

# SALK MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Course Catalog 2023-24*



# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## Graduation Requirements – Student Planning Sheet

### 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE

#### Fall Semester

1. English 6 or English Resource
2. Social Studies Ancient Civilizations
3. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Math Resource
4. Earth Science
5. Intro to Choir or Intro to Band or Intro to Orchestra
6. Fitness & Health or (Art, Career Exploratory, or World Languages Exploratory)

#### Spring Semester

1. English 6 or English Resource
2. Social Studies Ancient Civilizations
3. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Math Resource
4. Earth Science
5. Intro to Choir or Intro to Band or Intro to Orchestra
6. Fitness & Health or (Art, Career Exploratory, or World Languages Exploratory)

### 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE

#### Fall Semester

1. English 7 or English 7 Accelerated or English Resource
2. Social Studies 7
3. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Math 7 Accelerated or Math Resource
4. Life Science
5. Fitness & Health or Elective (The Arts, Career & Technical Education (CTE), World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Elective (The Arts, CTE, World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Spring Semester

1. English 7 or English 7 Accelerated or English Resource
2. WA State History\*
3. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Math 7 Accelerated or Math Resource
4. Life Science
5. Fitness & Health or Elective (The Arts, CTE, World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Elective (The Arts, CTE, World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Parents/Guardians: This course is a graduation requirement for all students in the state of Washington. Students must successfully complete this course with a passing grade in order to meet this graduation requirement. A failing grade will result in the student needing to re-take this course.

### 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE

#### Fall Semester

1. English 8 or English Accelerated 8 or English Resource
2. American Studies 8
3. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Algebra I or Geometry or Math Resource
4. Physical Science
5. Fitness & Health or Career, College, Life Readiness (CCLR)
6. Elective (The Arts, CTE, World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Spring Semester

1. English 8 or English Accelerated 8 or English Resource
2. American Studies 8
3. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Algebra I or Geometry or Math Resource
4. Physical Science
5. Fitness & Health or Career, College, Life Readiness (CCLR)
6. Elective (The Arts, CTE, World Language, other): \_\_\_\_\_

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\*These classes may be offered in a virtual HUB model based on the number of students who are interested - If not enough students are interested at your school, then it could be offered as a live/synchronous virtual class (non-SVL) in combination with other students from around the district, during a specific period, including a teacher that might not be at your school.

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# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

### HUMANITIES

#### English 6

In English 6, students will investigate the thematic concept of change. Students will read a variety of texts learn about the theme of change through the experiences of real and imaginary characters. Close reading strategies will help students to determine what each text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from what it does not say explicitly. Writing and speaking will focus on text-based evidence. Students will be asked to write in narrative, informational, and argumentative, modes. Students will also look at print texts and then examine how those same texts are portrayed in film.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 1102*

*Term: Full Year*

#### Social Studies 6 - Ancient Civilizations

In sixth grade, students are ready to deepen their understanding of the Earth and its peoples through the study of history, geography, politics, culture, and economic systems. They will do this by studying ancient world history and geography. Students begin their examination of the world by exploring the location, place, and spatial organization of the world's major regions. This exploration is then followed by exploring world history from its beginnings. Students are given an opportunity to study a few ancient civilizations deeply, including the Fertile Crescent, Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Rome. Through this study, students develop higher levels of critical thinking by considering why civilizations developed, where and when they did, and why they declined. Students analyze the interactions among the various cultures, emphasizing their enduring contributions and the link between the contemporary and ancient worlds.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 2102*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## STEM

### Math 6

Math 6 is the course for sixth-grade students and provides the foundational elements for Algebra and beyond. Students will explore and solve mathematical problems, think critically, work cooperatively with others, and communicate their ideas clearly as they work through concepts. A summary of the major concepts and procedures learned in this course follows. In sixth grade, students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Students will use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions and solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations. They will also, expand their understanding of our base ten number system as they work to solve problems involving unit rates, percentages, and dividing fractions.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 3102*

*Term: Full Year*

### Science 6 - Earth & Space Science

This course focuses on Earth and Space. It provides sixth grade students the opportunity to learn science concepts and principles, acquire reasoning and problem-solving abilities, and develop inquiry skills. The sixth-grade course is designed to enable students to attain a fundamental level of scientific literacy that will provide the competencies needed for successful participation in our scientifically and technologically oriented society. Students will study weather, climate, and water cycling; rock cycling and plate tectonics; natural hazards; natural resources and human impact; and Earth in space. Science 6 will also include the opportunity for students to participate in a schoolwide Science Fair.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 5102*

*Term: Full Year*



# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## FITNESS & HEALTH

### Fitness & Health 6

Students will participate in a variety of activities (sports, games, and fitness) in which they will increase competency in activity-specific skills. Students will also apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance, demonstrate knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness, exhibit responsible personal and social behavior, and recognize the value of physical activity. Students will analyze individual health behaviors and their current fitness levels, demonstrate an ability to set and adjust individual fitness goals, and work toward creating and implementing a personal health and fitness plan.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 5900*

*Term: Semester*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## SEMESTER ELECTIVES

### Art 6

Students of all abilities will learn and apply the elements and principles of design by using a variety of media. Creativity will be developed using different visual art techniques and skills. The foundations of aesthetics, criticism and art history will also be explored.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 4101*

*Term: Semester*

### World Language Exploratory 6

Students will be introduced to the culture and world languages of the languages offered at high school. They will learn everyday vocabulary and examine the culture of the people who speak the languages. It is designed to be a fun way to learn and experience each language before making a choice for yearlong language study at high school.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 6693*

*Term: Semester*

### Career Exploratory 6

Students will explore their interests, skills, and aptitudes. Students will engage with content that reinforces key STEM skills and mindsets.

Students will connect with employers, educators, and resources in the region. Students will learn practical steps to protect their privacy and safety online. Students will engage in real-life financial scenarios that focus on skill building and responsible decision making.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 7134*

*Term: Semester*



# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## FULL YEAR ELECTIVES

### Intro to Choir 6

This course will build foundational singing and literacy skills as they pertain to choral singing. Students will build the skills they will need to be successful in the intermediate and advanced choral classes. The course will include a variety of musical styles. Students will explore and discover how to perform different forms, and languages, common in a basic choral experience. Students will be required to perform in both in school and after school performances. There are possible fees for uniforms that may be charged.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 4551*

*Term: Full Year*

### Intro to Orchestra 6

This course is for students who would like to learn to play a string orchestra instrument—violin, viola, cello, or bass. Members of this class will have multiple opportunities to perform throughout the year. Practice at home is encouraged to be at performance level. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. There are possible fees for uniform and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 6*

*Course: 4543*

*Term: Full Year*

### Intro to Band 6

This class is for students who would like to learn to play a brass (trumpet, trombone), woodwind (flute, clarinet) or percussion instrument. Members of this class will have multiple opportunities to perform throughout the year. Practice at home is encouraged to be at performance level. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. There are possible fees for uniforms and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 6*

*Course Code: 4755*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

#### English 7

In English 7, students will investigate the thematic concept of choice. Close reading strategies will help students to determine what each text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from what it does not say explicitly. Writing and speaking will focus on text-based evidence. For example, students will write a literary analysis of a novel and include findings from research to produce a multimedia biographical presentation. Much like in 6th grade, students will be asked to write in argumentative, informational, and narrative modes. Students will also look at print texts and then examine how those same texts are portrayed in film.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 1110*

*Term: Full Year*

#### English 7 Accelerated

A language arts accelerated program at the middle level will include an environment where students experience learning that is more cognitively complex than the general education offering; that is faster paced; and is characterized by greater depth of content. It is necessary to note that SpringBoard is the basic education curricular framework offered in general education and accelerated classrooms for grades 7 and 8 language arts. SpringBoard is the College Board's college preparation curriculum. Thus, language arts accelerated class sections are designed to extend and advance our most advanced literacy learners. A pre-course summer assignment is required for this course.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 1150*

*Term: Full Year*

#### English 8

In English 8, units of study focus on the theme of challenges. Students will learn about an archetype of a hero, which is a model that writers follow in creating stories about heroes. Writing and speaking opportunities are varied and engaging. For example, students will write a hero's journey narrative about a hero of your choice, along with essays and an argument that presents your position on an issue in a compelling way. Using research on an issue of national or global significance, students will create an informative multimedia presentation. Viewing film is also a part of researching and analyzing what authors are communicating. As part of studying comedy and Shakespeare, students will analyze scenes from the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and then view those scenes in film to determine how and why a film director may have changed the scenes.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 1120*

*Term: Full Year*

#### English 8 Accelerated

A language arts accelerated program at the middle level will include an environment where students experience learning that is more cognitively complex than the general education offering; that is faster paced; and is characterized by greater depth of content. It is necessary to note that SpringBoard is the basic education curricular framework offered in general education and accelerated classrooms for grades 7 and 8 language arts. SpringBoard is the College Board's default college preparation curriculum. Thus, language arts accelerated class sections are designed to extend and advance our most advanced literacy learners. A pre-course summer assignment is required for this course.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 1151*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## MATHEMATICS

### Math 7

Math 7 is the course for most seventh-grade students and continues to build the foundation elements for Algebra on top of the work students did in Math 6. Students will explore and solve mathematical problems, think critically, work cooperatively with others, and communicate their ideas clearly as they work through concepts. A summary of the major concepts and procedures learned in this course follows.

In seventh grade, student will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Students will extend their mathematical ability as they continue to develop many of the ideas started in Math 6. They will also construct scale drawings as they solve problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume. Students will explore circles, triangles, polygons, and they will use random sampling to draw inferences about a population.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 3112*

*Term: Full Year*

### Math 7 Accelerated

Accelerated Math is for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. This course is for students who want to take a high school course (Algebra 1) as an eighth grader. Making it easier to get to Calculus or Statistics as a high school senior. This course offers a combination of seventh grade and eighth grade math by completing two years of math topics in one year. Students must be able to learn and apply math concepts at an accelerated pace to be successful in this course.

**\*\*Students who are below standard may be required to take a year-long Math and/or Reading Strategies course.**

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 3139*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## Math 8

Math 8 jumps into topics traditionally found in a pre-algebra course. Students will continue to investigate problems, work with their peers, and communicate clearly to solve problems. A summary of the major concepts and procedures learned in this course follows.

In Math 8, students explore rigid transformations to contrast that with dilations to develop their idea of slope. Most of the course will be focused on linear relationships, systems, and functions. Students will be introduced to scientific notation, the laws of exponents, Pythagorean Theorem, and associations in data.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 3115*

*Term: Full Year*

## Algebra

Students will learn to use functions to solve problems. They will develop the ability to explore and solve abstract problems, as they work cooperatively with others and communicate their ideas. Topics for this course include a study of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions as well as statistics. Use of the graphing calculator is an integral part of this course. This course grade appears on student's high school transcript.

Students and parents should consult their school principal regarding entrance criteria.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 3117*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): 7<sup>th</sup> Graders: Meet established criteria for 7th Grade Algebra enrollment. 8th Graders: Successful completion of 7th Grade Accelerated Math.*

## Geometry\*

Students will explore the basic concepts and methods of Euclidean Geometry while deepening their understanding about plane and solid geometry. Course topics include reasoning and proof, line, and angle relationships, two- and three-dimensional figures, coordinate plane geometry, geometric transformations, surface area and volume. Core processes include reasoning, problem solving and communication.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 3144*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): Algebra*

\*These classes may be offered in a virtual HUB model based on the number of students who are interested - If not enough students are interested at your school, then it could be offered as a live/synchronous virtual class (non-SVL) in combination with other students from around the district, during a specific period, including a teacher that might not be at your school.

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## SCIENCE

### Science 7 - Life Science

This course provides seventh grade students the opportunity to learn science concepts and principles, acquire reasoning and problem-solving abilities, and develop inquiry skills. It is designed to enable students to attain a fundamental level of scientific literacy that will provide the competencies needed for successful participation in our scientifically and technologically oriented society. Students will learn key biological concepts including cells and systems; metabolic reactions; matter cycling and photosynthesis; ecosystem dynamics; genetics; natural selection and common ancestry.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 5111*

*Term: Full Year*

### Science 8 - Physical Science

This course focuses on physics and chemistry, providing eighth grade students the opportunity to learn science concepts and principles, acquire reasoning and problem-solving abilities, and develop inquiry skills. The eighth-grade course is designed to enable students to attain a fundamental level of scientific literacy that will provide the competencies needed for successful participation in our scientifically and technologically oriented society. Students will cover the concepts of light and matter; thermal energy; chemical reactions and matter transformations; chemical reactions and energy; contact forces; sound waves; forces at a distance.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 5125*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Social Studies 7 -World History Accelerated

In the seventh grade, students will continue their study of world history from 6th grade, focusing on major societies, world religions, events and movements that existed from the Fall of Rome to 1450 CE. Students will examine the Byzantine Empire, Islamic Civilizations, African Civilizations, Empires of Asia, and Mesoamerica. Through this study, students will develop enduring understandings of core concepts and ideas in civics, economics, geography, and history. Students will also develop skills in the areas of research, reading, and writing. Research instruction will include writing a guiding research question, selecting sources, evaluating information for relevancy and accuracy, drawing conclusions, evaluating primary and secondary sources, and distinguishing among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment. AP Skills for Social Studies include: 1. Document analysis strategies APPARTS and HIPPOS to determine the meaning, reliability, purpose, and perspective of primary and secondary sources 2. Thesis Creation and development of a line of reasoning 3. Argumentation and use of supporting evidence 4. Use of historical reasoning processes to analyze comparison, cause/effect, and continuity and change over time, 5. Visual source analysis with OPTICS.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 2150*

*Term: Semester*

### Social Studies 7 - Washington State History Accelerated

In seventh grade, students become more proficient with the core concepts in social studies. Students study Washington State from its earliest inhabitants to the present day. Various lessons will be taught that meet the requirements of the Since Time Immemorial legislation. The study of Washington State includes an examination of the various native people that inhabited what is now Washington State, a look at multiple cultural and immigrant groups that settled in Washington State, a survey of the history of Washington State from its beginnings through the 20th century, and a study of Washington's foundational documents including the purpose, structure, and organization, of government at the local and state level. AP Skills for Social Studies include: 1. Document analysis strategies APPARTS and HIPPOS to determine the meaning, reliability, purpose, and perspective of primary and secondary sources 2. Thesis Creation and development of a line of reasoning 3. Argumentation and use of supporting evidence 4. Use of historical reasoning processes to analyze comparison, cause/effect, and continuity and change over time, 5. Visual source analysis with OPTICS.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 2146*

*Term: Semester*

\*\*\*Successful completion of WA State History is a requirement for High School Graduation. Students who fail this course will be required to successfully complete this requirement through one of two options: successfully completing a summer school course or successfully completing the WA State History SVL course.

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## Social Studies 8 - American Studies

### Accelerated

In eighth grade, students develop a new, more abstract level of understanding social studies concepts. Students will study diverse perspectives to gain a more complete understanding of the events and people in United States history from the Revolutionary Era to the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students learn about the causes and effects of the American Revolution and analyze the ideas, people, society, and events of the period. Students also learn about the United States Constitution and the development and construction of the United States government. Students assess the ways in which the ideals, values, and principles that drive American culture – including those described in its foundational documents – can be applied to a historical or modern situation and the ways in which those ideals have changed over time. Students also analyze the growth of the United States, describe how the idea of Manifest Destiny and its migration patterns shaped the expansion of the nation, and evaluate the effects that westward expansion had on other cultures. Finally, students will study the causes, events, and effects of the Civil War and Reconstruction, especially focusing on the political, economic, and social impact of the War and Reconstruction on various populations in the United States. AP Skills for Social Studies include: 1. Document analysis strategies APPARTS and HIPPOS to determine the meaning, reliability, purpose, and perspective of primary and secondary sources 2. Thesis Creation and development of a line of reasoning 3. Argumentation and use of supporting evidence 4. Use of historical reasoning processes to analyze comparison, cause/effect, and continuity and change over time, 5. Visual source analysis with OPTICS.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 2148*

*Term: Full Year*



# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## CAREER, COLLEGE, & LIFE READINESS

### Career, College, & Life Readiness

Career, College, and Life Readiness will give students the foundation to be future-ready! Students will focus on real-world life skills and practical knowledge. Students practice essential life skills, including financial literacy, career and college planning, human growth and development, and drug, tobacco, and alcohol education. In addition, this class embeds reading, writing, communicating, problem-solving, and decision-making about real everyday issues.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 7120*

*Term: Semester*

## FITNESS & HEALTH

### Fitness & Health 7

In 7th grade physical education, students will participate in a variety of small-sided games and physical fitness activities, performing skills and demonstrating knowledge of concepts, skills, tactics and strategies, and personal behaviors to achieve and/or maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness and to develop physical literacy, or the ability to move with competence and confidence in a variety of environments. State standards around the core ideas of nutrition will also be addressed in this course.

*Grade: 7*

*Course Code: 5901*

*Term: Semester*

### Fitness & Health 8

Students in 8th grade physical education will build on the concepts, skills, tactics and strategies, and management of personal behaviors from 7th grade by applying them in modified game play and a variety of physical fitness activities. Increased emphasis is placed on nutrition and students developing physical literacy and the need to remain physically active for physical and mental health throughout life by participating in physical activities that are enjoyable and challenging.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 5902*

*Term: Semester*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### AVID 7/8

The AVID (Achievement Via Individual Determination) elective is designed to provide the skills, capacities, and support that student need to be able to maximize their Individual determination to achieve in rigorous courses.

Students will learn writing, inquiry, collaboration, organizational, reading, effective note taking and study skills. Work on critical thinking and asking higher level probing questions. Receive academic support from the teacher, peers and college age and above tutors to participate in the rigorous curriculum of challenging courses like Honors and AP. Participate in enrichment and motivational activities that help make them career and college ready.

An AVID student is one with demonstrated academic potential, with a 2.0-3.5 grade point average. Have the desire and determination to go to college or on to other post-secondary pursuits. Usually are first in their family to attend college or other post-secondary training.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 9237/9238*

*Term: Semester*

### CS App Creators

App Creators (AC) introduces students to the field of computer science and the concepts of computational thinking, through the creation of mobile apps. Students are challenged to be creative and innovative, as they collaboratively design and develop mobile solutions to engaging, authentic problems. Students experience the positive impact of the application of computer science to society as well as to other disciplines, particularly biomedical science.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 7130*

*Term: Semester*

### CS For Innovators & Makers

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (IM) teaches students that programming goes beyond the virtual world into the physical world. Students are challenged to creatively use sensors and actuators to develop systems that interact with their environment. While designing algorithms and using computational thinking practices, students code and upload programs to microcontrollers that perform a variety of authentic tasks. The unit broadens students' understanding of computer science concepts through meaningful applications. Teams select and solve a personally relevant problem related to wearable technology, interactive art, or mechanical devices.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 7132*

*Term: Semester*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## Design & Modeling

Design and Modeling (DM) provides students opportunities to apply the design process to creatively solve problems. Students are introduced to the unit problem in the first activity and are asked to make connections to the problem throughout the lessons in the unit. Students learn and utilize methods for communicating design ideas through sketches, solid models, and mathematical models. Students will understand how models can be simulated to represent an authentic situation and generate data for further analysis and observations. Students work in teams to identify design requirements, research the topic, and engage stakeholders. Teams design a toy or game for a child with cerebral palsy, fabricate and test it, and make necessary modifications to optimize the design solution.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 7140/7141*

*Term: Semester*

## Automation & Robotics

In the Automation and Robotics (AR) unit, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 7126*

*Term: Semester*

## Yearbook

This class is designed to improve and refine literacy and communication skills. This is a year-long elective class that will create the school yearbook and help with the student news production. This class will that introduces students to the various skills and jobs available in publications including digital page design, photography, and journalism.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 1191*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s):* Application required.

## Video Productions

The purpose of this course is to provide a project-based visual arts program, which guides students to achieve the standards in the visual arts and career technical training, by providing students with the technical instruction and practical experiences for aspiring video and film makers in the production of film, video, and new media projects for business and entertainment.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 1728*

*Term: Full Year*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

### Art

Students of all abilities will learn and apply the elements and principles of design in creating a variety of 2D & 3D artworks. Creativity, problem solving, and skill building will be developed using different techniques and materials. The foundations of aesthetics, criticism and art history will also be explored. May be taken consecutively across the entire school year.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Code: 4112*

*Term: Semester/Full Year*

### Band Intermediate

This band consists of students with one or more years of instruction on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Students will have the opportunity to improve technique while emphasizing basics. This class is part of the parade marching band in the spring and members can also be in the specialty ensembles, such as jazz band. Practice at home is required to be at performance level. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. There are possible fees for uniforms and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4752*

*Term: Full Year*

### Band Advanced

This band is a select ensemble that features performance at an advanced level on brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. Students will have the opportunity to improve technique while building upon skills developed in Intermediate band. This class is part of the parade marching band in the spring and members can also be in the specialty ensembles, such as jazz band. Practice at home is required to be at performance level. Opportunities to perform include festivals, contests, and concerts. There are possible fees for uniforms and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4759*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): Director recommendation.*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

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## Orchestra Intermediate String

This orchestra consists of students with one or more years of instruction on a string instrument. Students will have the opportunity to improve technique while emphasizing basics. Practice at home is required to be at performance level. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. There are possible fees for uniforms and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4784*

*Term: Full Year*

## Orchestra Advanced String

This orchestra is a select ensemble that features performance at an advanced level. Students will have the opportunity to improve technique while building upon skills developed in intermediate orchestra. Practice at home is required to be at performance level. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. Opportunities to perform include festivals, contests, and concerts. There are possible fees for uniforms and/or instrument rental that may be charged.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4786*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): Director recommendation.*

## World Drumming

This class is open to 7th and 8th grade students interested in learning basic music literacy skills and techniques necessary for performing percussion instruments in a variety of cultural settings. The class will primarily learn and perform drumming techniques from indigenous cultures from around the world. Additional study of Western percussion instruments and techniques will prepare students to participate in a full year band or percussion class.

*Grade 7/ 8*

*Course Code: 4666*

*Term: Semester*

## Guitar

Beginning guitar students will learn and practice basic techniques for guitar. In this introductory class, techniques and fundamentals will be taught and applied to performances. Students will work as an ensemble using district approved curriculum. Students will demonstrate understanding through various assessments, including but not limited to playing tests and in class performances.

*Grade 7/8*

*Course Code: 4830*

*Term: Semester*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## Choir Intermediate

This choir consists of students who have previous experience singing in a beginning choir. Students will get the chance to improve their vocal skills while emphasizing the basics of proper techniques. Students will learn and apply basic music literacy and skills to follow a score. Participation requires a commitment to performing in class and outside of the school day. Opportunities to perform include festivals, contests, and concerts. There are possible fees for uniform cleaning that may be charged.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4651*

*Term: Full Year*

## Choir Advanced

Director recommendation is required. This choir consists of students who have previous experience singing in a beginning, intermediate or advanced choir. Students will get a chance to sharpen their vocal skills through challenging music and performances. This course introduces students to singing 3-part choral music. Participation requires a commitment to performing both in class and outside of the school day. Opportunities to perform include festivals, contests, and concerts. Possible fees include uniform cleaning.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4660*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): Director recommendation.*

# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## Music and the Creative Arts

This is a unique class where students get to explore the world and themselves through six of the creative arts: music, creative writing, movement, storytelling, drama, and visual art. All the arts involve a process of practice, revision, and creativity. We learn and apply basic arts concepts and vocabulary, interconnect many of the arts and build on those skills toward larger projects and performances. We have fun exploring and sharing our experiments and learnings with each other in a comfortable, trusting environment.

*Grade 7/8*

*Course Code: 4391*

*Term: Semester*

## Intro to Music

Students will explore a variety of instruments such as the ukulele, bucket drumming, and many instruments from West Africa while learning basic music theory concepts.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 4391*

*Term: Semester*



# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## WORLD LANGUAGES

### Chinese\*

The first year of Chinese is a highly communicative introduction to the language and it is the base upon which levels 2, 3 are built. Students will learn important foundational knowledge, vocabulary, and grammar and they will be asked to put their knowledge to work in real-life settings. Students will be able to recognize and pronounce Pinyin, the phonics system, and they will use classroom expressions in certain classroom situations. Students will be able to explain how Chinese characters evolved and identify the most common traditional radicals. Students can greet people, tell time, age, nationality and grade in school, talk about school subjects, identify and describe family members and pets, discuss dates and months of the year, exchange phone numbers, express likes and dislikes, and give and response to invitations. This course will result in a HS credit. Note: not every high school or middle school offers every world language.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: Year 1 6802/6803, Year 2 6804/6805*

*Term: Full Year*

### French\*

The first year of French is a highly communicative introduction to the language and it is the base upon which levels 2,3,4 and AP are built. Students will learn important vocabulary and grammar and they will be asked to put their knowledge to work in real-life settings. They will be able to talk about their lives, their family, and friends, discuss and inquire about weather and pastimes, order food at a restaurant, find their way around a foreign city, and function in new situations. Grammar includes present tense regular and some irregular verbs, adjective agreement, syntax and much more. Students will be reading, writing, listening and speaking every day in class and they will be studying the culture of the people who speak the target language as well as their customs. Note: not every high school or middle school offers every world language. This course will result in a HS credit. Note: not every high school or middle school offers every world language.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 6180/6181*

*Term: Full Year*

\*These classes may be offered in a virtual HUB model based on the number of students who are interested - If not enough students are interested at your school, then it could be offered as a live/synchronous virtual class (non-SVL) in combination with other students from around the district, during a specific period, including a teacher that might not be at your school.

# Middle School Course Descriptions

Spokane Public Schools

## Spanish 1

The first year of Spanish is a highly communicative introduction to the language and it is the base upon which levels 2,3,4 and AP are built. Students will learn important vocabulary and grammar and they will be asked to put their knowledge to work in real-life settings. They will be able to talk about their lives, their family, and friends, discuss and inquire about weather and pastimes, order food at a restaurant, find their way around a city, and function in new situations. Beginning grammar instruction can include use of subjects and verbs, present tense, adjectives, syntax and much more. Each language also has specific grammar that is a focus for year one. Students will be reading, writing, listening, and speaking every day in class and they will be studying the culture of the people who speak the target language as well as their customs.

*Grade: 7/8*

*Course Code: 6680/6681*

*Term: Full Year*

## Spanish 2

Second year Spanish study enables students to expand vocabulary and explore the target language using more complicated structures and systems such as past tenses, future tense, and reflexive verbs. As students increase their ability to understand, they will be speaking with more confidence and complexity. In addition, they will read short selections and stories at more advanced levels. They will be able to talk about where they live, life after school, clothing, vacations, and professions, for example. Classwork will be conducted in the language as much as possible to provide practice in expression and comprehension. Students' cultural awareness expands through a multimedia, hands-on approach.

*Grade: 8*

*Course Code: 6682/6683*

*Term: Full Year*

*Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Year 1.*

# SALK SPORTS

## SPORTS

All practices are at Salk  
7:00am - 8:30am and/or  
3:30pm - 5:15pm

Softball & Cross Country  
September - October

Disc Golf  
Mid-September - Late October

Flag Football  
Mid-September - Late October

Volleyball & Wrestling  
Late October - Early December

Basketball  
7th grade- January - February  
8th grade - February - March

Track & Baseball  
April - May

Dance Team  
Fall

## INFORMATION

\*Practices run Monday - Friday.  
Exact dates and times will be  
posted online and announced in  
building.

\*All students may participate in  
sports. We don't make cuts.

\*All participants need a physical  
and ASB card.

\*All participants need to  
register online for each sport  
using Final Forms. Find the link  
on the Salk website.

\*An activity bus will be available  
at 5:15pm for anyone who  
regularly takes the bus.

\*For more information, check  
out the Salk website under  
Activities.

Please direct all questions  
to our Athletic Director:  
Erik Johnson 509-354-5628  
erikj@spokaneschools.org



## **Greetings Salk Families!**

Registration for Spokane Public Schools athletics and activities is now being done through FinalForms, an online data management service that replaces FamilyID. FinalForms saves data from season to season and year to year, meaning families will never need to enter the same information twice. FinalForms also pre-populates data wherever possible, saving time for families registering multiple students.

To register for an activity:

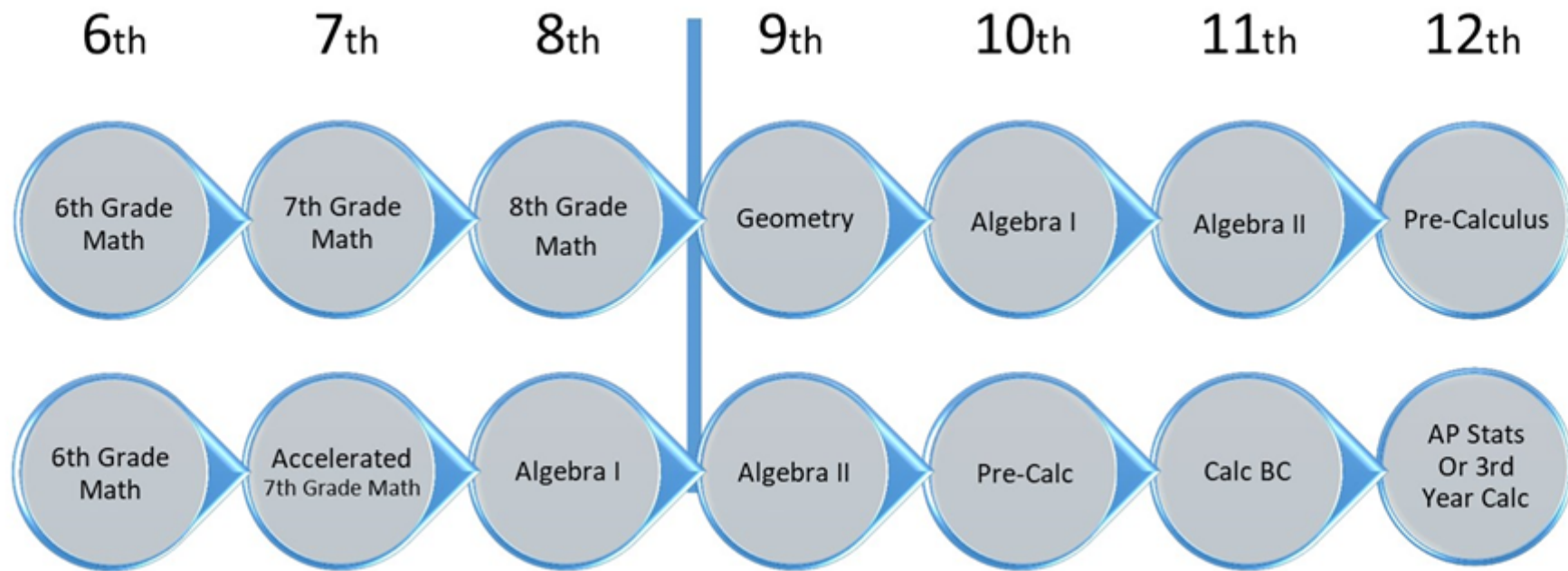
1. Go to: [www.spokaneschools.org/salk](http://www.spokaneschools.org/salk)
2. Go to the Activity Tab, select Registration
3. Click on the Parent Playbook tile

In order to participate in extracurricular activities, all students must submit a health physical form signed by a doctor. Physicals are good for two years.

For morning practices, students will enter in the athletic doors. For practices after school, there will be an activity bus that leaves at 5:15pm for regular bus riders.

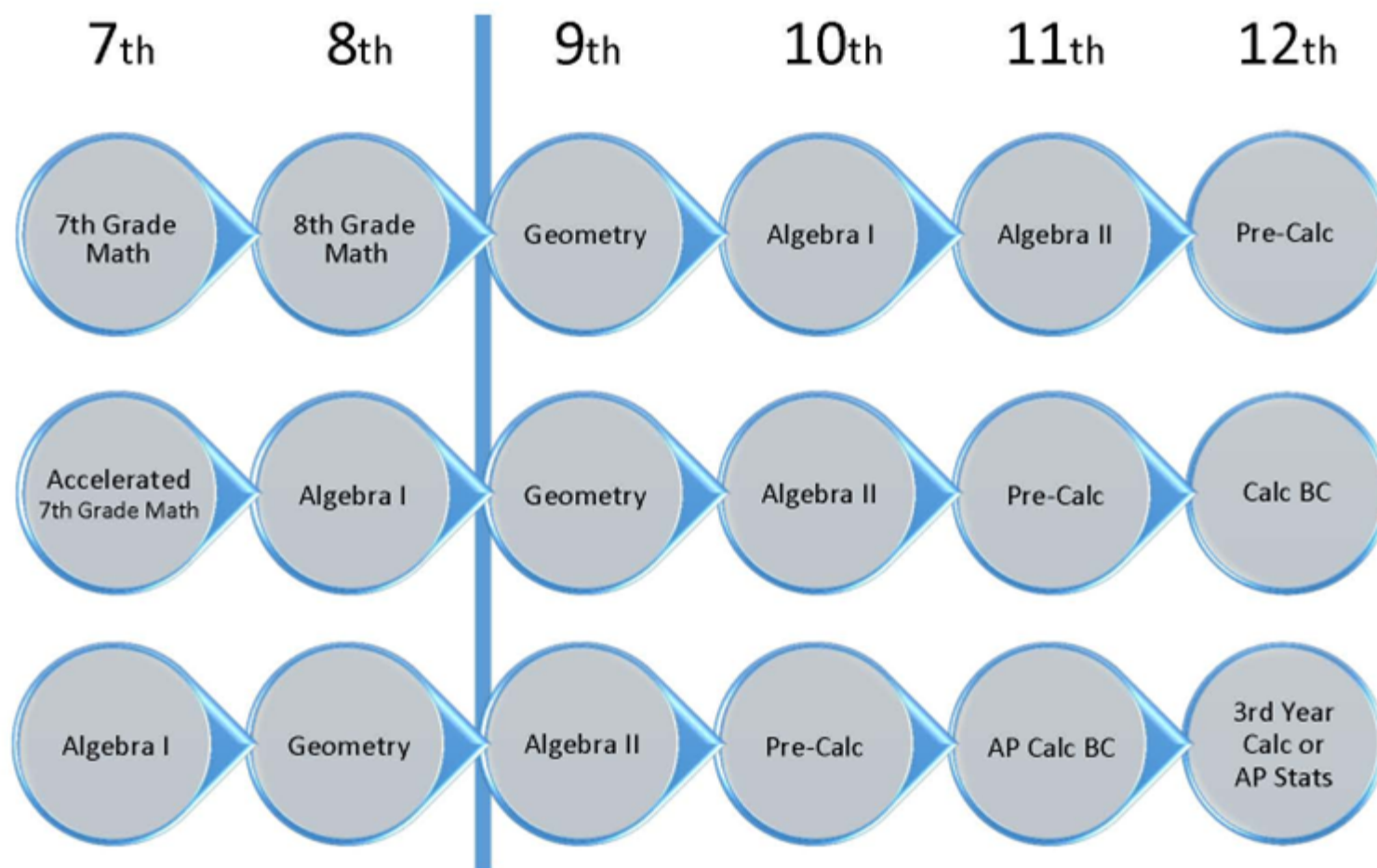


**Provided here are two possible progression paths for incoming 6th graders.**



\*A student's actual path in HS can vary so talk with your student's math teacher.

Provided here are three possible progression paths for incoming 7th graders.



\*A student's actual path in HS can vary so talk with your student's math teacher.



# Salk Team



Matt McFarland  
Principal



Roed Freeland  
Assistant Principal



Sarah Pooler  
Assistant Principal



Megan Decker  
Counselor A-K



Lyndsey Sabo  
Counselor L-Z



Katie Farmer  
Counselor ELD & 504