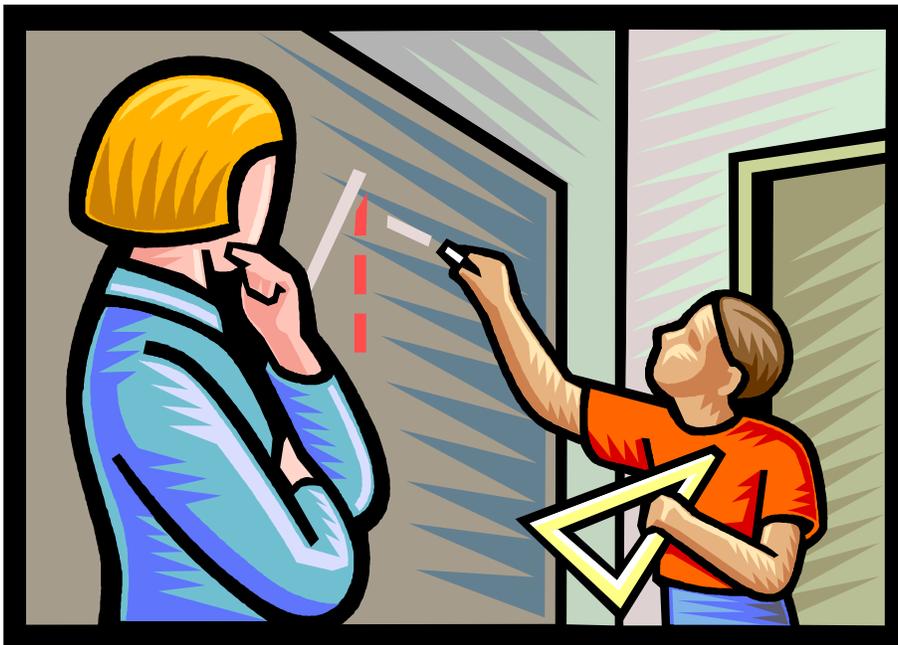


SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MCFARLAND

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



Eighth Grade

This overview is designed to provide information to parents about what is taught in the School District of McFarland in eighth grade. It does not list everything students are taught or all things which students experience. Instead, for each content area, it highlights some state standards and major skills or units that students are taught. For a more in-depth overview, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

The McFarland School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, religion, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity, English language proficiency, age, military status, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability in any of its student programs and activities.

EIGHTH GRADE

MATH:

Core Connections 3

Students will:

- * Know that there are numbers that are not rational and approximate them by rational numbers.
- * Work with radicals and integer exponents.
- * Understand the connection between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
- * Solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
- * Define, evaluate, compare, and use functions to model relationships between quantities.
- * Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
- * Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- * Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.
- * Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Core Connections Algebra 1

Students will:

- * Interpret functions given graphically, numerically, symbolically, and verbally; translate between representations; and understand the limitations of various representations.
- * Create these representations with linear, quadratic and exponential functions.
- * Have a formal means of assessing how a model fits data.

Core Connections Geometry

Students will:

- * Understand, apply and prove geometric theorems and constructions.
- * Understand and apply transformations, similarity, and trigonometry to shapes.
- * Express geometric properties with equations.
- * Visualize, model, explain, and use relationships between two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects.
- * Understand and use the rules of probability to interpret data and make decisions.

Areas of Study:

- * Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- * Number System
- * Expressions and Equations
- * Geometry
- * Statistics and Probability

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will:

- * Use effective reading strategies
- * Read, interpret & critically analyze literature
- * Read to understand the human experience
- * Read to acquire information
- * Create writing for variety of audiences / purposes
- * Understand the grammar and usage of standard American English
- * Communicate orally, discuss effectively
- * Recognize and interpret various uses and adaptations of language
- * Demonstrate a working knowledge of media production & distribution
- * Analyze & edit media work
- * Conduct research & inquiry on self-selected or assigned topics, issues, or problems

Areas of Study:

- * Reading
- * Public Speaking
- * Writing – Expository, Narrative, Creative, Persuasive
- * Poetry

SCIENCE

Students will:

- * Understand unifying themes in science
- * Understand that science is ongoing and inventive
- * Investigate questions using scientific methods and tools.
- * Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics and structures of living things.
- * Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between science and technology.

Areas of Study:

- * Fungi
- * Viruses
- * Bacteria
- * Genetics
- * Weather / Climate
- * Rocks/Minerals
- * History of Life / Fossil Records

SOCIAL STUDIES: U.S. HISTORY

Students will:

- * Study the relationships among people, places, and environments.
- * Learn about political science & political systems.

Areas of Study:

- * Early Heritage of the Americas
- * A Nation is Born (1745 – 1791)
- * Constitution (1789 – Present)
- * The Nation Takes Shape (1789 – 1825)
- * The Nation Expands (1824 – 1860)
- * Division & Reunion (1820 – 1877)

EIGHTH GRADE

ARRE TIME / DEVELOPMENTAL GUIDANCE

- Areas of Study:
- * Getting Started
 - * Goal Setting
 - * Personal Choices
 - * Troubling Times
 - * Planning for Success
 - * Legacies
 - * High School Connections

ART

In 8th grade arts will have considerably more autonomy to communicate with images by media and subject choice. Students will also explore the role of visual literacy in the everyday world.

- Areas of Study :
- * Glass Mosaics
 - * Ceramics
 - * Graphic Design
 - * Self Portraits
 - * Weekly Sketchbook Assignments

ELECTRONIC GENERATION (E-GEN)

Students will:
* Acquire introductory knowledge, experience, and practice necessary to successfully utilize PC and Mac computers.

- Units / Projects:
- * Technology Introduction
 - * Social Networking
 - * Microsoft Office – EXCEL Activities
 - * Power Point Presentations
 - * Photo Shop
 - * Commercial Movie Making & Editing
 - * Web 2.0 Projects
 - * Cyber-Bullying Project
 - * Pivot Animation
 - * Website Design

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES

Students will:

- * Apply knowledge about human sexuality to complete a personal constitution paper
- * Assume respectful, responsible behavior as family (class) members
- * Demonstrate ability to complete a sewing project while showing job related skills.

- Areas of Study:
- * Human Growth and Development
 - * Constructing a fleece sweatshirt

INFORMATION LITERACY & TECHNOLOGY

Students will:

- * Apply library media & research skills within curricular units of study.
- * Listen to book talks of award-winning titles connected to curricular units.
- * Be encouraged to develop a life-long interest in reading.
- * Understand the nature of technology
- * Understand technological systems & their applications
- * Research & develop a set of solutions to solve a problem
- * Predict possible outcomes of a technological system
- * Explore the impact of technology
- * Become aware of new technologies

- Areas of Study:
- * Internet/Telecommunication
 - * Database
 - * Multi-media
 - * Spreadsheets

MUSIC: Vocal and Instrumental

- Students will:
- * Sing a varied repertoire of music.
 - * Play varied instruments.
 - * Improvise/compose/arrange music (music composition).
 - * Read/notate/analyze/describe music (music theory).
 - * Evaluate music & performances
 - * Relate music to other arts & disciplines
 - * Relate music to history & culture (music history).

- Opportunities/Experiences include:
- * General Music
 - * Choir: Cambiata and Treble Choirs
 - * Orchestra
 - * Concert Band
 - * Marching band
 - * Fiddles on Fire
 - * Jazz Ensemble
 - * Local/District Solo/Ensemble Festival

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Students will:
- * Exhibit a physically active lifestyle.
 - * Understand that physical activity provides opportunities for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression & social interaction.
 - * Develop agility, strength, skill, & endurance.
 - * Gain further understanding of health, exercise, & conditioning

- Areas of Study:
- * Fitness Testing
 - * Basketball
 - * Volleyball
 - * Track & Field
 - * Softball
 - * Floor Hockey
 - * Football
 - * Soccer
 - * Badminton
 - * Swimming
 - * Ultimate Frisbee

TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

- Students will:
- * Write computer code (Robots Graphical) to control motors, switches and lights.
 - * Build robots and will program them for autonomous movement.
 - * Program the VEX IQ robots so that they can complete a complex task.
 - * Understand wood preservatives and how to apply them to wood.
 - * Turn pieces of pine and plywood into a small decorative box.

TECH TOOLS

- Students will:
- * Work with software applications that they will use throughout their academic and post-academic careers.
 - * Learn appropriate use of technology, including safe Internet use.

- Areas of Study:
- * word processing
 - * presentation
 - * spreadsheet
 - * web design
 - * database
 - * video editing

WORLD LANGUAGES

French I or Spanish I
Serves as the continuation Level I in the language with an emphasis on vocabulary acquisition & grammatical structures of the language

- Students will:
- * Learn about French or Spanish culture while becoming more proficient in listening, reading speaking, & writing in the target language.
 - * Utilize technology as a means to develop proficiency in the target language.