



**CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**2016-2017**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES**

**GRADES SEVEN AND EIGHT**

**HOLICONG MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**2900 HOLICONG ROAD**

**DOYLESTOWN, PA 18902**

**267.893.2700**

**TAMANEND MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**1492 STUCKERT ROAD**

**WARRINGTON, PA 18976**

**267.893.2900**

**LENAPE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**313 WEST STATE STREET**

**DOYLESTOWN, PA 18901**

**267.893.2800**

**TOHICKON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**5051 OLD EASTON ROAD**

**DOYLESTOWN, PA 18902**

**267.893.3300**

**UNAMI MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**160 SOUTH MOYER ROAD**

**CHALFONT, PA 18914**

**267.893.3400**

## SEVENTH GRADE CORE SUBJECTS

Teachers and counselors have recommended a program of studies based on each student's abilities, interests, goals, and course requirements. Please review the program recommendations and course descriptions contained in this booklet.

### GRADE 7 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

#### 0700/4700 Advanced English Language Arts A and B

#### 0720/4720 Academic English Language Arts A and B

#### 0721/4740 Academic English Language Arts A and B

The English Language Arts course integrates reading, writing, researching, speaking, listening, and thinking skills. Students read and discuss various texts: short stories, novels, poetry, dramas, nonfiction, and film. Students in seventh grade English Language Arts will focus on learning and practicing reading strategies to deepen comprehension and promote student transaction with text. While reading fiction, greater emphasis will be given to plot development and characterization. Students will write in the following modes: descriptive, informative, persuasive and argument. Students will continue to practice the writing process and examine exemplary models of writing.

Students in the Advanced English Language Arts 7 course are expected to be avid readers and sophisticated writers. The course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments for the advanced level class. Students will encounter challenging texts, discussions, and writing tasks.

#### 0750/4750, 0760/4760, 0770/4770, 0780/4780, 0790/4790

#### English Language Arts A and B

These courses are designed for students with special needs in any of the components of English Language Arts: reading, writing, researching, speaking. Listening and thinking skills.

### GRADE 7 PROGRAM FOR ENRICHMENT (PEN)

#### 9701 PEN/English Language Arts

Students identified as gifted may be placed in PEN/English Language Arts. Emphasis is on the development of higher level thinking skills and creativity through enrichment activities, verbal reasoning and problem-solving, as well as the extension of grade level curriculum. Affective development is fostered through the exchange of ideas and the promotion of positive attitudes toward self and others.

## GRADE 7 MATHEMATICS

**Because of the sequential development of the mathematics curriculum, students must attain the prerequisites in the previous course before advancing to a more difficult level. The prerequisite for each course has been developed with the sole purpose of ensuring students have the skills they need to be successful. These prerequisites must be met before entering the course. Students who do not meet the prerequisite for the next sequential math course can elect to retake the course in summer school or during the next school year. For a complete secondary math course sequence visit:**

<http://www.cbsd.org/Page/1512>

#### 2700 Algebra 1

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed the elementary math series, including pre-algebra, and have demonstrated excellent mathematical ability. Students in this class are typically two years above grade level in mathematics. It extends previously learned arithmetic skills to expressions involving variables. Major topics include linear equations and inequalities in one and two variables, exponents and polynomials, factoring, quadratic equations, proportions, functions, radicals, rational expressions, and data analysis. Problem solving, application, communication and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students in this class will take the Algebra 1 Keystone Exams. **Criteria for placement in this course includes: teacher recommendation, Pre-Algebra grade of A- or better for the year or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2705 Algebra 1A

Algebra 1A builds on the concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra. This is the first course in an in-depth two year study of formal Algebra. Students in this class are typically one year above grade level in mathematics. The fundamental operations and their properties are studied. Topics include: solving linear equations, linear functions, linear inequalities, systems of equations, factors, exponents, and statistics and data analysis. Problem solving, application, communication and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. **Criteria for placement: Pre-Algebra grade of C- or better for the year or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2710 Pre-Algebra

This course is a preparatory algebra curriculum, designed for students with average to good mathematical ability, which have successfully completed the elementary mathematics curriculum.

Major topics include: positive and negative numbers, equations, ratios, proportions, percents, non-metric geometry, metric geometry, coordinate plane, statistics, probability, and applications.

#### **2720 Math 7**

This course is designed for students who need more development in basic math skills. Lessons provide sequential skill development in decimals, number theory, fractions, ratios, proportions, percents, geometry, and applications.

#### **2750, 2760, 2770, 2780, 2790 Math 7**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### **GRADE 7 SCIENCE**

#### **3720 Academic Science 7**

Academic Science 7 is an integrated course that covers topics in the life, physical, and environmental sciences. The units of study include: Matter, Energy, Ecology, and Cells and Heredity. Students will engage in an active learning environment that requires them to ask questions, develop models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze data, solve problems, and construct explanations. Through these authentic learning experiences students will reveal new scientific insights and develop important scientific skills.

#### **3750, 3760, 3770, 3780, 3790 Science 7**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### **GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES**

#### **1720 Academic Social Studies 7**

Grade 7 Social Studies focuses on the geography, history and culture of the pre-modern world. After an introduction to studying geography, students will learn about early civilizations, such as Greece, Rome, China, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas. In each unit, students learn that studying the past helps to understand the present. Students will enhance their critical thinking and communication skills while learning about big ideas in history, geography, economics and government.

#### **1750, 1760, 1770, 1780, 1790 Social Studies 7**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### **EIGHTH GRADE CORE SUBJECTS**

Teachers and counselors have recommended a program of studies based on each student's abilities, interests, goals, and course requirements. Please review the program recommendations and course descriptions contained in this booklet.

### **GRADE 8 ENGLISH**

#### **0800 Advanced English**

#### **0820 Academic English**

#### **0821 Academic English**

The English 8 course integrates reading, writing, researching, speaking, and thinking skills. Students read and discuss various texts: short stories, novels, poetry, dramas, nonfiction, and film. Students in eighth grade English will apply reading strategies to a variety of genres. Texts in this course will help students to understand how authors achieve their purposes through the use of literary devices. While reading fiction, greater emphasis will be given to setting and conflict. Students will experiment with the features of informative and argument writing. Students will also have the opportunity for creative work in the genres they study.

The course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments for the advanced level class. The Advanced English 8 course integrates reading, literature study, writing, researching, speaking, and thinking skills. Students in this course are expected to be avid readers and sophisticated writers. In this course, students will encounter challenging texts, discussions, and writing.

#### **0850, 0860, 0870, 0880, 0890 English 8**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### **GRADE 8 READING**

#### **4840 Reading 8**

This course incorporates reading and technology to increase the reading proficiency of students who have not mastered basic reading and learning skills. A two-period block of daily, intensive instruction allows for a focus on word analysis, vocabulary, reading fluency, and comprehension skills and strategies. The reading of nonfiction text and the application of reading strategies to nonfiction is an important part of the course. Students use instructional programs on the computer to help develop skills and individualize the program based on student needs. The independent reading of trade books selected by students is also an important component of this class.

## 4850, 4860, 4870, 4880, 4890 Reading 8

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### GRADE 8 MATHEMATICS

Because of the sequential development of the mathematics curriculum, students must attain the prerequisites in the previous course before advancing to a more difficult level. The prerequisite for each course has been developed with the sole purpose of ensuring students have the skills they need to be successful. These prerequisites must be met before entering the course. Students who do not meet the prerequisite for the next sequential math course can elect to retake the course in summer school or during the next school year. For a complete secondary math course sequence visit: <http://www.cbsd.org/Page/1512>

#### 2800 Geometry/Trigonometry

This course is designed for students with outstanding mathematical ability. Geometry is a modern development of Euclidean Geometry covering congruency, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, areas, and volumes. Concepts from coordinate geometry are reviewed with an emphasis on the integration of algebra and geometry. Trigonometry topics include indirect measurement, the Laws of Sines and Cosines, and theories/applications relating to tangents, apothems, and inscribed polygons.

**Prerequisite: Accelerated Algebra 1, B- (80%) or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2810 Algebra 1

This course is designed for those students who have demonstrated excellent mathematical ability. It extends previously learned arithmetic skills to expressions involving variables. Students in this class are typically one year above grade level in mathematics. Major topics include linear equations and inequalities in one and two variables, exponents and polynomials, factoring, quadratic equations, proportions, functions, radicals, rational expressions, and data analysis. Problem solving, application, communication and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students in this class will take the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam.

**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra, A- (90%) or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2811 Algebra 1B

Algebra 1B builds on the concepts studied in Introduction to Algebra. This is the second course in an in-depth two year study of formal Algebra. The fundamental operations and their properties are studied. Topics include: linear functions and inequalities, systems of equations, exponents and polynomials, factoring polynomials, rational expressions, radicals and quadratic functions. Problem solving, application, communication and reasoning are emphasized throughout

the course. Students in this class will take the Algebra 1 Keystone Exam. **Prerequisite: Introduction to Algebra, grade of C- (70%) or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2815 Algebra 1A

Algebra 1A builds on the concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra. This is the first course in an in-depth two year study of formal Algebra. The fundamental operations and their properties are studied. Topics include: solving linear equations, linear functions, linear inequalities, systems of equations, factors, exponents, and statistics and data analysis. Problem solving, application, communication and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course.

**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra, C- (70%) or teacher recommendation.**

#### 2820 Pre-Algebra

This course is designed for students who completed course 2720 in seventh grade. The curriculum provides an academic foundation in pre-algebra that includes integers, percents, equations, inequalities, geometry, coordinate geometry, problem-solving, and selected topics in probability and statistics.

## 2850, 2860, 2870, 2880, 2890 Math 8

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

### GRADE 8 SCIENCE

#### 3800 Advanced Science 8

Science 8 is an integrated course that covers topics in the life, physical, and Earth/space sciences. The units of study include: Interactions of Matter, Forces and Motion, Astronomy, and The Human Body. As in Science 7, students will engage in an active learning environment that requires them to ask questions, develop models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze data, solve problems, and construct explanations. Through these authentic learning experiences students will reveal new scientific insights and develop important scientific skills.

The Advanced Science 8 course of study includes variations in materials, tasks, and assessments. Advanced students will complete more demanding assignments and study additional material beyond that expected in the Academic level. Further, Advanced students will be required to complete a challenging scientific investigation focusing on the important role of the scientific method in the analysis of a problem.

Although registering for both Advanced Science and Advanced Social Studies is permitted, it is not encouraged. Because of the rigor of these courses, students must understand that taking both simultaneously will be demanding.

**Prerequisite: Academic Science 7, A- average or teacher recommendation.**

### **3820 Academic Science 8**

Science 8 is an integrated course that covers topics in the life, physical, and Earth/space sciences. The units of study include: Interactions of Matter, Forces and Motion, Astronomy, and The Human Body. As in Science 7, students will engage in an active learning environment that requires them to ask questions, develop models, plan and carry out investigations, analyze data, solve problems, and construct explanations. Through these authentic learning experiences students will reveal new scientific insights and develop important scientific skills.

### **3850, 3860, 3870, 3880, 3890 Science 8**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

## **GRADE 8 SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **1800 Advanced Social Studies 8**

Grade 8 Social Studies focuses on the study of United States history from the 17th century through the 19th century. Students study Colonial America, The American Revolution, American Government, the early development of the United States, the Civil War, Reconstruction and the American West. Student will enhance their critical thinking and communication skills while learning about big ideas in history, geography, economics and government.

The Advanced level is designed for students who want in-depth study of American history and seek rigorous work in social studies. Students in Advanced courses will complete more demanding assignments and study additional material beyond that expected in the Academic level. Advanced students will use both primary and secondary sources to complete an extensive research project.

Although registering for both Advanced Social Studies and Advanced Science is permitted, it is not encouraged. Because of the rigor of these courses, students must understand that taking both simultaneously will be demanding.

**Prerequisite: Academic Social Studies 7, A or A- or teacher recommendation.**

### **1820 Academic Social Studies 8**

Grade 8 Social Studies focuses on the study of United States history from the 17th century through the 19th century. Students will learn about Colonial America, The American Revolution, American Government, the early development of the United States, the Civil War, Reconstruction and the American West. Students will enhance their critical thinking and communication skills while learning about big ideas in history, geography, economics and government.

### **1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890 Social Studies 8**

These courses are designed for students with special needs.

## **GRADE 8 WORLD LANGUAGES**

**Students in Grade 8 who are not scheduled for Reading must select either French 1 or Spanish 1**

### **4820 French 1**

### **4822 Spanish 1**

The goal of first-year world language courses is to enable students to use fundamental expressions and vocabulary in oral and written context, while integrating cultural elements. Level 1 courses emphasize communicative skills, relevant grammar concepts, and reading comprehension. CDs, videos, workbooks, and a variety of supplemental materials are used to help achieve this goal

**NOTE: The high school sequence for French begins with level 3. Students who wish to study French should take level 1 and 2 in the middle school as those levels are NOT offered in high school.**

## **GRADE 8 PROGRAM FOR ENRICHMENT (PEN)**

**The PEN 8 course will be scheduled in place of an exploratory course.**

### **9801 Program for Enrichment (PEN) 8**

Only students identified as gifted may be placed in PEN. Emphasis is on the development of higher level thinking skills and creativity through enrichment activities, verbal reasoning and problem-solving, as well as the extension of grade level curriculum. Affective development is fostered through the exchange of ideas and the promotion of positive attitudes toward self and others. This course provides students identified as gifted with the opportunity to pursue areas of mutual and individual interest. Students are involved in readings, discussions, lectures, and other activities designed to foster critical thinking skills and the exchange of ideas.

## ART

### **8750 Art Essentials: 7**

Students focus on the studio units of drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture. Students produce a variety of two and three-dimensional art works while experimenting with forms, structures, materials, concepts, media, and art making approaches. Art history is integrated throughout the course. Art movements, from the late 1800's to the early 1920's will be explored. When applicable, ancient art influences will be connected culturally, historically and artistically. Students continue to develop knowledge and skills in the disciplines of Art Criticism, Aesthetics and Philosophy, through various activities including critiques, class discussions, reflections and writings. Students will enhance their critical thinking and creative problem solving skills.

### **8850 Modern Art and Design: 8**

Students focus on intermediate skills and concepts in drawing, painting, commercial art, and crafts. In Art History, students will study the artistic styles that were developed beginning in the twentieth century and reaching into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. A variety of art movements and artists will be explored. When applicable, ancient art influences will be connected culturally, historically and artistically. Students will further develop knowledge and skills related to the disciplines of Art Criticism, Aesthetics and Philosophy, through various activities including critiques, class discussions, reflections, and writings. Students will enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills. Through artmaking, students make meaning by investigating and developing awareness of perceptions, knowledge, and experiences.

## FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

### **6750/6850 Family and Consumer Sciences**

This is a hands-on class that begins preparing students for independent living while building wise consumer skills. An emphasis is placed on cooperative learning through activities that may include personal finances, child care basics, nutritional recipes, food safety, product labeling, and clothing care. Service learning opportunities may be provided as part of the course work.

## MUSIC

Students may elect to take a performing group music class in seventh and eighth grades. Students choose from band, orchestra, or chorus. Please note: Only students enrolled in curricular music performance classes (Chorus, Band and Orchestra) are eligible to audition for the BCMEA County Music Festival, and (after-school) select music ensembles. (Exploratory Music does not qualify as a performance class.)

### **8752 Band 7**

This course is designed for students who play band instruments in the woodwind, brass and percussion families.

Students receive experience playing in a variety of musical styles and continue their development of musical skills and techniques.

**Prerequisite for Band 7: Successful completion of Grade 6 band or the equivalent.**

### **8852 Band 8**

This course is designed for students who play band instruments in the woodwind, brass and percussion families. Students receive experience playing a variety of musical styles and continue their development of musical skills and techniques. Public performances are scheduled throughout the year, including concert and marching settings.

**Prerequisite for Band 8: Successful completion of Grade 7 band.**

### **8753 Orchestra 7**

This course is designed for students who play violin, viola, cello or double bass. Emphasis is placed on developing string technique and experiencing a variety of new musical styles and skills.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 6 string instruction or the equivalent.**

### **8853 Orchestra 8**

This course is designed for students who play violin, viola, cello or double bass. Emphasis is placed on developing more advanced string technique and experiencing a variety of new musical styles and skills. Several public performances are scheduled throughout the year, including winter and spring concerts.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 7 Orchestra.**

### **8754 Chorus 7**

This course is designed for students, **regardless of musical ability**, who desire to develop their interest in music through singing and other activities. Development of vocal skills and technique will be taught, and students will experience singing a wide variety of musical styles, including multi-part arrangements. Students will learn how to read a musical score. Additional experiences may include aspects of Theatre Arts and other performance experiences. Opportunities for public performance will help students to build confidence and a sense of accomplishment, both individually and collectively.

**Prerequisite: None**

### **8854 Chorus 8**

This course is designed for students with an interest in choral music. Students will experience singing a variety of musical styles in multi-part arrangements. Development of vocal skills and technique will be emphasized. Opportunities for public performance will help students to build confidence and a sense of accomplishment, both individually and collectively.

**Prerequisite: None**

### **8751/8851 Exploratory Music**

Students who are not enrolled in a performing group music class (band, orchestra, or chorus) will take Exploratory Music as a course in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade. This is an active, hands-on class in which students can explore with various methods of performance, including singing, playing instruments, and Theatre Arts. Interpretation of musical notations is emphasized and interdisciplinary activities are encouraged. Students will actively participate in a variety of in-class performance settings.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **7750 Physical Education/Health 7**

This course is a combination of both classroom experiences and physical activity. Emphasis will be placed on fitness, its components, and their relationship to activity. Team sports, individual sports, recreational activities, cooperative activities, drug and alcohol education, safety education, AIDS education and human growth and development will all be part of the seventh grade experience.

### **7850 Physical Education/Health 8**

This course is an integration of classroom experiences and physical activity. The classroom component of this course will focus on fitness, nutrition, decision-making skills, human growth and development, and AIDS education. Students will gain knowledge of applicable body systems, ef-

fective communication with adults and peers, injury prevention, peaceful resolution of problems, recognition of at-risk behaviors, and effective refusal skills. The activity portion of the course will emphasize team sports, individual sports, recreational activities, and cooperative activities. Students will learn teamwork, cooperation, and sportsmanship; and they will be able to develop the skills necessary to modify activities to suit their own unique needs.

## **TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION**

### **6751 Foundations of Engineering**

### **6851 Principles of Engineering**

Students completing the course will experience manufacturing, construction, communications, EPT (energy, power, and transportation) and coding, utilizing current technologies. Students will learn to apply the design loop to systematically solve problems.

**CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Grade “Specials” Course Information (Music, Art, PE, Tech Ed, FCS)**  
**for current 6<sup>th</sup> Graders**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade students can choose from two schedule options for their 7<sup>th</sup> grade schedule:

- MUSIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
- EXPLORATORY “Specials” SCHEDULE

A **MUSIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE** includes BAND, CHORUS or ORCHESTRA (during-the-day).

- Students who take the MUSIC PERFORMANCE schedule will take two non-music specials (Art, FCS, PE, Tech Ed) in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and then will take the remaining two non-music specials in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These students will have one course in Art, PE, FCS, and Tech Ed at some point in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

**Sample Music Performance Schedule**

	1st Semester A-Day	1st Semester B-Day	2nd Semester A-Day	2nd Semester B-Day
7th Grade	MUSIC	PE	MUSIC	TECH
8th Grade	ART	MUSIC	FCS	MUSIC

An **EXPLORATORY “Specials” SCHEDULE** includes a class called EXPLORING MUSIC, a one-semester general music class where students will actively participate in a variety of in-class music activities, but not in concerts. Students who take EXPLORING MUSIC have a general music class but are not eligible to participate in after-school Select music groups: Jazz Band, Select Choir, Select Strings, etc.

- Students who choose the EXPLORATORY “Specials” schedule will take ART, PE, and TECH ED in both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They will take EXPLORING MUSIC during 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade and FAMILY/CONSUMER SCIENCE the opposite year.

**Sample EXPLORATORY “Specials” Schedule**

	1st Semester A-Day	1st Semester B-Day	2nd Semester A-Day	2nd Semester B-Day
7th Grade	EXPLORING MUSIC	PE	TECH	ART
8th Grade	PE	TECH	ART	FCS

**In both schedules**, students will experience all five “Specials” disciplines. The MUSIC PERFORMANCE schedule gives them more of an emphasis in performing music. The EXPLORATORY “Specials” schedule gives them more of an emphasis on the full range of electives. Each student must decide the path s/he would like to pursue.

Please note:

- If a student is interested in participating in instrumental AND vocal music, the student should register for the band or orchestra class.
- Because of music staffing schedules, there can be NO GUARANTEES that any student will be able to be involved in more than one performing music class during the school day.
- If a student is involved in more than one music performing class, the amount of participation in each class will be determined by the music teachers, based on the musical needs of the class and of the student (This does not mean a 50-50-split between classes). The student will receive a grade only in the instrumental music class.