

Virginia Middle School  
Course Offerings  
2009-2010

	<b>Sixth Grade</b>	<b>Seventh Grade</b>	<b>Eighth Grade</b>
1.	General Reading Advanced Reading	General Reading Advanced Reading French I, Part A Spanish I, Part A French I Spanish I	*General English *Advanced English
2.	*General English *Advanced English	*General English *Advanced English	*Pre-Algebra *Advanced Pre-Algebra ***Algebra I, Part B ***Geometry
3.	*General Math *Advanced Math Algebra I, Part A	*General Math *Advanced Math Algebra I, Part A ***Algebra I, Part B	*Physical Science *Advanced Physical Science
4.	General Science Advanced Science	Life Science Advanced Life Science	Contemporary World ***World History to 1500
5.	*US History 1877 - Present	*Civics and Economics	Wellness/Health (Alternating Sequence with Keyboarding)
6.	Wellness/Health	Wellness/Health	<b>Elective Options</b> Music Appreciation – <b>Semester</b> Tech Ed - <b>Semester</b> Art – <b>Semester</b> Speech and Drama – <b>Semester</b> Video Production – <b>Semester</b> Teen Living – <b>Semester</b> Band – <b>Year</b> Concert Choir – <b>Year</b> **Spanish I, Part B - <b>Year</b> **Spanish I – <b>Year</b> **Spanish II – <b>Year</b> **French I, Part B – <b>Year</b> **French I – <b>Year</b> **French II – <b>Year</b> General Reading - <b>Year</b> Math/Language Arts Recovery – <b>Year</b>
7.	<b>Elective Options</b> Band – Woods Band – Brass Elective Rotation – <b>Year</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art</li> <li>• Computers</li> <li>• Music</li> <li>• Spanish/French</li> </ul> Math/Language Arts Recovery - <b>Year</b>	<b>Elective Options</b> Band – <b>Year</b> Choir – <b>Year</b> Music Appreciation - <b>Semester</b> Tech Ed - <b>Semester</b> Art - <b>Semester</b> Teen Living – <b>Semester</b> Math/Language Arts Recovery – <b>Year</b> Speech & Drama - <b>Semester</b>	

\*SOL Test  
\*\*High School Credit  
\*\*\*High School Credit and End of Course SOL Test

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## INTRODUCTION

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Virginia Middle School provides early adolescents with an environment in which they can learn and grow during the transitional years between elementary and high school. With the active support of teachers, staff, parents, community, and students, Virginia Middle School provides an atmosphere of acceptance, understanding, and respect for a diverse population.

The intellectual, social, emotional, and physical growth of middle school students is the focus of the curriculum. At Virginia Middle School, grades 6-8, students pursue a core curriculum of academic subjects that include English, mathematics, science, social studies, and non-core electives. Through comprehensive academic learning in a caring environment, students have the opportunity to become thoughtful, productive, and contributing members of society.

Virginia Middle School offers the following high school credit-bearing courses for students whose academic achievement levels indicate a need for accelerated work:

Course	Units of High School Credit
Algebra I, Parts A <u>and</u> B	1
Geometry	1
Foreign Language I, Foreign Language I, Parts A <u>and</u> B	1
World History to 1500	1
Foreign Language II	1

Some students who take high school courses in middle school years have difficulty with those courses. Parents may request that the student's grade from a high school course taken at the middle school level be removed from the high school transcript, along with any credit the student may have earned in the course. This request should be made in writing to the Superintendent's office no later than July 1 following the student's ninth grade year.



## *COURSE DESCRIPTIONS*

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### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

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Students are required to take three years of English. The prerequisite for each level is successful completion of the previous level. In addition, students who do not qualify to take a foreign language elective, or who choose not to take a foreign language elective, must take reading in grades 6 and 7.

#### *English 6*

Students will be taught writing skills focusing on sentence structure and variety, with vocabulary skills taught through writing activities, textbook study and drills. **There will be a required SOL test.**

#### *Reading 6*

Students will be taught reading skills through readings in the genres of short story, novel, poem, and play. Instruction will accent reading comprehension and basic application of literary terms to the materials students read.

#### *Advanced English 6*

Students will be taught planning, drafting, revising and editing narratives, descriptions, and explanations with attention to composition and style. Emphasis will also be placed on grammar and usage skills. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required SOL test.**

#### *Advanced Reading 6*

Students will be taught the regular English 6 curriculum, studying a more challenging selection of literary works. There will be an increased emphasis on individual projects and more intensified literary analysis. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation.

#### *Language Arts Recovery 6*

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in reading/language arts skills. The students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required English or Reading course.

#### *English 7*

Students will be taught writing skills focusing on paragraph organization and basic rhetorical strategies including description, narration, and cause and effect. They will also develop vocabulary skills through writing activities, textbook study and drills. **There will be a required SOL test.**



### ***Reading 7***

Students will be taught reading skills through readings in the genres of short story, novel, poem, and drama. Instruction will accent reading comprehension, application of literary terms to the materials students read, and authorial intent implied in written passages.

### ***Advanced English 7***

Students will be taught to demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between composition and standard English. Instructional emphasis is on the writing process and the aims of writing. Instruction centers on critical thinking, purpose of the work, and audience as well as revision and editing. All writing exercises will be literature-based. Students will study five major categories of literature: the short story, poetry, nonfiction works, drama, and novel. Instruction emphasizes the continued development of critical reading skills through student interpretation and analysis rather than recall. Students will develop skills that include an understanding of theme, specific patterns of plot, characterization, setting and style in traditional literature. Instruction includes vocabulary development and oral communication skills. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### ***Advanced Reading 7***

Students will be taught the regular English 7 curriculum, studying a more challenging selection of literary works. There will be an increased emphasis on individual projects and more intensified literary analysis. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation.

### ***Language Arts Recovery 7***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in reading/language arts skills. The students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required English or Reading course.

### ***English 8***

Students will be taught the relationship between the meaning of a work of literature and its structure. They will continue to develop skills using terms from literacy criticism to discuss and write about what they read. They will read in the genres of short story, novel drama, and poetry. Vocabulary development will focus on words from the works that they study as well as context clues and Latin and Greek word roots. **There will be a required reading and writing SOL test.**



### ***Advanced English 8***

Students will be taught the regular English 8 curriculum, studying more challenging selections of literary works. There will be an increased emphasis on individual projects (such as a short story writing unit) and more intensified literary analysis. Students will study Latin and Greek roots in depth to increase their ability to decode new words. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required reading and writing SOL test.**

### ***Language Arts Recovery 8***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in reading/language arts skills. The students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required English or Reading course.

### ***Speech and Drama 8***

Students will be taught public speaking and theater skills. These skills are taught through games, role-playing, and characterization. Students who have an interest in theater and/or who want to improve their speaking skills will benefit from this class.

### ***Reading 8***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in reading. Instruction will focus on reading comprehension and literary devices. The instruction will be geared to focus on skills that will provide extra reinforcement for preparation on the SOL Reading test.

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## **MATHEMATICS**

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Students are required to take three years of Mathematics. The prerequisite for each level is successful completion of the previous level. In addition, students may also elect to enroll in Algebra I, Part A, Algebra I, Part B and/or Geometry to earn high school credit.

### ***Math 6***

Students will be taught the six content strands as outlined in the Virginia Standards of Learning. These content strands are: Number and Number Sense; Computation and Estimation; Measurement; Geometry; Probability and Statistics; and Patterns, Functions, and Algebra. Students will use “hands-on” materials including calculators and computers to reinforce mathematical concepts. **There will be a required SOL test.**



### ***Advanced Math 6***

Students will be taught the six content strands as outlined in the Virginia Standards of Learning. Advanced Math 6 classes are fast-paced with emphasis on higher-order thinking skills and problem solving. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### ***Math Recovery 6***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in mathematics skills. Students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required math course.

### ***Math 7***

Students will be taught mathematics with emphasis on proportional reasoning, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Studies will include topics on number theory, geometry, ratio and proportion, probability and statistics, percents, integers, and basic algebraic concepts. Calculators, models, and measuring tools will be used to explore relationships and apply mathematics to real-world situations. Students will also be encouraged to use appropriate vocabulary to display knowledge of mathematical concepts and skills. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### ***Advanced Math 7***

Students will be taught the six content strands as outlined in the Virginia Standards of Learning. Advanced Math 7 classes are fast-paced with emphasis on higher-order thinking skills and problem solving. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### ***Math Recovery 7***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in mathematics skills. Students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required math course.

### ***Pre-Algebra 8***

Students will be taught integers, equations, inequalities, geometry, proportion, percent, probability, statistics, and graphing. This course provides the necessary background for students entering Algebra I. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### ***Advanced Pre-Algebra 8***

Students will be taught sets, variables, equations, problem solving, fractions and linear equations. Students will also review content for the eighth grade math Standards of Learning. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. **There will be a required SOL test.**



### ***Math Recovery 8***

This course is for selected students and will provide additional support in mathematics skills. Students will be scheduled for this class by teacher recommendation, past grades, and test scores. This course does not substitute for the required math course.

### ***Algebra I, Part A 6, 7***

Students will be taught the first of a two-year sequence to cover Algebra I. This course includes the study of sets, variables, equations, problem solving, fractions and linear equations. Students qualify by showing proficiency on the Orleans-Hanna Algebra Prognostic Test and by demonstrating math proficiency through past performance and teacher recommendation. Successful completion of this course is prerequisite to take Algebra I, Part B.

### ***Algebra I, Part B 7, 8***

Students will be taught the second of the two-year sequence. This course includes a review of Algebra I, Part A skills and a more in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities. Polynomials, factoring, and solving quadratics will be covered in this class. Upon successful completion of this course, students will earn one high school credit for Algebra I. **There will be an end-of-course Algebra I SOL test.**

### ***Geometry***

3143

Students will be taught the study of triangles, parallel and perpendicular lines, polygons, similar and congruent figures, as well as geometric constructions and designs. The course emphasizes deductive reasoning. Students must have completed Algebra I to take Geometry. Upon successful completion of this course, students will earn one high school credit for Geometry. **There will be an end-of-course Geometry SOL test.**

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## SCIENCE

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Students are required to take three years of Science. The middle school sequence for science is general science in grade 6, life science in grade 7 and physical science in grade 8.

### ***Science 6***

Students will be taught matter, life processes, energy, and the solar system. The course offers opportunities for hands-on learning in lab situations and will provide students opportunities to analyze, report and interpret scientific concepts.



### *Advanced Science 6*

Students will be taught analysis, experimentation, and demonstrating scientific reasoning and logic. The course includes the study of energy transformation, matter, life processes, and the solar system. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation.

### *General Life Science 7*

Students will be taught and introduced to the world of living things. It is designed to help students develop an appreciation and understanding of living things. Students will explore the following areas: cellular structure, animals, plants, disease and microorganisms, heredity, classification, the human body, and ecology. Inquiry skills are enhanced by laboratory investigations.

### *Advanced Life Science 7*

Students will be taught and provided a solid foundation to prepare them for high school biology. Emphasis is placed on inquiry skills, interpreting data, and the understanding of relationships in the living world. Specific areas are zoology, botany, genetics, microorganisms, the human anatomy, ecology, cellular structure, and classification. Placement in this class is based on standardized test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation.

### *Physical Science 8*

Students will be taught physical science as an introductory course to the study of matter and energy. In this laboratory-oriented course, students learn data analysis, experimental design, safe laboratory techniques, and the metric system of measurement. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### *Advanced Physical Science 8*

In this laboratory-oriented course, students will be taught data analysis, experimental design, safe laboratory techniques, metric system of measurement, force, motion, matter, waves, light, sound, and electricity. This is an accelerated course for advanced students with a strong interest in science. Students selected must have high scores in math and science, work habits necessary for successful performance in the class, and teacher recommendations. Students also participate in an interactive chemistry program entitled Understanding Chemistry and Energy. **There will be a required SOL test.**



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## SOCIAL STUDIES

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Students are required to take three years of Social Studies. The middle school sequence for social studies is US History 1877 to Present at grade 6, Civics and Economics at grade 7 and either Contemporary World Issues or World History I at grade 8. If a student enrolls in World History I, upon successful completion of the course and a passing score on the End-of-Course test, the student will receive one high school credit in World History I.

### *Social Studies 6 (US History 1877 – Present)*

Students will be taught the history of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction period (1877) to the present day. Fundamental concepts in civics, economics, and geography in the context of United States history will continue to be reviewed and taught. Students will also review map and globe skills, skills in interpreting and using information, and historical thinking skills. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### *Civics and Economics 7*

Students will be taught a basic understanding of civic life, politics, and government. It is designed to help students understand political systems as well as the relationship of American politics and government to world affairs. **There will be a required SOL test.**

### *World History to A.D. 1500 (World History I)*

2341

Students will be taught the historical development of societies from ancient times until A.D. 1500. Students must be able to use critical thinking skills to describe, analyze, and evaluate the economic, political, and technological developments of these societies during the time period. This class is designed for the highly motivated student or the student who enjoys a challenging course. Students who successfully complete this course will receive one high school credit for World History I. An A/high B average in advanced reading is not a requirement for this course, but is highly recommended. **There will be a required end of course SOL test.**

### *Contemporary World Issues*

Students will be taught current contemporary world issues. Students will study these issues from a historical perspective, relating past conflicts to present-day international disputes and unrest. Students will use current events, newspaper articles, news magazines, news broadcasts, and other relevant materials while exploring these issues.



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## WELLNESS

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The school division recognizes and promotes healthy habits for all students. The wellness program at the middle school emphasizes the benefits of exercise and activities that students can enjoy throughout their lifetime. Students are required to take Wellness at the 6th, 7th and 8th grade levels.

### *Health/ Wellness 6, 7*

Students will be taught drug education, family living, social and interpersonal relationships, and personal health and hygiene. Wellness 6, 7 provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a variety of physical activities. Physical fitness tests are administered to students in the fall and again in the spring. Health classes meet every other week (Monday – Friday). Classes in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Health are designed to cover the following topics: mental health, family living, drugs abuse, first aid, nutrition, DARE, and communicable and non-communicable diseases.

### *Wellness 8*

Students will be taught a variety of physical activities. Physical fitness tests are administered to students in the fall and again in the spring. Wellness classes will meet every other week (Monday – Friday). Family Life and D.A.R.E. programs will also be taught in the Wellness program.

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## FINE ARTS

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The middle school recognizes the development of the talents and abilities in the fine arts. Students are encouraged to explore and refine individual skills in art and music during the middle school years.

### *Art 7, 8*

Students will be taught to develop skills in producing art in a variety of media and techniques. Students will apply knowledge of the elements and principles of design. Students will develop critical judgment and become aware of art from other cultures. Students will analyze and evaluate their own art and that of major artists. Students will recognize the elements and principles of design in works of art. Students will develop skills to help them communicate through visual expression.



### ***Band 6 (Beginning Band)***

Students will be taught to play a musical instrument, understanding musical notation, and performing in public. Students do not need any prior musical experience. The class is a year-long course. Outside practice is required and students are required to purchase or rent an instrument. Students are expected to participate in two concerts.

### ***Band 7 (Beginning Band)***

Students will be taught to learn a musical instrument and allowed to participate in band. Students do not need any prior musical experience. This class is a year-long course. Students will learn to play a musical instrument, to understand music notation, and to perform in public. Outside practice is required and students are required to purchase or rent an instrument. Students are expected to participate in two after-school rehearsals and two concerts. This class will move very quickly and students will be able to participate in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade band the following year.

### ***Band 7 (Intermediate Band)***

Students will be taught Grade II and Grade III band literature, Book II band techniques, and will develop ensemble sound. The class will be split with brass and woodwinds in one class and percussion in a separate class. Outside practice includes a few after-school rehearsals and performances. Placement in this class is based on one year of band experience or special permission from the band director.

### ***Band 8 (Advanced Band)***

Students will be taught Grade III band literature, concentrate on ensemble sound and performance, and practice advanced instrumental techniques. Outside practice is required and students are expected to participate in all aspects of the program including a few after-school rehearsals and performances. Placement in this class is based on two years of band experience or special permission from the director.

### ***Concert Choir 7, 8***

Students will be taught singing two and three part music of varying styles and reading basic music notation. Students are expected to participate in concerts. Students will participate in VA All-state chorus, state choral competitions and various community programs and concerts. This is a full-year performance class.

### ***Music Appreciation 7, 8***

Students will be taught to foster an appreciation of music and to enhance musical knowledge. Students will explore, listen to music, study music history, and work on various music technology projects. Students will also review the instruments of the orchestra. The students will be afforded an opportunity to play chimes.



### ***Exploratory Rotation 6***

Students will be taught nine week exploratory courses offered to students on a rotating basis. Included in the rotation are Art, Computer Technology, Music, and Foreign Language.

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## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY**

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The middle school recognizes the need for students to have introductory opportunities in Career and Technical Education. Students are provided experiences in technology education, video production, computer/keyboarding and teen living.

### ***Technology Education 7, 8***

Exploratory Technology, a revolutionary, new curriculum, meets the needs of middle school students as they explore technologies that impact their daily lives. Students will be taught the application of math, science, reading, writing, research, computer and hands-on skills in a cooperative learning environment. Topics covered in Technology Education include robotics, electricity, electronics, rocketry and space, engineering, transportation, energy and power, graphic communications, flight, graphic animation, applied physics, audio broadcasting, and research design. Students design and build robot blinkers, bridges, Metric 500 racers, airplane wings, and model rockets. Students also orchestrate a fifteen-minute radio broadcast with music, news, and weather.

### ***Video Production 8***

This class is for a select group of students who have an interest in developing the morning newscast. Students will be taught the development and applications of video as well as the process of developing video. Students in this class will be required to attend school functions to gather material for the newscast.

### ***Computer Keyboarding 8***

Students will be taught keyboarding, computers, the basics of Windows and Microsoft Works. This is a semester class and classes meet every other week.

### ***Teen Living 7, 8***

Students will be taught skills such as meal planning, money management, and basic sewing techniques. Students will learn about food preparation, budgeting, and how to be a wise consumer.



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## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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Students at the middle school level have the opportunity to enroll in a foreign language course. The middle school offers both Spanish and French. Students are able to earn high school credit in a foreign language in the successful completion of Spanish I, Part A and Part B, French I, Part A and Part B and also in Spanish II or French II.

### ***French I, Spanish I, Parts A and B***

Advanced English students in seventh grade may choose to take Foreign Language instead of Advanced Reading. These courses are offered over a two-year period for one high school credit in foreign language.

### ***French I, Part A 7***

**5113**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand French in a variety of contexts. Students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of French-speaking countries. An A/high B average in English and high standardized tests scores in reading are required.

### ***French I, Part B 7***

**5115**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand French in a variety of contexts. Students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of French-speaking countries. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* A grade of “C” or better in French I, Part A and teacher recommendation

### ***French I 7, 8***

**5110**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand French in a variety of contexts. Students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of French-speaking countries. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* An A/high B average in English 6 and 7 and high standardized test scores in reading.

### ***French II 8***

**5120**

Students will be taught the ability to communicate in the language. Students will continue to develop and apply the skills acquired in French I. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* A grade of “C” or better in French I and teacher recommendation



***Spanish I, Part A 7***  
**5513**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand Spanish in a variety of contexts. Through different media, students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of Spanish-speaking people throughout the world. An A/high B average in English and high standardized test scores in reading are required.

***Spanish I, Part B 8***  
**5515**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand Spanish in a variety of contexts. Through different media, students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of Spanish-speaking people throughout the world. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* A grade of “C” or better in Spanish I, Part A and teacher recommendation

***Spanish I 7, 8***  
**5510**

Students will be taught to speak, read, write, and understand Spanish in a variety of contexts. Students gain knowledge and cultural understanding of Spanish-speaking countries. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* An A/high B average in English 6 and 7 and high standardized test scores in reading.

***Spanish II 8***  
**5520**

Students will be taught the ability to communicate in the language. Students will continue to develop and apply the skills acquired in Spanish I. Upon successful completion of this course, students receive one high school credit.

*Prerequisite:* A grade of “C” or better in Spanish I and teacher recommendation

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**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

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***Student Resources 6, 7, 8***

The instruction of special education students in the middle school is in accordance with federal and state regulations. Special education students are placed in the least restrictive environment to the greatest extent possible. Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) determine the placement of special education students.



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## LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

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### *Library Media Services 6, 7, 8*

The Library Media Center functions as a laboratory for learning and for fostering the intellectual development of middle school students. Students acquire the skills to become independent learners and sophisticated users of information for problem solving. Students utilize the technologies of learning to retrieve, organize, document, synthesize, interpret, and present information. The library media specialist assists and instructs students and cooperates with teachers in the development of curricular units and learning experiences enriched with media resources. Teachers and the library media specialist integrate information skills into the total curriculum.



**Course Schedule for IB Diploma Students**  
**Middle School**  
**(Schedule of Core Courses for Potential IB Students)**

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Algebra I A	Algebra 1 B	Geometry
Advanced English	Advanced English	Advanced English
Foreign Language 1 A	Foreign Language 1 B	Foreign Language II
Advanced Science	Advanced Science	Advanced Science
		World History I

**High School**

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Algebra II	IB Mathematics SL I	IB Mathematics SL II	Elective
Honors English 9	Honors English 10	IB/Honors English 11	IB English
Advanced Biology	Chemistry I	Elective or Physics	IB/Biology II
Health/Wellness	Health/Wellness	Extended Essay Elective	
Elective or World History II	AP Government or US Government	AP/IB History of the Americas	IB 20th Century Topics
Foreign Language III	Foreign Language IV	Foreign Language V	IB Information Technology in a Global Society
Elective	Elective	Elective	Extended Essay Elective

## Schedule for Core Courses for Potential IB Students

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Algebra I A	Algebra 1 B	Geometry
Advanced English	Advanced English	Advanced English
Foreign Language 1 A	Foreign Language 1 B	Foreign Language II
Advanced Science	Advanced Science	Advanced Science
		World History I

## High School

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Algebra II	IB Mathematics SL I	IB Mathematics SL II	Elective
Honors English 9	Honors English 10	IB/Honors English 11	IB English
Advanced Biology	Chemistry I	Elective or Physics	IB/Biology II
Health/Wellness	Health/Wellness	Extended Essay TOK	
Elective or World History II	AP Government or US Government	AP/IB History of the Americas	IB 20th Century Topics
Foreign Language III	Foreign Language IV	Foreign Language V	IB Information Technology in a Global Society
Elective	Elective	Elective	TOK Elective



# Standard Diploma

Students entering ninth grade in 2003-04 and after must earn the following verified credits:

<b>22 Units of Credit</b>			
English	4		
* Mathematics	3		
** Laboratory Science	3	English	2
*** History/Social Sciences	3	Mathematics	1
Health and P.E.	2	Laboratory Science	1
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1	History/Social Science	1
Computer Information Systems	1	**** Student selected tests or alternative verified credits	1
**** Electives	5		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>

\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must be at or above the level of algebra and must include at least two course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of algebra and geometry. Students taking Geometry A must complete a second geometry course to earn geometry credit.

\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include selections from two different science disciplines: earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include Personal Finance, U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and one World History/Geography course. Courses that satisfy the World History/Geography requirements are: World Geography; World History I; and World History II (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include two sequential electives (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*\*\*Students may earn verified credits through alternative means.

# Commonwealth Scholars Initiative

## Rising 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Graduating Classes of 2007 – 2013

Standard Diploma (22 Credits)		Advanced Studies Diploma (24 Credits)	
English	4	English	4
* Math	3	* Math	4
** Laboratory Science	3	** Laboratory Science	4
*** History & Social Sciences	3	*** History & Social Sciences	4
Health & Physical Education	2	**** Foreign Language	3
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1	Health & Physical Education	1
Electives	6	Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1
		Electives	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>

Of the total credits shown above, students must earn a minimum of Six Verified Credits from the following disciplines:

English 11 Writing & Reading / Literature / Research	2
Mathematics	1
Science	1
History / Social Science	1
Student's Choice	1

Of the total credits shown above, students must earn a minimum of Nine Verified Credits from the following disciplines:

English 11 Writing & Reading / Literature / Research	2
Mathematics	2
Science	2
History / Social Science	2
Student's Choice	1

Verified Credit means passing the course and the end-of-course SOL test.

\*Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall be Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry.

\*\*Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall be Biology, Chemistry, Physics (Prin. Of Tech 1, 2 may be substituted for Physics).

\*\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement may include World Geography, World History, U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, Economics, Financial Literacy.

\*\*\*\*Students must complete two courses in the same foreign language to satisfy this requirement.

Requirements for a Virginia high school diploma, including verified credits, must be met for recognition as a Commonwealth Scholar. Commonwealth Scholars must successfully complete these specific core courses: English (4), Mathematics (3), Laboratory Science (3), History & Social Sciences (4), Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education (1), and Foreign Language (2).



## Advanced Studies Diploma

Advanced Studies Diploma (25 Credits)		Of the total Advanced Studies Diploma credits, students must earn a minimum of Nine Verified Credits from the following disciplines:	
English	4	English	2
* Mathematics	4	Mathematics	2
** Laboratory Science	4	Laboratory Science	2
*** History/Social Sciences	4	History/Social Sciences	2
**** Foreign Language	3		
Health and P.E.	2		
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1		
***** Computer Information Systems or AP/IB Computer Science	1		
Electives	2	Student selected test	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>

\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must be at or above the level of algebra and must include at least three course selections from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of Algebra II. Students taking Geometry A must complete a second Geometry course to earn Geometry credit.

\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics. Courses from two different science disciplines may combine with the IB science course to satisfy this requirement (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include Personal Finance, U.S. and Virginia History, U.S. and Virginia Government, and two World History/Geography courses. Courses that satisfy the World History/Geography requirements are: World Geography; World History I; and World History II (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*\*Students may satisfy this requirement with three years of one language or two years of two languages (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*\*\*Students may opt out of Computer Information Systems by taking IB Information Technology in a Global Society.

## Modified Standard Diploma

Certain students with disabilities who are unlikely to meet the credit requirements of the Standard Diploma may earn a Modified Standard Diploma. The decision to attempt the Modified Standard Diploma is made by the Individual Education Program team, with the full knowledge and written consent of the student's parents/guardians.

### 20 Units of Credit

English	4
*Mathematics	3
**Laboratory Science	2
***History/Social Sciences	2
Health and P.E.	2
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1
****Electives	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include content from among applications of algebra, geometry, and personal finance (Va. SOA). The courses in applications of algebra and geometry should be completed before the student takes personal finance.

\*\* Courses that satisfy this requirement must include selections from two different science disciplines (Va. SOA).

\*\*\* Courses that satisfy this requirement must include Personal Finance, U.S. and Virginia History and U.S. and Virginia Government (Va. SOA).

\*\*\*\*Courses that satisfy this requirement must include two sequential electives (Va. SOA).

In addition to earning the credits described above, students must pass the Grade 8 English and Math Standards of Learning tests to earn a Modified Standard Diploma.

