

AIS Math

Grades 6, 7, 8

AIS Math is an academic intervention service provided to students with a deficit in mathematics. These students are mandated by the state to receive direct instruction because of a level two or one score in a previous New York State math test. Instruction covers all the standards for each student's particular grade level. For more detailed information please refer to the New York State Department website: www.nysed.gov.



Northeastern Clinton Central School District

103 Route 276
Champlain, NY 12919

Middle School

Phone: 518-298-8681
Fax: 518-298-7987

Website: www.nccscougar.org

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2008-2009 MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDE



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Resource Room

Grades 6, 7, 8

The Resource Room is intended to assist and serve students who have been identified through the CSE with learning problems. Its primary services are to assist these students with successfully completing their regular education classes/requirements while at the same time, continue to remediate within their deficit areas. This work is designed to facilitate, encourage and assist the student in meeting their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals. In addition, it is commonplace that tasks also occurring within the Resource Room setting are pre-teaching, reviewing curriculum content or administering test accommodations. Resource Room services are provided in small groups of no more than five students that meet daily.

AIS ELA

Grades 6, 7, 8

AIS ELA is designed to support and reinforce the growth of reading and writing skills that students need in order to be successful in their ELA class as well as on the NYS ELA exam. The 100 Book Challenge is a program that is implemented in ELA in the Middle School and is, therefore, also used in AIS ELA. Students should be reading books at a level that is *fun, fast, and easy* for them for at least 30 min. for two steps (1 step = 15 min.) each night because it is at this independent level that true reading growth takes place. The more often students read at this level, the more successful they will be. The *more often* students experience success with reading, the more they will enjoy reading, which is another goal of the challenge: to create lifelong readers. In addition to working on improving reading skills, we also focus on building vocabulary knowledge, listening skills, and writing skills in the context of what is read independently as well as what is read together in class. Students write journal entries about their lives and their reading.

Chorus

Grades 6, 7, 8

At present the NCCS Middle School is home to two separate Choral groups; the Junior Chorus, and the Beginning Chorus. Participation in the various groups is dependent upon scheduling, vocal maturity and previous choral experience. All students are expected to perform in the three scheduled concerts during the year in order to achieve a passing grade in the course. Throughout the year, students are also expected to complete assignments and quizzes that will be factored into their overall grade in the course. In addition to rehearsal, Chorus members will be given weekly homework assignments designed to educate the student in music reading and performance enhancement.

6th Grade Band

Sixth Grade band is a class that meets as a group every other day and in a small lesson group once a week. Students build on what they learned in 5th grade emphasizing proper breathing, tone control, reading skills, and development of correct embouchure. Students learn the techniques of playing instruments, working to develop ensemble and solo performances. Students discuss and constructively comment on their own performances and on the performances of the band. When ready, this group will perform during the Middle School concert.

Junior Band

Jr. Band is a continuation of Sixth Grade Band following the same format which emphasizes proper breathing, tone control, reading skills, and development of the embouchure. Students develop individual skills to a higher level. This group will perform a Winter and Spring concert and an annual tour of the elementary schools. Students will have the opportunity to perform at NYSSMA Solo Festival, All-County and Area All-State Bands. Successful completion of this course will prepare the student for placement in the high school Concert Band.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OFFICE

(518) 298-8681

Principal

Thomas Brandell

Assistant Principal

Matthew Slattery

Mission Statement

Enhance every student's potential to succeed in our ever-changing society.

COUNSELING OFFICE

(518) 298-8701

Middle School Counselor

Jamie LaBarre

SERVICES:

- Counseling and consultation regarding educational, behavioral, and personal issues
- Peer Tutoring
- Course selection and scheduling
- Report Cards
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Progress Reports

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

REQUIREMENTS

GRADE 6:

ELA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Art	<input type="checkbox"/>
Math	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Music Options (1 or more)</u>	
Social Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Ed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chorus	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Band	<input type="checkbox"/>

GRADE 7:

ELA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Home/Career 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Math	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology 1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Foreign Language</u>	
Social Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	French 1A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Ed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	- or -	
		Spanish 1A	<input type="checkbox"/>

GRADE 8:

ELA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Math	<input type="checkbox"/>	Home/Career 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technology 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Studies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Foreign Language:</u>	
Physical Ed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	French 1B	<input type="checkbox"/>
		- or -	
		Spanish 1B	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please note that flexibility exists within the above sequence of courses.

Art

Grades 6, 7, 8

Middle School Art builds on previously acquired skills, introduces new techniques and media, and develops freedom of self-expression in each student. A wide variety of projects are included in the art program and a range of media and forms may be used within each category. We feature different artists' works throughout the course, followed by a class discussion and often a project inspired by that artist. Some projects revolve around other classroom curriculum such a political poster/collage from History class and a perspective drawing associated with Math class.

Curriculum Goals Include:

- Encouraging creative expression
- Improving upon artistic skills
- Continuing basic art history and art appreciation
- Experiencing visual excitement

Health

Grades 6 and 8

In the 6th and 7th grade version of Health class, students will learn the basics of health. The topics will focus on decision making skills and self esteem. Each of these topics can be linked to all areas of health education. A positive self esteem can and will lead to better decision making.

Music

Grades 6, 7, 8

Middle School students at NCCS are required to complete a one semester course in General Music before they complete the 8th Grade. As part of their course work students will complete units in Music Theory, Music History, Beginning Keyboard and Beginning Guitar playing. Each student will complete a Library-research project on a composer of his or her own choice. This project will count as the student's Final Exam in the course. The majority of the student's grade is based on his/her effort in the class.

Technology

Grades 7 and 8

Each student will participate in Technology in 7th and 8th grade. The middle school technology program is geared towards problem solving activities that promote a cooperative learning environment for each individual student. Basic engineering principles are emphasized while implementing a hands on approach to the fundamentals of technology. A vast array of skills and methods are used: Basic problem solving, magnetic levitation, sheet metal work, construction, transportation systems, electronics, drafting, CAD- (computer aided drafting), foundry, and basic woodworking. The evaluation emphasis will be placed on the use of class time, attendance, ability to follow directions and the ability to help and work with others.

Home and Career Skills

Grades 6, 7, 8

Home and Career Skills is a program of instruction primarily through applied activities designed to prepare students to meet their responsibilities and understand their opportunities as parents or other member of families, consumers, home managers, and wage earners. This curriculum satisfies the 3/4 unit requirement for Home and Career Skills which is to be completed by the end of grade 8. Curriculum includes process skills that cover decision making and problem solving. It also covers personal development that helps students determine what makes them who they are and how they relate to others. Personal and family resource management teaches students how to be responsible consumers, making money work for them, how to choose what to eat, how clothing affects them and what to do with their living space. Finally, career planning covers what working means to them, what kinds of work they can do , and how they can make working work for them.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADING POLICY

Students attending the Middle School will earn quarterly (10 week) grades in each course they take. For semester courses, the final course grade is the average of the two quarterly grades. For a full year course, the final course grade is the average of the four quarterly grades. ***The passing grade for students in grade 6—8 is 70% in all subjects.***

Quarterly Grade:

Each quarterly grade will consist of three components:

- 40% = Major Marks (exams, major papers, projects, etc.)
- 40% = Minor Marks (quizzes, one-page lab reports, etc.)
- 20% = Teacher Evaluation (homework, attendance and attentiveness, verbal contributions of an academic nature to classroom work, effort and attitude, etc.)

Tip:

Students should keep a record of all their grades acquired during the 10-week period. List them in two columns in the back of a notebook: Majors and Minors. As the quarter draws to a close, students can figure out 80% of their grade by averaging together the two averages—one from each column.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

When a student is absent from school, it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to contact the school at 298-8681 by 9am with the reason for the absence. Homework can be requested and will be available after 2pm.

Upon returning to school, the student must have a written explanation with the student's name, date(s) of absence, grade, and reason, signed by the parent/guardian. A physician's note is required upon return to school after more than five consecutive days of illness.

Parent/Guardian contact will be made regularly if we have not been notified of an absence and also at 3, 5, and 8 absences. Beyond 8 absences a Parent/Guardian conference may be requested and/or authorities contacted.

Excused Absences:

- Medical/Dental Appointment—Note from Doctor's Office
- Sickness—Physician's note required after 5 days absent
- Death in Family—Note from parent/guardian
- Religious Observance
- Quarantine—Note from Health Department
- Court Appearance or Law related—Copy of legal notice or note from attorney
- School-related field trips

Unexcused Absences:

Unexcused absences may result in a zero for any work missed: class work, exams, assignments, final exams, midterm exams, etc. It is NOT the policy of NCCS to generate for students or their parents school-work for absences which are considered unexcused.

French

French 1A

This class will include the basics of French. We cover the alphabet, likes/dislikes, numbers, time, school subjects, school supplies, sports/hobbies, food, places to go and things to do. This covers the first six chapters of our book, En Avant! French is like any other subject. You can't forget what you've learned if you're going to continue! Doing well the first year will make your second year much easier!!

French 1B

This class involves a quick review of 1A and then covers the last seven chapters of our book, Allez, Viens! We will learn family members, adjectives, food, phone conversations, clothing, outdoor activities, places in the city and travel items. We will end this course with a review of the previous two years to prepare you for the Proficiency exam in June. Passing this test will earn you one high school credit and prepare you for your future in French!

Spanish

Spanish 1A

The first half of a two-year program that will allow you to earn one high school credit and complete the New York State requirement for high school graduation. Our book is called Adelante(forward) from the Ven Conmigo(Come with me) series. The book has six chapters (capítulos). Each capítulo is broken into three pasos(steps). After each paso there is a quiz and after each capítulo there is a unit test.

Spanish 1B

The second half of a two-year program that will allow you to earn one high school credit and complete the New York State requirement for high school graduation. At the end of the school year, during Regents week, you will take New York State Proficiency Exam. Our book is called Adelante (forward) from the Ven Conmigo (Come with me) series. The book has six chapters(capítulos). Each capítulo is broken into three pasos(steps). After each paso there is a quiz and after each capítulo there is a unit test.

Science

Grade 6

The 6th grade Science curriculum consists primarily of Earth Science. Students will explore the Solar System, Minerals and Rocks, Earth's Interior, Water, and Earth's Atmosphere. A variety of hands-on activities, labs, and projects are incorporated into each unit. Some of the projects include weather instruments, planet brochures, volcano reports, Lake Champlain Aquatic Nuisance reports and hatching chickens.

Grade 7

This course follows the Intermediate-Level curriculum of the New York State Living Environment program. During the year students will explore many of the basic principles of Biology, as well as Science in general. Students practice the Scientific Method and learn about the characteristics shared by all living things and the great diversity that exists among them. The main topics of study during this year are Cell Biology, Genetics, DNA, Human Body Systems, and the 5 main kingdoms of living organisms. Throughout the year students are challenged with several laboratory activities to enhance the curriculum and to provide an opportunity for real "hands-on" learning.

Grade 8

The 8th grade curriculum is designed to meet New York State Learning Standards. The class includes Chemistry and Physics. Topics include the scientific method, the metric system, the structure of matter, the atomic theory, force and motion, simple machines, energy and energy conservation, waves and wave theory. We will also do a library research project involving energy using the databases in the library. There will also be hands-on activities to build upon the main concepts of the class.

Physical Education

Grades 6, 7, 8

Students will actively participate in a vast array of activities ranging from team sports, individual sports and cooperative games. Students will be working to better their fitness levels while learning lifelong activities that they can continue to use throughout their life.

PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY

Promotion is based on academic progress and grading in all academic disciplines. Any student failing two or more core content area courses (Math, Science, Social, English) will be retained in the same grade next year. The Principals discretion will be used.

NEW YORK STATE TESTING SCHEDULE

2008-2009

Tuesday, January 20— Friday, January 23

Grades 6, 7, and 8 ELA

Monday, March 9— Friday, March 13

Grades 6, 7, and 8 Math

Between Wednesday, April 8— Wednesday, May 6

**Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science
Performance Test**

Wednesday, April 29— Friday, May 8

Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science Written Test

*Tuesday, June 2 (Booklet 1) and Wednesday, June 3
(Booklet 2)*

Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student graduating from Northeastern Clinton may receive a **Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation**, a **Regents Diploma**, or an **Individualized Education Program (IEP) Diploma**.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS:

To receive a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation or a Regents Diploma a student must earn a minimum of twenty two credits (22).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Each student must take at least five full-credit classes each semester. A full-credit course is one that meets once each day. In addition to these five courses, each student must take physical education and a 1/2-credit elective course.

TO GRADUATE, EACH STUDENT MUST PASS THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

- English—4 credits
- Social Studies—4 credits
- Math—3 credits
- Science—3 credits
- Physical Education—2 credits
- Studio Art or Music—1 credit
- Health—1/2 credit
- Foreign Language—1 credit
- Introduction to Computers—1/2 credit
- Career and Financial Management—1/2 credit

Grade 8 Accelerated Math

In the 8th grade accelerated math class, students will be working diligently toward our end goal of successfully completing the New York State Integrated Algebra Regents Examination in June. Students who successfully complete the class and pass the regents examination will earn 1 high school credit for this course. Our year will cover many different mathematical concepts. The content strands we will be covering include: algebra, geometry, probability & statistics, measurement, and number sense & operations. Students will become familiar with the graphing calculator and use it frequently in the classroom.

Social Studies

Grade 6

The Social Studies curriculum in 6th grade includes the study of the Eastern Hemisphere and the study of geography. The time frame of study begins with Prehistory and continues through the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Course work will include reading of the textbook and additional sources for information, projects, and reports.

Grade 7

The Social Studies curriculum in 7th grade includes the study of how the Western Hemisphere was populated and developed prior to 1500 through to the Civil War. It is a study of the development of early settlements by Native Americans through the colonial period; the development of our democracy to the causes of the Civil War.

Grade 8

In this course the exploration and study of American History is continued. We start with the tumultuous era of the American Civil War, and continue through the 19th and 20th centuries learning about important events and people that have shaped our society. Adding to our learning agenda this year are two important events of American History. First, the 2008 Presidential election, and second, the 400th anniversary of the discovery of New York State, by Samuel de Champlain and Henry Hudson.

Math

Grade 6

Math 6 is a continuation of the New York State 5th grade curriculum. Topics include: measurement, algebra, geometry, probability, and number sense and operations.

Grade 6 Accelerated Math

The accelerated 6th grade curriculum is a combination of Math 6 and Math 7 following the detailed math standards of the NYS Education Department. These students will continue on to Math 8 next year.

Grade 7

Math 7 is a continuation of the New York State 6th grade curriculum. Topics include: measurement, algebra, geometry, probability and statistics, and number sense and operations.

Grade 7 Accelerated Math

The accelerated seventh grade curriculum is a continuation of the New York State 7th grade curriculum. Please refer to the Grade 8 Math description below.

Grade 8

Many different math concepts revolving around the all important topic of algebra will be covered. By March, students will be able to solve many different forms of equations involving several steps and the distributive property. We will be working on simplifying expressions involving all operations, factoring polynomials and multiplying binomials. Our algebra tools will then be used to help students in their task of learning about geometry and diagrams involving parallel lines and missing angles. Several other topics will be taught including many areas of percents, and the use of formulas (i.e. distance formula). Post March curriculum involves graphing linear equations, slope of lines, and constructions of geometric items (i.e. congruent angles). At the end of the year, 8th graders will be involved in a unique geometry and architecture project.

CV-TEC

Requirements for Admission to CV-TEC 2008-2009:

1. A student needs to have (2) credits of English, Social Studies, Math and Science before being accepted into the CV-TEC program.
2. A student may not have missed more than eighteen (18) days of school in the year preceding their CV-TEC admission. (Extreme extenuating circumstances will be reviewed).

CV-TEC HS AND ADULT CAREER OFFERINGS:

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Cluster

- Environmental Conservation/Forestry
- Natural Resources Management

Architecture and Construction Cluster

- Drafting/Pre-Engineering
- Building Trades
 - Carpentry/Masonry
 - Building/Maintenance
 - Electrical Design and Installation
 - Plumbing
 - Welding

Arts, Audio, Video Technology & Communications Cluster

- Graphic Design and Communications

Business Management & Administration Cluster

- Medical Office Assisting
- Legal Office Assisting

Education and Training Cluster

- New Visions—Education

Career Connections

Government & Public Administration Cluster

- New Visions—Government

CV-TEC HS AND ADULT CAREER OFFERINGS
(CONTINUED)

Health Science Cluster

- Allied Health
- New Visions—Medical Careers
- New Visions—Veterinary

Hospitality & Tourism Cluster

- Hospitality and Resort Services
- Culinary Arts

Human Services Cluster

- Child Care Services
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood Education

Information Technology Cluster

- Computer Technology

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Center

- Security and Law Enforcement
- New Visions—Law

Manufacturing Cluster

- Welding

Marketing Sales & Service Cluster

- Marketing and Retail Sales

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics Cluster

- Drafting (CAD)/Pre-Engineering

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics Cluster

- Auto Collision Repair
- Automotive Tech
- Small Engines and Recreational Vehicles
- Heavy Equipment / Diesel Mechanics
- Aviation Tech

NORTHEASTERN CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English

Grade 6

The 6th grade ELA curriculum is based on the 100 Book Challenge Program, which is tailored to the needs of all students at each level of reading. In-class and at home reading will occur daily. In conjunction with this reading program, students will have language and writing instruction based on the NYS curriculum.

Grade 7

Following New York State standards students will learn how to read, write, listen, and speak effectively. The course will focus on reinforcement and building upon previously learned skills, including essay writing, reading for comprehension, and grammar skills. Students will be introduced to the Modern Language Association (MLA) research requirements and continue to work with the 100 Book Challenge Program.

Grade 8

The 8th grade ELA course is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose and poetry written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who can compose for a variety of purposes. By their writing and reading in this course, students should become aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations and subjects, as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effective writing. This course is designed to prepare our middle school students for their 8th grade ELA exam, high school, and beyond. Daily language review, participation in the 100 Book Challenge, multiple writing projects, and the completion of various mini-lessons and educational activities are designed to help the student acquire a greater facility in written English. All four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are developed.