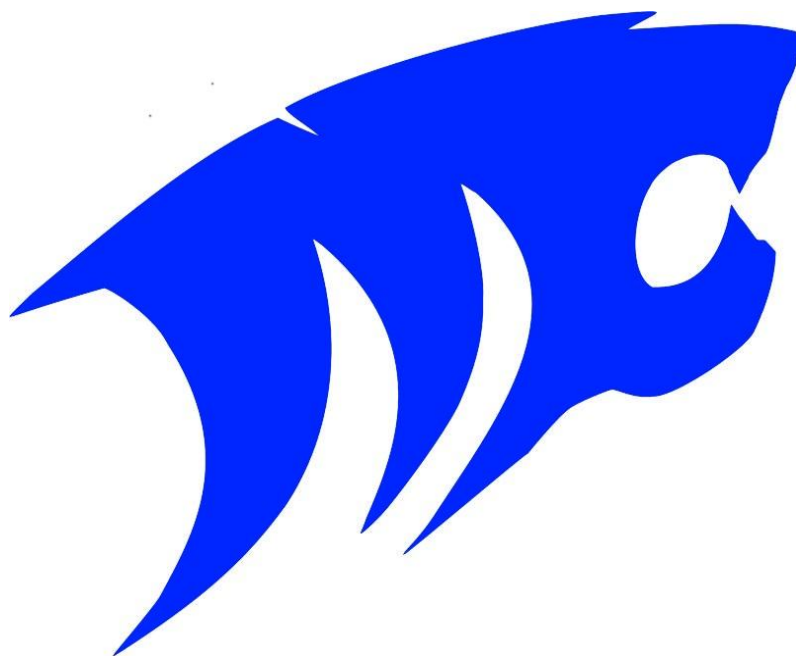


# Montague Area Public Schools



N.B.C. Middle School  
2021-22 Course Catalog

## **General Information**

### **SCHEDULE CHANGES**

All schedule change requests must be made through the NBC office the first week of each semester. All schedule changes are approved by the principal. The principal reserves the right to change schedules for any reason.

### **HOMEBOUND POLICY**

Homebound services are provided by N.B.C. to students who are unable to attend school due to a medical condition. Students become eligible for homebound services when the N.B.C. office, receives a note from a physician or hospital that indicates a medical condition that will cause the student to miss at least five consecutive days of school. Upon receiving this notification, N.B.C. will make arrangements for homebound services to begin as soon as possible. The district utilizes certified teachers to instruct students receiving homebound services.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS**

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) shall identify the appropriate courses of study and the supports, accommodations, and modifications necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular requirements or in a Personal Curriculum (PC), and meet the requirements for promotion to the high school. A personal curriculum must incorporate as much of the middle school content expectations as is practicable for the pupil and is consistent with the pupil's educational development plan (EDP) and IEP.

### **FULL-TIME ONLINE STUDENT**

This program was designed for the student, who with the onset of COVID-19, needs to take classes online. The parent/guardian will complete an application that will be reviewed to make sure that online learning is a good fit for the student. The student is required to work on classes through the online program we offer for a minimum of 10 hours a week. The student may need to devote more time based on class progress. The student must also have weekly communication with the teacher who is assigned to supervise the online students.

### **MICHIGAN VIRTUAL ONLINE SCHOOL - OPTING OUT**

The State of Michigan, under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act, allows parents to request that their student(s), in grades 5-12, be enrolled in no more than two (2) online courses in place of a currently scheduled course. Montague Area Public Schools supports online learning in cases where students and parents understand the opportunity.

## **6th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR**

#### **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics (grade 6) courses typically emphasize skills in numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order); measurement; patterns; simple functions; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

#### **ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ARTS**

Language Arts (grade 6) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

#### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies (grade 6) courses provide a greater understanding of social studies disciplines, including history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These courses often focus on the history, culture, and government of various specific world societies. Typically, students develop skills used in the social studies disciplines. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

#### **SCIENCE**

Science (grade 6) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth/space sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

## **EXPLORATORY/SKILL WHEEL ~ SEMESTER/QUARTER**

### **CREATIVE ART - COMPREHENSIVE**

Creative Art-Comprehensive courses provide students the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles. Although Creative Art courses focus on creation, they may also include the study of major artists, art movement, and styles.

### **GENERAL BAND**

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (grade 6)**

Physical Education (grade 6) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

### **LITERACY SKILLS 6 (English Language and Literature-Supplemental)**

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

### **MATH SKILLS 6 (Mathematics-Supplemental)**

Mathematics-Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring Mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

### **DISCOVERING COMPUTERS**

This course introduces students to computers and peripheral devices, the functions and uses of computers, the language used in the computer industry, possible applications of computers, and occupations related to computer hardware and software. These courses typically explore legal and ethical issues associated with computer use, as well as how computers influence modern society.

## **CREATIVE ART ~ PAINTING/DRAWING**

Creative Art- Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art-Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

## **FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP ~ Lifetime Fitness Education**

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

## **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY/UNCOVERING SCIENCE ~ Exploratory**

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

## **DIG'N THE DECADES**

These courses have the same aim as general literature courses (to improve students' language arts and critical-thinking skills), focusing on the literature written during or reflecting a particular time period. Students determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works, reflect upon the influence of societal events and social attitudes, and compare the points of view of various authors. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

## **BRAIN GAMES**

This course uses math based games/puzzles to generate organized, logical thinking and writing to help prepare for success in future math/science based core classes.

# **7th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

## **REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR**

### **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics (grade 7) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions, algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

### **ADVANCED MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics (grade 7) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions, algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

### **ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ARTS**

Language Arts (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies (grade 7) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

### **SCIENCE**

Science (grade 7) courses build on previous years of scientific inquiry and typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

## **EXPLORATORY/SKILL WHEEL ~ SEMESTER/Quarter**

### **CREATIVE ART - COMPREHENSIVE**

Art (grade 7) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 7.

### **CREATIVE WRITING**

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft.

### **CHORUS**

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's, and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

### **GENERAL BAND**

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

### **LITERACY SKILLS - (English Language and Literature - Supplemental)**

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

### **MATH SKILLS (Mathematics - Supplemental)**

Mathematics - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

### **FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP (Lifetime Fitness Education)**

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

## **PAINTING AND DRAWING (Creative Art-Drawing/Painting)**

Creative Art-Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art-Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

## **ROBOTICS (Exploratory)**

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

## **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (Exploratory)**

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

## **MATH INTERVENTION**

Mathematics - supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (grade 7)**

This course typically involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education and healthy lifestyles may also be included.



# **8th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

## **REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR**

### **ALGEBRA I**

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

### **MATHEMATICS**

Mathematics (grade 8) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations, measurement, patterns, simple functions, algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

### **ENGLISH - Language Arts**

Language Arts (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies (grade 8) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Typically, these courses focus on single disciplines at a time (e.g., state-specific history and government, U.S. history, world history, or civics) to develop discipline-related skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

### **SCIENCE**

Science (grade 8) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

## **EXPLORATORY/SKILL - SEMESTER/QUARTER**

### **CREATIVE ART - COMPREHENSIVE**

Creative Art - Comprehensive courses provide to students the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles. Although Creative Art courses focus on creation, they may also include the study of major artists, art movements, and styles.

### **GENERAL BAND**

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

### **BLUE BLAZERS CHORUS**

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's, and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education (grade 8) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

### **LITERACY SKILLS (English Language and Literature - Supplemental)**

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

### **AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Introduction to Agriculture courses survey a wide array of topics within the agricultural industry, exposing students to the many and varied types of agriculture and livestock career opportunities and to those in related fields (such as natural resources). These courses serve to introduce students to the agricultural field, providing an opportunity for students to identify an area for continued study or to determine that their interest lies elsewhere. They often focus on developing communication skills, business principles, and leadership skills.

## **CAREERS AND ECONOMICS - EXPLORATORY**

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

## **FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP (Lifetime Fitness Education)**

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

## **TECHNOLOGY (Engineering Design)**

Engineering Design courses offer students experience in solving problems by applying a design development process. Often using solid modeling computer design software, students develop, analyze, and test product solutions models and communicate the features of those models.

## **MATH INTERVENTION 8**

Mathematics-supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provides instruction to assist students in acquiring mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

## **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY 8**

The specific content of Integrated Science courses varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties-earth, physical, biology, chemistry, and physics - and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme.

## **WORD ART 8**

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form.

## **IN THE NEWS 8**

Audio/Visual Production courses provide to students the knowledge and skills necessary for television, video, film, and/or radio production. Writing scripts, camera operation, use of graphics and other visuals, lighting, audio techniques, editing, production principles, and career opportunities are typical topics covered within production courses. Students are usually required to produce their own program or segment. Additional topics such as broadcast industry regulations, radio/TV operation, power of the medium, photography, transmission technology, and so on may be included.

## **COMPUTER GRAPHICS 8**

This course provides the opportunity for students to explore the capability of the computer to produce visual imagery and to apply graphic techniques to various fields, such as advertising, TV/video, and architecture. Typical course topics include modeling, stimulation, animation and image retouching.

## **RECREATION SPORTS**

This course provides to students the knowledge, experience and opportunity to develop skills in more than one recreational sport or outdoor pursuit such as adventure activities, croquet, Frisbee, wall climbing, bocce ball, fishing, hiking, cycling, and so on.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

### **BASIC ENGLISH (English Proficiency Development)**

English Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

### **BASIC MATH (Mathematics Proficiency Development)**

Mathematics Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

### **INTERVENTION**

This class offers support for individual core classes based on grade level and classes needed. Students will be working on transition skills to help them prepare for high school.

## **ONLINE COURSES**

### **ONLINE COURSE OFFERING**

#### **MICHIGAN VIRTUAL ONLINE SCHOOL**

The State of Michigan, under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act, allows parents to request that their student(s), in grades 5-12, be enrolled in no more than two (2) online courses in place of a currently scheduled course. Montague Area Public Schools supports online learning in cases in which students and parents understand the opportunity. See the Counselor or Principal for more information.