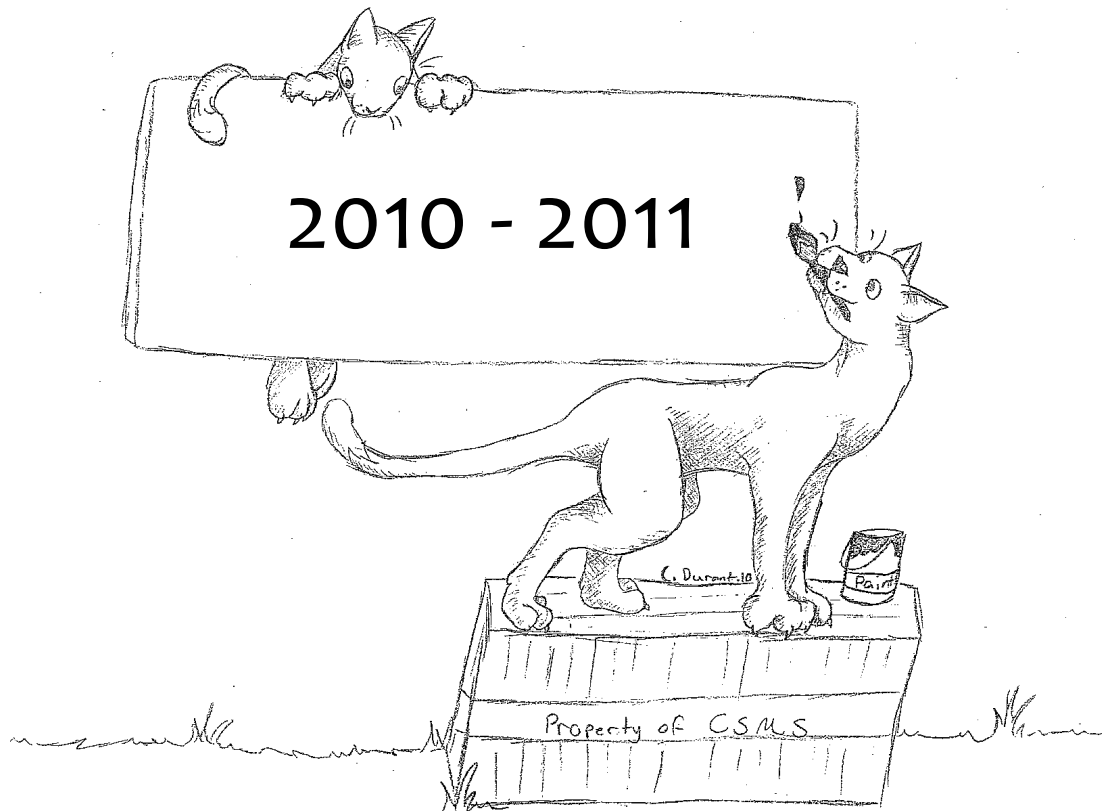


Carl Sandburg Middle School Curriculum Guide



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*Curriculum Guide Cover Design Created by C. Durant, 7th grade Sandburg student

MIDDLE SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM STANDARD AND OPTIONAL COURSE OFFERINGS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Directory.....	1
Table of Contents.....	2
Course Description Guide.....	3
Middle School Program	3
Specialized Programs.....	3
Special Education Program.....	3
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program.....	4
Honors Program.....	4
Gifted and Talented Center	5
Library/Media Center.....	5
Promotion Policy	5
What to Expect in Middle School.....	6
World Languages Proficiency Credit Exam	9
Seventh Grade Program	10
Seventh Grade Required Program	11
Eighth Grade Program	14
Eighth Grade Required Program.....	15
Elective Courses.....	18
Business and Information Technology.....	18
English.....	19
Family and Consumer Sciences	19
Fine Arts - Music.....	20
Fine Arts – Theatre Arts.....	22
Fine Arts – Visual Arts.....	23
World Language.....	24
Technology Education.....	25
General	26
Remediation and Enrichment Courses.....	27
Special Education Courses.....	28
English for Speakers of Other Languages Courses.....	28
Math Sequence Chart.....	31
High School Diploma Requirements	32
Declaration of Non-Discrimination	36
High School Advanced Academic Programs.....	37
Course Selection Sheets.....	39
Map of Carl Sandburg Middle School.....	41

COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE 2010-2011

This course description guide is designed to provide information on course offerings and to assist students and their parents with course selections. The Sandburg Program of Studies (POS) adheres to the Fairfax County Public School POS and the requirements of the Virginia State Department of Education. Course listings include course title, the length of the course, and the level at which the course is offered.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The middle school educational program strives to provide a bridge between the elementary program and the high school program. A major goal is to meet the academic needs of all students, while encouraging them to develop responsible habits and appropriate behavior with their peers and adults. The curriculum places strong emphasis on a basic academic program. Students are encouraged to explore the many diverse offerings in the elective program. After-school activities include clubs and student activities on late bus days.

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Special education programs meet the Virginia State mandate and federal law for providing an educational program for each student with a disability. Special programs service middle school students with a variety of disabilities. These services are provided based on the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The special education programs also utilize the expertise of a psychologist, social worker, speech and language clinician and other itinerant specialists as specified in each student's IEP.

The continuum of services ranges from general education consult support to team taught classes to smaller self-contained classes.

The majority of students in special education are integrated into general education classes for electives and physical education courses. Students also participate in extra-curricular activities. The special education curriculum follows the Program of Studies for Fairfax County Public Schools and incorporates the Commonwealth of Virginia Standards of Learning.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) PROGRAM

The middle school ESOL programs comprise a range of courses to meet the cultural, linguistic, and academic needs of middle school Level 1, 2, and 3-4 students. The ESOL students are placed in Level 1 (very limited or no knowledge of English), Level 2 (limited proficiency in English), or Level 3-4 (proficient in speaking and understanding English but limited in reading and writing skills). The Level 1 students are often in placed in five ESOL classes, Level 2 students have up to five ESOL classes, Level 3 students have up to two ESOL class, and Level 4 students have one ESOL class. ESOL students are enrolled in mainstream courses for all other classes that are not designated by the ESOL program.

HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors program, aligned with national standards for gifted and talented education, is for students who have demonstrated high achievement in a specific area of academic strength. The program uses a county-developed middle school curriculum that extends the Fairfax County Program of Studies (POS) in depth and complexity. The curriculum is based on the Parallel Model, a nationally endorsed model of curriculum for high-ability learners. The Honors program and curriculum is fully integrated into both grade levels.

HONORS ENROLLMENT

Parents will first choose the courses that they think will best meet the needs of their child. Sandburg staff will then collaborate with your student's teachers to examine the previous academic achievement in each core area and provide guidance to parents and students regarding course selection. This guidance will be communicated to parents in June via a mock schedule. Parents will then have the opportunity to make changes until June 24th. Seventh grade students currently enrolled in an honors course will continue with the honors curriculum in that subject area in 8th grade.

The following information is included to assist parents in determining whether their child is prepared for an honors-level course:

Indicators of skills honors students exhibit

- Higher level critical thinking
- Active listening and participation during discussions
- Read above grade level
- Write using correct grammar with expression and creativity
- Self-motivated, well organized and willing to work independently for long periods of time
- Participate in small groups and whole class activities with appropriate peer interaction
- Demonstrates maturity and strong work habits
- Ability to self-monitor
- Advocate for themselves

- Focused and have a desire to do well
- Consistently complete and turn in assignments on time

GIFTED AND TALENTED CENTER

Gifted and talented services in the middle school are designed to provide opportunities for identified students to develop academic strength through more rigorous and challenging curriculum and instruction. Differentiation in the depth, breadth and pace of instruction is designed to meet the needs of advanced learners with a strong emphasis on problem solving, independent and group research, investigations, and higher level thinking skills.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Carl Sandburg provides a well coordinated media program that is designed to develop each student's research skills and encourages a life long love of reading. The library houses books, magazines, and non-print materials that include a growing collection of electronic books and online databases available through the Library 24-7 class.

PROMOTION POLICY

To qualify for promotion, seventh and eighth grade middle school students must demonstrate knowledge and competency based upon identified standards of achievement in the four core areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. To guarantee promotion, students must demonstrate proficiency in the foundational knowledge and skills in each of the four core subject areas and earn a passing final grade based on grade level expectations.

Students who earn an "F" as a final grade in one or more core subjects are retained, at the discretion of the principal, and encouraged to participate in a structured plan of remediation that may include tutoring or participation in required intervention courses the following school year. If students do not participate in an intervention program, they are retained at the discretion of the principal.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

TEAMS: The middle school is the critical transitional link between the self-contained elementary classroom and the departmental high school structure. Students are randomly assigned to a team which includes the four core teachers (English, math, history and science) and school counselor. Teaming is an integral part of the middle school program. Teams of teachers collaborate with others in order to address the following goals:

- Create an outstanding academic program and nurturing environment
- Provide positive recognition for all students
- Identify diverse characteristics and needs of adolescent students
- Communicate with parents on a regular basis

CLASSES: Students are enrolled in seven (7) classes. Most classes will be for the entire year; some classes are only for a semester. Reduced enrollment may cause elective courses to be cancelled. When a class is cancelled, students will get their next elective choice when at all possible.

LUNCH: Lunch is 30 minutes and there are four (4) lunch shifts. The student's schedule will determine which lunch shift is assigned.

LOCKERS: Each student is assigned a hallway locker and a gym locker. Students should **NOT** share lockers or tell other students their locker combinations.

LATE BUSES: Currently, late buses are scheduled to accommodate after school activities on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (except for the third Thursday of the month).

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: We have a very active and successful After School Program in place at Sandburg. We solicit support from our parents to encourage the students to be active participants with us! Our program offers many enriching activities that are educational, recreational, as well as social. Our clubs and activities are based on student interest and vary drastically.

Late buses are provided with a modified drop off schedule on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. In addition, we also offer the opportunity for our students to stay after on Tuesdays and Fridays with our Extended Day Program. Please note that there are **NO LATE BUSES** on these days and parents and/guardians must provide transportation.

We have a vibrant staff in place that enjoys working with middle school students. Don't hesitate, join After-School Programs TODAY!

STUDENT SERVICES: Each student is assigned a school counselor. The middle school student services program provides support to students in transition from childhood to adolescence. School counselors help students to understand themselves, to make the best of their abilities, to know the educational and career opportunities available to them,

and to help them make plans and decisions for their future. Counselors meet with students individually and in small and large groups. Counselors also meet with teachers and parents to discuss achievement or any issue related to the student's school experiences. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's counselor if there are any questions or concerns regarding academic, social, or emotional development.

HOMEWORK: Students should plan for homework each day. Homework includes reading, studying, reviewing class notes, and continuing to work on long term projects.

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is a necessity for maximum academic achievement. Fairfax County Public Schools require that students attend school regularly and arrive on time for every class.

Parents are notified via an automated phone call when a student has an unverified/unexcused absence for the day. When a student has three or more unexcused absences from a class during the same quarter, the student will be referred to the grade level administrator which could result in disciplinary consequences. For purposes of attendance, excused and unexcused absences may include:

Excused Absences

- *Illness of the student
- *Death in the family
- *Doctor/dentist appointment
- *Observance of a religious holiday
- *Approved prearranged absence
- *Other reason acceptable to the principal

Unexcused Absences

- *Class truancy
- *All day truancy
- *Missing a ride or bus
- *Unapproved prearranged absence
- *Family trip/vacations

When it is necessary for a student to be absent or tardy from school, parents must call the school attendance line at 703-799-6131. Students arriving late must check in and receive a pass from the office. Students who arrive late must have a written excuse from their parent/guardian to receive an excused tardy pass if the parent has not called prior to the student's arrival. If a student needs to be dismissed for an appointment, he/she must bring in a note from the parent/guardian stating the reason and time of dismissal unless the parent/guardian has made previous arrangements by phone. Dismissal notes must be brought to the attendance secretary, in the main office, before school. Parents/guardians must come to the office and sign the student out.

STUDENT PLANNER: Each student will receive a Student Planner at the beginning of the school year. Students are required to carry their Student Planner with them throughout the day. Students are to record daily and long-term assignments in their Planners. In addition, Planners are used as hall passes when students are excused to rest rooms and other places in the school building while classes are in session.

CELL PHONES: Cell phones must be kept in the off position and stored away safely during school hours. Any cell phone that is found will be confiscated and returned only to parents or guardians.

STUDENT CONDUCT: FCPS Regulation 2610 entitled Students Responsibilities and Rights, Grades 4-12, defines students' rights and responsibilities and establishes the rules to be followed by students within the school system. All students will be given a copy of this document, and students will receive in-school instructions as to its content. Students and parents should become familiar with the information it contains.

GRADES: Students earn letter grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D and F. Report cards are issued every nine weeks. Interim progress reports are issued directly to students, to be carried home, approximately 4 1/2 weeks into a grading period. All report cards are sent through the United States Postal System. Letter grades are assigned based on the following grading scale:

A = 93-100	C+ = 77-79
A- = 90-92	C = 73-76
B+ = 87-89	C- = 70-72
B = 83-86	D+ = 67-69
B- = 80-82	D = 64-66
	F = below 64

HIGH SCHOOL COURSES: Sandburg offers students the opportunity to take certain high school level courses in middle school. These are academically rigorous courses of which most can only be taken by eighth grade students. High school courses offered are: Algebra I, Algebra I Honors, Geometry Honors, French I, Spanish I, Spanish II (for Immersion students only) and Spanish for Fluent Speakers I. High school level courses become a part of the high school transcript record, are included in the determination of high school grade point average (GPA), and count toward the total credits required for graduation. The withdrawal policy for high school courses taken in middle school is as follows:

1st quarter	No penalty-nothing is recorded
2nd quarter	WP (withdrawn passing) or WF (withdrawn failing) is recorded
3rd quarter	WP or WF is recorded
4th quarter	WP or F for failure is recorded*

*Unless there are unusual circumstances, a student who has a passing grade may not withdraw during the 4th quarter.

Middle school parents may request grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in middle school to be omitted from the student's high school transcript. The student will not receive a high school credit for the course if the course is omitted from the transcript. For rising 9th grade students, this request must be made in writing to the high school before the start of their 9th grade school year. For rising 8th grade students, this request must be made in writing to the Sandburg Director of Student Services before the start of their 8th grade school year. If the student passes the end of year SOL exam but has the grade expunged from the high school transcript, the SOL result will not count towards the high school's verified credits.

WORLD LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CREDIT EXAM

The Credit Exam for World Languages is given each fall to students who wish to demonstrate written proficiency in one of several languages: Amharic, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog/Pilipino, Twi, Urdu, or Vietnamese. Students who are successful on the exam receive two world languages credits which may be used to fulfill the world languages requirements of the Advanced Studies Diploma or as electives for the Standard Diploma. In addition, students who participate in the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services during grades 7-12 who are enrolled in courses with course code 5720, may apply two units of credit towards the world languages requirement of the Advanced Studies Diploma.

For more information on the exam, go to:

www.fcps.edu/DIS/OHSICS/forlang/creditem/index.htm

or contact the World Languages Department at 703-208-7724.

SEVENTH GRADE PROGRAM

REQUIRED COURSES

English 7
United States History, 1877 to Present
Mathematics
Investigations in Environmental Science
Health and Physical Education 7

ELECTIVE COURSES

7th grade students may choose or be placed in one of the following electives:

Literary Arts: Journalism
Introduction to Art \$
Family & Consumer Science \$
Band
Orchestra
Chorus
Theatre Arts Appreciation
Technology Exploration
Computer Solutions

Creative Writing
Introduction to Foreign Language
Spanish I +*
Basic Skills **
Personal Development**
Work Awareness and Transition **
Reading **
Action Literacy **
Read 180 **
AVID **

+ Prerequisite Required

* High school credit course

** Placement determined by teacher after registration

\$ Fee May Be Required

SEVENTH GRADE REQUIRED PROGRAM



ENGLISH

ENGLISH 7

Full Year

Grade: 7

Students read and study a variety of literature, building on an understanding of reading as a process that includes analyzing and comprehending texts. Language study includes vocabulary building, learning about grammar, and spelling. Through varied and frequent writing assignments, students build on their understanding of writing as a process that includes drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and publishing. They use writing to develop ideas in narrative, expository, and persuasive forms. Students also learn discussion skills and oral communication skills, and learn to adapt speaking and listening to the audience, topic, purpose, and situation. Reading and writing competencies addressed in the Virginia Standards of Learning are incorporated into the course objectives.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICS 7

Full Year

Grade: 7



Students examine algebra- and geometry-preparatory concepts and skills; strategies for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; and number concepts and skills especially proportional reasoning. Reasoning, problem solving, communication, concept representation, and connections among mathematical ideas are emphasized in a hands-on learning environment. Graphing calculators and computers are integrated with instruction.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ALGEBRA 1 HONORS

Full Year

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: FCPS elementary school requirements; i.e. compacted math, successful IAAT score and pass advance on Math 8 SOL

The depth and level of understanding expected in Algebra I Honors is beyond the scope of Algebra I. Students are expected to master algebraic mechanics and understand the underlying theory, as well as apply the concepts to real-world situations in a meaningful way. Students extend knowledge and understanding of the real number system and its

properties through the study of variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, and the analysis of data from real world phenomena. Emphasis is placed on algebraic connections to arithmetic, geometry, and statistics. Calculators and computer technologies are integral tools. Graphing calculators are an essential tool for every student to explore graphical, numerical, and symbolic relationships. Algebra 1 Honors becomes a part of the high school transcript record, is included in the determination of the high school grade point average (GPA), and counts as one of the required mathematics credits for high school graduation. Parents may request that the Algebra 1 Honors grade be omitted from the student's transcript and the student not earn high school credit for the course. This request must be made in writing to the Director of Student Services before the end of the first quarter of the next school year.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.



SCIENCE

INVESTIGATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Full Year

Grade: 7

Investigations in Environmental Science builds upon the experiences in the life sciences introduced to students in upper-elementary grades. Cellular structure and function, heredity, diversity, populations and ecosystems are content strands developed through a sequence of hands-on investigations. To augment the inquiry-based investigations, computer technologies including graphing calculators, Vernier probeware, DVDs, and streaming videos are used to build background knowledge and enhance student understanding. Process skills related to scientific investigation, reasoning, and logic are integrated throughout the course as students carry out investigations, collect and analyze data, and formulate conclusions.

SOCIAL STUDIES

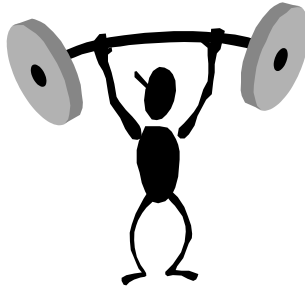
UNITED STATES HISTORY, 1865 TO THE PRESENT

Full Year

Grade: 7

The grade seven program provides a survey of American history since 1865. This course incorporates the four strands of history, geography, civics, and economics. Important trends in American history are identified by the analysis of the role of ideas, individuals, and important events. Students develop historical-thinking skills and extend their understanding of how geography shapes history.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.



HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

\$ Uniform fee required

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 **Full Year**

Grade: 7

Students strengthen and/or master basic skills developed at the elementary level. Emphasis is on fitness and wellness activities, highly organized lead-up activities, and modified games. Content areas include rhythmic activities and dance, physical fitness, wellness-related testing, fitness planning, and application of skills in selected games and sports. Students study health units on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use prevention, disease and the human body, personal safety, injury prevention, lifetime health habits, emotional and social health, and human growth and development.

EIGHTH GRADE PROGRAM

REQUIRED COURSES

English 8
Civics and Economics
Mathematics 8 or Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Honors
Investigating Matter and Energy
Health and Physical Education 8

ELECTIVE COURSES

**8th grade students may select or be placed
in the following electives:**

Literary Arts: Journalism

Literary Arts: Yearbook

Introduction to Art \$

Intermediate Art \$

Computers in Art +

Advanced Art + \$

Band

Orchestra

Chorus

Theatre Arts Appreciation

Technology Exploration

Family & Consumer Science \$

Computer Solutions

Digital Input Technologies +

Creative Writing

Spanish I *

Spanish II * (for Immersion Students only)

Spanish for Fluent Speakers*

(recommendation required)

French I *

Basic Skills **

Personal Development**

Work Awareness and Transition **

Reading **

Action Literacy**

AVID **

Read 180 **

+ Prerequisite required

* High school credit course

** Placement determined by teacher after registration

Course cannot be repeated if previously taken

\$ Fee May Be Required

EIGHTH GRADE REQUIRED PROGRAM

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 8

Full Year

Grade: 8

Students read and study a variety of literature, building on an understanding of reading as a process that includes analyzing and interpreting the text. Language study includes vocabulary building, learning about grammar, and spelling. Through varied and frequent writing assignments, students build on their understanding of writing as a process that includes drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and publishing. Students practice a variety of writing forms including narrative, expository, and persuasive essays. All students learn to adapt speaking and writing skills to the audience, topic, purpose, and situation. Reading and writing competencies addressed in the Virginia Standards of Learning are incorporated into the course objectives.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

Eighth grade students take both a Reading and Writing SOL with the Writing SOL covering standards from sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.



MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICS 8

Full Year

Grade: 8

Students extend their study of algebra- and geometry-preparatory concepts and skills; strategies for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; and number concepts and skills especially proportional reasoning. Reasoning, problem solving, communication, concept representation, and connections among mathematical ideas are emphasized in a hands-on learning environment. Graphing calculators and computers are integrated with instruction.

Students who demonstrate a need for additional time to master the Pre-Algebra skills that were introduced in Math 7 should indicate interest in Math 8.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ALGEBRA 1

Full Year

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Middle School Mathematics

This course extends students' knowledge and understanding of the real number system and its properties through the study of variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, and

analysis of data derived from real-world phenomena. Emphasis is placed on making connections in algebra to geometry and statistics. Calculator and computer technologies will be used as tools wherever appropriate. Use of a graphing calculator is considered essential to provide a graphical and numerical approach to topics in addition to a symbolic approach. Topics include linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations, relations, functions and polynomials.

Students who demonstrate an understanding of the Pre-Algebra skills from Math 7 should indicate interest in Algebra I. Additionally, students from Math 7 Honors who wish to take a high school level class but are concerned about the rigors of Algebra I Honors should indicate interest in Algebra I.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ALGEBRA 1 HONORS

Full Year

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Mathematics 7

The depth and level of understanding expected in Algebra I Honors is beyond the scope of Algebra I. Students are expected to master algebraic mechanics and understand the underlying theory, as well as apply the concepts to real-world situations in a meaningful way. Students extend knowledge and understanding of the real number system and its properties through the study of variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, and the analysis of data from real world phenomena. Emphasis is placed on algebraic connections to arithmetic, geometry, and statistics. Calculators and computer technologies are integral tools. Graphing calculators are an essential tool for every student to explore graphical, numerical, and symbolic relationships.

Students who demonstrate an understanding of the Math 7 Honors curriculum and wish to continue in a rigorous high school honors class should indicate interest in Algebra I Honors. Additionally, Math 7 students who have continuously demonstrated an exceptional level of understanding of pre-algebra concepts and wish to begin a rigorous high school honors class should indicate interest in Algebra I Honors.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

GEOMETRY HONORS

Full Year

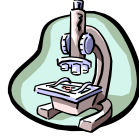
Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

The depth and level of understanding expected in Geometry Honors is beyond the scope of Geometry. This course emphasizes two- and three-dimensional reasoning skills, coordinate and transformational geometry, and the use of geometric models to solve problems. A variety of applications and some general problem-solving techniques, including algebraic skills, will be used to explore geometric relationships. Conjectures about properties and relationships are developed inductively and then verified deductively. Students investigate non-Euclidean geometries, formal logic, and use deductive proofs to verify theorems. Calculators, computers, graphing utilities, dynamic geometry software, and other appropriate technology tools will be used to assist in teaching and learning.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

SCIENCE



INVESTIGATING MATTER AND ENERGY

Full Year

Grade: 8

Investigating Matter and Energy builds upon the experiences in the physical sciences introduced to students in the upper-elementary grades. Properties of matter, energy forms and their transformations, and forces and motion are content strands developed through a sequence of hands-on investigations. To augment the inquiry-based investigations, computer technologies including LabQuests, graphing calculators, Vernier probeware, CD-ROMs, and streaming videos are used to build background knowledge and enhance student understanding. Process skills related to scientific investigation, reasoning, and logic are integrated throughout the course as students carry out investigations, collect and analyze data, and formulate conclusions.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

SOCIAL STUDIES

CIVICS AND ECONOMICS

Full Year

Grade: 8

The grade eight program is designed to prepare students to be responsible, productive citizens in a democratic republic and an interconnected world. Students will gain an understanding of the concepts and processes of democratic government and the American economic system. Students examine the role that citizens play in the political, governmental, and economic systems in the United States. Students will acquire knowledge of the structure and operation of these systems at the national, state and local levels. A service learning component helps students personalize citizenship education.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

\$ Uniform fee required

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 **Full Year**

Grade: 8

Students continue to strengthen and/or master basic skills, and participate in wellness activities and wellness-related testing and fitness planning. Content areas include rhythmic activities and dance, and application of skills in selected games and sports. Students begin to review lifetime sports and activities for lifetime wellness planning. Students study health units on alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use prevention, person safety, injury prevention, lifetime health habits, emotional and social health, and human growth and development.

ELECTIVE COURSES

There are seven class periods in a day. Five classes are selected based on a required curriculum in the subjects of English, math, history, science and physical education. However, students have the opportunity to select from a variety of elective courses to complete the school day. Elective courses may be semester (half year) or full year courses. Students must choose one of the following options when selecting elective courses:

Option 1: Two Full Year Electives

Option 2: One Full Year Elective -- AND -- Two Semester Electives

Option 3: Four Semester Electives

The careful selection of electives is very important. All offerings are subject to adequate enrollment and staffing. If a course must be cancelled, an alternative elective will be selected according to the preference order number on the course selection sheet. In some cases, students will be assigned electives that were not selected.

BUSINESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Computer Solutions teaches concepts in database, spreadsheet, presentation, publishing, and Internet skills. The Computer Solutions course extends student expertise in a project-based curriculum. The Computer Solutions course is intended to serve as a bridge to the high school business department curriculum.

DIGITAL INPUT TECHNOLOGIES

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Computer Solutions or equivalent skill/instructor approval

Digital Input Technologies introduces new and emerging input devices (e.g., speech- and handwriting-recognition software, headset/microphone, personal data assistant [PDA], scanner, digital camera, digital video camera, keyboard, and mouse) to prepare students for using tools that are becoming standard in the workplace and in everyday life.

ENGLISH

CREATIVE WRITING

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Students develop their creative writing talents with emphasis on building skills and expertise as writers. Instruction will focus on the writing of poetry, short stories, plays, and descriptions. Students refine their skills for planning, drafting, revising, and editing written work. Students expand their writing skills through analyzing and evaluating their own writing and that of other writers.

LITERARY ARTS: JOURNALISM

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Students learn basic publication and journalism skills focusing on writing articles and designing layouts for sample pages of a newspaper, yearbook, and literary magazine.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 7

Semester

Grade: 7

This semester course uses higher order thinking skills that will help students develop responsible and positive attitudes toward their societal roles. Through lab experiences and simulated activities with peers, students will develop basic skills in sewing, clothing care, food management, care of others, and management of space and self.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 8

Semester

Grade: 8

This semester course uses higher order thinking skills and simulated life experiences that enable the student to meet challenges in clothing and food management, career awareness, fitness and wellness, personal development, and relationships with others. Career exploration activities assist students with high school course selection.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

FINE ARTS – MUSIC



BEGINNING BAND

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: none

Beginning level band classes develop skills on woodwind or brass instruments. Guidance will be given by the instructor in the selection of an instrument. Simple duets, rounds and other ensemble literature will be performed in the class. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTERMEDIATE BAND

Full Year

Sandburg Concert Band

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation or successful audition

Intermediate level band students will continue to develop skills on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. A variety of musical styles will be studied through the playing of band literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

ADVANCED BAND

Full Year

Sandburg Symphonic Band

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation or successful audition

Advanced level band offers instruction to the advanced player. In-depth study of musical styles will be realized through challenging band literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Prior band experience necessary

This course is designed to meet specific needs and/or interests for percussion instruments. Content includes study of appropriate ensemble literature, and rehearsal and performance techniques from the various areas of musical composition. Instrumentation of the group is at the discretion of the instructor. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This class is for students with previous experience playing percussion instruments – it is not a beginning level class.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation or successful audition

This course offers the opportunity to participate in string orchestra ensemble. Intermediate level orchestra students will build upon those skills developed in Beginning String Orchestra and elementary schools. The further development of those technical skills and musicianship are the defining characteristics of this course. A variety of musical styles will be studied through the playing of appropriate string orchestra literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

ADVANCED ORCHESTRA

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Successful audition

Advanced Orchestra offers instruction to the experienced player through in-depth study and performance of advanced string orchestra literature. Emphasis is put on well developed technical and performance skills. Students will continue to demonstrate and practice proper technique and begin to display technical facility in upper positions. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

WOMEN'S CHORUS

Full Year

Belle Donne

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: none

Students participate in a choral experience designed to develop skills as individual musicians and as members of a women's ensemble. Emphasis is placed upon vocalization and sight-singing through the use of appropriate choral literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

MEN'S CHORUS

Full Year

Bunchaboyz

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: none

Students participate in a choral experience designed to develop skills as individual musicians and as members of a men's ensemble. Emphasis is placed upon vocalization

and sight-singing through the use of appropriate choral literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTERMEDIATE MIXED CHORUS

Full Year

Sandburg Singers

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Successful audition

Intermediate level chorus will provide for the continued study of correct vocal production and development of musicianship through the study of appropriate choral literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTERMEDIATE WOMEN'S CHORUS

Full Year

Choralettes

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Successful audition

Intermediate level chorus will provide for the continued study of correct vocal production and development of musicianship through the study of appropriate women's choral literature. Students must meet both the school day and after-school participation requirements to receive credit for the course.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

FINE ARTS – THEATRE ARTS



THEATRE ARTS APPRECIATION

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Students develop an appreciation of theatre and the ability to perform through an introduction to the basic concepts and skills of acting. Through viewing and participating in a variety of performance activities, students will enhance imagination, poise, confidence, and increase their ability to communicate and collaborate. Students will use the skills and knowledge obtained to appreciate and understand the purpose of theatre arts in school and society.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

ADVANCED THEATRE ARTS APPRECIATION

Full Year

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts Course in Grade 7 and recommendation of the instructor.

Students who are continuing the study of theatre arts for a second year will be able to apply and expand the skills developed in the introductory class. They will participate in a

variety of dramatic activities and perform for varied audiences, including a completely student-created original work that will be performed at the end of the year. This course is designed for students who are interested in an expanded study of theatre arts and oral communication.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

FINE ARTS – VISUAL ARTS



INTRODUCTORY ART

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Explore a variety of art media, develop art techniques, and use creative thinking skills to express ideas and viewpoints about personal experiences and observations of the outside world. Produce meaningful and unique drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures, and ceramics in a studio setting. Study artists and their works to gain understanding of the artistic process and learn about art produced at different times and in diverse cultures. Make interdisciplinary connections based on the Virginia Standards of Learning for all disciplines.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTERMEDIATE ART

Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: For 7th Graders – Successful completion of Introductory Art

Explore a wide range of art tools and materials and refine ability to communicate visually. Produce meaningful and exciting drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures, and ceramics. Investigate art history and culture and make interdisciplinary connections based on the Virginia Standards of Learning for all disciplines.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

ADVANCED ART

Full Year

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Above average grade in Introductory Art and teacher recommendation or portfolio review.

Advanced art offers an opportunity to eighth grade students with interest and above average performance in art to refine their artistic skills and techniques. Use new media and develop new techniques to build knowledge and refine skills in the art making process. Endeavor to develop a personal style and attain a high level of quality and craftsmanship in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and ceramics. Interpret and express feelings and ideas in innovative ways and make interdisciplinary connections based on the Virginia Standards of Learning for all disciplines. Be introduced to the world of art through the study of great artists from different times and diverse cultures

and learn to critique personal artworks and the works of others to inform personal artmaking.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS IN ART Semester

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: INTRODUCTORY ART

Become familiar with the computer as a production tool for creating original artwork. Use technology to explore subjects, ideas and themes related to living in the world. Connect knowledge and understandings learned across subject areas in unique ways. Work with a variety of software applications including Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator or other available software to produce artworks. Make interdisciplinary connections based on the Virginia Standards of Learning for all disciplines and develop knowledge regarding ethical issues concerning computer generated imagery. Prior computer experience is not required.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

WORLD LANGUAGES

INTRODUCTION TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE (IFL) Semester

Grade: 7, 8

Students are introduced to one or more world languages and cultures. The languages most often studied are French, German, Latin, and Spanish, but Chinese, Japanese, and Russian may also be included. Students learn the most basic structures, vocabulary, and expressions in each language and study the culture of the people who speak them. They are exposed to the basic steps and study habits necessary to learn a world language. Students are made aware of how knowledge of world languages enriches a person's life and expands the options of career goals. The 18-week course can include as many as four languages. This course does not count as a world languages credit.

FRENCH 1

SPANISH 1

Full Year

Grade: 8, Prerequisite: none

Only students in Spanish Immersion at the elementary level can enroll in Spanish 1 in 7th grade.

Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing - with emphasis on the ability to communicate orally and in writing. Students begin to explore and study the POS themes of Personal and Family Life, School Life,

Social Life, and Community Life. For middle school students, this credit becomes a part of the high school transcript, is included in the determination of the high school grade point average (GPA), and counts toward fulfilling the world languages requirements of the high school Advanced Studies diploma. It also counts toward the total number of credits required for graduation.

SPANISH 2

Full Year

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: *Only students in Spanish Immersion I in 7th grade can enroll in Spanish 2 in 8th grade*

Students continue to develop proficiency in all four language skills - listening, speaking, reading, and writing - with emphasis on the ability to communicate orally and in writing. They learn to function in real-life situations using more complex sentences and language structures. They read material on familiar topics and produce short writing samples. Students continue to explore as they study the POS themes of Home Life, Student Life, Leisure Time, and Vacation and Travel. For middle school students, this credit becomes a part of the high school transcript, is included in the determination of the high school grade point average (GPA), and counts toward fulfilling the world languages requirements of the high school Advanced Studies diploma. It also counts toward the total number of credits required for graduation.

SPANISH FOR FLUENT SPEAKERS

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Assessment/Teacher recommendation

This course offers fluent speakers of Spanish the opportunity to strengthen their basic skills in reading and writing Spanish. The students learn about a variety of topics related to Latin-American identity and culture: learning and writing about their own family histories, a review of ancient history, current events and politics, literature, art, and more. The course is conducted in Spanish and counts toward fulfilling the foreign language requirement. For middle school students, this credit becomes a part of the high school transcript, is included in the determination of the high school grade point average (GPA), and counts toward fulfilling the foreign language requirements of the high school diplomas. It also counts toward the total number of credits required for graduation.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY EXPLORATION 7

Semester

Grade: 7

Students are provided active learning situations and higher-order thinking skill development through practical design problem-solving experiences; experience with

technology; and exploration of units on Rocketry & Flight, Engineering Bridges, Communicating Technical Design, Lego Robotics, and Alternative Energies in Transportation. The central goal of the course is to prepare students to be technologically literate through the study of resources, processes, systems, and impacts of technology. The modular “synergistic” labs provide active learning situations that allow students to explore these areas of technology and related careers further with close attention to the S.T.E.M. Model. The content covered in this course is designed to reinforce the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) in math, science, language arts, social studies, and technology.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

TECHNOLOGY EXPLORATION 8

Semester

Grade: 8

Technology Exploration 8 is the concluding technology education experience at the middle school level; no prerequisite course is required. Students simulate a design, build, test, model to acquire a global view of technology. Course experiences include computer aided design, robotics, CO2 car manufacturing, and exploration of the history of technology and related careers. The content covered in this course is designed to reinforce the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) in math, science, language arts, social studies, and technology.

This course requires a student materials fee as listed in FCPS Notice 5922.

GENERAL

AVID 36 weeks (year)

Advancement via Individual Determination

Grade: 7, 8

Prerequisite: Participants selected through application and interview process.

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in either algebra or a world language.

This course is designed to support motivated, capable students in pursuing a rigorous course of study leading to acceptance to and success in a four-year college or university. Through a variety of instructional techniques, students develop skills in higher-level thinking, writing across the curriculum, and reading strategies for accessing challenging course material. Students develop time management, note taking, research, organization, and other skills fundamental to success in higher-level math, social studies, English, science, and world language courses. Students participate in college, career, and cultural exploration activities, including field trips.

YEARBOOK

Full Year

Grade: 8

Yearbook is a high intensity class with a tremendous amount of responsibility. Students are responsible for marketing, creating, editing, proofing, writing, and selling the yearbook.

REMEDIATION AND ENRICHMENT ELECTIVES

Action Literacy

Grade 7

Action Literacy 7 is a one-semester additional English course designed to provide focused remediation for students who have not achieved the language arts promotion benchmarks for sixth grade. The class includes direct instruction in reading, comprehension, vocabulary and the writing process. The course content will be specifically designed to support attainment of the promotion benchmarks for sixth grade language arts.

Action Literacy

Grade 8

Action Literacy 8 is a one-semester English / Social Studies course designed to provide focused remediation for students who have not achieved the English and/or social studies promotion benchmarks for seventh grade. The class includes direct instruction in reading comprehension, vocabulary, the writing process and using social studies content material. The course content will be specifically designed to support attainment of the promotion benchmarks for seventh grade English and social studies and prepare students to do grade level work in English and Social Studies.

Read 180

Grades 7 and 8

Scholastic's READ 180 is a new reading intervention program that will teach active reading strategies and improve reading comprehension. The READ 180 program is offered to seventh and eighth grade students who are reading below grade level. The program includes structured small group instruction that is reinforced by individualized instruction, independent reading practice, and computer stations. Class enrollment is limited to 15 students. The goal is that the skills taught in this program will enable your child to be more successful in other classes, including English, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

***Enrollment in the following special education courses is based on IEP placement**

BASIC SKILLS

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This elective course is designed to provide support to a student in core curricular areas and to provide direct instruction in specific learning strategies, study skills, time management, organization and coping skills. Time is also allotted to address individual areas of need as identified in a student's Individual Educational Plan (IEP). While students may receive assistance on core curricular assignments, the course is not designed to serve as a study hall. The course may be taught as an elective both years, as appropriate.

ADAPTED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade: 7,8

Adapted physical education is a developmental course for general education and/or special education students. This course serves students who are temporarily or permanently physically disabled or have deficiencies in motor coordination and/or physical fitness. This program is individualized and is directed toward improvement of deficiencies. The program includes specifically selected activities that are suited for the student's level of performance that will improve deficiencies, and maximize participation. Students in adapted physical education will participate in all health education units required of their grade level.

WORK AWARENESS AND TRANSITION

Full Year

Grade: 8

This year-long course is designed to explore possible careers to help students plan for high school courses. Students learn work-related skills and behaviors such as attitude towards work and appropriate interpersonal/co-worker relationships. Students then apply these work skills to the many different community service activities that they do throughout the school.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This special education course is designed for students who need additional social/emotional support in order to progress in the general education curriculum because their social/emotional needs affect their school performance. Course topics include: understanding yourself, goal-setting, communication, building relationships, dealing with emotions, stress management, wellness, problem-solving, decision-making, self-advocacy, and career and transition. This course is appropriate for students who have documented social/emotional needs on their individualized education program (IEP).

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

BEGINNING ESOL ENGLISH

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This is a two period English class in which WIDA ELP Level 1 & 2 students may be enrolled. This class is designed to support the development of academic language and skills through alignment with the grade level Language Arts standards. It maintains a focus on vocabulary development, literacy skills and the writing process. This course may be repeated.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ESOL US HISTORY 7

Full Year

Grade: 7

This is the Social Studies class in which grade 7 WIDA ELP Levels 1 & 2 students are enrolled. It is aligned with the grade 7 US History II Standards of Learning and the FCPS POS. This class is designed to support the development of academic language and skills through alignment with the grade level Social Studies Standards. It supports the development of vocabulary and academic discourse of Social Studies.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ESOL CIVICS & ECONOMICS 8

Full Year

Grade: 8

This is the Social Studies class in which grade 8 WIDA ELP Level 1 & 2 students are enrolled. This class is designed to support the development of academic language and skills through alignment with the grade 8 Civics and Economics standards. It supports the development of vocabulary and academic discourse of Social Studies.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ESOL FAST MATH

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This is the course for WIDA ELP Level 1 & 2 students who have significant gaps of two or more years below grade level in mathematics skills & concepts. This course is an articulated mathematics curriculum from the grade 7 mathematics standards. FAST Math is designed and developed around a framework of skills progression to accommodate multiple entry points that recognize students' different strengths and supports differentiated instruction within the FAST Math Class.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ESOL FAST MATH 3

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This course provides instruction in 7th and 8th grade math skills to WIDA ELP Level 1 and 2 students, who have gaps (one grade level below) in math and language which would impact success in mainstream math classes. It presents the 7th and 8th grade POS in a compacted format using manipulatives, adapted materials and ESOL strategies for teaching the language of math. This class helps prepare students to take the math SOL. **Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.**

ESOL FOCUS SCIENCE

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This course is the science course for WIDA ELP Level 1 & 2 students. It is designed to develop the academic language of science through scaffolded grade level labs. Students explore the scientific process along with key vocabulary and concepts through Life and Physical Science. This course may be repeated.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

DEVELOPING ESOL ENGLISH

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

This is the English class in which WIDA ELP Levels 2 & 3 may be enrolled. This class is designed to support the development of academic language skills through alignment with the grade level Language Arts standards. It maintains a focus on vocabulary development, reading comprehension and the writing process. When appropriate Level 3 ESOL students should be enrolled in grade level English. This course may be repeated.

Students are required to take the Standards of Learning End of Course Test.

ESOL ACADEMIC LANGUAGE

Full Year

Grade: 7, 8

The class is designed to continue the development of academic language across the curriculum. WIDA ELP Level 4 students are enrolled in both this course and a grade level English class. This course may be taken by WIDA ELP Level 3 students in conjunction with Developing ESOL English (572061). Students read a variety of genres and use technology as they work with the writing process to extend and refine their English language skills. This course may be repeated.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Secondary Mathematics

Sample Course Sequences

<p>Recommended for students who demonstrate mastery of Mathematics 6-8 by the end of grade 8.</p> <p>Mathematics 7 Grade 7</p> <p>Mathematics 8 Grade 8</p> <p>Algebra 1* Grade 9</p> <p>Geometry* Grade 10</p> <p>Algebra II Grade 11</p> <p>Precalculus Grade 12</p>	<p>Recommended for students who demonstrate mastery of Mathematics 6-8 by the end of grade 7.</p> <p>Mathematics 7 Grade 7</p> <p>Algebra 1 (Honors) Grade 8</p> <p>Geometry (Honors) Grade 9</p> <p>Algebra 2 (Honors) Grade 10</p> <p>Precalculus Grade 11</p> <p>AP Calculus AB IB Mathematical Studies Grade 12</p>	<p>Recommended for students who demonstrate mastery of Mathematics 6-8 by the end of grade 7 and need a very enriched mathematics program in grade 7.</p> <p>Mathematics 7 Honors Grade 7</p> <p>Algebra 1 Honors Grade 8</p> <p>Geometry Honors Grade 9</p> <p>Algebra 2 Honors Grade 10</p> <p>Precalculus Honors IB Standard Level Mathematics I Pre-IB Pre-Calculus Grade 11</p> <p>AP Calculus BC IB Standard Level Mathematics II IB Higher Level Mathematics I Grade 12</p>	<p>Recommended for students who have demonstrated exceptional mastery of Mathematics 6-8 in elementary school and have demonstrated the abstract reasoning skills required for Algebra I (a high-school credit course) in grade 7.</p> <p>Algebra 1 Honors Grade 7</p> <p>Geometry Honors Grade 8</p> <p>Algebra 2 Honors Grade 9</p> <p>Precalculus Honors Pre-IB Precalculus Grade 10</p> <p>AP Calculus BC IB Higher Level Mathematics I Grade 11</p> <p>Multi-Variable Calculus Matrix Algebra IB Higher Level Mathematics II Grade 12</p>
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AP Statistics and Discrete Mathematics are options after Algebra 2.
 Computer Science is an option concurrent with or subsequent to Geometry beginning in grade 9.
 Multi-Variable Calculus and Matrix Algebra are available after Calculus BC as semester courses.

* A four-mathematics-credit program for select students seeking a standard diploma may consist of a two-year Algebra I program and a two-year Geometry program.



February 2008

Note: Admissions to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology requires completion of Algebra I prior to ninth grade.

ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA

26 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the 9th grade for the first time. The following applies to 9th grade students who enter high school in 2010-2011 and beyond.

To graduate from high school, students shall meet the minimum requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma as outlined below which include 26 credits, 9 of which must be verified credits. A **standard** credit is earned when a student passes a course. A **verified** credit is earned when a student passes a course and the associated end-of-course SOL test. In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests or certifications to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during tenth grade or after. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students in grades 7-12 receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). **Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course.** In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. **The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year prior to the end of the first nine weeks.**

Advanced Studies Diploma Course Requirements (8 VAC 20-131-50)		
Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	4	2
Laboratory Science ²	4	2
History and Social Sciences ³	4	2
*Foreign Languages ⁴	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Ed	1	
Electives	3	
Student Selected Test ⁵		1
Total Credits	26	9

*Foreign Languages is designated World Languages in Fairfax County Public Schools.

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of one language or two years of two languages.

⁵ A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career or technical education, economics, or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

ADVANCED TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

26 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the 9th grade for the first time. The following applies to 9th grade students who enter high school in 2010-2011 and beyond.

To graduate from high school, students shall meet the minimum requirements for the Advanced Technical Diploma as outlined below which include 26 credits, 9 of which must be verified credits. A **standard** credit is earned when a student passes a course. A **verified** credit is earned when a student passes a course and the associated end-of-course SOL test. In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests or certifications to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during tenth grade or after. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students in grades 7-12 receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). **Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course.** In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. **The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year prior to the end of the first nine weeks.**

Advanced Technical Diploma Course Requirements (8 VAC 20-131-110)		
Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	4	2
Laboratory Science ²	4	2
History and Social Sciences ³	4	2
*Foreign Languages ⁴	3	
Health and Physical Education	2	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Fine Arts or Career and Technical	1	
Career and Technical Education ⁵	3	
Student Selected Test ⁶		1
Total	26	9

*Foreign Languages is designated World Languages in Fairfax County Public Schools.

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education shall approve courses to satisfy the requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of one language or two years of two languages.

⁵ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement must include a career concentration as approved by the Board. If a career concentration includes a specific assessment approved by the Board and the student is eligible to take the assessment, then the student must take this assessment.

⁶ A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career or technical education, economics, or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

STANDARD DIPLOMA

22 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the 9th grade for the first time. The following applies to 9th grade students who enter high school in 2010-2011 and beyond.

To graduate from high school, students shall meet the minimum requirements for the Standard Diploma as outlined below, including 22 standard credits, 6 of which must be verified credits. A **standard** credit is earned when a student passes a course. A **verified** credit is earned when a student passes a course and the associated end-of-course SOL test. In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests, certifications, or the appeal process to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during the tenth grade or after. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students in grades 7-12 receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). **Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course.** In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. **The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year, prior to the end of the first nine weeks.**

Standard Diploma Course Requirements (8 VAC 20-131-50)		
Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	3	1
Laboratory Science ^{2,6}	3	1
History and Social Sciences ^{3,6}	4	1
Health and Physical Education	2	
*Foreign Languages, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Ed ⁷	2	
Economic and Personal Finance	1	
Electives ⁴	3	
Student Selected Test ⁵		1
Total Credits	22	6

*Foreign Languages is designated World Languages in Fairfax County Public Schools.

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two different course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra Functions and Data Analysis, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education shall approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least two different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.

⁵ A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career and technical education, economics, or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

⁶ Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for (i) the student selected verified credit and (ii) either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the Board as an additional test to verify student achievement.

⁷ Pursuant to Section 22.1-253.13:4, Code of Virginia, credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education.

STANDARD TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

22 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the 9th grade for the first time. The following applies to 9th grade students who enter high school in 2010-2011 and beyond.

To graduate from high school, students shall meet the minimum requirements for the Standard Technical Diploma as outlined below, including 22 standard credits, 6 of which must be verified credits. A **standard** credit is earned when a student passes a course. A **verified** credit is earned when a student passes a course and the associated end-of-course SOL test. In some cases, students may utilize substitute tests, certifications, or the appeal process to earn verified credits. State guidelines prescribe the number of verified credits required for graduation for students entering a Virginia public high school for the first time during the tenth grade or after. Consult your school counselor for specific information.

Students in grades 7-12 receive credit toward graduation for high school courses taken in middle school. These courses count toward credits in the required sequences as well as toward the total number of credits required for graduation and calculation of the grade point average (GPA). **Middle school parents may request that grades for any high school credit-bearing course taken in the middle school be removed from the student's high school transcript, and therefore the student will not earn high school credit for the course.** In addition, the student will not be eligible for a verified credit in any course which has been removed from the transcript. **The request to remove a course from the transcript must be made in writing to the middle or high school the student will attend the following year, prior to the end of the first nine weeks.**

Standard Technical Diploma Course Requirements (8 VAC 20-131-50)		
Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits
English	4	2
Mathematics ¹	3	1
Laboratory Science ^{2,5}	3	1
History and Social Sciences ^{3,5}	4	1
Health and Physical Education	2	
Fine Arts or *Foreign Language	1	
Economics and Personal Finance	1	
Career and Technical Education ⁴	4	
Student Selected Test ⁶		1
Total Credits	22	6

*Foreign Languages is designated World Languages in Fairfax County Public Schools.

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among:

Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra Functions and Data Analysis, or Algebra II or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. The Board of Education shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

² Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics, or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The Board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and World History/Geography I and World History/Geography II. AP World History satisfies the requirement for World History/Geography II.

⁴ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement must include a career concentration as approved by the Board. If a career concentration includes a specific assessment approved by the Board and the student is eligible to take the assessment, then the student must take this assessment.

⁵ Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry or trade or professional association or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification competency credential or license for (i) the student selected verified credit and (ii) either a science or history and social science verified credit when the certification license or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the Board as an additional test to verify student achievement.

⁶ A student may utilize additional tests for earning verified credit in computer science, technology, career and technical education, economics or other areas as prescribed by the Board in 8 VAC 20-131-110.

MODIFIED STANDARD DIPLOMA

20 CREDIT DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION

The requirements for a student to earn a diploma shall be those in effect when the student enters the ninth grade for the first time. The following applies to 9th grade students who entered high school 2000-2001 and beyond.

The Modified Standard Diploma is intended for certain students who have a disability and are unlikely to meet the credit requirements for a standard diploma. Eligibility and participation in the Modified Standard Diploma program shall be determined by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) team anytime after the student's eighth grade year. There are no verified credit requirements for the Modified Standard Diploma. Students pursuing the Modified Standard Diploma are required to meet literacy and numeracy requirements on the 8th grade English reading and mathematics Standards of Learning (SOL) tests. Students may substitute a higher level high school SOL test for the 8th grade SOL tests for the literacy and numeracy requirements.

A student who has chosen to pursue a Modified Standard Diploma shall also be allowed to pursue the Standard Diploma, Standard Technical Diploma, Advanced Studies Diploma or Advanced Technical Diploma at any time throughout the high school career. The student may not be excluded from courses and tests required to earn a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma.

Modified Standard Diploma Course Requirements (8 VAC 20-131)	
Subject Area	Standard Credits
English	4
Mathematics ¹	3
Science ²	2
History and Social Sciences ³	2
Health and Physical Education	2
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Ed.	1
Electives ⁴	6
Total Credits	20

¹ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include content from among applications of algebra, geometry, personal finance, and probability and statistics in courses that have been approved by the Board of Education.

² Courses completed shall include content from at least two of the following: applications of earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics in courses approved by the Board.

³ Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia History and one unit of credit in U.S. and Virginia Government in courses approved by the Board.

⁴ Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives in the same manner required for the Standard Diploma.

Declaration of Nondiscrimination

No student, employee, or applicant for employment in the Fairfax County Public Schools shall, on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, or disability, or age (under certain conditions), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Compliance is coordinated by the directors of the following: Office of Design and Construction Services (located at 10640 Page Avenue Suite 400, Fairfax Virginia 22030, 703-246-3632) regarding access to facilities; Office of Equity and Compliance (571-423-3050 or TTY 703-280-9833), regarding equal employment opportunity, discrimination, and sexual harassment issues; Office of Monitoring and Compliance (571-423-4210), Department of Special Services, regarding programs and activities for students with disabilities. Correspondence may be addressed to the above offices and sent to 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042.

ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Advanced Academic Programs at the high school level are comprised of honors courses at the 9th and 10th grade levels, and the Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) programs at the 10th, 11th, and 12th grade levels. Advanced Academic Programs are open to all students committed to rigorous academic work. Student transfer applications may be submitted for an AP or IB program if the base school does not offer the desired program of study. For more information go to: www.fcps.edu/ss/student-transfer/index.htm

AP and IB courses are advanced-level courses with external exams. Students who take AP and IB courses are required to complete the examinations. Advanced Placement (AP) courses and specified International Baccalaureate (IB) courses receive an additional 1.0 added to the final grade upon successful completion of the course. Successful completion is defined as completing the course with a passing grade and completing the corresponding AP or IB exam. For example, a final grade of A in an AP/IB course shall receive 5.0 quality points for purposes of calculating grade point average.

Honors courses in mathematics, science, English, and social studies receive an additional 0.5 weight added to the final grade upon successful completion of the course. Successful completion is defined as completing the course with a passing grade. For example, a final grade of A in an honors class shall receive 4.5 quality points. In these disciplines, students have a choice of taking either a non-weighted standard level course or the weighted honors level course.

The program for gifted and talented students responds to the requirement of the Virginia Board of Education that each local school division plan and implement an instructional program for gifted and talented students at all levels K-12. Courses designated as honors, IB or AP fulfill this requirement.

The Fairfax County Public Schools' high school advanced academic program provides educational opportunities designed and coordinated to meet the needs, abilities, and interests of gifted and talented students. The high school gifted program provides challenging courses for students who demonstrate advanced academic ability.

Differentiated curricula and teaching strategies which stress critical thinking skills, creativity, and problem-solving are integrated into the content of all advanced academic course offerings. The four-year sequence of courses in each of the academic disciplines, which progresses from honors to AP, and IB, provides a continuous and balanced gifted and talented program.

Advanced Placement

Centreville, Chantilly, Fairfax, Falls Church, Hayfield, Herndon, Lake Braddock, Langley, Madison, McLean, Oakton, South County, **West Potomac**, West Springfield, Westfield, and Woodson High Schools offer the Advanced Placement (AP) program. Individual AP courses are also offered at other high schools. All students enrolled in an AP course are required to complete the end-of-course AP exam. Students may receive college credit and/or placement based upon their exam grades.

The AP program is offered in English, social studies, mathematics, science, world languages, and fine arts. AP courses are offered as open enrollment to all students committed to rigorous, academic work. Students taking at least 3 AP exams with at least a grade of 3 on each are recognized by the College Board as AP Scholars. Further information about the AP program may be obtained by contacting the school counselor or AP coordinator at the participating school.

International Baccalaureate

Annandale, Edison, Lee, Marshall, **Mount Vernon**, Robinson, South Lakes, and Stuart High Schools offer the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma. To qualify for the IB Diploma, students must select at least one subject from each of six IB subject groups including English, world languages, mathematics, science, social studies, and an elective. Students take at least 3 and not more than 4 of these subjects at higher level (HL), the others at standard level (SL). All students enrolled in an IB course are required to complete the end-of-course IB exams. IB diploma candidates must complete 150 hours of extracurricular activities and community service, take the Theory of Knowledge course, and write a 4000 word essay on a topic of their choice. Students in IB schools have a choice of being certificate candidates or IB diploma candidates. Certificate candidates take one or more IB courses and the associated exam(s) and receive certificates for each IB exam with a score of “4” or better.

The IB program is offered in English, social studies, mathematics, science, world languages, fine arts, and other electives. IB courses are offered as open enrollment to all students committed to rigorous, academic work. Further information about the IB program may be obtained by contacting the school counselor or IB coordinator at the participating school. Annandale, South Lakes, Mount Vernon, and Stuart High Schools implement the IB Middle Years Program in 9th and 10th grade. Students may choose to work toward the MYP certificate which requires the completion of a personal project at the end of 10th grade and success on the MYP 10th grade assessments.

**CARL SANDBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL
SEVENTH GRADE COURSE SELECTIONS
2010 - 2011**

Last Name First Middle Gender School Last Attended (or current elementary school)

Parent/Guardian Name Home Phone Work Phone Parent E-mail Address

REQUIRED COURSES

___ English 7
___ English 7 Honors

___ US History 7
___ US History 7 Honors

___ Math 7
*Math 7 Honors and Algebra I placements
determined at a later date

___ Science 7
___ Science 7 Honors

X Health & PE 7

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

GT Center Courses (English, Civics, Science)

___ Please check here if you are in the GT Center

Special Education Courses

___ Please check here if you have an IEP

English as a Second Language (ESOL)

___ Please check here if you receive ESOL services

ELECTIVES

The remaining classes in the student's schedule are to be filled from the elective choices below.

While every effort will be made to provide students with their most desired elective choices, placement will also depend on staffing and enrollment.

Choose five electives and rank order them by circling the numbers 1 – 5 (1 indicates your top choice):

SEMESTER ELECTIVES	YEAR ELECTIVES
1 2 3 4 5 - Technology Exploration (846432)	1 2 3 4 5 - Band ** (923210)
1 2 3 4 5 - Computer Solutions (615032)	1 2 3 4 5 - Orchestra ** (923810)
1 2 3 4 5 - Family Consumer Science \$ (826332)	1 2 3 4 5 - Women's Chorus ** (926011)
1 2 3 4 5 - Intro to Foreign Language (570032)	1 2 3 4 5 - Men's Chorus ** (926012)
1 2 3 4 5 - Intro to Art (910532)	1 2 3 4 5 - Spanish I (<i>Immersion students only</i>) * (551000)
1 2 3 4 5 - Intermediate Art + (910632)	1 2 3 4 5 - AVID ** (982816)
1 2 3 4 5 - Theater Arts Appreciation (139067)	1 2 3 4 5 - Basic Skills ** (781980)
1 2 3 4 5 - Creative Writing (110862)	1 2 3 4 5 - Reading ** (110700)
1 2 3 4 5 - Lit Arts/Jour News (116168)	1 2 3 4 5 - WAT ** (907060)
	1 2 3 4 5 - Personal Development ** (781540)

+ Prerequisite required
\$ Material fee may be required

**Placement determined by teacher after registration
* High school credit/included in high school GPA and class rank

I UNDERSTAND STAFFING IS BASED ON COURSE SELECTION AND MY CHILD'S SELECTIONS REPRESENT A FIRM COMMITMENT.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Parents and students: Please see the back of this form for further information on Honors and remediation courses

**SANDBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL
EIGHTH GRADE COURSE SELECTIONS
2010 - 2011**

Last Name First Middle Gender School Last Attended

Parent/Guardian Name Home Phone Work Phone Parent E-mail Address

REQUIRED COURSES

- English 8
- English 8 HN

- Civics 8
- Civics 8 HN

- Math 8
- Algebra I
- Algebra I Honors*
- Geometry Honors+*

- Science 8
- Science 8 HN

- Health & PE 8

* High school credit/included in high school GPA and class rank
+Pre-requisite required

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Honors Courses
Seventh grade students currently enrolled in an honors course with a grade of a B or above should continue with the honors curriculum in that subject area in 8th grade

GT Center Courses (English, Civics, Science)

Please check here if you are in the GT Center

Special Education Courses (SPED)

Please check here if you have an IEP

English as a Second Language (ESOL)

ELECTIVES

The remaining classes in the student's schedule are to be filled from the elective choices below. While every effort will be made to provide students with their most desired elective choices, placement will also depend on staffing and enrollment.

Choose five electives and rank order them by circling the numbers 1 – 5 (1 indicates your top choice):

SEMESTER ELECTIVES	YEAR ELECTIVES
1 2 3 4 5 - Technology Exploration (846332)	1 2 3 4 5 - Advanced Art (911500)+
1 2 3 4 5 - Computer Solutions (660932)	1 2 3 4 5 - Advanced Theatre Arts Appreciation (139568) +
1 2 3 4 5 - Digital Input Tech.(616032)+	1 2 3 4 5 - Band (923210)**
1 2 3 4 5 - Family Consumer Science (824432)	1 2 3 4 5 - Orchestra (923310)**
1 2 3 4 5 - Intermediate Art (910632)	1 2 3 4 5 - Women's Chorus (926011)**
1 2 3 4 5 - Computers in Art (911562)+	1 2 3 4 5 - Men's Chorus (926012)**
1 2 3 4 5 - Theater Arts Appreciation (139067)	1 2 3 4 5 - Spanish FI Spkrs (551100) *+
1 2 3 4 5 - Lit Arts/Jour News (116168)	1 2 3 4 5 - Spanish I (551000)*
1 2 3 4 5 - Creative Writing (110862)	1 2 3 4 5 - Spanish II (552000)+*(Immersion students only)
	1 2 3 4 5 - French I (511000)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 982816 AVID **
	<input type="checkbox"/> 781980 Basic Skills **
	<input type="checkbox"/> 110700 Reading**
	<input type="checkbox"/> 907060 WAT**
	<input type="checkbox"/> 781540 Personal Development**

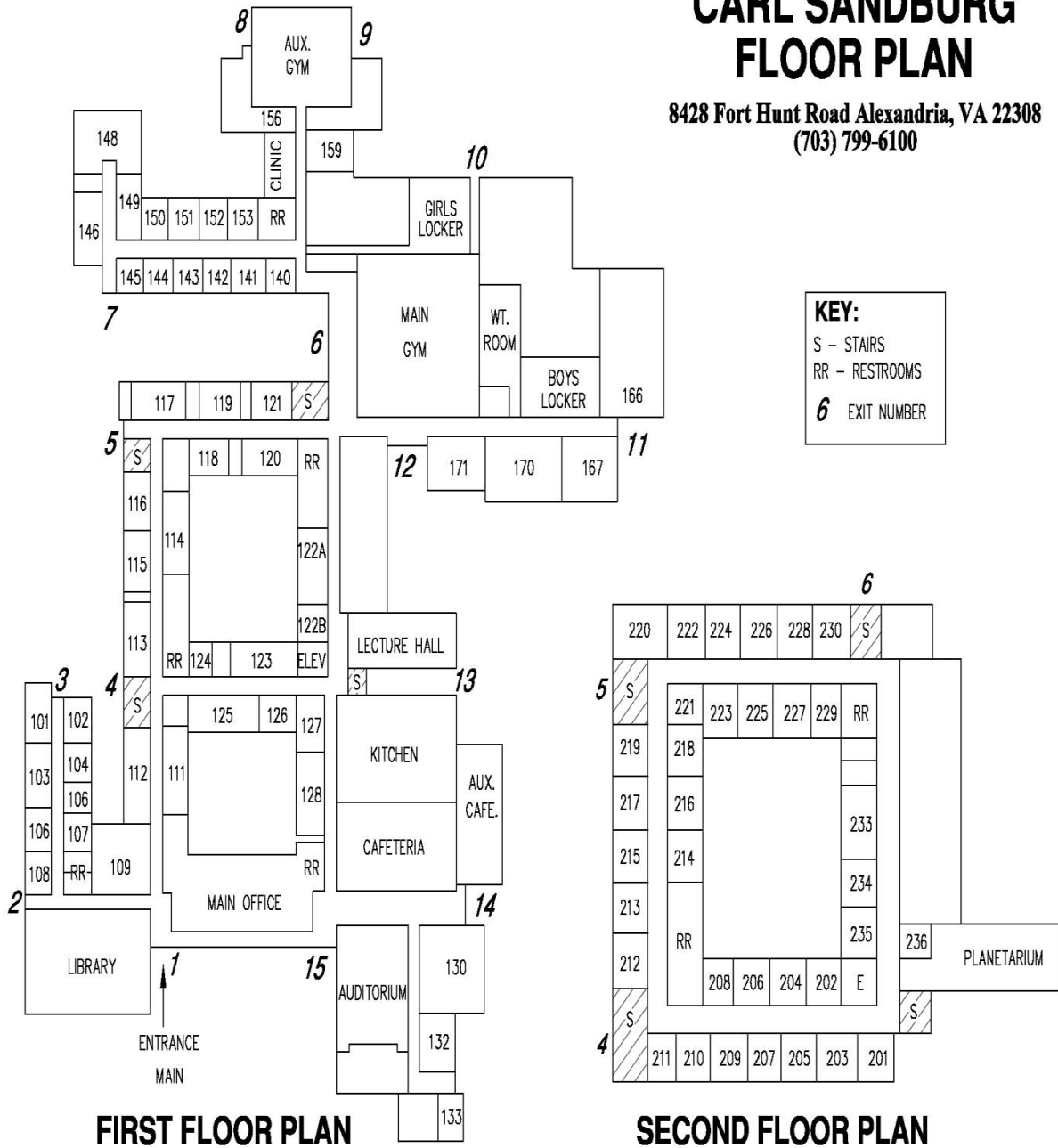
* High school credit/included in high school GPA and class rank
**Placement determined by teacher after registration

+ Prerequisite required
\$ Material fee may be required

Parents and students: Please see the back of this form for further information on Honors and remediation courses

CARL SANDBURG FLOOR PLAN

8428 Fort Hunt Road Alexandria, VA 22308
(703) 799-6100



Revised August 26, 2008