

Irvington Middle School 8th Grade Parent Orientation

January 2021



Agenda

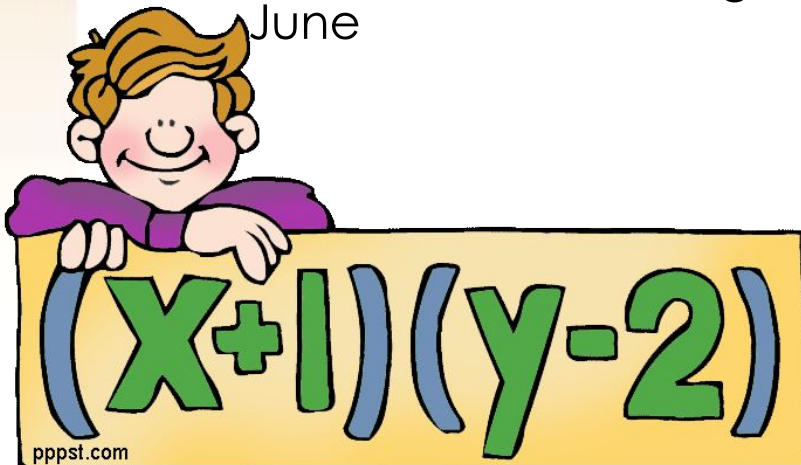
- Welcome & Introductions
- Academic Program
- Support Services
- 8th Grade Schedule
- Electives & Selectives
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- PAL Program
- Career Days
- Washington, DC Trip
- Questions



8th Grade Academic Overview

Mathematics

- Math 8
 - Units of Study aligned to Next Generation Learning Standards
 - NYS Mathematics Assessment in April
- Algebra I (Accelerated)
 - HS course – becomes part of transcript
 - Students will take Regents Examination in June



8th Grade Academic Overview

English Language Arts

- Double block every other day with a single period on opposite days
- Assured Reading/Writing Experiences
- Genre-based Units of Study aligned to NGLS
- NYS ELA Assessment - March



8th Grade Academic Overview

Science

- Science 8
 - Connection of literacy skills between ELA and Social Studies
 - NYS Grade 8 Science Assessment
- Earth Science
 - HS course – becomes part of transcript
 - Selection process
 - Students will take Regents Examination in June



8th Grade Academic Overview

Social Studies

- Study of post-Reconstruction US History
- Connection of literacy skills between ELA and Social Studies
- Continued and increased focus on analysis of primary sources as a tool for achieving deeper understanding



8th Grade Academic Overview

World Language

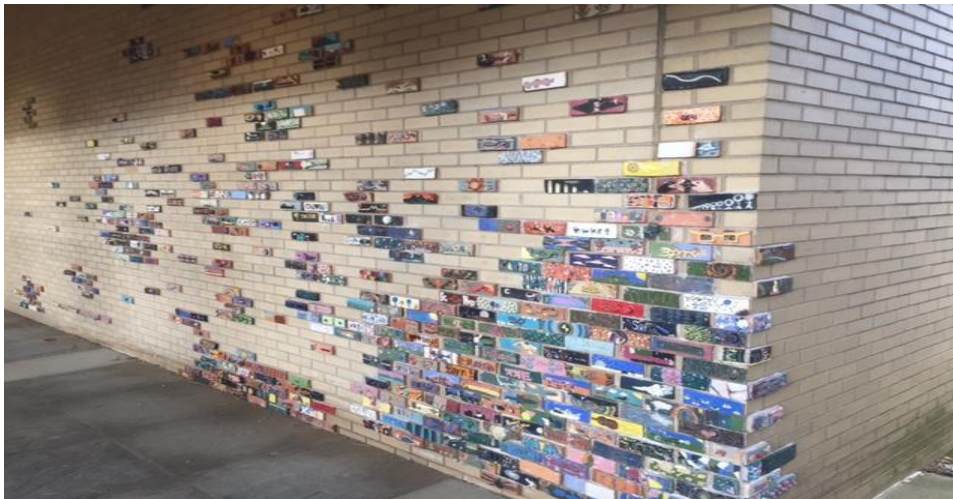
- Spanish 8
 - Thematic units of study – Travel, Health, Community
 - Focus on speaking & listening
 - Locally-developed proficiency exam in June leads to HS credit
- French 8
 - Thematic units of study – Travel, Health, Community
 - Focus on speaking & listening
 - Locally-developed proficiency exam in June leads to HS credit



8th Grade Academic Overview

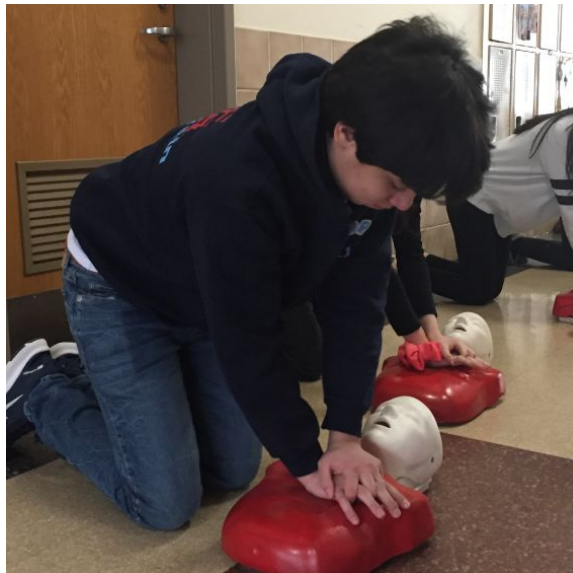
Art

- Art 8
 - Remains as part of Unified Arts rotation
 - Focus on composition – wire sculptures, brick project
- Studio Art (Accelerated)
 - HS course – prerequisite for other Art electives
 - Selection process



8th Grade Academic Overview

- PE
- Unified Arts
 - Home & Careers
 - Health
 - Technology – PLTW Gateway
 - Art



8th Grade Academic Overview

Music

- Performing Groups
 - Band, Orchestra, & Chorus
 - Weekly or Bi-Weekly Lessons
 - Rotating Basis
- Additional Ensembles
 - Jazz Band & Chamber Ensemble



Support Services

- Extra Help with Teachers – **Before School**
- Homework Center
- AIS
 - Academic Lab
 - Building Support Program (BSP)
 - Reading Support
 - Writing Workshop
 - Math AIS
- Speech & Counseling Services



8th Grade Schedule

Required Classes

Period(s) Used

ELA	1.5
Math	1
Social Studies	1
Science	1-1.5*
World Language	1
Unified Arts	1
PE	0.5
Lunch	1
	<hr/>
	8-8.5

*Depending on course taken



Student Agency

Student agency refers to learning through activities that are meaningful and relevant to learners, driven by their interests, and often self-initiated with appropriate guidance from teachers. To put it simply, student agency gives students voice and often, choice, in how they learn.

- Renaissance Learning



8th Grade Schedule - Elective/Selective

Elective/Selective Options

Period(s) Used

Earth Science*

.5**

Studio Art*

1***

MUSIC - Chorus, Band, or
Orchestra

.5

PLTW Elective(s) -

.25 (each)

- App Creators
- Green Architecture
- Energy & The Environment
- Computer Science for Innovators & Makers

[Sample 8th Grade Schedules](#)

*Subject to application process

**Above required period for Science

***Meets during 0 period



Extra-Curricular Opportunities

- Baking Club
- Chess Club
- Debate Club
- French Club
- Environmental Club
- History Club
- IMS Music Honor Society
- Intramurals
- Literary Magazine
- Math Club
- Midnight Run
- Ping Pong Club
- School Store
- Science Olympiad
- Spanish Club
- Student Council
- Theater (School Play)
- Yearbook



Scheduling Process & Timeline

- **January** - Parent Orientation Program
- **February** - Notification of Earth Science application & placement test
- **Early February** - Counselors visit PE 7 classes with course selection & IPR forms
- **Late February/Early March** - IPR meetings with counselors
- **March/April** - Placement test for Earth Science
- **Mid-April** - Placement process for Studio Art
- **Mid-May** - Letter w/ list of courses mailed home
- **June-August** - Schedules created



PAL Program

- Leadership opportunity
 - 6th grade transition
 - Begins in spring of 7th grade and continues through the beginning of the school year



Career Days

- Occur at the end of the career unit in the Home & Careers class
- Parent volunteer speakers welcome!!



Washington, DC Trip

- 3-Day, 2-night trip for all 8th grade students in spring
- Connected to educational and social experiences throughout the school year



Contact Information

- David Sottile – 269-5312 (office)
david.sottile@irvingtonschoools.org
- Allyson Daley – 269-5313 (office)
allyson.daley@irvingtonschoools.org
- Liza Leite – 269-5333 (office)
liza.leite@irvingtonschoools.org
- Griffin Murray – 269-5334 (office)
griffin.murray@irvingtonschoools.org
- Gregg Pernick – 8th Grade Team Leader
gregg.pernick@irvingtonschoools.org

