

**Chequamegon Middle School Course  
Description Book  
2018-2019**



**Home of the Screaming Eagles**



## **NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY**

All courses, including Career and Technical Education courses are available without discrimination based on the Protected Classes of race, color, national origin, age, sex, creed or religion, genetic information, handicap or disability, marital status, citizenship status, veteran status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, any other characteristic protected by law in its employment practices or on the basis of transgender status, change of sex or gender identity. (Title IX, 34 C.F.R. 106.9, Section 504, 34 C.F.R. 104.8, Title II, 28 C.F.R. 35.106) (Policy 2260, AG 2260D & Form 2260)



## **ART DEPARTMENT**

### **Art 6, 7, & 8**

Grade 6 Quarter

Grade 7 Semester

Grade 8 Quarter

Two- and three-dimensional art production are included in this course. Basic design, drawing, painting, and sculpture techniques will be explored. A concentration on the principles and elements of design, incorporated with art history and multicultural art, will be integrated into various art projects throughout the middle years.

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION LITERACY**

### **Computers 6**

Grade 6

1 Quarter

Students will be exploring a variety of technology concepts and techniques in order to support their learning in regular education classes. This class is designed to enhance students' technology skills to support the 1:1 Chromebook concept that is in place at Chequamegon Middle School. There will be an emphasis on using Google Apps for Education and using Mac and Chrome platforms. Students will practice their word processing skills as well as discussing personal safety while online, cyberbullying, and social networking.

### **Computer Science 7**

Grade 7

Semester Elective

Students will be exploring a variety technology skills in order to expand their knowledge and improve their technology skills and experiences. The goals of this course are to engage students in using computational thinking as a problem solving tool, teach them to use programming concepts and methods while creating digital artifacts, and retain their interest in computing as a relevant and exciting field. Students will also expand their knowledge using the Google Apps for Education.

## **ENGLISH AND READING**

All middle school English classes are designed to support student growth toward the Wisconsin Common Core State Standards for each individual grade level. These standards focus on the development of the following broad concepts:

- Reading
- Writing
- Language
- Speaking & Listening



## **English 6**

Sixth grade English is a literature-based course with an emphasis on grammar, spelling, vocabulary, reading, writing, and speaking skills. Students will learn through reading, discussion, grammar exercises, and oral presentations. Students will also produce written work that may include essays, research reports, and informal writing assignments. Overall performance will be based on written work, as well as unit tests using a variety of assessment methods. Students will learn organization, sentence fluency, word choice, voice, and conventions. Students will learn to utilize rubrics to evaluate their own writing. This class will provide students with a common vocabulary for discussing, critiquing, and improving written work.

## **English 7**

This course includes study in language arts, elements of grammar, spelling, vocabulary, creative writing, speaking and technology. It is a literature-based class that focuses on these skills through the context of high-quality literature. Oral communication skills are developed through recitations and various speech techniques. English 7 is part of a coordinated curriculum that introduces, reviews and reinforces English skills and concepts enabling the student to perform at their best at each grade level. Students will also produce written work that may include essays, research reports, and informal writing assignments. Overall performance will be based on written work, as well as tests using a variety of assessment methods. Students will learn organization, sentence fluency, word choice, voice and conventions. Students will learn to utilize rubrics to evaluate their own writing. This class will provide students with a common vocabulary for discussing, critiquing, and improving written work. This course will be based on the Common Core Standards.

## **English 8**

English 8 places emphasis on grammar, spelling, vocabulary, writing skills, communications skills, and research skills with the context of high-quality literature. This literature-based class presents reading selections that cover various time periods and topics and will include the reading and discussion of short stories, novels, poetry, and plays. Research skills and writing will be emphasized through library research activities and various lengths of compositions. Spelling and vocabulary will be developed through literature and additional educational materials. Communications skills will be emphasized with oral discussions, presentations, and projects within the classroom.

# **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

## **Introduction to Cultural Spanish**

Grade 7 & 8

Semester Elective

This is a quarter-long introductory course for students that is intended to give students an introduction into the study of foreign language. Students will learn basic vocabulary, work on cultural projects, and learn about geographical locations of Spanish-speaking countries.



# MATH DEPARTMENT

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics**

Development of a strong foundation for higher-level math courses is the main focus of math in the sixth grade. Students will make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. They will reason using mathematical terms. They will construct good arguments using math and model with mathematics. Students will use math tools strategically. Sixth grade math will build on previous taught concepts and prepare students for higher-level math concepts. Students will keep a Math Binder, problem solve, use hands-on activities, complete projects, and play games to help understand math concepts. Students will develop deeper understanding of:

- Numerical Expressions and Factors
- Fractions & Decimals
- Algebraic Expressions and Properties
- Areas of Polygons
- Ratios & Rates
- Integers & the Coordinate Plane
- Equations & Inequalities
- Surface Area & Volume
- Statistical Measures
- Data Displays

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

Mathematics 7 continues the development of mathematics skills necessary for higher-level math courses. This class begins with the study of the numeration system and expands the understanding of these concepts. The students undertake exercises dealing with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. This work deals with all operations performed on these numbers. The students use the above knowledge to work with problem solving, which includes cooperative learning, rational numbers, percentage, and statistics. Students will develop deeper understanding of:

- Ratios and Proportional Relationships
  - Ratios and Proportions
  - Use proportional relationships to solve multistep ratio and percent problems.
  - Represent proportional relationships by equations.
- The Number System
  - Integers and Absolute Value
  - Apply properties of operations as strategies to multiply and divide rational numbers.
  - Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division and of fractions to multiply and divide rational numbers.
- Expressions and Equations
  - Apply properties of operations as strategies to add, subtract, factor, and expand linear expressions with rational coefficients.
  - Inequalities
  - Exponents and Scientific Notation
- Geometry
  - Constructions and Scale Drawings
  - Circles and Circumference
  - Area and Perimeter
  - Surface Area and Volume
  - Transformations
  - Angles and triangles



- o Volume and similar solids
- Statistics and Probability
  - o Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.
- Functions
  - Use functions to model relationships between quantities.
  - Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
  - o Graphing and writing linear equations.

## **Accelerated Math 7**

The Curriculum content focus in the Accelerated Math 7 course is to provide Chequamegon students with a solid foundation that develops essential concept understanding and the mathematical discipline for success in future mathematics courses, specifically Algebra. Students will be encouraged to collaborate with their peers and share their ideas when working within small groups. Students will be expected to show their work on all assignments. The textbook we will be using is Big Ideas Math. Students will develop a better understanding of the following:

- Integers
- Rational Numbers
- Expressions and Equations
- Inequalities
- Ratios and Proportions
- Percents
- Constructions and Scale drawings
- Circles
- Surface Area and Volume
- Probability and Statistics
- Transformations
- Angles and Triangles
- Graphing and Writing Linear Equations
- Real Numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem
- Volume and Similar Solids
- Exponents and Scientific Notation

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics**

Students will develop an understanding of the following:

- The Number System
  - Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.
  - Integers
  - Real Numbers (rational and irrational)
  - o Finding Square Roots and Cube Roots
- Expressions and Equations
  - Expressions and Equations Work with radicals and integer exponents.
  - Equations
  - o Rewriting Equations and Formulas



- Exponents and Scientific Notation
- Geometry
  - Angles and Triangles
  - Transformations
  - Volume and Similar Solids
  - Pythagorean Theorem
- Statistics and Probability
  - Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.
  - Probability
  - Data Analysis and Displays
- Functions
  - Graphing and Writing Linear Equations
  - Representations of Functions
  - Comparing Linear and Nonlinear Functions
  - Systems of Linear Equations

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra**

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Review Math Placement Guidelines

Eighth grade algebra is a two-semester course, which as Roger Bacon stated, is the gate and key of mathematics. For this reason, colleges require the mastery of algebra for admission as well as preparation for the study of subjects such as engineering, medicine, architecture, philosophy and law. Although many problems that can be solved by algebra can also be worked out by common sense, their translation into algebraic form generally makes them easier to deal with. Because of this, algebra has become the language.

Students in this class will learn the following:

- Introduction to algebra, variables, and equations
- Working with real numbers
- Solving equations and problems
- Polynomials
- Factoring polynomials
- Fractions and applying fractions
- Introduction to functions
- Systems of linear equations
- Inequalities
- Rational and irrational numbers
- Quadratic function

## **Personal Finance**

Grade 8

Quarter Elective

Personal Finance is a course designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics covered will include the strategies of developing SMART



financial goals, income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing. This course will provide foundational understanding for making informed personal financial decisions.

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

### **General Music 6**

Grade 6  
Semester

The sixth grade General Music curriculum is designed to strengthen musical skills, promote music literacy, and foster a foundation for life-long appreciation and enjoyment of music. Students regularly sing, play, listen, create, and move to music. A large focus of the class will be students singing together as a choir. The purpose of this ensemble singing is to:

- Provide students with a structured, positive, and enjoyable choral experience.
- Teach developing singers fundamental vocal skills.
- Help students to appreciate high quality choral literature

### **Junior Band**

Grade 6  
Full Year (Semester 1 & 2)

**Prerequisite:** Prior instrumental music experience is helpful but not required.

The Junior Band is made up of any 6th grade student wishing to explore the world of Instrumental music. This curriculum is a continuation of the concepts learned in the Cadet Band (grade 5). Attendance at daily rehearsals, completion of written work, participation at concerts and festivals, and practicing their instrument at home (band homework) are some of the requirements for the band student. The concert season begins in the latter fall months and extends through the early spring. Fundamentals that are emphasized during this time include tone development, rhythmic acuity, listening, balance and blend, knowledge and application of music symbolism and terminologies, and key and time signatures. Required performances include but are not limited to the following: the Fall Concert, the Christmas Concert, Concert Festival, the Fine Arts Concert, 8th Grade Graduation, and the spring “Pops” Concert. Additional performance opportunities may arise and may be scheduled as they fit into the school calendar and curriculum. Solo and Ensemble (spring) preparations coincide with the concert season where students hone their individual skills and display their talents in solo and small group performances. Individual efforts are rewarded at the District Festival where students perform for judges in an educationally competitive atmosphere. Performance at these festivals is not required; however, participation is strongly encouraged. Individual private lessons are required for all members of the band program. These weekly sessions identify the student’s performance deficiencies and allow the instructor to individualize the direction of the study to correct and enhance the music curriculum. Junior Band students will become aware of traditional and contemporary music styles through performance and listening. Students are not asked to like or dislike different musical styles, but rather appreciate them for their variety, their heritage, their social or political value and their meaning to other cultures. Concepts explored in the instrumental music room include basic music reading skills, music terminology, music history, and music theory.



## **Intermediate Band**

Grade 7/ 8

S1 & S2

Prerequisite: Prior instrumental music experience is helpful but not required.

The Intermediate Band is made up of any 7th or 8th grade student wishing to explore the world of instrumental music. This curriculum is a continuation of the concepts learned in the Junior Band (grade 6). Attendance at daily rehearsals, completion of written work, participation at concerts and festivals, and practicing their instrument at home (band homework) are some of the requirements for the band student.

The concert season begins in the latter fall months and extends through the early spring. Fundamentals that are emphasized during this time include tone development, rhythmic acuity, listening, balance and blend, knowledge and application of music symbolism and terminologies, and key and time signatures. **Required** performances include but are not limited to the following: the Fall Concert, the Christmas Concert, Concert Festival, the Fine Arts Concert, the Kalahari Band Festival, 8th grade graduation and the Spring “Pop’s” Concert. Additional performance opportunities may arise and may be scheduled as they fit into the school calendar and curriculum.

Solo and Ensemble (spring) preparations coincide with the concert season where students hone their individual skills and display their talents in solo and small group performances. Individual efforts are rewarded at the District Festival where students perform for judges in an educationally competitive atmosphere. Performance at these festivals is not required; however, participation is encouraged.

Individual private lessons are required for **all** members of the band program. These weekly sessions identify the student’s performance deficiencies and allow the instructor to individualize the direction of study to correct and enhance the music curriculum.

Students are recognized for their exceptional talent and commitment to excellence in the band program and may be recommended for membership in local, regional, and state honors bands. Interested students who qualify and apply are periodically awarded scholarships to attend summer music camps.

Intermediate Band students will become aware of traditional and contemporary music styles through performance and listening. Students are not asked to like or dislike different musical styles, but rather appreciate them for their variety, their heritage, their social or political value and their meaning to other cultures. Concepts explored in the instrumental music room include basic music reading skills, music terminology, music history, and music theory.

## **Chequamegon Middle School Choir**

Grade 7/ 8

S1 & S2

The Chequamegon Middle School Choir is for those middle school students who like to sing and want to develop their singing voice. Required performances are an important element of the course. The choir performs at Large Group Concert Festival, the Fine Arts Festival Concert and the Spring Concert. In addition to the required performances students who participate in the choir have the opportunity to participate in the district solo and ensemble contest, WSMA Middle Level All-State Honor Choirs, and WCDA Middle Level All-State Honor Choirs. Being a member of a choral ensemble is a great way to build a sense of community. Choral singing also offers tremendous benefits to a student’s intellectual and emotional development. Performing in choir leads the individual to a greater self-confidence, self-esteem, and pride in one’s achievements. Students in choir are offered a safe environment where they can make a positive contribution and achieve personal and team success. Choir provides an opportunity to get to know new people.



Students will:

- be given the opportunity to perform the music that they have studied and rehearsed.
- demonstrate basic music reading skills.
- demonstrate basic vowel formation.
- demonstrate the ability to sing in tune.
- demonstrate the ability to sing music in two or three part harmony.
- demonstrate correct posture for singing.
- demonstrate proper breathing techniques and breath control.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH EDUCATION**

### **Phy Ed 6**

Semester

Sixth grade physical education is required for all sixth grade students. Though the actual curriculum may vary on an alternate year basis, team sports and fundamental movement skills will be emphasized. This class will also present topics related to the five components of health. This study discusses issues related to physical, social, emotional, mental and spiritual health. Students will develop an increased awareness of each of these five components of health. This class will incorporate lifetime leisure activities and try to establish individual interests.

Students in this class will:

- be exposed to numerous physical fitness activities
- increase their fundamental movement skills
- improve their ability to work with others
- improve self-esteem through active participation
- increase their fitness level
- establish fitness goals

### **Phy Ed 7**

Semester

Physical Education 7 is required for all seventh grade students. The areas of team sports and fundamental movement skills will be emphasized. This class will incorporate lifetime leisure activities and try to establish individual interests. This class will also present topics related to the five components of health. This study discusses issues related to physical, social, emotional, mental and spiritual health. Students will develop an increased awareness of each of these five components of health. Students will also learn how each of these components of health relates to and affects their own health and well-being.

Students in this class will:

- be exposed to numerous physical fitness activities
- increase their fundamental movement skills
- improve their ability to work with others
- improve self-esteem through active participation
- increase their fitness level
- establish fitness goals

### **Phy Ed 8**

Semester

Physical Education 8 is required for all and eighth grade students. Phy Ed 8 builds on the learning from previous



physical education classes. This class will also present topics related to the five components of health. This study discusses issues related to physical, social, emotional, mental and spiritual health. Students will develop an increased awareness of each of these five components of health. This class will continue to incorporate lifetime leisure activities and try to establish individual interests.

Students in this class will:

- be exposed to numerous physical fitness activities
- increase their fundamental movement skills
- improve their ability to work with others
- improve self-esteem through active participation
- increase their fitness level
- establish fitness goal

## **Health 6**

Grade 6

Quarter

This course will provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of health concepts, behaviors, and skills that reduce health risks and enhance the health and well-being of self and others. Specific topics covered include:

- Nutrition
- Disease and Prevention
- Substance Abuse and Prevention
- Mental and Social Health
- Safety and First Aid

## **Health 7**

Grade 7

Quarter

This course will provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of health concepts, behaviors, and skills that reduce health risks and enhance the health and well-being of self and others. Specific topics covered include:

- \*Nutrition
- \*Disease Prevention
- \*Social Skills and Problem solving
- \*Safety

## **Health 8**

Semester

This course will provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of health concepts, behaviors, and skills that reduce health risks and enhance the health and well-being of self and others. Specific topics covered include:

- \*Nutrition
- \*Disease Prevention
- \*Social Skills and Problem solving
- \*Safety



## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science**

Students will be introduced to life, earth, & physical science. Students will gain knowledge in these three disciplines through diverse educational experiences including a hands-on approach that includes observation, experimentation, and a group project-based learning. Basic scientific principles will be explored that will foster skills that have real-life application.

Students in this class will investigate the following science related topics and be able to discuss:

- How living things are classified into groups
- The cell and its functions
- General principles of genetics
- Describe ecosystems and how they support life
- How scientific study changes over time
- The importance of conservation of resources
- The difference between weather and climate and how they affect our lives
- Astronomy and its principles
- How matter is classified
- Basic ideas of the study of chemistry
- Forces
- Energy sources and their importance

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science**

Students will be introduced to basic biological principles via the scientific method. Students will follow the development of organisms from basic cellular structure through to organisms. The six kingdom classification groupings will be the platform for student understanding of living things. Applied science concepts will be enhanced through laboratory investigations, independent observation and exploration, and a general focus on writing skills.

Students in this class will:

- Describe the steps in the scientific method and how they apply to scientific investigation
- Describe basic units and methods of measurements and standard uses
- Investigate cells and cellular structures
- Define, compare, and contrast virus and bacteria
- Define and give examples of protists and fungi
- Investigate plants
- Define and give examples of vertebrates
- Define and give examples of invertebrates
- Understand and describe principles of basic genetics
- Learn principles and habits of general laboratory technique and safety

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science**

Students will explore the skies above them, the earth around them, and the mysteries of the universe. The scientific method will be the basis for student-based inquiry. There will be investigations into all the branches of Earth Science. Topics covered include, but are not limited to the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere. Emphasis will be put on real world relationships that affect the earth and students directly.



Students in this class will:

- Describe the scientific method and apply it to a problem
- Understand and list the branches of earth science
- Learn basic measurement techniques & lab safety
- Define and give examples of minerals
- Define and give examples of mixtures
- Study types of rocks
- Learn the importance of and basic principles of fossil record
- Understand the principles of plate tectonics
- Learn about volcanoes, how they work and change the earth's surface
- Learn about earthquakes, how they work and change the earth's surface
- Understand how weathering changes the earth's surface, and how soil is formed
- Define and give examples of fresh and salt water systems
- Define the atmosphere, its components, and how it relates to the earth
- Understand basic weather principles
- Study a basic exploration of space
- Learn observation & lab work techniques

### **Engineering Applications**

Grade 8

Semester Elective

Students will explore the overlapping worlds of mathematics and science in this applied, project-based course. The activities will investigate aspects of engineering and explore real-world material by using skills in these disciplines. Each quarter will feature several hands-on projects that each focus on a different branch of the engineering field.

### **Foodology**

Grade 7

Semester Elective

Explore and connect with the wonderful world of food. Foodology will focus on many aspects of food development and consumption. Basic food science will be covered. Everything from food labels and ingredients to food safety and preparation will be "on the table". Food "labs" will enable students to get a real life, hands-on connection with the food they prepare and consume. Kitchen safety and hygiene, meal & menu planning, as well as food costs and budgeting will be discussed.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade World History**

In this course, students will study world history starting with the foundations of civilization throughout the world and continue up to the world today. Some of the major topics and eras covered are Ancient Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the French Revolution, Imperialism, WWI and WWII, the Cold War, and Regional Conflicts. Students will be graded using a variety of assessment strategies. Some of these strategies may be but not limited to quizzes, tests, worksheets, oral presentations, posters, Power Points, visual presentations, etc.



## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade World Geography**

In this course, students will study about the physical elements of geography. Students in this class will be able to:

- Describe the geographic patterns to the earth's physical environment, including global patterns of climate, ecosystems, soils, and landforms.
- Explain basic environmental processes operating in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere.
- Give examples of connections between the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere.
- Apply some of the technical skills required for the study of geography and environment. These include reading, interpreting, and creating maps; reading and interpreting air photos; reading, interpreting, and creating graphs and charts; collecting and interpreting data; and math.
- Use the skills and knowledge gained over the course of the semester to predict the characteristics of different places and to solve problems or analyze situations related to physical geographical processes.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade U. S History**

Students in this course will investigate topics starting during Reconstruction through the present day. Major topics include WWI, WWII, The Great Depression, Civil Rights, and other topics.

Students in this class will be able to:

- Analyze the growth and division of the United States
- Assess how innovations have affected the United States
- Investigate reform movements and their leaders
- Examine how WWI affected the military and the home-front of the United States
- Examine the experiences of black Americans
- Examine the impact of the Great Depression and the New Deal
- Examine the impact of WWII on the United States
- Examine the Cold War and Civil Rights

## **Practical Skills for Life 8**

Grade 8

Semester Elective

Welcome to Practical Skills For Life!

This class will be filled with daily activities to build a student's skill for daily living as well as the future. The majority of the activities will be learning by doing. Students will learn a variety of skills for life including, but not limited to: Basic Sewing Skills,

Planning and Preparing Meals, Restaurant Etiquette and Manners, plus other exciting topics.

## **Study Skills 6,7,8**

Grades 6, 7,8

6th Grade Quarter

7th & 8th Semester Elective

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will be introduced to various learning skills that will help make them successful in the middle school. These skills will include: self-evaluation, goal setting, time management, monitoring attitude, motivation, and organization



## **Technical Education**

Grade 6 Quarter

Grade 7 Semester Elective

Grade 8 Semester Elective

This class is designed to assist students in the exploration of technology education. Class work will be primarily lab-based. Labs will focus on the four major areas of technology: construction, manufacturing, transportation, and communication. Students will utilize tools and technology to complete selected projects in these areas. Work will consist of both independent activities and team settings.

Students taking this class will:

- Explore building materials and uses.
- Construct scale-sized buildings.
- Work with mass production techniques to build products.
- Define specialized workstations and separation of work duties for efficiency.
- Learn all safety rules for power equipment used in class.



