

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

HR \_\_\_\_\_

# **BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **JUNIOR HIGH PROGRAM OF ACADEMIC STUDIES**

### **2012-13**

**A Course Information Guide for  
Grade 7 • Grade 8**



**East Center  
2020 Big Road  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525  
(610) 754-9550**

**West Center  
380 S. Madison Street  
Boyertown, PA 19512  
(610) 369-7471**

*“to enable all students to succeed in a changing world”*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPALS

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

This Junior High Program of Academic Studies has been designed to help students and their parents plan an academic program that stimulates curiosity and motivates students to explore new areas of learning. During their junior high years, students and parents have their first opportunity to select courses based on students' needs, interests, and abilities. Course descriptions for grades 7 and 8 are included in this publication, along with a list of courses which will be available in grade 9.

It is important for all students to be fully prepared to demonstrate proficiency on the state PSSA tests in Reading, Math, Writing and Science as well as the new Keystone Exams. Our junior high schools offer several remedial opportunities for students who would benefit from additional preparation in these areas.

We encourage students and parents to carefully review the Program of Academic Studies and the recommendations made by teachers on the course selection card. Teachers, counselors, and administrators are available to assist in this process.

Andrew Ruppert  
Principal  
East Center

Gregory Galtere  
Principal  
West Center

### Assurance Of Non-Discrimination

Students and parents are assured that the Boyertown Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, ethnic heritage, sex, or handicap in its educational programs or activities offered in the schools.

Any complaints alleging such discrimination should be directed to the responsible persons with the following procedures:

1. Complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of race, religion, ethnic heritage, or handicap (Title VI and/or Section 504) should be presented in writing to the building principal.
2. Complaints alleging sex discrimination (Title IX) should be presented in writing to the Director of Human Resources, Boyertown Area School District, 911 Montgomery Avenue, Boyertown, PA 19512 (610-367-6031).
3. Students with limited English language skills are not excluded from any program offerings (OCR Guidelines SS-4-L). Students needing assistance should contact the building principal, so that help or interpretations may be provided.
4. Appeals of the response of the first-level hearing officer may be taken to the Office of the Superintendent.

## **PROCEDURE FOR COURSE SELECTION**

School counselors will speak to students about the course selection process. Students will learn how to use this “Program of Academic Studies” and the Course Selection Worksheet. Students will also learn about the required courses and electives they may choose. All students are required to be scheduled for a minimum of 42 instructional periods out of the 48 periods in the six-day cycle. Counselors will provide opportunities for students to ask questions about the course selection process.

Parents are asked to:

- Review the “Program of Academic Studies” and discuss course offerings with your student.
- Consider the recommendations of teachers and counselors as you and your student complete the “Course Worksheet” at the back of this booklet.
- Select at least 42 periods of classroom instruction.
- Sign the “Course Registration Card” and return it to school promptly. (This is for parents of current seventh graders only.)

After the Course Registration Card is submitted, changes in course requests may be made by contacting the student’s school counselor. **The final date for student and/or parent initiated course changes is July 15.**

## **SIX-DAY CYCLE**

In junior high school, students are scheduled for classes within a six-day cycle. Rather than scheduling certain classes for Monday and Thursday each week, a 2 periods/cycle class may be scheduled for “days 1 and 3” or “days 2 and 5”, and a 3 periods/cycle class may be scheduled for “days 1, 3, and 5”. In the event of a school closing (e.g. snow day), the scheduled number day is lost and we move to the next number in the cycle.

## **COUNSELING SERVICES**

Counseling services are aimed at helping each student to have the most successful school experience possible. Students are encouraged to expand their knowledge by building upon previous experiences, developing a deeper understanding of their strengths and needs, and gaining an understanding of themselves and their relationship to the changing world in which they live.

Counselors work with students in large and small groups as well as individually. With parental permission, students who wish to work with others on finding solutions to concerns that prevent them from doing their best in school may have group counseling opportunities.

Counselors are responsible for administering standardized tests such as the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) in grades seven and eight. Counselors are also available to interpret test results.

Students may arrange for a conference with their school counselor by signing up in the counseling office. If the need for an appointment is urgent, students are asked to alert the administrative assistant who will see that a counselor contacts the student as soon as possible. Parents who wish to speak to a counselor or schedule an appointment should call the counseling office.

## **PROMOTION GUIDELINES-GRADES 7 AND 8**

Students in seventh grade must pass math, English, science, social studies, and reading in order to be promoted to eighth grade.

Students in eighth grade must pass math, English, science and social studies in order to be promoted to ninth grade.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The special education program is designed to meet the special needs of students identified as eligible and/or exceptional. Specially designed instruction may be provided in special education programs operated within district schools or other programs outside the district.

In order to meet the criteria for special education consideration, a multidisciplinary team convenes to complete an Evaluation Report and to provide recommendations to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team. The Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team will determine the student's eligibility and if the student is determined to need specially designed instruction, the IEP team will provide the exceptional student the most appropriate educational program and placement.

The Learning Support program is designed to meet the academic and social/emotional needs of exceptional students. Improving basic reading, English, math, science, and social studies is emphasized. Instructional modifications and adaptations are designed to meet the individual's educational needs. The IEP may include a behavior management program to develop, increase, and/or maintain skills that will enhance an individual's opportunity for learning.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

A minimum of 24 credits accumulated in grades 9 through 12 (except for these students in an early graduation or early admission to college program) is required for graduation from Boyertown Area Senior High School. Students are also required to complete a career portfolio for their graduation project and pass several Keystone Exams. The Keystone Exams are a new state mandated graduation requirement beginning with the class of 2015. As more information becomes available, we will keep parents and students apprised and change our graduation requirements accordingly.

At this time, graduation from Boyertown Area Senior High School involves the fulfillment of the following courses and credits:

**Minimum** number of courses/credits needed for graduation:

| <b><u>Subject</u></b>   | <b><u>Specified As</u></b>                              | <b><u>Credits</u></b> |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| English   | The equivalent of four year-long courses in grades 9-12 | 4.00                  |
| Social Studies  | The equivalent of four year-long courses in grades 9-12 | 4.00                  |
| Science*  | Three year-long courses in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12      | 3.00                  |
| Mathematics   | Four year-long courses in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12       | 4.00                  |
| Health**  | Two planned courses, one each in grades 10 and 12       | .59                   |
| Physical Education**  | Four planned courses, one in each grades 9-12           | 1.66                  |
| <b><u>Electives</u></b> (See Course Description Section)                |   |                       |
| Computer Applications***  | Two planned courses in grades 9-12                      | .83                   |
| Arts and Humanities   |   | 1.00                  |
| Other Electives   |   | 4.92                  |
| <b><i>TOTAL CREDITS IN GRADES 9 THROUGH 12 MUST EQUAL OR EXCEED</i></b> |   | <b>24.00</b>          |

***NOTE:*** Students who are considering the Career and Technology Center must take an Arts and Humanities and a Computer Applications course in 9th grade in order to be able to fulfill the graduation requirements.

\* Students who plan on attending a four year college/university are encouraged to take four courses.

\*\*Students who are considering the Career and Technology Center will not take Health and Physical Education in grade 10. Alternate courses will be provided in grades 11 and 12 to enable BCTC students to meet their graduation requirements in these areas.

\*\*\* One planned course that includes significant computer application. The second planned course may be accredited through demonstration of advanced computer skill on a computer applications test. A computer applications course is one which integrates the use of the computer into the instruction, i.e. a CADD course in technology education, a science course which uses simulations and Internet strategies, etc.

## **END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENTS (EOCAs)**

EOCAs are being administered as part of our district's assessment plan to measure what we want students to know and be able to do at the end of each course. We also believe that EOCAs will better prepare our students for the state's upcoming Keystone Exams as well as post-secondary experiences.

### **Administration of EOCAs**

The administration of the EOCAs will occur as follows:

- All **core courses**, including English, Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Languages, in grades 7-12 will administer an EOCA.
- **Related studies courses**, including art, music, health and physical education, business education, technology education and family and consumer science, will administer an EOCA beginning in grade 9. The end-of-course assessment will be administered during class time.

### **Weight of EOCA grade**

- The "weight" of the EOCA will be as follows:
  - 7: another test score
  - 8: double the test score
  - 9-12: one-fifth of the overall course grade

### **Administration Schedule of EOCAs**

- All courses that are fall semester-based courses will have their EOCA administered during regularly scheduled class times at the conclusion of the course in the fall.
- Related studies courses that are spring semester-based course will have their EOCA administered during regularly scheduled class times at the conclusion of the course in the spring.
- EOCAs for core courses will be administered during the last week of school following a specially designed schedule to be provided by the building principal.

## **HONORS COURSES**

If a student is considering the honors level courses, s/he must understand that these courses are intended for responsible, motivated and self-directed students who are interested in an enriched experience in a specific subject area. A student must have the ability and desire to cope with the increased academic demands and requirements of these courses. Teachers will recommend students who, based on their performance and achievement, are likely to succeed in honors courses.

### **Recommendation Criteria:**

- Classroom Performance
- Quarterly Grades
- Standardized Test Scores

# BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS 2012-13

| <u>LANGUAGE ARTS</u>                                     | <u>PERIODS/CYCLE</u> | <u>HEALTH/PHYS. ED.</u>   | <u>PERIODS/CYCLE</u> |
|--|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| English – 7 <sup>th</sup>                                | 6                    | Physical Education – 7 <sup>th</sup>                            | 3                    |
| Reading – 7 <sup>th</sup>                                | 6                    | Physical Education – 8 <sup>th</sup>                            | 3                    |
| English – 8 <sup>th</sup>                                | 6                    | Health – 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 3                    |
| English – 9 <sup>th</sup>                                | 6                    | Physical Education – 9 <sup>th</sup>                            | 3                    |
| Honors English – 9 <sup>th</sup>                         | 6                    |   |                      |
| Journalism - 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>           | 3                    | <u>ART</u>  |                      |
| Drama – 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>                | 3                    | Art – 7 <sup>th</sup>   | 2                    |
| Public Speaking – 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>      | 3                    | Art – 8 <sup>th</sup>   | 2                    |
|  |                      | Three-Dimensional Design – 9 <sup>th</sup>                      | 3                    |
|  |                      | Two-Dimensional Design – 9 <sup>th</sup>                        | 3                    |
|  |                      | Adv. Three-Dimensional Design – 9 <sup>th</sup>                 | 3                    |
|  |                      | Adv. Two-Dimensional Design – 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | 3                    |
| <u>SCIENCE</u>   |                      | <u>MUSIC</u>  |                      |
| Science 7 – 7 <sup>th</sup>                              | 6                    | General Music – 7 <sup>th</sup>                                 | 2                    |
| Science 8 – 8 <sup>th</sup>                              | 6                    | General Music – 8 <sup>th</sup>                                 | 2                    |
| Physical Science – 9 <sup>th</sup>                       | 6                    | Band – 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup>      | 3                    |
| Honors Physical Science – 9 <sup>th</sup>                | 6                    | Orchestra – 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> | 3                    |
| Environmental Issues – 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> | 3                    | Chorus 7 – 7 <sup>th</sup>                                      | 2                    |
|  |                      | Concert Choir - 8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup>               | 2                    |
| <u>SOCIAL STUDIES</u>                                    |                      | <u>GIFTED/ENRICHMENT</u>  |                      |
| Early World Studies – 7 <sup>th</sup>                    | 6                    | Gifted Reading – 7 <sup>th</sup>                                | 6                    |
| Early American Studies – 8 <sup>th</sup>                 | 6                    |   |                      |
| Geography – 8 <sup>th</sup>                              | 3                    | Gifted Computer 8 – 8 <sup>th</sup>                             | 2                    |
| American Studies – 9 <sup>th</sup>                       | 6                    | Enrichment Seminar – 9 <sup>th</sup>                            | 2                    |
| Honors American Studies - 9 <sup>th</sup>                | 6                    |   |                      |
| <u>MATH</u>  |                      | <u>FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE</u>                                  |                      |
| Advanced Pre-Algebra 7 - 7 <sup>th</sup>                 | 6                    | Family/Consumer Science – 7 <sup>th</sup>                       | 3                    |
| Pre-Algebra 7 - 7 <sup>th</sup>                          | 6                    | Family/Consumer Science – 8 <sup>th</sup>                       | 3                    |
| Advanced Algebra I – 8 <sup>th</sup>                     | 6                    | Survival 101 – 9 <sup>th</sup>                                  | 3                    |
| Algebra I – 8 <sup>th</sup>                              | 6                    | 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Living – 9 <sup>th</sup>               | 3                    |
| Algebra IA – 8 <sup>th</sup>                             | 12                   |   |                      |
| Algebra IB – 9 <sup>th</sup>                             | 12                   | <u>TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION</u>                                     |                      |
| Geometry – 9 <sup>th</sup>                               | 6                    | Technology Education – 7 <sup>th</sup>                          | 3                    |
| Honors Geometry – 9 <sup>th</sup>                        | 6                    | Technology Education – 8 <sup>th</sup>                          | 3                    |
| Honors Algebra II – 9 <sup>th</sup>                      | 6                    | Problem Solving – 9 <sup>th</sup>                               | 3                    |
|  |                      | Materials Technology – 9 <sup>th</sup>                          | 3                    |
|  |                      | Architectural CADD – 9 <sup>th</sup>                            | 3                    |
| <u>BUSINESS/COMPUTER</u>                                 |                      | <u>WORLD LANGUAGE</u>   |                      |
| Computer 7 - 7 <sup>th</sup>                             | 2                    | German I – 9 <sup>th</sup>                                      | 6                    |
| Computer 8 – 8 <sup>th</sup>                             | 2                    | Spanish I – 9 <sup>th</sup>                                     | 6                    |
| Microsoft WORD MOS Certification-9 <sup>th</sup>         | 3                    |   |                      |
| Virtual Business & Personal Finance – 9 <sup>th</sup>    | 3                    |   |                      |
| <u>NJROTC</u>  |                      |   |                      |
| Naval Science I – 9 <sup>th</sup>                        | 6                    |   |                      |

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**2012-2013**

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

**PERIODS/CYCLE**

English 7 6  
Reading 7 6

**SCIENCE**

Science 7 6

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Early World Studies 6

**MATH**

Advanced Pre-Algebra 7 6  
Pre-Algebra 7 6

**BUSINESS/COMPUTER**

Computer 7 2

**HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education 3

**ART**

Art 2

**MUSIC**

General Music 2  
Band 3  
Orchestra 3  
Chorus 7 2

**GIFTED/ENRICHMENT**

Gifted Reading 6

**FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE**

Family/Consumer Science (1 Semester) 3

**TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Technology Education (1 Semester) 3

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
2012-2013**

| <u>COURSE</u>                           | <u>PERIODS/CYCLE</u> | <u>COURSE</u>                         | <u>PERIODS/CYCLE</u> |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>LANGUAGE ARTS</u></b>             |                      | <b><u>ART</u></b>                     |                      |
| English 8                               | 6                    | Art                                   | 2                    |
| Journalism*                             | 3                    |                                       |                      |
| Drama*                                  | 3                    |                                       |                      |
| Public Speaking*                        | 3                    |                                       |                      |
| <b><u>SCIENCE</u></b>                   |                      | <b><u>MUSIC</u></b>                   |                      |
| Science 8                               | 6                    | General Music                         | 2                    |
| Environmental Issues*                   | 3                    | Band                                  | 3                    |
|   |                      | Orchestra                             | 3                    |
|   |                      | Concert Choir                         | 2                    |
| <b><u>SOCIAL STUDIES</u></b>            |                      | <b><u>GIFTED/ENRICHMENT</u></b>       |                      |
| Early American Studies                  | 6                    | Gifted Computer 8                     | 2                    |
| Geography*                              | 3                    |                                       |                      |
| <b><u>MATH</u></b>                      |                      | <b><u>FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE</u></b> |                      |
| Advanced Algebra I                      | 6                    | Family/Consumer Science (1 Semester)  | 3                    |
| Algebra I                               | 6                    |                                       |                      |
| Algebra I A                             | 12                   |                                       |                      |
| <b><u>BUSINESS/COMPUTER</u></b>         |                      | <b><u>TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION</u></b>    |                      |
| Computer 8                              | 2                    | Technology Education (1 Semester)     | 3                    |
| <b><u>HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION</u></b> |                      |                                       |                      |
| Physical Education                      | 3                    |                                       |                      |
| Health                                  | 3                    |                                       |                      |

\*Counts as an elective course.

# BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS 9<sup>th</sup> Grade 2012-2013

### LANGUAGE ARTS

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| English 9         | 6 |
| Honors English 9  | 6 |
| * Journalism      | 3 |
| * Drama           | 3 |
| * Public Speaking | 3 |

### SCIENCE

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Physical Science        | 6 |
| Honors Physical Science | 6 |
| Environmental Issues    | 3 |

### SOCIAL STUDIES

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| American Studies        | 6 |
| Honors American Studies | 6 |

### MATH

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Algebra IB        | 12 |
| Academic Geometry | 6  |
| Honors Geometry   | 6  |
| Honors Algebra II | 6  |

### BUSINESS/COMPUTER

|  |   |
|--|---|
| ** Microsoft WORD MOS Certification Course | 3 |
| Virtual Bus. & Personal Finance            | 3 |

### WORLD LANGUAGE

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| * German I  | 6 |
| * Spanish I | 6 |

### HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Physical Education | 3 |
|--------------------|---|

### ART

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| * Three Dimensional Design      | 3 |
| * Two Dimensional Design        | 3 |
| * Adv. Three Dimensional Design | 3 |
| * Adv. Two Dimensional Design   | 3 |

### MUSIC

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| * Band          | 3 |
| * Orchestra     | 3 |
| * Concert Choir | 2 |

### GIFTED/ENRICHMENT

Enrichment Seminar

### FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Survival 101        | 3 |
| 21st Century Living | 3 |

### TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| ** Architectural CADD | 3 |
| ** Problem Solving    | 3 |
| Materials Technology  | 3 |

### NJROTC

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| *** Naval Science I | 6 |
|---------------------|---|

|  |
|--|
| * Counts as Arts/Humanities elective<br>(See Graduation Requirements)        |
| ** Counts as Computer Applications<br>elective (See Graduation Requirements) |
| *** Course fulfills Physical Education Requirement                           |

Teachers will make recommendations in regard to appropriate levels for courses.

Required Courses: Ninth Grade students are required to take English, Science, Math, Social Studies, and Phys. Ed.

## **ART**

### **ART - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

At the seventh grade level students will begin with various drawing exercises to increase perceptual skills. Drawing throughout the year in various media and techniques will enable the student to demonstrate an understanding in elements of art, design principles, color theory, and perspective. Students will be encouraged to explore and discover self-expression in their work.

### **ART - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

Students in eighth grade art will begin with various drawing exercises to further develop perceptual skills. Students will explore tools and techniques throughout the year to express personal ideas and images in their original work. Emphasis on color and principles of design will enable students to create the illusion of three dimensions in their drawings. Art history and criticism will be a cumulative process throughout the year.

## **BUSINESS/COMPUTER**

### **COMPUTER 7 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

This course offers instruction on the keyboard and the skills necessary to type reports, personal and business letters, outlines, and various manuscripts. Computer literacy will be stressed in a Windows environment. Basic Internet instruction will begin including the understanding of the District's Acceptable Use Policy for the Internet.

### **COMPUTER 8 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

This course offers instruction in the integration of technology into subject areas. Computer literacy will be reviewed as will the use of many computer peripherals. Instruction will be offered on the basics of word processing, use of spreadsheets and graphs, multi-media, Internet, and Internet ethics.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

### **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods-1 semester)**

This activity-based course will help you be a wise consumer, solve conflicts, reduce stress, and make good food decisions. Hands-on experiences include creating advertising, comparing products, role-playing, and preparing various food products.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (continued)**

### **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods-1 semester)**

This course is centered on activities and experiences that all students will find they use every day. Personal money management skills will be developed. A study of foods, including labs, provides current nutritional information about diet and healthy eating practices. First hand experiences with young children allow eighth graders an opportunity to apply their knowledge about childcare and development.

## **GIFTED ENRICHMENT**

These courses will provide opportunities for academically gifted students to further develop the potential of their talents. To be eligible, the student must have met the requirements established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Boyertown Area School District. Students who qualify are encouraged to elect this course. The individualized education plan (IEP) for the student will include the Enrichment program for those who participate.

### **GIFTED READING – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 periods)**

Gifted students in seventh grade will be scheduled into a Gifted section of Reading class and work beyond the normal reading curriculum in areas of their interest and/or strength.

### **GIFTED COMPUTER – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 periods)**

Eighth grade Gifted students will be scheduled into a Gifted section of Computer class and work beyond the normal computer curriculum in areas of strength or interest.

## **HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods)**

This course introduces students to a variety of activities which will help maintain a physical fitness level needed for daily life. Participation and performance levels are evaluated according to one's own ability in mastering a skill or activity. The major goal is to strive to reach a fitness and performance level to make daily life healthy and enjoyable.

### **HEALTH - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods)**

This health course provides students with information which affect either directly or indirectly their physical and/or mental well being. Discussions on contemporary health problems help the students to understand and face issues, such as HIV/AIDS and abstinence. The following topics will be studied: mental health, substance abuse, systems of the body, and human reproduction system.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **ENGLISH - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

The seventh grade English curriculum involves literature, mechanics, and composition. The program is designed to familiarize the seventh grade with all these aspects of language. The instructional approach entails a heavy emphasis on fundamentals in these particular areas.

### **READING - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

The reading course provides instruction in word attack skills, vocabulary development, and specific comprehension skills through teacher and student selected texts. The program is designed to familiarize the seventh grade with various aspects of language as students develop into lifelong readers.

### **ENGLISH - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

The eighth grade English curriculum develops and solidifies basic skills in the writing process, the understanding of literature, and oral communications. Through the writing process, editing skills, punctuation, spelling, and usage are taught. Literature study incorporates a variety of fiction and non-fiction, poetic and dramatic selections, noting not only their form but their worth in relation to various life experiences.

### **JOURNALISM - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods)**

This course prepares students to write for the school newspaper or TV news. Students will learn how to gather news, interview, write stories and features, and present them for publication. Students will also explore modern media techniques and career options.

### **DRAMA – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods)**

This course introduces students to the world of the theater. Students will explore the history of the theater from ancient to modern times by reading various plays and investigating the many aspects of play production. Activities may include writing original scripts, performing scenes, and designing for an actual production.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(3 Periods)**

This course helps students develop the confidence needed to speak in front of others. Students will be involved with a variety of activities which will enable them to experience success in speaking to people in formal and informal situations.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **ADVANCED PRE-ALGEBRA 7 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

This advanced course contains all the concepts taught in Pre-Algebra 7 as well as several concepts from Algebra I. Problem-solving is carefully taught and is often presented in real-world situations. Students who take this course must have advanced math skills and be prepared to learn a variety of topics with fast-paced instruction. Students must have teacher recommendation to enter this course. There will be additional requirements that include grades, work habits and scores on standardized math tests.

### **PRE-ALGEBRA 7 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

This course prepares students for Algebra I or Algebra IA. Concept development is enhanced by many activities that help students make the connection between arithmetic and algebra. Problem-solving is carefully taught and is often presented in real-world situations. This course covers algebraic equations, integer equations, and applications of general math, including data analysis, statistics, area and volume, number theory, rational numbers, ratio and proportion, percent and probability.

### **ADVANCED ALGEBRA I - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

This is a fast-paced course that prepares students for honors courses in math throughout their high school career. Students will also prepare to take the Algebra I Keystone Graduation Exams in the middle of their ninth grade year. Students should have successfully completed Pre-Algebra, have teacher recommendation and meet standardized test requirements to enter this course. Students move quickly through solving equations, graphing, functions, inequalities, and working with polynomials.

### **ALGEBRA I - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(6 Periods)**

Having a solid pre-algebra background, these students move quickly through fractions and integers into solving equations, graphing, functions, inequalities, and working with polynomials. Students should have successfully completed Pre-Algebra 7. This course will prepare students to take an integrated Algebra and Geometry course in their grade 9 year in order to successfully score advanced or proficient on the Algebra I Keystone Graduation Exam.

### **ALGEBRA I A – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(12 Periods)**

This is the first half of a 2-year Algebra I course. The curriculum is designed to develop logical reasoning, mathematical communication skills and begin to lay a solid foundation of algebra skills. Students will have a second period of math for support in this class.

## **MUSIC**

### **GENERAL MUSIC - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

Students in general music class will be introduced to various elements of music through investigation. This hands-on class will explore units including: What is Music, Music in My World, Music in Our Community and Our Musical Legacy. Students will perform, sing, describe and analyze music while beginning to develop an ability to critique different pieces. Keyboarding skills will also be developed in this class.

### **GENERAL MUSIC - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

Students in general music class will explore various elements of music through investigation. This hands-on class will focus on units including: What is Music, Music in My World, Show Me the Money and My Musical Legacy. Students will perform, sing, describe and analyze music while beginning to develop an ability to critique different pieces. Keyboarding skills will be further developed during units of study.

### **BAND**

**(3 Periods)**

The band is comprised of students who play woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The band performs as a Concert Band. Students are also strongly encouraged to join the Marching Unit. Concert Band performs the most current and exciting band literature in two or more concerts per year. Marching activities include pep rallies and one or more parades which require after school rehearsals during the fall season. Students are also provided with one small group lesson per cycle. Requirements for admission into the band include former instrumental experience or a satisfactory audition. Students that do not currently play an instrument may join, however they should contact the band director before registering.

### **STRING ORCHESTRA**

**(3 Periods)**

The orchestra is comprised of students who play stringed instruments. Students perform for the winter and spring concert plus community appearances throughout the year. Participation requires some after school time commitment. Requirements for admission into the string orchestra include former instrumental experience or a satisfactory audition. Woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments may be added to the orchestra after school hours as needed. Students that do not currently play an instrument may join, however they should contact the orchestra director before registering.

### **CHORUS - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(2 Periods)**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade chorus is comprised of any student interested in participating in a performing choral group. The Chorus will learn two and three part music and perform in the holiday and spring concerts. Students will be graded based on progress toward individual course goals and concert attendance.

**CONCERT CHOIR - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade****(2 Periods)**

The Concert Choir is comprised of any 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade student interested in participating in a performing choral group. The concert choir will learn two, three and four part compositions and will perform in the holiday and spring concerts. Students will be graded based on progress toward individual course goals and concert attendance.

**SCIENCE****SCIENCE 7 - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade****(6 Periods)**

The seventh grade science program is a comprehensive spiraled curriculum that teaches life science, physical science, earth science and environmental science concepts to children in such a way that they learn through their own experimentation. The areas of study in life science are the cell, genetics and classification. In the physical science unit students will investigate elements, compounds, physical changes and chemical changes. The earth science unit will incorporate the water cycle and meteorology. During the environmental science unit students will investigate renewable and nonrenewable resources.

**SCIENCE 8 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade****(6 Periods)**

The eighth grade science program is a rigorous course that focuses on the process of science. Students will explore basic science concepts such as gravity, thermodynamics, cause and effect and the relationship of living organisms in their environments. They will explore these concepts while studying units in chemistry, astronomy, hydrology, ecology and geology. Throughout the course, the overall theme will be the interrelationships between the various science areas.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade or 9<sup>th</sup> Grade****(3 Periods)**

Students will explore current issues relating to the fields of biology, ecology, and environmental science. Students will draw on knowledge and skills from previous and concurrent science courses in order to examine human's role in events and issues in the news. The class format will revolve around class discussion, debate, problem solving activities, and issue analysis. Topics will remain flexible, dependent on recent developments in scientific research and current media reporting. Topics may include land use issues, natural resources, human population changes, or wildlife management.

**SOCIAL STUDIES****EARLY WORLD STUDIES (BEGINNINGS TO 1500) – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade** (6 Periods)

This course studies the history of man from the earliest civilizations to the Renaissance of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, including the development of economics, society, religion, government, education, technology, the arts and the influence geography has played in this development. Comparisons are made regarding the similarities of man's behavior throughout history, with emphasis on accomplishments. By studying the lives of people from other times and places, students develop a better understanding of themselves.

### **EARLY AMERICAN STUDIES (1500 TO 1812) – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (6 Periods)**

Starting with the growth of colonies in America as a result of European exploration, the course will examine the political, social and economic developments in those colonies resulting from European policies. Included will be a study of the U. S. Constitution and the history of the new republic until 1812. Special emphasis will be placed on Pennsylvania's growth and development.

### **GEOGRAPHY - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (3 Periods)**

This elective course is the study of five fundamental themes: Location, Place, Human/Environment Interaction, Movement and Region. An emphasis is placed on the United States, Pennsylvania, and the rest of the Western Hemisphere. Students will be expected to use maps, globes, and other graphics to acquire and process geographic information about this region and how it relates to the rest of the Earth.

## **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

### **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (3 Periods-1 semester)**

Technology education is an activity based course which introduces the major technological systems of communication, construction, manufacturing, and transportation. Through the instruction and the activities involving the use of knowledge, tools, and skills, students will become aware of how the different systems interrelate, how they influence our lives every day, and how they combine to make our technological society. Activities include basic engineering graphics, graphic arts, rocketry, magnetic levitation, and the formation of a small scale product producing company as well as computer application throughout the four areas of technology.

### **TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (3 Periods-1 semester)**

The eighth grade technology education course covers activities in selected areas involving design problem solving experiences. Where it is required, students will use tools, materials, and equipment in a safe working environment to complete activities and class work. This course will enable students to creatively apply their ideas to solve problems presented in interesting classroom activities.

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COURSE SELECTION WORKSHEET**  
**2012-2013**

| <u><b>REQUIRED</b></u>                            | <u><b>PERIODS</b></u> | <u><b>CUMULATIVE PERIODS</b></u> |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| English 7   | 6                     |                                  |
| Reading 7 or Gifted Reading 7 (by recommendation) | 6                     |                                  |
| Science 7   | 6                     |                                  |
| Early World Studies                               | 6                     |                                  |
| Advanced Pre-Algebra 7* or Pre-Algebra 7          | 6                     |                                  |
| Family & Consumer Science/Technology Education    | 3                     |                                  |
| Physical Education                                | 3                     |                                  |
| Computer 7  | 2                     |                                  |
| Art   | 2                     |                                  |
| General Music                                     | 2                     |                                  |
| <b>Required Total</b>                             |                       | <u><b>42</b></u>                 |

| <u><b>ELECTIVES</b></u> | <u><b>PERIODS</b></u>      |                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| ___ Band                | 3                          |                   |
| ___ Orchestra           | 3                          |                   |
| ___ Chorus 7            | 2                          |                   |
|                         | <b>Elective Total</b>      | <u>          </u> |
|                         | <b>Periods Grand Total</b> | <u>          </u> |

\*Students must meet requirements to be placed in this course.

Students must schedule a minimum of 42 instructional periods and a maximum of 48 per cycle.

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**8TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION WORKSHEET**

**2012-2013**

| <u><b>REQUIRED</b></u>                                     | <u><b>PERIODS</b></u> | <u><b>CUMULATIVE PERIODS</b></u> |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| English  | 6                     |                                  |
| Science 8  | 6                     |                                  |
| Early American Studies                                     | 6                     |                                  |
| Algebra I A w/support, Algebra I, Advanced Algebra I*      | 12/12/6               |                                  |
| Health   | 3                     |                                  |
| Family & Consumer Science/Technology Education             | 3                     |                                  |
| Physical Education   | 3                     |                                  |
| Computer 8 <u>or</u> Gifted Computer 8 (by recommendation) | 2                     |                                  |
| Art  | 2                     |                                  |
| General Music  | 2                     |                                  |
| <b>Required Total</b>                                      |                       | <u><b>39 or 45*</b></u>          |

\*If a student does not have math support, he/she must choose at least one elective.

| <u><b>ELECTIVES</b></u>                       | <u><b>PERIODS</b></u>      |       |
|---|----------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geography            | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journalism           | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking      | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama                | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Issues | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band                 | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra            | 3                          |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concert Choir        | 2                          |       |
|   | <b>Elective Total</b>      | _____ |
|   | <b>Periods Grand Total</b> | _____ |

\*Students must meet requirements to be placed in this course.

Students must schedule a minimum of 41 instructional periods and a maximum of 48 periods per cycle.