

**ROUNDUP
JUNIOR HIGH
7TH & 8TH Grades
CURRICULUM
GUIDE
2020-21**

ROUNDUP JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDE

At the junior high level, all students, unless exempt because of a Special Services Individual Education Program (or because of special circumstances determined by the junior high retention policy or administration) take the following courses during each of the seventh and eighth grade years:

A full year of **English, Math, Science, and Social Studies (Montana History-- 7th grade; World Geography--8th grade)**

A semester of **Physical Education** (taken in both 7th and 8th grades)

A semester of **Speech** (taken in 8th grade)

A quarter of **Health** (taken in 7th grade)

A quarter of **Keyboarding** (taken in 7th grade)

A year of **Reading** (taken in 7th grade)

A year of **Fine Arts** Elective(s) (taken in 7th & 8th grades)

A year of **Elective Rotation** (4 quarter-long classes) (taken in 8th grade)

PLEASE NOTE: Each junior high student is placed in appropriate math classes based on test scores and teacher recommendations. Those new to the District are given tests to determine placement.

Our current seven class period day leaves 1 or 2 periods of electives (which are classes students may have some choice in taking) each year. Currently the following electives may be available:

Fine Arts Electives:

Each Class may be taken for a Full-year OR one class in two different semesters

Band
Art
Chorus

Elective Rotation (8th grade):

Each Class is One Quarter in Length:

JH Ag Education
JH STEM (Robotics)
JH Practical Living Skills
JH Career Exploration

Because of the nature of our daily schedule, all electives may not be available to both 7th & 8th graders. And because we are limited by the constraints of the master schedule and by the number of students who may be placed in classes at a given time, students will not always be able to choose electives.

SPECIAL SERVICES--Students can receive assistance through the Special Services Program only if they qualify under Federal and State regulations. Only if previous interventions are unsuccessful can a student be referred. For more information, contact Principal Ken Larson 323-2402.

SCHOOL WIDE TITLE 1--Title 1 is a federally funded tutorial program which provides assistance in the areas of English and math. Students will qualify for assistance based on teacher/principal recommendations. Students may be scheduled into a Title room instead of an elective. The student's program will include academic interventions in math and/or English. Title 1 is for students who are willing to accept help and work at improving their grades. Only with student and parent cooperation, can Title 1 be successful.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SPORTS--Participants in sports will be required to have an athletic physical once each year prior to practice or participation. Academic requirements have been adopted by the school district. Each student that participates must meet those academic guidelines. All students who participate in athletics must purchase an activity ticket. The cost of the ticket is \$40 and should be purchased at the start of the school year even if the activity is not until later in the year. This allows students to attend all home junior high and high school games free of charge.

GIRLS AND BOYS BASKETBALL--These are competitive programs. Emphasis is on participation and fundamentals. Cuts may be made according to the number of participants.

GIRLS AND BOYS TRACK--These are competitive programs. Emphasis is on participation and fundamentals.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL--This is a competitive program. Emphasis is on participation and fundamentals.

LITTLE GUY FOOTBALL--This is a competitive program consisting of two teams. The 5th and 6th grade will play on one team, with a season lasting about 6 weeks long and having 4 games. The 7th and 8th grade team will start practice when school starts. Their season will be 8 weeks long with about 7 games.

PEP CLUB--The Junior High Membership of our Pep Club is an important part of our school spirit and a great service to consider giving your time and energy to. Activities include creating posters, working concessions, and helping with pep assembly skits. Members may receive a Pep Club Letter by earning the required number of points.

PEP BAND--For some excellent junior high band students, an invitation to perform with the High School Pep Band at home games may be extended by the band teacher. Participation is voluntary and no fee will be assessed.

JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT COUNCIL--The Junior High will have officers elected by the Junior High Student Body. These offices will make decisions that will affect events for the Junior High. The officers will organize fundraisers to pay for eighth grade graduation and one beneficial school project.

ELECTIVES

All Junior High Students in Grades 7 & 8 will elect one full year of Fine Arts classes in both 7th grade and 8th grade. Fine Arts classes include Art, Band, and Chorus. Junior High Students may elect to take a Fine Arts class fall semester followed by a *different* Fine Arts class spring semester, or the students may elect a full-year of one Fine Arts class.

ART--Students will use a variety of media to create a portfolio of different art projects (pencil drawing, colored pencil pictures, tempera, watercolor and acrylic paintings, collage, pottery) while learning the basic elements that make up art. Students will study various artists and their works, past and present art cultures, and will also critique and evaluate their own artwork. Students will enjoy this class and experience success in art if they are willing to put forth effort and give their best every day in class. Students need to have a sketchbook, pencils, and erasers. Those taking this class twice may experience some repetition, but efforts will be made to individualize the class and keep it new and interesting.

BAND--Although most students begin band in the fifth grade, individuals are allowed to join in later years. If a student/family owns an instrument, generally the student will be allowed to play that instrument. The school has a very limited number of horns, so students usually purchase their own. Beginning students generally start on one of the following instruments: saxophone, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone or percussion. We encourage students who want to join at the junior high level to visit with the band director regarding class expectations, practice time, performance schedules, instrument selection, and any questions they may have.

CHORUS--This class is a performance-based class offered each year to Junior High students. It may be taken for one semester or for an entire year. Students need to be willing to participate in public performance and enjoy singing.

8th Grade Students are required to complete an “elective rotation” of the following four courses during their 8th grade year:

JH Ag Education 8th Gr. 1 Quarter .25 None

JH Ag Education is a quarter or semester class only, where students will learn the basics of the agriculture industry and its role in today’s society. Students will receive information in animal science, plant and soil science, natural resources, materials and processing and FFA. Students will be introduced to the Career Development Events that are offered through FFA and guided to the Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) of their interest. FFA membership is granted for all Agriculture students through the State and it is highly recommended for students to get active so they can gain the full value of the classroom instruction.

Practical Living Skills 8th Gr. 1 Quarter .25 None

Practical Living Skills is an introductory course designed to give teens exposure to practical life skills. Students will learn basic information and practice skills related to foods, nutrition and clothing. Mini units and projects will be the basis for this course. All students are required to purchase some fabric for a small sewing project.

JH STEM (Robotics) 8th Gr. 1 Quarter .25 None

STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Rather than teach the four disciplines as separate subjects, STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning paradigm based on the real-

world. A lesson or unit in a STEM class is typically based around finding a solution to a real-world problem and emphasizes project-based learning.

JH Career Exploration 8th Gr. 1 Quarter .25 None

This nine week course will help 8th graders answer the important questions of “Who am I?” “Where Am I Going?”, and “How Do I Get There?” These questions are the framework of the “Montana Career Information System” which will be the primary source for a journey that begins with personal career inventories and assessments, moves on to career research and concludes with course planning and personal goal setting for high school and beyond. Students will connect what they like to do and what interests them the most with high school courses and activities that will help them build a strong foundation for personal growth and post-secondary opportunities.

REQUIRED CLASSES -- SEVENTH GRADE

MATH--Each junior high student is placed in appropriate math classes based on test scores and teacher recommendations.

MATH 7--This class includes the basic operations with whole numbers, using variables and solving simple equations, the decimal system, basic geometry, number theory, fractions and their operations, working with percents, area and volume, integers, graphs, basic statistics, and probability.

OR Basic Mathematics--Basic Math is a scripted math curriculum which is used for those students who are two or more grade levels below the level at which we expect them to be. By working through the levels of this math program, students have the opportunity to build their math skills and work toward greater mastery of math concepts.

ENGLISH 7--English 7 areas of study include writing, grammar, and literature. Grammar studies emphasize parts of speech, sentence structure, and usage. Literature includes various genres: short story, poetry, essay, and novels. Writing involves sentence and paragraph length responses assigned in conjunction with the literature being studied, quarterly book reports, creative writing, note-taking and weekly journals.

OR ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS--English Foundations (*Read 180*) is a researched based curriculum designed to help improve students' reading ability and comprehension. Students who qualify for placement in this curriculum receive intensive instruction for 1 class period a day. The curriculum has its primary focus on reading with additional emphasis on writing and grammar.

SCIENCE 7--Science 7 provides the students with an overview of the integration between the major science fields: biology, chemistry, earth science, and physical science. It includes how technology applies science in society and the opportunities to develop and apply thinking process skills.

MONTANA HISTORY--The students will be given an overview of Montana's history from pre- territorial days to modern times. Both written homework and presentations will be required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7--(Semester class)--Students will be introduced to several different games, activities, and skills to participate successfully. Emphasis is placed on participation, learning life long skills, and sportsmanship.

READING 7 (or READ 180)--The focus of this class will be improving reading and comprehension. Emphasis will be on understanding and responding orally or in writing to various elements of the stories, character, plot, theme, climax, and resolution in a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction literature.

OR JH ELA READING--ELA Reading (*Read 180*) is a researched based curriculum designed to help improve students' reading ability and comprehension. Students who qualify for placement in this curriculum receive intensive instruction for 1 class period a day. The curriculum has its primary focus on reading with additional emphasis on writing and grammar.

Health 7 --(Quarter class)-Health Education provides students with knowledge, attitudes, and skills to make health-promoting decisions. The classes address the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health. Good Health is not a one-time decision but a series of decisions continuing throughout our lives. Students will develop high level comprehension and understanding in the areas of Personal Wellness, Mental and Emotional Health, Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco, Body Systems and Disease, Nutrition and Fitness, Consumer and Environmental Health, and Human Sexuality.

Keyboarding 7--(Quarter class)-This course is designed for students with no keyboarding training. Students will learn the keyboard by touch, refine keyboarding technique, and develop speed and control. The primary focus of this course will be development and refinement of keying skills. Students will set individual goals regarding their own development of keying techniques and speed and accuracy.

REQUIRED CLASSES -- EIGHTH GRADE

MATH--Each junior high student is placed in appropriate math classes based on test scores and teacher recommendations.

MATH 8--This class includes an introduction to algebra, the decimal system, rational numbers, equations and inequalities, geometry, ratios, proportions, percents, the coordinate plane, area, volume, square roots, right triangles, probability, statistics, and polynomials.

OR ALGEBRA 8--This course includes the study of numbers and variables, basic properties of real numbers, solving equations, inequalities, "story" problems, functions, relations, graphs, systems of open sentences, polynomials and their factors, and irrational numbers and radicals. (Placement in Algebra in 8th grade is based upon ability, skills demonstrated during the previous year, attendance and work ethic. A student who takes Algebra as an 8th grader and earns a C or lower for the year may be required to retake Algebra as a 9th grader.)

OR BASIC MATH--Basic Math is a scripted math curriculum which is used for those students who are two or more grade levels below the level at which we expect them to be. By working through the levels of this math program, students have the opportunity to build their math skills and work toward greater mastery of math concepts.

ENGLISH 8--Eighth grade English will include the study of grammar, literature forms, and speech presentations. Emphasis will be given to learning the parts of speech, parts of a sentence, and good usage in grammar. In literature the focus will be on fiction (short stories and novels), poetry, and nonfiction. The speech presentations will include the students' original writings and oral book reviews. The subject matter studied will give the student the fundamental knowledge needed to be successful in English at the high school level.

OR ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS--English Foundations (Read 180) is a researched based curriculum designed to help improve students' reading ability and comprehension. Students who qualify for placement in this curriculum receive intensive instruction for at least 2 class periods a day. The curriculum has its primary focus on reading with additional emphasis on writing and grammar.

SCIENCE 8--Science 8 is a continuation of the seventh grade science course. It provides the students with an overview of the integration between the major science fields of biology, chemistry, earth science and physical science. The course includes how technology applies science in society and the opportunities to develop and apply thinking process skills.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY--World geography emphasizes the concepts of interdependence, diversity, environment, adaptation, and location as applied to various regions. Among the skills emphasized are the use of reference materials, presentation skills, and the reading and construction of maps, graphs, and charts. Students are required to pass a weekly map quiz.

SPEECH 8-- (Semester class)--Basic course in speech communication, which emphasized the fundamentals of extemporaneous speaking. Research, organization, reasoning, style and delivery of presentations; the role of the listener in oral communication; and the understanding the audience-speaker relationship are stressed.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION--(Semester class)--Students will be introduced to several different games, activities, and skills to participate successfully. Emphasis is placed on participation, learning life long skills, and sportsmanship.