

Harbor Creek Junior High School



**2008 – 2009
Student Scheduling Guide**

JR. HIGH SCHEDULING PROCEDURES & REMINDERS

1. Students should carefully read this booklet and pay special attention to required courses and to all course descriptions.
2. The Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies teachers will make the required course recommendations based on the following criteria:
 - Students must have a 'B' average to be recommended for advanced courses.
 - Students who are NOT maintaining a 'B' average in an advanced course, at this time, will be given the opportunity to change their schedule, if their grade has improved.
 - Students must achieve at least a high proficient score on the state and standardized tests.
3. There are two academic tracks in the junior high, advanced and regular, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. In 7th grade, Reading is taught on a remedial basis for those in need. The following criteria are examined in regard to placement: state and standardized tests, subject grades, and teacher recommendations. Final placement is determined by the building principal.
4. Students must schedule a minimum of SEVEN total course values and choose enough alternate courses to properly complete their Course Selection Sheet.
5. When choosing electives on the course selection sheet, label electives with **#1** for the first choice, **#2** for the second choice, and so on. Every effort to grant student requests and preferences will be made.
6. Students are to complete the course selection sheet, including signatures from their parent/guardian and their own, before returning it to their English teacher.
7. Students who successfully complete all required course work will be promoted to the next grade level. Those students who fail two major subjects or one major subject and two minor subjects, will fail the 7th or 8th grade. If the student is able to satisfactorily complete the course work through a remediation program, as approved by the building principal, the student will then be promoted.
- g. **Students are not granted schedule changes on a regular basis and without sufficient cause; students should carefully select their courses for the next school year.** In order for a schedule change to be considered, there must be a demonstrated need, a recommendation from the counseling department and approval by the building principal.

JR. HIGH COURSES REQUIRED & ELECTIVE

7th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
English	Full Year
Social Studies	Full Year
Science	Full Year
Mathematics	Full Year
Health	Semester
Physical Education	Semester
Art	Nine Weeks
Music	Nine Weeks
Career Exploration	Nine Weeks

7th GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
Chorus	Full Year
Band	Full Year
Study/Success Skills ⊕	Semester
Exploring Technology ⊕	Semester
Introductory French ⊕	Semester
Jr. High Sewing ⊕	Nine Weeks
Jr. High Foods & Nutrition ⊕	Nine Weeks
Jr. High Foods & Nutrition ⊕	Semester
Principles of Flight⊕	Nine Weeks
Introduction to Engineering	Semester

8th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
English	Full Year
Reading #	Full Year
Social Studies	Full Year
Science	Full Year
Mathematics	Full Year
Health	Semester
Physical Education	Semester
Computer I-8	Semester
Technology Education	Nine Weeks
Family/Consumer Sciences	Nine Weeks

8th GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
Chorus	Full Year
Band	Full Year
Spanish I	Full Year
French I	Full Year
Music 8	Nine Weeks
Study/Success Skills ⊕	Semester
Exploring Technology ⊕	Semester
Introductory French ⊕	Semester
Jr. High Sewing ⊕	Nine Weeks
Jr. High Foods & Nutrition ⊕	Semester
Principles of Flight⊕	Nine Weeks
Introduction to Engineering	Semester
Exploring Color and Design	Nine Weeks

⊕ This course can only be taken once, in either 7th grade or 8th grade.

This course is offered as an 8th grade remedial course and is required only if a need exists.

JR. HIGH GRADES 7-8 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

170 Language Arts 7, Advanced 171 Language Arts 7

**Full Year
Full Year**

**Grade 7
Grade 7**

Language Arts 7 is a combined, standards-based Reading and English course that focuses on writing, reading, grammar, usage, mechanics, vocabulary, and self-discipline skills. In Language Arts 7, students will complete assignments with teacher guidance and assistance and will learn to complete assignments and tasks independently, following detailed and/or unspecified instructions, with the teacher acting as a facilitator to learning. Students are required to complete a written and oral novel presentation during the first and third quarters and are required to take the reading and writing sections of the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). All curriculum is strongly based on the Pennsylvania State Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening.

175 Reading 8, Remedial

Full Year

Grade 8

This is a required course in remedial reading for students reading below grade level. The reading skills emphasized are comprehension, vocabulary, word recognition, and thinking skills. Students are encouraged to read for pleasure. The goal of this course is for the students to be independent readers at or above grade level.

179 Study/Success Skills

Semester

Grades 7-8

Students selecting this course will learn time management, note taking, test preparation, organization, learning styles, concentration, and interpersonal skills. This course is designed to help students become independent learners and good citizens by teaching systems techniques and skills associated with good habits. This course may be taken only once during 7th or 8th grade.

180 English 8, Advanced

Full Year

Grade 8

This course reviews and develops basic grammar and usage skills. Student vocabulary is strengthened by lessons and tests drawn from teacher-supplied lists, which include study of prefixes. Various types of literature, poetry and drama are studied according to the thematic units, with emphasis on the Holocaust. Novels are read outside of class. Writing activities highlight some literature lessons with special emphasis is given to paragraph development. Advanced English stresses the importance of applying concepts learned in the previous seven grades using application of principles rather than rote memorization.

181 English 8

Full Year

Grade 8

This course reviews and develops basic grammar and usage skills. A student's vocabulary is strengthened by the lessons and tests drawn from literature selections and/or teacher supplied lists from the grammar book. Various types of literature, poetry, and drama are studied according to thematic units. Novels are read both inside and outside of class. Writing activities highlight literature lessons with special emphasis given to paragraph development.

1750 Career Exploration Through Reading

Nine Week Cycle

Grade 7

This is a required nine-week cycle course which will encourage students to begin thinking about occupations and career fields. It is a course basically designed to encourage students to develop academic and career goals and a plan to achieve their goals for a successful future. Emphasis will be on personal reflection and self-assessment through the use of decision-making and reasoning skills, personality/interest surveys, and career exploration.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES

270 World Geography 7, Advanced
271 World Geography 7

Full Year
Full Year

Grade 7
Grade 7

This course includes extensive coverage of geographic aspects concerning the Eastern Hemisphere. Geographic concepts dealing with map skills, location, climate, soils, etc., are integral parts of the course. An understanding of why people live the way they do in different parts of the globe is also included.

280 World History 8, Advanced
281 World History 8

Full Year
Full Year

Grade 8
Grade 8

Eighth grade World History deals with the development of man's achievements from Paleolithic Age to the discovery of the New World in AD 1492. It is concerned with geography, government, religion, art, architecture, social customs, history, and contributions of Civilizations of the Ancient World.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

370 Earth Science 7, Advanced
371 Earth Science 7

Full Year
Full Year

Grade 7
Grade 7

Seventh grade Earth Science deals with the earth in the universe. It includes basic scientific measurements, earth chemistry, geology, astronomy, meteorology, oceanography, and current environmental problems such as energy and pollution

380 Life Science 8, Advanced
381 Life Science 8

Full Year
Full Year

Grade 8
Grade 8

Eighth grade Life Science is a full year course that reinforces through hands on experimentation scientific concepts such as: predicting, testing, observing and analyzing. Included will be classification of the five kingdoms with particular emphasis on plant and animal biology. The in-depth study of these two kingdoms consists of anatomy, physiology, and behavior as well as their relationship to the environment. Various current societal issues are addressed as they relate to the areas of study.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

470 Mathematics 7, Advanced

Full Year

Grade 7

This course further develops elementary topics such as fractions, decimals, geometry, percents, ratios, and proportions. Topics such as problem solving, statistics and data analysis, and integers will be explored at a deeper level. The course also prepares students for algebra by developing topics such as word expressions, solving advanced linear evaluations and inequalities, and graphing.

471 Mathematics 7

Full Year

Grade 7

This course reviews elementary topics such as fractions, decimals, geometry, percents, ratios, and proportions. Topics such as problem solving, statistics and data analysis, and integers will be explored at a deeper level. The course introduces topics in algebra such as word expressions, solving linear equations and inequalities, and graphing.

480 Pre-Algebra 8**Full Year****Grade 8**

This pre-algebra course reviews 7th grade math topics including fractions, decimals, integers, geometry, percents, ratios and proportions, statistics, and graphing. Problem solving techniques and applications will be developed to a higher level. Topics in algebra include word expressions, solving and graphing higher level linear equations and inequalities, and solving systems of equations.

482 Algebra I - 8 ****Full Year****Grade 8**

Algebra I consists of learning and using basic definitions, properties, rules, and variables. It furnishes the language and is the basic tool for all mathematics above the level of arithmetic. The course includes solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities involving absolute value, polynomials and fractions and the solution of verbal problems by translating given information to an equation. This course also reviews basic concepts of geometry, statistics, and percents.

Prerequisite: Students must be recommended by their 7th grade mathematics teacher and earn an appropriate score on the Algebra Prognosis test. *****(Articulated Course)*****

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

511 Spanish 1-8**Full Year****Grade 7- 8**

This course will cover basic Spanish language skills and is designed to develop the student's ability to understand, read, write, and speak Spanish at a novice level. Also included is the study of the grammatical structure of the language along with some cultural information about the Spanish-speaking world. Daily studying and review are necessary.

520 Introductory French**Semester****Grades 7-8**

This course introduces the student to the French language and culture, focusing on basic vocabulary building and grammar. This course acquaints students with the language, in order to help determine if additional study of French is desired.

521 French 1-8**Full Year****Grade 8**

This course will cover basic French language skills and is designed to develop the student's ability to understand, read, write, and speak French at a novice level. Also included is the study of the grammatical structure of the language in conjunction with some cultural information about France and other French speaking countries.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS EDUCATION

610 Computer 1-8**Semester****Grade 8**

This required course is designed to enable students to develop basic keyboarding skills using tutorial programs-MicroType Pro, MicroPace Pro, KeyChamp, plus selected reinforcement activities, and educational games. Students will learn fundamental word processing applications for personal use, educational use, and career preparation.

DEPARTMENT OF FINE & PRACTICAL ARTS

602 Exploring Technology**Semester****Grades 7-8**

This course is an elective semester long course that is geared towards flexibility in the curriculum and creativity among activities in the laboratory. Students will be exposed to the formal technological process model and learn the construction and manufacturing systems. Students will be introduced to technical drawing with the emphasis on practical application such as floor plans and plot plans for residential use. Scale model decks and other wooden frame building structures such as model bridges or towers may be constructed in the laboratory.

762 Band 8**Full Year****Grade 8**

This course is designed to reinforce and improve the basic instrumental music knowledge, skills, and attitudes provided in the seventh grade band. All members are required to perform at all concerts and functions of the band.

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the seventh grade band instructor and/or equivalent entrance test.

763 Band 7**Full Year****Grade 7**

This course is designed to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary in the performance of instrumental music. Emphasis in the course is the proper mechanical operation of the instrument, proper finger and hand position, tone production, music reading, and awareness of each individual's responsibility to the group. All members are required to perform at all concerts and functions of the band.

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the elementary music instructor and/or equivalent entrance test.

773 Jr. High Chorus**Full Year****Grades 7-8**

This course is open to any Junior High student. No experience is necessary. Emphasis will be placed on learning the fundamental skills of singing, musicianship, and performance skills. Reading music is taught throughout the year in order to give the students the ability to sing more advanced music. Performing music is a very important part of participating in the chorus. These performances include a Christmas concert, spring concert and several annual field trips. All members are required to sing in all concerts. The chorus is a great course to develop and utilize the creative abilities of the students.

1712 Music 7**Nine Week Cycle****Grade 7**

Students will study a variety of topics in the seventh grade general music classes. These include fundamental music theory, great composers, folk songs, ragtime, film music, and the American musical theater. Use of audio/visual materials help reinforce the concepts presented to the students.

1721 Art 7**Nine Week Cycle****Grade 7**

Seventh grade art students will work in a variety of media. The students will have an opportunity to express their ideas realistically, abstractly, and non-objectively in the work that they do. Through exposure to past and present work done in art, students will develop sensitivity to the aesthetic qualities of the world around them.

1735 Jr. High Foods and Nutrition**Semester****Grade 7**

Students selecting the semester FCS elective will complete units on safety and preventing food contamination, meal management for nutrition, eating habits and food disorders, and food preparation. Hair coverings are required. Each student will complete and present a project on career exploration within the food industry.

1737 Jr. High Foods and Nutrition**Nine Week****Grades 7-8**

Students selecting this nine-week FCS elective will complete units on safety, nutrition, and food preparation. Hair coverings are required. Each student will complete and present a project on career exploration within the food industry.

1739 Jr. High Sewing**Nine Week****Grades 7-8**

Students selecting this nine-week sewing class will complete a hand sewing project, two sewing machine projects, and a community service project. Each student is required to provide materials needed for all projects. Each student will complete and present a project on career exploration within the clothing industry.

1744 Principles of Flight**Nine Week****Grade 7-8**

This is a nine-week elective course. This course will be an exploration of the history of manned flight and the various careers that have emerged in the aeronautics and aerospace industries. Students will study the four forces of flight and their relationship to aeronautics. Students will also examine the relationship between the history of flight and the development of our transportation systems. The course will consist of various lab activities, a timeline project, computer labs, and classroom assignments.

1745 Jr. High Introduction to Engineering Semester**Grades 7-8**

This semester long elective course introduces students to engineering principles and career paths. It is intended for students who are mechanically inclined and enjoy math and science. Course content would include precise measurement systems, mechanical drawing, scale model design, construction, and structure testing, home operating systems, hydraulics, pneumatics, and electrical systems.

1812 Introduction to Technology**Nine Week Cycle****Grade 8**

This nine-week course is geared towards learning what technology is and what it isn't. Students will learn the formal problem solving method and technological process. Students will acquire a broad understanding of technological systems and also be introduced to technical drawing, hand tool literacy, machine operations, manufacturing process, and safe laboratory operating procedures. Energy and power will be explored as a core area dealing specifically with the mechanics of generating power. Concepts learned about energy and power will be incorporated into their relationship with transportation systems and applied to the construction of model rockets or CO₂ propelled land vehicles.

1821 Family & Consumer Sciences**Nine Week Cycle****Grade 8**

Students in this required nine week FCS class will complete units on budgeting, career exploration, child care, consumerism, nutrition and table manners, personal development, sewing, and (interior) space use.

1835 Exploring Color & Design**Nine Week****Grade 8**

This is an elective Art course for eighth graders. The curriculum will continue to increase the students' awareness in two and three dimensional media through color and design study. This class will encourage the student's creativity in the areas of realism, abstract and nonobjective approaches to art. The curriculum will continue to look at how art reflects society's culture. This Art class will also continue to prepare the student who chooses to elect Art in the Senior High School.

Prerequisite: "C" or better in Art 7.

1843 Music 8**Nine Week****Grade 8**

Students will study various topics including music and fundamentals, great composers, electronic music, how recordings are made, Jazz, and advanced studies in musical theater. Use of electronic equipment and audio/visual materials help reinforce the concepts presented to the students.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION**801 Health 7****Semester****Grade 7**

This required course is designed to help the student become aware of good health choices in all areas of their lives-physical, mental, and social. Students will study drugs, alcohol, tobacco, wellness, the body and human sexuality.

802 Health 8**Semester****Grade 8**

This required course will be an extension of the seventh grade course. Drugs, alcohol, and tobacco will again be studied, in greater detail. Also covered will be diseases, growth and development, personal safety, and nutrition.

808 Physical Education 7-8**Semester****Grades 7-8**

This required course is taken in both seventh grade and eighth grade. Physical Education 7-8 consists of one nine week period of pool activities and one nine week period of physical education activities. The students will be participating in the American Red Cross Progressive Swimming Course in the pool. Students in the gym segment will experience individual, dual, team, and lifetime activities.