

EIGHTH GRADE SPECIALS & ELECTIVES

**HEIDE BOHN
8TH GRADE
GENERAL MUSIC**

8th grade general music is a course where the students will recognize basic and complex rhythms. They will be able to count, write and play rhythms up to and including sixteenth note/eighth note combinations. Students will also be able to recognize the parts of the music staff. Assessment will be through worksheets and three tests. At the end of the marking period students will write an original 16 measure rhythm piece based on STOMP. In groups, they will write, practice and perform their piece. They will not be using any type of instrument. Instead they will use materials and things as instruments. This course is a continuation of what they learned in 7th grade and they will build on that previous knowledge. The course is one marking period in length.

**BRIAN LEITER
NATURE TRAIL**

Nature Trail is a course in the middle school for 7th and 8th grade students. This course relates to two large topics. The first is Nature Trail which has students working on the Nature Trail located on the middle school campus. They are designing and implementing plans to bring the trail up to use and make it available for use by the school and local community. The second element is environmental topics including recycling, pollution, and ways to make our Earth more environmentally friendly.

**ADAM
KRAVATZ
TECHNOLOGY**

Technology Education 8 is the middle school's advanced course to technology and engineering education. This course strives to develop an engineering mindset through advanced engineering concepts focused mainly around flight and speed. Students will utilize these skills through open ended problem solving projects where they will be expected to work and build as individuals and small teams complete the design challenge. Projects they will do to stimulate their thinking are the Dragster Challenge, Rockets Design Challenge, and Foam Plate Glider Challenge.

**JAMIE LEBO
ART**

The 8th Grade Art Curriculum is designed to provide students with an extensive variety of opportunities for arts education and artistic expression pursuant to the PA Academic Standards for the Arts and Humanities. Projects are designed to challenge students, encourage critical thinking and creativity, and inspire a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

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**TARYN
TROUTMAN
SCHOOL
SERVICE**

The School Service course allows students to develop social and emotional skills, as well as leadership skills. The course allows students the freedom to show their strengths outside the classroom. When students are assisting students that are younger, they are seen as role models. They use the leadership skills we teach in Discovery in a natural setting. While students are assisting elementary and middle school teachers with numerous tasks it also gives them a sense of community and responsibility for our school. In the way of transitioning into an active community member after school, students also get a snapshot view of skills they will need in order to be a teacher or staff member within the school setting.

**DANIELLE
KLEMICK
&
JILL ARCHER
SPEECH/DRAMA**

This course incorporates PA Core standards for 8th Grade English Language Arts, including reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students prepare for and present formal and informal speeches, research topics, write outlines, read a one-act play, and write and perform their own one-act play. Speech and Drama is a project-based class in which students are given the opportunity to choose topics that interest them. They work both independently and cooperatively on a variety of projects. This course is a one-marking period class that is an extension of the ELA curriculum.

**SUSAN GEESEY
CHORUS**

Students in 7th and 8th grade chorus work to prepare songs for 2 concerts, one in December and another in May, as well as for the Veterans Day programs. They also focus on proper singing technique and breathing as well as learning about ways to create harmony.

**JESSICA EILER
COMPUTERS**

The 8th grade computer course is designed to help create empowered learners who leverage technology in their learning, digital citizens who recognize their rights, responsibilities and opportunities in a digital world, knowledge constructors who critically curate resources, innovative designers who use a variety of technologies, computational thinkers who develop and employ strategies for problem solving, creative communicators who clearly and creatively express themselves, and global collaborators who use digital tools to broaden their perspectives, all while still educating them in the basic skills needed to survive in any job market.