



***2015-2016***

**COURSE GUIDE**

***GRADES 6 - 8***

**Mesa View Middle School**

A DEDICATED "STEM" ACADEMY FOR GRADES 6-8

*"Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow"*

800 Mustang Way, Calimesa, CA 92320  
MAIN: (909) 790-8008 • FAX: (909) 795-6810  
Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District  
<http://ycjUSD.mesaview.schoolfusion.us>

*Jim Stolze, Principal  
Trent Lacey, Assistant Principal*

# ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR YCJUSD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND UC/CSU & NCAA COLLEGE ADMISSION

ACADEMIC AREA	HIGH SCHOOL 225 Credits	UC & CSU A-G Requirements		NCAA Division 1 Requirements
ENGLISH	4 Years / 40 Credits	4 Years		4 Years
MATH	3 Years / 30 Credits <i>Grades 9-12 to include Math 1, Math 2, and math elective(s)</i>	4+ Years Recommended <i>Including Math 1, Math 2, Math 3.</i>		3 Years <i>Math 1 or higher in grades 9-12</i>
SOCIAL STUDIES	3.0 Years / 30 Credits <i>Modern World History, U.S. History, American Government/Economics</i>	1 Year U.S. History 1 Year MW History		1 Year U.S. History 1 Year MW History
SCIENCE	2 Years / 20 Credits <i>Physical Science Biological Science</i>	3 Years Recommended <i>Including Biology and Chemistry or Physics</i>		2 Years <i>Physical Science, Biology, or Bio/Chemistry</i>
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	1 Year / 10 Credits	2 Years <i>Same foreign language, three years recommended</i>		--
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS		1 Year		--
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	2 Years / 20 Credits of P.E.	--		--
CORES	--	--		1 additional year <i>English, math, or science</i>
ELECTIVES	75 Credits	1 Year <i>College Prep Electives</i>		4 years <i>from any area above</i>
TESTING <i>Passage required to earn a YCJUSD diploma</i>	Proficiency Tests: CAHSEE (Calif. High School Exit Exam) CAHSEE Tests in Writing, English, & Math	<b>UC:</b> SAT or ACT SAT Subject	<b>CSU:</b> SAT or ACT	--

# MESA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

courses of study • 2015-2016

## SIXTH GRADE

The following are course descriptions for the required sixth grade classes. All sixth grade students will be enrolled in five core classes including English/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education. These courses are one year in length, and they meet daily, except for Physical Education, which meets twice per week. Students will also participate in an “elective wheel” of four elective classes, which meet for approximately nine weeks each, three times a week.

### **ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS 6**

In English/Language Arts 6, teachers focus on grammar, writing, reading, and literature. At Mesa View, this course encompasses two periods per day, with one period devoted to reading comprehension and fluency. In the reading period, students are grouped by ability and provided targeted instruction that best matches their needs. The course includes opportunities for students to read, enjoy, discuss, and respond to literature in all of its forms (short stories, poetry, drama, exposition, narration, description, etc.), with an emphasis on informational materials that connect with the social studies curriculum. A literature anthology is used along with selected core literature books and a textbook emphasizing writing. The content reflects the California Framework and the Common Core State Standards in English and Writing.

### **MATH 6**

In Math 6, students will work with whole numbers, positive fractions, positive decimals, and positive and negative integers. They will accurately compute and solve problems. They will apply their knowledge to statistics and probability. Students will learn the concepts of mean, median, and mode of data sets and how to calculate the range. They will analyze data. Students will work with ratios and proportions. Students know about  $\pi$  and the formulas for the circumference and area of a circle. They will use letters for numbers in formulas involving geometric shapes and in ratios to represent an unknown part of an expression. They will solve one-step linear equations. The content reflects the California Framework and the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Sixth graders who show an advanced aptitude for mathematics as seen in their: (1) state test scores, (2) grades, (3) performance on district assessments, and (4) overall performance in class may be offered an opportunity to take Math 7 instead of Math 6. This opportunity is typically reserved for the top 5% of math students who have proven that they are ready to accelerate beyond Math 6 (because they have already demonstrated mastery of the sixth grade math standards).

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6**

Meeting twice per week, students will participate in a comprehensive Physical Education program designed to introduce students to a variety of lifelong athletics. Students will learn team and individual sports, dance, and health education. Content reflects the State of California Framework. Teachers will assess student mastery of skills through comprehensive scoring guides. A formal assessment will be given each quarter.

### **SCIENCE 6**

Science 6 is an integrated course that focuses on the basic concepts of Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science. Topics include: Matter and its Interactions, Motion & Stability, Energy & Waves, Molecules & Organisms, Ecosystems, Heredity & Biological Evolution, Earth & Space, and Engineering Design. These Next Generation Science Standards focus on developing scientifically literate students who are able to ask questions, define problems, investigate, analyze data, and design solutions. Engineering practices are included to prepare students for a broad understanding of concepts and deeper levels of scientific and engineering investigation. STEM activities and challenges are scheduled throughout the year emphasizing science standards. Participation in the school-wide Science Fair is required of all students at Mesa View.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES 6**

Students in Social Studies 6 expand their understanding of history by studying the people, events, and geography associated with the major ancient civilizations. This includes the study of the Paleolithic Era, the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush, a study of the Ancient Hebrews, as well as the early civilizations of Greece, India, China, and Rome. Emphasis is placed on the everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of people, their role in developing social, economic, and political structures, as well as in establishing and spreading ideas that helped transform the world. Students will develop higher levels of critical thinking by considering why civilizations developed where and when they did, why they became dominant, and why they declined. Students will analyze the interactions and contributions among the various cultures. Content reflects the California Framework and the State Standards in History/Social Science.

# MESA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

courses of study • 2015-2016

## SIXTH GRADE ELECTIVES

*The following courses are approximately nine-week-long electives that make up the sixth grade “elective wheel.” Students will meet in these classes three times a week. Students will rotate as a class among the “wheel’s” four electives so that, by the end of the year, students have taken four courses. There are TWO elective wheels: (1) Art, Tech, STEM, and Music and (2) Art, Tech, STEM, and Robotics. Students participate in one of the two wheels as a package.*

### **ART 6**

In this course, students will learn the foundations of shading, sketching, linear perspective, and identifying the elements of art: color, shape/form, line, texture, space, and value. If time permits, students will explore paper modeling. Students will study a variety of different art mediums.

### **TECHNOLOGY 6**

This course is designed to introduce a variety of technology productivity tools and skills that will be necessary for success in school and in the workplace. Students will be given instruction in basic keyboarding and will practice this throughout the course. Students will learn to access their grades through the Aeries Portal, and will be introduced to using Microsoft Office 365 to access email and learn to save documents. Students will be introduced to the productivity tools of Word, PowerPoint, and Excel (in Office 365 and on the desktop) through a number of activities. Students will learn to create documents and use research tools. In addition, students will have an introduction to coding (computer programming) using Logo or Scratch. Finally, the course will introduce the ethical and safe use of technology. The curriculum for this piece will come from [Common Sense Media](#), using their sixth grade “Digital Citizenship” units on Safe Online Talk and Scams & Schemes.

### **MUSIC 6**

Music 6 is designed to act as: (1) an introduction to music, both choral and instrumental, and (2) a general introduction to the world of music. During the quarter, students will be taught basic rhythm as well as basic instrumental and vocal techniques. Students will learn to read and write basic rhythms and will develop an appreciation for music as a form of expression. Students will learn to identify basic forms and styles of music. All students will prepare for and participate in an end-of-the-quarter after school musical performance.

### **ROBOTICS**

This course explores the fusion of computer science with mechanical applications. The basics of mechanical design are introduced through building simple components. The uses and application of robots in modern society are discussed as career options. The engineering concept “form follows function” is presented together with the idea of simple machines combining to create compound machines in working models. Students work with the LEGO Mindstorms NXT robot platform to learn how programming complements mechanical design, creating robots that complete predetermined tasks. Students will apply basic coding practices like the loop and the switch to master simple programming tasks and move on to more challenging problems reminiscent of First Lego League world class competitions.

### **STEM 6**

This course offers sixth grade students an opportunity to sample a variety of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) activities. The class combines problem-based research with project-based learning strategies. Students will explore Civil Engineering by using physics and math skills to build bridges of various materials and solve problems involving mass vs. force and load. Computer research is utilized to deepen student understanding of the body’s five senses and the relationships to the brain. Through a series of biomedical labs and investigations, students will discover more about how they perceive the world. They will have the opportunity to see a sheep brain dissection and be tested on their knowledge of the brain itself. Students explore and learn about technology of the future as they are introduced to MagLev, magnetic levitation. Students will discover the various types of magnetism and be challenged to design, build, and race their own magnetically levitating vehicles, powered both by wind and electricity. The introduction of innovative tools, such as hot wire foam cutters and soldering irons, will give students an authentic, hands-on learning experience.

# MESA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

courses of study • 2015-2016

## SEVENTH GRADE

*The following are course descriptions for the required seventh grade classes. All seventh grade students will be enrolled in five core classes including English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education. Students will then choose or be assigned one elective class. All courses are one year in length, and they meet daily.*

### **ENGLISH 7**

In English 7, teachers follow a standards-based program in which they focus on writing and literature. The course includes opportunities for students to read, enjoy, discuss, and respond to literature in all of its forms (short stories, poetry, drama, exposition, narration, description, etc.). A literature anthology is used along with selected core literature books. Content will reflect current research, the State of California Framework, and the Common Core State Standards in English and Writing. Assessments will be given throughout the year, plus there will be two formal writing assessments.

### **MATHEMATICS**

#### **MATH 7**

In Math 7, students will develop fluency in foundational skills, a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts, and the ability to use mathematical reasoning to solve real-world application problems. The curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics.

-- OR --

#### **MATH 8**

**SEVENTH GRADERS ARE SELECTED FOR THIS COURSE BASED UPON THEIR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF MATH 7 IN SIXTH GRADE.**

Math 8 is a rigorous study of mathematics aligned to the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics for eighth graders. The course is designed to help students build a strong foundation for further study of Algebra and geometry in high school-level Math 1. Students will study the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7**

Students will participate in a comprehensive Physical Education program designed to introduce students to a variety of lifelong athletics. Students will learn team and individual sports, dance, and health education. Content reflects the State of California Framework. Teachers will assess student mastery of skills through comprehensive scoring guides. A formal assessment will be given each quarter. Students will also participate in statewide Physical Education testing.

### **SCIENCE 7**

Science 7 is an integrated course that builds on the concepts of Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science learned in Science 6. Topics include: Matter and its Interactions, Motion & Stability, Energy & Waves, Molecules & Organisms, Ecosystems, Heredity & Biological Evolution, Earth & Space, and Engineering Design. These Next Generation Science Standards focus on developing scientifically literate students who are able to ask questions, define problems, investigate, analyze data, and design solutions. Engineering practices are included to prepare students for a broad understanding of concepts and deeper levels of scientific and engineering investigation. STEM activities and challenges are scheduled throughout the year. Participation in the school-wide Science Fair is required of all students at Mesa View.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES 7**

This seventh grade course of study introduces the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures from the Fall of the Roman Empire to The Age of the Enlightenment. Students will concentrate on the critical historical events that took place as the world transitioned from the Ancient to the Medieval Periods in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Curriculum includes materials from "History Alive!" and district-adopted textbooks. Content reflects the State of California Framework and the State Standards in History/Social Science. Students will complete an argumentative essay (and other writings tasks) and be assessed using a rubric. A formal assessment will be given each quarter.

# MESA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

courses of study • 2015-2016

## EIGHTH GRADE

*The following are course descriptions for the required eighth grade classes. All eighth grade students will be enrolled in five core classes including English, Mathematics, Science, U.S. History, and Physical Education. Students will then choose or be assigned one elective class. All courses are one year in length, and they meet daily.*

### **ENGLISH 8**

In English 8, teachers focus on writing and literature. The course includes opportunities for students to read, discuss, and respond to literature in all forms (short stories, poetry, drama, exposition, and narration). A literature anthology is the primary text. Content reflects the State of California Framework and the Common Core State Standards in English and Writing Standards. Assessments will be given four times during the year, plus there will be two writing assessments.

### **MATHEMATICS**

#### **MATH 8**

Math 8 is a rigorous study of mathematics aligned to the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics for eighth graders. The course is designed to help students build a strong foundation for further study of Algebra and geometry in high school-level Math 1. Students will study the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability.

-- OR --

#### **MATH 1H**

**EIGHTH GRADERS ARE SELECTED FOR THIS COURSE BASED UPON THEIR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF MATH 8 IN SEVENTH GRADE.**

Math 1H extends skills learned in earlier courses. Concepts include Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. The focus is on linear and exponential expressions and functions as well as work with absolute value. Instruction focuses on six areas: (1) extend understanding of numerical manipulation to algebraic manipulation; (2) synthesize understanding of functions; (3) extend understanding of linear relationships; (4) apply models to data showing a linear trend; (5) establish criteria for congruence based on rigid motions; and (6) apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane. **Failure to earn a “C” or better will require a student to re-take the course. Students who pass Math 1 in middle school still need to pass three math courses at Yucaipa High.**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8**

Students will participate in a comprehensive Physical Education program designed to introduce students to a variety of lifelong athletics. Students will learn team and individual sports, dance, and health education. Content reflects the State of California Framework. Teachers will assess student mastery of skills through comprehensive scoring guides. A formal assessment will be given each quarter. Students will also participate in statewide Physical Education testing.

### **SCIENCE 8**

Science 8 is an integrated course that focuses on deepening the understanding of the concepts of Earth Science, Life Science, and Physical Science learned in Science 7. Topics include: Matter and its Interactions, Motion & Stability, Energy & Waves, Molecules & Organisms, Ecosystems, Heredity & Biological Evolution, Earth & Space, and Engineering Design. These Next Generation Science Standard focus on developing scientifically literate students who are able to ask questions, define problems, investigate, analyze data, and design solutions. Engineering practices are included to prepare students for a broad understanding of concepts and deep levels of scientific investigation. STEM activities and challenges are scheduled throughout the year. Participation in the school-wide Science Fair is required of all students at Mesa View.

### **UNITED STATES HISTORY 8**

This course begins with a review of the major ideas and events preceding the founding of the U.S. Students will concentrate on the critical historical events from the framing of the Constitution to World War I, with a special emphasis on Westward Expansion and the Civil War. Curriculum includes materials from “History Alive!” and district-adopted textbooks. Content reflects the State of California Framework and the State Standards in History/Social Science. Students will complete an argumentative essay (and other writings tasks) and be assessed using a rubric. A formal assessment will be given each quarter.

**MESA VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
courses of study • 2015-2016  
**SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVES**

---

*The following courses are yearlong electives that are subject to prerequisites and availability. Some are open to eighth graders only. **Student selection will determine which classes are offered. Not all of these electives will be available.***

**ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID) 7/8**

**Prerequisite:** Application and formal interview. Participating students must sign a contract and demonstrate model behavior as they are expected to be responsible role models for other students.

The AVID program is designed to prepare students for college and make college prep courses accessible to students. AVID is an academic elective program based on writing as a tool of learning, the inquiry method, collaborative grouping, and extensive reading. The three main components of the program are: academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities. AVID-focused enrichment activities are provided throughout the year.

**ART 7/8**

This course is a comprehensive visual arts class focusing on a balanced view of the world of art. The content provides a foundation in sketching, painting, sculpture, ceramics, linear perspective, lettering, critiquing, and writing. Students will study famous artists and art movements. Many assignments will challenge students to develop their personal creativity and improve drawing and painting skills. Students may use a variety of mediums, including watercolor, tempera paint, clay, pencil, colored pencil, and pastels. Students will need to provide basic tools on a regular basis, such as pencils, erasers, and a colored pencil set. Class work not completed within the allotted class time becomes homework. **Students who took this course in seventh grade may not take it again and need to select a different elective.**

**CERAMICS & 3D DESIGN 7/8**

**Prerequisite:** It is recommended that interested students have completed Art or a similar course. Students who completed Art 6 (but not Art) may take this course upon recommendation from the instructor.

This course covers the fundamentals of ceramics, which includes pottery, decorative plaques, and sculpting in clay. Students may learn how to use the potter's wheel. There will also be opportunities to work with other three-dimensional design using wood, paper modeling, papier-mâché, and plaster of Paris. Dioramas will be explored in this class. Students will study different cultures that have incorporated pottery into their lives such as the Hopi and Navajo tribes. There will be two-dimensional work such as sketching and painting. The school will provide the basic supplies such as clay, acrylic paints, glazes, and color under glaze. Students will need to provide their own pencils, erasers, a colored pencil set, and a lidded, plastic container to store tools. Students will work with sharp instruments occasionally and therefore must sign a "Sharp Instruments Permission Form." Class work not completed within the allotted class time becomes homework.

**CONCERT CHOIR 7/8**

This course is open to students with an interest in music that would like to learn and develop vocal technique. The course will focus on improving the individual and ensemble singing abilities of students through vocal exercises, solos, small ensemble pieces, and full choral pieces ranging from one to three parts. The students will also be expected to learn musical notation and basic keyboard skills in order to further develop their vocal skills. This ensemble will perform at various concerts periodically throughout the school year, which are a required part of the course and for a grade.

**BEGINNING BAND 7/8**

This course is open to students with an interest in music that would like to learn or continue to play a musical instrument. Basic musicianship is studied, and students will acquire technical competency of their instrument. Cultural awareness is developed through exploring different styles of music. Students will perform at winter and spring concerts, and other special events, which are a required part of the course and for a grade. Students may also travel to participate in festivals and community events. The successful completion of Beginning Band and recommendation by the instructor are prerequisites for continuing onto Intermediate Band.

**INTERMEDIATE BAND 7/8**

This course is open to students who already demonstrate basic competency on their instrument. Students are eligible after completing a year of Beginning Band or by recommendation by their instructor. Students will perform at winter and spring concerts, and other special events, which are a required part of the course and for a grade. Students may also

travel to participate in festivals and community events. The successful completion of Intermediate Band and recommendation by the instructor are prerequisites for continuing onto Advanced/Symphonic Band.

### **ADVANCED/SYMPHONIC BAND 7/8**

**Prerequisite:** Students must successfully complete Beginning/Intermediate Band and/or receive a recommendation by their instructor in order to continue into Advanced/Symphonic Band.

This course is open to student musicians who would like to continue to play an instrument. Basic musicianship is studied while students acquire technical competency of their instrument. Cultural awareness is developed through exploring different styles of music. Students will perform at winter and spring concerts, and other special events, which are a required part of the course and for a grade. Students may also travel to participate in festivals and community events.

### **STEM: ADVANCED DESIGN 7/8**

This course offers qualified students opportunities to enhance their knowledge of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) through various design and problem-solving disciplines. Students will participate in teams on creative problem-solving activities based upon former Destination Imagination challenges and STEM-centered design challenges, all with an emphasis on the design process and teamwork. The mathematical, technological, and science components will provide students with in-depth investigations into real-world applications and problems. These will include explorations in architectural design and drafting, engineering principles, rocketry, geographical informational systems (GIS), systems design, and computing.

### **STEM: APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 7/8**

**Prerequisites:** Participating students must be self-motivated with an interest in expanding their knowledge and application of mathematics, science, and technology. Students should have an interest in math, science, and engineering

This course offers students interested in math and science an opportunity to explore skills and careers in science and technology and apply their knowledge to simulated experiences and engineering projects. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) course is a “Gateway to Technology” class that connects with other “Project Lead the Way” courses available at Yucaipa High School. This course will focus on project-based learning activities such as AutoCAD (computer-aided design) model building, circuits, applied physics, forensic science, laboratory testing, robotics, and the use of technology in information gathering and life simulations. Connections between theory and practice will be emphasized as students explore new technologies.

### **DIGITAL LITERACY 7/8**

This course will provide students further depth with technology tools that can lead to success in school and the workplace. Students will be given thorough instruction in keyboarding skills and will practice all year. Students will acquire skills in both the cloud versions and the desktop versions of Microsoft Office and Office 365 (word processing, PowerPoints, spreadsheets, and desktop publishing). Students will learn to use the Internet ethically, and efficiently. This element of the course will emphasize the ethical and safe use of technology, including the Internet, social media, and copyrights. The curriculum for this piece will come from [Common Sense Media](#), using their “Digital Citizenship” units on Internet Safety, Privacy & Security, and Creative Credit and Copyright. Additional areas of focus will include manipulation of computer graphics (Photoshop), and a continuation of computer coding (computer programming) using Logo and/or Scratch. This is a laboratory class where students will be required to complete a variety of in-class projects within established deadlines.

### **DIGITAL MEDIA 8**

**Prerequisites:** This is an eighth grade only course. Participating students must sign a contract and demonstrate model behavior as they are expected to be responsible role models for other students. **Enrollment is limited.**

Students will be given instruction in a variety of presentation tools. This will include writing, creating, and manipulating images, designing documents and graphics, and creating photographic, audio, and visual media. Students will be involved in weekly productions of podcasts, video productions, and a campus newsletter. Some assignments will occasionally involve working after school, in the evening, or on a weekend. Students accepted for the Digital Media class must be self-starters, independent thinkers and comfortable with constructive criticism.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL 7/8**

**Prerequisites:** Application and advisor approval is necessary for course consideration. Participating students must sign a contract and demonstrate model behavior as they are expected to be role models for others. **Enrollment is limited.**



Associated Student Body (ASB) officers and students interested in student government will learn leadership, organizational, and social skills. Students will plan and organize many activities on campus. They will also learn parliamentary procedures and Robert's Rules of Order. Formal meetings will be held weekly. This course requires responsibility and commitment. Some assignments may require time outside of class, after school, and at lunch.

### **LEADERSHIP (STAGECRAFT) 7/8**

Students in this leadership class learn public speaking as well as the basics of film and stage (including costume and prop making). Students will prepare and act out skits meant to show other students how to make the most out of the middle school experience. Topics will include anti-bullying, building friendships, communicating effectively with adults, dealing with social media, and other themes. Students will also study famous speeches, films, and stage productions. The business and career options in stagecraft are also studied. Presentations are an important part of this class.

### **YEARBOOK 7/8**

**Prerequisites:** *Application and advisor approval is necessary for course consideration. Participating students must sign a contract and demonstrate model behavior as they are expected to be role models for others. Enrollment is limited.*

Yearbook requires responsible, assertive, professional, and well-organized students to create the school yearbook. Students design page layouts, plan photo opportunities, take photos, write copy for page deadlines, and complete multiple assignments during the year. Students must be willing to commit some time during lunches and after school. Students should have self-direction, successful independent and group work habits, good verbal communication skills, above average writing skills, intermediate to advanced keyboarding skills, and above average photography skills.

---

## **SUPPORT/INTERVENTION COURSES**

*A regular education student may be automatically placed in a support class if he or she shows a need for assistance in English or math. This is to help students meet the standards necessary to pass the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), which is required in order to receive a high school diploma. Students are selected by administration for enrollment in these classes.*

### **LITERACY SUPPORT 7/8**

This course is designed to help students improve their reading ability by placing them with a teacher who has special training. The goal is the development of the reading and thinking skills that enable students to comprehend connected text. The "Read 180" Reading Program offers special small group instruction. Students are immersed in stories through the use of reciprocal teaching. Students are asked to summarize, question, clarify, and predict with teacher support.

### **LITERACY SUPPORT FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLs) 7/8**

This course is designed to help English Language Learners improve their reading ability by placing them with a teacher who has special training in language acquisition. The goal is the development of the reading and thinking skills that enable students to better comprehend text written in English. Students are asked to summarize, question, clarify, and predict with the support of the teacher and an ELL tutor.

### **STUDY SKILLS 7/8**

This course trains students to successfully use a mix of strategies and techniques that will help them in middle school and high school. Strategies include organization, taking notes, studying for tests, reviewing and checking homework, finding and using evidence in various types of text, communicating with teachers, positive class participation, and more. Students will have opportunities to work on these strategies while also working on assignments from other classes.

### **STUDY SKILLS – MATH 7/8**

**Prerequisites:** *This course is only open to seventh and eighth graders concurrently enrolled in Math 7 or Math 8 respectively.*

This course trains students to successfully use a mix of strategies and techniques that will help them in their Math 7 or Math 8 course. Strategies include organization, taking notes, studying for tests, reviewing and checking homework, reinforcing basic math skills, communicating with teachers, positive class participation, and more. Students will have opportunities to work on these math skills and strategies while also working on assignments from their math class.