



Academic Planning for Rising 7th Graders

**Class of 2030
January 25th, 2024**

High School Graduation Requirements

Class of 2030



High School Terms to Know

Credit: Unit earned upon successfully completing a high school course

Verified Credit: A unit earned by passing an end-of-course SOL tests or other assessments approved by the Board of Education.

GPA (Grade Point Average): It is computed based on number of courses taken and grades earned in those high school courses

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentages	Quality Points
A	90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100	4.0
B+	87, 88, 89	3.5
B	80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86	3.0
C+	77, 78, 79	2.5
C	70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76	2.0
D+	67, 68, 69	1.5
D	60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66	1.0
E	0 – 59	0.0

Graduation Requirements

Discipline Area	Standard Diploma		Advanced Diploma	
	Credits	Verified Credits (SOLS)	Credits	Verified Credits (SOLS)
English	4	2	4	2
Math	3	1	4	1
Science	3	1	4	1
History & Social Studies	3	1	4	1
World Languages	2		3	
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education			1	
Health & Physical Education	2		2	
Economics & Personal Finance	1		1	
Electives	4		3	
Total # of Credits	22	5	26	5

High School Credit Elective Classes offered in 7th Grade

- High School Level Courses which may be taken in Middle School during 7th Grade include:
 - Arabic I
 - Chinese I
 - French I
 - Latin I
 - Spanish I
 - Spanish for Fluent Speakers I
 - Middle School Computer Programming
- Students will have the option to not include the grade on the High School transcript or in the GPA

High School Options *(as of 2024)*

W-L Pre-IB Programme

- All As and Bs
- need to take Level II of a World Language in 8th grade
- Algebra in 8th grade
- Short Essay

Arlington Tech

- APS high school option
- STEM oriented, project-based learning
- includes dual-enrolled (DE) and CTE classes
- application available
- **LOTTERY**

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST)

- Essay questions and application required
- Algebra or higher in 8th grade

H-B Woodlawn

- a choice school for self-directed learners
- **LOTTERY**

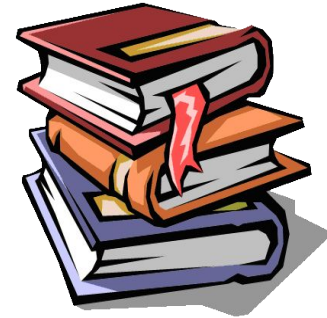
7th Grade at DHMS



All 7th Grade students will be enrolled in...

Four core subjects:

- English/English Intensified
- Life Science/Life Science Intensified
- Civics & Economics/Civics & Economics Intensified
- **Math** (*placements recommendations will be made prior to the end of the school year. A letter noting the recommended course will be sent home to families before the final assignment is made.*)
 - Math 7 (*will take Math 7 SOL exam*)
 - Pre-Algebra for 7th Graders (*will take Math 8 SOL exam*)
 - Algebra I Intensified*



* This course earns a high school (HS) credit and grades from these courses will appear on a student's HS transcript and impact their HS G.P.A.

Course Options for 7th Graders

English 7, Intensified









In English 7 Intensified, **students will apply a complex lens of critical thinking, examination, and interpretation** to a variety of texts and genres to include fiction, non-fiction, short stories, novels and excerpts, arguments, and media. Students will also be tasked with reflecting on their thinking and learning to foster an examination of self, community and society by using the use the writing process to develop and craft expository, narrative and persuasive writing pieces.

Grade 7 Life Science, Intensified

Students will engage in **extended application and analysis** designed to deepen understanding of outlined content. Students will use abstract, critical thinking approaches through **inquiry-based projects** focusing on the nature of science and the use of science and engineering skills as indicated by the Grade 7 Virginia Standards of Learning.

Civics and Economics, Intensified

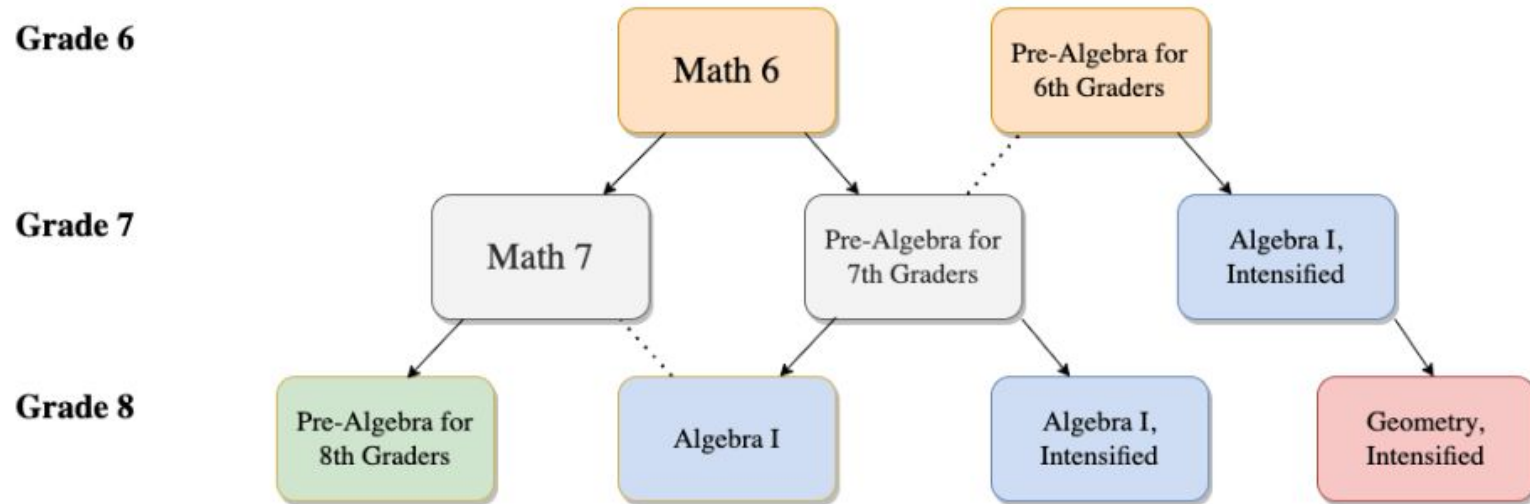
Students will engage in **extended application and analysis** of the structure and operation of local, state, and national governments as well as the relationship between the government and the economy through an **inquiry-based approach**. Students will develop **critical thinking approaches** and apply their knowledge as they grapple with the responsibilities, rights, and duties of citizenship and its function within the political and economic system of the United States.

Intensified Courses Are		Intensified Classes are Not	
	Intensified English, science, and social studies courses will offer a chance to go deeper into content/standards.		Intensified English, science, and social studies courses are NOT accelerated courses that go beyond grade level content.
	Intensified English, science, and social studies courses will not require prerequisite classes.		There will be the flexibility to opt into the intensified English, science, and/or social studies courses each school year in middle school without prerequisite requirements.
	Teachers will use resources designed for rigor and CCT strategies regularly to add depth and complexity within the existing curriculum.		Intensified courses will use the same existing curriculum map and have built in extensions to support going deeper into the standards
	Intensified Courses will be <u>open to all learners.</u>		Intensified courses are <u>NOT exclusionary</u> and will be offered in settings that support all types of advanced learners.

Intensified Courses: Please Remember

- **Students may wish to begin with taking one or two intensified courses instead of all three intensified courses.**
- **Since there are no prerequisites each year, choosing one course option for the upcoming year does not determine course placement for future years.**
- **All courses, regular and intensified, will offer opportunities to develop critical and creative thinking skills necessary to succeed in advanced high school courses within the content area.**
- **These course options are open to all students; a student identified for gifted, SPED, and/or EL services is able to choose the course option they prefer regardless of identification.**

Arlington Public Schools Middle School Mathematics Progression, SY 2024 - 2025



- Students needing additional support may be concurrently enrolled in Math 6, Math 7, or Pre-Algebra 8 along with an associated Strategies course.

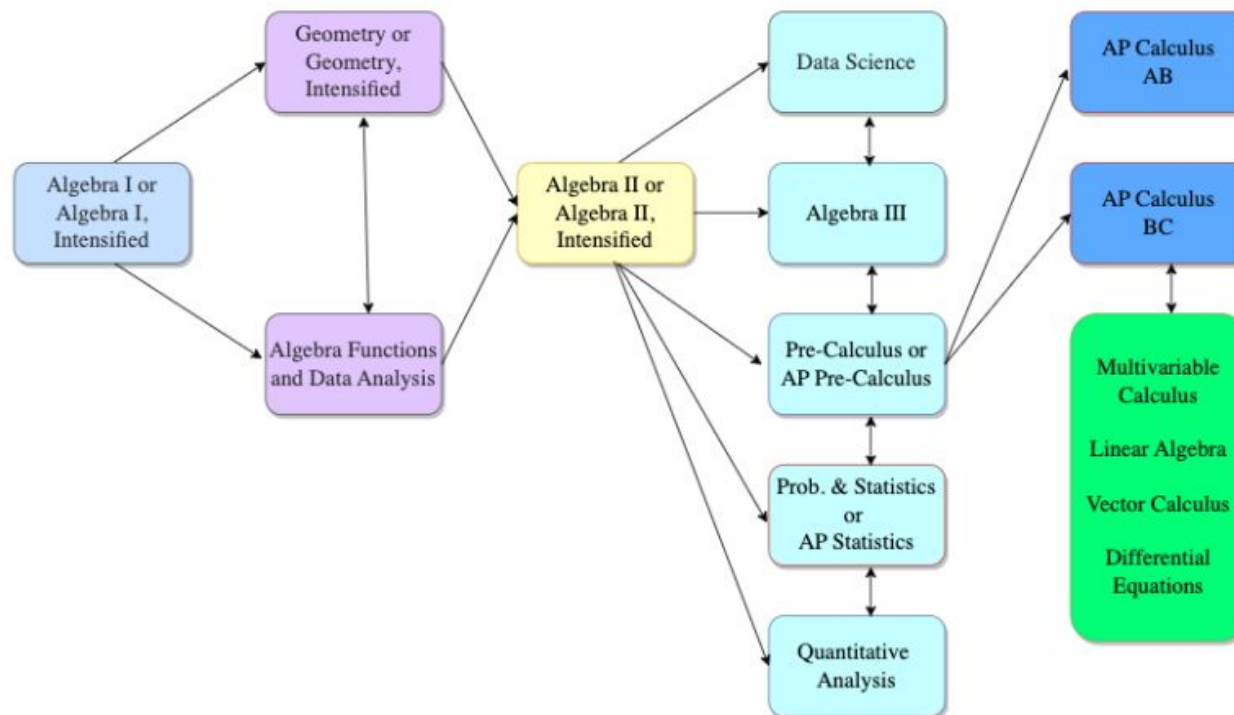
Questions? Please contact:
Mrs. Heather Donaldson

Math Coach

703-228-2932

heather.donaldson@apsva.us

Arlington Public Schools High School Mathematics Progression, SY 2024 - 2025



Considerations:

- For specific IB and Dual Enrollment courses not mentioned on this diagram, please see the index of courses offered at individual high schools.
- Students needing additional support may be concurrently enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II along with an associated Strategies course.

Questions? Please contact:
Mrs. Heather Donaldson

Math Coach

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Students will also participate in:

- **Health/PE 7**
- **Teacher's Advisory (TA)**
- **Phoenix Time:** Flexible block during the day that will provide a variety of meaningful experiences to include:
 - Elective Lessons
 - Social/Emotional Lessons
 - Academic Support or Enrichment
- **Two Elective Periods**

Choosing Elective Classes

- Students will have **two** elective periods
- They may be filled with:

2 year long classes

OR

1 year long class and 2 semester classes ($\frac{1}{2}$ of a year each)

OR

4 semester classes ($\frac{1}{2}$ of a year each)

Full Year



High School Credit Electives

- World Languages
- Middle School Computer Programming

World Languages

World Language Offerings at DHMS:

- Spanish
- Spanish for Fluent Speakers
- French
- Latin
- Mandarin
- Arabic

These courses earn a high school (HS) credit and grades from these courses will appear on a student's HS transcript and impact their HS G.P.A.

If you are considering pursuing the **IB Diploma at W-L** you **MUST** take and pass **the same** World Language class in 7th and 8th grade

Middle School Computer Programming

Topics Covered during this class:

- Computer Hardware and Software
- Learn the programming language Python
- Explore programming concepts and algorithmic procedures
- Workplace Readiness Skills
- Full year course- high school credit

Full Year Electives



- Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus

Band

Topics Covered during the course:

- Development of technique through scales, exercises & sight-reading
- Large group, small group and individual learning
- Variety of repertoire, some chosen by students
- Three concerts during the year plus additional performance opportunities
- Prepares students for High School band
- Spring Trip to Busch Gardens

Orchestra

Topics Covered during the course:

- Development and refinement of technique through scales, exercises & sight-reading
- Large group, small group and individual learning
- Variety of repertoire, some chosen by students
- Three concerts during the year
- Prepares students for High School orchestra
- Spring Trip to Busch Gardens

Chorus

Topics covered during the course:

- Sight reading using solfege
- Outside performance opportunities
- Various genres and styles of music
- Singing in two/three part harmony
- Song Analysis
- Students will be able to participate in the spring music trip at Busch Gardens

Semester Electives

($\frac{1}{2}$ of a year)



- Teen Living
- Digital Input Technologies
- Inventions and Innovations
- Theater Arts
- Visual Arts I

Teen Living (FACS)

Topics Covered during the semester:

- Kitchen safety, food preparation, cooking techniques
- Sewing tools, hand and machine stitching
- Laundry
- Money Management Basics
- Organization
- Friendship and Personal Development
- Child Development and Babysitting/Pet Sitting



Digital Input Technologies

Topics Covered during the semester:

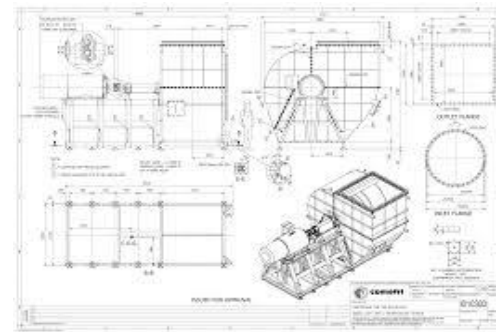
- Typing
- Workplace Readiness Skills
- Digital Citizenship
- Microsoft Office Suite
- New and Emerging Technology
- Students are introduced to the world of Business using the computer as a problem-solving tool



Inventions & Innovations

Topics Covered during the semester:

- Metric and US Customary Measurement
- Basic Technical Sketching
- Problem Solving
- Engineering Design Process
- Students will use professional level software and tools used in the engineering and design arenas.



Theater Arts

Topics Covered during the semester:

- Solo and group performance
- Role of the audience
- Stage movement
- Introduction to theatrical design
- Specialty craft exploration
- Playwriting



Visual Art I

Topics Covered during the semester:

- Color Theory
- Elements of Art and Design
- Collage
- Printmaking
- Realistic Facial Features

Students learn skills to make original art and practice techniques to develop a visual vocabulary that connects their ideas and the world around them.



Course Request Form (CRF)

Return to counselor by:

February 23, 2024

Arlington Public Schools
Dorothy Hamm Middle School
2024-2025



Grade 7 Course Request Form (CRF)

Student Name: _____

Student ID Number: _____

This Course Request Form (CRF) allows a student and their family to make course selections for the following year. All Grade 7 students are required to take the following core courses: English, math, science, social studies, and health/physical education. Additional core courses may also be required based upon the specific program in which the student is enrolled. Descriptions of all courses can be found in the **Middle School Program of Studies** at:

<https://catalog.apsva.us/middle-school-courses?f%5B0%5D=grade%3A1837>

Grade 7 Program:

All students will take:

- Math 7 (13111), or Pre-Algebra for 7th Graders (13109), or Algebra I, Intensified (13140)

(Math placement recommendations will be made prior to the end of the school year. A letter noting the recommended course will be sent home to families before the final assignment is made.)

- Grade 7 Health and Physical Education (17120)

Students may choose levels for English, Social Studies and Science. Please check off your selection below:

☐ Grade 7 English (11110) **OR** ☐ Grade 7 English, Intensified (11117)

☐ Grade 7 Civics and Economics (12355) **OR** ☐ Grade 7 Civics and Economics, Intensified (12357)

☐ Grade 7 Life Science (14115) **OR** ☐ Grade 7 Life Science, Intensified (14117)

Turn OVER for elective offerings



Course Request Form (CRF)

Grade 7 Middle School Course Request Form (cont'd)

While all Grade 7 students are required to take a core curriculum, students also have the opportunity to select electives. Please note that elective offerings vary by school, in some cases because of specific programs offered by individual schools. In the chart below, please mark your student's selection by checking the boxes, paying close attention to the instructions listed.

Student Name: _____ Student ID Number: _____

- Choose four (4) semester electives **OR** • Choose two (2) full year electives **OR** • Choose two (2) semester electives and one (1)

<p><u>Courses offered as semester:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Digital Input Technologies (16617)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inventions and Innovations (18433)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Teen Living (18207)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Theater Arts (11392)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts (19041)</p> <p>Please provide in the space below at least two alternates, should a student's first choice not be available due to scheduling conflicts</p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p> <p>4. _____</p>	<p><u>Courses offered as full year:</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chorus (19285)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra (19243)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Band (19232/ 19201 / 19228) *</p> <p>*Band is grouped by instrument vs level.</p> <p>If you signed up for orchestra or band, please complete the information below:</p> <p>Instrument: _____</p> <p>Years Played: _____</p>	<p><u>High School full year credit courses:</u> these courses offer 1 H.S. credit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arabic I (15800)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chinese I (15615)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> French I (15110)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Latin I (15310)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Spanish I (15510)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Spanish for Fluent Speakers I (15517)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Middle School Computer Programing (16640)</p> <p><u>By teacher recommendation only:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Strategies (13117) • Instructional Studies (10028) • Social Skills (10023)
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****If you are interested in W-L's IB program, you **MUST** begin taking a World Language in 7th Grade.**

Is your child considering applying to the IB Diploma ? YES _____ NO _____

Parent / Guardian Printed Name: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Parent Email: _____



This form is updated annually by the APS Department of Instruction along with individual schools and distributed through school Counseling Offices. Please see your school counselor or the Program of Studies for additional course information.

How to Fill Out the CRF

- Enter required information
- Carefully read **each section** of the form
- Select *Standard* or *Intensified* for English, Civics and Science
- Electives: Select if you will take
 - 2 year long classes
 - OR**
 - 1 year long class and 2 semester classes ($\frac{1}{2}$ of a year each)
 - OR**
 - 4 semester classes ($\frac{1}{2}$ of a year each)
- Select at least two alternative electives from any category


Option 1: 2 Year-Long Classes

Choose **NONE** from this list

Choose **2** classes from this list

Semester Classes

Digital Input Technologies
Innovations & Innovations
Teen Living
Theatre Arts
Visual Arts



Year-Long Classes

Band
Chorus
Orchestra
Arabic I
Chinese I
French I
Latin I
Spanish I
Spanish I Fluent Speakers
Computer Programming

Choose 2

Option 2: 1 Full Year Class and 2 Semester Classes

Choose **2** classes from this list **and** Choose **1** class from this list

Semester Classes

Digital Input Technologies
Innovations & Innovations
Teen Living
Theatre Arts
Visual Arts

Choose 2

Year-Long Classes

Band
Chorus
Orchestra
Arabic I
Chinese I
French I
Latin I
Spanish I
Spanish I Fluent Speakers
Coding

Choose 1

Option 3: 4 Semester Classes

Choose **4** classes from this list

Choose **NONE** from this list

Semester Classes

Digital Input Technologies
Innovations & Innovations
Teen Living
Theatre Arts
Visual Arts

Choose 4

Year-Long Classes

Band
Chorus
Orchestra
Arabic I
Chinese I
French I
Latin I
Spanish
Spanish Fluent Speakers
Coding



To learn more about each class, please access the the
Middle School Program Of Studies (POS):

<https://catalog.apsva.us/middle-school-courses>

The 7th Grade CRF Form

MUST be completed and turned in by

**Friday, February 23rd,
2024**

Any Questions?



Please email me at: nicholas.kean@apsva.us

or

send me a canvas message through
DHMS Class of 2030



Thank you so much for coming!

We can't wait for 7th grade!