

Maple Creek Middle School 2023-2024
Grade 7
MATHEMATICS

Mathematics 7 -Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Comprehensive development of mathematical skills and topics including: problem solving, whole numbers, decimals, fractions, integers, rational numbers, geometry, ratios, proportions, percents, solving equations, and using transformations. This course is designed to challenge the above average student and still provide enough supplemental instruction for the students who need additional work with math skills.

Pre-Algebra 7 -Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon a B or higher in a previous high-ability math course, an A- in Math 6 in conjunction with a qualifying NWEA score $\geq 85\%$, PLUS teacher recommendation.

Summary: This course emphasizes the development of pre-algebra skills and concepts such as simplifying math expressions, solving multi-step equations and inequalities, using transformations and problem solving. This course enables the advanced student to make the transition to algebra in only one year. It is for the advanced seventh grade student who has strong problem solving and computational skills in whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percents. Desire alone does not qualify a student for this course. This course is specifically for students who find math interesting and are self-motivated within the context of their daily studies. The pace of the subject matter is accelerated and requires additional homework on a weekly basis. Students must be self-disciplined and able to accept a challenging schedule that moves at a faster rate of speed than the regular grade 7 math course.

Note: *Students earning a “C+” or lower” in the first semester will be re-evaluated prior to starting the second semester grading period of pre-algebra.

Following a teacher recommendation and parent approval, these students will be moved to the Math 7 course.

Algebra I -High School Credit Duration: two semesters per year

6th Grade Students registering for 7th grade Algebra I:

While many of the concepts taught in pre-algebra are part of the sixth grade accelerated math curriculum, taking Algebra I as a seventh grader requires skipping a full-year course in Pre-Algebra. This course presents many Algebraic concepts not found in the current sixth grade course of study. The absence of this material may require an increased amount of time studying beyond the normal classroom day. Careful consideration should be taken before selecting Algebra I in the seventh grade.

Prerequisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon teacher recommendation and an NWEA math score at the 90th percentile or above.

Summary: Algebra I provides a formal development of algebraic skills and concepts used in a wide range of problem-solving situations. The concept of functions is emphasized. Topics include: operations with polynomials, quadratic equations, slope intercept, statistics and probability, exponents and exponential functions, system of equations, and radical functions. Desire alone does not qualify a student for this course. This course is specifically for students who find math interesting and are self-motivated within the context of their daily studies. The pace of the subject matter is accelerated and requires additional homework on a weekly basis. Students must be self-disciplined and able to accept a challenging schedule that moves at a faster rate of speed than the regular 8th grade math course. A demanding course of this type requires a very strong skill set in pre-algebraic mathematics.

*****IMPORTANT Note:**

To advance to Geometry, a student must have a full understanding of Algebraic skills.

To take Geometry in the eighth grade, a grade of B- or higher is required in Algebra I. Students not meeting this requirement will retake Algebra I in the eighth grade.

IMPORTANT Note continued: Students earning a “C+ or lower” in the first quarter will be placed on probationary status for the 2nd quarter. All students with C+ or lower on the 1st Semester grade will be re-evaluated prior to starting the second semester of Algebra I. Following a teacher recommendation and parent approval, they will be moved to a Pre-Algebra course. Students who exhibit a consistent pattern of incomplete homework assignments will be removed from the course by teacher recommendation.

ENGLISH

Accelerated English 7: Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon a B or higher in a previous high-ability English course, an A- in Lang. Arts 6 in conjunction with a qualifying NWEA score of $\geq 85\%$ in Language AND Reading PLUS teacher recommendation.

Pre-AP English 7 will build upon the expectations set forth in the English 7 course description. Students will be engaged with in-depth and rigorous coursework that focuses strongly on analyzing and synthesizing a variety of texts. The writing focus in this course will teach students how to write for varied purposes while preparing them for writing in advanced courses in the future.

English 7: Duration: two semesters per year

English 7 will follow and adhere to the Indiana Academic Standards set forth by the state of Indiana. During the school year, students will be provided several experiences with grade level appropriate fiction and non-fiction texts. Students will read and write in different genres and for a variety of purposes. Analysis of these genres will be assessed through collaborative discussions, constructed responses, extended responses, creative projects and presentations, as well as formal essays. Each assessment will require the student to use relevant text evidence to support ideas. Students will practice acquiring information through formal research strategies and will be expected to communicate effectively in an organized, well developed manner.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Accelerated Social Studies 7: Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon an A- in Social Studies 6 in conjunction with a qualifying NWEA score of $\geq 85\%$ in Reading PLUS teacher recommendation.

Summary: Students will cover the same Indiana State Standards found in the 7th grade Social Studies class. The class will move at a faster pace and require more in-depth analysis, synthesis, and reflection of Eastern Hemisphere topics. Reading and writing skills associated with primary & secondary sources will be a large focus of this class. This class is geared towards independent, self-motivated students who have a high interest in social studies.

Social Studies 7 -Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Seventh grade Social Studies focuses on the history, government, religion, geography, economics, and culture of the countries of the Eastern Hemisphere. Many of these concepts and countries will be brand new for seventh graders. Students will work to see the interaction between political, economic and social forces within these countries. Skills such as summarizing, identifying main ideas and concepts, and comparing and contrasting views are essential to this course. Students must be able to analyze data and draw conclusions. Students will be required to use information gathered to write a variety of responses including: short answer questions, personal responses, and essays. Much of the material in this course is interactive; different avenues of instruction and experiences will be part of the program and students will be challenged to find connections to their own lives, presently and in the future.

SCIENCE

Accelerated Science 7 -Duration: two semesters per year

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based upon an A- in Science 6 in conjunction with a qualifying NWEA score of $\geq 85\%$ in Reading PLUS teacher recommendation.

Summary: Accelerated Science 7 follows a curriculum based on the Indiana State Standards for seventh grade science. Students qualifying for and choosing to enroll in this course should be highly motivated to explore science concepts, [curriculum](#), and [careers](#).

Science 7 -Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Seventh grade Science is a two-semester course that incorporates the Indiana Academic Standards for seventh grade science. [Throughout their laboratory experience](#), students formulate and record their questions; make predictions; record data, procedures, and results; compose reflections; and communicate findings. Students will [perform multiple experiments and compose lab reports throughout the year](#) to help develop, practice, and refine their science understanding while also enhancing reading, writing, mathematics and communications. Some studies include: force and motion, energy, plate tectonics, rocks and minerals, and cell biology.

ROTATION CLASSES 7

Computer Applications 1 – Duration: one nine-week period, 1st semester

Summary: Students use word processing to design creative flyers, organize information, and format documents. Spreadsheets are also introduced, along with maintaining files using OneDrive and Google Drive. Another important skill that is learned is touch typing with practice focusing on accuracy and gaining fluency. We also discuss Internet safety and using computers responsibly as well as learning the basics about how computers and the internet work. There is a basic introduction to programming.

Computer Applications 2 – Duration: one nine-week period, 2nd semester

Summary: Students learn how to create and format spreadsheets, using functions and including informative charts. Also, computer technology advancement topics are discussed and used in the design of an effective slideshow that will be shared so everyone can learn from them. Practice with Touch Typing continues as students work to gain speed while maintaining accuracy. Basic programming skills, such as Scratch and Javascript are introduced, and internet safety and responsibility continue to be emphasized.

Art 7 -Duration: one nine-week period

Summary: This course is designed to make the student aware of the basic art elements as well as to develop a more knowledgeable appreciation of the aesthetic quality of the art objects he/she creates in various media. The areas of study that are covered include: color and design, drawing, painting, construction, and art history. The objectives of these lessons have been planned to build upon each other, using information learned in an earlier project to aid them in creating a qualitative art object. The seventh grade art student should obtain a general understanding of the basic principles in art. These principles will be reinforced during the following year at a more advanced level.

Technology Education 7 -Duration: one nine-week period

Summary: This course is structured around the State Introductory Indicators for Technology Education at the middle school level. An introductory activity-based course in which students are introduced to the importance of technology and the principles used to design, produce, use, and assess it. Students receive introductions to topics such as computer aided drafting (CAD). The students develop both individual and group abilities needed to participate in and contribute to the ever changing technological society in which we live.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education 7 - Duration: two nine-week periods

Summary: The physical education program is designed to develop gross and fine motor skills and to improve cardiovascular and muscular fitness. This is accomplished by participation in team sports, individual sports, and lifetime recreational sports. Basic rules are taught and tested so the students have a working knowledge of each activity. Team sports include: soccer, flag football, basketball, volleyball, softball, lacrosse, floor hockey, team handball, ultimate Frisbee, and speedball. Individual and recreational sports include: tennis, badminton, table tennis, and pickle ball. As an integrated portion of the physical education curriculum, students will be involved in the L.I.F.E. Program (Learning Involves Fitness in Education). This program will concentrate on individual fitness for all students by using aerobic and strength training equipment. Students' fitness and skills proficiency are developed by alternating between the L.I.F.E. Room and the sport activities on a rotating basis.

Health 7 -Duration: two nine-week periods

Summary: The seventh grade health education classes provide extensive coverage of human anatomy and physiology for the following body systems; skeletal, muscular, nervous, reproductive, respiratory, cardiovascular and digestive. Students will also focus on the effects of tobacco, common characteristics of each life stage, signs and symptoms of stroke and heart attack and learn how to perform hands-only CPR.

ELECTIVES

Art Enrichment Year Gr 7 - Duration: two semesters per year.

Summary: This course is designed to further develop artistic techniques and mediums beyond the regular art rotation. **Some of the areas of study are design, painting, construction, and art history. Through these studies**, students will explore new techniques, mediums, and art styles to gain artistic knowledge.

Band 7 - Duration: two semesters per year.

Pre-requisite: Student enrollment in this course is based on sixth grade band instruction and/or previous experience on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.

Summary: The band rehearses daily for one period, stressing total musicianship. Grades are based on practice times, written tests, playing tests and attendance at performances. The band performs at required concerts throughout the year and at the ISSMA band contest. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out the first day of school and can also be found on-line.

Concert Choir – Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: Open to any Maple Creek student who enjoys singing and would like to learn a variety of vocal styles. Grades are based on class projects, musical tests, participation in class, and attendance at all performances. The choir will perform at several different events throughout the school year: Fall Concert in October, Winter Musical in December (presented by the Concert Choir Students), Bobcat Coffee House in January, ISSMA Choir Contest in March, and Fine Arts Concert in May. The Concert Choir will also be traveling to the King's Island Theme Park in May to participate in the Music in the Parks Choir Festival. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out at the beginning of the school year.

Design & Modeling 7 (PLTW) - Duration: one semester

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

Fine Arts Exploration 7- Duration: one semester

Summary: Open to any seventh-grade student who enjoys exploring new creative ideas in the Family and Consumer Sciences (formally known as Home Economics). The class will be filled with various hands-on activities. Subjects being explored will be: Sewing in the Sewing Lab and learning how to create a cross stitch creation, properly hand sew on a button, fix a hole in a sock with an invisible stitch, and create a felt stuffed animal. Another area experienced by the student will be in the Cooking Lab and learning proper kitchen safety and how to prepare various meals. Grades will be based on completion of class projects, participation in class, and various tests.

Jazz Band - Duration: two semesters per year.

Pre-requisite: Students must qualify for this course through auditions.

Summary: This band rehearses daily for one period, stressing total musicianship. Grades are based on practice times, written tests, playing tests and attendance at performances. The band performs at required concerts throughout the year and at the ISSMA jazz band contest. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out the first day of school and can also be found on-line.

MC Singers- Duration: two semesters per year.

Pre-requisite: Students must qualify for this course through auditions.

Summary: This group will rehearse daily for one class period, stressing total musicianship. There will also be some after school rehearsals which will be spent learning vocal parts and choreography which cannot be taught during the class time. There will also be a fee for the class which will cover the students costume and travel fees for the year. (The fee will be handed out the first week of school) Grades will be based on singing tests, class projects, participation in class, and attendance at performances. The choral group will perform at 3 school concerts, several contests, and possibly other venues if the opportunity arises. A calendar with concert and contest dates will be handed out the first day of school and can also be found on-line on the MC Singer web page.

Elective Rotation Set: (Includes 4 of the classes listed below.)**Culinary Arts MS** -Duration: one nine-week period

Summary: Maple Creek Culinary Arts is a one nine-week rotation course designed to introduce students to culinary arts. Students will learn to plan a menu, research nutritional content of foods, read basic recipes, use kitchen tools and equipment safely, cook basic meals in our lab, teamwork in planning and preparation, safety and sanitation procedures and how reading, math and technology are essential for food preparation. We will explore several different cuisines and learn to cook a meal relating to that cuisine. The main cuisines include but are not limited to: American, Italian, Asian and Tex-Mex. This course will require a fee of \$40.00. Also, it is recommended that students with food allergies not take this course out of an abundance of caution and safety.

Exploring Spanish 1 - Duration: one nine-week period (NO High School Credit)

Summary: This is a beginning course in Spanish which emphasizes speaking and writing on a variety of topics at a basic level. At the end of this course, you will be able to identify and reproduce the basic sounds and rhythms of the Spanish language, analyze the basic principles of grammar and structure, and apply these principles in oral and written communication as well as communicate with others about simple topics of everyday life. Please note you will be required to speak in Spanish during class.

General Music/M.I.E. 7 -Duration: one nine-week period

Summary: This course, through the use of hands-on music technology and listening, develops basic music literacy in the areas of music theory and appreciation. Students will study musical concepts while learning to play the electronic keyboard.

Science Madness – Duration: one nine-week period

Summary: This is an exploration of science at it's best. Students will participate in scientific experimentation and other hands-on science related activities to explore the wonders of our natural world.

Tech Enrichment 7- Duration: **one nine-week period**

Summary: This nine-week course allows students to explore a variety of computer programs and technology. Diving into 3D modeling, video creating and editing, digital art, coding, and website making. Students will also learn a variety of digital presentation tools that can be used for other classes and personal use!

Study Hall 7 - Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This is a structured study hall for completing assignments, studying, and is also used as a time for students to receive homework help. It may also serve as an extension of the classroom for projects that cannot be finished during regular classroom time.

*****All courses will reflect the Indiana Standards*****

Special Education Courses**Basic Skills Math-** Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This math class is for 6,7,8th grade students who are on modifications for math skills. This class WILL replace their math class at their grade level. It is a year-long class designed to aid in basic skills in math.

Basic Skills English- Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This English/Language Arts class is for 6,7,8th grade students who are on modifications for language skills. This class WILL replace their English/Language Arts class at their grade level. It is a year-long class designed to aid in basic skills in reading and writing.

Reading Intervention- Duration: two semesters per year

Summary: This class is for 6,7,8th grade special education students that struggle with decoding and the skills for reading. This will NOT replace their English/Language Arts class but is a supplement to allow the development of reading skills. This is a year-long class to build reading skills.