Hopkins Public Schools
North & West Junior High 2012-13

Junior High Course Catalog

Registration information for Hopkins students entering 7th, 8th, or 9th grade in 2012-13
Welcome to Hopkins Junior High Schools!

In Hopkins, you will find we take the business of education very seriously. Through the dedicated work of phenomenal teachers and staff, both Hopkins North Junior High School and Hopkins West Junior High School are committed to the academic, emotional, and social development of students at this critical time in their academic lives.

Exceptional middle-level education is substantially different from both elementary and high school education. At the middle level, students are developing their interests and academic habits, as well as finding their way socially. Hopkins’ wide variety of course options is specifically designed to allow students to explore and discover areas of interest that they may want to pursue in high school and beyond.

At the same time, students need to be challenged through classes that expand their knowledge and skills so they will develop the academic habits needed to carry them through high school and post-secondary education. The Hopkins Junior High program is well positioned to make that happen.

We also recognize the responsibility of providing our students with an environment which will socially and culturally prepare them to participate in a globally interconnected world. Experiences are structured so that students of both similar and different perspectives and cultures will learn together. These academic experiences may be as immediate as in a classroom, or as far-reaching as across the globe via the tools of technology. Quite simply, the mixing of cultures happens today throughout the work world and certainly in advanced academic settings. For our students, a sense of intercultural awareness and appreciation will be critical to their future success in a global society.

At Hopkins we are excited about our new Flex classes that have been added to our 2012-13 offerings. These courses increase the rigor in core content areas, while giving students valuable flexibility in choosing when throughout the year the increased rigor fits in with other coursework, sports, or activities.

Our hope is for your child to leave our schools with a promising academic future and a string of wonderful memories of relationships with friends and a caring staff.

– Principals, Dr. Shirley Gregoire and Becky Melville

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Welcome to the exceptional middle-level education our Hopkins junior high schools offer. Both Hopkins North Junior High and West Junior High are nationally recognized as schools of academic excellence. At either of our junior high schools, you will find caring and dedicated teachers committed to the unique intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of your 7th-9th grader.

A highly personalized program
With student populations of about 800, our junior highs deliver a highly personalized program by placing students on one of two grade-level teams, which results in every student having an advisor and a shared team of teachers. Unique to the Hopkins middle level schools:

- **World languages** in grades 7 through 9.
- Award-winning **music programs**: band, orchestra, and choir.
- **Pre-Advanced Placement** strategies embedded in core curriculum.
- **Exploratory courses** such as debate, advanced composition, jewelry making, engineering, theater, movie making, aquatics, technology, and more.
- **Gifted and Talented Education** (Challenge) with emphasis on science, math, and the humanities.
- **Honors and AP classes** in 9th grade.
- **Increased rigor** with our Flex courses in English, Science, and Social Studies.

A leader in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Our hands-on, project- and problem-based STEM curriculum, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) adds rigor and relevance to traditional technical programs and academics. Students have the opportunity to create, design, and build things like robots and cars, applying what they are learning in math and science to real-world challenges.

A structure for in-depth learning
Our block schedule affords students and staff the time to delve deeply into their studies with 86-minute class sessions; thus, in each class our students are able to complete extensive labs and projects whether in the sciences, arts, or technology. With four classes a day, students are better able to balance a rigorous academic program.

Our students use technology to solve real-world problems
Our junior highs boast a technology-rich environment. State-of-the-art digital science labs transform our students’ experiences from learning science to being real-world scientists with an unlimited capacity to analyze, synthesize, create, and present – skills that extend far beyond the science classroom. In all content areas teachers integrate technology with learning beyond the classroom walls.

Freshman year in a nurturing environment
The freshman year of high school occurs at a critical age for students. At Hopkins, we believe that the best place for freshman to experience the foundation for the rest of high school is in a nurturing, opportunity-enriched environment of around 800 students, rather than in a senior high of nearly 1,800 students, let alone the nearly 3,000 students found in many area high schools.

The freshman's schedule and course offerings allow most students to accelerate and double-up in their areas of interest and passion. By providing students a challenging program in 9th grade, with numerous leadership opportunities and electives, they are more ready to jump into the high school program as 10th graders with a clearer sense of their dreams, aspirations, and talents.

A richly diverse student body
The Hopkins junior high schools reflect the nation in which our students live. In their future workplaces, our students will need to work together with people of diverse languages, cultures, races, and religions. In Hopkins our students can begin developing these skills through structured academic and social interactions in a diverse student body, preparing them to thrive in a complex global society.

Our teachers are our strength!
Caring, dynamic, and devoted teachers strive to ensure that our students receive the best education possible. With 84 percent of our teachers holding master's degrees or beyond, we model life-long learning for our students. Their passion for education and their love of teaching is obvious in everything they do.

Our commitment
When you enroll your student in one of the Hopkins junior high schools, you have our commitment to provide your son or daughter with a quality education that responds to his/her academic, social, emotional, and physical development. At Hopkins, our commitment is to the individual.
Registration & Planning

How to use this course catalog:

Look over our Overview of Course Offerings on pages 4-5. This will give you a big-picture view of how to plan your junior high years and create a three-year plan. Discover some new areas to explore. Determine some interests you’d like to pursue. Develop your passions.

Check out your Registration Worksheet and learn more about the classes offered in your upcoming grade level. The Registration Worksheet will guide you through your required courses and elective possibilities. Descriptions of all the classes offered in your grade level follow the Registration Worksheet.

Grade 7, page 6  •  Grade 8, page 12  •  Grade 9, page 18

Make some choices. Start with the requirements, then move on to the electives. Use pencil so you can erase and make changes as you go along. If you have any questions, please feel free to call your school’s guidance counselors.

North Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4805
Counselors: Marilyn Larson • Jeff Matchette • Jill Rost

West Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4416
Counselors: Dana Baker • Sarah Coffey

Registration Timelines

January:
6th, 7th and 8th grade students register online during advisory or class.

June:
Students and parents need to submit changes in schedule requests by mid-June.

June/July:
Schools proof and adjust students’ schedules.

August:
Schedules become available to all students mid-August (via pick-up or Infinite Campus).

Send written change requests via email or mail.

New to our schools?

Enrollment:
It is our goal to make enrollment as easy as possible. New residents, transfer students, and students who are open-enrolling from other districts should request an enrollment packet from our enrollment specialist, Pat Wright, at 952-988-4003 or Patricia.Wright@HopkinsSchools.org. Pat will be happy to answer questions and assist you with filling out the necessary forms.

School Tours:
The best way to learn about our schools is to visit them. Our principals give tours to families regularly and would be happy to walk the halls with you and show you why Hopkins is an excellent choice for your child.

To schedule a tour, contact the main office:
North Junior High: 952-988-4805
West Junior High: 952-988-4400

Immunizations:
Hopkins Public Schools participates in the No Shots, No School program. This means that all students must have up-to-date immunization records before they can attend school; 7th grade students typically need new immunizations. The school needs to have the immunization forms by the first day of school.
What does a sample school schedule look like?

What does the typical schedule look like at our Hopkins junior highs? Based on a block scheduling system – four blocks per day – our structure allows students to choose from an unusually wide variety of courses. What a possible year may look like:

### 7th Grade Music Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>World Language or Elective</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
<td>World Language or Elective</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 A-day*</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 B-day*</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Reading</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 8th Grade Non-Music and Non-World Language Student  (*one elective in 7th or 8th grade is Art*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Elective*</td>
<td>Elective*</td>
<td>Elective*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 A-day*</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
<td>Study Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 B-day*</td>
<td>Nutrition 8</td>
<td>Tech Ed</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Tech Ed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 9th Grade MUSIC Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 A-day*</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 B-day*</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Financial Literacy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A-day and B-day are Alternating Days. Students take only 5 classes per term with the Alternating Term schedule. Benefits include: students have more focused time on fewer classes, and teachers have fewer students per term.

**Choice in After-School Activities**

### After-school activities

The athletic and co-curricular programs at the Hopkins junior high schools are second to none. Regardless of whether your student is an athlete, musician, actor, or club member (or all of these!), the after-school programs at North and West will be a great match.

#### Clubs and Organizations

Organizations include Student Council, volunteerism, Chess Club, Science Club, to name just a few of the clubs that are available. Each school provides performing and visual arts experiences. Throughout the year, a wide variety of special interest courses may be offered: fencing, Experiential Art, chess club, and more. Regardless of your student’s interests, Hopkins junior high programs can enrich your student’s life far beyond the school day!

#### Hopkins three season sports include (*=grades 7-12):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Basketball (Girls/Boys)</td>
<td>Softball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' Swimming/Diving</td>
<td>Boys' Swimming*</td>
<td>Synchronized Swimming*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys' Soccer</td>
<td>Gymnastics*</td>
<td>Adapted Softball*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' Soccer*</td>
<td>Alpine Skiing*</td>
<td>Adapted Bowling*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapted Soccer*</td>
<td>Hockey (Girls/Boys)*</td>
<td>LaCrosse*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>Nordic Skiing*</td>
<td>Golf*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' Tennis</td>
<td>Dance Team*</td>
<td>Boys' Tennis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrichment, Clubs &amp; Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anime Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALM Palooza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comic Book Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dungeons and Dragons Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Night Ski Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping Hands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazz Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Nationals Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge Master Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model UN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Fair competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOAR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Step                              |
| String Ensemble                  |
| Student Council                  |
| SPPA                             |
| Swimming                         |
| Theater (one act play)           |
| Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl           |
| Track & Field                    |
| Tennis                           |
| Unit X (dance)                   |
| Variety Show                     |
| Writers Group                    |
| YIG (Youth In Government)        |
| Young Authors Conference         |
| Young Scientist Roundtable       |
| And more!                        |

All 7th graders will take a Study Time.

At least one fine arts (Music or Visual Arts course) must be taken in 7th or 8th grade.

All 9th grade credits:
- Count towards high school graduation.
- Count towards high school GPA.
- Will be on students’ high school transcript.

www.HopkinsSchools.org
## Overview of Course Offerings by Grade Level

### English Language Arts and Reading

**English Language Arts**: We give students effective techniques to send and receive information in a clear, thoughtful manner, and to use related knowledge and contexts to synthesize information into meaningful messages. Hopkins also emphasizes the importance and art of media literacy. 

**Reading**: We help all children become independent readers and writers through a balanced literacy program. Of equal importance are the emphasis on reading for meaning and the promotion of literature for enrichment and lifelong learning.

### Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS)

Our Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS) program prepares students for family life and the interrelationships between family, community, and work.

### Mathematics

We believe that mathematical proficiency involves five interwoven strands – we want students to be able to apply, understand, compute, reason, and engage in mathematics.

### Mathematics Course Flow Chart: Grades 6-12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6th Grade</th>
<th>7th Grade</th>
<th>8th Grade (High School credits begin)</th>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th Grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Typical Student Path</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Grade Math</td>
<td>Pre-Algebra</td>
<td>Algebra I</td>
<td>Intermediate Algebra</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>Algebra 2</td>
<td>Pre-Calculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated Student Path</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Algebra</td>
<td>Enriched Algebra 1</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>Algebra 2</td>
<td>Pre-Calculus</td>
<td>AP Statistics or AP Calculus</td>
<td>AP Statistics or AP Calculus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = Required Course

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**Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) strategies are embedded into core curriculum for all students.**
**New for 2012-13: Increased Rigor in Our Flex Classes**

Hopkins Public Schools is excited to implement Flex classes in 2012-13. These classes are designed to increase rigor while remaining respectful of the changing available time a student may have over the course of a year.

At various points during a Flex class, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor, primarily through the complexity of the assigned work and materials. Students will opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with their teacher’s guidance. Students can anticipate a more intense workload with these units when opting in.

Flex classes are available as alternatives to the following core classes in grades 7 and 8: English Language Arts 7 or 8 Flex, Life Science Flex, World Geography Flex, Earth Science Flex, or U.S. History Flex.

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### Continued...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Music</strong></th>
<th><strong>7th Grade</strong></th>
<th><strong>8th Grade</strong></th>
<th><strong>9th Grade</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our music department provides quality music education for all learners.</td>
<td>7th Grade Band</td>
<td>8th Grade Band</td>
<td>9th Grade Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This serves as the foundation for lifelong learning, enrichment,</td>
<td>7th Grade Choir</td>
<td>8th Grade Choir</td>
<td>9th Grade Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enjoyment, creativity, and performance; while promoting self,</td>
<td>7th Grade Orchestra</td>
<td>8th Grade Orchestra</td>
<td>9th Grade Orchestra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>community, and global awareness.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Physical Education**

| The mission of our physical education and developmental/adapted programs   | **7th Grade Physical Education** | **8th Grade Physical Education** | **Physical Education 9th** |
| to develop in each student the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will   |                           |                           | Aquatics and Recreational Activities |
| enable them to lead healthy, active lives by providing and adapting        |                           |                           | Archery, Bowling, and Recreational Activities |
| relevant, enjoyable, and creative activities in a safe and inclusive        |                           |                           | Team and Racquet Sports |
| environment.                                                              |                           |                           | Strength and Fitness |

**Science**

| The mission of our science program is to develop scientifically            | **Life Science** or Life Science | **Earth Science** or Earth Science | **Physical Science** |
| literate citizens. We are dedicated to creating an environment that        | Flex*                         | Flex*                         | Forensics |
| instills an enthusiasm for scientific learning.                             |                           |                           | Applied Science – Engineering |
|                                                                          |                           |                           | Environmental Studies |
|                                                                          |                           |                           |                       |
|                                                                          | **Experimental Science**    | **Anatomy & Physiology of the Human Body** |                       |
|                                                                          |                           |                           |                       |
|                                                                          | **Gizmos, Gadgets, & Goop** |                           |                       |
|                                                                          |                           |                           |                       |
|                                                                          |                             | **Physical Science Flex**   |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          |                             | **History Day Prep**        | **Civics** or Honors Civics** |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          |                             | **"Reel" World Geography**  | **World Savvy – The World Affairs Challenge** |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **PLTW Design and Modeling/ Science of Technology** |                             |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **Photography**             | **Architectural and Engineering Design** |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **Wood-N-Toys**             | **Yearbook**                |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **Metals – Grades 7 & 8**   | **9th Grade Metals**        |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **9th Grade Woods**         | **Multimedia Design Studio** |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **Multimedia Design Studio** | **Electricity and Electronics** |                       |
|                                                                          |                             |                             |                       |
|                                                                          | **Architectural and Engineering Design** | **Aerospace Engineering** |                       |

**Visual Arts**

| The Hopkins Visual Arts program strives to inspire within each learner    | **The Foundations of Art and Design** | **Ceramics/Clay** | **Media/Computer Arts** |
| the craftsmanship, understanding, and appreciation of art that will       |                             |                             |                       |
| contribute to an enriched quality of life. We provide opportunities        | **Modern American Art and Artistic Practices** | **Jewelry** |                       |
| for students to learn about art content, and to build skills in various    | **Architectural and Engineering Design** |                             |                       |
| art mediums through the Discipline-Based Arts Education framework.        | **Drawing & Painting**      |                             |                       |

**World Language**

| We are pleased about the increased presence of world languages in our     | **Introduction to World Languages through Film** | **American Sign Language** | **Media/Computer Arts** |
| junior high program! Students who entered Grade 7 in the 2011-12 school | | **French 1** | **Drawing & Painting** |
| year, or younger, will need to complete two courses of World Language    | | **French 2** |                       |
| sometime in their Grades 7-12 program as a graduation requirement. As    | | **German 1** |                       |
| is the case in all elective coursework, sufficient enrollment will be     | | **German 2** |                       |
| required to run courses.                                                | | **Spanish 1** |                       |
|                                                                          | | **Spanish 2** |                       |
|                                                                          | | **Juntos 1** |                       |
|                                                                          | | **Juntos 2** |                       |

* = Required Course
7th Grade Course Requests for the 2012-13 School Year

Request Guidelines:

• Courses cannot be requested for a specific term, block, or teacher.
• Music fills two terms.
• World Languages fills two terms. If you selected a world language, give an alternate world language. Otherwise, continue to list your alternative elective choices.
• All other electives fill one term.
• Completion of at least two World Language courses within grades 7-12 is required for graduation.
• Student must register for fine arts (Music or Visual Arts) in either 7th or 8th grade.
• Course requests will be entered in the order they appear on this form up to 16 credits.
• Students may register for only one Flex class per year.

List 10 electives in order of preference. All electives must be filled in. Each student will have a total of 4 elective terms, assigned in order of preference and availability.

1. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
2. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
3. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
4. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
5. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
6. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
7. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
8. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
9. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $
10. ______________________________________ ____________________________ $

In addition to required and elective courses, Hopkins junior highs also offer targeted support services, including classes and programs for:

• High Potential (Our ALM Challenge (gifted and talented) program) 
• Intervention in Reading, Writing and Math 
• English Language Learning (ELL) 
• Special Education 

See descriptions on page 28.

Fees* for Specific 7th Grade Courses

Family & Consumer Science
• Snack Innovations, $10.00
Technology Education
• Photography, $10.00
• Wood-N-Toys, $10.00
• Metals - Grades 7 and 8, $15.00

* A student that is eligible for free/reduced lunches may be eligible for a reduced fee. Contact your course instructor.

Questions? Call us!
North Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4805
West Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4416
English Language Arts and Reading

**Required: 7101 or 7105**

**7101 English Language Arts 7**  
*Requirement: 2 terms*  
*7th Grade*

English Language Arts 7 includes language, literature, and writing, and introduces critical viewing. Language study covers sentence mechanics and structure, grammar usage, and vocabulary. Literature study incorporates multiple genres and focuses on both concepts and literary elements. The writing curriculum includes various forms of expository writing – introducing the five-paragraph essay style and creative writing – reinforcing literary elements. Students will also learn critical responses to literature by becoming familiar with close reading skills. The Hopkins writing approach focuses on both process and prompt writing. Technology integration allows for student publishing and presentation.  
*Prerequisite: none*

**7105 English Language Arts 7 Flex**  
*Requirement: 2 terms*  
*7th Grade*

This course offers a challenging opportunity to students while still following the general English Language Arts 7 course standards. At various points during this course, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor, primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. Students will elect to opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with teacher guidance. Students can also anticipate a more intense workload with these units.  
*Prerequisite: none*

**Elective**

**6150 Creative Storytelling and Acting**  
*Elective: 1 term*  
*7th/8th Grade*

Creative Storytelling and Acting is designed for students who love to tell stories in words, graphics, and actions. This may include short stories, poetry, plays, memoirs, or graphic novels. We will explore how words may combine with some elements of art and fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, and we will portray some of these on stage. You will read and analyze short stories, poems, and graphic novels – and attempt to create your own! This course is a useful companion to English Language Arts 7, emphasizing concepts of characterization, plot and theme, as well as the writing process. This is a fun class that will help you develop your confidence and use your creative thinking and writing skills.  
*Prerequisite: none*

**Required: 7115 or 7120**

**7115 Reading in the Secondary School**  
*Requirement: 1 term*  
*7th Grade*

Reading in the Secondary Schools provides the sophisticated reading-skill instruction students need to be successful beyond junior high. Students will use comprehension strategies to understand increasingly challenging text, and learn to identify informational text structures and genres of fiction. A study of Greek and Latin roots accelerates vocabulary development. Students will learn critical thinking skills, Cornell note-taking techniques, Socratic discussion protocols, time management, and test preparation strategies for the MCA-II. Finally, students participate in a differentiated, individualized, independent reading program, sharing reading electronically and in book talks where teachers evaluate progress and provide suggestions for reading strategies and book selection.  
*Prerequisite: none*

**7120 Enriched Reading in the Secondary Schools**  
*Requirement: 1 term*  
*7th Grade*

Enriched Reading in the Secondary Schools is designed for the highly-motivated student and reader who reads complex text and a variety of genres and authors, independent of reading required for class. Students in this section will master the outcomes of Reading in the Secondary Schools and move on to master the literacy strategies necessary for success in honors courses. Making meaningful connections between texts read for class, other subjects, and real-world situations, will be emphasized. Students will participate in an in-depth individualized reading program that will allow them to pursue their passion for reading.  
*Prerequisite: none (reading requirement: on average, one book per week.)*

**Elective**

**6151 Sports Film & Literature**  
*Elective: 1 term*  
*7th/8th Grade*

Do you like sports? Do you like arguing about sports? Reading about sports? Writing about sports? This is the course for you! In this class students will improve their writing, thinking, and reading skills, but you will do it while studying units associated with the wonderful world of athletics. Units include coaches, women and sports, race and sports, family, and underdogs.  
*Prerequisite: none*

**Family and Consumer Sciences**

**6850 Snack Innovations**  
*Elective: 1 term*  
*7th/8th Grade*

We all love a snack – it’s even better when it is healthy! In class, teams develop a food company by inventing, marketing, and selling an original healthy snack to other students and staff, while studying nutrition. There will be an emphasis on cooking for a healthy lifestyle.  
*Prerequisite: none*  
*Course fee: $10*
Health

**Required**

**7521 7th Grade Health**

*Requirement: .5 term 7th Grade*

This course will guide you in understanding personal health, developing life management skills, forming healthy relationships, and making healthy decisions. Topics include: mental health, self-esteem, body image, eating disorders, stress and depression, factors impacting brain function and development in adolescence, chemical use and abuse (tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana), healthy vs. unhealthy relationships, puberty and personal hygiene, anatomy and physiology of the reproductive system, teenage pregnancy, abstinence, and sexually transmitted diseases.

*Prerequisite: none*

Mathematics

**Required: 7201 or 7210 (teacher placed)**

**7201 Pre-Algebra**

*Requirement: 2 terms 7th Grade*

Students continue to develop their mathematical understanding in the key areas of rational numbers and operations, proportional reasoning, linear relationships, geometry and measurement, and data and probability. In class we will focus on the investigation of mathematical concepts through rich problem-solving situations. Technological tools, including calculators, will be used to help you learn mathematics and apply your knowledge to solve real-world problems.

*Prerequisite: none*

**Required: 7201 or 7210 (teacher placed)**

**7210 Enriched Algebra 1**

*Requirement: 2 terms 7th/8th Grade*

Students will learn algebra by participating in a variety of hands-on and interactive investigations that are relevant and meaningful. Topics include real numbers; linear, non-linear, and exponential relationships; functions; equations and inequalities; the Pythagorean theorem; quadratic equations; scatterplots; and lines of best fit. We will use graphing calculators to explore mathematical relationships and solve problems. You will need to maintain a B average or better to stay in this class.

*Prerequisite: 6th Grade Challenge Math or demonstrated proficiency on Credit by Assessment test*

Music

**Elective**

**7620 7th Grade Band**

*Elective: 2 terms Full year (alternating days) 7th Grade*

This course is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course offering the opportunity to perform in a full wind band ensemble, and present a variety of fun and challenging music in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, history, and music from other cultures. Outside-of-class practice is an essential component of this course.

*Prerequisite: none*

**Elective**

**7630 7th Grade Choir**

*Elective: 2 terms Full year (alternating days) 7th Grade*

This course is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course offering the opportunity to perform in a mixed ensemble and present a variety of fun and challenging songs in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, music history, vocal health, vocal technique, sight reading, and the changing voice.

*Prerequisite: none*

Physical Education

**Required**

**7501 7th Grade Physical Education**

*Requirement: .5 term 7th Grade*

This course offers a wide variety of physical activities, including fitness development activities, soccer, lacrosse, pickleball, swimming, and basketball. You will assess your personal fitness level and set individual goals for improvement; develop sport-specific skills and techniques and apply them in game situations; understand and follow proper safety precautions; understand and apply vocabulary, rules and strategies associated with each game; and pass or make progress toward the American Red Cross Level 4 swim requirement.

*Prerequisite: none*

**Elective**

**6550 P.E. to the Max**

*Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade*

This class is for students who like to play games and be active. You will participate in a variety of activities, including football, inline skating, floor hockey, badminton, team handball, disc golf, archery, tennis, softball, table tennis, aquatic games, soccer, and basketball. This course may be taken more than once.

*Prerequisite: none*
Science

Required: 7301 or 7305

7301 Life Science
Requirement: 2 terms 7th Grade
In *Life Science*, you will have the opportunity to observe and connect with topics related to the living world. Creating such connections is important to consider as you become more aware of your place within the global environment. Throughout the year, you will have the opportunity to develop both scientific and critical thinking skills. Furthermore, you will develop your individual abilities to inquire, explain, predict and make informed decisions – invaluable skills in answering questions about all life on Earth.
Prerequisite: none

Rigor

7305 Life Science Flex
Requirement: 2 terms 7th Grade
This course offers a challenging opportunity to students while still following the general *Life Science* course standards. At various points during this course, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. Students will elect to opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with teacher guidance. Students can also anticipate a more intense workload with these units.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

6352 Anatomy & Physiology of the Human Body
Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade
Warning – this course may change your view of life, your body, and how life works! Join us for a journey into the inner workings of the human body. This is a hands-on lab and activity-based course where you will be allowed to generate knowledge about anatomy (the body’s structure) and physiology (the body’s function), with emphasis on the systems of the body and how they are interrelated. Dissections will be a part of this course.
Prerequisite: none

Social Studies

Required: 7401 or 7405

7401 World Geography
Required: 2 terms 7th Grade
World Geography focuses on the human, political, and physical geography of Europe, Latin America, and the Eastern Hemisphere. The course also includes basic geography skills and knowledge, such as cardinal directions, latitude and longitude, hemispheres, and more. You will participate in class discussions, write about current events, learn about the relevance of local and global communities in everyday life, and begin to translate this relevance into being a responsible citizen. You will also apply pre-AP skills in writing assignments, analysis of primary and secondary documents, and in reading comprehension.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

6450 History Day Prep
Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade
This class provides an opportunity for in-depth study of a variety of topics in U.S. history. Explore a topic of your own choice that relates to the National History Day Topic for the year. Then, prepare a final product – documentary, presentation, exhibit, performance, website, or paper – to be submitted for judgment by teachers and guest judges. Students may advance through school, regional, state, and national competitions.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

7405 “Reel” World Geography: Geography through Film & Media
Elective: 1 term 7th Grade
What can *The Lion King* tell us about West African empires? Does Disney’s *Mulan* tell the real story of a young girl who saved China? Is there more to *The Emperor’s New Groove* than a prince who turns into a llama? Pop culture is full of “historical” and cultural films, and many of us have been watching them since we were young children. In this class, you will revisit these films with the eyes of a geographer and discover the fact – or fiction – behind each. In this project-based class you will learn research skills, investigate history and cultures, and reinforce the skills you are learning in World Geography.
Prerequisite: none

Science teachers are preparing Hopkins students to inquire, observe, explain, and predict in the classroom. Students then connect their classroom experience to the world surrounding them.
Technology Education

Elective
6750 Wood-N-Toys
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade
You will have the opportunity to make your own chess and checkers board, which will be the top of a wooden box containing the pieces for tic-tac-toe, cribbage, backgammon, Yahtzee, and a deck of cards. You will also construct outdoor games such as ladder ball, croquet mallets, and bean bag toss, and use them in various tournaments.
Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $10

Elective
6751 Photography
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade
You’ve captured an image – now what? Learn to improve your pictures using Adobe Photoshop. You will shoot a variety of pictures trying different composition techniques. Learn about the various settings on a camera, and how to use them to get the pictures you want. Whether you want to put together a portfolio of pictures, or learn skills to last a lifetime, this course offers a great opportunity for you to develop your skills in photography.
Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $10

Elective
6752 Metals – Grades 7 & 8
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade
This introductory metals class is a hands-on class where we make a number of fun projects. Projects include a sheet metal toolbox, tool tote, plasma designs, and a welding design.
Prerequisite: none  Course Fee: $15

Elective
6753 Multimedia Design Studio
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade
Multimedia Design Studio is an introductory course to the high tech field of multimedia presentations and design software. The focus is on software that produces web pages, screen savers, and video games. This is one of the fastest growing fields in the country, and this course introduces students to the skills and knowledge that can lead into computer-related careers in software engineering, networking, multimedia and web page design, as well as many others. Students will use design, problem-solving, time-management, math, and cooperative skills to complete the course.
Prerequisite: none

Technology education offers students real-world, hands-on experiences with up-to-date equipment and software.

Visual Arts

Elective
6650 The Foundations of Art and Design
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th grade
The foundation of the Visual Arts curriculum has a strong emphasis on the elements and principles of art and design. This class, designed as a bridge between the elementary and the high school experience, will provide challenging, relevant, and fun lessons. You will explore art in its many dimensions through studio projects, historical inquiry, art criticism, and aesthetics. You will also develop creative problem-solving and self-evaluation skills while building a deeper understanding of art processes, techniques, and visual culture.
Prerequisite: this class is strongly encouraged prior to taking 9th grade Visual Art electives.

Elective
6651 Modern American Art and Artistic Practices
Elective: 1 term  7th/8th grade
This course will focus on studio work inspired by 20th century American artists, and how they have responded to political events in a variety of ways throughout the century. You will learn about the art and laws of graffiti, appropriation, and symbolism in art. Digital photography, mixed media, painting, sculpture, and comic-style pen and ink may also be explored. You will create individual works of art along with possible group projects.
Recommended Prerequisite: The Foundations of Art and Design
World Language

**Elective**

**6911 French 1**  
*Elective: 2 terms  7th/8th Grade*  
French 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the French language and culture. You will work toward a beginning-level competency in four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), as well as an understanding of French and Francophone cultures. We will emphasize everyday vocabulary and basic grammar that will enable you to communicate about a variety of topics, including school, travel, weather, family, and telling time/dates. You will receive an initial exposure to French and Francophone cultures through music, readings, television, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.  
**Prerequisite: none**

**6921 German 1**  
*Elective: 2 terms  7th/8th Grade*  
German 1 is an introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing German that is used in everyday situations. You will learn to communicate about a variety of topics, including school life, leisure activities, travel, getting and giving directions, and expressing opinions. Daily homework assignments can be expected.  
**Prerequisite: none**

**6931 Spanish 1**  
*Elective: 2 terms  7th/8th Grade*  
Spanish 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and the varied Spanish-speaking cultures. You will achieve a beginning competency in the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in order to talk about yourself, your interests, feelings, and everyday life. Frequent homework can be expected.  
**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective**  
**9952 Introduction to World Languages through Film**  
*Elective: 2 terms  7th-9th Grade*  
This class explores world culture and language through film. In addition to studying basic grammar in several languages, you will follow various film styles in their original language version. You will be expected to have notions of each language as you watch the films. You will also learn through music and stories.  
**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective • Teacher Recommended**  
**6935 Juntos 1**  
*Elective: 2 terms  7th/8th Grade*  
Juntos 1 is an accelerated Spanish course that emphasizes high-level critical thinking, reading, and writing using cross-curricular contexts as well as Hispanic literature and texts with a focus on Mexican and Central American literature and culture. Reading and writing skills are refined and further developed with a focus on spelling and vocabulary. Connections between first language skills and second language acquisition are the core of the course framework. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish.  
**Prerequisite: demonstrated proficiency in reading and writing the Spanish language through an entry exam.**

Hopkins accelerated Spanish courses take World Language to the next level

Hopkins’ junior high Juntos courses are accelerated Spanish classes designed for heritage Spanish speakers and students who have completed an elementary immersion program. In the 2012-13 school year, Hopkins will offer Juntos 1 to 7th and 8th graders, and Juntos 2 to 8th graders.

**AP Juntos Class in 9th Grade**  
In the 2013-14 school year, Juntos 3 will begin in 9th grade. Juntos 3 will be an AP (Advanced Placement) class capable of earning college credit.

**Juntos up close**  
Before enrolling in Juntos, students must pass a Spanish proficiency test. This is a critical prerequisite because Juntos teacher, Erik Thompson, does not speak a word of English in class. Dialoguing with students entirely in Spanish is an activity that Thompson finds incredibly gratifying. “This class has a real sense of community,” said Thompson. “Not only is it okay to speak Spanish, you have to speak Spanish.”

The language component is particularly important for native Spanish-speaking students. Nationwide, Latino students are underrepresented in AP classes. Juntos encourages Latino students to experience an AP class in a safe place where they feel confident.

The ability to master two languages is a skill that benefits all students. Bilingual adults have a competitive edge in the job market, and may have more earning power than their peers who speak only one language.

**Staying with accelerated Spanish**  
Students who stay on the accelerated Spanish track can earn a wealth of college credits. The ninth-grade class alone will earn up to nine college credits, and three more AP Spanish classes will be developed for grades 10, 11, and 12.
8th Grade Course Requests for the 2012-13 School Year

**Request Guidelines:**
- Courses cannot be requested for a specific term, block, or teacher.
- Music fills two terms.
- World Languages fills two terms. If you selected a world language, give an alternate world language. Otherwise, continue to list your alternative elective choices.
- All other electives fill one term.
- Completion of at least two World Language courses within grades 7-12 is required for graduation.
- Student must register for fine arts (Music or Visual Arts) in either 7th or 8th grade.
- Course requests will be entered in the order they appear on this form up to 16 credits.
- Students may register for only one Flex class per year. Please indicate your order of preference for the Flex classes you select.

**Fees* for Specific 8th Grade Courses**
- **FACS – Family & Consumer Science:** Snack Innovations, $10.00
- **Technology Education:** Photography, $10.00
- PLTW Design & Modeling/Science of Technology, $5.00 plus Kit Cost
- Wood-N-Toys, $10.00

* A student that is eligible for free/reduced lunches may be eligible for a reduced fee. Contact your course instructor.

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**Course #** | **Course Name** | **Terms** | **Flex Class Order**
---|---|---|---
8101 or 8105 | English Language Arts 8 or English Language Arts 8 Flex | 2 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8201 or 7210 or 9203 | Algebra 1 or Enriched Algebra 1 or Geometry (placement determined by teacher) | 2 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8301 or 8305 | Earth Science or Earth Science Flex | 2 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8401 or 8405 | U.S. History or U.S. History Flex | 2 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8501 | 8th Grade Physical Education | .5 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8801 | Nutrition 8 | .5 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
8701 | PLTW Design and Modeling/Science of Technology | 1 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd
6001 | Study Time (required for all 8th Grade students) | 2 | 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Teacher placement: Academic Writing 8 (8180), Reading 8 (8110), ALM (8877)

**List 10 electives in order of preference.**
All electives must be filled in. Each student will have a total of 4 elective terms, assigned in order of preference and availability.

| 1. |  |  | Fee (if applicable) | $ |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |
| 4. |  |  |  |
| 5. |  |  |  |
| 6. |  |  |  |
| 7. |  |  |  |
| 8. |  |  |  |
| 9. |  |  |  |
| 10. |  |  |  |

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In addition to required and elective courses, Hopkins junior highs also offer targeted support services, including classes and programs for:
- High Potential (Our ALM Challenge (gifted and talented) program)
- Intervention in Reading, Writing and Math
- English Language Learning (ELL)
- Special Education

See descriptions on page 28.

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________ Date: ________________

To the best of my knowledge, my child receives the following services: □ ELL □ IEP □ 504

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Questions? Call us!
North Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4805
West Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4416
English Language Arts and Reading

Required: 8101 or 8105

8101 English Language Arts 8
Requirement: 2 terms 8th Grade
English Language Arts 8 picks up where English Language Arts 7 left off and again includes language, literature, writing, and critical viewing. Students continue language study, but the curriculum further synthesizes sentence mechanics and structure, grammar usage, and vocabulary. Additionally, students develop annotation skills. Literature study incorporates additional genres and focuses on both concepts and literary elements. The writing curriculum includes various forms of expository and creative writing, as well as critical responses to literature and other media. Our writing approach focuses on both process and prompt writing. Technology integration allows for student publishing and presentation.
Prerequisite: none

8105 English Language Arts 8 Flex
Requirement: 2 terms 8th Grade
This course offers a challenging opportunity to students while still following the English Language Arts 8 course standards. At various points during this course, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. Students will elect to opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with teacher guidance. Students can also anticipate a more intense workload with these units.
Prerequisite: none

Required — if Teacher Recommended

8110 Reading 8
Requirement: 1 term Teacher placement 8th Grade
In Reading 8 you will deepen the critical reading skills you have developed for fiction and informational text, and continue to broaden your vocabulary. What are the big questions in fiction? How do you read academic text? How do you use databases for research? How do you know if websites are reliable? You will complete an in-depth study of a fiction genre, learn to mark informational text for deep comprehension, and understand how to be a critical reader of digital text. You will also have experiences to prepare for the MCA-II in reading, and read books of your choice.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

6150 Creative Storytelling and Acting
Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade
Creative Storytelling and Acting is designed for students who love to tell stories in words, graphic, and actions. This may include short stories, poetry, plays, memoirs, or graphic novels. We will explore how words may combine with some elements of art and fiction, nonfiction, and poetry, and we will portray some of these on stage. You will read and analyze short stories, poems, and graphic novels — and attempt to create your own! This course is a useful companion to English Language Arts 7, emphasizing concepts of characterization, plot and theme, as well as the writing process. This is a fun class that will help you develop your confidence, and use your creative thinking and writing skills.
Prerequisite: none

Family and Consumer Sciences

Required

8801 Nutrition 8
Requirement: 1 term 8th Grade
You are what you eat! Food really does matter. Apply scientifically proven nutrition principles to your own life. Make healthy food choices that put you in control of your own wellness. You will be preparing and eating food with your lab group, which involves using planning, organizing, and interpersonal skills.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

6850 Snack Innovations
Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade
We all love a snack! It’s even better when it is healthy! In class, teams develop a food company by inventing, marketing, and selling an original healthy snack to other students and staff while studying nutrition. There will be an emphasis on cooking for a healthy lifestyle.
Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $10

Elective

6151 Sports Film & Literature
Elective: 1 term 7th/8th Grade
Do you like sports? Do you like arguing about sports? Reading about sports? Writing about sports? This is the course for you! In this class students will improve their writing, thinking, and reading skills, but you will do it while studying units associated with the wonderful world of athletics. Units include coaches, women and sports, race and sports, family, and underdogs.
Prerequisite: none

Fresh is Best — Hopkins Students Thrive with Healthy Initiatives

If you are what you eat, Hopkins Public Schools strives to be a well-balanced meal. The District has taken great strides when it comes to nutrition, from serving locally-grown produce and unprocessed food, to eliminating soda from the vending machines. Our Farm2School program brings fresh fruits, vegetables, and grass-fed beef into our schools from local farms.

www.HopkinsSchools.org 13
Mathematics

**Required:** 7210, 8201, or 9203 (teacher placed)

**8201 Algebra 1**

**Requirement:** 2 terms 8th Grade

Students will learn algebra by participating in a variety of hands-on and interactive investigations that are relevant and meaningful. Topics we will study include real numbers; linear, non-linear, and exponential relationships; functions; equations and inequalities; the Pythagorean Theorem; scatterplots; and lines of best fit. You will use a graphing calculator to explore mathematical relationships and solve problems.

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Algebra

**Required:** 7210, 8201, or 9203 (teacher placed)

**7210 Enriched Algebra 1**

**Requirement:** 2 terms 7th/8th Grade

Students will learn algebra by participating in a variety of hands-on and interactive investigations that are relevant and meaningful. Topics include real numbers; linear, non-linear, and exponential relationships; functions; equations and inequalities; the Pythagorean theorem; quadratic equations; scatterplots; and lines of best fit. We will use graphing calculators to explore mathematical relationships and solve problems. You will need to maintain a B average or better to stay in this class.

**Prerequisite:** placement test or teacher recommendation

**Required:** 7210, 8201, or 9203 (teacher placed)

**9203 Geometry**

**Requirement:** 2 terms 8th or 9th Grade

Students will explore geometric relationships with a wide variety of tools, including compasses, computers, and graphing calculators. Students will perform constructions, measure figures, observe patterns, discuss their findings, write their own definitions, and formulate geometric conjectures. Real-world examples and applications from many cultures and disciplines are an integral part of the course. Students should maintain a grade of a B or better to remain in the class. Students registering for Geometry should be aware that this class is a high school class, and as such, earns high school credits.

**Prerequisite:** Enriched Algebra 1 or Intermediate Algebra

Music

**Elective**

**8620 8th Grade Band**

**Elective:** 2 terms

**Full year (alternating days) 8th Grade**

8th Grade Band is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course offering the opportunity to perform in a full wind band ensemble and present a variety of fun and challenging music in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, history, and music from other cultures. Outside-of-class practice is an essential component of this course.

**Prerequisite:** 2 years playing experience

**8610 8th Grade Orchestra**

**Elective:** 2 terms, Full year (alternating days) 8th Grade

8th Grade Orchestra is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course offering the opportunity to perform in a full ensemble and present a variety of fun and challenging music in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, history, and music from other cultures. Outside-of-class practice is an essential component of this course.

**Prerequisite:** 2 years playing experience

**Physical Education**

**Required**

**8501 8th Grade Physical Education**

**Requirement:** .5 term 8th Grade

This course offers a wide variety of physical activities, including fitness development activities, volleyball, floor hockey, touch football, Ultimate Frisbee, and swimming. You will assess your personal fitness level and set individual goals for improvement; develop sport-specific skills and techniques and apply them in game situations; understand and follow proper safety precautions; understand and apply vocabulary, rules, and strategies associated with each game; and pass or make progress toward the American Red Cross Level 5 swim requirement.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**6550 P.E. to the Max**

**Elective:** 1 term 7th/8th Grade

This class is for students who like to play games and be active. You will participate in a variety of activities, including football, inline skating, floor hockey, badminton, tennis, archery, swimming, and basketball. This course may be taken more than once.

**Prerequisite:** none
Science

**Required: 8301 or 8305**

**8301 Earth Science**  
**Requirement: 2 terms**  
**8th Grade**

Earth Science is designed to improve your understanding of earth science processes, increase your awareness of environmental issues, and help you develop an appreciation for the natural environment through inquiry-based labs, technology, and current research.

In this course you will examine the major divisions of earth science, including geology, meteorology, astronomy, and hydrology, and how humans interact with these earth systems. Throughout the year you will have the opportunity to develop both scientific and critical thinking skills. Furthermore, you will develop your individual ability to inquire, explain, predict, and make informed decisions – invaluable skills in answering questions about Earth.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Required: 8301 or 8305**

**8305 Earth Science Flex**  
**Requirement: 2 terms**  
**8th Grade**

This course offers a challenging opportunity to students while still following the general Earth Science course standards. At various points during this course, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. Students will elect to opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with teacher guidance. Students can also anticipate a more intense workload with these units.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**6352 Gizmos, Gadgets, & Goop**  
**Elective: 1 term**  
**7th/8th Grade**

Spark your imagination with this exciting, exploratory, and engaging science class! Gizmos, Gadgets, and Goop! offers fun, inquiry-based, hands-on activities that cover a wide range of science topics while specifically honing your skills in three areas: introductory science skills of measurement, conversion, and critical thinking. This is a hands-on lab and activity-based course where you will be allowed to generate knowledge about anatomy (the body’s structure) and physiology (the body’s function), with emphasis on the systems of the body and how they are interrelated. Dissections will be a part of this course.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Required: 8410 or 8405**

**8401 U.S. History**  
**Required: 2 terms**  
**8th Grade**

U.S. History is a survey course that covers pre-Revolutionary America through the end of the Civil War, and explores the concept of two American histories. The first history contains the stories of the common culture that we share as Americans, and the second history is the history with which we identify as individuals. You will also construct a formal, five-paragraph essay; prepare for traditional tests and quizzes; demonstrate effective oral presentation skills using visual aids; analyze, question, and interpret a wide variety of primary and secondary source documents; and work in a variety of groups.

**Prerequisite:** none

**6353 Experimental Science**  
**Elective: 1 term**  
**7th/8th Grade**

Whiz! Bang! Think! Get active! This course will use hands-on learning and critical thinking to emphasize the scientific method. You will learn the what, how, when, and why of things with which you interact. You will also earn the process of the scientific method through various lab experiences, and you will design and complete a science fair project. Competing in the International Science Fair is optional.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Social Studies**

**Required: 8410 or 8405**

**8405 U.S. History Flex**  
**Elective**  
**8th Grade**

This course offers a challenging opportunity to students while still following the general U.S. History course standards. At various points during this course, units will be available to students that provide enhanced rigor primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. Students will elect to opt in or out (flex) of doing these more rigorous units with teacher guidance. Students can also anticipate a more intense workload with these units.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**6450 History Day Prep**  
**Elective: 1 term**  
**7th/8th Grade**

This class provides an opportunity for in-depth study of a variety of topics in U.S. History. You will explore a topic of your own choice that relates to the National History Day Topic for the year. You will prepare a final product – documentary, presentation, exhibit, performance, website, or paper – to be submitted for judgment by teachers and guest judges. Students may advance through school, regional, state, and national competitions.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**8450 Civilization 5: Empire Building Through Video Games**  
**Elective: 1 term**  
**8th Grade**

Why do countries make the decisions they make? How do nations relate to each other? What types of resources does a country need to achieve its goals? These are essential questions all nations face to varying degrees. The answers to these ideas and others will be explored using the video game Civilization 5. This class will use Civilization 5 as a way to look at common issues all nations face. In addition, we will look at primary source documents and interpret statistical data from around the world. Projects and assignments will be posted on blogs, forums, and class websites.

**Prerequisite:** none
Technology Education

**Required**

**8701 PLTW Design and Modeling/Science of Technology**
*Required: 1 term  8th Grade*
Students will begin their introduction to engineering thinking and planning in this course. We will begin with the concepts of design, progress through 3-view drawings, and then use these skills to create a 3-D drawing using Autodesk Inventor on the computer. You will expand your knowledge of simple machines as you design and build a Rube Goldberg machine that can transfer energy from one group to another. While studying motion, you will also design an air-powered wooden race car and a mag-lev vehicle. The class will culminate with racing the cars against each other and against time.

**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective**

**6750 Wood-N-Toys**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade*
You will have the opportunity to make your own chess and checkers board, which will be the top of a wooden box containing the pieces for tic-tac-toe, cribbage, backgammon, Yahtzee, and a deck of cards. You will also construct outdoor games such as ladder ball, croquet mallets, and bean bag toss, and use them in various tournaments.

**Prerequisite: none**  **Course Fee: $10**

**Elective**

**6752 Metals – Grades 7 & 8**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade*
This introductory metals class is a hands-on class where we make a number of fun projects. Projects include a sheet metal toolbox, tool tote, plasma designs, and a welding design.

**Prerequisite: none**  **Course Fee: $15**

**Elective**

**6753 Multimedia Design Studio**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade*
Multimedia Design Studio is an introductory course to the high tech field of multimedia presentations and design software. The focus is on software that produces web pages, screen savers, and video games. This is one of the fastest growing fields in the country, and this course introduces students to the skills and knowledge that can lead into computer-related careers in software engineering, networking, multimedia and web page design, as well as many others. Students will use design, problem-solving, time-management, math, and cooperative skills to complete the course.

**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective**

**6751 Photography**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th Grade*
You’ve captured an image – now what? Learn to improve your pictures using Adobe Photoshop. You will shoot a variety of pictures trying different composition techniques. Learn about the various settings on a camera, and how to use them to get the pictures you want. Whether you want to put together a portfolio of pictures, or learn skills to last a lifetime, this course offers a great opportunity for you to develop your skills in photography.

**Prerequisite: none**  **Course Fee: $10**

**Elective**

**6755 The Foundations of Art and Design**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th grade*
The foundation of the Visual Arts curriculum has a strong emphasis on the elements and principles of art and design. This class, designed as a bridge between the elementary and the high school experience, will provide challenging, relevant, and fun lessons. You will explore art in its many dimensions through studio projects, historical inquiry, art criticism, and aesthetics. You will also develop creative problem-solving skills and self-evaluation while building a deeper understanding of art processes, techniques, and visual culture.

**Prerequisite: This class is strongly encouraged prior to taking 9th grade Visual Art electives.**

**Elective**

**6650 Modern American Art and Artistic Practices**
*Elective: 1 term  7th/8th grade*
This course will focus on studio work inspired by 20th century American artists, and how they have responded to political events in society in a variety of ways throughout the century. You will learn about the art and laws of graffiti, appropriation, and symbolism in art. Digital photography, mixed media, painting, sculpture, and comic style pen and ink may also be explored. You will create individual works of art along with possible group projects.

**Recommended Prerequisite: The Foundations of Art and Design**
World Language

Elective

6911 French 1
Elective: 2 terms 7th/8th Grade
French 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the French language and culture. You will work toward a beginning-level competency in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), as well as an understanding of French and Francophone cultures. We will emphasize everyday vocabulary and basic grammar that will enable you to communicate about a variety of topics, including school, travel, weather, family, and telling time/dates. You will receive an initial exposure to French and Francophone cultures through music, readings, television, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

6921 German 1
Elective: 2 terms 7th/8th Grade
German 1 is an introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing German that is used in everyday situations. You will learn to communicate about a variety of topics, including school life, leisure activities, travel, getting and giving directions, and expressing opinions. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: none

Elective

8912 French 2
Elective: 2 terms 8th Grade
The French 2 curriculum expands on and improves the language skills acquired in French 1. French 2 will emphasize everyday vocabulary and basic grammar that will allow you to communicate about a variety of topics, including shopping, cooking, dining, music, television, movies, and school. You will continue to explore aspects of French and Francophone cultures through music, readings, television, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: German 1 or equivalent

Elective

8922 German 2
Elective: 2 terms 8th Grade
German 2 continues to develop the listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills begun in German 1. You will learn to communicate about a variety of topics, including describing people, things, places, and activities such as concerts, movies, and parties, and expressing attitudes and feelings. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: German 1 or equivalent

Elective

9952 Introduction to World Languages through Film
Elective: 2 terms 7th-9th Grade
This class explores world culture and language through film. In addition to studying basic grammar in several languages, you will follow various film styles in their original language version. You will be expected to have notions of each language as you watch the films. You will also learn through music and stories.
Prerequisite: none

Elective 7th/8th Grade
Spanish 1
Elective: 2 terms 7th/8th Grade
Spanish 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and the varied Spanish-speaking cultures. You will achieve a beginning competency in the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in order to talk about yourself, your interests, feelings, and everyday life. Frequent homework can be expected.
Prerequisite: none

Elective 8th Grade
Spanish 2
Elective: 2 terms 8th Grade
The Spanish 2 curriculum focuses on improving and expanding the speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills acquired in Spanish 1. You will learn to communicate your likes, make suggestions, talk about daily routines and hobbies, and ask for and give advice. You will begin to explore what life is like in Hispanic countries. Frequent homework should be expected.
Prerequisite: Spanish 1 or equivalent

Elective - Teacher Recommendation

6931 Juntos 1
Elective: 2 terms 7th/8th Grade
Juntos 1 is an accelerated Spanish course that emphasizes high-level critical thinking, reading, and writing using cross-curricular contexts as well as Hispanic literature and texts with a focus on Mexican and Central American literature and culture. Reading and writing skills are refined and further developed with a focus on spelling and vocabulary. Connections between first language skills and second language acquisition are the core of the course framework. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish.
Prerequisite: demonstrated proficiency in reading and in writing the Spanish language through an entry exam.

In the 2013-14 school year, 9th grade students will be able to take Juntos 3, an AP (Advanced Placement) class capable of earning college credit.

Elective - Teacher Recommendation

6935 Juntos 2
Elective: 2 terms 8th Grade
Juntos 2 is the second in a series of three Juntos courses. It is an accelerated Spanish course that emphasizes high-level critical thinking, reading, and writing using cross-curricular contexts, as well as Hispanic literature and texts with a focus on South American and Caribbean cultures. Reading and writing skills are refined and further developed with a focus on grammar. Connections between first language skills and second language acquisition are the core of the course framework. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Juntos 3: Advanced Placement Spanish Language, will be offered in the 2013-14 school year based upon enrollment.
Prerequisite: Juntos 1 or demonstrated proficiency in reading and writing the Spanish language through an entry exam.
9th Grade Course Requests for the 2012-13 School Year

**Request Guidelines:**
- Courses cannot be requested for a specific term, block or teacher.
- Music fills two terms.
- World Languages fills two terms. If you selected a world language, give an alternate world language. Otherwise, continue to list your alternative elective choices.
- All other electives fill one term.
- Completion of at least two World Language courses within grades 7-12 is required for graduation.
- Course requests will be entered in the order they appear on the form up to 16 credits.

**Fees** for Specific 9th Grade Courses

| Visual Arts: |
| Ceramics, $10.00 |
| Jewelry, $15.00 |

| FACS – Family & Consumer Science: |
| Culinary Arts, $10.00 |

| Physical Education: |
| Golf and Field Sports, $15.00 |
| Archery, Bowling, and Recreational Activities, $30.00 |

| Technology Education: |
| PLTW Aerospace Engineering, $10.00 |
| Photo 9, $10.00 |
| 9th Grade Metals, $15.00 |
| 9th Grade Woods, $20.00 |

**Social Studies:**
- World Savvy – World Affairs Challenge, $10.00

* A student that is eligible for free/reduced lunches may be eligible for a reduced fee. Contact your school’s guidance counselor.

### Course Requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Name (if choice, please checkmark)</th>
<th>Terms (16 total)</th>
<th>Fee (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9101 or 9111</td>
<td>English 9 or Honors English 9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9202 or 9203 or 9204</td>
<td>Intermediate Algebra or Geometry or Algebra 2 (placement determined by teacher)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9301</td>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9401 or 9411</td>
<td>Civics or Honors Civics</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9501</td>
<td>Physical Education 9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9521</td>
<td>Health Decisions 9</td>
<td>.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9801</td>
<td>Financial Literacy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**List 10 electives in order of preference.**

All electives must be filled in. Each student will have a total of 4 elective terms, assigned in order of preference and availability.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 

In addition to required and elective courses, Hopkins junior highs also offer targeted support services, including classes and programs for:
- **High Potential (Our ALM Challenge (gifted and talented) program)**
- **Intervention in Reading, Writing and Math**
- **English Language Learning (ELL)**
- **Special Education**

See descriptions on page 28.

**Questions? Call us!**

North Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4805
West Junior High Guidance Office: 952-988-4416

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**Parent/Guardian Signature:** ____________________________  **Date:** ________________

To the best of my knowledge, my child receives the following services: ☐ ELL  ☐ IEP  ☐ 504
Planning Ahead

Your High School Transcript Starts in 9th Grade!

It’s important for students and their parents to plan ahead high school credits and requirements. Below are graduation requirements, the grading system, and credit information that is pertinent to planning your high school years.

9th Grade is the Start of High School

Advantages of 9th grade at our junior highs

Even though 9th grade is housed in the junior high building, it is still the official start to high school. In 9th grade, your GPA will go towards your overall high school GPA at graduation. There are advantages to being in the junior high building in 9th grade, including:

- Students experience their freshman year in a familiar, nurturing environment.
- There are fewer than 1,000 students, providing a more secure foundation before entering the larger high school setting.
- Challenging programming, combined with many leadership opportunities, prepares students to make the transition to high school with a clearer sense of their goals.

90% of Hopkins students go on to post-secondary study – planning is key

Junior high and high school are the perfect time to try new things, take classes that are challenging, and show colleges that you are a well-rounded, thoughtful student. Talk to your school counselor if you have questions about what colleges look for in a transcript. Keep in mind that colleges look for a variety of challenging courses, good grades, and extra-curricular activities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Schedule

HHS is on a 4 Block Schedule. The school year is divided into four 9 week terms. Courses are offered in lengths of either 1 (9 weeks), 2 (18 weeks), 3 (27 weeks), or 4 (36 weeks) terms. Students attend four 90 minute classes each day. Music and selected courses offered by other departments are held on an alternating A / B day schedule.

Grading

All courses use the same grading curve as listed below. HHS calculates cumulative and term GPA on a 4.0 unweighted scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>minimum percentage</th>
<th>letter grades</th>
<th>GPA values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89.5</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72.5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.667</td>
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<tr>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.333</td>
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<tr>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

P (pass) and NC (no credit) are not included in GPA calculation.

GPA / Class Rank / Percentile

GPA is calculated by dividing the sum total of the GPA value of grades earned by the total number of grades earned. In alignment with school board policy HHS no longer calculates or records class rank. Percentile shows at what percentile a student is within the context of the entire class.

Repeating a Class to Improve a Grade

Any HHS course on a student’s transcript may be repeated to improve a grade or to pass a course for which a student has received an F or an NC. Upon completion of a repeated course the higher grade is recorded on the student’s transcript; credit can only be earned once. Students should meet with a school counselor to plan repeating a course and to assure an accurate posting of the grade to transcript. Summer school courses may not be used to replace an HHS course grade. Grades from other schools cannot be replaced by retaking an HHS course.

Credits

A student earns 1 credit toward graduation for each term / block of a course for which the student receives a passing grade. For courses that are 2 or 3 terms long a grade is posted and a credit earned after each term.

Credit / No Credit

Students who take four courses during a given term may take one of those courses for credit / no credit (PINC). Only courses taken to meet a general elective graduation requirement may be taken for credit / no credit. Students must complete a contract with a parent or guardian and the teacher, and submit the signed contract to the Guidance Office. Contracts are available in the Guidance Office. Contracts must be submitted and processed by the due date for each term – around the end of the third week of the term. After this option has been processed it cannot be rescinded.

If a student earns a grade of C or higher the teacher will record a pass (P); a grade of C- or lower will be recorded as a no credit (NC). Neither the P nor the NC affect the student’s cumulative GPA.

Post-secondary institutions vary in their selection processes and in the requirement of a credit / no credit for an elective course on a student’s permanent official transcript.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credit Requirements

Graduation from HHS includes both credit and state testing requirements. Graduation credit requirements include credits earned in grades 9 through 12.

The Minnesota Academic Standards are specific grade level expectations in which all Minnesota students should be able to demonstrate proficiency. All MAS are embedded in the HHS curricula credits required for graduation. The individual standards are not tracked separately from graduation credit requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum</th>
<th>Credits for classes of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015, 2016, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English 9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives in Am. Lit.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Literature</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writers’ Workshop</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts electives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civics 9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies electives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science 9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science electives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health 9</td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phy Ed 9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE 10 Personal Fitness</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Electives</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any credits earned in a specific requirement that exceed the number of credits required are counted as general elective credits.

Minnesota State Testing Requirements

To graduate from HHS students are required to pass the Graduation Required Assessments for Diploma (GRAD). These assessments are embedded in the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA2) exams in Reading, Mathematics, and Science and the GRAD Test of Written Composition.

Students who do not pass these tests and assessments will be scheduled into an intervention course in the appropriate curriculum to prepare them for re-taking the test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standardized Tests</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading MCA 2 / GRAD</td>
<td>pass</td>
<td>pass</td>
<td>pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics MCA 2 / GRAD</td>
<td>take</td>
<td>take</td>
<td>take</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science MCA 2</td>
<td>take</td>
<td>take</td>
<td>take</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAD Test of Written Composition</td>
<td>pass</td>
<td>pass</td>
<td>pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.HopkinsSchools.org
Required: 9101 or 9111
9101 English 9

Requirement: 2 terms  

9th Grade

This core course includes language, literature, writing, and critical viewing, and builds upon skills introduced in previous English Language Arts courses. Language study covers punctuation, grammar usage, vocabulary, and sentence structure. Literature study incorporates literary concepts and content, and develops close reading skills. We survey a variety of genres through classics such as Romeo and Juliet and Of Mice and Men, among other titles. The writing curriculum incorporates critical analysis and response to a variety of texts, including information found in electronic, print, and mass media. Other writing experiences may include persuasive pieces, personal writing and reflecting, personal narrative, researching, annotating, and evaluating.

Prerequisite: none

Required: 9101 or 9111
9111 Honors English 9

Requirement: 2 terms  

9th Grade

Honors English 9 will cover similar curriculum to the English 9 course, but will enhance that curriculum in ways that will further challenge students. To thrive in this rigorous course, students should be readers, thinkers, and writers. The class will move at a faster pace, cover supplemental/alternate material, and encourage students to analyze deeply, think independently, make connections, and communicate at a high level.

Through successful completion of the spring assignment, students in Honors English Language Arts will have demonstrated the ability to work with the self-direction and independence this course requires.

Prerequisite: none

Required — if Teacher Recommended
9110 Reading 9

Requirement: 2 terms  

9th Grade

Reading 9 is designed to promote independence in literacy for students who are reading below grade level. Reading skill levels will be checked, goals set, and progress monitored throughout the year. Students work to increase fluency, vocabulary, background knowledge, and master comprehension strategies. Gaining confidence as readers and developing independent reading capacity are priorities. Students prepare for the Reading MCAII-GRAD (given in 10th grade) with instruction and practice in test-taking strategies. Placement in this two-term course is based on multiple test scores and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: none

Elective
9151 Movie Making

Elective: 1 term  

9th Grade

Film surrounds us. If you have only watched videos, you are missing all the fun. Step to the other side of the lens and start making them! Students will learn the basic language and skills needed to plan, script, film, act, and edit a short film. Four group projects of increasing difficulty will explore how to convey emotion through film with shot-making and editing. Using digital equipment, you will participate in productions that could be aired on the Friday video program at your school. Beginning and experienced movie makers are welcome, as this elective will cater to many levels of experience. Movie Making is for people who are creative, like hands-on activities, and can work well with others in small groups.

Prerequisite: none

Elective
9154 Debate and Research

Elective: 1 term  

9th Grade

Students will participate in multiple debates, including the formal Lincoln Douglas competitive debate format. The topics used for this class are controversial, making them perfect for debate! They may include the death penalty, prayer in school, abortion, legalization of marijuana for medicinal use, euthanasia, government wiretapping, social media such as Facebook and Twitter, and more. You will be engaged in debates, discussion, and in-depth research for credible evidence and information. You will learn high-level research skills and MLA source documentation. The assignments and pace of this class are challenging for ninth graders. Come prepared for an intellectual face-off of strategy, skill, and quick thinking!

Prerequisite: none

Elective
9155 Creative Writing

Elective: 1 term  

9th Grade

This course is designed to make the most of the creative thinking that flourishes in people like you. Through a series of spirited and energetic activities, student authors will develop written pieces that may include (but are not limited to) short stories, poetry, creative sketches, and scripts. Exercises to improve clarity, description, vocabulary choices, and dialogue writing will also be explored. As important parts of a writing community, class members will read, revise, and share their work on a daily basis. Students who take this course should love to write, revise, and play with language.

Prerequisite: none

Elective
9150 Advanced Composition

Elective: 1 term  

9th Grade

Advanced Composition will take you beyond what is taught in your English class in order to further prepare you for high school and college. Topics will include new and more sophisticated expository formats, development of tone, editing, mechanics and grammar, increased composing speed, portfolio development, and text publishing.

Prerequisite: B average in English Language Arts 8, or recommendation from a teacher

Elective
9153 Acting and Improv

Elective: 1 term  

9th Grade

So you think you’re funny, eh? Prove it! So you think you’re a performer or handy with a saw? Show us! This is a fun class that is totally unlike any other class offered at the junior high level. You will study, write, and perform comedy, put together a short dramatic production, and polish your oral-interpretation skills. Acting and Improv offers you a chance to perform on stage on a regular basis, while developing your confidence, and using your creative thinking and writing skills.

Prerequisite: none
Family and Consumer Sciences

Required
9801 Financial Literacy
Requirement: .5 term 9th Grade
Financial Literacy will help you manage your money. The course consists of expanding knowledge and enhancing skills that will help you evaluate financial options and put your money to the best use. This life skill will help prepare you for living on your own, setting goals, making decisions, managing credit and creating a budget.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9821 Culinary Arts
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
Love to cook? This course is designed for students who love to cook and bake, or who are considering a career in the food industry. You will prepare a wide variety of foods while applying nutritional concepts.
Prerequisite: none Course fee: $10

Health

Required
9521 Health Decisions 9
Requirement: .5 term 9th Grade
This course will help you become better able to understand personal health and relationships, apply life-management skills, identify addictions and their effect on the brain, and apply conflict resolution skills. Topics include the brain, drugs, self-esteem, body image, eating disorders, depression and suicide, stress, sexuality, healthy vs. unhealthy relationships, teen pregnancy, abstinence, contraception, violence prevention, school violence, bullying, harassment, and cyber bullying.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9551 Be Fit, Be Fueled, Be Fabulous: New Moves for Teens
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
This is a combined Health and Physical Education class that specifically addresses the needs of teens in a supportive environment. We will cover three areas: non-competitive fun activities (Be Fit), social support (Be Fab), and classroom lessons on healthy eating (Be Fueled). You may learn about the following topics: Be Fit – strength and circuit training, choice activities such as Pilates, hip-hop dance, yoga, and in-line skating; Be Fueled – developing healthy eating habits and managing weight; Be Fab – building a positive self-image, setting goals, and managing stress.
Prerequisite: none

9th Grade Unique Student Electives

Elective
6001 Study Hall 9
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
Study Hall is an opportunity for a student to read, complete homework during the school day, make up tests, work with individual teachers or visit the media center. 9th graders register for Study Hall as an elective choice. No credit is awarded to Study Hall.

Elective
9051 AP Boot Camp
Elective: .5 term 9th Grade
Although AP skills are in all core classes, this course is designed for students who would like an additional jumpstart on very challenging academic coursework. You will strengthen your foundation in language arts and history/social science through writing, reading, and study skills; critical research; and habits of mind. We will combine traditional forms of instruction with opportunities for collaboration. Practicing these AP skills will give you an advantage as you prepare for future AP courses.

Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) For All

Integrating Pre-AP skills
In order to increase participation and improve academic success for all students participating in Advanced Placement (AP) classes at Hopkins High School, we embed identified skills and strategies in our core subjects: math, language arts, social studies, and science in grades 7-10.

It is our goal to better equip ALL students with the skills and the confidence to succeed in future AP classes and other high level courses.

Pre-AP skills
Some examples of Pre-AP skills:
• Higher-order thinking skills.
• Extensive vocabulary building.
• Constructed response (short essay).
• Identified content specific skills.
Mathematics

Students are teacher-placed into the appropriate Math course. Students can take a second math class as an elective in 9th grade.

Required: 9202, 9203, or 9204 (teacher placed)

9202 Intermediate Algebra

Requirement: 2 terms

9th Grade

This course will be taken with and aligned with Physical Science. Students will participate in activities and solve problems in a data-and technology-rich environment, applying mathematics in real-world contexts. This course will further your understanding of algebra, including functions and families of functions, geometry, data analysis, statistics, and probability.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

9203 Geometry

Requirement: 2 terms

8th or 9th Grade

Students will explore geometric relationships with a wide variety of tools, including compasses, computers, and graphing calculators. Students will perform constructions, measure figures, observe patterns, discuss their findings, write their own definitions, and formulate geometric conjectures. Real-world examples and applications from many cultures and disciplines are an integral part of the course. Students should maintain a grade of a B or better to remain in the class. Students registering for Geometry should be aware that this class is a high school class and as such earns high school credits.

Prerequisite: Enriched Algebra 1 or Intermediate Algebra

9204 Algebra 2

Requirement: 2 terms

9th Grade

Algebra 2 covers advanced algebra topics including quadratics, logarithms, trigonometry, and graphing. Explorations and investigations emphasize symbol sense, algebraic manipulations, and conceptual understanding. You will make sense of important algebraic concepts, learn essential algebraic skills, and use algebra as a practical and flexible tool. You will need a graphing calculator for this course, and need to maintain a B average or better to stay in the class.

Prerequisite: Geometry

A Leader in STEM Curriculum

Focused on STEM

Research tells us that students in the United States are vastly unprepared for careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. Hopkins Public Schools is responding to this by leading the way with its STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) efforts. STEM initiatives are not science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in isolation. Rather, STEM is the integration of courses, programs, or linked learning opportunities using an interdisciplinary approach through exploration, discovery, and problem-solving.

We have embedded STEM into our core curriculum at every level. Engineering is Elementary is enriching the elementary program. When learners transition to junior high and high school, they seamlessly enter into more rigorous STEM-based Project Lead the Way courses. Because of these accomplishments, our District is recognized by the Minnesota High Tech Association for its STEM programs.

Project Lead the Way

PLTW (Project Lead the Way) is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative STEM education curricular programs used nationwide. At Hopkins, the curriculum is integrated in both the junior and senior high school.

A sampling of junior high PLTW Hopkins’ courses:

• Electricity and Electronics
• Architectural and Engineering Design
• Aerospace Engineering
• Design and Modeling/Science of Technology (required)
Music

Elective
9620 9th Grade Band
Elective: 2 terms
Full year (alternating days) 9th Grade
9th Grade Band is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course, offering the opportunity to perform in a full wind band ensemble, and present a variety of fun and challenging music in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, history, and music from other cultures. Outside-of-class practice is an essential component of this course.
Prerequisite: 3 years playing experience

Elective
9630 9th Grade Choir
Elective: 2 terms
Full year (alternating days) 9th Grade
9th Grade Choir is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course, offering the opportunity to perform in an ensemble and present a variety of fun and challenging songs in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on singing choral literature from classical style, to today’s current popular songs, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, music history, vocal health, vocal technique, sight reading, and the changing voice.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9610 9th Grade Orchestra
Elective: 2 terms
Full year (alternating days) 9th Grade
9th Grade Orchestra is a full-year, alternating-day blocked course, offering the opportunity to perform in a full ensemble, and present a variety of fun and challenging music in two evening concerts a year. We will focus on improving your instrumental skills via method books, literature, and warm-up exercises, as well as expanding your knowledge of music theory, history, and music from other cultures. Outside-of-class practice is an essential component of this course.
Prerequisite: 3 years playing experience

Physical Education

Required
9501 Physical Education 9
Requirement: 1 term 9th Grade
In this course students will understand the five components of health-related fitness and their relationship to overall health. Students will apply the health-related fitness components while participating in a wide variety of team, dual, and individual sports, including swimming. Students will assess their personal fitness using the FitnessGram fitness tests as reported through WELNET online fitness data management system.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9556 Aquatics and Recreational Activities
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
Students will participate in a variety of aquatic activities including water basketball, water polo, diving, stroke improvement, and free swim. Recreational activities will include bowling and seasonal activities such as snow shoeing, winter recreation, inline skating, and disc golf.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9554 Strength and Fitness
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
Students in this class will learn and follow safe weightlifting procedures while working on their personal fitness. The goals will be on improving fitness through a variety of training techniques. Training may include circuit training, stability balls, jump rope, and weight lifting.
Prerequisite: none

Elective
9557 Archery, Bowling, and Recreational Activities
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
In this class students will learn proper archery shooting techniques and safety procedures. Students will participate in a variety of recreational activities including (but not limited to) bowling, rock climbing, and seasonal activities such as snow shoeing, winter recreation, inline skating, disc golf.
Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $30

Elective
9553 Team and Racquet Sports
Elective: 1 term 9th Grade
Students will participate in a variety of team and racquet sports. Students will learn skills, techniques, strategies, and rules specific to each sport. The sports you can expect to play are (but not limited to) basketball, football, soccer, ultimate frisbee, badminton, pickleball, tennis, and ping pong. Students will participate on teams in tournaments.
Prerequisite: none

Hopkins Youth Programs

Give your future driver the best driver training instruction program
Classes to fit your family’s schedule:
www.HopkinsCommunityEd.org or 952-988-4070.
Required

**9301 Physical Science**

**Requirement: 2 terms**  
9th Grade

*Physical Science* is an introductory chemistry and physics course. This class is very activity-based and incorporates many hands-on, inquiry-based labs. While completing labs, you will create and test hypotheses, collect and organize data, and draw conclusions from your data. This course will be aligned with *Intermediate Algebra* to allow you to apply mathematics in real-world contexts.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**9351 Forensics**

**Elective: 1 term**  
9th Grade

Do you enjoy shows like *CSI*, *NCIS*, or *Law & Order*? This is the class for you! Forensic science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in the criminal justice system. This course will cover a variety of topics relating to what police find at a crime scene and how that evidence is analyzed and used to solve crimes. Topics may include personal identification, serology, trace evidence, forensic chemistry, and ways to evaluate the reality of media’s portrayal of forensic science.

**Prerequisite:** none

### Science

**Elective**

**9352 Applied Science – Engineering**

**Elective: 1 term**  
9th Grade

If you are ready to be challenged, this is the class for you! The focus is on applying scientific engineering principles to design devices that complete a task within given constraints. Projects may include: mousetrap cars, linked energy transfer machines, fuel cell cars, and a ballistics device that launches ping-pong balls. Each student will also research and present a briefing on a branch of engineering that interests them. This course requires a keen interest in science and competency in introductory algebra.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**9353 Environmental Studies**

**Elective: 1 term**  
9th Grade

No one can be expected to save the world if they don’t care about the world. And no one can be expected to care about the natural world if they don’t know about and understand it. We seek to foster an appreciation for and understanding of nature by inviting you to explore the world through hands-on, outdoor, and experiential learning. Gain an understanding of the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze environmental problems (both natural and human-made), evaluate the risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions.

**Prerequisite:** none

### Social Studies

**Required: 9401 or 9411**

**9401 Civics**

**Required: 2 terms**  
9th Grade

This class presents an in-depth study of our American government and economy. Sub-divisions of this study are citizenship, the historical background and study of our Constitution, and the Executive, Legislative and Judicial process. You will participate in election and congressional simulations; learn how people create and change structures of power; learn about the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services; and look at a range of examples of the various institutions that make up economic systems. You will also formulate well-supported opinions on local, national, and global current events through classroom discussions and written analysis, and you will continue to develop your formal writing skills through reasoning and response to document-based and free-response question assessments.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Elective**

**9450 World Savvy – The World Affairs Challenge™**

**Elective: 1 term**  
9th Grade

The World Affairs Challenge is an innovative program and academic competition on international affairs for middle and high school students. With support from a teacher, students work in teams to research an aspect of the annual global theme and develop a solution-oriented presentation on their topic. On Challenge Day, students participate in four events: presentation, collaborative decision-making, solution-seeking, and content knowledge. Students build critical-thinking, teamwork, speaking, and leadership skills.

**Prerequisite:** none  
**Course fee:** $10

**Elective**

**9451 Global Perspectives**

**Elective: 1 term**  
9th Grade

Students will investigate events and trends facing citizens and leaders in an increasingly interdependent world. The course will focus on developing higher-order thinking skills while you explore local, national, and international current events. After researching the history and causes of different events, you will create an action plan for potential ways to solve these problems. Throughout the course, online authorship and literacy will be stressed, as well as Wiki contributions and video publishing.

**Prerequisite:** none

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The beauty of electives like **Forensics** is that you get students who are interested in the topics. They have chosen this higher academic level class and enjoy science and this topic.

—Becky Carry, a forensics teacher

Questions? North: 952-988-4805  •  West 952-988-4416
Technology Education

Elective

9756 Photo 9

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

What do you see? Using composition techniques and lighting skills, you will shoot a variety of pictures and use Adobe Photoshop™ to develop the picture. Learn how to change the lighting and source of light, manipulate the image, and make adjustments to the layers. These skills are useful for photography, animation or video. You can submit your portfolio to be considered for admission into Media Arts II at Hopkins High School.

Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $10

Elective

9757 PLTW Electricity and Electronics

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

Students will learn the basic principles of electricity, electrical theory, and electronics. You will study electron theory, Ohm’s law, sources of electricity, series circuits, parallel circuits, semi-conductors, electromagnetism, and electrical wiring systems. You will construct physical models to demonstrate your knowledge in each unit and use problem-solving, time management, and cooperative skills. You will assemble an electronics kit of your choice, as well as design and assemble lamps or clocks.

Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $5 + kit cost

Elective

9758 Yearbook

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

Build school pride by helping to make a permanent record of the outstanding events and memorable moments of your 9th grade year by working on the school yearbook. This involves taking pictures, creating page layouts, and designing specialized yearbook pages. You will learn desktop publishing techniques and develop the skill to work with others to produce a product – the school yearbook. Students who take this class should be willing to pay attention to detail and work hard.

Prerequisite: none

Elective

9750 PLTW Aerospace Engineering

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

Reach for the stars! Students will explore, design, and construct air and space-based transportation vehicles, including rockets, balsa-wood gliders, and airplanes, to learn the basic engineering principles of flight, aerodynamics, and propulsion. Learn about the forces acting on these vehicles and how the controlling surfaces work. You will build dragsters that you will test and analyze in a wind tunnel and then race at the end of the term.

Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $15

Elective

9751 PLTW Architectural and Engineering Design

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

Architectural and Engineering Design combines mechanical and structural engineering disciplines into the pursuit of residential and mechanical design. In the architecture design unit, STEM initiatives are addressed, as students study how houses are constructed and use architectural design software to create floor plans, elevations, 3-D virtual views and physical models of their house designs. We will study the various systems that go into the construction of a house, including foundation, framing, roofing, finishing, cabinetry, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems. In the mechanical design unit, students apply math and science concepts in the exciting and challenging world of engineering. Students will use design, stress analysis, and 3-D parametric modeling software to develop virtual and physical models. Students will use a variety of high-level technical and thinking skills, including problem-solving, integration of written and verbal instruction, measurement, computer design, visualization, time management, peer support, cooperation, and safe use of the lab and its equipment.

Prerequisite: none

Elective

9759 Multimedia Design Studio

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

This course is an introduction to the high-tech field of multimedia presentations and design software. Our focus is on software that produces web pages, screen savers, and video games. This is one of the fastest growing fields in the country, and this course will introduce you to the skills and knowledge that can lead to computer-related careers in software engineering, networking, multimedia, and web page design, and as many others. You will use design, problem-solving, time management, mathematics, and cooperative skills to complete the course.

Prerequisite: none

Elective

9755 9th Grade Woods

Elective: 1 term  9th Grade

This is a fun, hands-on way to learn about woodworking. Students will be introduced to the safe operation of woodworking machines, joint construction, and wood finishing materials. Students will select projects such as a pedestal table, end table, coffee table, chess/checkers table, mini pool table, pendulum clock, or a project of their own design. Students will also be introduced to CNC (Computer Numerical Controlled) machining.

Prerequisite: none  Course fee: $20

Technology Education offers students real-life, hands-on experiences with the latest equipment and software.
**Elective**

**9653 Media/Computer Arts: Introduction to Graphic Design and Computer Animation**

**Elective: 1 term**  
**9th Grade**

This course is broken into two parts: Graphic Design and Media Arts:

**Graphic Design** (4½ weeks) will include an introductory class in Photoshop, a computer program used to manipulate images. You will create original works using digital cameras while solving visual problems that incorporate the elements and principles of design. You will learn how graphic design and media arts play a role in our society in advertising, commercials, product design, logos, and more.

The **Media Arts** component of this course will incorporate the software and tools used in graphic design, and progress into computer animation and short film production. We will focus on an artistic approach to incorporating time, sound, and motion. You will combine the concept and creation of art with digital tools such as digital cameras, computers, and computer software.

**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective**

**9651 Drawing & Painting**

**Elective: 1 term**  
**9th Grade**

Love to draw or paint? Would you like to improve your skills? Fun, creative problem-solving exercises with an emphasis placed on imagination, expressive quality, composition, and creativity are what this class is all about. In addition to fun drawing exercises, you will explore a variety of painting techniques, color theory, and color mixing. You will leave this class with finished works that may be showcased at your school or be added to your portfolio.

**Prerequisite: none**

**Elective**

**9655 Jewelry**

**Elective: 1 term**  
**9th Grade**

In this hands-on jewelry-making class, you will learn the basic metalsmithing practices of sawing, piercing, filing, soldering, buffing, and the lost wax process. Projects will include designing and creating a pendant, ring, game piece, and chain mail. Successfully completing this course may allow you to begin at a more advanced level if you choose to take future jewelry classes.

**Prerequisite: none**  
**Course fee: $15**

**Elective**

**9652 Ceramics/Clay**

**Elective: 1 term**  
**9th Grade**

Do you love to work with clay? In this class you will design a variety of fun projects using a multitude of clay construction techniques. Basic clay concepts, terminology, history of clay, and ceramic design will be covered. Successfully completing this class will give you a better understanding of the ceramic process and techniques, leading to a more advanced study of ceramics in future coursework.

**Prerequisite: none**  
**Course fee: $10**

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**Advanced Placement (AP) & College in the Schools**

**AP: 70% of Hopkins students who took AP exams qualified for college credit.**

Hopkins has one of the most extensive AP (Advanced Placement) programs in the state. The AP program promotes academic excellence in high schools by integrating college-level course curricula and assessments for high school students.

**In the 2010-2011 school year, 40 percent – 725 students – took at least one AP course.** AP offers comprehensive examinations in more than 30 subject areas that correspond to AP course descriptions. In addition to the attraction of the rigor and challenge of the curricula, the courses have also become popular because students can earn college credit by scoring a 3 or better on AP exams. Students can test out of their first year of college by taking advantage of the extensive AP class selection Hopkins High School offers.

**College in the Schools:**

In cooperation with the University of Minnesota, our **College in the Schools** classes allow students to earn college credits, as well as Hopkins High School graduation credits.

**AP classes:**

- AP Drawing and Painting Portfolio
- AP Ceramics Portfolio
- AP Jewelry and Metalsmithing Portfolio
- AP Language and Composition
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP U.S. History
- AP European History
- AP World History
- AP U.S. Government and Politics
- AP Comparative Government and Politics
- AP Macroeconomics

**College in the Schools:**

- Physiology and Anatomy
- French 5 and French 6
- German 5 and German 6
- Spanish 5 and Spanish 6
World Language

Elective 9911 French 1
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
French 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the French language and culture. You will work toward a beginning-level competency in the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), as well as an understanding of French and Francophone cultures. We will emphasize everyday vocabulary and basic grammar that will enable you to communicate about a variety of topics, including school, travel, weather, family, and telling time/dates. You will receive an initial exposure to French and Francophone cultures through music, readings, television, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: none

Elective 9912 French 2
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
The French 2 curriculum expands on and improves the language skills acquired in French 1. French 2 will emphasize everyday vocabulary and basic grammar that will allow you to communicate about a variety of topics, including shopping, cooking, dining, music, television, movies, and school. You will continue to explore aspects of French and Francophone cultures through music, readings, television, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: French 1 or equivalent

Elective 9913 French 3
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
The French 3 curriculum further develops the language skills acquired in French 2. French 3 will emphasize vocabulary and grammar, which will allow students to communicate in the present, past, and future about a variety of topics, including leisure activities (e.g., sports and arts), daily activities, vacations, health, and travel needs. Students will continue to explore aspects of French and Francophone cultures through music, reading, television, film and current news events. Advanced language study is strongly encouraged for the college-bound. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: French 2 (recommendation: grade of C or higher in French 2)

Elective 9921 German 1
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
German 1 is an introduction to listening, speaking, reading, and writing German that is used in everyday situations. You will learn to communicate about a variety of topics, including school life, leisure activities, travel, getting and giving directions, and expressing opinions. Expect daily homework.
Prerequisite: none

Elective 9922 German 2
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
German 2 continues to develop the listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills begun in German 1. You will learn to communicate about a variety of topics, including describing people, things, places, and activities such as concerts, movies, and parties, and expressing attitudes and feelings. Expect daily homework.
Prerequisite: German 1 or equivalent

Elective 9923 German 3
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
The language skills in German 1 and 2 are improved and expanded, with emphasis on communicating in the present, past, and future about daily activities, vacation travel, healthy living, housing, jobs, and spending. We will study German culture through German news, television, films, videos, music, and the Internet. Students also benefit from student exchanges with our partner school in Germany. Expect daily homework.
Prerequisite: German 2 (recommendation: grade of C or higher in German 2)

Elective 9931 Spanish 1
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
Spanish 1 is intended as an introduction to the study of the Spanish language and the varied Spanish-speaking cultures. You will achieve a beginning competency in the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in order to talk about yourself, your interests, feelings, and everyday life. Frequent homework.
Prerequisite: none

Elective 9932 Spanish 2
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
The Spanish 2 curriculum focuses on improving and expanding the speaking, reading, listening, and writing skills acquired in Spanish 1. You will learn to communicate your likes, make suggestions, talk about daily routines and hobbies, and ask for and give advice. You will begin to explore what life is like in Hispanic countries. Frequent homework.
Prerequisite: Spanish 1 or equivalent

Elective 9933 Spanish 3
Elective: 2 terms 9th Grade
The Spanish 3 curriculum further develops the language skills acquired in Spanish 2. Spanish 3 will emphasize vocabulary and grammar which will allow students to communicate in the present, past, and future about a variety of topics, including daily activities, vacations, food, and being healthy. Students will continue to explore aspects of Hispanic cultures through music, reading, film, and current news events. Daily homework assignments can be expected.
Prerequisite: Spanish 2 (recommendation: grade of C or higher in Spanish 2)

Elective • Teacher Recommendation 6935 Juntos 2
Elective: 2 terms 8th/9th Grade
Juntos 2 is the second in a series of three Juntos courses. It is an accelerated Spanish course that emphasizes high-level critical thinking, reading, and writing using cross-curricular contexts, as well as Hispanic literature and texts with a focus on South American and Caribbean cultures. Reading and writing skills are refined and further developed with a focus on grammar. Connections between first language skills and second language acquisition are the core of the course framework. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Juntos 3: Advanced Placement Spanish Language, will be offered in the 2013-14 school year based upon enrollment.
Prerequisite: Juntos 1 or demonstrated proficiency in reading and writing the Spanish language through an entry exam.

Advanced language study is strongly encouraged for the college-bound. Taking a world language through the highest levels will greatly enhance a student’s likelihood of being accepted at competitive universities and programs.
There are courses that some students take, based on teacher recommendations. These specific recommendations are made with the needs of the student in mind. Our intention is to provide courses designed to meet the unique talents, skills, and needs that individual learners may have. As you review the courses below, you’ll note that registration in these specific courses is based on recommendations from a teacher. If you have questions about any of these courses, please contact your counselor or case manager.

### High Potential Classes and Programs

**Hopkins Challenge Program** *(Gifted and Talented)*

The Hopkins Challenge program has services to offer students who are identified for specific services, as well as students who choose the Challenge options. ALM is a supplemental course that students need to be identified for. FLEX and Honors courses are for students that choose the Challenge options.

**Gifted Education: Autonomous Learner Model (ALM)**

ALM is a specially designed class that addresses the unique needs and interests of top-ability students, and is offered by invitation only. We require scores in the top fifth percentile of nationally-normed standardized tests, or the equivalent in teacher recommendations, in order to receive an invitation to ALM. The class is offered over all three years in the junior high—7th, 8th, and 9th grades.

Units of study include reading and analyzing high-level literature (examples: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Into Thin Air*, *Frankenstein*) including literary analysis papers, Socratic seminars on controversial topics or literary works, philosophy and psychology seminars, and creativity/ imagination challenges. All ALM students conclude each year with a long-term (4-7 month), research-based, in-depth project on a topic of their choosing. That project is the culmination of their work and illustrates their interests and ability to complete a high-level project.

**Enhanced Rigor Courses: Flex and Honors**

Hopkins Junior Highs offer a variety of classes with increased rigor. Our challenging *Honors* and *FLEX* classes provide enhanced rigor primarily through the complexity of the work and materials. We also offer accelerated math, and *Juntos*, our accelerated Spanish program.

**Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)**

The AVID elective class provides instruction in academic skills essential for college-readiness including writing, inquiry, note-taking, reading, collaboration, communicating with teachers, time management, and accessing rigorous coursework. The AVID teacher will also monitor and support students’ progress in all their classes. Hopkins has AVID classes in grades 7 – 12. AVID is a nationally recognized college-preparatory program for students whose academic performance in their classes is average, or even below average, but who, with additional support and instruction, have the potential and determination to perform above average, and to have a successful experience in more challenging, college-prep curriculum, including AP and Honors courses. Many AVID students are the first in their family to attend college, or from minority families, or from low-income families.

Students must complete an application process to be considered for admission into the AVID program. Applications and more information are available on the Hopkins website.

### Additional Support

**Intervention Classes**

The purpose of Hopkins’ Intervention classes is to accelerate the learning of students who are not at their grade level in specific core content areas, or who score below the proficient level on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment and/or the Measure of Academic Progress assessment. Classes are offered for students in Grades 7-9 and taught by licensed teachers. Hopkins offers intervention classes in:

- Mathematics
- English Language Arts Writing/Reading, Grades 7 and 8
- Reading 9
- Academic Writing, Grade 9

**English Language Learner (ELL) Program**

ELL classes are offered at Hopkins North Junior High School for students who do not speak English as their primary language. ELL courses meet daily and provide intensive immersion in the English language. Various aspects of the language and culture are emphasized, including vocabulary development, grammar, literacy and phonemic awareness, speaking and pronunciation, reading comprehension, writing, and American culture and holidays. ELL courses take the place of Language Arts and incorporate Language Arts curriculum. ELL Tutorial is taken by all students during the school day, providing academic support for mainstream coursework. In addition, identified students are placed into core content courses that are team-taught by subject and ELL staff when available.

Students qualify for ELL services through reading, writing, listening, and speaking tests administered by school staff. ELL direct service is delivered only at North Junior High School. Therefore, ELL-identified students from West Junior High are transported by district buses to North Junior High for ELL service.

The ultimate goal of the ELL program is for students to gain academic English proficiency and take a fully mainstream schedule without the need for ELL support.

**Special Education**

Special Education Services are offered to any student in grades 7-9 who has an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Registration questions should be directed to the student’s case manager.
Plan your education experience

Find Your Passion
Do what you love. Use your strengths.

Build Your Toolkit
Develop 21st Century skills.

Map Your Journey
Design your plan with a mentor. You are on the path to success!

Your Journey

Key District Contacts

District Office 952-988-4000
Adult Options In Education 952-988-5343
Athletics 952-988-4691
Community Education 952-988-4070
Early Childhood 952-988-5000
Human Resources 952-988-4030
Kids & Company 952-988-4080
Nutrition/Royal Cuisine 952-988-4060
Special Education 952-988-4040
Superintendent 952-988-4021
Transportation 952-988-4115

Interpreters

The Spanish Liaison is available to assist parents: 952-988-4211
El enlace/contacto de habla hispana está disponible para ayudar a los padres: 952-988-4211

The Somali Liaison is available to assist parents: 952-988-4334
Waxaa Jirra Qof Waalidka ku caawin kara Af-Soomaali: 952-988-4334
Preparing Students for the Future

We are preparing students for jobs that currently don’t exist. Using innovation, imagination, and a solid educational foundation as our base, Hopkins Public Schools provides students with a world-class education infused with technology, collaboration, flexibility, and academic rigor. We are focused on preparing students to thrive globally. Within our hallways, we offer students the world. Our diversity is one of our strongest assets.

Our Teachers

Our teaching staff is backed by experience — 14 years on average. The genuine excellence in Hopkins Public Schools is a testament to our talented, dedicated teachers. Our community enjoys a long tradition of supporting teachers and public education. This support fosters the strong connections between teachers and students.

Our Program

The program at Hopkins Public Schools is exceptional and is designed to help all learners reach their potential. Our curriculum is academically rigorous, and rich with options at every level. A variety of real-world experiences are blended into the core curriculum to enrich learning and provide options for all learners.

Innovative Curriculum • In-Depth Learning

Our expansive schedule offers unparalleled options:

• Quality education for all students.
• A tradition of excellence, rigor, and high standards.
• Award-winning schools, students, and staff.
• Outstanding, caring, and committed teachers.
• Lifelong learning opportunities for students.

www.HopkinsSchools.org