

# Home of the Panthers

Jim Berndt, Principal  
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## INTRODUCTION

As a school district and staff we are committed to having the Junior High remain a school where students are given every opportunity to be successful. This catalog has been prepared with that in mind.

Students and parents are encouraged to seriously consider their course selections. The teaching schedule is based on data students provide in the scheduling process. Our goal is to give students his/her elective choices and avoid making any schedule changes in the fall. Only after your registration is complete, will final determination of classes be made for the upcoming school year. If you choose a class which does not meet the required enrollment numbers, or exceeds seat limitations, you will be placed in one or more of your alternative electives. Choose alternatives, therefore, as carefully as you choose your first choices.

If you have questions regarding the registration process, please direct them to the following people:

Jim Berndt, Principal  
Tom Schend, Assistant Principal  
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Nick Hartman, Counselor

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## **CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

The following courses apply towards the Career & Technical Education graduation requirement

### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

**These courses do not meet a foreign language requirement for college entrance**

#### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE ASL-101** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER -

This course is designed to learn ASL skills in order to communicate with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community to understand culture/values/beliefs. ASL is the third most widely used language in the United States. This course includes basic ASL finger spelling hand shape techniques, numbers, survival vocabulary, grammatical structures in sentences, and conversational behaviors. We will be using games like Bingo, Guess Who, Hang Man, and Concentration will be used to reinforce sign information. A variety of activities and ASL movies will also be used.

#### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE ASL-102** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER -

**Prerequisite: successful completion of ASL-101**

This second trimester is designed to reinforce and develop more ASL skills from 101 in order to communicate with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community/culture. Using basic ASL vocabulary, grammatical structures, and conversational behaviors while done in conversation sign with games such as Sign It, Play It Again, I Love My Neighbor But... and Race to the Board. Emphasis will continually be placed on the cultural values and beliefs shared by the Deaf Community. Movies and activities will be used to bring understanding for the joy of learning sign language. Going to see the locally held State SIGN OFF competition and going to see a local play with sign language interpreters will be an option for this trimester. Students who have taken ASL-101 in this year, may take ASL-102 the following year.

#### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE ASL-201** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER -

**Prerequisite: successful completion of ASL-102**

This second trimester course is designed to develop and learn more ASL skills in order to communicate with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community/culture. This class will continue to develop advanced skills as learned from ASL-1, using basic ASL vocabulary, grammatical structures, and conversational behaviors. Games such as Gestures, ABC and 1-2-3 sign stories, Sign It Again, and Pictionary will be used. The student will be able to apply knowledge to perform content material and technical information. Students who have taken ASL-102 in 2007-2008 may take ASL-201 in 2008-2009.

#### **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE ASL-202** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER -

**Prerequisite: successful completion of ASL-201.**

Taking both trimesters: This second trimester course is designed to develop and learn more ASL skills in order to communicate with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community/culture. This class will continue to develop more advanced skills as learned from ASL-1, using basic ASL vocabulary, grammatical structures, and conversational behaviors. Emphasis will continually be placed on the cultural values and beliefs shared by the Deaf Community. The student will be able to apply knowledge to perform content material and technical information..

## **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

### **BUSINESS APPLICATIONS 101** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**\*\*YVCC Tech Prep (college credit) in Keyboarding may be earned in this class\*\***

Students will learn the techniques of keyboarding by touch control; keyboarding with acceptable speed and accuracy, proof reading, and preparing simple tables, letters and simple manuscripts. Student will use Microsoft Office concepts and techniques and learn the basics of Word, Power Point, and Excel.

### **BUSINESS APPLICATIONS 102** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: completion of Business Applications 101**

**\*\*YVCC Tech Prep (college credit) in IT 100 Intro to Computers and IT 102 Windows may be earned in this class.\*\***

Students will continue keyboard with emphasis on improving speed and accuracy, proof reading, making corrections and properly formatting letters, envelopes, memos, manuscripts, tables and business forms. They will also learn how to use a scanner, format digital pictures, and an introduction to web pages. Student will also use Microsoft Office products: Work, Excel, Power Point and Access.

### **VIDEO PRODUCTION** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT.

The Video Production course will provide students with a basic understanding of how to film and edit their movies using computer software. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a variety of production skills and techniques as it relates to producing video. Possible projects include Music Video, Advertising/Commercials, Sports Highlights.

### **WEBSITE PAGE DESIGN** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT.

Web page design is an introductory course for anyone who wants to learn how to create their own Web site. Skills you will learn include: Internet basics, web design and layout, graphics.

## **FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES**

### **CAREERS IN HEALTH** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ ELECTIVE/ .5 CREDIT

**\*\*Students will have the opportunity to earn tech-prep credits in the YVCC Allied Health program**

Exploring Careers in Health Care is designed for students interested in learning about the many career options available in health care. Aside from exploring many health care occupations, students will learn about the educational pathways available to them for employment at various levels in the diagnostic, therapeutic, informational, cultural, and environmental strands of the health care system. Students will participate in skill and interest assessments, investigate career choices using web-based resources, listen to industry speakers, share information in student presentations, and discuss current issues in health care. A focus on cultural competency will be offered to create an understanding of diversity issues in relation to the health care industry.

### **PERSONAL CHOICES** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

#### **\*\*\*Prerequisite for high school Culinary Arts**

If you want a career in Culinary Arts this class is a must! Only offered at the junior high, Personal Choices must be taken before students can begin the program at the high school. This Career and Technical Education course offers units that cover mostly culinary arts, along with nutrition, sewing, independent living, and the responsibilities of parenting. Leadership also plays a huge role in this class. Students will learn how to work cooperatively and achieve goals. A user fee will be applied.

### **TEENS AGAINST TOBACCO USE** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

#### **Pre-approval from Ms. Smith for this course must be completed before registration.**

This leadership class provides students the opportunity to build presentation skills, cooperative learning and goal achievement. Students will effectively teach elementary children about the many issues and dangers related to tobacco use. These students will work as advocates promoting the anti-tobacco message to their peers and with the American Lung Association and American Cancer Society coordinating community events.

## **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

**A basic fee will be charged for all classes. Independent larger projects will require additional fees  
Proper safety standards will be emphasized including wearing safety glasses.**

### **MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY 101** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

Develop an understanding of The Designed World to select and use manufacturing technologies. Change raw materials into finished products. Obtain basic skills in use of manufacturing equipment and tools. Understand the manufacturing design process. This is a class for those students who have not had prior woodworking classes. Students will learn introductory machine tool operation and safety. There will be multiple class projects of increasing difficulty.

### **MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY 102** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

#### **Prerequisite: completion of Manufacturing Technology 101**

Investigate career opportunities in the manufacturing industry, explore the impact of manufacturing technology on our society, and identify a variety of manufacturing technologies. Understand basic drafting concepts and systems. Introduce *free enterprise* as it relates to manufacturing. Students will learn advanced machine tool operations, wood joint construction and finishing techniques. Construction projects will be a combination of required and individual projects.

### **CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

#### **Prerequisite: completion of Manufacturing Technology 102 with a passing grade**

Manufacturing Construction Technology is a vital part of Career and Technical Education. This class is designed for students to learn current concepts of material processes and production of modern wood technology. Students will gain more advanced experience with updated tools and machines, which are used in the fields of Construction Trades. This real life on the job class will prepare each student with the skills needed to be successful in any related career choice.

## FINE ARTS

### ART

\*\*\*Please note there is a \$10.00 user fee for all art and clay classes\*\*\*

#### ART 101 (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

Students will explore the uses of line in Art, and gain exposure to basic techniques with a #2 pencil in the creation of art. The focus of the class will be on achieving an increasing mastery of the pencil as an art tool, as well as the development and expansion of creative problem-solving skills. Topics to be examined include: optical illusions, basic perspective and photo-enlargement techniques.

#### ART 102 (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: successful completion of Art 101 or teacher permission**

Students will explore 2-dimensional art by building upon skills and knowledge gained from Art 101. Topics will focus on creative problem-solving and skill building in the areas of basic shapes, shading and style.

#### ART 103 (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Final grade of "C" or better in Art 102 or teacher permission**

Students will utilize and broaden their skills and knowledge gained in Art 101 and 102. Mediums to be examined include: pencils, oils, pastel, chalk, charcoal and ink. Art styles such as realism, impressionism and abstract art will be explored, incorporating the various mediums.

#### CLAYWORKS 101 (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

This class will introduce students to the basic construction techniques of clay and the history of clay as an art form. The focus of the class will be upon the production of 3-dimensional art projects using skills learned in class.

#### CLAYWORKS 102 (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Clayworks 101 or teacher permission**

This class will expand upon knowledge and skills gained in Clayworks 101. Students will improve existing skills, while expanding their exploration of clay. This will be achieved through a variety of 3-dimensional projects.

#### CLAYWORKS 103 (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Final grade of "C" or better in Clay 102 or teacher permission**

This class is for the advanced ceramicist. We will focus on perfecting the hand building techniques gained in Clayworks 101 and 102. Students will also learn different techniques to expand upon their prior knowledge of ceramics.

**STAINED GLASS** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ ELECTIVE/ .5 CREDIT

**This class requires an additional charge for materials.**

**Students may receive either a Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education credit.**

Students will explore the art of stained Glass and gain exposure to the basic techniques of the Tiffany Style foiled method of glass art. The focus of the class will be on achieving the mastery of the Tiffany Style glass art, as well as the development and expansion of creative problem-solving skills. Other topics to be examined include: design, fabrication, and basic perspective and structural concepts.

## **MUSIC**

**CHOIR 101-102-103** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

This is a performance-based class in which vocal production and stage performance are taught. All styles of music including classic, popular and modern are covered. The class introduces sight-reading. The choir performs several concerts a year in addition to the Yakima Valley Large Group Contest. Attendance at performances is required.

**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BAND**

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

This is a performance-based class which is a continuation of earlier band experience. Instruction includes scales, rhythms, and other techniques specific to the students' instrument. Students participate in concerts and parades in the fall and spring. Attendance at performances is required. Because this is a performance-based class, students will be expected to practice their instrument at home and will need to have a means to transport it to and from school.

**9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BAND**

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

This is a performance-based class which is a continuation of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade band experience. A varied and more advanced level of music is performed (i.e. classical and modern). Continued mastery of technical studies of each instrument is emphasized. Students participate in concerts and parades in the fall and spring. Attendance at performances is required. During the fall trimester, the 9<sup>th</sup> grade band marches with the high school band. Students who choose not to march in the high school band should take band the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trimesters only. Because this is a performance-based class, students will be expected to practice their instrument at home and will need to have a means to transport it to and from school.

**JAZZ BAND** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/ELECTIVE/.5 PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: audition during 1<sup>st</sup> trimester (class takes place 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> trimesters)**

This is a select ensemble that performs a variety of jazz music (swing/bebop, Latin jazz, funk/rock, ballads, etc.). Instruction is given in jazz improvisation, scales, jazz style and technique, etc. Students in jazz band must also learn the concert band music and perform with the band at festivals and concerts. Attendance at performances is required. Because this is a performance-based class, students will be expected to practice their instrument at home and will need to have a means to transport it to and from school.

**GUITAR 101** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

This class is for the beginning guitar player. Each student will learn skills in reading music, beginning guitar technique, and basic chord strumming. This is a performance-based class, so students will be required to practice at home.

Therefore, each student must have a means to transport their instrument home after school. The guitar that students need to provide for this class may be either an acoustic (nylon or steel string) or an electric guitar but no amps will be used.

**GUITAR 201** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: successful completion of GUITAR 101**

This class is a continuation of Guitar 101. Students will continue building their skills in reading music, music theory, and guitar technique (both melodic playing and chord accompaniment). More advanced strumming techniques will be used (bass line and finger picking), as well as subdivided rhythms. This is a performance-based class, so students will be required to practice at home. Therefore, each student must have a means to transport their instrument home after school. The guitar that students need to provide for this class may be either an acoustic (nylon or steel string) or an electric guitar, but no amps will be used.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**GERMAN 101 & 102** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: as a 8<sup>th</sup> grader - “B” or better in a 7th grade Humanities class OR  
as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader - “C” or better in a 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts class**

Emphasis on understanding and speaking is augmented by reading and writing assignments. This course emphasizes the natural approach to language learning. The student will be exposed to different topics designed to learn the German language for communication.

**GERMAN 201 & 202** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: successful completion of German 101 & 102**

This course continues the natural approach in language learning that started in German 101. Emphasis on understanding and speaking is augmented by reading and writing assignments. Instruction insures that the student will be able to function in the German language.

**SPANISH 101 & 102** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: as a 8<sup>th</sup> grader - “B” or better in a 7th grade Humanities class OR  
as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader - “C” or better in a 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts class**

Spanish 101 focuses on comprehension, speaking and listening skills, supported by writing and reading. Students participate in a variety of activities to communicate on many topics including: friends, family, sports, leisure activities, food and shopping.

**SPANISH 201 & 202** (9<sup>TH</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: successful completion of Spanish 101 & 102**

Spanish 102 continues the focus of Spanish 101, adding new ways to utilize Spanish. New topics of communication including: chores, home activities, past events, outdoor recreation, city vocabulary, media and employment are introduced.

# **HEALTH AND FITNESS EDUCATION**

## **FITNESS CHOICES** (One class is required)

**In each of the following classes, students will be designing and following their own personal fitness plan aligned with the 5 components of fitness. Students will incorporate their plan into the fitness classes they take while attending West Valley Junior High.**

### **MAXIMUM TRAINING** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: P.E. teacher approval - signature required**

This course is a weight lifting and plyometric program for students. Students will be involved in weight training and will learn how to prevent injuries as well as explore innovative workouts/techniques.

### **CLUB FITNESS** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Health/Fitness**

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to work out in the Panther Fitness Center. Students will work on muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, and body composition. Students will work from their fitness plan created in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Health/Fitness.

### **AEROBICS/CROSS TRAINING** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

This is a non-competitive class that promotes a variety of physical fitness training techniques. The course will emphasize a daily aerobic workout, targeting heart rate zones. Tae-bo, jogging, speed walking, yoga, pilates, dance and use of the Panther Fitness Center are some of the training techniques that will be taught throughout the trimester.

### **LIFETIME SPORTS** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

This course is designed to develop a desire to remain active throughout the student's life. The objectives of the course are to encourage participation, develop knowledge of rules, strategies, and common courtesies of the sports. Golf, frisbee, bowling, tennis, pickleball, badminton, and archery may be taught throughout the trimester.

### **FIELD SPORTS** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

This course is designed towards successful skill development and team building in field sports. The objectives of the course are to encourage participation, develop knowledge of rules, strategies, and common courtesies of the sports. The field sports could be a combination of softball, soccer, hockey, football, and lacrosse.

### **COURT SPORTS** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ .5 CREDIT

This course is designed toward successful skill development and tournament play of court sports. The objectives of the course are to encourage participation, develop knowledge of rules, strategies, and common courtesies of the sports. The court sports could be a combination of tennis, volleyball, badminton, pickle ball and basketball.

**No court or field sports will be offered during the athletic school season in which it is played. Example: Football will not be offered during the fall trimester of P.E.**

## **FITNESS AND HEALTH FOR LIFE** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/.5 CREDIT

This class is designed to give each participant a complete total body workout. You will experience many different types of cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, and challenge your muscles with muscle endurance and strength. You will also gain knowledge about health related topics such as eating disorders, diseases, drugs, alcohol, human sexuality, STD's, etc. This class is 60% health information and 40% fitness information. After taking this class, you will walk away with the ability to keep your body healthy and fit for the rest of your life.

## **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

1 TRIMESTER/.5 CREDIT

**This class is required for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders.**

This class is designed to give each participant a complete TOTAL BODY workout. Students will experience many different types of aerobic exercise, challenge their muscles with weight training and gain knowledge about new health and fitness related topics through PowerPoint presentations, movies, textbooks and magazine articles. After taking this class, students will walk away with the knowledge of how to create their own fitness plan and the ability to keep their body healthy and fit for the rest of their life.

## **HISTORY**

### **U.S. HISTORY 8A/8B** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History study the United States from its colonial beginnings through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Specifically, 8A covers the time period beginning with Jamestown colony and ending with the Jefferson era. 8B takes up following the Jefferson era and continues through the Civil War and Reconstruction.

### **HONORS U.S. HISTORY 8A/8B** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: "B" or better in 7<sup>th</sup> grade humanities class.**

**Requirement:** WVJH 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors U.S. History includes an additional requirement above and beyond the classroom work in the regular U.S. History class. The class completes all the regular curriculum of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade U.S. History class; in addition students will complete an additional research project, which is a National History Day project, and participate in the National History Day regional competition.

### **PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORY** (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

Pacific Northwest History is a course designed to give students an overview of their region through the study of five main components of the social studies: Geography, History, Government, Economics, and Culture. The Pacific Northwest History curriculum is divided into five units according to those components. Students will also complete a Washington State Classroom Based Assessment (CBA).

### **HONORS PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORY** (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: "B" or better in most recently completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History course. In order to participate in National History Day, students are required to pay a nominal entry fee and obtain parental permission and teacher approval.**

**Requirement:** WVJH Honors Pacific Northwest History may substitute for the regular Pacific Northwest History class.

In addition to the above work the honors class includes an additional requirement above and beyond the classroom work in a regular PNW class. Honors students will complete the regular coursework plus an additional research project, which could be, but is not limited to, a National History Day project.

## **JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS.**

*These courses fulfill either an elective and/or Fitness credit*

### **JROTC 1** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 or 3 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

The JROTC course emphasizes leadership. This covers theory, drill and ceremony, hygiene, first aid, map reading, oral and written communication and marksmanship safety. The class emphasizes an appreciation for responsibility and personal integrity.

### **JROTC 2** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 or 3 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

The second year of JROTC keys on leadership through practical application. It is a continuation of the skills learned in JROTC 1 with development of stronger leadership roles and responsibilities.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 8A**

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

Language Arts 8A focuses on the basic skills needed to succeed in secondary Language Arts. Students will write an expository essay, WASL prompts, and responses to literature, personal essays, and poetry. Grammar is taught within the context of these pieces. The literature studied is drawn from a broad range of contemporary young adult fiction whose themes are mostly coming-of-age.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 8B**

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

Language Arts 8B continues to focus on reading and writing. MLA research skills are introduced, and students are required to complete an extensive research paper, as well as additional essays. Emphasis in grammar is on more complex sentence construction. Literature selections focus on fiction. Vocabulary is again studied within the context of student reading.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 101**

1 TRIMESTER/GRADUATION REQUIREMENT/9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE/.5 CREDIT

Language Arts 101 focuses on the study of Joseph Campbell's "Heroic Journey." Emphasis extends to the writing process, WASL preparation, grammar, SAT vocabulary, and Greek Mythology. Selections of literature include both classic and contemporary works.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS 102**

1 TRIMESTER/GRADUATION REQUIREMENT/9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE/.5 CREDIT

The fundamentals of speech are introduced in Language Arts 102. Students will research, write, and orally present their speeches. Emphasis continues to be placed on the writing process, WASL preparation, SAT vocabulary, grammar, spelling and poetry and its elements. Selections of literature include both classic and contemporary works.

### **HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS A & B** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED

**Prerequisites: Students must have a "B" in their humanities class and if they do not receive a "B" in the honors class they may be removed from the program.** Emphasis is placed on reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Lessons focus on the thoughtful analysis of literature, developing fluid and technically sound writing, and the use of MLA research skills. An expansive reading list, thought-provoking writing assignments, and upper-level class discussions are integral parts of daily classroom activities.

## **HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS A & B** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/GRADUATION REQUIREMENT AT 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE/.5 CREDITS PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisites: Students must have received an “B” and if they do not receive a “B” in the honors class they may be removed from the program..**

Emphasis is placed on reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills, which will prepare students for Challenge 10. Further emphasis is placed on the thoughtful analysis of literature, developing fluid and technically sound writing, and the use of MLA research skills. An expansive reading list, thought-provoking writing assignments, and upper-level class discussions are integral parts of daily classroom activities.

## **CREATIVE WRITING** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

The class will write short stories, fairy tales, children’s stories, character sketches and selected forms of poetry. Students will then discuss and create writings in their own style. They will further create and present a showcase portfolio of their writing.

## **SPORTS IN LITERATURE** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT

Explore the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat, and the drive to be the best one can be as depicted in contemporary literature about athletes. We will read fiction, short stories, poetry and at least one novel; and non-fiction: biography, autobiography, magazine articles, and commentaries and editorials. Students will research and discuss some of the controversial issues in athletics. Students will write about their athletic experiences and what they’ve learned from them.

## **YEARBOOK**

2 TRIMESTERS (FALL AND WINTER)/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: Yearbook Advisor approval**

Students on the Yearbook Staff produce the West Valley Junior High yearbook, Pantere. Students learn and use computer technology, specifically InDesign and Photoshop, to create yearbook layouts. Students also write stories, using correct journalistic style, and take pictures of school events and activities. Students learn deadline management skills and work in creative production teams. Students on the Yearbook Staff are encouraged to attend the Walsworth summer workshop as a part of the team. Students are responsible for a portion of the workshop fee. The ASB pays for a portion as well.

## **READING 9**

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**Note: Counseling Office will place into the class if you did not pass the reading WASL.**

The emphasis of this class will be improving reading comprehension and effectively applying reading strategies. The numbers for this reading class are smaller and allow for greater individual attention to your child’s reading needs. It is the goal of the class to better prepare your student to meet the Washington State Learning Requirements through a supportive educational learning environment High Point Success in Language Literature series will be used as the curriculum to achieve this objective.

# **MATHEMATICS**

## **CONNECTED MATH** - Math 8 A - B and C(8<sup>th</sup> grade)

3 TRIMESTERS /REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Connected Mathematics Project (CMP) is a continuation of the mathematics series from grades six and seven. CMP is an activity based, problem-solving approach that spirals math topics from earlier modules, including those introduced in CMP grades 6 and 7. CMP is an integrated, standards based program designed to emphasize and introduce concepts and skills to prepare students for high school and beyond.

### **AMME 101 & 102 - APPLIED MATH** (8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Applied Math is designed to teach students math in more of a real world fashion. For example, instead of textbooks there are daily worksheets which students will solve with a team. The team must discuss and solve problems together as they would in many business situations. Similar to science class, there are math labs where students are able to apply their math skills using hands-on activities. AMME 101 will cover fractions, decimals, percents, and dimensional analysis. AMME 102 will cover positive negative numbers, linear equations, and angles.

### **ALGEBRA** (8<sup>th</sup> honors and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

**Prerequisite: Placement exams, current math grade, and teacher recommendation for math placement**

The program is designed to build a foundation in linear, exponential and quadratic equations. Other topics include variables and expressions, proportions and percents, operations with polynomials, factoring, inequalities, rational and irrational numbers, data analysis and an emphasis on problem solving.

### **GEOMETRY** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade honors)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

This course emphasizes spatial perception and development of deductive and inductive reasoning. Topics include points, lines, planes and angles, parallel lines and planes, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals, similar polygons, right triangles, circles, constructions, areas, volumes, coordinate geometry and transformations.

## **SCIENCE**

### **CATASTROPHIC EVENTS** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding weather, storms, earthquakes, volcanoes, and rocks and minerals. Students will learn how many of these events are related to each other and what effect they have on everyday life.

### **ENERGY, MACHINES, AND MOTION** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding various types of energy, simple machines, and motion. Focusing on the flow of energy in a system, mechanical advantage of simple machines, and the relationship between velocity and acceleration.

### **BIOLOGY: CELLS** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding cells, cell division and genetics. Discusses how there are many different compartments that do different jobs in order to keep an internal balance (homeostasis). Also discusses how traits are passed on throughout generations. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will receive an Honors Biology designation on their transcripts if they successfully complete this class.

**\*\*Note: To fulfill this science requirement you may take Extreme Science instead of this course**

**BIOLOGY: CELLS HONORS** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Prerequisite: must have received a “B” or better in their last year of science classes.**

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding cells, cell division and genetics. Discusses how there are many different compartments that do different jobs in order to keep an internal balance (homeostasis). Also discusses how traits are passed on throughout generations. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will receive an Honors Biology designation on their transcripts if they successfully complete this class.

Fulfills Biology: Ecology requirement for graduation

**BIOLOGY: ECOLOGY** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding ecology and evolution. Discusses how all organisms change and adapt to their specific environment in order to pass their genes on to their offspring.

**\*\*Note: To fulfill this science requirement you may take Extreme Science instead of this course**

**BIOLOGY: ECOLOGY HONORS** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding evolution and ecology. Discusses how all organisms change and adapt to their specific environment in order to pass their genes on to their offspring. An Honors designation will be placed on their transcript if they successfully complete the class.

Fulfills Biology: Ecology requirement for graduation.

**HONORS MICROBIOLOGY** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Must have a “B” or better in Biology: Cells and Biology: Ecology**

An inquiry (hands-on) approach that will dive deeper into different Biological concepts. This class is meant for students that are either looking at going into a field in Biology or need the background for their college requirements. It will discuss bacteria, microscopic organisms, genetic analysis, forensics and some dissections.

**EXTREME SCIENCE** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/ 1 CREDIT

**NOTE: THIS COURSE REPLACES BIOLOGY CELLS AND BIOLOGY ECOLOGY IN A STUDENTS SCHEDULE AND WILL COUNT AS THE REQUIRED SCIENCES. REMEMBER ONCE BEGUN YOU MUST TAKE BOTH TRIMESTERS OF THE COURSE.**

An inquiry (hands-on) approach of all areas of science. This is utilizing the spiral method of teaching and incorporating biological concepts with geological and chemistry. This holistic approach to science is a new and improved method of teaching science.

**ACTIVE PHYSICS** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**Note: Assigned by the Counseling Office for those who need additional help in math and science .**

An inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding how math and science are integrated in the world of physics. This is an introductory class of the physical world and how objects interact. Energy is also a major concept in when objects are in motion.

**MATH/SCIENCE INTEGRATED** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

**Note: Assigned by the Counseling Office for those who need additional help in math and science.**

This course is an inquiry (hands-on) approach to understanding atomic theory, solutions, density and other characteristics of matter. Discusses how all things are made of matter and that matter has characteristics of matter. Discusses how all

things are made of matter and that matter has characteristic properties that can be used to identify different types of matter.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION - ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Students will improve their skills in the areas of grammar, writing, and spelling. The curriculum mirrors the general ed. curriculum as close as possible while meeting the needs of the I.E.P. students. Grammar, spelling, sentence and paragraph structure will be incorporated within the context of the writing assignments. Students will also read novels to improve their literary skills.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION - READING** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Reading instruction will be provided on an individual basis according to the goals and objectives of the student's I.E.P. This may be facilitated through a standard reading program, the textbooks from the content areas of the general ed. curriculum, or supplemental materials chosen by the teacher to meet the students' needs.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION - STUDY SKILLS** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Study skill students will learn note taking, dictionary, and outlining skills. They will be given academic support for other classes, when necessary. Some students will participate in cooperative study groups.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION - MATH** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)\*

2 OR 3 TRIMESTERS/REQUIRED/.5 CREDIT PER TRIMESTER

Students will work on basic skills in whole numbers, fractions, decimal numbers, and signed (positive and negative) numbers. Units will also include percents, geometry, pre-algebra, and consumer mathematics.

**\*Note: This course will not satisfy Math requirements for high school graduation.**

## **STUDENT ASSISTANT REQUIREMENTS**

G.P.A. – 2.50 OR ABOVE

ONE TRIMESTER ONLY & GOOD ATTENDANCE

### **CAFETERIA ASSISTANT** (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT / GRADE is "S" OR "U"

Students will work one period a day in the kitchen under the direction of the cooks serving food to the public following state health and safety practices, and working with other students and adults to accomplish specific tasks. (I.e. food preparation and operation of commercial equipment)

### **COUNSELING OFFICE ASSISTANT** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Prerequisite: signature from counseling office staff**

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT / GRADE is "S" OR "U"

Students will work in the counseling office providing support and clerical assistance for staff and counselor. The aide will greet students and visitors, answer the telephone, deliver messages, run errands and complete varied clerical responsibilities.

### **MAIN OFFICE ASSISTANT** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Prerequisite: signature from attendance secretary**

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT / GRADE IS "S" OR "U"

Students will work in the main office providing support and clerical assistance for office staff. Office assistants will greet students and visitors, deliver messages, run errands, answer the telephone and complete clerical responsibilities.

### **MEDIA CENTER ASSISTANT** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Prerequisite:** signature from Librarian

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT / A LETTER GRADE or “S” OR “U” IS EARNED

The student will assist the librarian to help better serve the school. The student will gain knowledge of literature to recommend books to fellow students, help with the circulation of materials, and maintain an assigned section of the library, including books, magazines and computers. Students may opt to be a media center assistant even though they were a TA in an office or for a teacher. With this option the student must earn a letter grade.

### **TEACHER ASSISTANT** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Prerequisite:** signature of teacher you want to assist

1 TRIMESTER / ELECTIVE / .5 CREDIT / GRADE IS “S” OR “U”

Individual teachers seek responsible students to assist them in a variety of tasks.

### **TOOL ROOM SUPERVISOR (TA)** (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Prerequisite:** previous successful completion of a Wood/Manufacturing/Construction Tech course and signature from Mr. Walker. (Manufacturing/Construction Tech Teacher)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT/GRADE IS “S” OR “U”

The student will assist the teacher to help better serve Technology students. The student will gain knowledge of tools and equipment that are in the shop and the maintenance of those tools and equipment. The main responsibility of the student is the checking in/out of shop tools to students in Manufacturing Tech and Construction Tech classes. Other duties will include inventory of tools and consumable products, small building projects will also be assigned.

## **GENERAL ELECTIVES**

### **TEEN SURVIVAL** (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

1 TRIMESTER/ELECTIVE/.5 CREDIT

Formerly named Healthy Choices, cooking, social and family relations, and sewing are all apart of this Family and Consumer Sciences class. One cooking activity a week is planned. Students will learn how to prepare snacks, cookies, blender drinks, pasta, quick and yeast breads, and complete meals. An individually selected kit will be the basis of the sewing unit. Teen Survival will teach stress and anger management, refusal, coping and relationship skills, bullying, teen suicide, and child care. Safety and nutritional information will accompany labs. A user fee will be applied.

**ACE:** The ACE program is a credit retrieval class specifically designed for students who have previously failed to meet standards in one or more core classes. This class provides the opportunity to complete comparable course work and earn credit(s) toward high school graduation. Core classes currently include Math, Language Arts, Biology, Physical Science and Pacific Northwest History.

**Note:** This class is assigned by the counseling office only.