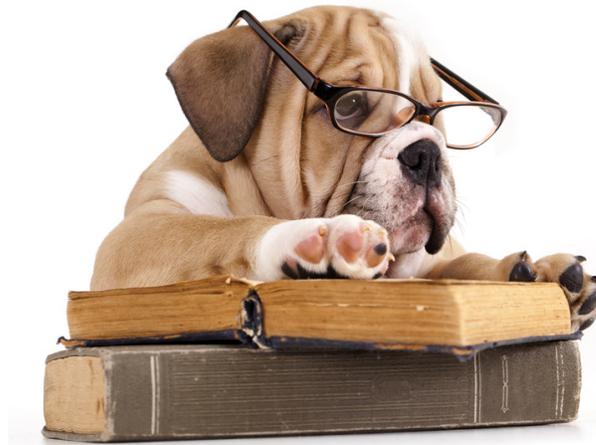


# ADA JR. HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM & ACTIVITIES GUIDE

2018-2019



**Dear Students and Parents,**

**The Jr. High School Staff would like to welcome you to a new school year filled with learning, adventure, and excitement. We have many activities planned that will help prepare our students for a successful future. We set high standards for our students and hope that they are ready for the challenge. Seventh and Eighth grades are vital to preparation for high school. Please take time to review this guide together. If you have any questions about information contained in this guide or of the course offerings, please let us know.**

**Let's all work together to have a great year! We look forward to working with you.**

**Best Wishes,**

**The Jr. High School Staff**

## **7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Students in grade seven will have four, year-long core courses: Language Arts 7, Math 7, Science 7, and World History. Language Arts and Math will each meet for two periods each day. Seventh grade students will have two periods for exploratory courses and music education. All elective courses are for a semester except band and choir which are both year courses. Students will request elective courses during the spring scheduling process. Students will be placed in their elective courses based on these requests and availability. General elective courses include Introduction to French, Introduction to Spanish, General Music, Design and Drawing, Art Exploration, and Physical Education. STEM elective courses include Robotics, Digital Design, CS Design & Modeling, Pre-Engineering Technology, Introduction to Animal and Plant Science and Introduction to Mechanical Principles. Band and/or Choir students must take at least 1 STEM course between 7th and 8th grade. All other students must take at least 1 STEM course per year. Each elective course, besides band and choir, can only be taken once.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Students in grade eight will have four, year-long core courses: Language Arts 8, Math 8 or Algebra I, Science 8, and American History. Language Arts and Math will each meet for two periods each day. Students who qualify and take Algebra I will have that high school course for one period daily, not the double block that Math 8 students have. All elective courses are for a semester except band and choir which are both year courses. Students will request elective courses during the spring scheduling process. Students will be placed in their elective courses based on these requests and availability. General elective courses include Introduction to French, Introduction to Spanish, General Music, Design and Drawing, Art Exploration, Physical Education and Health. STEM elective courses include Robotics, Digital Design, CS Design & Modeling, Pre-Engineering Technology, Introduction to Animal and Plant Science and Introduction to Mechanical Principles. Band and/or Choir students must take at least 1 STEM course between 7th and 8th grade. All other students must take at least 1 STEM course per year. Each elective course, besides band and choir, can only be taken once.

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## Art

### **Junior High Art Exploration**

This class will focus on exploring different techniques in art. Students will learn about different artists and explore their own creative processes through projects. Materials being used will include (but not limited to) paint, watercolor, pen and ink, color pencils, clay, recycled materials, etc.

### **Junior High Design and Drawing**

Students will learn composition, the elements and principles of design and drawing techniques which will allow them to express themselves through their art. Using these skills, perspective, painting, graphics and product design will be explored through a variety of media.

## Language Arts

### **Language Arts 7 (050156)**

This required course for seventh grade students is designed to review basic concepts of reading comprehension with a focused emphasis on the Accelerated Reading/STAR program as well as continuing the development of the student's literature, grammar and composition skills. Students will be expected to read books at their designated lexile. Students will be required to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the STAR program and the teacher. To accomplish this, students will need to read a set amount of points based on their individual lexile. The students will also demonstrate an acceptable level of knowledge from the books read. The students will have weekly writing prompts that will be used to continue the development of their writing skills. A Prentice Hall literature series and an English vocabulary book will also be used. Vocabulary will also be pulled from the novels being read. There will be four required writing activities, a journal for writing, and several novels will be read throughout the school year. We will be working with an emphasis on State Standards.

### **Language Arts 8 (050156)**

Eighth grade Language Arts will continue to focus on reading comprehension, grammar, and composition. There will be a variety of novels read and explored - both individual novels and novels read together as a class - that will be tied to short stories and articles. The year-long book study will be a continuation of the genre study from previous years. Vocabulary will be either drawn from the reading or through State-Standard based exercises. Students will complete small research projects throughout the year as it fits with each genre studied. The students will also participate in the online program Renaissance Learning and Star Reading. Students will be expected to read books at their designated lexile both inside and outside of the classroom. Students will also be required to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the reading program and their teacher. In order to

accomplish this, students need to read to earn a set amount of points based on their lexile. The students will also need to demonstrate a sufficient level of knowledge gained from those books.

### **Foreign Language**

#### **Pre-high Foreign Language /Introduction to French and Spanish (060900)**

This course for seventh and eighth grade students consists of one semester of Introduction to French or Introduction to Spanish. This course will offer students an opportunity to begin communicating in different foreign languages in a formal course before choosing one language to study further. Students may practice their foreign language through games, skits, conversations, and songs. They may also develop interdisciplinary skills by linking foreign language study with language arts, social studies, art, math and study skills.

### **History**

#### **World History- 7<sup>th</sup> grade (BC-AD 1700s) (150890)**

This course will focus on the rise of Europe including the Middle Ages, Feudalism and the Renaissance. Students will pay special attention to the social, political and economic factors that shaped modern nation states in Europe, Africa, and Asian civilizations with an emphasis on covering state standards

#### **American History- 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Beginning to 1877) (150810)**

This course begins with the beginnings of American history including exploration of early people and European colonization and runs through the end of the reconstruction period following the Civil War. Students will pay close attention to the impact of domestic affairs, how the colonies were shaped and a study of historical documents that have helped to shape modern America with an emphasis on state standards.

### **Mathematics**

#### **Algebra I (110301)**

**Prerequisites:** Grades earned in Math 7, test score on Algebraic readiness test, and teacher's recommendation are used as criteria to qualify for this course. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be scheduled in a high school Algebra I course for one period daily with high school students.

The content of this course is organized around families of functions with specific emphasis on linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. Students will learn to represent functions as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. Students will also learn to model real-world situations using functions in order to solve problems; data analysis and probability will also be introduced.

**Technology:** Graphing is essential and students will learn to use a graphing calculator. A TI83+ or TI84+ graphing utility **is required** and will be utilized in all future math classes. Computer access will be necessary for various activities.

*This course is a tested a high school subject that includes an Ohio End of Course Exam counting towards their high school graduation.*

**Math 7 (110175)**

Students in Math 7 will focus on 5 areas of mathematics – ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability. The focus will be on (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area; (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

**Math 8 (110175)**

Students in Math 8 will focus on 5 areas of mathematics – the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability. The focus will be on (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

**Science**

**Science 7 (132220)**

This general science course is aligned to Ohio’s Learning Standards for 7th grade. The fields of life science, physical science, and earth science are addressed in the seventh grade science curriculum. Students will use a variety of hands-on, small group activities to learn about such topics as the Earth-Sun-Moon system, structure and diversity of organisms, life processes, weather, climate, biomes and the nature and transformation of energy. Students will be required to participate in the local science fair. This will involve completing a team project using the engineering design process.

### **Science 8 (132220)**

This general science course is aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards for 8th grade. The fields of earth, physical, and life science are addressed in the 8th grade science curriculum. Students will use a variety of hands-on, small group activities to learn about such topics as forces that shape Earth's surface, plate tectonics, Newton's Laws of Motion and the effects of forces on objects, as well as genetics, heredity and continuation of life. Students in 8th grade science may (but are not required to) participate in the local science fair with a project of their choice using the scientific method or engineering design process.

## **Music**

### **General Music (120400)**

General Music is an elective class that meets every day for a semester. This class is for the student who wishes to learn more about music in a classroom setting rather than or in addition to a performance group. This course offers a historical component while students are involved in listening, analyzing, composing and improvising music, as well as playing instruments and singing. A letter grade is earned through this exploratory hands-on approach to learning about music.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Band (120500)**

The Ada 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Band Room during 4<sup>th</sup> period. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students will meet on these days without the 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students, in order to better diversify instructional practices for different age groups. 7<sup>th</sup> graders not in choir will meet every day. Student will continue to build on the skills and musical concepts learned in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade band. Students will meet on Fridays in a combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Jr. High) setting. This allows students to also experience the full band situation. Students will participate in numerous musical learning experiences as set by the classroom teacher.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Band (120500)**

The Ada 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Band room during 4<sup>th</sup> period. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will meet on these days without the 7<sup>th</sup> grade band students, in order to better diversify instructional practices for different age groups. 8<sup>th</sup> graders not in choir will meet every day. Students will continue to build on the skills and musical concepts learned in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade band. Students will meet on Fridays in a combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Jr. High) band setting. This allows students to also experience the full band situation. Students will participate in numerous musical learning experiences as set by the classroom teacher.

### **7th Choir (120400)**

The Junior High Choir is a performance-based ensemble for students who enjoy and are serious about singing. The curriculum focuses on vocal production, music theory, sight-reading, rehearsal etiquette, and experience singing in many styles, from Classical to pop. Choir members are required to participate in two concerts during the school year

(winter and spring). 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays and in the Choir Room during 4<sup>th</sup> period. This group meets apart from the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir in order to better diversify instructional practices. Singers not enrolled in Band also will meet on Fridays in the Choir room in a combined session with the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade singers not enrolled in Band.

**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation**

### **8<sup>th</sup> Choir (120400)**

The Junior High Choir is a performance-based ensemble for students who enjoy and are serious about singing. The curriculum focuses on vocal production, music theory, sight-reading, rehearsal etiquette, and experience singing in many styles, from Classical to pop. Choir members are required to participate in two concerts during the school year (winter and spring). 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir meets on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Choir Room during 4<sup>th</sup> period. This group meets apart from the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir in order to better diversify instructional practices. Singers not also enrolled in Band will meet on Fridays in the Choir Room during 4<sup>th</sup> period in a combined session with the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade singers not enrolled in Band.

**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation**

## **Physical Education**

### **Health (260101)**

This class is for eighth grade students for a total of one semester. Topics presented include mental health, physical health, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, nutrition, abstinence, STDs, and current health topics. Grades are based upon test scores, quizzes, homework grades, and participation.

### **Physical Education (080300)**

The emphasis will be on team sports and physical fitness testing. The lifetime sports of golf, shuffleboard, badminton, and Ping-Pong, will also be introduced. Each unit will be graded on class participation and a possible written test. Students will be expected to dress accordingly for physical education classes, i.e. have a separate set of clothes to change into (shirt, shorts or sweats, gym shoes, and socks).

## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)**

### **Digital Design Technology**

This is a semester long course and deals with designing and creating in our current digital world. Students will have the ability to use a variety of designing softwares to create diverse projects from webpages and logo designs to video and audio files.

### **Pre-Engineering Technology**

This is a semester long course dealing with designing and building in our engineering world that has included computer based design. This is a project based course where problem solving, design, creating and testing of objects and structures such as towers and bridges is covered.

### **LEGO Engineering Robotics**

Introductory multimedia curriculum that introduces robotics and how they function in our society today. Utilizing the LEGO Mindstorms Robots, students learn the STEM engineering design process through solving a series of challenges specific to a robotic function of a real-world robot. Students learn how to program basic robot behaviors using motors and rotation, sound, light, touch and ultrasonic sensors. Each research lesson is based on real-world robots. Step-by-step videos will be used to learn how to use the programming language, build robots, create basic robot behavior, use of sensors, and prepare to compete in robot competitions. The lessons align to CSTA Computer Science and ISTE standards, and reinforce concepts and skills taught in other subject areas by integrating national Math, English Language Arts, and Science standards.

### **CS Design and Modeling**

Introductory computer science course using a hands-on creative approach to teach 21st century skills. Students learn from a mix of online, maker activities and unplugged activities (that use no computer at all). By the end of the course, students can develop their own website, design an app, build an interactive game, create a physical computing device and use the Engineering Design Process to make several of their own creations from recycled materials. The basics of the course will help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills, and prepare students for many future STEM career opportunities. The lessons align to CSTA Computer Science and ISTE standards, and reinforce concepts and skills taught in other subject areas by integrating national Math, English Language Arts, and Science standards.

### **Intro to Animal and Plant Science-Grades 7/8**

Students will apply knowledge of animal and plant science to the agriculture industry. They will be introduced to the value of production animals and companion animals. Students will engage in animal classification and selection, body systems, along with animal welfare and behavior in relation to the production of animals. Students will learn principles of plant anatomy and physiology, and the role of nutrition, deficiencies and growing environment on plant production. Throughout the course, business principles and professional skills will be examined as well as career options in the plant and animal fields.

### **Intro to Mechanical Principles-Grades 7/8**

Students will engage in the mechanical principles utilized in agriculture. They will learn skills associated with woodworking, metals and welding, small engines and basic electricity. Throughout the course, students will learn critical components of site and personal safety as well as communication, career and leadership skills.

\*Numbers in ( ) parentheses denote EMIS Subject code\*\*\*

## ACTIVITIES

### Field Trips

\*Various trips will be scheduled throughout the year and fees vary. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade may travel to Camp Willson for Outdoor Education and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade may travel to Washington, D.C. for their class trip. Other day trips will be announced throughout the school year.

\*Any student not attending a field trip will be expected to attend school and participate in normal school work and activities.

\*Students with failing grades and/or discipline issues may not be permitted to attend all field trips.

### Geography Bee

\*A competition for students in grades 4-8

\*Student finalists who proceed to the school Geography Bee are selected according to highest score at their grade levels

\*Winner takes a written exam to qualify for the national championship.

### Junior Beta Club

\*Seventh grade students must have a 3.5 cumulative GPA at the end of the first semester to be eligible for induction.

\*Eighth grade students must have a 3.5 cumulative GPA (7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade) at the end of the first semester to be eligible for induction.

\*Students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA following induction. GPAs will be checked at the end of 7<sup>th</sup> grade and after 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 8<sup>th</sup> grade to determine eligibility.

\*Activities include community service, monthly meetings, and possibly an educational trip.

### Midwest Talent Search

\*This program is designed to identify academically talented students.

\*It provides information and opportunities to help the identified students develop their talents.

\*Students have choice of taking the SAT or ACT (college entrance exams) test.

### M.I.S.S.I.L.E. (Middle School Students Involved in Literary Encounters)

\*Students have several months to prepare for this day.

\*The encounter is scheduled for one day at Ohio Northern University.

\*Students spend the day participating in different activities based on novels studied.

### Quiz Bowl

- \*There will be two or three practice meets and one official competition.
- \*Membership is open to both seventh and eighth grade students.

### Spelling Bee

- \*A competition for grades 4-8
- \*Student finalists are selected by a preliminary written test.
- \*Winner advances to the spelling bee in Columbus.

### Athletics and Athletic Eligibility

Students who are academically eligible may participate in up to three sports per school year, one per sport season. In order to be eligible, a student must be passing 75% of his or her coursework. ***For example, a student taking 8 classes must pass 6 classes to be eligible, while a student with 6 classes must pass 5 classes to be eligible.*** Seventh grade students begin the school year eligible for fall athletics. Athletics for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders include girls' volleyball, football, girls' and boys' basketball, wrestling, cheerleading for fall and winter, boys' and girls' track, and girls' softball.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### Agenda

Students will be expected to bring and use their agenda every day. The agenda is a tool for student use; it is designed to help them plan out their homework and plan ahead for future projects. It can also be used as a communication tool between teachers and parents.

### Awards

The Academic Boosters Club selects various types of awards to acknowledge the academic achievements of Ada Junior High Students. Students are acknowledged each quarter for the Honor Roll (all A's and B's) and the Dean's List (3.2 or higher).

A **Junior High Awards Assembly** is held at the end of the school year to present perfect attendance and numerous academic awards to students in front of their classmates and parents.

### Contact Information

High School Office: (419) 634-2746

Guidance Office: (419) 634-3086

### Grades

Students will also be expected to keep their grades for each class recorded in their agendas. Students will be aware of their progress in class and able to share this information with their parents.

### Homework Policy

Homework is important because it helps students make the most of their classroom experience. It is given because homework:

- reinforces what has been taught in class
- prepares students for upcoming lessons and tests
- gives practice in applying the knowledge (the practice also aids in remembering the facts)
- helps students develop self-discipline, responsibility, and organization skills

### Obtaining Make-Up Assignments

When a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to request make-up work upon return to school.

Remember that it is the **student's responsibility** at all times to obtain and complete all make-up work. If a student knows prior to an absence of an upcoming test or project, the student should be prepared to take the test or turn in the project upon return to school. It is always the **student's responsibility** to arrange with each teacher opportunities to make-up missed tests or quizzes.

**Parent / Teacher Conferences**

Parent –Teacher conferences are held in the fall of the school year scheduled to coincide with the elementary parent-teacher conferences. Parents can also contact the school to schedule a one-on-one conference at other times of the school year as concerns arise.

**Passes**

Each teacher will have his or her own rules for passes. However, **ALL STUDENTS** must have a pass or agenda to be in the hallway unless it is during the minutes between classes.

**Progressbook**

Parents have access to Progressbook. Progressbook is a program that allows parents to view their child's grades and progress in each of their courses. Parents can access the link on the school website. Passwords can be obtained from the school. Parents can sign up for email alerts regarding grades on Progressbook, as well as access copies of report cards.

**School Supplies**

STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE TO EVERY CLASS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL:

1. Ada Junior High Agenda
2. Notebook paper
3. Ink pen and sharpened pencil with an eraser

DURING THE REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO COME TO CLASS PREPARED WITH THE MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THAT CLASS.

**School Fees**

- Workbooks or other special classroom items are purchased in the high school office
- Checks should be made out to “Ada High School”