Accelerated Math 7 along with the standards taught in Algebra I. In the second half of Math 8 standards, students will also investigate patterns by constructing scatterplots and equations for linear models between two quantities of data. The Algebra I content standards extend the skills developed in middle grades. The 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 the students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions.

Course Title: Pre-AP Geometry (High School Credit)

1 Year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry at the junior high level will include the Math 8 geometry standards not taught in Accelerated Math 7 and the Geometry content standards. In Geometry, students will extend skills developed in middle grades in the language of geometry, measurement and transformations to more precise definitions. Students explore more complex geometric situations, deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, and move towards formal mathematical arguments. Students will apply geometry concepts in modeling situations and prove geometric theorems along with using coordinates to solve problems. Similarity, right triangles and trigonometry are major content focus areas.

Course Title: Math Lab

1 Semester

This semester course is a companion to the student's Math 8 class and is designed to improve the math skills of your student with additional instruction that supports the Math 8 course using on-going assessment, focused explicit instruction, and re-teaching standards not yet mastered. The goal is to empower your student for success in both current and future math classes.

SCIENCE

Course Title: Science 8**1 Year**

8th grade science provides experiences that help students develop and apply critical thinking skills through the use of the Science and Engineering Practices defined by Next Generation Science Standards. Students will have the opportunity to engage, explore, and explain concepts outlined in the new Arkansas K-12 Science Standards. Concepts include: waves and how they are transfer energy and information, electrical, magnetic, and gravitation forces, interactions of bodies within the universe, Newton's Laws of Motion, human genetic influence and gene mutations in DNA, and biodiversity and natural selection over time. Students will participate in hands-on activities, laboratory investigations, computer simulations, class discussions, reading and writing informational scientific text, and research.

Course Title: Accelerated Physical Science (Pre-AP)(Physical Science High School Credit)**1 Year****Recommended Co-requisite:** Pre-AP Algebra I

8th grade Accelerated Physical Science is a new course based on 2016 Arkansas K-12 Science Standards. This rigorous fast-paced course includes all standards from high school Physical Science - Integrated and eight additional physical science standards from 8th grade science. Students will study chemistry and physics through the use of Science and Engineering Practices defined by Next Generation Science Standards. Major concepts include: elements, matter and interactions, matter in organisms, forces and motion, energy, waves, and interactions of humans and the environment. Students will participate in hands-on activities, laboratory investigations, computer simulations, class discussions, reading and writing informational scientific text, and research. This course also will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course Title: Social Studies 8**1 Year**

Grade 8 Social Studies encompasses the study of United States history from 1800 expansion and reform to 1900 industrial America. Students will develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationship between events, recognize patterns of interactions, and understand the impact of events in the United States. The history strand is organized chronologically using the eras and time periods. Students will develop and apply skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will examine a variety of primary and secondary sources and communicate responses in multiple ways. Additionally, civics/government, economics and geography will be embedded into instructional units that correlate with the historic eras under study.

Course Title: Pre-AP Social Studies 8**1 Year**

Pre-AP Social Studies 8 will include Pre-AP strategies that will introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods to prepare students for future AP classes including AP Human Geography and AP US History. To do so, this course places greater emphasis upon reading comprehension skills, writing skills, and primary source analysis. The content of Pre-AP 8th Grade Social Studies will be United States History 1800-1900. This course stresses application, problem solving, higher order thinking skills, and the use of classroom performance based/open ended assessments with rubrics.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Course Title: Career Development

1 Semester

Students in Fayetteville are expected to take this course for one semester in the eighth grade. Career Development is a hands-on and activity based curriculum which provides eighth grade students the opportunity to explore the world of work in relation to their own interests and abilities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETICS

Course Title: Physical Education

1 Semester

The intent is to provide a variety of health-enhancing activities in an attempt to foster lifelong active individuals. The 7th & 8th grade physical education program offers the students an age appropriate curriculum that promotes an understanding of a variety of activities that stress knowledge, competence, fitness, cooperation, and lifetime involvement in the benefits of being an active participant in sports and recreational endeavors. Physical Education provides educational experiences through movement activities. The general setting allows the development of social-emotional, psychomotor and cognitive skills as the students interact and have fun. The concept of fun is essential because the objective is to teach students to desire fitness as a lifelong goal. In today's world of technology, it is important to understand the value of movement in our day to day lives.

The athletic program at the junior high school level is designed to accomplish many things, such as: building confidence, developing skills, promoting teamwork, providing physical development, promoting sportsmanship, promoting school spirit, teaching discipline, and teaching responsibility.

Full year athletic participants will participate in off-season activities when that sport is not in-season.

Organized Physical Activity

Basketball Team	–	Boys 1 Year
Basketball Team	–	Girls 1 Year
Cheer Team	–	1 Year
Cross Country Team	–	1 Year
Dance Team	–	1 Year
Football Team	–	1 Year
Track Team	–	Spring Semester
Volleyball Team	–	1 Year

8TH GRADE ELECTIVES

FINE ARTS

Course Title: Visual Art (8)**1 Year**

This course helps students to inquire, explore, and discover historical, cultural, social, environmental, and personal reference from which to develop concepts and ideas. Students will use their creativity in a wide variety of media, techniques, processes, and tools to develop original works of art using the elements of art and principles of design.

Course Title: Instrumental Music (Band)**1 Year**

Students who have achieved the minimum requirements in beginning band, have passed the beginning band proficiency test, and have received a strong recommendation from their current director will be allowed to enroll in the 8th Grade Band. The 8th Grade Band performs at various events throughout the school year including a fall and spring concert. Emphasis is placed on developing individual skills while learning to perform in an ensemble setting. This group will have opportunities to compete individually and collectively at various events throughout the year.

Course Title: Instrumental Music (String Orchestra)**1 Year**

Students who have achieved the minimum requirements in beginning orchestra, have passed the beginning orchestra proficiency test, and have received a strong recommendation from their current director will be allowed to enroll in the 8th Grade Instrumental Music class. String orchestra is a performance group open to students who have beginning to advanced experience on the violin, viola, cello or bass. Emphasis is placed on improving individual and orchestral playing skills. Students will be required to attend rehearsals and performances outside of the regular school day, practice at home, and will have opportunities to audition for region and state competitions.

Course Title: Vocal Music – 8th Advanced Girls' Choir & Advanced Boys' Choir**1 Year****Note: Audition Required**

At an advanced level, students will develop vocal music skills, work on sight-singing and study music theory, and strive to achieve a superior choral sound, while singing mostly 3-part music. The choir will participate in four major performances, compete at the Region Choral Performance Assessment, and audition for the Northwest Arkansas Junior High All-Region Choir.

Course Title: Vocal Music – Concert Girls' Choir & Concert Boys' Choir**1 Year**

Students will develop vocal music skills, work on sight-singing and study music theory, and strive to achieve a superior choral sound, while singing mostly 2-part music. The choir will participate in four major concerts, compete at the Regional Performance Assessment, and have the opportunity to audition for the Northwest Arkansas Junior High All-Region Choir.

Course Title: Introduction to Drama/Theatre**1 Semester**

Introduction to Drama/Theatre is an introductory semester course to prepare students to take the Drama and Theatre courses at the high school level. Students will use movement, dance, music, and visual arts to enhance dramatization in improvised and scripted scenes. Students will also refine and record dialogue and action. Students will be introduced to the creation of properties, scenery and costumes through individual and group effort.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Course Title: Computer Applications I (High School Credit)

1 Semester

This class is designed to provide students with the fundamental computer skills necessary to do well in high school and needed in virtually all jobs today. In the area of word processing, students will learn the fundamental skills necessary to create and edit the most widely used documents and use the most commonly used features of a word processor, such as bullets, numbered lists, special characters, borders and shading, fonts, and paragraph and line searching. The fundamentals in the use of scanners, graphics, and Word Art are applied to documents. Internet searching skills and citing Internet sources are stressed with these applied to a simple PowerPoint presentation. In the area of spreadsheets, students will be expected to create and edit spreadsheets, use basic formulas and functions, and create a graph or chart.

Course Title: Multimedia Exploration

1 Semester

In this exploratory career education course, students will discuss, learn and apply knowledge to multimedia productions. They will also explore careers in multimedia, handle and learn all aspects of video production from storylines, scripting, shooting, editing and post production needs. This course is proposed as a foundation for the Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications Career Cluster which is offered at the FHS.

Course Title: Automation and Robotics

1 Semester

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

Course Title: Design and Modeling

1 Semester

Design and Modeling, students begin to recognize the value of an engineering notebook to document and capture their ideas. They are introduced to and use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software to create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their creative solutions.

Course Title: Advanced Robotics

1 Year

Students will design, construct, and program robots to solve real world problems, focusing on competitive robotics. Students will gain experience in team building, project management, presenting, engineering notebooks, graphic design, construction, and problem solving using advanced lab tools. Students should expect to participate in a minimum of 2 Saturday robotics events. There will also be optional team build sessions after school as needed. Prior robotics, programming, or workshop experience helpful, but not required.

Course Title: Intro to Computer Science

1 Semester

Designed to be the first computer science course for students who have never programmed before, ICS is an optional starting point for the PLTW Computer Science program. Students work in teams to create simple apps for mobile devices using MIT App Inventor[®]. Students explore the impact of computing in society and the application of computing across career paths and build skills and awareness in digital citizenship and cybersecurity. Students model, simulate, and analyze data about themselves and their interests. They also transfer the understanding of programming gained in App Inventor to learn introductory elements of text-based programming in Python[®] to create strategy games.

Course Title: Family and Consumer Science Investigations **1 Semester**

In this introductory course, emphasis is placed on personal and family development, relationships, home environment, food and nutrition, wellness, resource management, responsible child care, clothing and appearance and career preparation. Upon completion of this course, the student will have enhanced their ability to function effectively as a family member, community leader and productive citizen.

Course Title: Exploring Personal Finance **1 Semester**

Exploring Personal Finance is designed to introduce 8th grade students to the knowledge and skills required for managing their personal resources and understanding their family financial resources. Through hands on projects students will demonstrate academic competencies related to values, needs and wants, decision making, spending plans, saving, banking principles and the world of credit.

OTHER

Course Title: AVID **1 Year**

Note: A recommendation, application, and interview are required. Students must be accepted into the AVID Program (Woodland ONLY)

The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective class with the overall goal to prepare students for four-year college eligibility. This course provides support for the successful completion of Pre-AP course(s) through tutorial support, writing instruction, reinforcement of study skills, time management techniques, and motivational activities. AVID students learn to work cooperatively as a support system for each other and form a trusted core of dedicated students to rely upon. Students will gain confidence in their own abilities while learning to assist their peers.

Course Title: Introduction to Journalism **1 Year**

Note: Application required

Introduction to Journalism introduces students to the exciting world of print media. Regular writing assignments will be required as well as photo shoots, the mastery of technical vocabulary and community outreach/special projects. This course will also publish a yearbook and parent and staff newsletter.

Teacher selection and student application with parental signature are required.

Out-of-class time is required to attend school events, such as dances or athletic events, to meet deadlines and for photography shoots. Deadlines are strongly enforced.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Course Title: French I

1 Year

Note: This course is recommended for students who have grades of a “C” or better in English and Math. **This course counts as high school credit. This course counts towards the requirements for honors graduation.**

French I is a basic introduction to the five skills of language: speaking, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and culture. Students learn elementary grammar skills and vocabulary pertaining to such topics as days of the week; months of the year; numbers; telling time; family; ordering in a café; daily activities; likes and dislikes; descriptions of people, things, and places in a French city; buying clothes; and leisure time activities. Emphasis is placed on the application of all grammar and vocabulary skills to speaking and understanding French, as well as writing well-organized paragraphs in the language. Fifteen minutes of homework per night can be expected. French students are encouraged to take advantage of the many extra-curricular opportunities and competitions sponsored by the World Languages department, such as celebrating National French Week and joining the Foreign Language Club. Select students may compete in the AFLTA regional and state language festivals and take the Grand Concours, a national standardized test offered by the American Association of Teachers of French.

Course Title: German I

1 Year

Note: This course is recommended for students who have grades of a “C” or better in English and Math. **This course counts as high school credit. This course counts towards the requirements for honors graduation.**

In German I, a beginning course, students will learn to communicate accurately in German on a variety of topics. They will be able to ask and answer questions about themselves and their possessions, about friends and family, and about their daily activities and leisure pastimes. They will be able to function in German in a variety of situations such as making introductions, ordering a meal, shopping, socializing with peers, and making plans. To sharpen language skills, class activities will include oral and written practice, individual and group study, and frequent review. Students will learn about the customs and cultures of the German-speaking countries through the use of culturally authentic videos and tapes.

Course Title: Spanish I

1 Year

Note: This course is recommended for students who have grades of a “C” or better in English and Math and for students with little or no previous Spanish study. **This course counts as high school credit. This course counts towards the requirements for honors graduation.**

In Spanish I, students will learn to communicate in Spanish on a variety of topics. They will be able to ask and answer questions about themselves, friends and family, daily activities and pastimes, and possessions. They will be able to accurately express themselves in a variety of situations, such as making introductions, ordering a meal, shopping, socializing with peers, and making plans. To sharpen language skills, class activities will include oral and written practice, individual and group study, and frequent review. Students will learn about the customs and cultures of the Spanish-speaking countries through the use of culturally authentic videos and tapes.

Note: *Native speakers may not take levels I and II of their native language, as it does not address their language needs and cannot be counted towards honors graduation.*