

GRANDVIEW PREPARATORY SCHOOL MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The curriculum in the Middle School is designed specifically to meet the intellectual needs of the early adolescent child. In addition to a mastery of the "basics," the Middle School curriculum integrates a comprehensive critical thinking skill focus within the academic program. The Middle School academic scope and sequence of courses prepares students for the challenging curriculum at the Upper School level. Students move through a sequence of core courses, but are also given elements of choice in their elective and enrichment classes. An advanced academic curriculum with high school credit opportunity in math and Spanish is available to students who qualify. Grandview Preparatory School offers a variety of enrichment and elective classes to ensure the acquisition of skills and to expose students to a variety of subject. Offerings may change from year to year depending on student interest and involvement.

Adolescence is a time in which many challenges and difficult decisions are faced. Grandview aims to give its middle school students the opportunity to learn and explore in a comfortable, safe environment. Through the personalized advisory program, which meets daily for ten minutes and twice a month for extended academic counseling, students are mentored along their journey of academic and social growth. With their advisors, students learn how to set academic and life goals and take an active role in their learning experience. Students also have the opportunity to become mentors for younger students and interact with older students through shared community activities.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH	DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY	DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS	DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE	DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES
CULTURAL LITERATURE	WORLD CULTURES	MATH 101/MATH 102	EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE	SPANISH 401-403
<p>Students will be introduced to writings of diverse cultural importance that will reinforce critical reading and analysis skills. Contextual vocabulary study and prescriptive grammar will be taught, along with literary and expository areas of emphasis. We will review fundamental components of the English language and apply these components in expository, persuasive, and narrative compositions. Readings may include: <i>The Cay</i>, <i>Sherlock Holmes</i>, <i>Mythology</i>, <i>The Giver</i>, <i>The Graveyard Book</i>, <i>Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry</i>.</p>	<p>In this course students study the different regions of the world including North America, South America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Oceania. For each region of the world, the class will examine the physical environment, the culture and people of the regions, the economic activities of the regions and the most important political issues associated with the regions. This course will also examine how the environments, economies and people of the world are dependent on each other for better.</p>	<p>The purpose of this course is to continue the development of mathematical concepts and processes that can be used to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Most students entering middle school begin their math study with this course. It is an advance track introductory course which prepares students for success in pre-algebra. The course spans the concepts of real numbers, proportions, percentages, exponents, graphing and data analysis, probability, and basic geometric concepts. There are two sections of this course, and in this way, we are better able to individualize the instruction to the level appropriate for each as the classes are grouped by skill mastery.</p>	<p>Earth and Space Science is the study of the earth's lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, and its celestial environment. Through regular laboratory and field investigations, students will understand the history and development of the earth and space sciences, explore the uses of knowledge of the earth and its environment in various careers, and investigate earth and space science problems concerning personal needs and community issues related to science.</p>	<p>The middle school Spanish program emphasizes the fundamentals of Spanish structure in written and oral communication. Readings give students a panoramic view of the literature and culture of Spanish-speaking people. Developing communicative abilities in Spanish and understanding the rich culture of the Spanish-speaking world are the two primary objectives of the course. In order to reach these goals, the materials presented encourage the improvement of the four skills in the acquisition of the target language: oral, writing, reading, and listening. Students are exposed to grammatical structures which enable them to communicate efficiently. They are also exposed to cultural information and experiences to develop an understanding of the diversity and richness of the cultures and people of the Spanish-speaking world.</p>
Honors Section Available	Honors Section Available	Honors Section Available	Honors Section Available	

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH	DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY	DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS	DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE	DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES
<p style="text-align: center;">THEMATIC LITERATURE</p> <p>This course will examine literature linked by thematic connections within each unit. Students will experience shared reading with whole-class selections in addition to independent reading designed to provide an element of choice. Contextual vocabulary will be pulled from literary selections to enhance comprehension. We will also review the fundamental components of the English language and apply knowledge of these components through exposition. Students take a thematic approach to understanding literature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CIVICS</p> <p>Civics will introduce students to the purposes and functions of government. Students will explore how the government of The United States was created and how it has changed and grown over time. Documents such as The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution will be read and analyzed. Students will learn the structure of government in the United States at the federal, state and local levels. Other topics include: citizenship and values; rights and responsibilities; political parties, voting and elections; and civil and criminal law. Current events will be emphasized throughout this course.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PRE-ALGEBRA HONORS</p> <p>The purpose of this higher-level course is to continue the development of mathematical concepts and processes that can be used to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Students have an opportunity to learn as mathematicians rather than memorizing facts and algorithms. Students will also learn to analyze non-routine problems. There is an emphasis on strengthening and developing skills and concepts needed for success in Algebra I.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIFE SCIENCE</p> <p>In this course, science skills are approached primarily through a study of natural sciences, particularly organisms and their environments. The process of life on Earth and how organisms are linked will be explored. Topics include: Introduction to Life, Heredity, Mitosis, Asexual and Sexual Reproduction, Genetics, Human Body Systems, Ecology and Ecosystems, and Distribution of Life.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p>Additional languages such as French and Chinese are added as teacher-supported, multi-aged virtual classes. Students are provided with time during the day to work in the virtual environment and attend extended weekly seminars with their peers. The seminars are run by an independently contracted facilitator, who brings years of teaching experience in a multi-age setting along with expert language knowledge.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ETHICS IN LITERATURE</p> <p>Students examine literature as an example of fine writing and as a channel for dealing with themes of freedom, compassion, and courage. Poetry plays an important role in developing student expression and individual voice. Students address ethical issues of loyalty, justice, and equality. Readings may include Romeo and Juliet, To Kill a Mockingbird, Copper Sun, and Animal Farm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AMERICAN HISTORY</p> <p>This course will take you on a journey through history this year! We will begin with the first civilizations of the Americas, travel with the explorers from Europe who forged their way west, and watch as our 13 colonies become states! We will follow our new states as they create our government, constitution and foreign policy. We will watch as the nation grows and prospers and people move west toward the opposite coast. Slavery and the War between the states will also be covered along with Reconstruction and industrial growth. If time permits The Progressive Era will be covered along with World War I, the Roaring 20's, Great Depression and World War II.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALGEBRA I</p> <p>Provides a rigorous and in-depth study of algebra, emphasizing deductive reasoning skills. This course includes the following topics: operations and properties of real numbers, algebraic and graphical solutions to first degree equations and inequalities, relations and functions, operations with polynomials including all forms of factoring, quadratic equations, and applications to real world problems. This course may be taken for high school credit. HONORS sections are available for students with appropriate averages and standardized test scores, as well as departmental and administrative approval.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IPS - PHYSICAL SCIENCE</p> <p>The theme for this course is the anatomic model of matter. Students will gain knowledge and insight through useful laboratory skills and guided reasoning. Students will engage in experiments and discussions leading to the discovery of a new concept. Physical and chemical properties are examined. Content areas include: Volume and Mass, Characteristic Properties, Solubility, Separation of Substances, Compounds, Elements, Motion, Energy, Chemical Reactions and The Atomic Model of Matter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Honors Section Available</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACADEMIC SUPPORT</p> <p>This course focuses on time management, organization, and study skills needed for academic success. Through the academic advising of the instructor, students practice these skills through their own academic coursework. The course is a more effective version of the traditional "study hall."</p>

ELECTIVE & ENRICHMENT STUDIES

Middle School students have an enrichment path with some elements of choice. All students take physical education, art, and computer applications during middle school. Within these enrichment courses, they have some choice. Students may opt for regular physical education twice per week, or take a combination of yoga and physical education. They also have the choice of taking dance, music, or instrumental music (with private lessons).

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION	DEPARTMENTS OF VISUAL ARTS AND TECHNOLOGICAL STUDIES	DEPARTMENT OF DANCE	DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
<p style="text-align: center;">PHYSICAL EDUCATION</p> <p>Grandview offers a varied program of activities designed to develop a positive attitude and educate the student in the maintenance of mental and physical health. Students learn the importance of fitness. Activities include dance, skills training, agility and quickness, time and reaction drills, flexibility exercises, fundamentals of long distance running, soccer, volleyball, and basketball</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDDLE SCHOOL ART</p> <p>The middle school visual arts courses strive to establish a sense of personal expression. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking skills and problem solving while allowing the students to develop a personal venue for their artistic expression.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE</p> <p><i>Fusion</i> is the middle school performing arts company open to all middle school students as an elective. This class meets three times a week during the school day. The Fusion course familiarizes the student with techniques, forms, and styles of dance including jazz, modern, musical theater, and other choreographic styles. Language of Dance is also a primary focus.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC</p> <p><i>Middle School Chorale</i> combines traditional choral singing with musical theater to form the Grandview Middle School Chorale. Music theory and sight-singing are also a focus of this class. Music studied includes traditional and contemporary choral music and solo and ensemble music from the American Musical Theater Songbook. The class emphasizes the various characteristics of vocal development for all of the different styles of music that are studied.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">.YOGA</p> <p>This course familiarizes the student with both Vinyasa and Yin yoga. Yoga practice uses postures and poses to warm the body, focus the mind, increase flexibility, build strength and stamina, and strengthen the connective tissues of the body. Yoga is offered in conjunction with the Department of Dance and is taught by a certified instructor.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMPUTER APPLICATIONS AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP</p> <p>This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of the need for proficiency in computers and the way in which technology affects the school lives of individuals. This course is designed to encourage proficiency in keyboarding, word processing, and spreadsheets. Students will also be introduced to basic computer programming as well. The path of learning in this course is individualized through the checklist model whereby students can demonstrate mastery and move ahead in skill development at their own pace.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE</p> <p>The <i>Musical Theatre</i> course is open to students who are also enrolled in Fusion. Students learn both the choreography and vocals to musical theatre pieces. The course is co-taught by the Director of Dance Academy and the Director of Music.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Glee Club</p> <p>The Glee Club is our award-winning after-school chorus for Lower and Middle School students. The group performs music of all styles ranging from traditional choral, classical and holiday music to contemporary pop, rock and jazz. Each year, the Glee Club travels to perform on a Spring Tour which includes either public performances or adjudicated festivals.</p>