

**LAKEVIEW JR. HIGH
DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS**

DESCRIPTION OF COURSES -- EIGHTH GRADE

All eighth graders will attend **eight** class periods each day. Students will be enrolled in the following **six** CORE SUBJECTS for one period each day:

Language Arts
Reading
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies
Physical Education

Eighth graders will also be enrolled in **two** periods of Exploratory subjects. These subjects will be rotated on a twelve week basis.

Block "A"

Art
Consumer Education
Computers

Block "B"

Applied Technology
Music
Health

As an option for some students who have been recommended by their teachers, Spanish and Strategies are available during the Exploratory periods. Students enrolled in Spanish or Strategies will take only **one** Exploratory Block each year, experiencing all Exploratory classes over a two year period. Spanish and Strategies are full year courses.

Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band will be offered during study hall time. The Jazz Band and Concert Band will meet before school.

CORE SUBJECTS - 8TH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS - (Year course)

Language Arts is divided into several areas of study, including grammar, composition, and speech. A writing program is used to provide experience in the development of persuasive, expository, and narrative essays. Through these writing experiences, students are provided with mini-lessons in mechanics, usage, and grammar. Public speaking is emphasized by studying techniques and skills necessary for the successful presentation of formal and informal talks.

TEXTBOOKS USED: English - Houghton Mifflin

READING - (Year course)

The McDougal, Littell literature anthology will be used by eighth grade students. This book provides exposure to the short story, poetry, drama, and mythology. Vocabulary study will be conducted through the use of a lit-based program designed to help students improve their word power. Book reports are required each trimester. Students will also study novels during the course of the year.

TEXTBOOK USED: The Language of Literature - McDougal, Littell, Wordskills – McDougal, Littell

ALGEBRA - TEACHER RECOMMENDATION ONLY - Pre-requisite: Pre-**Algebra**(Year Course)

Algebra is an advanced level class for selected accelerated students. The focus of this class is the use of algebra as a way to solve problems and understand the world around us. Traditional algebra topics will be covered with an emphasis on problem solving, reasoning, communication, and connections. Technology will be used to investigate and verify findings.

TEXTBOOK USED: Algebra I - Holt, Rinehart, Winston

MATH - (Year course)

The 8th grade math program is designed to implement the standards put forth by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. The course focuses on problem solving and mathematical reasoning, communicating mathematically, seeing mathematical connections to math strands and other subject areas, and applying these concepts to their lives.

TEXTBOOK USED: McDougal – Little Course 3

PHYSICAL SCIENCE - (Year Course)

Physical science is the study of matter and its behavior due to forces on earth. Students use the tools of a scientist to measure these forces that effect the behavior of matter. The Metric System is used as the standard of measurement throughout the curriculum. Through the study of chemistry, students investigate the interactions of matter. Also, they learn to use the Periodic Table of Matter to predict the properties and reactivity of elements to form compounds. Many lab experiments conducted in class during our chemistry units evolved during the decade of the sixties which coincides with the interdisciplinary unit in 8th grade. A roller coaster project is completed as part of our physics units to help relate physical concepts to real world interests.

TEXTBOOK USED: Physical Science - Holt, Rinehart, Winston

SOCIAL STUDIES - (Year course)

The 8th grade Social Studies curriculum is centered on the study of modern American and World History from the late 19th century to the present. A strong emphasis is placed on students developing their critical reasoning and creative thinking skills. The class will also introduce the students to the interpretation and analysis of selected primary sources / historical documents and the cultivation of more advanced, age-appropriate, research skills.

TEXTBOOK USED: Civics – Prentice Hall, The American Nation: The Civil War to the Present – Prentice Hall

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - (Year Course)

The physical education program is a progressive skills development course designed to increase the student's skill level in lifetime sports and to increase his/her strength, flexibility, endurance and coordination through fitness activities.

Uniform:

Boys - Green/gold reversible shirt, black shorts, socks, shoes. (Name on white name plate), (Heart Monitor Strap)

Girls - Green/gold reversible shirt, black shorts, gym, shoes, socks, (Name on white name plate), (Heart Monitor Strap).

For cold weather activity sweats will be needed. All PE uniforms may be purchased through the Lakeview PTO.

From December through February - gloves, hats, scarves, etc. are to be kept in school for Cross Country Skiing.

This course will also emphasize fitness concepts dealing with cardio vascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, the development of a personal fitness program, related terminology and appropriate techniques.

Students will need a PE folder or binder.

ENCORE COURSES

SPANISH II - (Year Course) TEACHER RECOMMENDATION ONLY

This class is taught in Spanish.

This class is designed for the student who has successfully completed Spanish I. Work is continued on the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with increased emphasis on reading and writing. The more complicated grammar structures are studied, including the past tense of verbs. The students begin reading selections and continue to work on the skills learned within the first year of study. The study of Spanish culture is also continued. Students who successfully complete the junior high Spanish program with a C average can, based on teacher recommendation, enroll in Spanish II at the high school 2nd year Spanish.

TEXTBOOK USED: En Espanol- McDougal Littell

STRATEGIES (Year Course) TEACHER RECOMMENDATION ONLY

Strategies is a class for recommended students who need support in academic classes. Students will receive individual and small group instruction and reteaching of academic material. Review sessions for tests will also be used to assist students. Organization, test taking strategies, and learning techniques will be applied. Computers will also be available to the students.

HEALTH (12 weeks)

The goal of the health curriculum is to enhance the physical, social, mental, and emotional well-being of the students. This course includes the following content areas: nutrition, stress management life stages and human sexuality. This course also includes: responsible decision making skills dealing with family and peer relationships. Transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, prevention and risk reduction and knowledge on abstinence and limit setting is also covered.

Textbook Used: Totally Awesome Health - Meeks/Heit

ART - (12 week course)

This course will include a variety of experiences in the two and three-dimensional arts. The lessons will explore drawing, art history, design, painting, advertising arts, and sculpture. Readings in Art & Man Magazine will be incorporated in some lessons and processes. Students will also be involved in displays, art appreciation, discussions, and class critiques as they learn to evaluate their own work as they explore a variety of art expression.

CONSUMER EDUCATION (12 weeks)

This is an advanced Family and Consumer Science course in independent living skills. Students will develop a more advanced understanding of health and nutrition, food preparation and meal planning in the foods unit. Sewing skills will include using embroidery techniques to complete a craft project. A short consumer education unit will include consumer awareness, employment, and money management. Renting an apartment, grocery shopping, budgeting and comparison shopping are included in this project.

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY - (12 weeks)

Students will study 5-6 of the following units called Modules: Aerodynamics, Alternative Energy, Architecture, Automation & Robotics, Computer Aided Design, Computer Animation, Computer Graphic Design, Engineering & Stress Analysis, Exploratory Electronics, Fiber Optics & Lasers, Flight Simulation, Exploratory Mechanisms, Fluid Power, CNC Milling, Plastics, Radio Broadcasting, Space & Rocketry, Meteorology and Forecasting, Video Production and Digital Video Editing.

Lab Fee: \$20.00

GENERAL MUSIC - (12 Weeks)

The 8th grade music class is designed to build on fundamental music skills and concepts learned in the lower grades. We review and study music theory, ear training, listening skills, musical theatre, world music, and keyboard basics. There will be in-depth study on the elements of music that broaden their listening skills and expanded music theory study to include intervals and basic chord structures. Students will use these skills to write and perform their own compositions and will work with a variety of computer based music programs.

Textbook used: Silver Burdett & Ginn Music Connection Series; *In Tune Monthly Magazine*

COMPUTER EDUCATION - (12 weeks)

The goal of the computer class is to provide students with the skills and knowledge to use the computer as a tool for current and future learning. During the seventh and eighth grade years, students will be given training in advanced word processing techniques, desktop publishing, spreadsheets, multi-media presentation software, and Internet safety. It is hoped that the computer knowledge gained at Lakeview will serve as a foundation for additional computer training at the high school and college level.

SYMPHONIC BAND (Teacher Recommendation)

This group is designed as a continuing program for students that have participated in the Lakeview Concert Band, or are at that level of performance and beyond. The majority of students in this program will be in seventh grade, but sixth and eighth grade students may be a part of this program based on their musical ability. Performances for this group include the Fall, Winter and Spring Concerts, our Winter Invitational, Solo Contest, and a contest or festival in early spring. Seventh and eighth grade students participating in this band will also participate in all Marching Spartan performances. This group meets daily from 12:10 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Students will also attend one 30 minute lesson per week following the rotating lesson schedule.

WIND ENSEMBLE (Teacher Recommendation)

This group represents the highest level of concert band performance in our school. Participation in this group will be based on teacher recommendation and/or auditions. The majority of students in this band will be eligible to participate based on instrumentation needs and musical proficiency. Performances for this group include the Fall, Winter and Spring Concerts, solo contest, and the Southeast DuPage Festival of Bands. Seventh and eighth grade students participating in this band will also participate in all Marching Spartan performances. This group meets daily from 12:10 p.m. - 12:47 p.m. Students will also attend one 30 minute lesson per week following the rotating lesson schedule.

JAZZ BAND (Teacher Recommendation)

This group is designed to teach students the musical styles found in jazz combo and jazz band music. This is an advanced level group only open to students playing saxophone, trombone, trumpet, and rhythm section instruments. Participation in this group is based on teacher recommendation and/or audition. Performances of this group include the Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts and the Jazz Night clinic, as well as several other public appearances which vary from year to year.

JAZZ LAB BAND (Teacher Recommendation)

This group is an introductory jazz education experience for 6th, 7th and 8th grade instrumental students. It is designed to teach the basics of the jazz style and improvisation. This group is open to students playing saxophone, trombone, trumpet, flute and clarinet, as well as a limited number of piano, bass, and drum set players. Drummers MUST have drum set experience. We will work for one performance at the end of the school year.