

# CHRISTENSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 2024-2025

### SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SEVENTH GRADE CORE: The seventh grade core program consists of two instructional periods covering the content areas of language arts and social studies. In the Language Arts component, students read from selected "core" novels and explore concepts of plot, setting, character and theme in relationship to these literary works. Skills introduced in the sixth grade are expanded upon and a variety of writing modes (expository paragraphs, short essays) and public speaking are explored. The review of the rules of language mechanics is an on-going component of the program.

In the area of seventh grade Social Studies, students study the Byzantine, Islamic, African, and Asiatic Empires, the feudal societies of Japan and Europe, and the Renaissance and the Enlightenment in Europe. Cross-curricular learning is encouraged through the development of vocabulary, book reports, and critical issues specific to the social studies curriculum. Students participate in "hands on" activities, and art/construction projects are incorporated into the course of study.

SEVENTH GRADE MATH \*\* Math placement will be determined using the LVJUSD Math Placement Matrix. This matrix uses information from multiple student data sources as well as teacher recommendation to determine the best math placement.

MATH 7: This course is designed for students who are performing at the average to below average range of grade level. Students in *Math 7* have the knowledge and skills to access grade-level standards but may at times need additional support to understand new concepts or skills. *Math 7* presents the California Common Core State Standards for Math (CA CCSSM).

Accelerated MATH 7B/8: This course is designed for students with a firm grasp of grade level standards. These students quickly comprehend new concepts and skills and incorporate new understandings with their overall mathematical reasoning. Students will progress through the seventh grade math text and may begin an introduction to algebra. *Accelerated Math 7B/8* presents the CA CCSSM.

SEVENTH GRADE SCIENCE: The seventh grade curriculum focuses on Life Science. Students will begin the year reviewing the scientific method and basic laboratory skills. Throughout the year, students will engage in hands-on activities and perform labs while investigating cells, classification of living things, plants and animal kingdoms, human biology including the skeletal, muscular, digestive, circulatory, respiratory, nervous and reproductive systems.

SEVENTH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Students in seventh grade physical education participate in a wide range of endurance, physical conditioning, and individual and team sport activities. Motor skills and movement are emphasized. The ability to assess and maintain a level of physical fitness to improve health and performance is evaluated by the State-mandated fitness test.

SEVENTH GRADE ELECTIVE OPTIONS: Seventh grade students have the option to select an elective. Elective options are subject to availability and may vary from year to year. Elective options are subject to change due to staffing and budgetary constraints. Please prioritize your elective choices carefully. While we will make every effort to honor requests, it may not be possible in many cases. If your first and second choices are the same elective, the office will assign an alternative if your preferred choice is unavailable.

*THE FOLLOWING CLASSES ARE YEARLONG CLASSES:*

ADVANCED ART Students in advanced art will refine artistic skills and learn a variety of new techniques. Through drawing, they will incorporate v

of subjects, both realism and abstract. Students will explore three-dimensional art through one or more of the following; ceramics, plaster, foam, paper and wood.

## CERAMICS

techniques will be explored through various media such as: pen, colored pencil, pastels, tempera and watercolor paints. Students will record art vocabulary and maintain a sketchbook for drawing assignments.