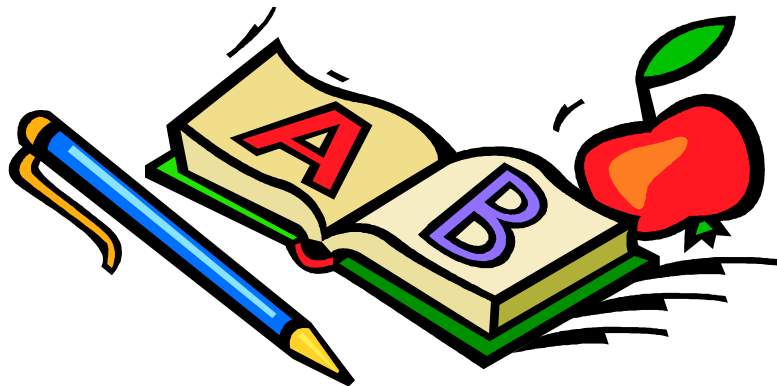


**ROCKWOOD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

**COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**

**2025-2026**



## **Parents and Students:**

Each student has been given a copy of the Course Selection Guide along with a course scheduling form and current grades. Please take your time to review this information and plan thoroughly. The scheduling form should be completed together with both the student and parent/s or guardians. It must then be signed by the student as well as the parent/s or guardian/s. The student will need to show their teachers their current grades so they can see their prerequisites. Students will be required to return their completed scheduling forms to the Guidance Office by the deadline specified on the form. If the student does not return his/her scheduling form, the guidance counselor will select courses for the following year's schedule.

The following pages include a description of Rockwood Junior High School's 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum and courses offered. Please keep in mind that most of the courses for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required. Students should see their math teacher about what math to schedule. Students must choose at least one elective or they may choose two, as indicated on the course selection sheet. Junior high elective courses run on an every other day rotation; therefore, if a student chooses only one elective s/he will have a study hall on the opposite days. If you have any questions regarding the course registration process, please contact the Guidance Office at (814) 926-4688.

### **The following is the current grading standard for Rockwood High School:**

#### **Grading Standard**

A = 90-100 - Excellent

B = 80-89 - Good

C = 70-79 - Average

D = 65-69 - Poor

F = 64 & Below - Failing

I = Incomplete

P = Passing

Scheduling Instructions and important notes  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8th Grade  
2025-2026

As you are planning your schedule:

- **Students must have parent and teacher signatures where indicated.**
- Please read all instructions carefully before completing your scheduling form
- Courses listed at the top of your selection sheet are required; including the expo courses. Math is the only course that will need filled in. SEE YOUR MATH TEACHER.
- The middle section of your selection sheet is where you choose your electives and the last part is your club selections. The club selections can be found in your Course Selection Guide
- Complete and return the Student Scheduling Form to the Guidance Office. Failure to meet the deadline on the scheduling sheet will result in the Guidance Department choosing your courses.

## Grade 7 Course Sequence

### REQUIRED COURSES:

English 7

General Science 7

Civics/PA History

Math (Pre-Algebra or Introduction to Algebra 7)

Reading 7

Physical Education/Health

Expo: (Inventions & Innovations, Art Expo, Math 7 Strategies I, Math 7 Strategies II)

**ELECTIVES:** Electives run on an A day B day schedule. If no electives are chosen the student will have a study hall every day. If one elective is chosen the student will have that elective one day and a study hall the next day. If the student chooses 2 electives they will not have a study hall.

- Art
- Ceramic Arts
- Band
- Chorus
- Family & Consumer Science
- Fitness Exploration
- Training & Fitness

### REMEDIATION:

Please note that students who were not proficient or advanced on the PSSA will be placed in remediation (Core Support) during the 9<sup>th</sup> period for certain grading quarters.

### Math Placement for 7th Grade Students

When a student is promoted into the seventh grade, that student will be eligible to take Pre-algebra. However, not all students are ready to take this class in the seventh grade. Therefore a student who has a final grade below a 70% in their 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math course and a score on the PSSA that is not considered “proficient” will be scheduled to take Introduction to Algebra 7 in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. If a student meets one of the two criteria mentioned above and is able to attain a teacher recommendation, he/she will then be able to take Pre-Algebra in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

If a student scores advanced on their 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math PSSA and has an end-of-year average of a 95% or higher in their 6<sup>th</sup> grade math class as well as obtaining recommendations from their teacher and parent, he/she will have the opportunity to take Fundamental Algebra Concepts.

Note: Parents are permitted to request in writing to have their child placed in pre-algebra even if the student does not meet the above criteria. However, please keep in mind this would not be the recommendation of the Math department.

## GRADE 8 Course Selection

### REQUIRED COURSES:

English 8

General Science 8

World History and Geography

Math (Algebra Concepts A, Fundamental Algebra Concepts, Algebra 1, CP Keystone Algebra/  
Algebra II)

Reading 8

Physical Education

Expo (2 periods)

(French, Spanish, Technology Systems, Family & Consumer Science, Math 8 Strategies I and  
Math 8 Strategies II)

**ELECTIVES:** Electives run on an A day B day schedule. If no electives are chosen the student will have a study hall every day. If one elective is chosen the student will have that elective one day and a study hall the next day. If the student chooses 2 electives they will not have a study hall.

- 3D Sculptures
- Art
- Band
- Chorus
- Family & Consumer Science
- Fitness Exploration
- Training & Fitness

### REMEDIATION:

Please note that students who were not proficient or advanced on the PSSA will be placed in remediation (Core Support) during the 9<sup>th</sup> period for certain grading quarters.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

**BASIC COURSES:** Basic courses are aligned with the general curriculum at each grade level. Students eligible for the special education curriculum are determined by the IEP team and their schedules are created by the special education department.

### PA STATE ASSESSMENT REMEDIATION/TEST PREPARATION COURSES

Students must score advanced or proficient on the PSSA tests. PSSA remediation courses are designed for students in danger of not passing the PSSA tests. Students must **meet** the following criteria to be **exempt** from PSSA remediation:

1. Students must score above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on a national standardized test.
2. Students must have an 80% or above in their corresponding course and score above an 80% on the Study Island test.
3. Any other criteria deemed appropriate by the building principal

\* The building principal may exempt a student from a remediation course based on proof of successful completion of a pre-approved summer remedial course.

\*Study Island is an Internet Computer-based program that the Rockwood School District has purchased to assist students in becoming Proficient or Advanced Proficient on the PSSA. Students that are placed in remediation are supervised in the computer labs as they work on the skills that they are weak in. Students may also use this program at home for additional practice. Time at home however, can not be substituted for scheduled time at school. Students are scheduled for remediation during the 9<sup>th</sup> period and will not miss any of their regular scheduled course or electives.

\*The PSSA remediation courses do not have any credit assigned to them. These courses are for remediation and tutoring purposes only. Therefore, they will not be graded.

## Course Progression in Mathematics

	Path 1	Path 2	Path 3	Path 4
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Intro. To Algebra	Pre-Algebra	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Algebra IA (Below 75% in Pre-Algebra)		Algebra I (75% or higher in PreAlgebra)	College Prep Algebra II (75% or higher in Algebra I)
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Algebra IB (65% in Algebra IA) or (65%-69% in Algebra I)		College Prep Algebra II (75% or higher in Algebra I )	College Prep Geometry
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> <b>(Prob/Stat Expo)</b>	Algebra II (65% in Algebra IB )or (70%-74% in Algebra)		College Prep Geometry	Pre-Calculus (80% or higher in Algebra II)
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Geometry		Pre-Calculus (80% or higher in Algebra II)  Statistics (65%-79% in Algebra II)  Algebra III (65%-79% in Algebra II)	Calculus I
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Algebra III (70% or higher in Algebra II)  Statistics (70% or higher in Algebra II)  *Accounting can be taken anytime from 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> as a business elective. This course may also be taken as dual enrollment  *All students must take Personal Finance at some point in 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade. This will count as a business elective.		Calculus I  Pre-Calculus (80% or higher in Alg. III)  Statistics (65% or higher in Keystone Algebra I/Algebra II)  Algebra III (Below 70% in PreCalculus)	College in HS Calculus

- Please note that Accounting I (offered as a high school or college credit) and Accounting II can be taken in addition to any other math course in 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Accounting I, Accounting II and courses are highly recommended for students going in the business field .
- Any math credits taken during 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade will not count towards credits earned for graduation. Credits start counting in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
- All students are required to take Algebra I or Algebra IA & IB, Algebra II, and Geometry. After successfully completing Algebra 1, Algebra II, and Geometry, students may take the courses listed below. (Students are permitted to double up math credits, provided the prerequisites have been met.) Students must complete 3 math credits and take the Personal Finance course to meet graduation requirements. . Students who are planning on attending a 4 year college are encouraged to take the highest level math course as recommended by their current math teacher.
  - Algebra III
  - Statistics
  - Pre-calculus
  - Calculus
  - College in High School Calculus

## Course Progression in Science

	<b>Path 1</b>	<b>Path 2</b>	<b>Electives</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	General Science 7	General Science 7	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	General Science 8	General Science 8	
<b>9<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Biology and Lab	Biology and Lab Any of the Ag Science classes	Ag Envirothon Ag Wildlife Any of the Ag Science classes Technical Design Materials Processing Manufacturing Enterprise
<b>10<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Chemistry and Lab	General Physical Science Any of the Ag Science classes	Ag Envirothon Ag Wildlife Any of the Ag Science classes Technical Design Materials Processing Manufacturing Enterprise Energy & Power Systems Engineering Tech & Design
<b>11<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Physics and Lab Chemistry II (2020-2021) Adv. Biology (2021-2022) Human Biology Micro Biology Forensic Science	General Physical Science Any of the Ag Science classes	Ag Envirothon Ag Wildlife Any of the Ag Science classes Technical Design Materials Processing Manufacturing Enterprise Energy & Power Systems Engineering Tech & Design
<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Physics II Chemistry II (2022-2023) Adv. Biology (2023-2024) Human Biology Micro Biology Forensic Science	General Physical Science Or electives Ag Envirothon Ag Wildlife Any of the Ag Science classes	Ag Envirothon Ag Wildlife Any of the Ag Science classes Technical Design Materials Processing Manufacturing Enterprise Energy & Power Systems Engineering Tech & Design



## Course Progression in English

	<b>Path 1</b>	<b>Path 2</b>	<b>Electives</b>
<b>7th grade</b>	English 7		
<b>8th grade</b>	English 8		
<b>9th grade</b>	English 9/American Literature I	CP English 9/American Literature I	
<b>10th grade</b>	English 10/ American Literature II	CP English 10/ American Literature II	Journalism I
<b>11th grade</b>	English 11/British Literature	CP English 11/British Literature	Journalism I Journalism II
<b>12th grade</b>	English 12/British Literature	CP English 12/ British Literature	Journalism I Journalism II Journalism III Journalism Editor

## Course Progression in Social Studies

	<b>Required Courses</b>
<b>7th grade</b>	Civics/ PA History
<b>8th grade</b>	World History and Geography
<b>9th grade</b>	World Cultures
<b>10th grade</b>	American History
<b>11th grade</b>	American History II
<b>12th grade</b>	American Government

## ENGLISH

**116 - LANGUAGE ARTS (7<sup>th</sup> GRADE):** In seventh grade Language Arts, students work with four areas—grammar, vocabulary, writing, and literature. Mini lessons address the students' grammar needs while various writing activities focus on grammar objectives. The fundamentals of literature include developing an understanding of reading skills and literary terms and devices with principles of grammar, writing, and vocabulary incorporated. All material is aligned with Pennsylvania State and Common Core standards, with PSSA testing in mind. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**117 - LANGUAGE ARTS (8<sup>th</sup> GRADE):** In eighth grade Language Arts, students receive reinforcement and instruction on grammar, writing and literature. Grammar skills will be aligned with the Pennsylvania and Common Core standards and will include work on parts of speech and elimination of common writing errors. During a poetry unit, students will also learn writing and interpretation skills. Students will read some short stories, and will read two longer texts. They will develop reading and writing skills based on these texts. Larger writing assignments stress skills required for the PSSA, and will be assessed based on the state standards. Students will also complete a unit on English Renaissance culture and literature, which incorporates Shakespeare's *Henry V* and nonfiction reading and communication skills. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

## READING

**121 – 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE READING:** This is a yearlong course in which students will read fiction and nonfiction selections as a basis for study in the following skill areas: Vocabulary, Comprehension, Study Skills, Test Taking Skills, Literature and Reading Appreciation. Also, they will practice reading comprehension skills according to the Pennsylvania State Reading Assessment Rubric in preparation for the Pennsylvania State Scholastic Assessment Test and other standardized tests. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**122 – 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE READING:** This is a yearlong course in which students will read fiction and nonfiction selections as a basis for study in the following skill areas: Vocabulary, Comprehension, Study Skills, Literature and Reading Appreciation. Students will also practice reading comprehension skills according to the Pennsylvania State Scholastic Assessment Test and other standardized tests. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

## SPANISH

**530 - SPANISH EXPO:** Spanish Expo is required for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will be given an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. There will be an emphasis placed on the similarities between English and Spanish. Curriculum is aligned with foreign language standards. Students will develop an appreciation of other people and cultures. The class will provide motivation to continue learning another language. (.25 credit)

## FRENCH

**570 - FRENCH EXPO:** French Expo is required for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will cover the basic language skills. Curriculum is aligned with foreign language standards. Students will learn basic conversational skills and many categories of vocabulary to functional ends. Students will be exposed to the francophone world and its culture. (.25 credit)

## MATH

**214 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)/ 215 (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) INTRODUCTION TO ALGEBRA:** This course is designed for the student who needs more review of basic math skills. Topics covered include interpreting data and statistics, applications of decimals, integers and equations, fractions and number theory, proportions and percents, geometry and measurement, probability, number patterns, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, and many other pre-algebra concepts. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**220 – PRE-ALGEBRA:** This academic course is designed to prepare students for Algebra I. Students will review previous topics at an application level as well as be introduced to new algebra based concepts including algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, integers, ratios, proportions and percents, linear functions and graphing, geometry and probability. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**223 - ALGEBRA CONCEPTS A:** Teacher recommendation is required for this course. This two-semester course is designed for the student who needs more time to successfully meet the objectives for an Algebra I course. Topics covered are, integers, functions and their graphs, simple equations, inequalities, systems, and linear equations. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**225 –FUNDAMENTAL ALGEBRA CONCEPTS:** This course covers all foundations of Algebra and is the basis for future academic mathematics courses. Students will review previous topics at an application level as well as be introduced to new concepts including linear systems, factoring polynomials, graphing, and quadratic functions. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. *This is a Keystone related course and the test is required to be taken during the official testing window.* (1 credit)

**237 – COLLEGE PREP KEYSTONE ALGEBRA I/ALGEBRA II:** This academic course is a continuation of Fundamental Algebra Concepts, providing of more in-depth study of prior topics as well as the introduction of new topics including equations/inequalities, systems, quadratics, polynomials, radical functions, rational exponents, sequences/series, and probability. Mastering these topics takes a serious, concentrated effort; therefore, students must be prepared to spend additional time studying outside of the classroom. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit) \*This is a Keystone related course and the test is required to be taken during the official testing window

## SCIENCE

**316-GENERAL SCIENCE 7:** The seventh grade general science class will follow an integrated science format. Eight units of instruction are taught at this level, which includes: Earth resources (rocks and minerals); Earth forces (plate tectonics, mountain building, volcanoes, earthquakes); Ecology; Weather and Climate; Astronomy; Cells (structure and function); Cell division (mitosis, meiosis, genetics) and Natural selection.

**318-GENERAL SCIENCE 8:** The eighth grade general science class will follow an integrated science format. Students will discuss the role of science in our society. Course content is varied to introduce physical science. Six units of instruction are integrated in various topics to include: matter and atoms; and interactions of matter; metric measurement; scientific method; work and power; and force and motion.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

**416 -PENNSYLVANIA CIVICS/HISTORY: (7<sup>th</sup> Grade) -Civics** is covered during the first semester. In this section of the course the students will study the government and how it is related to people. The course begins with an examination of what government is, the different types of government, and self-government in the United States. Students study the foundations of our government. Students then study in-depth federalism (the division of powers) and the three branches of our government. They develop an understanding of what those branches are, what each branch is responsible for, who comprises each branch, and the system of checks and balances. Also included is a study of the state/ local government and political parties. **Pennsylvania History** is covered during the second semester. Students will study the growth and development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its role in the context of United States history. The course begins with an examination of the geography of the Commonwealth. It moves to an in-depth, chronological study of Pennsylvania from its founding by William Penn to economic development during this century. Some areas emphasized include: the Native American Peoples of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania's role in the American Revolution including a study of the Declaration of Independence, industrial growth and development of the last century including the Allegheny Portage Railroad, Pennsylvania's role in the Civil War including Gettysburg, Big Business including the industrialists, the Johnstown Flood, and Pennsylvania's development during this century. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

**418 –WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY (8<sup>th</sup> Grade):** World History and Geography will begin with a study of basic geography skills and an awareness of the impact geography has on the people of the world. World History will be an in depth study of the world's people beginning with prehistoric peoples and early civilizations and concluding with the fall of the Roman Empire. Students will complete a midterm and final exam. (1 credit)

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

**932- FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> GRADE (Elective):** This class meets all year every other day. This class will include consumer skills and money management. Students will also learn basic sewing machine skills and complete a variety of sewing projects. Basic nutritional guidelines will be introduced as well as a variety of food preparation labs for breakfast challenge or snack attack. (.5 credit)

**933- FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE EXPO:** This class meets for nine weeks. This class introduces the five areas of FACS; foods & nutrition, clothing care & design, consumer skills, child development, and home management. Emphasis will be on foods and nutrition, basic food preparation, intro to sewing machine skills, and construction of a simple backpack. (.25 credit)

## TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

Welcome to Technology & Engineering! Students participating in the program will be learning concepts and principles in a problem / activity based environment. The goal of the program is for the development of Technological Literacy delivered in the context of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) for students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Technological Literacy is our ability to understand, evaluate, use, manage, and create technology. It involves the application of both knowledge and abilities to real-world situations. Technology is the application of tools, materials, process, and systems by humans to solve problems and provide benefits to humankind. In short, Technology is human innovation in action!

**915 - 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE INVENTION & INNOVATION:** In this course, students will learn about invention and innovation. They will have opportunities to study the history of inventions and innovations, including their impacts on society. Students will also learn about the core concepts of technology, and about the various approaches to solving problems, including engineering design and experimentation. Students will apply their creativity in the invention and innovation of new products, processes, or systems. Finally, students learn about how various inventions and innovations impact their lives. Students will participate in engineering-design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, documenting, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. Students also develop skills in researching for information, communicating design information, and reporting results. (.25 credit)

**916 – 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS:** *Technological Systems* builds on experiences with *Invention and Innovation* teaches students how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. Students will develop an understanding of the scope of technology and the recurring nature of technological design and problem-solving processes. This course gives students a general background on the different types of systems, such as mechanical, electrical but concentrates more on the connections between these systems. Students will participate in engineering design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences, where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, documenting, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. Students also develop skills in researching for information, communicating design information, and reporting results. As the suggested capstone middle school course, *Technological Systems* provides the foundation for future studies in a Technology & Engineering education sequence. (.25 credit)

## ART

**727 –JUNIOR HIGH CERAMICS:** **This class can only be taken once during Jr. High.** A yearlong course in which the student will explore hand-building ceramic techniques. The course of study is introductory level to suit the development of the junior high age group.

**728 – JUNIOR HIGH ART:** **This class can only be taken once during Jr. High.** A yearlong introductory course which introduces the student to more in-depth and complex Visual Arts problems in a wide range of art and design media. Student will work on both 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional projects. Student will learn about the work of important artists and cultural and folk art. (.5 credit)

**729 - 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ART EXPO:** An Expo course which is 9 weeks in length, during which the student will explore realistic drawing concepts. Emphasis is placed on various drawing techniques and materials. Student will also work in other media such as painting and drawing. Student will be asked to begin to search for own creative voice, while learning to work in a realistic manner. Proper care of tools and materials is taught. Student will be exposed to the work of important artists and cultural and folk art. (.25 credit).

## **VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE GROUPS**

The following performance groups will present two evening concerts each school year for parents and community and will have the opportunity to perform a wide variety of music. Attendance at evening concerts is mandatory and will serve as a major portion of a student's individual class grade. By choosing to participate in these classes, students demonstrate an interest in achieving vocal musical excellence.

**600 - JUNIOR HIGH BAND:**-A yearlong elective class that meets every other day all year. This is a non-auditioned performance group open to students in grades 7 and 8. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in marching band and may audition for All-County Band. (.5 credit)

**601 - JUNIOR HIGH BAND:** A yearlong elective class that meets every day all year. This is a non-auditioned performance group open to students in grades 7 and 8. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in marching band and may audition for All-County Band. (1 credit)

**620 - JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS:** A yearlong elective class that meets every other day all year. This is a non-auditioned performance group open to students in grades 7 and 8. (.5 credit)

**619-JUNIOR HIGH CHORUS:** A yearlong elective class that meets every day all year. This is a non-auditioned performance group open to students in grades 7 and 8. (1 credit).

## HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**815- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Health: (.5 credits)**-7<sup>th</sup> grade Health classes meet every other day opposite 7<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Education for the duration of the school year. In Health, the students will study the systems of the body, food and nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, first aid and HIV/AIDS. Botvin Life Skills, a grant funded curriculum, will be used to introduce and strengthen the understanding of life skills. These life skills will include, increasing self-esteem, social skills, communication skills, standing up for your rights, managing anxiety, effective decision making skills, and resisting peer pressure. The life skill training is designed to promote a happy, healthy and productive life.

**814-7<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education: (.5 credits); 816-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education: (.5 credits):**In the Junior High Physical Education classes, students will develop physically, emotionally, and socially through a variety of activities that include the following: soccer, basketball, tumbling, football, learning and creating dance, racquet sports, weightlifting, bowling, track and field, softball, hockey and speedball. The students will also acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to take part in many leisure time activities.

**816-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education: (.5 credits)** 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical Education classes meet every other day for the duration of the school year. In Physical Education class, the students will be able to apply the health-related and skill-related fitness components while participating in the following: FitnessGram testing, soccer, football, lacrosse, dance, weight training, hockey, archery, pickleball, volleyball, badminton, basketball, picnic games, biking, gatorball and wiffleball. For two weeks out of the school year, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the Botvin Life Skills program. Botvin Life Skills, is a grant funded curriculum will be used to introduce and strengthen the understanding of life skills. This will be incorporated into this class sometime during the school year. These life skills will include, increasing self-esteem, social skills, communication skills, standing up for your rights, managing anxiety, effective decision making skills, and resisting peer pressure. The life skill training is designed to promote a happy, healthy, and productive life.

**818- Junior High Elective Fitness Exploration (.5 credits)** is available to both junior high boys and girls. It is a class that is designed to teach students a variety of ways to get fit and stay healthy by introducing new and fun ways to exercise. Techniques that will be used in this class include aerobics, kickboxing, aerobic dance, pilates, yoga and weight lifting. While participating in class, students will increase muscle strength and endurance as well as cardiovascular endurance. This class will be set up as a participation-based grading system.

**819-Junior High Elective Strength Training and Fitness (.5 credits)** This course is available to both junior high boys and girls. It is designed to give students an opportunity to learn how to lift weights properly and safely to increase muscle strength and muscle endurance. This class will also provide students will the knowledge and skills to perform muscular strength activities using limited equipment and body resistance exercises. Students will perform cardiovascular activity prior to each strength training session. This class will be set up as a participation-based grading system.

Although previously listed under the appropriate subject, below are descriptions of each Expository course every 7<sup>th</sup> grader will take throughout the year (one for each quarter).

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade EXPOSITORY CLASSES**

**729 - 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ART EXPO:** An Expo course which is 9 weeks in length, during which the student will explore realistic drawing concepts. Emphasis is placed on various drawing techniques and materials. Student will also work in other media such as painting and drawing. Student will be asked to begin to search for own creative voice, while learning to work in a realistic manner. Proper care of tools and materials is taught. Student will be exposed to the work of important artists and cultural and folk art. (.25 credit)

**915 - 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE-INVENTION & INNOVATION:** In this course, students will learn about invention and innovation. They will have opportunities to study the history of inventions and innovations, including their impacts on society. Students will also learn about the core concepts of technology, and about the various approaches to solving problems, including engineering design and experimentation. Students will apply their creativity in the invention and innovation of new products, processes, or systems. Finally, students learn about how various inventions and innovations impact their lives. Students will participate in engineering-design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, documenting, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. Students also develop skills in researching for information, communicating design information, and reporting results. (.25 credit)

**171-MATH 7 STRATEGIES I** -This is an independent 7<sup>th</sup> grade expo course for students to further enhance their mathematical skills and expand upon prior knowledge. Students will master foundational math skills and fluency, as well as, use mathematical strategies, critical thinking, and problem solving skills to calculate, analyze, and create solutions to mathematical scenarios for real world application. Concepts covered in this course will include topics directly related to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Different skills/strategies will be covered in Math 7 Strategies II.

**260-MATH 7 STRATEGIES II**-This is an independent 7<sup>th</sup> grade expo course for students to further enhance their mathematical skills and expand upon prior knowledge. Students will master foundational math skills and fluency, as well as, use mathematical strategies, critical thinking, and problem solving skills to calculate, analyze, and create solutions to mathematical scenarios for real world application. Concepts covered in this course will include topics directly related to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Different skills/strategies will be covered in Math 7 Strategies I. You do not need to take Math Strategies I prior to taking Math Strategies II.



Although previously listed under the appropriate subject, below is a list of each Expository course every 8<sup>th</sup> grader will take throughout the year.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade EXPOSITORY CLASSES**

**530 - SPANISH EXPO: (Semester Course)** Spanish Expo is required for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will be given an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. There will be an emphasis placed on the similarities between English and Spanish. Curriculum is aligned with foreign language standards. Students will develop an appreciation of other people and cultures. The class will provide motivation to continue learning another language.  
(.25 credit)

**570 - FRENCH EXPO: (Semester Course)** French Expo is required for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will cover the basic language skills. Curriculum is aligned with foreign language standards. Students will learn basic conversational skills and many categories of vocabulary to functional ends. Students will be exposed to the francophone world and its culture. (.25 credit)

**Each 8<sup>th</sup> grader will have each expo below for the length of one quarter**

**916 – 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS:** *Technological Systems* builds on experiences with *Invention and Innovation* teaches students how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. Students will develop an understanding of the scope of technology and the recurring nature of technological design and problem-solving processes. This course gives students a general background on the different types of systems, such as mechanical, electrical but concentrates more on the connections between these systems. Students will participate in engineering design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences, where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, documenting, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. Students also develop skills in researching for information, communicating design information, and reporting results. As the suggested capstone middle school course, *Technological Systems* provides the foundation for future studies in a Technology & Engineering education sequence. (.25 credit)

**933- FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE EXPO:** This class meets for nine weeks. This class introduces the five areas of FACS; foods & nutrition, clothing care & design, consumer skills, child development, and home management. Emphasis will be on foods and nutrition, basic food preparation, intro to sewing machine skills, and construction of a simple backpack. (.25 credit)

**133- MATH 8 STRATEGIES I** -This is an independent expo course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to further enhance their mathematical skills and expand upon prior knowledge. Students will master foundational math skills and fluency, as well as, use mathematical strategies, critical thinking, and problem solving skills to calculate, analyze, and create solutions to mathematical scenarios for real world application. Concepts covered in this

course will include topics directly related to the 8th grade math standards. Different skills/strategies will be covered in Math 8 Strategies II.

**251-MATH 8 STRATEGIES II**-This is an independent 8<sup>th</sup> grade expo course for students to further enhance their mathematical skills and expand upon prior knowledge. Students will master foundational math skills and fluency, as well as, use mathematical strategies, critical thinking, and problem solving skills to calculate, analyze, and create solutions to mathematical scenarios for real world application. Concepts covered in this course will include topics directly related to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Different skills/strategies will be covered in Math 8 Strategies I. You do not need to take Math Strategies I prior to taking Math Strategies II.

### **ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS**

**Students must choose activities/clubs for the 9<sup>th</sup> period every other day club.  
Student may use this time for tutoring as needed upon request.**

**Note: Teacher's assigned to the various clubs may be subject to change.  
The activities listed below are offered for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> semester unless noted yearlong.**

#### **Learning and Research Center – Junior and Senior High (Mrs. Hay)**

The Library will be open every day all year to provide a learning environment for students who need tutoring assistance. Computers will also be available. Please understand that the Learning Center is not a study hall! It is not intended for the same students to be admitted on a continual basis unless there is a great need for tutoring assistance. Teachers, parents and students may request for students to get extra help and tutoring at any time. See Mrs. Hay throughout the year for sign up arrangements.

#### **1028 - FFA (Ms. Weimer): Semester 1, Semester 2, or yearlong**

FFA will be for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are interested in possibly pursuing agriculture education in the senior high years (9-12). FFA will be for the 7-12 grade students enrolled in an agriculture course or an SAE elective independent study course (during 9<sup>th</sup> period). Students will develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Students will utilize their knowledge gained through instruction and the SAE process to compete at the county, regional, state, and national levels. Students will pay an annual dues amount, participate in chapter activities, and undertake the degree requirements for the FFA degree, as outlined by the National FFA (<https://www.ffa.org/programs/degrees/Pages/default.aspx>).

#### **1003 – Science Fiction Theater Club: Jr.& Sr. High (Mr. Woolslayer) Semester 1 or 2 or yearlong**

This club is open for grades 7-12. Science Fiction Theater Club is for students who love Sci-Fi movies and classic Sci-Fi series such as Star Trek, Space 1999, Battle Star Galactica, UFO, Star Wars, Planet of the Apes and other classics. Come join the fun!

#### **1004 - Creative Writing Club: Jr. & Sr. High (Mrs. Shultz) Semester 1, 2 or yearlong**

Students will meet every other day all year long. This club will provide an outlet for written creative expression. Students will create an original literary magazine. Members will submit poetry, short stories, and prose to be included in the publication. Students will have the opportunity to submit work for contests and scholarships. In addition to publishing the literary magazine, students will host a “coffee house” poetry reading.

**1007-Wellness Club: Jr. & Sr. High(Ms. Glessner) Semester 1, Semester 2 or year-long-**

Wellness club members will promote wellness to Rockwood's students, faculty, and entire community through activities, demonstrations, and information. The overall goal is to provide the skills and knowledge so that members make proper decisions regarding their overall health. We welcome those who are interested in maintaining one's physical, mental, and social needs in life. Students will have the opportunity to learn hands on activities such as yoga, mindfulness, trail hiking, creating healthy recipes, communication building, techniques for managing stress and much more. Each class, students will work on creating a wellness theme for the month and a weekly wellness message to share with the students and staff at Rockwood.

**1010- Community Service Club (Mrs. Vough & Mrs. Minor)**

Community service is helping others in need without monetary compensation. Advisors for the community service club, along with its members, will work together to complete community service projects on a consistent basis. Some projects will directly benefit the school community, while others will reach into the community, and beyond.

**1014-Board Game Club (Mr. Romesberg) Jr. & Sr. High**

Students will be meeting to play a variety of board games. There will be a variety of card and board games for students to play or learn. Be prepared to help other members by teaching games you know or are learning to master. Students can also recommend games or bring in their favorites to play as well.

**1015- Physical Education Club- Jr High (Mr. Enos) Semester 1**

PE club members will participate in a variety of sports that will improve one's cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, hand-eye/foot-eye coordination, and agility. This club is designed to keep students moving and get 30 minutes of your daily recommended physical activity.

**1021 - Speech Team - Jr High (Mrs. Langley- Burkhardt) Semester 1**

Students interested in public speaking or dramatic interpretations are welcome to join the junior high speech team. Open to students in grades 7, 8, and 9. Competitions are usually held in September, October, and November. Rockwood is one of 12 schools that participate in these competitions. Categories of competition are: poetry, prose, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, dramatic performance, duo dramatic performance, and impromptu speaking. Students must be willing to practice frequently with advisor and participate in the competitions.

**1022 - Sportsman's Club – Jr High (Mr. King) Semester 2**

This club will meet every other day all year. If you are looking for more information about hunting, fishing, or basic survival techniques or have information that you are willing to share, then this is the club for you. We will be looking at each of these topics throughout the year depending upon the season. You won't be disappointed!

**1029-Enrichment Club: Jr. & Sr. High (Mrs. Pletcher) 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> semester or Yearlong for grades 7-12**

During 9<sup>th</sup> period club days, this enrichment club will focus on extending concepts on test taking skills and concepts such as PSAT8/9, PSAT 10/NMSQT, SAT, SAT-subject based, ACT and CLEP tests. This club would be beneficial for all college-bound students (grades 7-12). The problem-solving strategies, labs and activities would be presented at a higher level. Students will set up online accounts for practice tests such as through collegeboard.org, kaptest.com, and khanacademy.org. Although math concepts will be stressed, time will be given to explore all parts of these tests.

**1036- JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL CLUB (Mr. Wagner) (2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER ONLY)**-This club is designed to enhance your knowledge and skill level on the game. Club periods will be used to work on both individual and team skills as well as film study of varsity games. It will also help Junior High students prepare for their upcoming season.

**1035- Current Event Club: Jr. & Sr. High (Mr. Blubaugh)All Year, Semester 1 or 2** Students will meet once a week to discuss the developing current events ranging from international, national, and local issues. Also included in the discussions will be relevant news in pop culture and sports.