

IROQUOIS
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR



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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Iroquois School District, in partnership with family and community, is to prepare students for an ever-changing world and promote responsible citizenship by providing diverse educational opportunities and effective learning techniques.

INTRODUCTION

This curriculum guide serves as a reference to courses available to Grade 7 and 8 students in the Iroquois Junior High School. It represents a resource of information pertinent to each course offering. Junior high is only the beginning of the high school career. Although there are some elective choices, most students will take a similar rigorous load of courses to prepare them for more intense high school studies. Each year the student is at Iroquois Jr.-Sr. High School, scheduling options and elective choices increase to allow students to prepare for career choice and post high school education.

SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS

Iroquois Junior High School (Grades 7 and 8) operates on a modified seven-period day that includes an intensive block period for exploratory courses presented in a 9-week cycle format. Lunch is a separate period designed to accommodate only junior high students. Physical education, both gym and pool, is required of all students.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	
REQUIRED CYCLE COURSES			
1604	General Music	7	} 9 weeks each
1711	Word Processing	7	
1801	Physical Education	7	
1720	Family & Consumer Sciences	7	
1602	Art	8	} 9 weeks each
1803B/G	Health Boys/Girls	8	
1802 B/G	Physical Education Boys/Girls	8	
1701	Exploring Technology	8	
ELECTIVES			
1120	Testing Strategies 7	7	
1121	Testing Strategies 8	8	
1606	Junior High Band	7/8	
1609	Junior High Chorus	7/8	
OTHER			
1112	Advisory 7	7	
1121	Advisory 8	8	
ENGLISH			
1102	English 7	7	
1103	English 7 Accelerated	7	
1108	English 8	8	
1109	English 8 Accelerated	8	
MATHEMATICS			
1301	Math 7	7	
1302/1303	Pre Algebra	7/8	
1304	Algebra I	8	
SCIENCE			
1401	Science 7	7	
1403	Science 8	8	
SOCIAL STUDIES			
1201	World History & Geography I	7	
1202	American History & Geography I	8	

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED CYCLE COURSES (9 Week)

1604 GENERAL MUSIC 7

This course is just as the title describes – a course in general music. This nine-week course includes everything from note and rest values to a thumbnail sketch of music history and appreciation through class discussions, active participation, and listening to music.

1711 WORD PROCESSING 7

Students will learn basic keyboard skills, proper keyboarding technique, the alphabetic keys, number keys and symbol keys. The primary emphasis of the course is on learning to use word processing software to create, format, and modify a word processing document. Students will also work with basic drawing and painting applications. This course meets for nine weeks.

1720 FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES 7

Family & Consumer Sciences is a nine-week course. A large portion of the time is related to manual skill development, obtaining a sewing machine license and constructing a personal sewing project. Sewing technique, time management and following directions are stressed. Also included is a unit on self-concept, respect, and responsibility.

1602 ART 8

General Art 8 is a sequential extension of earlier art experiences. The class provides basic art training in drawing, painting, design, and sculpture. The goal of the course is to provide essential vocabulary, materials, techniques, and skills along with an understanding of the artist's commitment for the purpose of fostering an interest in the visual arts.

1701 EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY 8

Exploring Technology is an activity-based nine-week course that introduces students to technology by examining the basic systems of communication, manufacturing, construction, transportation, and biotechnology. Students will study the ways material, energy, and information is processed to transmit information, build structures, make products and move passengers and freight.

1801 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7

1802B PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 BOYS

1802G PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 GIRLS

This course strives to promote the health and general welfare of all students. Students will be provided with knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve a physically active and healthful life. Personal physical fitness will be incorporated into all units. In addition, there will be adequate opportunities to enable the student to develop and display proper group play and socialization skills.

The curriculum will be taught on an odd-even numbered year rotation. It includes: even year - soccer, basketball, aquatics, track and field, physical fitness*, odd year - floor hockey, volleyball, aquatics, softball, physical fitness*. Classes will meet five periods a week for nine weeks.

*At least fifteen minutes of *personal* physical fitness will be included in each physical education class.

1803B HEALTH 8 BOYS
1803G HEALTH 8 GIRLS

This class meets five periods per week for nine weeks. The Grade 8 health curriculum includes the following units:

- social health (relationships, family structure, etc.)
- mental and emotional health (wellness, stress, etc.)
- decision making and goal-setting process
- eating disorders
- alcohol/tobacco/drug abuse
- growth and development
- reproductive systems and pregnancy
- STDs, HIV/AIDS
- communicable diseases

ELECTIVES

1606 JUNIOR HIGH BAND 7/8

Junior High Band is a course designed to provide instrumental students in Grades 7 and 8 with the experience of playing in a large ensemble. Some performances that will take place outside of school are a required part of this class. The class meets four periods per week all year.

Prerequisite: Instructor approval

1608 JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS 7/8

This course provides an opportunity to sing together in preparation for performance. Emphasis is placed on quality singing, good performance practices, and using vocal selections in a variety of styles. The class meets four periods per week all year and is open to any student in Grades 7 and 8 who likes to sing.

1115 TESTING STRATEGIES 7

1120 TESTING STRATEGIES 8

The Testing Strategies course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who do not participate in band or chorus. This class meets four periods per week for thirty-six weeks. The course is aimed at improving students' standardized test scores, enhancing their learning process and improving their daily work across the curriculum.

OTHER

1112 ADVISORY 7

1121 ADVISORY 8

All students will participate in a regularly scheduled advisory class each per week. During this time, students will be directed through activities that will enhance their daily curriculum. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to engage in activities that will lead them to a better understanding of the role they play in their own academic success.

ENGLISH

1102 ENGLISH 7

Grade 7 English students study composition, grammar, vocabulary, and literature with the goal of achieving proficient or advanced standing on the PSSA Writing and Reading Assessments. Composition study stresses writing as a process and the five elements of effective writing: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions with emphasis on content development. Through the use of McDougall Littell [Language Network](#), the students receive a background in grammar as an aid to better writing. Vocabulary work includes words relating to composition and literature as well as a 7th grade vocabulary list. In literature study, a variety of stories are read and analyzed with regard to plot, theme, setting, and characterization. An introduction to the high school library is also a part of the 7th grade English curriculum.

1103 ENGLISH 7 ACCELERATED

Accelerated 7th grade students study composition, grammar, vocabulary, and literature with the goal of achieving advanced standing on the PSSA Writing and Reading Assessments. Composition study stresses writing as a process and the five elements of effective writing: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions with emphasis on writing style and organization techniques. Thorough development is emphasized in all compositions and lessons. Through the use of McDougall Littell Language Network, the students receive a continued background in grammar. Accelerated students are introduced to advanced grammatical concepts. The study of grammar as a tool to better writing is stressed. An advanced vocabulary program is a major part of the course. Included in literature study are a variety of short stories, which are read and analyzed with regard to plot, theme, setting, characterization and point of view. Certain accelerated selections are on a more difficult reading level and analysis is more in-depth. An introduction to the high school library is also a part of the 7th grade English curriculum. Since accelerated students proceed at a faster rate, additional time is spent on enrichment activities.

Prerequisite:

- *Recommendation of previous English instructor*
- *Average English grade of B*
- *PSSA reading score of proficient or advanced*
- *PSSA writing score of proficient or advanced*

1108 ENGLISH 8

Eighth grade grammar builds on the previously learned grammar skills by studying the eight parts of speech. The function and use of prepositional phrases are introduced as well as verb tenses and subject and verb agreement. The literary studies include the novels, Treasure Island and the unabridged version of A Christmas Carol, short stories, drama, and poetry at an 8th grade reading level. Written composition seeks to improve sentence structure, style, and paragraph development. The use of the dictionary, the encyclopedia, the atlas, the almanac, other more specialized reference books, and available computer technology will be stressed in a library unit. The vocabulary and spelling study is at an 8th grade level and is incorporated in creative writing assignments. This course is designed to align with the PSSA requirements in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

1109 ENGLISH 8 ACCELERATED

The students are expected to know the eight parts of speech and apply the basic rules of grammar. Eighth grade accelerated grammar covers the function and use of prepositional phrases as well as subordinate clauses. The classics, To Kill a Mockingbird (senior high reading level) and A Christmas Carol, are requirements. An advanced (college prep) vocabulary program is a major part of the course. Having already mastered the shelving system and use of the library card catalog, students concentrate on learning to use the specialized reference materials and computer technology in a library unit and applying this to more sophisticated writing assignments. A more mature development in sentence, paragraph structure, and essays is required. Writing style is stressed. Enrichment activities are pursued at every opportunity to challenge these accelerated students. Students are encouraged and guided to serve in leadership roles in class. This course is designed to align with the PSSA requirements in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Prerequisite:

- *Recommendation of previous English instructor*
- *Average English grade of B*
- *PSSA reading score of proficient or advanced*
- *PSSA writing score of proficient or advanced*

MATHEMATICS

1301 MATH 7

This course represents an opportunity to reinforce and extend skills in computation. It will help students develop more confidence in their abilities to compute with numbers and apply them to real-life situations. Concepts to be mastered include operations on whole numbers, decimals and fractions. Concepts to be introduced include integers, pre-algebra skills, ratio, proportion, scale, percents, geometry, data analysis, and statistics. These new concepts will be used to help reinforce and extend skills in computation, number sense, and problem solving throughout the course.

1302/1303 PRE ALGEBRA 7/8

This course represents an opportunity to build on prior knowledge and to prepare students for Algebra I. Concepts based on Pennsylvania and National mathematics standards in geometry and algebra are introduced and mastered skills in computation are applied to problem solving. Reinforcement on all skills and concepts is stressed in this course.

1304 ALGEBRA

Students who are recommended by a teacher and pass an entrance exam are eligible for this course. It is equivalent to a grade 9 course. The course includes but is not limited to such topics as:

- application of the four basic operations to the set of real numbers and the set of polynomial expressions
- solution and graphing of linear equations, inequalities, and systems of linear equations and inequalities
- solution of word problems and detailed study of problem-solving techniques
- the use of real numbers as exponents

Prerequisite: Instructor recommendation and entrance exam

SCIENCE

1401 SCIENCE 7

This required course in the science sequence will further develop the student's understanding of the nature of science through the fundamental concepts of environmental, earth and space sciences (the study of the physical conditions affecting the earth, the solar system, and the universe). The course is largely activity centered, utilizing laboratory investigations and discovery-oriented student-centered projects. Students are required to keep a notebook binder containing notes and other completed activities.

1403 SCIENCE 8

This required second course in the science sequence introduces the student to concepts of biological and physical science. Life science topics covered will include; cells, classification, heredity, and change over time. Physical science topics covered will include; states of matter, interaction of matter, forces and energy. Laboratory activities will both engage and allow students to become proficient in the use of the tools of a scientist. The course will be supplemented with a text, audio-visual materials and computer technology. Students are required to keep an organized notebook of all classroom materials.

SOCIAL STUDIES

1201 WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I

This course is designed to help students develop a basic and general knowledge of world history and geography. In this course, students are given a survey of human history from prehistoric times through the Age of Discovery. Later topics will be covered if time permits. The emphasis of the course will be on western civilization, although the Middle East and other areas will also be discussed. Students will also develop social studies skills that will be used throughout other social studies courses. A variety of assessment methods will be used to give students the opportunity for success. The class is a year-long course.

1202 AMERICAN HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I

This course is designed to develop a basic and general knowledge of American history from the time of early Native Americans to World War I. Later topics will be covered if time permits. The course will emphasize the United States from 1789-1898. The geography of the United States will be studied independently and in relation to the history of the United States. The role of Pennsylvania in United States history will be covered. Cause and effect relations in history will also be stressed. The class is a year-long course.