

Greater Nanticoke Area High School 8th Grade

Program Of



Study 2017 - 2018

Reading 8

(0821)

This course uses a whole language approach to reading instruction. In adhering to the Common Core English Language Arts Standards for grade 8, a variety of genres will be explored through an examination of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, novels, and short stories. This course will focus on learning processes, motivational, comprehension and word-recognition strategies, writing and speaking skills, note and test-taking skills, as well as critical thinking. Reading comprehension and proficiency will be cultivated through the following: vocabulary development, context clue recognition, identification of passage type, author's purpose, main idea and supporting details, the understanding of inferences, and the analyzing of point-of-view, plot, character, setting and theme. Students are required to read *one* of the following novels prior to entering eighth grade: Paul Zindel's, *The Pigman*, Katherine Paterson's, *Jacob Have I Loved*, and Gary Paulsen's, *Voyage of the Frog*. In September, a written test will follow.

ELA8

(0820)

This course is aligned to the PA Common Core Standards for English Language Arts for grade 8. It provides a foundation of understanding and appreciation for various literary genres. Students will use a variety of reading strategies to increase comprehension, establish a purpose for reading, and demonstrate proficient reading skills. Students will strive to acquire a working vocabulary throughout the course while becoming critical thinkers, fluent speakers, and competent writers. Students will focus on the persuasive and informational modes of discourse. Skills in grammar and conventions will be reviewed.

Passing English Language Arts, Grade 8 is a prerequisite for taking English Language Arts, Grade 9.

Pre-Algebra

(3822)

This course will focus on the assessment anchors and eligible content as defined by the Grade 8 PA Core Standards and will emphasize the concepts necessary to be successful in Algebra I. Topics include the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, statistics and probability, and inequalities.

American Civics

(2820)

American Civics focuses on several important civics themes: Citizenship values –instills the qualities of good citizenship and encourages students to develop attitudes that foster good citizenship; American government - provides a thorough understanding of the structure and purpose of the federal, state, and local governments; American economic system - teaches students about free enterprise and how to compete in the economic world; Challenges in today's world - familiarizes students with contemporary issues that face the United States and challenges them to improve life for all Americans.

Science 8

(4820)

This course presents a general background in science to prepare students for courses that will be taken in grades 9 through 12. Students are shown how science principles are used to solve everyday problems. The variety of topics presented include biology (inheritance, adaptation and evolution, ecology), earth science (earth's structure and the forces that change it, water, weather and climate, the solar system), chemistry (physical and chemical properties of matter, elements and the periodic table, chemical reactions), and physics (force and motion, energy forms and transfer). Students will perform lab activities to reinforce scientific concepts presented and use math to solve physics problems.

Art

(5830)

This is a basic course to provide students with an introduction to art education. Students share in a variety of experiences involving paper crafts, watercolor painting and design. Clay sculptures and three dimensional arts are also part of the instructional program. (1 period /week)

Computer Lab**(3830)**

Students in 8th grade will continue to build solid computer skills, including keyboarding, proficiency using word processing and spreadsheet software and other digital tools. Internet safety, ethical and legal computer use, navigation of files both on our network server and in the cloud, research/ information collected via Edmodo and Google Classroom. (1 period per week)

Music**(8831)**

The course is designed to cover music history, music theory and music of different cultures in order to get a better understanding of the music of today. An introduction to the guitar and the various instruments of different cultures are used as reinforcement of the basic concepts. Students will familiarize themselves with the characteristics of a cultural period through listening and singing. Students will learn the history of American music up to the early 1900's with special emphasis placed on the music of the Civil war.

(1 period per week)

Physical Education**(9823)**

This is a basic course which includes a structured program in developing motor skills and mobility. It allows students to develop at their own pace and become cognizant of their own capabilities. The use of rhythmic activities and modified games enhances each individual student's personal awareness of physical growth. (1 period per week)

Instructional Technology Math**(7829)**

This course is designed to enhance mathematical and problem solving skills through the use of technology. Mathematical and problem solving concepts are introduced and applied through technology avenues such as the use of a spreadsheet or object-oriented programming software. Students are challenged to solve problems where the process, as much as the answer, is emphasized. All classwork and materials will be distributed and collected via Edmodo and Google Classroom. (1 period per week).

**GREATER NANTICOKE AREA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE REGISTRATION FORM
2017-2018**

GRADE 8

PLEASE PRINT

Student's Name _____ HR _____
Last First

The courses listed below represent the educational curriculum for students entering the eighth grade at the senior high school. **SCHEDULES WILL NOT BE CHANGED AFTER SELECTIONS ARE FINALIZED.**

0820	ELA 8
0821	Reading 8
2820	Civics 8
4820	Science 8
3822	Pre-Algebra
<i>Students will be hand selected for Advanced courses in Math, Reading and Science based upon assessment results. Parents will be notified if their child qualifies.</i>	
3830	Computer Laboratory
5830	Art
8831	Music
9823	Physical Education
7829	Instructional Technology Math

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____