

# MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018-2019

ALGOMA  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL

## COURSE DESCRIPTION HANDBOOK



*It is the policy of the School District of Algoma that no person, on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin (including LEP), ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation or physical disability, mental disability, emotional disability or learning disability/handicap or homeless status, may be denied admission to any school in this district or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational or other program.*

*"In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800)795-3272 (voice) or (202)720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."*

## ALGOMA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· 24 Total Credits</li> <li>· Successful completion of the following subject and credit requirements</li> </ul>
<b>English</b>	<b>4 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ English I (1 credit)</li> <li>○ English II(1 credit)</li> <li>○ English III (1 credit)</li> <li>○ Elective(s) (1 credit)</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3.5 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Social Studies Seminar (1.0 credit)</li> <li>○ US History (1.0 credit)</li> <li>○ Elective(s) (1.5 credits)</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	<b>3.0 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Biology 9/Physical Science 9 (1.0 credit)</li> <li>○ Biology 10/Physical Science 10 (1.0 credit)</li> <li>○ Elective(s) (1.0 credit)</li> </ul>
<b>Math</b>	<b>3.0 Credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Algebra I</li> <li>○ Geometry</li> <li>○ Algebra II</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>1.5 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Physical Education 9 or Personal Health and Aerobic Fitness (.5 credit)</li> <li>○ 2 semester electives in P.E.</li> </ul>
<b>Health</b>	<b>.5 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Health Education</li> </ul>
<b>STEAM/CTE</b>	<b>1.5 Credits including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Electives in Technology and Engineering Education, Business Education, Visual Arts, and/or Family and Consumer Science (1.5 credits)</li> </ul>
<b>Business Education</b>	<b>.5 Credits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Employability Skills/Personal Finance (ES/PF)</li> </ul>
<b>Electives</b>	<b>6.5 Credits</b>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>24 Credits</b>

## COURSES TAKEN IN MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

### → **2013 ACT 138: Allowing Credit Earned in Grade 7 or 8 to Count as High School Credit If Certain Conditions Are Met**

Under Act 138, if three conditions are met, a school board may count a credit that a pupil earns in grade 7 or 8 toward the 15 state graduation credit requirements or the 8.5 additional credits that the state superintendent encourages school boards to require from any combination of vocational education, foreign languages, fine arts, and other courses.

- The pupil's performance on a state examination or similar examination approved by the school board must demonstrate that the pupil is academically prepared for coursework that is offered in the high school grades.
- The credit must be earned in a course that is taught by a teacher who is licensed to teach the subject in the high school grades.
- The credit must be earned in a course that is taught using a curriculum and assessments that are equivalent to the curriculum and assessments used to teach the subject in the high school grades.

(adapted from information on the DPI website - [http://cal.dpi.wi.gov/cal\\_8gr\\_algebra\\_hsggrad](http://cal.dpi.wi.gov/cal_8gr_algebra_hsggrad))

## ALGOMA MIDDLE SCHOOL IMPORTANT SCHEDULING INFORMATION

- All middle school students will be scheduled for their core courses: Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies.
- Students who will need Math Essentials and/or MS Academic Learning Lab will have a conference with their current academic teacher(s) regarding this need PRIOR to scheduling night. Math Essentials and ALL are interventions put into place to ensure student success. Please contact MS/HS office with any questions.
- **COURSES REQUIRED FOR ALL 7th GRADERS:**
  - English/Lang Arts 7
  - Math 7
  - Social Studies 7
  - Science 7
  - Preparing for Your Future/PE 7 (EOD for 1 Semester)
  - Preparing for Life/PE 7 (EOD for 1 Semester)
  - Each 7th grade student will have 2 class periods a semester to take elective courses of their choice.
- **COURSES REQUIRED FOR ALL 8th GRADERS:**
  - English/Lang Arts 8
  - Math 8
  - Social Studies 8
  - Science 8
  - Preparing for Your Future/PE 8 (EOD for 1 Semester)
  - Preparing for Life/PE 8 (EOD for 1 Semester)
  - Each 8th grade student will have 2 class periods a semester to take elective courses of their choice.

# COURSE OFFERINGS BY DEPARTMENTS

## MATHEMATICS

### **MS MATH ESSENTIALS**

2 semesters                      Meets EOD      Grades: 7 or 8

This course will utilize small group and individual instruction to help students with fundamental math concepts. This course will be assigned by Guidance/Middle School advisory group.

## SCIENCE

### **BOTANY *Spring Semester Only***

1 semester      .5 credit              Grades: 8-12

**Prerequisite: None (8th grade requires consent of Ms. Lemberger)**

This course is an in-depth study of plant anatomy (structure), physiology (function), and horticulture (plant cultivation). Students will gain hands-on experience with plant propagation, hydroponics and aquaponics.

### **SOIL AND WATER (*NCAA Approved*) *Fall Semester Only***

1 semester      .5 credit              Grades: 8-12

**Prerequisite: None (8th grade requires consent of Ms. Lemberger)**

This course will cover water and soil quality as well as address ecological concerns about soil and water management in Northeastern Wisconsin. Chemical principles relating to soil and water composition and analysis will be emphasized.

## BUSINESS EDUCATION

### **JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT**

1 semester                      .5 credit              Grades: 7-10

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to educating students about workforce readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy through experiential, hands-on programs. JA helps prepare young people for the real world by showing them how to generate wealth and effectively manage it, how to create jobs which make their communities more robust, and how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to the workplace. Students put these lessons into action and learn the value of contributing to their communities. JA Finance Park allows students to build a foundation for making intelligent, lifelong personal-finance decisions. Finance Park combines in-class learning with a hands-on experience in a fully interactive field trip to Milwaukee for the capstone project.

### **MS PREPARING FOR YOUR FUTURE (7)**

1 Semester                      Meets EOD    Grade: 7 (*Required*)

Develop the knowledge base needed to successfully prepare for your future. Explore Academic & Career Planning (ACP) topics such as goal setting, self & career exploration, job skills, and money management in order to develop an understanding of yourself and create a vision for your future.

### **MS PREPARING FOR YOUR FUTURE (8)**

1 Semester                      Meets EOD    Grade: 8 (*Required*)

Build on the life skills learned in 7th grade to prepare for high school and achieve your future goals. Continue to plan your journey from middle school and beyond to achieve the career and life you desire. Participate in Academic & Career Planning (ACP) activities such as course planning & career development. Explore post-secondary options aligned to career goals and financial reality in order to be college and career ready.

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

### **MS PREPARING FOR LIFE (7)**

1 semester                      Meets EOD    Grade: 7 (*Required*)

This course is designed to increase students' knowledge of and ability in using the skills necessary for everyday living. You will learn basic life skill such as healthy relationships, personal hygiene, and making healthy choices. You will learn skills that will focus on thinking for yourself, taking care of yourself, and caring for your relationships.

### **MS PREPARING FOR LIFE (8)**

1 semester                      Meets EOD    Grade:8 (*Required*)

You will focus on becoming more independent, responsible, and prepared to make rational decisions about important areas of your lives. The course emphasizes topics related to peer pressure, self-esteem, conflict resolution, teamwork, diversity, the family, dating relationships, and other relationships.

### **CREATIVE DESIGN**

1 semester                      .5 credit                      Grades 7-12

Are you creative? Do you enjoy doing crafts, sewing, and quilting? During this course we will be creating and designing a variety of projects using recycled materials, sewing using commercial patterns for clothing and learning how to create a simple block quilt. **STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PURCHASING ALL SEWING SUPPLIES.**

## **INTRODUCTION TO FOODS**

1 semester                      .5 credit                      Grades 8-12

This course will allow students to learn the fundamental skills of culinary arts by applying the principles of food safety and sanitation, quality food preparation such as measuring and food storage. Students will participate in labs and related classroom studies, discuss the how and why of cooking, and gain confidence in skills and techniques.

## **VISUAL ARTS**

### **ART & DESIGN**

1 semester                      .5 Credit                      Grades: 7-12

This introductory course provides students with a foundation for producing 2D and 3D artwork. Students will learn about the cultural relevance of art, past and present, as they gain visual intelligence. In addition, students will experience the power of art as a tool for visual communication firsthand as they develop their own art making skills and abilities!

*Lab Fees will apply*

### **ART DO IT YOURSELF – DESIGN**

1 semester                      .5 Credit                      Grades: 7-12

Are you creative? How would you like to make your own custom accessories and garment treatments such as tie-dyeing, embroidering, and adding other embellishments. We will explore the possibilities of revising thrift store finds and blurring the lines between craft and art. The class will also examine a range of inspiration for our fashions from different historical periods to current street fashions. Be a trendsetter - take DIY Design!

*Lab Fees will apply*

## **TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION**

### **MS INTRODUCTION TO TECH-ED**

1 semester                      Grades: 7-8

Students will learn the building blocks of manufacturing, welding, sheet metal, and woodworking. Basic equipment/tooling knowledge, measurement, and blueprint skills will be explored.

*Limit: 24 Students      \$30 Lab Fees will Apply*

### **MS MANUFACTURING**

**Prerequisite: Introduction to Tech-Ed**

1 semester                      Grades: 7-8

Students will build from the skills and concepts acquired from INTRODUCTION TO TECH-ED and create class based projects.

*Limit: 24 Students      \$30 Lab Fees will Apply*

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE

## **MS EXPLORATORY SPANISH**

1 semester                      Grades: 7-8

Exploratory Spanish is a semester-long class that bridges elementary and high school studies. The emphasis is on listening, speaking, and vocabulary acquisition. This class may include a variety of topics and will help students to decide if they wish to study Spanish in high school. Because of the communicative nature of language, class participation, partner activities, and group work will be emphasized.

## **SPANISH I (NCAA Approved)**

2 semesters    1 credit              Grades: 8-12

This course strives to familiarize students with language learning and vocabulary acquisition. Using the four areas of language study: speaking, listening, reading, and writing, students will develop a basic vocabulary and knowledge of the cultures studied.

# MUSIC EDUCATION

## **MS BAND**

2 semesters                      Meets Everyday (*EOD if taking MS Chorus*)                      Grade: 7 or 8

The MS Band is a performing ensemble. Students will be required to attend 1 parade and 3 concerts. This ensemble is open to all students with experience playing a traditional concert band instrument (or with permission from Mrs. Massey). Student rehearsals will consist of learning music appropriate for the band's ability. Students will play standard band repertoire and explore more challenging music. 7th and 8th grade students will meet as separate ensembles.

## **MS CHORUS**

2 semesters                      Meets Everyday (*EOD if taking MS Grade Band*)                      Grade: 7 or 8

This choir is a performing ensemble that participates in at least two concerts a year. Students have the option of participating in one or two festivals a year. Exceptional students have the opportunity of auditioning for "All-State" choirs. Fundamentals of good singing are taught. Good posture, breathing, and good tone are emphasized and reinforced through warm-ups and quality literature. Sight singing, music notation and theory are introduced/reviewed.

## **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **C.E.O. 101 - COMMUNITY-EXPERIENCE-OUTREACH**

1 or 2 semesters                      .5 credit                      Grades: 7-12

Are you looking for unique ways to help others? Do you want to help your community and school? This class offers opportunities to students that want to visit the nursing home, coordinate the Halloween Walk, interview Veterans, raise money for those in need and so much more. **Prerequisite: self-motivating, hard-working individuals only!**

### **MS ACADEMIC LEARNING LAB (A.L.L.)**

1 or 2 semesters                      Grades: 7-12                      **Guidance/Teacher approval required.**

A.L.L. (Academic Learning Lab) is a dedicated period within our daily schedule designed to meet the needs of all learners. Students can be scheduled for enrichment, credit recovery, support, or simply extra time to complete assignments. Students have access to instructional aides, special education teachers and content experts for specific needs. Utilizing A.L.L. can accomplish many tasks that are focused on the success of every individual student.