2014-2015

Junior High School Curriculum Guide

Lebanon Junior High School
160 Miller Road
Lebanon, OH 45036

Approved by Lebanon City Schools Board of Education, February 2014
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**From the Guidance Department**

Lebanon Junior High is committed to preparing our students for the future. The Junior High will be a positive climate for young adolescents by providing and promoting a shared vision and high expectations for each child. Through more flexible organizational structures and varied teaching strategies, the Junior High will offer access to curriculum that is challenging, integrative, and exploratory.

The goal of the Junior High is to prepare all of our students for academic, social, civic, and career needs of the twenty-first century. This will be accomplished by providing programs that emphasize the lifelong skills necessary to continue learning and communicate clearly which will contribute to the useful and productive lives of its students.

It is our hope that this Curriculum Guide will provide you with the information that will help you and your child plan for the next school year. Please review this carefully before making your class selections. We are bringing to you a variety of elective offerings that we feel will help give each student a well-rounded education. As our school district continues to grow, we continue to refine our methods of educating your child to meet tomorrow’s challenges.

The master schedule, to a large degree, is built from student requests on their registration forms. We work hard to give each student his/her top choices for electives as well as schedule his/her core content classes with one team of teachers. We feel that this is the best transition for the students between their junior high and high school years. With all of this information, schedule changes become most difficult once the school year starts, so please consider your selections carefully.

We look forward to a successful year,

Julie Clendenen      Andrew King      Danielle Collins  
Counselor         Counselor         Guidance Secretary  
Last Names A-K   Last Names L-Z    
934-5307          934-5308          934-5304
General Information

SCHEDULES

Information regarding pickup of next year’s schedules will be made available in the spring. Schedules will not be available until the week school starts in August and will also be available the evening before school begins at our “Warrior Welcome” night.

All junior high school students will take four core academic classes – English Language Arts, math, science, and social studies. English Language Arts classes are divided into 2 bells, reading and writing, with the content of these two courses being vastly integrated. In addition, students will take two more class periods of elective classes. If a student is having difficulty in Reading or Math, an intervention bell may be assigned. One study hall may be taken each semester in place of one elective class.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Careful course planning on the part of the student and parent with your teachers and counselor should keep the number of students who wish to drop/add a course at a minimum. The master schedule is built after course registration in February. In almost all cases, the registered courses are final due to classes being full. Classes are scheduled upon availability and class sizes. We cannot honor requests to have a particular teacher. No course change requests (adding or dropping a course) will be considered after the first 10 days of each of each semester. Course request changes cannot result in more than one study hall per semester.

GRADING SYSTEM

Grades earned at LJHS are based on the letter system using the following percentage scale:

- A: 90 – 100 Superior Work
- B: 80 – 89 Above Average Work
- C: 70 – 79 Average Work
- D: 60 – 69 Below Average Work
- F: 0 – 59 Failing Work

Each subject may use a variety of methods to arrive at the grade percentage or letter grade.

EDLINE

This online system allows school staff, parents and students the opportunity to view grades and classroom work through the school’s website. Lebanon Junior High School is also using this system as a method to communicate with parents and our community for a wide variety of current and future topics. Please access this system by logging on to our school website: www.lebanon.k12.oh.us then click on Our Schools, Junior High School, then to the various links that are listed. Parents and students both are issued passwords through the students’ first period class to view a student’s specific classes and grades. Please contact the main office at 934-5300 if this information is lost.

MID-TERM REPORTS

Mid-way through each grading period, during the fifth week of each nine weeks, a mid-term report will be given to each student. An approximate grade will be given for each subject. Parents are encouraged to ask their children for these as indicated on the school calendar.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards are given out every nine (9) weeks to notify parents of a student’s progress. The report cards are distributed to students approximately one week after the grading period ends. At the conclusion of the second, third, and fourth quarters, report cards will not be issued to those students who have not paid their fees. Parents and students should check to see if all report card information is correct. If any information is not correct, the student should see his/her counselor immediately.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Lebanon City School’s graduation requirements meet the standards set by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the Ohio State Department of Education. The following minimum state and local credits must be met to graduate from Lebanon High School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2014 and Beyond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (to include Algebra II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science (Physical Science 1 cr. &amp; Biology 1 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies (Am. History 1 cr. &amp; Am. Gov’t .5 cr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health..........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts ........................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer-based Course...............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics or Finance ...............</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Core Courses or Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total..................................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Many of these can be obtained at LJHS.

These are MINIMUM requirements for graduation. Students are encouraged to earn more credits as their interests and abilities dictate.

JUNIOR HIGH COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

Some courses in the 7th and 8th grade will be taken for high school credit. Class credit is awarded on a semester basis like it is at Lebanon High School. Classes that earn high school credit are as follows:

- Band I (full year, 1.0 credit)  
- Band II (full year, 1.0 credit)  
- Choir I (full year, 1.0 credit)  
- Choir II (full year, 1.0 credit)  
- Art 7 (semester, .5 credit)  
- Art 8 (semester, .5 credit)  
- Office Applications I (semester, .5 credit)  
- Office Applications II (semester, .5 credit)  
- Health (semester, .5 credit)  
- Spanish I (full year, 1 credit)  
- Algebra I (full year, 1 credit)  
- Algebra IA (full year, 1 credit)  

A student will receive credit for the above classes if they complete the semester with a D average or higher. The credit will become a part of the student’s high school transcript, but the grade will not be calculated into their high school Cumulative GPA. A student who earns a grade of “C” or below may be encouraged to repeat the same course at the high school, if offered. Any course taken in Junior High, if repeated during the regular school day in high school, must be repeated during the 9th grade year. If a student chooses to repeat a course during the regular school day for which credit has been earned, the higher grade shall replace the lower grade on the student’s transcript, but additional credit shall not be granted. Credit for a course may only be earned one time.

• Physical Education and Study Hall are offered at the junior high but do NOT receive high school credit.

Core Courses for Seventh Grade

Seventh grade students take the following core courses:

- English Language Arts (Reading 7 & Writing 7)
- Math (Pre-Algebra A or Pre-Algebra B)
- Science 7
- Social Studies

English Language Arts (Reading 7 & Writing 7)

Language Arts for the seventh grade include reading, English, syntax, and vocabulary. Students develop and learn to apply strategies that help them to comprehend and interpret informational and literary texts. Students acquire vocabulary through exposure to language-rich situations, such as reading books, poetry, drama, and multi-media sources. Students will display
college and career readiness through oral presentation, reading for understanding, and written expression. Students’ writing develops as they regularly engage in the major phases of the writing process. Students learn to apply their writing for different purposes and opportunities for practice: root word study, narrative, informational, and persuasive. Writing conventions include spelling, punctuation, grammar, and other conventions associated with forms of written text.

**Pre-Algebra A**
Pre-Algebra A is a year-long seventh grade mathematics course fully aligned to the topics and rigor of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. Pre-Algebra A is designed for students who do not meet the Pre-Algebra B requirements. Pre-algebra and geometry concepts are emphasized, along with problem-solving skills. Topics covered include fractions, decimals, number theory, ratio, proportion, percent, percent applications, geometry, integers, algebra, probability, and statistics. Most students will be placed in Algebra IA from this class.

**Pre-Algebra B**
Pre-Algebra B is a year-long seventh grade mathematics course fully aligned to the topics and rigor of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. Emphasis is placed on the development of algebraic concepts, along with problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Topics are covered in more depth and at a faster pace than in Pre-Algebra A. Topics covered include fractions, decimals, number theory, ratio, proportion, percent, percent applications, geometry, integers, algebra, probability, statistics, rational numbers, and real numbers. Students who maintain an A or B average in Pre-Algebra B may be recommended for Algebra I (in the 8th grade).

Placement in Pre-Algebra B is based on the following criteria:
- Completion of 6th grade math with an A/B average each of the four quarters
- Standardized Tests/Achievement Tests/MAP scores
- Teacher Recommendation
- Student Qualities
  - Has an advanced math level
  - Masters skills with little repetition
  - Is organized and exhibits strong study skills
  - Is self motivated
  - Completes assignments on time
  - Uses time wisely
  - Demonstrates accountability in completing work
  - Enjoys a challenge

- Teachers in these classrooms:
  - Provide opportunities for students to hone previously taught skills
  - Facilitate forums for higher-level discussion
  - Expect that students can and will learn rote information independently
  - Function continually at the challenge level

**Science 7**
Seventh grade science students examine the arrangement of atoms on the Periodic Table of Elements. Students learn to describe interactions of matter and energy throughout the hydrosphere and atmosphere and investigate the various cycles and patterns of the Earth, moon and sun. They continue to develop skills of scientific inquiry, explain how matter can change forms, and describe how energy is potential or kinetic and takes many forms with a concentration on electricity. Students apply math skills and cognitive reasoning skills to evaluate and analyze variables and data from investigations as they draw conclusions from scientific evidence. Students access knowledge to explain how energy entering the ecosystems, such as sunlight, supports the life of organisms through photosynthesis and the transfer of energy through the interactions of organisms and the environment.

**Social Studies**
In the seventh grade, students begin the four-year historical sequence with a study of the ancient world including Greece, Rome, and Africa. The second half of the year will focus on the Middle Ages in Europe. This study incorporates each of the seven standards into the chronology. Students learn that its geographic setting, culture of the people, economic conditions, governmental decisions, and citizen action shape each historic event. Students also expand their command of social studies skills and methods.
Core Courses for Eighth Grade

Eighth grade students take the following core courses:
- English Language Arts (Reading 8 & Writing 8)
- Math (Algebra IA or Algebra I)
- Science 8
- Social Studies

English Language Arts (Reading 8 & Writing 8)

Language Arts for the eighth grade connects reading with writing classes and includes spelling and vocabulary. Focus for the course will be on increasing the depth and breadth of students’ reading experiences while helping them to develop an intrinsic desire to read. Students will build comprehension skills and further develop pre-reading, during-reading, and post-reading strategies by reading high-interest novels from various genres and devoting considerable time to sustained silent reading of books of their choice. This course will also use writing, speaking, viewing, and a variety of technology to allow students to interact more deeply with the texts. Students apply reading comprehension strategies to understand informational and literary texts. Informational texts have become an integrated part of every course therefore an increase in volume and text complexity is to be expected. Students demonstrate comprehension of print by responding to questions (e.g., literal, inferential, evaluative, and synthesis). Students acquire vocabulary through exposure to language-rich situations, such as reading books and other texts. Students’ writing develops as they regularly engage in the major phases of the writing process. Students learn to apply their writing for different purposes and audiences. Students learn to master writing conventions through exposure to good models and opportunities for practice. Writing conventions include spelling, punctuation, grammar, and other conventions associated with forms of written text.

Algebra IA

Algebra IA is a year-long eighth grade mathematics course fully aligned to the topics and rigor of the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics. This course provides mastery of algebra skills including operations with real numbers, simplifying algebraic expressions, solving linear equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations, solving systems of linear equations, exponents, simplifying radicals, operating with polynomials, and factoring polynomials. These topics include 21st century skills and problem solving that develop a deep understanding of algebraic properties, concepts and operations. Students that successfully complete this course will take Algebra IB as a freshman.

Students will receive high school credit for successful completion of Algebra IA.

Algebra I

Algebra I is a rigorous and accredited high school course that includes and extends traditional algebraic concepts with an emphasis on problem solving and theory. Topics covered include linear equations, systems of equations, quadratic equations, factoring, algebraic fractions, radicals, radical equations, and exponential equations, analysis of graphs and functions. Emphasis is given to applying and solving word problems algebraically. Students that successfully complete this course may be recommended by their 8th grade teacher for Accelerated Geometry as a freshman.

Students will receive high school credit for successful completion of Algebra I.

Placement in Algebra I is based on the following criteria:
- Completion of Pre-Algebra B with an A/B average each of the four quarters
- Standardized Tests/Achievement Tests/MAP scores
- Teacher Recommendation
- Student Qualities
  - Has an advanced math level
  - Masters skills with little repetition
  - Is organized and exhibits strong study skills
  - Is self motivated
  - Completes assignments on time
  - Uses time wisely
  - Demonstrates accountability in completing make-up work
  - Enjoys a challenge
Teachers in these classrooms:

- Do not re-teach items from past curriculum, but may review them
- Provide opportunities for students to hone previously taught skills
- Facilitate forums for higher-level discussion
- Expect that students can and will learn rote information independently
- Function continually at the challenge level

Science 8
Students in the eighth grade explore Patterns of Heredity, Studies of Forces (including electrical, magnetic, and gravitational), and Plate Tectonics as they continue to draw conclusions from scientific evidence that support theories related to the change of Earth’s surface. Motion of objects, effects of forces on objects, and how earthquake waves transfer energy. Students will be able to explain how extinction of a species occurs when the environment changes and its adaptive characteristics are insufficient to allow survival. Students design a solution to a problem and build a product, given certain constraints by designing earthquake proof structures and bottle rockets. Technological influences on the quality of scientific investigations are also explored in this grade level.

- In order to be enrolled in Advanced Physical Science as a freshman, 8th grade students must earn an “A” in 8th grade Science and be recommended for Accelerated Geometry as a freshman.

Social Studies
The historical sequence continues in the eighth grade with an in-depth study of the early years of our country from the first Americans to 1877. This study incorporates each of the seven standards into the chronology. While students are studying a particular historic event in the United States, they also look at its geographic settings, economic implications, developments in government, and the role of citizens.

Elective Courses

**ART**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art 7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>only take one time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art 8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>only take one time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Art 7 (semester) .5 high school credit - may take in 7th grade
This is an introductory course for 7th grade students who want to learn the basics of art and design while also supporting material learned in core content areas. This course is strongly recommended, but is not a prerequisite, for students who wish to take Art 8 at the junior high level or to pursue the art program at the high school level.

Art 8 (semester) .5 high school credit - may take in 8th grade
This course is designed for students who want to continue to develop their art skills at the junior high level. Students will integrate their core content studies in this course. This course is strongly recommended for students who wish to pursue the art program at the high school level, but is not a prerequisite.

**HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>can request 2 semesters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>only take one time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Education (semester) not for HS credit - may take in 7th and 8th grade
With the ever-increasing awareness of obesity in our society, it is our goal that the students realize the importance of being physically fit and strive to improve their overall fitness by participating in Physical Education. Students will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of individual, team and lifetime sports. Students may participate and learn how to play: soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, flag-football, table tennis, golf, ultimate Frisbee, tetherball, wall ball, four square and speed ball. They will also be introduced to our Fitness Center and how to use the equipment safely and effectively. Students may sign up for two semesters of Physical Education in 7th or 8th grade, or both years for a total of four semesters of PE. Priority will be given to all students to get one semester of PE that want to take this course. Remaining positions will be filled with those students wanting two semesters of PE.
Health (semester) .50 high school credit - may take in 7th or 8th grade once for credit

Students must have one semester of Health Education in order to fulfill graduation requirements. Junior High students may receive this credit before high school. The course, when completed successfully, yields one-half credit. The course is designed to meet the needs of the young adolescent. Areas covered during the course provide learning activities that impress upon the students their responsibility to make intelligent decisions in relation to their health. The course of study includes: mental, social, and physical health; nutrition; chemical substances (use and abuse); body systems: pregnancy and childbirth; sexually transmitted diseases and abstinence.

MUSICAL ARTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choir I</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>year</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band I</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>year</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir II</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>year</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Choir I not a prerequisite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band II</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>year</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>See director if not in Band I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Band I (year) 1.0 high school credit**

Band I is open to all students previously enrolled in Band at Berry Intermediate, and is also open to beginning players. Students in Band perform a variety of music on wind and percussion instruments throughout the year and study a wide range of instrumental techniques. Band I performs three regular concerts at LJHS and participates in OMEA District Band contest as well. Students enrolled in Band I are also eligible to participate in Jazz Band, Pep Band (basketball games), and Solo & Ensemble contest, which are extracurricular opportunities offered by the LJHS band program. The Lebanon Junior High Band program has a tradition of success in the Southwest Ohio region, and hopes to make you a part of it!

**Choir I (year) 1.0 high school credit**

This course welcomes students interested in learning proper vocal production through singing. Choir I is designed to be a 3-part choir. Parts 1 (soprano) and 2 (alto) are designed for higher and lower range female voices. Part 3 (baritone) is designed for the young male singer that may be in various stages of voice change. Very exciting things are happening to some of our voices at this age, most notably the boys. Voice range checks will be done periodically in small groups to determine voice part assignment and so repertoire selection can accommodate everyone’s voices. There are typically 4 concerts per year (1 per quarter), in addition to Contest in the spring, which is required of all participants. There will be other performance opportunities available throughout the year that may include Solo & Ensemble, District Honor Choir, or other community events. Junior High Choirs at Lebanon City Schools have a long-standing tradition of excellence, and have been among the very best in the Southwest Ohio region for many years.

**Band II (year) 1.0 high school credit**

Band II is open to all students previously enrolled in Band I. Students in Band II perform a wide variety of music on wind and percussion instruments throughout the year with many opportunities for ensemble groups and solo playing. Band II performs four regular concerts at LJHS and participates in OMEA District Band contest as well. Band II is annually invited to perform with the LHS Marching Band for a special performance during the football season. Students enrolled in Band II are also eligible to participate in Jazz Band, Pep Band (basketball games), and Solo & Ensemble contest, which are extracurricular opportunities offered by the LJHS band program. The Lebanon Junior High Band program has a tradition of success in the Southwest Ohio region, and hopes to make you a part of it!

**Choir II (year) 1.0 high school credit**

This course welcomes students interested in learning proper vocal production through singing and will expand on acquired skills from Choir I. Choir II will begin as a 3-part choir, but may expand to become a 4-part choir. Parts 1 (soprano) and 2 (alto) are designed for higher and lower range female voices. Part 3 (baritone) is still designed for the young male singer that may be in various stages of voice change. Depending on the stage of vocal development, Part 3 may split into higher male voices (tenor) and lower male voices (bass). Like Choir I, voice range checks will be done periodically in small groups to determine voice part assignment and so repertoire selection can accommodate everyone’s voices. There are typically 4 concerts per year (1 per quarter), in addition to Contest in the spring, which is required of all participants. There will be other performance opportunities available throughout the year that may include Solo & Ensemble, District Honor Choir, or other community events. Junior High Choirs at Lebanon City Schools have a long-standing tradition of excellence, and have been among the very best in the Southwest Ohio region for many years.
STUDY HALL (semester) - non-credit course

It is our philosophy at the junior high to encourage students to explore a variety of content areas. This will help them to choose courses that fit their skills and interests as they enter the high school. If students choose to take a study hall they must use this class for academic gains. Literature read in the study hall will be subject to limitations at the discretion of the teacher. No food or drink will be permitted during study hall. Study halls are not for socializing and should be considered for those students that can manage their time without adult intervention.

TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Applications</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>only take one time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Applications II</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>semester</td>
<td>.50</td>
<td>only take one time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Office Applications I (semester) .50 high school credit - may take 7th or 8th grade once for credit

This course provides introductory office applications focusing on word processing, keyboarding, and spreadsheet skills. Emphasis is placed on developing touch control of the keyboard using proper keyboarding techniques and building basic speed and accuracy. The word processing skills include: editing and proofreading documents, performing standard file management procedures, and creating applicable business documents to simulate a real-life job environment. This course is recommended before taking Office Applications II.

Office Applications II (semester) .50 high school credit - may take 7th or 8th grade once for credit

This course emphasizes the use of Office Applications in a business environment. Students will learn advanced word processing and spreadsheet skills, as well as basic database, desktop publishing, and presentation skills. Students learn to integrate Microsoft Office software including exchanging information between Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. During the course students gain an understanding of the legal, ethical, and safety issues concerning using online tools. Students will examine etiquette and learn how to protect their personal information while online.

WORLD LANGUAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>year</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Invitation Only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spanish I Class (year) 1.0 high school credit - 8th grade students are invited to this course based on their 7th grade first semester GPA.

This is a rigorous and accredited high school course that will challenge motivated language learners. It is equivalent to Spanish I at the high school. Students learn basic language structures, vocabulary on a variety of topics, and communication patterns for level I Spanish. Culture is integrated in the curriculum as well.