



**Springdale
Junior-Senior High
School**

**2020-2021 Program of Studies
Grades 7 and 8**



Springdale Junior-Senior High School

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Allegheny Valley School District

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SPRINGDALE JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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The mission of the Allegheny Valley School District, a group of small traditional communities, is to educate all students to achieve their maximum potential. A dedicated staff, in partnership with school, home, and community, will empower students to become responsible and contributing citizens able to meet challenges in an international society.

The Allegheny Valley School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, and handicap in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title IV, Title IX, and Section 504.

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INTRODUCTION

This Program of Studies Guide is published to provide students and their parents/guardians with a description of the high school academic program. Students and their parents/guardians are urged to become familiar with this guide so that they will be prepared to choose a suitable educational program. The administrative staff, guidance staff, and all teachers are available to assist the student and his/her parents/guardians in this planning.

The counseling staff provides personal guidance for each student in the junior-senior high school aiming at the development of the "whole" individual. To help mold each person's intellectual growth, the counselors identify individual capacities through a standardized testing program. The test results are used in guiding the individual to make the best use of mental, physical, and manual abilities. The school program includes offerings to help meet the needs of all students.

The guidance program is devoted to helping each student select the courses and programs best suited to his or her own strengths. As a result of the proper coordination of high school courses and activities, the student can then make appropriate selections for post high school training. Vocational counseling is approached with the students' abilities and limitations and interests in mind as well as information on current occupational trends.

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CLASS STANDING

The established policy regarding student promotion from one grade level to the next during high school as follows:

Any student, grade 7 or 8, who fails three major subjects for the year may be retained and repeat all classes.

Major subjects are Reading, Writing, Social Studies, Mathematics, and Science.

Summer school is recommended for students that have failed required courses in grades 7 through 12.

GRADING

Grades will be reported at the close of each nine-week period. The following interpretations of the grading system used in Springdale High School indicate the degree of achievement. All courses may not be offered on an annual basis.

Grade equivalents:

- | | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 90-100% | A | Excellent or superior work |
| 80-89% | B | Good or above average work |
| 70-79% | C | Fair or average work |
| 60-69% | D | Poor, but passing work. This is the lowest quality of work for which credit is given but carries no recommendation for achievement for college entrance credit. This grade may not permit a student to do second year work in certain sequential subjects. |
| 0-59% | F | Failure - no credit |

I	Denotes that the pupil's work is not complete due to conditions beyond the student's control. Unless this work is completed in accordance with the District's time limits and regulations of the teacher issuing the grade, the grade will be recorded as an "F".
W	Withdrawal from course – A “W”, along with the student’s grade at the time of withdrawal (Wa, WB, WC, WD, WF) will appear on the transcript. No credit is awarded for dropped course.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

All schedule changes must be made during designated summer hours. **Schedule changes cannot be made after school begins unless the following exceptions apply.**

Exceptions:

1. If a student's schedule is incorrect as a result of a clerical error.
2. If a student has significantly changed his/her future plans and other classes are required - suggested by the college of his/her choice.
3. If, based on the student's performance during the final quarter or summer school, the student should move to the advanced academic course selection.

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Number: 7100	Title: Reading 7
Course Number: 7103	Title: Writing 7

Reading 7 and Writing 7 provide students with opportunities to develop communication skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, thinking, and researching. Instruction will include guided reading, self-selected reading, robust vocabulary, grammar, spelling and writing during a daily 90-minute block schedule. Students will actively engage in the reading and writing processes by working independently as well as collaboratively with peers. Flexible groupings will be built into the units of study along with additional strategies in order to meet the needs of all students. Emphasis is placed on responding to literature and literary analysis between two or more pieces of literature. Students will complete the following units of study: poetry, short stories, novels, drama, nonfiction and legends, folktales and myths. In addition, students will produce a co-curricular research paper using the MLA format. Reading and Writing are taught as a two-period class. Students will receive individual grades in Reading and Writing.

Course Number: 7101	Title: Reading 7 Accelerated
Course Number: 7104	Title: Writing 7 Accelerated

This program promotes accelerated reading and written language skills through the study of the short story, drama, novel, non-fiction text, and poetry. Higher-level thinking skills are essential. The reading and writing pace is accelerated and the evaluative standards are high. Accelerated Reading and Writing are taught as a two-period class. Students will receive individual grades in Reading and Writing.

Prerequisite: Students are selected based on language arts teacher recommendation, aptitude, standardized test scores, designated school assessment, and PSSA scores.

Course Number: 7218	Title: Math 7
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Math 7 instruction is directly aligned to the Grade 7 Pennsylvania Core Standards for Mathematics. Instructional time will focus on four critical standards areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Course Number: 7210	Title: Pre-Algebra
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This course provides students with an introduction to the concepts of Algebra and Geometry, while at the same time solidifies their grasp of the basic arithmetic skills using whole numbers, decimals, positive and negative integers, and fractions. There is an emphasis on meaningful problem solving and data analysis. Placement is dependent upon demonstrated student ability, standardized assessments, PSSA scores and final grade in Grade 6 Math.

Course Number: 7212	Title: Algebra I
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Algebra I begins the study of symbols as used in higher mathematics. These symbols, or unknowns, replace numbers and must be determined by solving equations. In addition, the following topics are taught: working with signed numbers, factoring, rational expressions, and linear equations and systems.

Prerequisite: Advanced scores on standardized assessments, Advanced score on Grade 6 PSSA test, final grade of 90% or higher in Grade 6 Math

Course Number: 7320 Title: Ancient Civilizations I

Ancient Civilizations I is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the development of mankind from its beginning through the fall of the Roman Empire. The course will allow for the exploration of the cultures and contributions of early civilizations and how they impact the world today.

Course Number: 7400 Title: Integrated Science 7

This course explores topics in the areas of life science, physical science, and Earth science. The course is aligned with PA Core standards and prepares students for a variety of paths of study at the high school level.

Course Number: 7540 Title: S.T.E.M. 7

One Semester; Elective

This hands-on course is intended to introduce seventh grade students to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) activities. Some hands-on topics will include laser fabrication, robotics, civil engineering, solar vehicles, computer aided drafting (CAD), and 3D printing. The course is designed to encourage interest in S.T.E.M. subjects and prepare students for further study throughout their high school career.

Enrollment may be limited due to class size restrictions.

Course Number: 7560 Title: Multimedia 7 One Semester; Elective Multimedia 7 is divided into four segments. Students work through still imagery/Photoshop, audio, video, and web design. Enrollment may be limited due to class size restrictions.

Course Number: 7650 Title: Choir 7-8

One Semester OR Full Year; Elective

Jr. High Chorus is a building program for the Sr. High Choir. Students are taught to develop their voices, choral skills, general musicianship, performance, character, and citizenship. The chorus sings at the winter and Spring Concerts, as well as other invitational activities. After-school practices and performances are a vital and integral part of this course.

NOTE: Students may elect to take this course for a semester or for a full year. This course may be taken in conjunction with Band 7-8.

Course Number: 7660 Title: Band 7-8

One Semester OR Full Year; Elective

This course offers instruction on a band instrument to develop strong skills in musicianship, reading music notation, rhythm, and ensemble techniques through daily rehearsal and performance. The main activities of the Jr. High Band are the winter and Spring Concerts. Attendance at these performances is mandatory for students in the ensemble. Students in this program are also encouraged to participate in the Marching Band and may participate in any additional ensembles offered.

NOTE: Students may elect to take this course for a semester or for a full year. This course may be taken in conjunction with Choir 7-8.

Prerequisite: At least one year of participation in the elementary music program or acceptance based upon an audition with the Band Director.

SEVENTH GRADE ROTATION

The rotation of the following courses over the four nine-week grading periods will expose the student to a variety of classes in the junior high setting. Successful completion of these subjects prepares the junior high student for course advancement throughout their academic career at Springdale Junior-Senior High School.

Course Number: **7502** Title: **Introductory Keyboarding 7** **Nine Weeks**

The aim of this course is to develop fundamental computer keyboarding skills. Special keying drills promote correct techniques as an aid to building speed and accuracy. A brief introduction to keyboarding will prepare the student to further enhance their computer skills. Emphasis is given to Microsoft Office and Google Docs applications as they apply to personal usage.

Course Number: **7570** Title: **Family and Consumer Science 7** **Nine Weeks**

The co-educational Family and Consumer Science program offers exploratory learning experiences in foods, nutrition, clothing, social skills, and childcare. Mini units covering these areas will be used to provide students with the opportunity to develop basic skills. When applicable, hands-on activities in the completion of simple projects will be included in this course. The basic skills developed in this course will be applicable in higher-level Family and Consumer Science courses, which are available to students in 9th through 12th grade.

7801 Title: **Physical Education 7** **Nine Weeks**

Physical Education at the junior high level is designed to maintain or improve the student's overall health and wellness as well as develop a personally fulfilling lifelong appreciation for physical activity. This goal is achieved through addressing various aspects of learning with emphasis placed on lifetime activities and development of basic skills. In addition, an emphasis is placed on learning how to personally develop and assess the components of health-related fitness. Finally, it is the goal of the physical education department to expose students to as many different types of physical activities as possible.

Course Number: **7811** Title: **Health 7** **Nine Weeks**

Health education aims at providing a better understanding of one's self and development of proper attitudes towards healthful living. This is made possible through the study of personal wellness, nutrition, physical activity, body system physiology, drugs, alcohol, and tobacco prevention strategies, human sexuality, disease and illness prevention, and environmental health issues. This course is designed to help each student learn and apply concepts to help improve or maintain a desirable quality of life far beyond adolescence.

EIGHTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course Number: **7110** Title: **Reading 8**

Course Number: **7113** Title: **Writing 8**

A research-based approach of local and systematic reading and writing skills is used in the Reading 8/Writing 8 course. The student's language skills progress from simple to complex as reading instruction is tailored to students' needs. The writing process instruction develops through concept modeling working toward a mastery of grammar skills. This process facilitates the development of students into effective readers, writers, speakers, and thinkers. Reading 8 and Writing 8 are taught as a two-period class. Students will receive individual grades in Reading and Writing.

Course Number: **7111** Title: **Reading 8 Accelerated**

Course Number: **7114** Title: **Writing 8 Accelerated**

Reading 8/Writing 8 Accelerated provides opportunities for students to develop a deepened understanding and application of communication skills in word study, reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students read in-depth and analyze fiction and non-fiction. Students will study grammar, usage, mechanics, and vocabulary in the writing process as well as apply various modes of writing. Accelerated Reading and Writing are taught as a two-period class. Students will receive individual grades in Reading and Writing.

Prerequisites: Grade 8 students who score mid-proficient or better on mid-point and final on the grade 7 school designated assessment, mid-proficient or advanced range on Reading PSSA Grade 6 and 85% or higher on Grade 7 Reading Writing cumulative grade.

Course Number: **7210** Title: **Pre-Algebra**

This course provides students with an introduction to the concepts of Algebra and Geometry, while at the same time solidifies their grasp of the basic arithmetic skills using whole numbers, decimals, positive and negative integers, and fractions. There is an emphasis on meaningful problem solving and data analysis.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 7

Course Number: **7212** Title: **Algebra I**

Algebra I begins the study of symbols as used in higher mathematics. These symbols, or unknowns, replace numbers and must be determined by solving equations. In addition, the following topics are taught: working with signed numbers, factoring, rational expressions, and linear equations and systems. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Pre-Algebra

Course Number: **7221** Title: **Geometry**

This course is designed to teach students the geometric skills necessary to be successful in trigonometry and Algebra II course work. Emphasis will be placed on logical reasoning and proofs, congruent and right triangles, parallel lines and their properties, similar polygons, circles, area, perimeter and volume, transformations, elementary trigonometry, Pythagorean Theorem, slope and y-intercept, and different types of angles and their unique properties. Students will work independently, in pairs, and in cooperative learning groups. **Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra I

Course Number: 7321

Title: Ancient Civilizations II

Ancient Civilizations II is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the development of mankind from the fall of the Roman Empire to European colonization of the New World. The course will allow for the exploration of the cultures and contributions of early civilizations and how they impact the world today.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Ancient Civilizations I

Course Number: 7401

Title: Integrated Science 8

This course explores topics in the areas of life science, physical science, and Earth science. The course is aligned with PA Core standards and prepares students for a variety of paths of study at the high school level.

Course Number: 7541

Title: S.T.E.M. 8

One Semester; Elective

This project-based Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics class is designed to explore interrelationships between each of the four disciplines. Hands-on activities will include rocketry, crane design, autonomous robotics, computer aided drafting, laser fabrication, 3D printing, and fuel cell vehicle design. The course is designed to encourage interest in S.T.E.M subjects and prepare students for further study throughout their high school career. Enrollment may be limited due to class size restrictions.

Course Number: 7560

Title: Multimedia 8

One Semester; Elective

Multimedia 8 is divided into four segments. Students work through broadcasting, introduction to video editing, advanced video editing, and end the course by producing a documentary on a person or occupation in a science or technology field. Enrollment may be limited due to class size restrictions.

Course Number: 7650

Title: Choir 7-8

One Semester OR Full Year; Elective

Jr. High Chorus is a building program for the Sr. High Choir. Students are taught to develop their voices, choral skills, general musicianship, performance, character, and citizenship. The chorus sings at the winter and Spring Concerts, as well as other invitational activities. After-school practices and performances are a vital and integral part of this course.

NOTE: Students may elect to take this course for a semester or for a full year. This course may be taken in conjunction with Band 7-8.

Course Number: 7660

Title: Band 7-8

One Semester OR Full Year; Elective

This course offers instruction on a band instrument to develop strong skills in musicianship, reading music notation, rhythm, and ensemble techniques through daily rehearsal and performance. The main activities of the Jr. High Band are the winter and Spring Concerts. Attendance at these performances is mandatory for students in the ensemble. Students in this program are also encouraged to participate in the Marching Band and may participate in any additional ensembles offered.

NOTE: Students may elect to take this course for a semester or for a full year. This course may be taken in conjunction with Choir 7-8.

Prerequisite: At least one year of participation in the elementary music program or acceptance based upon an audition with the Band Director.

EIGHTH GRADE ROTATION

To provide eighth grade students exposure to several elective courses, a rotation of the following courses is offered over the four nine-week grading periods.

Course Number: **7503** Title: **Microsoft Office Basics 8** **Nine Weeks**

This course will apply the skills taught in introductory keyboarding with a continued emphasis on building speed and accuracy. Word processing applications include business letters, reports, tables, and newsletters. Fundamental spreadsheet and charting concepts will be applied in Excel.

Course Number: **7530** Title: **Technology Education 8** **Nine Weeks**

In Technology Education 8, students develop an understanding of the progression and scope of technology through exploratory experiences. In group and individual activities, students experience ways in which technological knowledge and processes contribute to effective designs, abilities and skills to create solutions to technological problems. Students participate in design activities to understand how scientific principles can affect the design process. Brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, constructing, testing, and refining designs provide opportunities for students to understand the uses and impacts of various innovations.

Course Number: **7600** Title: **Art 8** **Nine Weeks**

Art 8 is a confidence builder. Through the learning of various processes and techniques and the use of many media, the student will gain better control and more self-esteem. They will also appreciate others art work more fully. The skills learned at this level are necessary for any further study of art in the high school.

Course Number: **7802** Title: **Physical Education 8** **Nine Weeks**

Physical Education at the junior-high level is designed to maintain or improve a student's overall health and wellness as well as develop a personally fulfilling lifelong appreciation for physical activity. This goal is achieved through addressing the various aspects of learning with an emphasis being placed on lifetime activities and development of the basic skills to be successful in these activities. In addition, an emphasis is placed on learning how to personally develop and assess the components of health related fitness. Finally, it is the goal of the physical education department to expose students to as many different types of physical activities as possible.