

FISHERS JUNIOR HIGH



**Fishers Junior High
13257 Cumberland Road
Fishers, IN 46038**

Web Address: <https://fjh.hseschools.org>

Office: 317-594-4150 Fax: 317-594-4159

Fishers Junior High School

Mission Statement

Fishers Junior High School, in partnership with the community, is committed to academic excellence and talent development in a safe, supportive environment. It is our mission that every student will possess the academic and social skills necessary to be a responsible citizen and a life-long learner in a rapidly changing, diverse world.

FJHS Administration and Support Staff

Principal – Dr. Crystal Thorpe
Guidance Director – Basel Maarouf
Athletic Director – Scott Timmons
Treasurer – Robin Passwater
School Nurse – Lisa Keefe
ISR Secretary – Lori Case

Assistant Principal – Tige Butts
Guidance Counselor – Kitti Gal
Office Manager – Valerie Ax
Guidance Secretary – Kim Broughton
Main Office Secretary – Debbie Smith
Cafeteria Supervisor – Angela King



ACADEMICS

Curriculum Focus

The students of Fishers Junior High participate in the state mandated middle school curriculum. We believe that regardless of their post-secondary goals, students who leave FJH should be prepared for the rigor and challenge of high school course work and beyond. With this as our benchmark, we believe we are preparing our students for success.

Teaming

English, science and social studies teachers are teamed in the 7th grade for the purpose of curriculum coordination and student individualization. Each team of three teachers has a common group of students. English and social studies teachers are teamed in the 8th grade.



Scheduling and Schedule Changes

Schedule changes may be made through **June 1**. After this date, changes will be made only due to special circumstances and if class size and master schedule will allow. Schedules are not changed after school starts. **Students and parents should carefully consider all course requests prior to June 1.** Requests for specific teachers or teams will not be honored.



Grading

Fishers Junior High is on a nine-week grading system with midterm grades issued at 4 ½ weeks and report cards issued at the end of each 9 weeks. Parents and students may access midterms and report cards on Skyward. Students who achieve all A's on their report card will receive High Honor Roll status. Students who achieve all A's and B's on their report card will receive Honor Roll status. The grading scale used at FJH is the corporation-wide grading scale.



99.50 – 100	A+
92.50 – 99.49	A
89.50 – 92.49	A-
86.50 – 89.49	B+
82.50 – 86.49	B
79.50 – 82.49	B-
76.50 – 79.49	C+
72.50 – 76.49	C
69.50 – 72.49	C-
66.50 – 69.49	D+
62.50 – 66.49	D
59.50 – 62.49	D-
59.49 – and below	F

Advanced Courses

Courses at the Advanced/Honors level are offered in the disciplines of Mathematics, Science, and English. These courses are advanced in course material, pace and rigor. Students must meet the criteria for enrollment in advanced courses as well as receive teacher recommendations for enrollment in the courses.

ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR

Extracurricular/Athletic Opportunities

Participation in the athletic and extracurricular programs at FJHS is encouraged. These programs provide our students the opportunity to provide leisure time activities, to promote personal physical development, to gain leadership experience, to receive intensified educational experiences, and to have fun with fellow students and teachers. Students wishing to participate in athletics must have a physical examination and have an IHSA physical form completed and on file with the Athletic Director prior to their first practice.

Athletic/Extracurricular Eligibility Policy

A student who receives 2 F's for the nine-week grading period is ineligible for the current season and for the next grading period. Students will also become ineligible immediately with 2 F's on their mid-term report during the season until that mid-term grade is at a passing level.

Athletic Offerings:

Fall

7th grade football

7th grade volleyball

Boys' cross-country

Cheerleading

Girls' golf

8th grade football

8th grade volleyball

Girls' cross-country

Boys' and girls' tennis

Winter

7th grade boys' basketball

7th grade girls' basketball

Wrestling

8th grade boys' basketball

8th grade girls' basketball

Cheerleading

Spring

Boys' and girls' track

Boys' golf

Music/Drama Opportunities:

Jazz Band

Fall Play/Spring Musical

Pit Orchestra

Pep Band

Winter Guard

Strolling Strings

Clubs/Extracurriculars:

Student Council

MATHCOUNTS

Academic Team

GSA

GEMS

National Junior Honor Society

Running Club

Fitness Council

Charger TV

Scrap booking

Speech Team

Best Buddies

Make a Difference Club

Campus Life

FJH Dance Co.

Kaleidoscope Club

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Business Information Technology

In this nine-week course, students will improve their computer applications skills, using the touch-type method while utilizing Office 365 applications such as Word, Excel, Power Point, and Publisher. In addition, students will explore Computer Science and Coding, as well as basic concepts of Personal Finance. Projects will include activities which integrate these concepts and allow students to apply their newly acquired skills to real-world situations. *This course is required for 7th grade.*

Computer Science

This introductory course will present the foundational concepts 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 class for 8th graders.*

Business Entrepreneurship/ FJH Shirts

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 class for 8th graders.*

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Composition 7

This course will focus on the skills necessary to effectively communicate ideas in writing in a grammatically correct manner. Students will conduct research for a research paper and utilize the computer lab to gain experience in researching and word processing skills. Students will also participate in at least one oral presentation. *This is a one-semester course.*

English 7

The major areas studied in English 7 are grammar, literature, and vocabulary. Grammar and vocabulary are integrated throughout the course and are used in various forms of writing and speech as well. Seventh grade teachers will use the Magic Lens approach to grammar. Students will delve into the world of novels, short stories, fables, and poetry. Students will participate in drama, write literature responses, participate in group discussions, give speeches, write essays and write their own creative stories.

Advanced English 7

The introduction of the Pre-AP Handbook occurs in 7th grade Advanced English. This 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, point of view, theme, figurative language,) 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 7 a greater emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, higher level questions and literary analysis. The rigor of the course will be in the relevancy of the tests and the differentiation of instruction 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 by teacher recommendation.*

English 8

The major areas studied are literature, writing, and oral communication. Grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary are integrated throughout the course in all areas. The teachers will use the Magic Lens approach to grammar. 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.

Advanced English 8

The Pre-AP handbook will be used extensively at the high school level and some content is expected to be mastered in junior high. This includes, but not limited to numerous literary devices (irony, tone, mood, allegory, figurative language, theme, point of view) and certain AP skills. A wide range of texts will be used to teach these concepts. In Advanced English 8, a greater emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills, higher level questions and literary analysis. Writing standards will be stressed more heavily in the Advanced English class. The rigor of the course will be in the relevancy of the tests and the differentiation of instruction 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 by teacher recommendation.*

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. *Journalism is a semester course for 8th graders.*



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 class for 8th graders and will require parent consent to participate.*



FINE ARTS

Art 7

Students engage in two and three-dimensional projects. They will explore drawing and painting as well as printmaking, clay, papier-mâché and other media. This class will offer various opportunities for students to express themselves creatively including sketchbook assignments. Experience with web quests, digital photography and learning about and discussing the work of professional artists will also be a part of this class. *Art 7 is a year-long class.*

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 have the opportunity to learn about and discuss various influential artists and their art. Sketchbooks will be used to supplement art projects and offer students increased opportunities to explore their creativity. *Art 8 is a year-long class.*

Digital Design

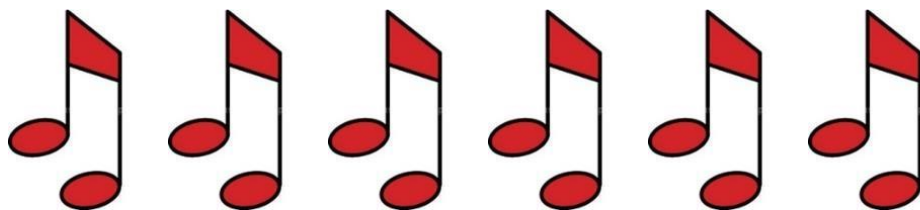
Digital Design is geared toward highly motivated, independent, and creative students. The course teaches students about graphic design in marketing, advertising, and publishing. Students will be introduced to art and graphic design vocabulary as well as layout, typography, and photography applications 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 8th graders.*

Art Survey

Students will have the opportunity to create both two and three-dimensional art projects. Drawing, painting and papier-mâché are some of the media explored. Students will learn about art created by others in class activities and discussions. *Art Survey is a nine-week course for 7th graders and a semester course for 8th graders.*

Band

Symphonic Band: For advanced seventh and eighth grade 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. Students from this band may audition for extra-curricular groups such as Pep Band and Jazz Band. *The intermediate and junior high school directors select membership. Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*



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Concert Band & Varsity Band: These intermediate level groups are for seventh and eighth grade students who want to continue an instrumental musical experience in junior high school. Performances include Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts as well as band contest and solo and ensemble contest. Students from this band may audition for extra-curricular groups such as Pep Band and Jazz Band. This group provides leadership opportunities for players at an intermediate level. *The intermediate and junior high school directors select membership. Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

Beginning Band: This course is offered to seventh graders who want to learn how to play a band instrument. The first two to three weeks will be instrument try-outs and selection of instruments. Students will learn the fundamentals of wind and percussion instrument playing and will perform at the Winter and Spring Concerts. Students should consider taking this course in the eighth grade only if they have a strong desire to learn to play an instrument. *Band is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

Choir

Honors Choir – Charger Sound: Students who display leadership qualities in sight-reading, part singing, and vocal technique are selected for this group by audition. Performances include three evening school concerts, ISSMA large group contest, ISSMA solo and ensemble contest, and opportunities to sing the National Anthem at athletic events. *Choir is a year-long class.*

Girls Honors Choir – Charger Sensation: Girls who display leadership qualities in sight-reading, part singing, and vocal technique are selected for this group by audition. Performances include three evening school concerts, ISSMA large group contest, ISSMA solo and ensemble contest, and opportunities to sing the National Anthem at athletic events. *Choir is a year-long class.*

General Chorus – Voices / Melody: Seventh and eighth grade students who display an interest in singing and a desire to become a better singer are selected for this group by audition. Performances include two evening concerts, ISSMA solo and ensemble contest, and MENC choir festival. *Choir is a year-long class.*

General Music

In this course, students will explore the basics of music theory and history through the means of hands-on experiences with keyboards, hand chimes, the singing voice, and rhythm instruments. *General Music is a nine-week course for 7th graders and a semester course for 8th graders.*

Orchestra

Fishers Allegro and Symphonic: This string orchestra is comprised of second year and beginning students. This class will play regular concerts and participate in string activities outside of school (Contest, Regional Orchestra Festival, etc.). *Orchestra is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

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Fishers Chamber – This string orchestra is comprised of third-year students. This class will play regular concerts and participate in string activities outside of school (Contest, Regional Orchestra Festival, etc.). *Orchestra is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

Fishers Philharmonic: This is the most advanced string group. It is comprised of students who have three or more years of playing experience. They have completed Book II of Essential Elements or its equivalent. They are able to play sixteenth notes, syncopated rhythms, 6/8 meter, Scales and Arpeggios in C, A, D, G, F, Bb major and the related minors. They must be playing in tune with a good position with enough facility to play Level 2 music. During the year, they will begin to play in positions and learn to use vibrato and extend the repertoire to Level 3 arrangements. They will play regular concerts and participate in string activities outside of the school (Contest, Regional Orchestra Festival, etc.) in both large and small ensembles. *Orchestra is a year-long class and requires the rental of an instrument.*

MATH DEPARTMENT

Math 7

The curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Applications of each set of numbers
- Using problem solving strategies
- Number theory
- Algebraic expressions and equations
- Geometric definitions and concepts
- Uses of measurements of plane and solid geometric figures
- Percentages and their applications
- Statistics, graphs and probability
- Operations of whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers

Advanced Math 7

Seventh grade advanced math class prepares the students to take high school Algebra I in eighth grade. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to:

- Algebraic concepts
 - Solving equations with whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers
 - Graphing algebraic equations
 - Percentages and their applications
 - Geometric definitions and concepts
 - Uses of measurements of plane and solid geometric figures
 - Square roots, Pythagorean Theorem and its applications, Trigonometric ratios
- Placement is by teacher recommendation.*

Math 8

The eighth-grade math class prepares students to take Algebra I in their freshman year. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Operations of whole numbers, integers, fractions, and decimals
- Number theory and real numbers (rational and irrational)
- Algebraic concepts
- Solving equations and inequalities
- Coordinate graphing
- Percentages and their applications
- Problem solving strategies
- Probability and statistics
- Patterns and measurements in Geometry



Honors Algebra I

This is a high school Algebra I class. Students will go directly into Honors Geometry should plan on taking math all four years of high school. The curriculum consists of the topics listed below.

- Real numbers
- Variable expressions
- Linear equations
- Polynomials and factoring polynomials
- Algebraic fractions and fractional equations
- Functions
- Systems of linear equations
- Probability and statistics

This is a very rigorous class, recommended only for students who have been very successful in Advanced Math 7. *Students will receive **high school credit** upon completion of Honors Algebra I. Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

Honors Geometry – 8th Grade

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** upon completion of Honors Geometry in 8th grade. Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*

PRACTICAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Family and Consumer Science - FACS

Topics in this course include but are not limited to clothing care (how to sew on a button and to do the laundry). Students will construct a gym bag using the sewing machine. Students will also learn about kitchen safety and sanitation, food preparation skills (cooking and eating), nutrition, and the food guide pyramid. This class also covers topics associated with child care. *FACS is a semester class.*

Engineering and Technology Education

The Engineering and Technology Education course is a hands-on, project based class introducing the engineering design process. 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 use a variety of tools, equipment and laptop computers to explore transportation, manufacturing, construction and communications systems. *Engineering and Technology is a nine-week course for 7th graders and a semester course for 8th graders.*

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Science 7

Topics covered include cells, the scientific method, what is a Scientist? and environmental science. An in-depth study of plants and animals is also covered as well as how these fit into different biomes. Students will be studying the different concepts in a lab setting which will help to develop their scientific thought. A special opportunity is offered in attending a three-day, two-night camp near Lafayette, Indiana. Under the direction of teachers and camp counselors, students complete a wide assortment of environmental and ecological activities.

Advanced Science 7

Topics covered include cells, the scientific method, what is a Scientist? and environmental science. An in-depth study of plants and animals is also covered as well as how these fit into different biomes. This class will require students to be independent thinkers, handle a faster pace and utilize higher thinking skills. *Placement is based on grades and teacher recommendation.*



Science 8

Students will gain a better understanding of the concepts involving chemistry and physics. Hands on projects include the egg-drop project, Rube Goldberg project, an element database, and a formula spreadsheet project.

Advanced Science 8

Students will study chemistry and physics. Students will gain 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. Students in this course should have a strong interest in science and 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 DEPARTMENT

Social Studies 7

Seventh grade social studies will explore the Eastern World from ancient to modern times. Major civilizations and historical events (e.g. Ancient Egypt, Japan, Indus River civilizations, Mesopotamia, Russian revolution, Gandhi, Mandela, South Africa, colonization, etc.) are studied through lectures, small group projects, individual projects, readings, and subject analysis. In addition, students work to gain map skills, historical literature analysis, and writing skills.

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 in depth at our Constitution and election process. Geography is incorporated throughout the year. A wide variety of instructional tactics are utilized.

WELLNESS DEPARTMENT

Wellness 7 and 8

This course will improve the health of the whole person – physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. Wellness will cover units on consumer health, personal wellness, growth and development, the body systems, communicable and noncommunicable diseases, and AIDS prevention. Wellness lessons will also include abstinence and substance abuse. *Wellness is a year-long class. Eighth graders enrolled in World Language will have a semester of Wellness.*



WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

High School World Language

Eighth graders will have a choice between French, German and Spanish. Both regular World Language and Honors Prep 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. 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 8th grade qualifies the student for the next level of their chosen language in 9th grade. *Students will receive **non-weighted high school credit** for both regular and honors and the grade will become a part of the **high school GPA**.*



Display your *Charger PRIDE* . . .

Personal responsibility. . .

- Organized, prepared, and punctual
- Accountable for own actions

Respectful . . .

- Towards yourself
- Towards others

Integrity . . .

- Honest
- Trustworthy

Discipline and self-control . . .

- Meet expectations
- Make good choices

Engaged . . .

- In your learning
- In making FJH a better place

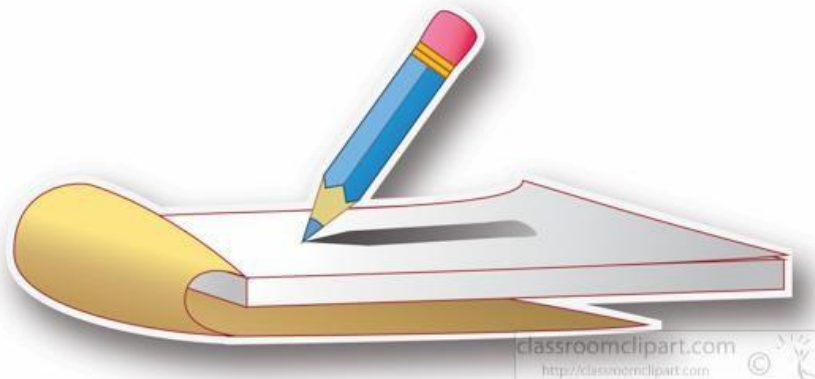
Take *CHARGE* of your success!!

SAMPLE 7th GRADE SCHEDULES

Scheduling Options – 7th Grade Sample

(Courses will not be in this order.)

<u>Family Consumer Science Option</u>	<u>Fine Arts Option</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English2. Math3. Science4. Social Studies5. Wellness (Year)6. Composition (Sem) and Family Consumer Science (Sem)7. Business (9 wks) General Music (9 wks) Art Survey (9 wks) Tech Ed (9 wks)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English2. Math3. Science4. Social Studies5. Wellness (Year)6. Fine Arts Electives: (Choose One) Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art (Year)7. Composition (Sem) and Business (9 wks) General Music (9 wks) or Art Survey (9 wks) (depending on fine arts choice)



SAMPLE 8th GRADE SCHEDULES

Scheduling Options – 8th Grade Sample

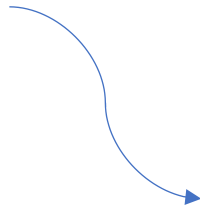
(Courses will not be in this order.)

Without High School World Language	
<u>No Fine Arts</u>	<u>Fine Arts</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English2. Math3. Science4. Social Studies5. Wellness (Year)6. Composition (Sem) and7. <p><u>Choose – 3 Electives</u></p> <p>Engineering and Technology (Sem) Art Survey (Sem) Gen Music (Sem) Film Theory (Sem) Journalism (Sem) Computer Science (Sem) Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem) FACS (Sem)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English2. Math3. Science4. Social Studies5. Wellness (Full Year)6. Fine Arts Elective: (Choose One) Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design (Year)7. <p><u>Choose – 2 Electives</u></p> <p>Engineering and Technology (Sem) Art Survey (Sem) Gen Music (Sem) Film Theory (Sem) Journalism (Sem) Computer Science (Sem) Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem) FACS (Sem)</p>

With High School World Language

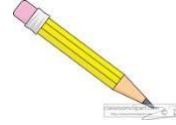
<u>No Fine Arts</u>	<u>Fine Arts</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. English 2. Math 3. Science 4. Social Studies 5. High School World Language 6. Wellness (Sem) and 7. <p><u>Choose – 3 Electives</u></p> <p>Engineering and Technology (Sem) Art Survey (Sem) Gen Music (Sem) Film Theory (Sem) Journalism (Sem) Computer Science (Sem) Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem) FACS (Sem)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. English 2. Math 3. Science 4. Social Studies 5. High School World Language 6. Fine Arts Elective: (Choose One) Band/Choir/Orchestra/Art/Digital Design (Year) 7. Wellness (Sem) and <p><u>Choose – 1 Elective</u></p> <p>Engineering and Technology (Sem) Art Survey (Sem) Gen Music (Sem) Film Theory (Sem) Journalism (Sem) Computer Science (Sem) Bus Entrepreneurship (Sem) FACS (Sem)</p>

MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Junior High Checklist

- **Students should focus on classes and stay on top of homework assignments. Grades in Junior High can affect which courses students can take in high school.**
- **Review the Core 40 High School diploma options.**
- **Students should get involved in clubs, sports, or the arts. It's a great way to expand interests and prepare for the future.**
- **Parents and students need to start thinking about college and post-secondary goals NOW.**
- **Begin gathering information about colleges and careers through informal college visits and career inventories.**
- **Visit www.learnmoreindiana.org for tips on doing well in school now and how to reach postsecondary goals later.**
- **Read *Learn More Indiana* mini magazines from cover to cover. (Provided to students at school and available at www.learnmoreindiana.org).**



At FJHS

We Practice ...

**Character Skills
for Success!**

Honesty . Caring . Respect . Responsibility . Self-Control . Trustworthiness . Determination . Forgiveness . Fairness



FISHERS JUNIOR HIGH