

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

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NOTIFICATION OF AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact Dr. Troy Loeffelholz, Superintendent.

Columbus Middle School

2200 26th Street

Columbus NE 68601

Phone: 402-563-7060

Fax: 402-563-7068

www.columbuspublicschools.org

Principal

Amy Haynes

haynesa@discoverers.org

Assistant Principal

Jordon Anderson

andersonj@discoverers.org

Dean of Students

Adriana Carnes

carnesa@discoverers.org

Activities Coordinator

Jordon Anderson

andersonj@discoverers.org

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Staff Assignments

Office Phone Number: 402-563-7060

School Counselors

Kim Shevlin - 8th Grade
shevlink@discoverers.org

Jared Johnson - 7th Grade
johnsonj@discoverers.org

Angie Kruse - 6th Grade
krusea@discoverers.org

All counselors - 5th Grade

Office Support

Angie Andreasen - Secretary to Principal
Bridget Runquist - Secretary to Assist Principal
Traci Seim - Counselor's Secretary
Susan Beiermann - Attendance Secretary
Kris Robak - Secretary

Media Center

Amy Jahn- jahna@discovereres.org

School Social Worker

Heidi Luebbe - luebbeh@discoverers.org

After-Hours After-School Program

Stacey Whiting - Supervisor 402-563-4901
2610 14 St

School Nurse

Karla Bartlett - bartlettk@discoverers.org

Continuous Improvement Goals

Building Continuous Improvement Goals

Mathematics: CMS students will increase mathematics achievement.

Reading: CMS students will increase reading achievement.

Dear Parents and Students,

Our district mission statement of “Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success” is alive and well at Columbus Middle School. We are glad that you chose to learn here. We know that you will be able to find classes and activities that are of interest to you at CMS. Several factors make middle school a unique setting that is much different from the elementary level and high school.

Columbus Middle School provides:

- A strong core curriculum of reading language arts, math, science, and social studies
- Exploratory programs and activities in all areas of the curriculum to help students discover and extend interests and abilities
- An involved counseling curriculum
- A supportive environment for the physical and social development of every student
- An intramural and activity-oriented program to accommodate the needs of the early adolescent
- A positive climate that fosters self-esteem, self-discipline, and student responsibility
- Knowledgeable educators who are committed to the middle school design
- An on going program of training and professional skills that are based on the characteristics and needs of the adolescent
- Close contact and communication between parents and school
- Opportunities for intervention and acceleration when needs are identified
- A strong careers program that encourages post-secondary education
- An after-school program with workshops that reach out to a wide-range of student interests
- Interdisciplinary teams in which all students are “One of the family”

We hope that you find the information that you need in this book. Our counseling department will assist you with the registration process and make sure that you and your child have no unanswered questions.

Again, welcome to Columbus Middle School. We look forward to working with your child and you.

Amy Haynes, Principal

Teaming

What is a “TEAM”?

Every student who comes to Columbus Middle School will either be on the Maroon or Silver Team. “Teaming” is a middle school concept that enables teachers to better monitor students social and academic needs. Teachers within a “Team” consistently communicate with one another about the progress of their students and work together to help their students achieve success.

Each team at CMS is made up of a different set of teachers. All students assigned to a particular team will have the same set of

teachers for their required classes. Each team of teachers meets weekly to discuss the lessons to be taught, school activities for the week, and any concern that teachers may have for a student.

Are there differences between teams?

The counselors do placement on teams when the students enter in 6th grade. The counselors make sure that each team is balanced in student ability, achievement, race, and gender. Once the student is placed on the silver or maroon team they remain on the same team all three years they attend CMS.

Grading Procedures

Grade Policy

For grade point average purposes, Columbus Middle School will implement a grade point scale. The grade point scale will be:

Regular Courses

A+	=	4.0	99 - 100%
A	=	4.0	95 - 98%
A-	=	4.0	93 - 94%
B+	=	3.0	91 - 92%

B	=	3.0	88 - 90%
B-	=	3.0	86 - 87%
C+	=	2.0	84 - 85%
C	=	2.0	80 - 83%
C-	=	2.0	78 - 79%
D+	=	1.0	76 - 77%
D	=	1.0	72 - 75%
D-	=	1.0	70 - 71%
F	=	0.0	Below 70%

Daily Schedule

REGULAR BLOCK SCHEDULE

5th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:11
1-2	8:13 - 9:53
3	9:53 - 10:28
4	10:28 - 11:03
5	11:03 - 11:38
6	11:38 - 12:13
7	12:13 - 12:43
8-9	12:48 - 1:52
10-11	1:52 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

5th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:11
1-2	8:11 - 9:41
3	9:41 - 10:11
4	10:11 - 10:41
5	10:41 - 11:11
6	11:11 - 11:41
7	11:41 - 12:11
8-9	12:11 - 1:11
10-11	1:11 - 2:11
WIN	2:13 - 2:35

REGULAR BLOCK SCHEDULE

6th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:10
1-2	8:13 - 9:23
3-4	9:23 - 10:33
5	10:33 - 11:03
6	11:03 - 11:38
7	11:38 - 12:13
8	12:13 - 12:48
9	12:48 - 1:23
10-11	1:23 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

7th Grade

1	8:00 - 8:40
ADV	8:43 - 8:56
2	8:56 - 9:36
3	9:39 - 10:19
4	10:22 - 11:02
5	7M 11:05 - 11:25
	7S 11:15 - 11:35
6	11:40 - 12:10
7	12:13 - 12:53
8	12:56 - 1:36
9	1:39 - 2:19
10	2:22 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

**7M and 7S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

8th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:13
1	8:13 - 8:53
2	8:56 - 9:36
3	9:39 - 10:19
4	10:22 - 11:02
5	11:05 - 11:35
6	8M 11:40 - 12:00
	8S 11:50 - 12:10
7	12:13 - 12:53
8	12:56 - 1:36
9	1:39 - 2:19
10	2:22 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

**8M and 8S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

6th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:11
1-2	8:11 - 9:11
3-4	9:11 - 10:11
5	10:11 - 10:41
6	10:41 - 11:11
7	11:11 - 11:41
8	11:41 - 12:11
9	12:11 - 12:41
10-11	12:41 - 2:11
WIN	2:13 - 2:35

7th Grade

1	8:00 - 8:35
ADV	8:38 - 8:49
2	8:49 - 9:24
3	9:27 - 10:02
4	10:05 - 10:40
5	7M 10:43 - 11:03
	7S 10:48 - 11:08
6	11:13 - 11:38
7	11:41 - 12:16
8	12:19 - 12:54
9	12:57 - 1:32
10	1:35 - 2:10
WIN	2:13 - 2:35

**7M and 7S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

8th Grade

ADV	8:00 - 8:11
1	8:11 - 8:46
2	8:49 - 9:24
3	9:27 - 10:02
4	10:05 - 10:40
5	10:43 - 11:08
6	8M 11:13 - 11:33
	8S 11:18 - 11:38
7	11:41 - 12:16
8	12:19 - 12:54
9	12:57 - 1:32
10	1:35 - 2:10
WIN	2:13 - 2:35

**8M and 8S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

5th through 8th Grade Class Sequence

Career and Technical Education

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Keyboarding STEM 5	
6th Grade	Computer Skills Discovering STEM 6 Family and Consumer Sciences 6	
7th Grade	Investigating STEM Skills 7	Computer Applications Fashion 7 Foods 7
8th Grade	Investigating STEM Skills 8	Computer Applications Fashion 8 Foods 8

English

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Reading Language Arts/Writing	
6th Grade	Reading Language Arts/Writing	
7th Grade	Language Arts 7	Reading Skills ** Yearbook **
8th Grade	Language Arts 8	Reading Skills ** Yearbook
		** Entry based on selection process

Fine Arts

Visual Arts Electives

5th Grade	Art Media and Elements
6th Grade	
7th Grade	Advanced Elements Advanced Principles
8th Grade	Contemporary Ideas Creative Methods

Music Electives

5th Grade	Band 5 Music 5
6th Grade	Band 6 Music 6
7th Grade	Band 7 Chorus 7 Music 7
8th Grade	Band 8 Chorus 8 Jazz Choir-Vocal Tech (must audition)

Theater

7th Grade	Musical (must audition, extracurricular)
8th Grade	Discovering Theater 8 Musical (must audition, extracurricular)

Physical Education & Health

5th Grade	Fitness 5
6th Grade	Fitness 6
7th Grade	Health/Fitness 7
8th Grade	Health/Fitness 8

Mathematics

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Math 5	Math Skills **
6th Grade	Math 6	Math Skills **
7th Grade	Math 7 or Pre-Algebra 7	Math Skills **
8th Grade	Algebra 1 or Pre-Algebra 8	Math Skills **

**** Entry based on selection process**

Science

5th Grade	Science 5
6th Grade	Science 6
7th Grade	Science 7
8th Grade	Science 8

Social Studies

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Social Studies 5	
6th Grade	Social Studies 6	
7th Grade	Social Studies 7	Pre-Spanish
8th Grade	Social Studies 8	Spanish 1

5th through 8th Grade Course Descriptions

5th/6th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

**Year Long
(required)**

The courses for English-Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies are aligned with Nebraska Standards.

Please visit the following link:

**[https://www.education.ne.gov/
AcademicStandards/index.html](https://www.education.ne.gov/AcademicStandards/index.html)**

5th Grade

Exploratory Classes (required)

STEM 5 1 Trimester Required

Students are introduced to the basic (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts. Students will take part in an activity from each STEM area with hands-on activities that put their STEM skills to the test. Students will enjoy the hands-on, mind-on approach to robotics, design, flight, and problem solving.

Keyboarding 5 1 Trimester Required

Students in this class will focus on typing technique. Students will demonstrate appropriate keyboarding skills using home row keys, proper finger placements, and key reaches. Students will spend time learning about and practicing digital citizenship. Students will demonstrate ethical behavior when using technology. Students will learn the various ways to use the Google Suite.

MUSIC 5 Yearlong Required

This is a year long class for students with the goal of improving their musical literacy, creating a rap, composing a song with loops on GarageBand, and improving vocal techniques and part-singing. Students will be exposed to various kinds of musical styles-both singing and listening. Students will be given an opportunity to be in a public performance.

Art Media & Elements 5 1 Trimester Required

In Art Media & Elements students will learn the basics of various art media. Art media used in the course will include paint, pastel, clay, pencil and paper, and more. Students will also learn the basics of art elements. Students will apply their knowledge of the art elements and art media to create unique and exciting projects.

Elective Classes

Band 5 Year-Long Elective

This class will provide students with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. No previous instrumental experience is necessary. All students will be expected to perform in two evening concerts as well as a few others outside of the school day.

6th Grade

Exploratory Classes (required)

STEM 6 1 Trimester Required

Students are introduced to the basic (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts. Students will take part in an activity from each STEM area with hands-on activities that put their STEM skills to the test. Students will enjoy the hands-on, mind-on approach to robotics, design, electronics, drafting, manufacturing, and problem solving.

Computer Skills 6 1 Trimester

Students will continue to focus on typing technique and use appropriate keyboarding skills to demonstrate speed and accuracy. Digital citizenship is reinforced and students will explain copyright laws. Students will use the Google Suite to save, upload, download, share, create, edit, cut, paste, insert, typeover, etc. Students will demonstrate their ability to utilize information in public domain by using public domain resources and cite properly.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 6 1 Trimester

Students will explore the four areas of family and consumer sciences in this course. Units covered include; Focus on Food, Money Management, Myself and Others, and Creative Sewing. This course will feature many hands-on and cooperative learning activities, including cooking experiences and the creation of a strip-quilt pillow. **Students provide their own materials for the pillow project.

MUSIC 6 Yearlong Required

This is a year long class for students with the goal of improving their musical literacy, creating a rap, composing a song with loops on GarageBand, and improving vocal techniques and part-singing. Students will be exposed to various kinds of musical styles-both singing and listening. Students will be given an opportunity to be in a public performance.

Elective Classes

Band 6 Year-Long Elective

This class will provide students with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. No previous instrumental experience is necessary. All students will be expected to perform in two evening concerts as well as a few others outside of the school day.

7th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Year Long (required)

HEALTH/FITNESS 7

Year-Long Required

This class is a combination of health and fitness concepts. Students will learn about prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use; healthy foundations and wellness; consumerism and media influences on your health; personal fitness development; dynamic and static stretches of muscles; and personal fitness development focusing on muscular strength/endurance and aerobic capacity.

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

Year-Long Required

Students in seventh grade Language Arts will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts relating to various genres. The texts will include high-interest, short stories, and informational articles. Students will interact with the text by analyzing various literature concepts, author's purpose, literary devices, and text elements. Learning to summarize as well as answering literal and inferential questions will be a focus of this course. Using a variety of context clue strategies, students will build their vocabulary in order to construct meaning from text. Students will write descriptive essays by applying the writing process and the six traits of writing.

MATH 7

Year-Long Required

This is general course in mathematics designed to help students understand the basic structure of mathematics and to develop ever-increasing mathematical ability. Topics such as integers, number theory, geometry, ratios and proportions, percents, problem solving, and estimation will be studied. Students will also study introductory Algebra concepts such as equation solving.

PRE-ALGEBRA 7 (must qualify)

Year-Long Required

This is a course for students with a high ability in mathematics. This course includes an introduction to Algebra concepts, ratio/proportion/percent applications, and some geometry applications.

SCIENCE 7

Year-Long Required

This is an integrated science course, which includes units on Earth Science and Space Science. The Earth Science portion will focus on plate tectonics (including earthquakes and volcanoes), erosion, the rock cycle, fossils, and soil. The Space Science portion will include phases of the moon, seasons, eclipses, constellations, tides, asteroids, meteors, and comets. Throughout the entire year the scientific method will be used. Students will use laboratory and problem solving skills. Students will be required to use appropriate math skills while developing these science skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Year-Long Required

This social studies course focuses on the ancient cultures of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages. We will study the geography, religion, achievements, politics, economics, and social structures of these cultures.

Exploratory Classes (required)

Computer Applications

1 Quarter Required (7th or 8th Grade)

Students will reinforce their knowledge and understanding of basic computer functionality and keyboarding skills. We will spend time looking at more advanced features of Google Drive including formatting, add-ons and spreadsheets. In addition, we will explore various multimedia and programming software such as iMovie and Code.org.

7th Grade

Designing with STEM 7

1 Semester

Required

Students are able to use a variety of tools, machines, and methods to design, problem solve, and construct. The hands on activities are academic applications to engage the learner to embrace (STEM) Science Technology Engineering and Math to design and problem solve each activity. Students will enjoy the hands- on, minds- on approach to safety, design, drafting, problem solving, creating solutions, and presentations.

Elective Classes

Advanced Principles

1 Quarter

Elective

Students will continue to build on their skills learned in 5th grade art. The focus of Advanced Principles will focus on the principles of art and their usage throughout art history. Art media could include collage, pencil and paper, clay, paint and more. Advanced Principles would be suggested for students interested in pursuing art at a more advanced level.

Advanced Elements

1 Quarter

Elective

Advanced Elements will continue developing a student's art skills learned in 5th grade art. There will be a focus on the art elements and how professional artists use them to create and speak about their artwork. Art media used throughout the course could include clay, paint, printmaking, and collage among others. Advanced Elements would be a suggested course for any student that enjoys being creative and who would like to continue taking art classes in the future.

BAND 7

Year-Long

Elective

This class is open to all students who have previous experience playing a band instrument. Students in this class will perform in 2 formal concerts, 2-3 pep band performances at local basketball games, and can audition for various area honor bands.

CHORUS 7

Semester

Elective

Chorus class is designed to give students an experience in part singing and performance. Styles of music covered will vary and include pop, contemporary, and traditional. This class is designed for the student who enjoys singing and desires to explore the potential in their singing voice. Multiple performing opportunities will be given, including participating in the annual CMS Talent Show. This is a semester class, which may be repeated the 2nd semester if the student chooses.

FASHION 7

1 Quarter

Elective

This course is designed for the student who is interested in exploring fashion history, current fashion, and wardrobe management. Students will learn more about the sewing machine as they create a garment of their choice. Students will also get the opportunity to work with a serger machine. **Student cost will be determined by their choice of sewing project.

FOODS 7

1 Quarter

Elective

Students will learn the basics of good nutrition. They will become familiar with kitchen equipment and practice safe and sanitary work habits. Students will also prepare and serve foods from all the basic food groups and can plan to cook 1 to 2 times a week.

7th Grade

Pre-Spanish 7 1 Semester Elective

This class will build on previous skills in 6th grade culture class and introduce material that will be used in Spanish I (8th grade). The purpose of this class is to make the transition easier to Spanish I and to help students gain an understanding for learning a world language. A variety of themes will be covered including: describing themselves as well as a friend, locating where people are from and identifying their nationality, using the verb ser and high-frequency descriptive adjectives, obtaining and providing information about their friends and school subjects, telling time, identifying and shopping for school supplies and clothing. In addition, students will learn -ar verbs and be able to communicate in situations that arise when shopping. Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to enter Spanish I (8th grade) knowing the necessary background information for a world language.

YEARBOOK 7 Year-Long (must qualify)

Yearbook will offer students the opportunity to design, assemble and distribute the annual CMS yearbook. Students will learn the elements of good design by creating computer-generated yearbook layouts. Students will also study and practice using the elements of good photography. Yearbook class takes the place of Reading Essentials. Time commitments outside of regular class hours are required for those who participate in yearbook.

8th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

(required) - Year-Long

ALGEBRA 1

Year-Long (must qualify)

This is a course for eighth grade students with high ability in mathematics. Students will learn Algebra concepts, some geometry, and statistic integration. This is the traditional freshman level Algebra course.

HEALTH/FITNESS 8

Year-Long Required

In this class, students will study health and fitness-related concepts and the correlation between the two areas. Typical areas of study will include: prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco use; mental and emotional health; nutrition; growth and development; dynamic and static stretches of muscles; and personal fitness development focusing on muscular strength/endurance and aerobic capacity.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

Year-Long Required

Students in language arts will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction text of various genres. The texts will include high-interest selections, short stories, and informational articles. Students will interact with the text by analyzing various literature concepts, author's purpose, literary devices, and text elements. Students will write in a variety of modes by applying the writing process and the six traits of writing.

PRE-ALGEBRA 8

Year-Long Required

This is a general course in mathematics pertaining to Pre-Algebra concepts and making connections within mathematics. Topics studied will include the real number system, measurement and geometry, algebraic concepts, and data analysis and probability. This is the traditional course for eighth graders.

SCIENCE 8

Year-Long Required

This course will begin with a unit on the scientific method. The culmination of this unit will be a science fair project and presentation. Students will also learn about basic cell structure, mitosis, explore differences in types of cells, and genetics during the life science unit. They will study physics by investigating energy and Newton's 3 Laws of Motion. Students will complete a unit of chemistry and investigate chemical changes and their reactions, properties of matter, atomic structure, and properties and uses of metals, nonmetals, and metalloids.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Year-Long Required

Students will study the social science topics of American history, government, and economics. Students will complete a variety of projects, which tie these units of study to real world applications.

Exploratory Classes (required)

Investigating STEM Skills 8

Semester

Students are able to use a variety to tools, machines, and methods to design, problem solve, and construct. The hands on activities are academic applications to engage the learner to embrace (STEM) Science Technology Engineering and Math to design and problem solve each activity. Students will enjoy the hands- on, minds- on approach to safety, design, drafting, problem solving, creating solutions, and presentations.

Computer Applications

1 Quarter

Required (7th or 8th Grade)

Students will reinforce their knowledge and understanding of basic computer functionality and keyboarding skills. We will spend time looking at more advanced features of Google Drive including formatting, add-ons and spreadsheets. In addition, we will explore various multimedia and programming software such as iMovie and Code.org.

8th Grade

Elective Classes

Creative Methods

1 Quarter

Elective

Students will study contemporary art and artists to be inspired to create their own modern art in a variety of methods. Students will explore a variety of art media in order to achieve successful creativeness. This class has the potential of including many different innovative ways to make two and three-dimensional artworks. Students have the opportunity to develop their two and three-dimensional art skills through drawing, painting, sketching, sculpture among other techniques.

Contemporary Ideas

1 Quarter

Elective

Students will explore various art trends from the past 100 years from a historical perspective while using various media to create fun and innovative projects. Students will use their research to create projects that are both meaningful and interesting to them. Types of projects could include sculpture, drawing, painting, and ceramics.

BAND 8

Year-Long

Elective

This class is open to all students with at least 2 years of experience playing a band instrument. Students in this class will perform in 3 formal concerts, a possible clinic day and/or concert band festival, and 3-4 pep band performances at local basketball games. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for various area honor bands.

CHORUS 8

Semester

Elective

Chorus class is designed to give students an experience in part singing and performance. Students will sing and explore the potential in their singing voice with a variety of music including pop, contemporary, and traditional. Multiple performing opportunities will be given, including participating in the annual CMS Talent Show. This is a semester class, which may be repeated the 2nd semester if the student chooses.

DISCOVERING THEATER 8

1 Quarter

Elective

Discovering Theater is a quarter class that will introduce the basic levels of acting skills to middle school students. Discovering Theater will allow the students to learn the vocabulary that real actors use on stage. Students in this class will be taught basic acting skills, such as creating and maintaining a character, using stage combat, and conquering stage fright. This class will also provide the opportunity for students to do improv acting and to memorize a short script to perform for the class.

FASHION 8

1 Quarter

Elective

Explore the worlds of fashion, fabric, and design in this course. Students will examine factors affecting their clothing choices, learn how to wisely purchase and care for clothing, develop skills in creating and maintaining fabric items, and become aware of careers related to clothing and design. A design project using a tie-dye technique will be created. Sewing projects include a table runner you can use to decorate your room and a drawstring bag you can use for school or other activities. Students will supply materials for their projects.

8th Grade

FOODS 8

1 Quarter

Elective

Students will begin this course by learning the basics of making healthy eating choices and how to prepare foods. They will go on to learn how to manage meal preparation and prepare foods for breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. Students will also prepare a recipe about once a week and put together a collection of recipes.

JAZZ CHOIR-VOCAL TECH 8

(must audition)

Semester

Elective

This is a higher-level voice class that will involve the in-depth study of the voice and jazz singing. Students enrolled in this class must possess a sincere desire to sing. Students will study how the voice functions, techniques to improve the quality of the voice, and advanced styles of jazz and pop literature. The student will learn the basics of a sound system and how to use it correctly. There will be opportunities for students to sing at the NCDA Jazz Festival and several other public performance opportunities. Students must audition to be admitted in this class.

YEARBOOK 8

Year-Long

(must qualify)

Yearbook will offer students the opportunity to design, assemble and distribute the annual CMS yearbook. Students will learn the elements of good design by creating computer-generated yearbook layouts. Students will also study and practice using the elements of good photography. Yearbook class takes the place of Reading Essentials. Time commitments outside of regular class hours are required for those who participate in yearbook.

SPANISH I 8

Year-Long

Elective

Prerequisite: Middle School students enrolling in Spanish I, must have a C average or higher in both the first semester and second semester of 7th grade English.

In Spanish I, reading selections and conversations provide the background material for the development of basic vocabulary words. Oral practice of the basic sound system of the language is provided through the use of tapes and videos specifically designed to coordinate with the textbook. Grammar and language structures will be learned using themes like school, food, dining in restaurants, recreational activities, travel, shopping, family and the body. The cultural emphasis (which includes the works of various Hispanic artists) gives students an understanding of the way in which the peoples of the Hispanic world live. Students taking Spanish must be willing to spend time memorizing the extensive vocabulary. This is the traditional freshman level Spanish I course. A minimum of a C average in Spanish I is a prerequisite for Spanish II offered at CHS.

Special Programs

5th through 8th Grade

MATH SKILLS 5, 6, 7, 8

1 Quarter (repeated as needed)

Prerequisite: MTSS Team Decision

This course is designed to help students improve their math skills. It is an extra math class in addition to the student's regular math class. The STAR Math assessment is administered to determine strengths and weaknesses, and the lessons and activities are targeted to help improve the weak skill areas.

READING SKILLS 5, 6, 7, 8

This course is designed to provide extra instruction and support to improve students' reading skills. It is an extra reading class in addition to the student's regular Language Arts class. The STAR Reading assessment and Core Phonics Survey are used to determine areas of needed improvement. The lesson and activities are focused on improving weak skill areas.

English Language Learner

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT 5-8

(must qualify)

A general course in ELL English for English Language Learners. This class is for sixth grade ELL students that will provide extra English practice and aid in the writing, reading, speaking and listening aspects of the English Language. Students will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts relating to various genres. The texts will include classic, award-winning, and high-interest works. The focus will be on English language acquisition.

ELL MATH 5-8 (must qualify)

Year-Long

Required

ELL Math 5-8 is a general course in mathematics for English Language Learners. Students will learn basic operations with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Topics such as place value, measurement, number theory, ratios and proportions, integers, graphs, and estimation strategies will be studied. Sheltered instruction in English and increased attention to vocabulary will be used for instruction. Newcomers (less than 2 years of English language instruction) may have bilingual support to increase understanding of math concepts. The focus will be on the acquisition of mathematical terms in the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED ENGLISH 5-8 (must qualify)

Year-Long

Required

ELL Recently Arrived English is an English Language Development class. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension skills of the English language will be developed. The focus will be on acquisition of social studies terms in the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED SCIENCE 5-8 (must qualify)

Year-Long

Required

ELL Newcomer Science is a general course in science for English Language Learners and helps students to develop confidence to question and seek answers based upon evidence and independent thinking. Students will be given an opportunity to explore and investigate their world using content and hands-on approach with instructional materials readily available. The focus will be on acquisition of science terms using the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED SOCIAL STUDIES 5-8 (must qualify)

Year-Long

Required

ELL Recently Arrived Social Studies is an English Language Development class. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension of the English language are developed using Social Studies concepts including geography, community, school, history, and government topics. The focus will be on the acquisition of social studies terms in the English language.

High Ability Learner

DISCOVERY 7

(must qualify)

1 Quarter

Elective

Discovery 7 is a class for students identified for the Gifted and Talented Program at Columbus Middle School. (Students identified for the Discovery High Ability program at the elementary level or at the 6th grade level are already identified for the Middle School Program.) The activities in the class include: logical thinking, critical thinking, creative thinking, and computer applications. Students will apply research, mathematical and writing skills to complete several projects.

DISCOVERY 8

(must qualify)

1 Quarter

Elective

Discovery 8 is a class for students identified for the Gifted and Talented Program at Columbus Middle School. (Students identified for the Discovery high ability learner program at the elementary level are already identified for the Middle School Program.) The activities in the class include: developing the school newspaper, logical & creative thinking, and applying research skills to complete projects of personal interest.

Special Education

Behavior Support Program Description

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

The Behavior Support Program focuses interventions on the social, emotional and behavioral needs of students while providing instruction to support the students' participation and progress in the general curriculum. Behavior intervention plans will be individualized to meet the needs of each student. Students will be integrated into general education classrooms whenever possible.

High Needs and the Autism Communication Life Skills Program

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

High Needs and the Autism Communication Life Skills Programs are designed to meet the daily living needs of students with varying disabilities while teaching skills needed for the students to become as self-sufficient as possible. The areas covered in the High Needs and ACLS programs include: daily living skills, basic academics, social skills, sensory awareness, community awareness, personal hygiene skills, and communication skills. All students are on individualized programs according to their own personal needs as determined by the IEP (Individual Education Plan) team.

Curriculum Life Skills Program (CLSP)

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

This program is designed to equip students with basic skills they will need to be successful in today's society. The program is individualized for each student based upon his or her Individualized Education Program goals.

Curriculum Life Skills Math:

The main goal of our math program is to develop competency in the four basic functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division for positive, whole numbers. Identifying coins by name and value as well as adding money and making change. They will be introduced to basic story problem that deal with everyday issues. They will also be able to build on their time telling skills. Students will also be exposed to and using fractions and patterns. Other math topics will be covered based on the students need.

Curriculum Life Skills Reading:

Our reading program focuses on word identification, sentence structure and meaning and reading comprehension. Students will read several short stories and chapter books throughout the year, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will be asked to write summaries over chapters as well as answering various 5WH questions. They will also work on sequencing events from both short stories and chapter books. Students will also work building their predicting skills.

Curriculum Life Skills Daily Living:

This course will cover several areas of daily living skills and intended to build a student's independence skills. Students will work on understanding nutrition and making healthy choices which will build into them creating appropriate meal plans. They will work on creating grocery lists based off of recipes and meals. They will on how to read and follow recipes as well as cook simple meals in the kitchen. They will work on knowing their personal information and identify situations when they need to share it. Students will also work on reading and following map directions. They will also be exposed to several community experiences where they will be able to demonstrate the skills that they have learned. Students will also work on proper safety skills. Other topics in the daily living class could be covered based on a student's need.

Extracurricular Activities

5th/6th

After-Hours Program
Intramural Basketball (6th grade, boys & girls)
Destination Imagination
Flag Football (6th)
Geography Bee
Science Quiz Bowl
Intramural Volleyball (6th)
Intramural Wrestling (6th)

7th

After-Hours Program
Basketball (boys & girls)
Destination Imagination
Football
Geography Bee
Mathcounts
Musical
Newspaper
Science Quiz Bowl
Student Council
Talent Show
Track (boys & girls)
Volleyball
Wrestling
Yearbook

8th

After-Hours Program
Basketball (boys and girls)
Destination Imagination
Football
Geography Bee
Mathcounts
Musical
Science Quiz Bowl
Student Council
Talent Show
Track (boys & girls)
Volleyball
Wrestling
Yearbook

AFTER-HOURS PROGRAM (after-school program) in partnership with Communities-Together-Can

Quarterly

After-Hours is an after-school program that focuses on enriching students' lives through a variety of workshops offered in a safe and inviting atmosphere. Inclusion, respect and social responsibility are key elements of this program. Before and after workshop time, tutors are available to help with students' homework. Each quarter, students are offered the opportunity to select one or two workshops in an area that they are interested. An example of workshops offered could include: robotics, cooking, dodge ball, or drawing. Each workshop meets a total of fifteen times during the quarter. Information sheets go out to all students each quarter. The program operates Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday until 5:30 p.m. Each workshop charges a one-time \$6 material fee.