

Woodland Middle School
Curriculum 2010-2011

Woodland Middle School operates on a two semester system with four grading periods. Progress reports are given every three weeks in between grading periods. We follow a 6 period day with a late start for professional development on Mondays. See below for the schedules.

Tuesday-Friday Schedule

Period 1	8:25 - 9:20
Period 2	9:25 - 10:20
Period 3	10:25 - 11:20
Lunch	11:20 - 11:50
Homeroom	11:55 - 12:15
Period 4	12:20 - 1:15
Period 5	1:20 - 2:15
Period 6	2:20 - 3:15

Monday Schedule

Period 1	9:40 - 10:22
Period 2	10:27 - 11:09
Period 3	11:14 - 11:56
Lunch	11:56 - 12:26
Navigation	12:31 - 12:56
Period 4	1:01 - 1:42
Period 5	1:47 - 2:29
Period 6	2:34 - 3:15

Schedules are made for the students by forecasting classes the year prior. Students will complete a forecasting form in the spring to choose their elective preferences for the following year. Students will be scheduled in all classes depending on their intervention classes, preference of electives, and the numbers of students in each class. Unlike the primary schools in the district, the secondary schools do not forecast for specific teachers. Woodland Middle School encourages all students to complete one semester of art and one semester of music in hopes of creating well-rounded students.

The following curriculum guide provides definitions of all classes offered during the 2010-2011 school year at Woodland Middle School. Besides core and elective classes, all students will be scheduled into a homeroom. This 20-minute class is non-graded and meets every day after lunch. The purpose of homeroom is to provide a “home base” for students, time for Navigation 101, time for extra help and homework completion, student-led conferences, and connecting activities. Most students are placed in homeroom by grade level, and with a teacher they will have for a class during the academic year.

Navigation 101 is a college and career readiness program which is taught on Mondays in our homerooms. Students have the opportunity to track their progress through Woodland Middle School and connect their academics to their community and future careers. They will take some interest inventories starting them on the road to discovering what they may want to do as a career. For more information on Navigation 101 please visit www.navigation101.com .

7th Grade Core Class Curriculum

7th Grade English: Seventh grade English focuses on reading and writing. Multiple reading and vocabulary strategies are used to help students with comprehension. Accelerated Reader, a computerized reading comprehension program, is also part of the reading curriculum. In seventh grade, students gain the skills to write expository and persuasive essays through the use of the writing process, 6 trait writing, and elaboration and persuasive strategies. Our seventh grade reading and writing curriculum is aligned with Washington state standards. This is a year-long, required course.

Pre Algebra : Most seventh graders will be placed in pre algebra. Incoming students are given a placement test in the spring of their 6th grade year to determine placement as well as any intervention services they may require. Please see pre algebra under Mathematics Curriculum for a course description of this class. This is a year-long, required course.

7th Grade Science: Seventh grade science focuses on life science. It is a year-long class that takes an introductory look at living systems. The class is broken into five units. Major areas of study include plants, animals, human biology, genetics, and ecology. Throughout the year, students engage in science inquiry activities, and learning how to think, act and communicate as scientists. This is a year-long, required course.

7th Grade Social Studies : Social Studies is a one-quarter class that focuses on general geographic skills and concepts (maps, physical features, cultures, etc.), as well as the geography of the United States. Students will increase their knowledge of the world around them with projects, simulations, videos, and various other assignments. This is a quarter-long, required course.

7th Grade Computers: Students will learn the basic nomenclature that is associated with computers as well as the main parts of a computer. We will study some of the most commonly used aspects of the operating system and will concentrate on word processing during the last half of the course. Students will also spend at least 15 minutes every day on keyboarding with the hopes of learning to type all the letter and common symbol keys at a rate of 24 words per minute. Students will be required to keep a notebook for this class to help them learn organizational skills. This is a quarter-long, required course.

Physical Education: Woodland Middle School's physical education class focuses on activities that promote and encourage lifetime fitness habits. A daily fitness portion is included in each class as well as individual and team activities. Individual activities such as bowling, horseshoes, ping-pong, weight training, and golf are introduced, and group or team activities include volleyball, basketball, lip sync, badminton, and pickle ball. This is a semester-long, required course.

8th Grade Core Class Curriculum

8th Grade English : The eighth grade English curriculum content includes but is not limited to building reading strategies, vocabulary, persuasive and expository writing, poetry, literary elements, grammar, and critical thinking skills as well as communication skills. The curriculum also exposes students to short stories, classic novels, and fiction and non-fiction works. This is a year-long, required course.

Algebra/Geometry I: 8th grade students will be placed Algebra/Geometry I. For a complete course description of these mathematics classes, please see the Mathematics Curriculum in this guide. This is a year-long, required course.

8th Grade Science: Students enrolled in this class will be involved in a variety of physics, chemistry, earth science, and life science activities. Students will be taking the state mandated MSP science test in the spring, and activities geared toward getting our students to succeed will also be emphasized. Specific content will include, but is not limited to, scientific methods, measurement systems, sound, radiation, motion, simple machines, states of matter, basic chemistry, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, minerals, rocks, mapping Earth, erosion and deposition, weathering and soil formation, and the geologic history of Earth. Students will be guided through inquiry learning to recognize and understand systems and apply that knowledge to develop solutions to human problems in societal contexts. This is a year-long, required course.

8th Grade Social Studies: This class covers the United States historical beginnings through 1877, including the time periods from the Thirteen English Colonies, the American Revolution, the Early Republic, an Era of Expansion, to the Division and Reunion of the United States. Students use not only textbooks but a wide variety of classroom resources, assessment techniques, and a technology program. By successfully completing this class, students are prepared for the continuation of this class as juniors at Woodland High School. This is a semester-long, required course.

8th Grade Computers: We will start with a quick review of what was covered in the 7th grade computer class and move directly into some of the more advanced topics in word processing and printing. Students will study how to create their own small web site, learn the basics of the history of the Internet and how it functions, and how to use search engines efficiently. Students will also spend at least 15 minutes every day on keyboarding with the hopes of having them learn to type all the letters and common symbol keys at a rate of 24 words per minute. Students will be required to keep a notebook for this class to help them learn organizational skills. This is a quarter-long, required course.

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Mathematics Curriculum

Pre-Algebra:

Designed to meet Washington State content standards, this course involves developing the skills and understanding necessary to solve a wide variety of situational problems involving fractions, decimals, percents, scale, probability, measurement, graphing, statistics, algebra, and geometry. Specific skills and concepts addressed in this course include:

- Applying the inverse property of addition on integers and the inverse property of multiplication on non-negative decimals and fractions.
- Applying estimation strategies.
- Understanding and using a systematic procedure to measure and describe various types of angles.
- Using formulas to determine measurements related to circles, triangles, rectangles, and rectangular prisms.
- Understanding the concepts of similarity and congruency.
- Reading and interpreting data presented in diagrams, stem-and-leaf plots, scatter plots, and box-and-whisker plots.
- Determining and explaining how the same set of data can support different points of view.
- Learning and applying the order of operations while evaluating formulas, equations and inequalities.
- Simplifying and solving mathematical expressions with variables and rational numbers.

In addition to learning mathematical concepts, students will be taught and expected to demonstrate independent mathematical reasoning and to communicate their mathematical understanding using words, numbers, symbols, and diagrams. The completion of nightly homework and demonstrating daily effort in class are critical to success in this course.

Algebra/Geometry I:

1.0 credit

Grades 8-12

Emphasis is placed upon applications of and connections between the five primary strands of mathematics. These strands include number sense, measurement, geometric sense, algebraic sense and probability/statistics. This course will also provide instruction and support for students preparing to take the state math test.

The content of Algebra/Geometry I coincides with the state expectations prepares students for college-track math courses at the high school level. Among the concepts addressed in this course are:

Algebra:

- Identifying, writing and solving expressions, inequalities, and equations (both linear and exponential)
- Functions, function notation, slope, and rate of change

Geometry and Measurement:

- Identifying and classifying two- and three-dimensional shapes
- Finding the perimeter, area, surface and volume of two- and three-dimensional shapes
- Identifying and drawing transformations on a coordinate grid
- Learning and applying the Pythagorean Theorem
- Tessellations
- Scale factors

Probability

- Understanding experimental vs. theoretical probability
- Understanding dependent vs. independent events
- Describing and representing compound events.

Numeration

- Square roots, exponents, positive and negative numbers, absolute value
- Using ratios, proportions, and percents to solve real-world problems.

Statistics, Data Analysis and Graphing:

- Determining which type of graph is appropriate to use in different situations
- Describing the distribution of data on a graph
- Finding central measures of tendency (mean, median and mode)
- Drawing conclusions from data and investigating bias
- Creating different types of graphs from data sets: bar graphs, line plots, histograms, circle graphs, stem-and-leaf plots, box-and-whisker plots, scatter plots
- Finding and interpreting positive and negative correlation in graphs.

In addition to mastering mathematical concepts, students will be expected to clearly articulate their mathematical understanding in a variety of ways, define and solve mathematical problems in different contexts, and relate mathematics to other disciplines and to the real world.

Students may receive a .5 math credit or a 1.0 math credit by meeting the following criteria:

1. Receive a grade of a “C” or higher each semester
2. Score a 75% or higher on each semester final exam.
3. Successful completion of homework and class work

7th and 8th Grade Elective Classes

Classes that do not have enough students forecasting for them may not be offered.

Chorus : Students explore various styles of music. Concerts are performed for parents and the community three times per year, at Christmas, midwinter, and spring. All students are welcome regardless of experience. **This is a semester elective.**

Music Appreciation: Everyone listens to music. Let's learn about why music is what it is. We will explore the history of music, learn to write music, and discover how music really makes a great movie even better. This is a great class for all students. **This is a quarter elective.**

Trojan Band : This is a 7th and 8th grade class. Students will be more active in learning new and advanced music. They will participate in concerts and competitions. **It is a year-long elective.**

Art I: Everyone can be an artist! Come learn how to create using both reality and your imagination. In this class you will learn to look at and analyze art in order to improve your own skills. Students will explore a number of different art media ranging from drawing, painting, ceramics, and more. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a semester elective.**

Art II: In this new art class, students will explore more in-depth art techniques as a vehicle of their own self-expression. This class will hone skill in both two dimensional (drawing, painting) and three dimensional art forms including ceramic sculpture, combining the best from our past ceramics program with many new exciting projects. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a semester elective.**

Advanced Art: *Teacher Approval Required.* Students of this class will take a more in-depth look at the art throughout the world. Students will use the skills they developed in beginning art to explore more complex art media including pen and ink, block printing, acrylic painting, and more! This class is only offered during the second semester of each year. Art I, Art II, or teacher approval is needed to take this course. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a semester elective.**

Money-Money: In one portion of class, students will learn how to budget their paychecks, pay bills, buy a car, pay rent and furnish an apartment, invest in the stock market, and apply for and use credit cards. Students will have a project where they own and operate their own business. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

7th and 8th Success: Major topics studied are organization and time management, study skills, career exploration, and homework support. 'Study hall' time is set aside each class period for students to work on homework, complete assignments, or engage in AR

reading. Most students will take this only one semester, but those needing additional support may have the opportunity to stay in the class all year. **This is a quarter elective.**

Math Success: This class will assist math students who have struggled with math the previous year. This class is designed to bring students up to grade level expectations by re-teaching the concepts taught in math class and to enhance basic math skills. Students will work individually, in groups, and one-on-one with the teacher. Students will review current assignments with the teacher and take practice quizzes that will prepare them for classroom assessments. The instructors will customize individual lessons for each student that will address their weaknesses on the previous WASL. Assessment will be based on student's ability to complete assigned work and their efforts in the classroom. **This is a quarter elective.**

Introduction to Spanish: *Must have a "C" or better in last semester of English.* This class is designed especially to help middle school students speak, read, and write the Spanish language. Picture association enables students to easily acquire the concepts and vocabulary taught. The Hispanic culture will be explored during the holidays of El Dia de los Muertos, Navidad, and Cinco de Mayo. Videos such as Toy Story, Beauty and the Beast, Finding Nemo, and Casi-Casi are shown in Spanish. This class is an introduction to Spanish and will be helpful if you are planning to take Spanish in high school. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Introduction to French: *Must have a "C" or better in last semester of English.* Parlez-vous Francais? Learn the basics of the French language, including numbers, days and weeks, basic phrases, and more. A good introduction if you are considering taking French in high school. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Brain Games: Create and solve word puzzles, word searches, crosswords, mazes, and a variety of other puzzles. This class is designed to increase critical thinking and problem solving skills. This is a PE class for your brain! **This is a quarter elective.**

Beginning Wood Shop: This elective class is an opportunity for students to learn about designing and creating a wood project. In the process students will learn the elements of safety, design, sketching, drafting, 3-d modeling, and finishing techniques. Safety with tools and safe shop practices are stressed. A computer controlled router is available for students to machine on wood. Safety glasses are required and there is a \$5.00 fee for the class to help offset the cost of materials consumed. Computer aided design (CAD) is used almost daily and industry standards are covered. This class usually has no home work and is hands on. Students that are highly motivated independent workers can be very successful. Everyone has the opportunity to leave this class with a quality wood project that they have created with their own hands. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Advanced Wood Shop: Students who have completed beginning wood shop and have received a B or better have the opportunity to take this class. Students will work on more

advanced wood projects and with more challenging tools. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Future Trades: This hands-on class will feature several opportunities for students to learn about various career and technical jobs. Areas to be covered but not limited to metal shop, small engine repair, horticulture, floral design, animal science, aquaculture, natural resources, and computer aided design (CAD). There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Horticulture/Floral/Greenhouse: This is a space-limited elective as it will only be offered in the spring. For those students who have completed future trades with a B or better, this class may be for you. Students will focus on the horticulture aspects of career and technical education including plant propagation, identification, and floral design. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Metal shop/mechanics/small engines: This is a space-limited elective. For those students who have completed future trades with a B or better, this class may be for you. Students will focus on metals, small engine construction and repair and the mechanical side of career and technical education. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course. **This is a quarter elective.**

Publications: This class will be responsible for producing Woodland Middle School's yearbook and newspaper. You will learn the basics of the journalism, editing, digital photography, and computer layout needed to produce such publications. If you have ever wondered what it would be like to be part of a newspaper staff, here is your chance! **This is a semester elective.**

Lego Robotics: *Teacher Approval Required.* Students will learn how to build and program robots that are made out of Lego Techniks pieces. This is a very open ended class, as there is no one correct way to build or program the robots, and there are thousands of correct answers to the problems that will be given. Many of the problems will come from either this year's Lego robotics competition or last year's Lego robotics competition. This work will be done in teams with no more than three members to a team. Some students may decide to try out for our Lego robotics team that competes at local and state competitions in the fall and winter. **This is a quarter elective.**

Advanced Lego Robotics: This is a class for students who have earned an A or B in the regular Lego Robotics course, or have special permission from the teacher. This class will pick up where the regular class ends. We will take a look at programming with variables, nesting switches, value switches, using data hubs with logic as well as numbers or text, more sophisticated types of line followers, as well as the use of gears, shafts, chain drives and universal joints to operate machines the students build to solve problems. **This is a quarter elective.**

Society and You: This course is designed to look at major social issues within the United States. Throughout the quarter we will discuss issues such as poverty, race and ethnicity, social structures, and marriage and family. This class is a great way to learn more about the way we interact as people, while also learning more about the world around you!

This is a quarter elective.

Current Events: This course is designed to make you aware of what is happening in the world around you. Students will delve into current political and social issues, utilizing various source documents and types of media. There is a \$5 materials fee for this course.

This is a quarter elective.

Creative Writing and Public Speaking: This class focuses on short stories, poetry, drama, and public speaking. Presentations are a must in this class. **This is a quarter elective.**

Leadership Class: *Application and Teacher Recommendation Required; 8th grade class is held first semester, 7th grade class is held 2nd semester.* Through large and small group activities, students will learn and develop a variety of useful skills as they plan and organize activities for the middle school. Students must fill out an application form to be considered for this class. **This is a quarter elective.**

Office Skills/Teacher's Aide : *Application and Office/Teacher Approval Required.*

Students learn and develop skills desired in a work/office setting. Students will be expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner while performing their office duties and maintain an order of confidentiality in the handling of all office information. *Students cannot miss more than 7 days of school the previous 2 quarters.* **This is a semester elective.**

Reading: *Teacher Recommendation Required.* This specialized reading course is intended for struggling students who are not meeting standards in reading. The class takes the place of an elective, so students take this class in addition to their core subject areas. It is designed to help students by identifying problem areas and then teaching the necessary skills to increase reading achievement. The class is also a form of support for learners who may be struggling in their regular English courses. This small class allows more personalized instruction for reading. Decoding skills as well as literary comprehension are taught through an explicit and systematic direct instruction approach.

Math Academy: *Teacher Recommendation Required.* This class is offered in addition to the Pre Algebra. It meets every other day and is designed to provide additional instruction, practice, and review. The goals include greater understanding, increased memory of concepts, and higher achievement. Small class size allows for questions to be answered and instruction to be personalized. Manipulatives and visual methods will enhance basic skills and problem solving strategies. This specialized math course is intended for students who might not have meet math standards in the past.

Electives

Full year / 1 unit	Semester / .5 unit	Quarter / .25 unit
<i>Trojan Band</i>	<i>Art I</i>	<i>Music Appreciation</i>
	<i>Art II</i>	<i>Money/Money</i>
	<i>Advanced Art</i>	<i>Success</i>
	<i>Chorus</i>	<i>Math Success</i>
	<i>Publications</i>	<i>Introduction to Spanish</i>
	<i>Lego Robotics</i>	<i>Introduction to French</i>
	<i>Adv. Lego Robotics</i>	<i>Brain Games</i>
	<i>Office Aide</i>	<i>Beginning Woodshop</i>
	<i>Classroom Aide</i>	<i>Advanced Woodshop</i>
	<i>PE (complete full year)</i>	<i>Future Trades</i>
		<i>Horticulture / Floral</i>
		<i>Society and You</i>
		<i>Current Events</i>
		<i>Creative Writing & Public Speaking</i>
		<i>Leadership</i>

Special Services

The core subjects of English (reading and writing) and math are provided in a smaller class setting according to student's individual learning needs.