

## *Fishers Junior High Scheduling Information*

### **Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

***2022-2023***

**The week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, seventh grade students, during the school day in BEST class, will choose their elective course selections.** In order to begin our scheduling process, we need an accurate count of enrollees for the elective classes. Course descriptions for all eighth-grade courses are included in this information.

Seventh grade math, science, and English teachers will be asked to make recommendations for placement for the eighth grade. Students currently in Advanced Math 7 will be recommended for Math 8 (Pre-Algebra) or Honors Algebra I. Students currently in Honors Algebra I will take Honors Geometry next year (pending teacher recommendation). Students currently in Math 7 will take Math 8 (Pre-Algebra). English and science teachers will recommend students for placement in the advanced sections of eighth grade English and science. Students will receive high school credit in Honors Algebra and Honors Geometry. If you have questions concerning how your child will be recommended for math, science and English, please contact your child's math, science or English teacher.

A high school World Language Level I course is offered as an elective to those students who intend to study five years of World Language prior to graduating high school. Students will have a choice between French, German and Spanish. Both regular World Language and Honors Prep World Language will be offered. **Both classes will be taught and graded as high school world language classes. Students will receive high school credit for the World Language course taken in eighth grade and semester grades will become a part of the student's high school GPA.** Successful completion of the class in eighth grade qualifies students for the next level of their chosen language in ninth grade. The current world language requirements for the Core 40 with Academic Honors Diploma require that students earn 6 or 8 credits in world language. **Only serious World Language students should sign up for High School World Language for 8<sup>th</sup> grade as students who are not successful during first semester will be removed and placed into an English Composition class for second semester.**

Students will be submitting their elective choices on their iPad during the school day at FJH. If you have questions, or would like to make changes to your child's course requests once they've been submitted, please contact the guidance office. Please remember that your student is choosing these courses for the entire school year. **Schedule changes will not be made after May 20, 2022.**

## *Fishers Junior High School*

### *8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2022-2023*

**English 8** – The major areas studied in English 8 are literature, writing, and oral communication. Grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary are integrated throughout the course in all areas. The Magic Lens approach to grammar will be used. Students will delve into the world of poetry, novels, short stories, and drama. Students will participate in debates, drama, historical fiction studies, oral presentations, essays, creative writing, reader response, research papers and long-term projects. Writing standards are stressed more heavily in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English.

**Advanced English 8** – The Pre-AP handbook will be used extensively at the high school level and some of its content is expected to be mastered while in junior high. This includes but is not limited to numerous literary devices (irony, tone, mood, allegory, figurative language, theme, point of view) and certain AP skills such as how to mark a text and an introduction to dialectical journals. A wide range of texts, including many that are above grade level, will be used to teach these concepts, but in Advanced English 8 a greater emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, higher level questions and literary analysis. There is an expectation that students will be asked to go above grade level when appropriate. Writing standards will be stressed more heavily in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced English class. The rigor of the course will be in the relevancy of the tests and the differentiation of instruction that is implemented by the teacher. *It is the expectation of HSE schools that students in Advanced English classes in junior high will continue to the honors level and AP courses in high school. Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

**English Composition** – The writing process is the major area of focus in this course. Grammar, mechanics and oral communication are integrated throughout the course. Students will engage in a study of journalism, literature circles, essay writing and presenting oral essays. World Language students will not take composition. This is a semester course.

**Journalism** – Through this course students will gain an understanding of the principles and practice of journalism. Students will learn how to recognize good stories, gather facts through interviewing and research, develop sources, craft engaging leads and satisfying endings and create news and feature articles that inform and entertain readers. During the second half of the course, students will put skills learned to use to create a classroom newspaper with each student responsible for different kinds of articles. This is a semester course.

**Film Theory** – Students will analyze and write about film. Students will use movies as a lens to look at fiction and nonfiction literature in a new way. By learning specific techniques, students will see how film is not just a spectacle, but also a craft, just like writing. This class is not a “read the book, watch the movie” class. Films will range from G to PG-13. This is a semester course. *Parent consent will be required to participate in the course.*

**High School World Language** – Students will have a choice between French, German and Spanish. Both regular High School World Language and Honors Prep High School World Language will be offered. The courses will be taught and graded as **high school world language courses** and are aimed at students who intend to study five years of World Language prior to graduation from high school. High School Honors World Language will follow the same topics as the regular level; however, the honors course will progress at a faster pace and will allow for a more in-depth study of vocabulary. Successful completion of high school world language classes in 8<sup>th</sup> grade qualifies the student for the next level of their chosen language in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. **Students will receive non-weighted high school credit for both regular and honors.**

**Math 8** – The eighth-grade math class prepares students to take Algebra I in their freshman year. The curriculum consists of patterns and measurements in geometry, algebraic concepts, problem solving, real numbers (rational and irrational), probability and statistics, coordinate graphing, solving equations and inequalities, percent and applications, and number theory.

**Honors Algebra I** – This is a high school Algebra I class. After successful completion of this course, students will go into Honors Geometry as freshmen. The curriculum consists of real numbers, variable expressions, linear equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring polynomials, probability and statistics, algebraic fractions and fractional equations. **Students will receive high school credit for this course.** *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

**Honors Geometry** – This course covers primarily plane geometry with some solid geometry topics. It includes deductive and inductive reasoning; the ideas of proof and logic are stressed. Properties and relationships of geometric figures including the study of angles, lines, planes, triangles, parallel lines, circles, coordinate geometry, trigonometric ratios, polygons, and special drawings are all included. **Students will receive high school credit for this course.** *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

**Science 8** – In eighth grade science, students will study chemistry and physics. Students will gain a better understanding of the different concepts involving chemistry and physics through a hands-on approach. Major projects include the egg-drop project, the Rube Goldberg project, an element database project, an element brochure, and a formula spreadsheet project.

**Advanced Science 8** – In eighth grade science, students will study chemistry and physics. Students will gain a better understanding of the different concepts involving chemistry and physics through a hands-on approach. Major projects include the egg-drop project and the Rube Goldberg project. A student in this class should have a strong interest in science, be willing to work daily in preparation for the next day, be a critical thinker in the science world, be able to apply concepts and skills being taught, and utilize higher level thinking skills while acquiring knowledge. *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

**Social Studies 8** – Eighth grade social studies will focus on United States history from the original inhabitants of North America through the reconstruction of the South after the civil war. As we chronologically work our way through history, we pause to look a little more in depth at our Constitution and election process. Geography is incorporated throughout the year.

**Art 8** – Students will have the opportunity to work with painting and drawing, as well as plaster cast masks and sculpture, clay sculpting, using the potter's wheel, printmaking and other creative experiences. Students will also learn about a variety of artists and their art. Sketchbook assignments will be used to supplement art projects.

#### **Digital Design**

Digital Design is geared toward highly motivated, independent, and creative students. The course teaches students about graphic design in marketing, advertising, and publishing. Students will be introduced to art and graphic design vocabulary as well as layout, typography, and photography applications and will use these concepts to create our school's yearbook. By producing this publication, students learn about photography, cropping, design, computer applications (Adobe Photoshop, Online Design), proofreading, captions, headlines, and writing creative copy. In addition, students learn important life skills such as organization, meeting strict deadlines and working in and with a team. Students must be able to work before and after-school. Students should also have strong writing skills. *Digital Design is a year-long course for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.*

**Art Survey** – Students will create both two and three-dimensional art projects. Drawing, painting and papier-mâché are some of the media explored. This is a semester course.

**Choir** – Eighth grade choir opportunities consist of but are not limited to mixed boys and girls chorus, honors girls chorus and an honors mixed chorus. Evening performances may be required for all performing choirs as well as ISSMA large group contest, and opportunities to sing the National Anthem at athletic events. *Enrollment in some groups is through audition.*

**Band** – **Symphonic Band** is for band students who display leadership qualities through practice habits, playing skill, and daily class work ethic. Performances include Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts as well as band contest and solo and ensemble contest. *The junior high directors select membership.* **Concert & Varsity Band** are intermediate groups. Performances include Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts as well as band contest and solo and ensemble contest. *The junior high school directors select membership.* **Beginning Band** is for students wishing to learn a band instrument. The first few weeks will consist of instrument try outs and selection. Students will perform at a Winter and Spring Concert.

**Orchestra** – There are four orchestra classes – **Allegro Orchestra** is for beginning orchestra students and offers beginning instruction on violin, viola, cello and string base instruments. **Symphonic Orchestra** is for intermediate orchestra students who already have an understanding of basic music reading, instrument assembly and maintenance, correct playing position and sound tone production. **Chamber and Philharmonic Orchestra** are the advanced string groups and are comprised of students who have two or more years of playing experience. These classes concentrate on advanced technical and expressive skills in an advanced ensemble-focused setting. All orchestra students will participate in regular concerts and string activities outside of school (Contest, Regional Orchestra Festival, etc.). *The junior high school director will determine placement.*

**General Music** – This class provides students with opportunities to sample hand chimes, keyboards, and guitars. Music history will also be visited. This is a semester course.

**Wellness** – This year-long course will attempt to improve the health of the whole person – physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. All Wellness students must wear a P.E. uniform for the physical education component of Wellness. Wellness will cover units on consumer health, personal wellness, growth and development, the body systems, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and AIDS prevention. Wellness lessons will also include abstinence and substance abuse. Students enrolled in World Language will have a semester of Wellness.

**Engineering and Technology Education** – Tech Ed is a hands-on, project-based class introducing the engineering design process to students. Students will design and build a variety of mock-ups and scaled models as they solve various design challenges presented to them by “clients”. Students will use a variety of tools, equipment and laptop computers to explore transportation, construction, manufacturing and communications systems. This is a semester choice.

**Computer Science** – This introductory course will present the foundational concepts and skills of computer science. Students will begin as consumers of technology and end the course as creators of technology. They will use computers in problem-solving situations as well as engage in creative unplugged activities. Projects will include creation of animations, art, music, and games, as well as the use of programming language to maneuver robots in the physical world. This is a semester course.

**Business Entrepreneurship** – This course provides students with concepts and real-life business situations that facilitate the development of competencies required for success in all academic areas and in real-world contexts. Students will operate an actual student-based business and learn the different aspects it takes to do so. The major topics covered in class will include business communications, marketing, economics, entrepreneurship and the research of careers. This is a semester course.

**Family and Consumer Science–FACS**–Topics in this course include but are not limited to kitchen safety and sanitation, food preparation skills, nutrition, food guide pyramid and clothing care. This class also covers topics associated with childcare. *Priority for this course will be given to incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students who have already taken the course as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, are not eligible as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader.*

*Sample Schedules Attached*

# Sample Schedules – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

(Courses will not be in this order.)

<b>Without High School World Language</b>	
<b><u>No Fine Arts</u></b>	<b><u>Fine Arts</u></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. English</li> <li>2. Math</li> <li>3. Science</li> <li>4. Social Studies</li> <li>5. Wellness – Year</li> <li>6. Composition – Sem / AND</li> </ol> <p>Electives – Choose 3            Art Survey – Sem / Computer Sci – Sem / FACS - Sem            Bus Ownership – Sem / Film Theory – Sem            Gen Mus – Sem / Journalism – Sem / Tech Ed – Sem</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. English</li> <li>2. Math</li> <li>3. Science</li> <li>4. Social Studies</li> <li>5. Wellness - Year</li> <li>6. Fine Arts Electives – (Choose One)                Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design – Year</li> <li>7. Composition – Sem / AND</li> </ol> <p>Electives – Choose 1            Art Survey – Sem / Computer Sci – Sem / FACS - Sem            Bus Ownership – Sem / Film Theory – Sem            Gen Mus – Sem / Journalism – Sem / Tech Ed – Sem</p>
<b>With High School World Language</b>	
<b><u>No Fine Arts</u></b>	<b><u>Fine Arts</u></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. English</li> <li>2. Math</li> <li>3. Science</li> <li>4. Social Studies</li> <li>5. World Language</li> <li>6. Wellness – Sem / AND</li> </ol> <p>Electives – Choose 3            Art Survey – Sem / Computer Sci – Sem / FACS - Sem            Bus Ownership – Sem / Film Theory – Sem            Gen Mus – Sem / Journalism – Sem / Tech Ed – Sem</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. English</li> <li>2. Math</li> <li>3. Science</li> <li>4. Social Studies</li> <li>5. World Language</li> <li>6. Fine Arts Elective – (Choose One)                Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design – Year</li> <li>7. Wellness – Sem / AND</li> </ol> <p>Electives – Choose 1            Art Survey – Sem / Computer Sci – Sem / FACS - Sem            Bus Ownership – Sem / Film Theory – Sem            Gen Mus – Sem / Journalism – Sem / Tech Ed – Sem</p>

**Special Notes:**

1. Advanced courses by teacher recommendation.
2. English/Math Labs (May be required based on iLearn scores).
3. Resource Classes (determined at case conferences).