

Heath Middle School



**Course Description Handbook
2020-2021**

6th Grade Core Courses (Required)

Language Arts (LAN060)

General Description:

This course will integrate the Colorado Academic Standards in reading, writing, and communicating, using higher order thinking skills to advance the proficiency of the student. Students will demonstrate application of their knowledge in a variety of text genres using multiple strategies when reading and will demonstrate understanding of grade-level text. They will respond to their reading of text by drawing conclusions, making predictions, analyzing and explaining figurative language in concrete ways, and using relevant details from text to solve problems. Students will gather and use information from technical text and a variety of sources. They will also demonstrate the ability to read and respond to literature by using literary elements and techniques. Students will develop mastery skills in the areas of content, organization, style, and fluency by demonstrating grade-level or above application of these skills in their writing. Students will also demonstrate application of language usage skills in their writing. Students will apply these writing skills in a variety of genres, as outlined in the grade level curriculum guides. Students will also have the opportunity to practice and demonstrate skills in researching, listening, viewing, and speaking as a part of this course.

Math (MAT060)

General Description:

This class builds a stronger understanding of fractions and decimals. Students learn to compute using various strategies such as estimation, mental math, paper and pencil, calculators, etc. to solve math problems. Basic geometry, statistics, probability, measurement, and algebra are also incorporated into this course.

Science (SCI060)

General Description:

6th grade science integrates scientific inquiry across physical, life, and earth and space sciences. In physical science, students will focus on the transfer of energy in systems and the kinetic energy of objects. In the life sciences, students will focus on the growth and development of organisms, cell structures, and processes to begin to understand how the structures of organisms enable life's functions including conditions of successful reproduction, development, and growth. Finally, in the earth and space sciences, students will focus on the rise in global temperature, with a focus on the water cycle, regional climates, and the relationship of humans to the environment. The format of this course includes labs, investigations, classroom demonstrations, computer simulations and investigations, projects, classroom discussions, creating models, and scientific readings.

Social Studies (SOC060)

General Description:

This course will integrate the social studies standards of history, civics, economics and geography, with an emphasis on the Western Hemisphere. Students will learn about how events in history have impacted history. Students will combine historical information and thinking skills to connect concepts throughout history.

6th Grade Elective Courses

Each student has 2 elective periods during the school day.

Year-long Courses

Beginning Band (MUS010)

General Description:

The band program is open to all students who wish to play a musical instrument or transfer to another instrument. Beginning band will stress notes, counting, and music theory as related to the individual instruments. The band program provides a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of select musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Beginning Orchestra (MUS011)

General Description:

The orchestra program is open to all students who wish to play a string instrument. Beginning Orchestra will stress notes, counting, and music theory as related to the individual instruments. The orchestra program will provide a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of select musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) (LDR060)

General Description:

The sixth grade AVID Elective course is an introduction to the AVID philosophy. Students will develop awareness of the values accompanying academic goals and success. The course will focus on building self-confidence and communication skills in working with peers and adults. Students will be exposed to reading strategies that will assist in vocabulary building and understanding a variety of texts, and will also focus on prewriting techniques, summary writing, and structural components of note-taking. The students will increase college and career awareness through guest speaker presentations, field trip opportunities, and research.

Semester Courses

Beginning Choir (MUS012)

General Description:

This choir program is open to all students who wish to study and perform in a variety of vocal music experiences. Beginning choir will stress notes, counting, and music theory. Public performances will occur throughout the year.

Speech and Drama (LAN012)

General Description:

This 18-week course is designed to give students the opportunity to explore the dramatic arts. There will be an emphasis on both individual and group performance skills in creative drama and play-acting. Also, there will be exploration into the process of preparing for and delivering monologues, pantomime, improvisation, duet acting, storytelling, and oral interpretation. This course will act as preparation for actual performance and serve as an

invitation to students to participate in future speech and drama coursework. Students will be assessed regularly, using a variety of methods, to determine if they are meeting the course expectations.

Exploring Industrial Arts (IND010)

General Description:

This 18-week course is designed to introduce students to topics related to industrial arts. Topics will include safety, patterns and simple drawings, measurement, use of hand tools, limited use of power tools, and finishing. Students will produce projects made from wood, metal, and plastics.

Art (FIN 010)

General Description:

This 18-week course will allow students the opportunity to explore several different mediums in art. Students will work with the following techniques and processes including perspective drawing, printmaking, watercolor painting, and clay constructions.

Multi-Media Art (FIN011)

General Description:

This 18-week course will allow students the opportunity to explore contemporary media in art including graphics and design. Students will use several different mediums during this 18-week class as they experience the field of the fine arts.

Physical Education/Fitness (PHY010)

General Description:

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn a variety of sports and sports related movements, as well as fitness concepts. Students are provided an opportunity to continue to improve and explore individual, dual, and team sports with a special focus on lifetime sports. Emphasis is placed on active participation and positive social interaction. Instruction is on a group basis and encourages students to work toward personal goals and the fulfillment of their own potential. As students gain competence in a particular skill within the confines of a safe and secure environment, they experience the challenges of competition, which require discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and cooperation.

Study Skills (LAN013)

General Description:

This course will allow students to develop or reinforce effective study skills including, but not limited to, note taking, informational organization, time management, and test preparation. Students will complete a study skills inventory to identify their strengths and weaknesses.

Technology Applications (TEC010)

General Description:

Basic computer skills and keyboarding with an emphasis on word processing will form the basis for Technology Applications 1. Students will also use spreadsheets, databases, and drawing and painting programs.

Robotics 1 (ADT040)**General Description:**

This course provides students the opportunity to select/use media and technology tools to access, organize, create, communicate information in order to solve problems and construct new knowledge, products, and systems. To meet academic needs and personal needs students will use an information problem-solving process to access, evaluate, apply information from a variety of sources in print, non-print, and electronic formats. Students will apply technological and information skills to issues of personal and academic interest by demonstrating critical reading, listening, and viewing.

Students may be placed in a Reading Intervention class for at least one semester as determined by school personnel based on assessment data and previous performance.

7th Grade Core Courses (Required)

Language Arts (LAN070)

General Description:

This course will integrate the Colorado Academic Standards in reading, writing, and communicating, using higher order thinking skills to advance the proficiency of the student. Students will demonstrate application of their knowledge in a variety of text genres using multiple strategies when reading and will demonstrate understanding of grade-level text. They will respond to their reading of text by drawing conclusions, making predictions, analyzing and explaining figurative language in concrete ways, and using relevant details from text to solve problems. Students will gather and use information from technical text and a variety of sources. They will also demonstrate the ability to read and respond to literature by using literary elements and techniques. Students will develop mastery skills in the areas of content, organization, style, and fluency by demonstrating grade-level or above application of these skills in their writing. Students will also demonstrate application of language usage skills in their writing. Students will apply these writing skills in a variety of genres, as outlined in the grade level pacing guides. Students will also have the opportunity to practice and demonstrate skills in researching, listening, viewing, and speaking as a part of this course.

Math (MAT070)

General Description:

Students will continue to develop skills using fractions, decimals, and percents as they apply them in real life situations. They will develop the concepts and demonstrate the use of ratios and proportions. Students will start to move more into abstract concepts as they begin to use variables to solve problems and work to understand the significance between number patterns and variables. Students will learn to find patterns in the math around them and begin to write simple equations. Students will also work with geometry, statistics, probability, algebra, measurement, and the use of signed numbers.

Science (SCI070)

General Description:

7th grade science integrates scientific inquiry across physical, life, and earth and space sciences. In physical science, students will focus on the properties of matter. In the life sciences, students will focus on dynamic interactions within ecosystems. Finally, in earth and space sciences, students will focus on geologic changes that take place on Earth. The format of this course includes labs, investigations, classroom demonstrations, computer simulations and investigations, projects, classroom discussions, creating models, and scientific readings.

Social Studies (SOC070)

General Description:

This course will integrate the social studies standards of history, civics, economics and geography, with an emphasis on the Eastern Hemisphere. Students will learn about how events in history have impacted history. Students will combine historical information and thinking skills to connect concepts throughout history.

7th Grade Elective Courses

Each student has 2 elective periods during the school day.

Year-long Courses

Intermediate Band (MUS020)

General Description:

The band program is open to all students who wish to play a musical instrument or transfer to another instrument. Intermediate Band will continue to develop skills including music notation, counting, and music theory as related to the individual instruments. The band program provides a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of selected musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Intermediate Orchestra (MUS021)

General Description:

The orchestra program is open to all students who wish to play a string instrument. Intermediate Orchestra will continue to develop skills including music notation, counting, and music theory as related to the individual instruments. The orchestra program will provide a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of select musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) (LDR070)

General Description:

The seventh grade AVID Elective course builds upon the components of the AVID philosophy. Students will refine short- and long-term goals, and as a result, begin to understand the value in taking charge of their actions. Students will start working on intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, as well as formal and informal speech. Students will complete self-evaluations and peer evaluations, related to reading, writing, organization, and speaking. In broadening their writing practice, students will begin considering audience, purpose, and form in their writing. Students will take an active role in their learning, understanding the roles of all members in assignments and collaborative lessons. They will expand their knowledge bases of note-taking, in relation to studying and test preparation. Students will be exposed to different field trips, guest speakers, and research, to increase their knowledge of college and career options.

Semester Courses

Intermediate Choir (MUS022)

General Description:

This choir program is open to all students who wish to study and perform in a variety of vocal music experiences. Intermediate Choir will focus on improving musicianship through sight-reading, vocal improvements, listening skills, and sensitivity. Public performances will occur throughout the year.

Art Today (FIN021)

General Description:

This course will allow students the opportunity to explore several different mediums in art and how different mediums are used in society today.

Art (FIN020)

General Description:

This course will allow students an opportunity for beginning study and application of basic art principles. Students will develop 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional artwork through the course of the semester.

Technology Applications (TEC020)

General Description:

Technology Applications 2 will allow students to further expand their computer experience. Keyboarding will be an important part of this course, but will be taught using application software, multi-media presentation, desktop publishing and use of the Internet. An important component of this course will be ethics and policies of computer use. At this time, students may use e-mail and cross platform (Mac and PC) equipment.

Robotics 2 (ADT041)

General Description:

This course provides students the opportunity to select/use media and technology tools to access, organize, create, communicate information in order to solve problems and construct new knowledge, products, and systems. To meet academic needs and personal needs students will use an information problem-solving process to access, evaluate, apply information from a variety of sources in print, non-print, and electronic formats. Students will apply technological and information skills to issues of personal and academic interest by demonstrating critical reading, listening, and viewing.

Graphic Communications (IND020)

General Description:

This course will give students an opportunity to develop the ability to communicate graphically. In this course, students will develop early drafting principles, such as, drafting board skills, the ability to sketch, use of drafting terminology, creating patterns, materials lists, and the knowledge of working drawings. Students will work on measurement and the conversion between fractions and decimals. There will also be a limited use of programs such as CAD, and the experience of taking a project from an idea, to a plan, and then to a working model

Speech and Drama (LAN022)

Course Description

The elective course in Speech/Drama gives students the opportunity to explore possible future interest in speech and/or dramatic arts. Group and individual performance skills in creative drama, monologues, creative play acting, pantomime, improvisation, duet acting, oral interpretation, and storytelling are possible units of study. Creating and delivering of various types of speeches will also be part of the course. There will be many opportunities to practice and demonstrate competence in listening, viewing, and critiquing the work of others. This course will prepare students for actual performances at this level, as well as involvement

in high school drama/forensics activities. Students will be assessed regularly using a variety of methods.

Study Skills (LAN023)

General Description:

This course will allow students to develop or reinforce effective study skills including, but not limited to, note taking, informational organization, time management, and test preparation. Students will complete a study skills inventory to identify their strengths and weaknesses.

Physical Education/Fitness (PHY020)

General Description:

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn a variety of sports and sports related movements, as well as fitness concepts. Students are provided an opportunity to continue to improve and explore individual, dual, and team sports with a special focus on lifetime sports. Emphasis is placed on active participation and positive social interaction. Instruction is on a group basis and encourages students to work toward personal goals and the fulfillment of their own potential. As students gain competence in a particular skill within the confines of a safe and secure environment, they experience the challenges of competition, which require discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and cooperation.

Students may be placed in a Reading Intervention class for at least one semester as determined by school personnel based on assessment data and previous performance.

8th Grade Core Courses (Required)

Language Arts (LAN080)

General Description:

This course will integrate the Colorado Academic Standards in reading, writing, and communicating, using higher order thinking skills to advance the proficiency of the student. Students will demonstrate application of their knowledge in a variety of text genres using multiple strategies when reading and will demonstrate understanding of grade-level text. They will respond to their reading of text by drawing conclusions, making predictions, analyzing and explaining figurative language in concrete ways, and using relevant details from text to solve problems. Students will gather and use information from technical text and a variety of sources. They will also demonstrate the ability to read and respond to literature by using literary elements and techniques. Students will develop mastery skills in the areas of content, organization, style, and fluency by demonstrating grade-level or above application of these skills in their writing. Students will also demonstrate application of language usage skills in their writing. Students will apply these writing skills in a variety of genres, as outlined in the grade level pacing guides. Students will also have the opportunity to practice and demonstrate skills in researching, listening, viewing, and speaking as a part of this course.

Math (MAT080)

General Description:

This course is an introductory course in algebraic and geometric concepts. Instructional activities fundamental to algebra such as ratios and proportions using signed numbers and variables, percentages, solving equations with one variable, calculator skills, and geometry skills will be taught. This course will prepare the student for a successful experience in Algebra 1.

Algebra 1 (MAT100A/B)

General Description:

The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. Because it is built on the middle grades standards, this is a more ambitious version of Algebra I than has generally been offered. The critical areas, called units, deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend, and students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions.

Science (SCI080)

General Description:

8th grade science integrates scientific inquiry across physical, life, and earth and space sciences. In physical science, students will develop an understanding of how interactions between objects can be explained and predicted, including how waves transfer energy and information. In the life sciences, students will focus on how there can be many similarities among organisms and yet there is so much diversity. Finally, in Earth and Space sciences, students will develop an understanding of how Earth has evolved over time.. The format of this course includes labs, investigations, classroom demonstrations, computer simulations and investigations, projects, classroom discussions, creating models, and scientific readings.

Social Studies (SOC080)

General Description:

This course will integrate the social studies standards of history, civics, economics, and geography, with an emphasis on United States history from the origins of the American Revolution through Reconstruction. Students will learn about how these events in history have impacted their lives and the development of our country as we know it today. Students will combine historical information and thinking skills to communicate ideas.

8th Grade Elective Courses

Each student has 2 elective periods during the school day.

Year-long Courses

Advanced Band (MUS030)

General Description:

The band program provides a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of selected musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Advanced Band stresses fundamental and advanced rhythm reading. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Advanced Orchestra (MUS031)

General Description:

The orchestra program will provide a variety of musical experiences with emphasis on the study and performance of select musical literature representative of a wide range of periods, styles, nationalities, forms, and composers. Advanced Orchestra stresses fundamental and advanced rhythm reading. Public performances will occur periodically throughout the year.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) (LDR080)

General Description:

The eighth grade AVID Elective course is the year of preparation for high school. The students will regularly exhibit and utilize the skills and strategies learned in the sixth and seventh grade AVID courses. Students will refine previous goals, focusing on their transition to high school as part of a college preparatory path. Their writing will focus on completing all steps of the writing process and varying style, word choice, vocabulary, structure, and voice. Major writing assignments include persuasive, expository, descriptive, and timed-writing. Students will transition from active learners to leaders. Other areas of focus include increasing the use of technology and building upon their test preparation and test-taking knowledge. They will broaden their experiences with analyzing text and utilizing appropriate reading strategies in various settings. Students will become more involved in the presentations of guest speakers and field trips, particularly as they relate to preparation and prior knowledge. Students will also participate in college preparation testing and build connections with the high school they will attend.

Semester Courses

Advanced Choir (MUS032)

General Description:

This choir program is open to all students who wish to study and perform in a variety of vocal music experiences. Advanced Choir will focus on improving musicianship through advanced rhythm reading, sight reading, vocal improvements, listening skills, and sensitivity. Public performances will occur throughout the year.

Materials Processing (IND030)

General Description:

Materials processing will allow students to explore projects in wood, metal, plastic, and sheet metal. Students will also be expected to use power and hand tools safely, to be able to cast molds from various media, and to finish projects.

Explorations in Technology (TEC030)

General Description:

Explorations in Technology will allow each facility to design a course that deals with technology in a way that best meets the needs of each individual school. Examples of possible topics may include experiences with robotics, technology modules, video, information systems, etc.

Robotics 2 (ADT042)

General Description:

This course provides students the opportunity to select/use media and technology tools to access, organize, create, communicate information in order to solve problems and construct new knowledge, products, and systems. To meet academic needs and personal needs students will use an information problem-solving process to access, evaluate, apply information from a variety of sources in print, non-print, and electronic formats. Students will apply technological and information skills to issues of personal and academic interest by demonstrating critical reading, listening, and viewing.

Art 2-D (FIN030)

General Description:

This course will focus on 2-dimensional artwork including drawing, painting, and commercial art. Students will create characters in a variety of different medium, computer drawing, and painting. The subjects may include figure drawing, landscapes, contour, gestures, portraits, still life, comic, and cartooning.

Art 3-D (FIN031)

General Description:

This course will focus on 3-dimensional artwork including pottery and sculpture. Students will learn construction processes and developmental techniques to create 3-dimensional artwork.

Open Studio Art (FIN032)

General Description:

This course is available to students who have satisfactorily completed an art course in the regular art curriculum and are advanced in at least one area of art. This course gives a student the opportunity to further explore in-depth a media of his/her choice.

Physical Education/Fitness (PHY030)

General Description:

This course provides students with the opportunity to learn a variety of sports and sports related movements, as well as fitness concepts. Students are provided an opportunity to continue to improve and explore individual, dual, and team sports with a special focus on lifetime sports. Emphasis is placed on active participation and positive social interaction. Instruction is on a group basis and encourages students to work toward personal goals and the fulfillment of their own potential. As students gain competence in a particular skill within the confines of a safe and secure environment, they experience the challenges of competition, which require discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and cooperation.

Speech and Drama (LAN032)

General Description:

The elective course in Speech/Drama gives students the opportunity to explore possible future interest in speech and dramatic arts in greater depth. Group and individual performance skills in creative drama, monologues, creative play acting, pantomime, improvisation, duet acting, oral interpretation, and storytelling are possible units of study. Creating and delivering of various types of speeches will also be part of the course. There will be many opportunities to practice and demonstrate competence in listening, viewing, and critiquing the work of others. This course will prepare students for actual performances at this level, as well as involvement in high school drama/forensics activities. Students will be assessed regularly using a variety of methods.

Study Skills (LAN033)

General Description:

This course will allow students to develop or reinforce effective study skills including, but not limited to, note taking, informational organization, time management, and test preparation. Students will complete a study skills inventory to identify their strengths and weaknesses.



Athletics

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cross Country Football Volleyball Swimming	Boys Basketball Girls Basketball Wrestling	Soccer Track & Field

Extra Curricular Activities



Beyond the Bell (BTB) is an after school program that provides lots of opportunities for you to explore! Each quarter there are new groups to choose from such as; video gaming, intramural sports, board games, sewing, drawing, and many more! There are also opportunities for academic support for your classes. Beyond the Bell provides dinner and also transportation home. This program is free and runs Monday-Thursday from 4:15-5:30 p.m.

LULAC-League of United Latin American Citizens-L.U.L.A.C. is a club that welcomes all students from all cultures. L.U.L.A.C.'s main purpose is to learn to appreciate all cultures and learn from others. Academics is a key message to students because L.U.L.A.C. believes all students can be successful. Therefore, academic support and leadership opportunities are offered. Students meet new people, participate in fun activities and events, and build positive self-esteem.



No Place for Hate is a self-directed program helping all of the stakeholders take the lead on improving and maintaining the school climate so all students can thrive. This is a committee of students who have signed a 'resolution of respect' agreement and are committed to being leaders amongst the student body.

Dream Team Educational Talent Search (ETS) turns educational dreams into reality. We work with a diverse student population building relationships. We mentor, empower and educate today's youth to transition to college to become tomorrow's leaders.



Student Council is a group of students who represent the entire student body by helping identify and solve problems that the school faces. They help communicate to administration concerns, ideas and help problem solve to build a better Heath community. Student Council representatives hold fundraisers, dances and other student body events.

WEB Leaders (Where Everybody Belongs) are 8th grade students who mentor and guide the 6th/7th graders to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to middle school and help facilitate 6th/7th grade success.



Builders Club has a long history of providing community service to Heath and the surrounding Greeley community. In fact, Heath has only one of two Builders Clubs in Greeley middle schools. Builders Club is an international student-led organization providing members with opportunities to perform service, build character and develop leadership. Some activities include campus clean up, candy canes for a cause, school recycling, animal shelter supplies drive, and many others! This club meets once a month after school.



Forensics: This is an opportunity for students to get involved in speech & debate, reciting monologues and/or poetry in public speaking competitions.

Theatre & Drama- is open to all Middle School students interested in an introduction to theatre with an emphasis in acting. Students are taught theatre terminology, basic set and prop building, improvisational skills, drama games, verbal and nonverbal communication skills, and more.





Jazz Band-Making great music in the mornings before school begins. This group is created by audition only. See Mr. Wilkenson for more information.



National Junior Honor Society is an organization for 7th and 8th graders who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the areas of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, Character and Citizenship. The criteria for selection form the foundation upon which the organization and its activities are built. The purpose of NJHS is to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, develop character, and to encourage good citizenship in the student members. NJHS participates in several activities throughout the school year including; spirit week sponsorship, tutoring, volunteering in the community, and sponsorship of the school talent show. This is by application/teacher selection only.