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Planning Your Education

Your school provides this course curriculum guide as a means of assisting students and parents in understanding and planning their course of study. Students are encouraged to carefully select related arts courses during the registration process. Your school's guidance counselors and teachers stand ready to assist them. Parents are invited and encouraged to actively participate by assisting their student.

Related arts classes are scheduled based upon student requests. However, due to schedule conflicts and changes in course offerings, the staff cannot guarantee that students will be scheduled for all courses they request. In addition, be aware that the school builds a master schedule and employs teachers based on students' requests; therefore, schedule changes will only be considered on a very limited basis.

Online Registration

Online Registration was implemented in 2004. It allows parents and students to request related arts courses for the next school year from home via the Internet. Families who do not have access to the Internet will be given opportunities to use school computers to register online. Parents and students should understand that requesting a related arts course through online registration does not guarantee that the student is placed in the course the next school year. Final placement in a course is dependent upon enrollment, scheduling feasibility, and teacher allocation. Parents without Internet access at home will receive a printed copy of the course curriculum guide by request. The window for students to select related arts courses online is posted by the school on the school's website and in parent newsletters. Schools will provide instructions on accessing the online registration tool.

Promotion Criteria for Grades Six, Seven, and Eight

Criterion 1: Students in grades six through eight are expected to learn, at a minimum, curriculum standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and meet attendance requirements.

Criterion 2: The student earned a minimum average grade of 60% in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies (if language arts is taught as a separate subject in grades 6-8, the English language arts grade will be determined by the mean of the yearly average of reading and language arts.)

End of Year Promotion Status

The following are summary designation and descriptors for end-of-year promotion status of students in grades six-eight.

Promoted – The student met all promotion criteria. The one exception is that students who fail a high school credit bearing course in middle school are promoted but must retake the course. Enrollment in these credit bearing courses will be determined by the district criteria.

Promoted - Summer School Required - The student failed to meet the criteria for one or two core academic areas, but successful performance in summer school for any deficient area was met.

IGPs, Career Clusters and Personal Pathways to Success

The South Carolina Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA) requires school districts to develop a curriculum organized around the career cluster system—16 career clusters, schools of study, and majors. In the organization of the district curriculum around the career cluster system, Greenville County Schools divided the 16 career clusters into six schools of study. These six schools of study include School of Arts, Communication and Information Technology; Business, Marketing and Management; Environmental and Agricultural Systems; Health Science; Human Resources and Services; and Industrial Manufacturing and Engineering Systems. Under each school of study a student will find related career clusters. The career clusters are then broken down into academic focus areas (majors) that students may choose based on interests and skills.

Personal Pathways to Success is the name given to this reorganization of the curriculum which is designed to help students take control of planning for their futures. Personal Pathways to Success provides the solid mix of academic and technical skills students need to compete in the global economy. It gives students a reason to achieve in school by connecting success in school with success in life. It maintains South Carolina's core academic requirements while opening up pathways to success for students no matter where they lead – to two-year colleges, four-year colleges or universities, the military, or directly into the workforce. Students, parents, and counselors work together to develop Individual Graduation Plans (IGP) that specify a student's cluster, academic focus (major), post-secondary goals, planned high school activities, and planned out-of-class activities. The Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) is a document that states the student's intentions related to courses that are taken during high school. **The IGP is initiated in the 8th grade with the choice of a cluster area. When the IGP is updated in the 10th grade, the student will select an academic focus (major) within their cluster of choice.** Students will utilize Naviance, a comprehensive college and career readiness tool, to help them align their strengths and interests to their career goals. The courses that are taken are determined by the student's interests. It can be modified over time as interests and skills develop or change. The IGP is like a road map to the future: if the student stays on course, the student will reach the destination – graduation – with all the courses, skills and experience needed to take his education or career to the next level. Each year the student, parents/guardians, and counselors will review and update the plans for the coming year. Switching clusters or majors is okay -- as the high school years progress and the student learns more about his interests and skills there are bound to be changes in choice of coursework.

Charles Townes Center

Middle School

The following pages contain information about course selection for 7th and 8th grade students. 7th and 8th grade students all take 5 core academic classes, including Spanish. Students also take 2 periods of related arts classes everyday.

	7th Grade	8th Grade
Math	CTC Math 7 Or Algebra I Honors	Algebra I Honors Or Geometry Honors
English Language Arts	English GT 7	English I Honors
Social Studies	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 8
Science	Science 7	Science 8
Spanish	Spanish I CP	Spanish I CP (repeat) OR Spanish II Honors

Rising 7th Graders

Academic Classes:

You can view the course descriptions for all academic and related arts classes in our course catalog.

All 7th graders will be placed in the same English, Science, Social Studies, and Spanish classes. Math placement will be based on district criteria.

English GT 7
Science 7
Social Studies 7
Spanish I CP

Math:

CTC Math 7
Algebra I Honors

Related Arts Classes:

Students will receive a related arts ranking sheet and will rank their related arts in order of preference.

If you are interested in taking a year long class (Band or Strings) you will indicate that on the related arts ranking sheet.

We offer virtual options for students to earn their high school computer science and/or fine arts credits through the Greenville County Virtual School. These classes are taken at school during the students' regularly scheduled day but are taught virtually. Due to the virtual format, these courses require a great amount of independence and self-motivation.

One semester of PE/Health is required each year (6th-8th). A second semester can be requested by choosing Life Fitness.

Rising 8th Graders

Academic Classes:

You can view the course descriptions for all academic and related arts classes in our course catalog.

All 8th graders will be placed in the same English, Science, Social Studies, and Spanish classes. Math placement will be based on district criteria.

English I Honors
Science 8
SC/ US History 8
Spanish II Honors or Spanish I CP (repeat)

Math
Algebra I Honors
Geometry Honors

Related Arts Classes:

Students will receive a related arts ranking sheet and will rank their related arts in order of preference.

If you are interested in taking a year long class (Band, Strings, or Art 1) you will indicate that on the related arts ranking sheet.

We offer virtual options for students to earn their high school computer science and/or fine arts credits through the Greenville County Virtual School. These classes are taken at school during the students' regularly scheduled day but are taught virtually. Due to the virtual format, these courses require a great amount of independence and self-motivation.

One semester of PE/Health is required each year (6th-8th). A second semester can be requested by choosing Life Fitness.

Course Descriptions

English

Title: English GT 7th

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This course is designed to meet the needs of academically gifted and talented students who were identified through the standard measures implemented by The School District of Greenville County. The curriculum designed specifically for this course meets the guidelines set forth by the South Carolina State Department of Education as criteria for Gifted and Talented instruction. Students should expect to find the curriculum challenging in a number of ways: text complexity, analytical writing, problem solving, creative endeavors, and accelerated pace. PREREQUISITE: Identified as GTA (Gifted and Talented Academic).

Course Number: 20013200

Title: Broadcast Journalism

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6 - 8

In this course, students study journalism in a television broadcast setting. Study includes review of principles of journalism, writing, camera technique, research and interviewing, culminating in regular production of actual programming for in-school television and community viewing. PREREQUISITE: Teacher Recommendation

Course Number: 20990000

Title: Journalism

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6 - 8

In this class, students plan, write, and publish the student newspaper. Students understand, practice, and learn strategies necessary to generate ideas, report, and write stories. They conduct research, interview, prioritize information, and master editing and proofreading skills. In addition, students analyze the journalism Code of Ethics and identify common photojournalism practices.

Course Number: 20990300

Title: English 1 Hon

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

English 1 Honors is a course for academically gifted students who have the ability to pursue an accelerated English program. These students may be preparing for Advanced Placement English - college level courses - in high school; therefore, the coursework will reflect more rigor than English I CP. Note: This course carries Honors GPA weighting. Prerequisites: High level of performance in reading and writing skills, ability to think critically and demonstrated enthusiasm for language arts, and/or teacher recommendation. All GTA identified students should enroll in the GT or Honors level course

Course Number: 302403HW

Math

Title: CTC Math 7

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This course is only for students enrolled at the Charles Townes Center at Sterling School. This standards-based course is designed to help students begin the transition from arithmetic to algebraic thinking and to prepare them to take Algebra 1. It includes all of the Number and Operation Standards from grades 6,7 and 8. It also includes selected standards from the 6-8 Standards of Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Data Analysis and Probability. Topics include operations and problem-solving with decimals, fractions, integers, ratios, proportions, and percents. Students will develop algebraic thinking through the investigation of patterns and by exploring the merits and limitations of graphical, symbolic, tabular, and verbal representations of relationships. Students will use tables, graphs, one-, two-, and multi-step equations and inequalities to represent relationships and solve problems. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections. PREREQUISITE: Must be enrolled at the Charles Townes Center at Sterling School

Course Number: 21104700

Title: Algebra 1 Hon

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Algebra 1 Honors students will study all of the topics included in CP Algebra 1. They will also study additional topics including step functions, transformations of absolute value functions, factoring quartic expressions in quadratic form, translating a quadratic function into vertex form, and sequences as functions. The SCCCR mathematical process standards apply throughout the course and, along with content standards prescribe that students experience math as a coherent, useful, and logical subject. PREREQUISITE: Math 6/7/8, or Math 7/8, or Math 8; District Criteria; Math Teacher Recommendation

Course Number: 411402HW

Title: Geometry Hon

Course Number: 412202HW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Geometry Honors students study all of the topics included in CP Geometry. Honors students will study additional topics including truth tables, triangle centers, Euler's line, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines, and Cavalieri's Principle. The SCCC mathematical process standards apply throughout the course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. **PREREQUISITE:** Algebra 1; District Criteria; Math Teacher Recommendation

Science

Title: Science 7th

Course Number: 22211300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

The focus of science in seventh grade is to provide students with inquiry based experiences that develop science concepts in the following areas: Cells and Heredity-structure and function of cells and heredity; Human Systems and Disease-functions and interconnections within the human body and breakdown of these functions due to disease; Ecology-the Biotic and Abiotic Environment-interactions and responses between biotic and abiotic components and organisms; and Chemical Nature of Matter-classifications, properties and changes in matter. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of previous grade or science course

Title: Science 8th

Course Number: 22513500

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

The focus for science in eighth grade is to provide students with inquiry based experiences that develop science concepts in the following areas: Earth's Biologic History-Earth's biologic diversity over time; Structure and Process in Earth System-materials and processes that alter the structure of Earth; Astronomy-characteristics, structure, and motions of celestial bodies in the universe; Forces and Motion-effects of forces on the motion of an object; and, Waves-properties and behaviors of waves. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of previous grade or science course

Social Studies

Title: Social Studies 7th

Course Number: 23101300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

Seventh grade social studies continues the study of world cultures with a focus on the changes that have occurred in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas from 1600 to the present. Students examine the history, geography, and continuing changes in political and economic ideas that have shaped the world in which we live today. Students also address the growing interaction among societies developing concurrently during this period, including the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Instruction should emphasize the elements of social studies literacy, the tools, strategies, and perspectives necessary for understanding how history, geography, economics and government are interwoven. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of previous grade or course

Title: SC/US History 8th

Course Number: 23203500

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

Eighth grade social studies focuses on the story of the history of South Carolina and the role that the state and its people have played in the development of the United States as a nation. Students learn about the state's development during colonial times and the growth of the American ideal which led to the break with England, the rising controversy about slavery, and the Civil War. The study of the rebuilding of South Carolina after the Civil War and the continuing struggle for civil rights and justice waged by the people of South Carolina allows students to see the progress that the state has made and to appreciate the contributions that its people have made to the nation as a whole. Students also learn about the major political, economic, and social changes in South Carolina through the twentieth century and to the present in the context of national and worldwide events. Instruction should emphasize the elements of social studies literacy, the tools, strategies, and perspectives necessary for understanding how history, geography, economics and government are interwoven in our state's history. **PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of previous grade or course

Arts

Title: Art 7th Beginning

Course Number: 25011600

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

Students will develop creative-thinking and problem-solving skills as they observe the world around them. They will explore and produce artwork including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, arts, and crafts. A study of artists and their work will help students understand the techniques, skills, and diverse intentions of artists from many cultures and times. **PREREQUISITE:** None

Title: Art 7th Intermediate

Course Number: 25012700

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

Techniques for drawing and design, creative problem-solving, personal expression and artistic craftsmanship will be studied. As a part of the curriculum of this course for more experienced students, a variety of experiences with local artists and community arts organizations will be explored.

PREREQUISITE: Previous art instruction and teacher recommendation

Title: Art 8th Beginning

Course Number: 25014100

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

Students will refine their ability to communicate visually, manage a wide range of tools and materials, and achieve quality, style, and craftsmanship in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and crafts. Students will have opportunities for evaluating and critiquing their own and other students' artwork as well as studying artists and analyzing their work. **PREREQUISITE:** None

Title: Art 8th Intermediate

Course Number: 25014400

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

The purpose of this course is to teach students who have advanced art ability to achieve work at a higher level than the general art classes. The knowledge of the principles and elements of design will be studied in depth through vigorous exercises and research. Students will be involved in a variety of experiences with local artists and community arts organizations. **PREREQUISITE:** Previous art instruction with teacher recommendation

Title: Band 7th

Course Number: 25311300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This course is a continuation of Band 6 for brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Intermediate-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. **PREREQUISITE:** Band 6 or permission of instructor

Title: Band 8th

Course Number: 25313500

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

This course is a continuation of Band 7 for brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Advanced-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. **PREREQUISITE:** Band 7 or permission of instructor

Title: Strings 7th

Course Number: 25511300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This course is a continuation of Strings 6 for violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Intermediate-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and strings techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. **PREREQUISITE:** Strings 6 or permission of instructor

Title: Strings 8th

Course Number: 25513500

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

This course is a continuation of Strings 7 for violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Advanced-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and strings techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. **PREREQUISITE:** Strings 7 or permission of instructor

Title: General Music 7th

Course Number: 25611300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This is a course providing students with the opportunity to explore musical concepts and further their understanding of music through listening, singing, playing instruments, and engaging in creative activities. **PREREQUISITE:** None

Title: General Music 8th

Course Number: 25613500

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

This is a course providing students with the opportunity to explore musical concepts and further their understanding of music through listening, singing, playing instruments, and engaging in creative activities. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Graphic Art & Design 8th

Course Number: 25992000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

The purpose of this course is to challenge the students' problem solving skills through the relationship of images and fonts. Compasses, French curves, protractors and ruler knowledge will be used to solve technical projects manually. The students will also learn the basics of letter formations and typographical formats. Some projects will be enhanced with computer graphics. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Instrumental Music Band 1 (H)

Course Number: 353127HW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Instrumental Music: Band 1 Honors is a course designed for advanced musicians. Students entering Band 1 Honors must be able to successfully play SCBDA junior level scale and sight reading requirements and concert music ranging from grade 3 to 5. Students will be expected to consistently demonstrate a mature characteristic tone quality on their instrument. Honors band classes are performance based and as a result are directly tied to co-curricular activities. Participation in auditions and concerts out of the regular school day are required. Students enrolled in Instrumental Music: Band 1 Honors will be required to participate in winter and spring concerts, SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment, Greenville All-County Band auditions and clinic, SCBDA Region and All-State Band auditions and clinic, SCBDA Solo and Ensemble and other performances determined by the school Director of Bands.

Title: Orchestra 1 (H)

Course Number: 355100HW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Orchestra 1 Honors is a course designed for advanced musicians. Students entering Orchestra 1 Honors must be able to successfully play SCMEA Orchestra Division senior level scales and sight reading requirements and concert music ranging from grade 3 to 4. Students will be expected to consistently demonstrate a mature characteristic tone quality on their instrument. Honors orchestra classes are performance-based and as a result, are directly tied to co-curricular activities. Participation in auditions and concerts out of the regular school day are required. Students enrolled in Instrumental Music: Orchestra 1 Honors will be required to participate in winter and spring concerts, SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment, Greenville All-County Orchestra auditions, Region and All-State Orchestra auditions, SCMEA Solo and Ensemble and other performances determined by the school orchestra director.

Title: Art 1 Honors

Course Number: 459999HW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Art I Honors is an advanced study of the elements and principles of art that integrates a study of art history and art criticism while building on a student's art knowledge and skills. Each assignment relates to movements or artists from art history and is a problem-solving exercise that explores various mediums and ideas. Through personal exploration of mediums, individual research, working through visual problems in a sketchbook, and creating works as both individuals and as teams, students will enhance their abilities in strong composition, techniques, and processes as they build a portfolio that exhibits growth within their work.

Foreign Language

Title: Spanish 1 CP

Course Number: 365107CW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 7 - 12

This course prepares students to: perform interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communicative tasks within the novice high to intermediate low range on the ACTFL Proficiency scale; interpret, exchange, and present information, concepts and ideas both within the classroom and beyond on a variety of topics including connections to other subject areas; and understand the relationship among the products, practices and perspectives of other cultures. In addition, students develop insight into their own language and culture. PREREQUISITES: None

Title: Spanish 2 Honors

Course Number: 365274HW

Unit Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Spanish 2 Honors prepares students to perform interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communicative tasks within the novice high to intermediate low range on the ACTFL Proficiency scale; interpret, exchange, and present information, concepts and ideas both within the classroom and beyond on a variety of topics including connections to other subject areas; and understand the relationship among the products, practices and perspectives of other cultures. In addition, students develop insight into their own language and culture.

Physical Education

Title: PE/Health 7th
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 7

Course Number: 2460A100

Enrollment in this course fulfills the state law requiring 9 weeks of health education every year for all students in grades 6 - 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the information and the skills needed to become health literate, maintain and improve personal health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors as outlined in the SC Health and Safety Curriculum Standards. The course also focuses on evaluating, advocating, and coordinating valid resources and services to meet the needs of students, families, and communities. Course content areas include Personal Health and Wellness, Nutritional Choices, Mental Health, Preventing Injuries, Family Living, and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: PE/Health 8th
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 8

Course Number: 2460A200

Enrollment in this course fulfills the state law requiring 9 weeks of health education every year for all students in grades 6 - 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the information and the skills needed to become health literate, maintain and improve personal health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors as outlined in the SC Health and Safety Curriculum Standards. The course also focuses on evaluating, advocating, and coordinating valid resources and services to meet the needs of students, families, and communities. Course content areas include Personal Health and Wellness, Nutritional Choices, Mental Health, Preventing Injuries, Family Living, and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs. PREREQUISITE: None

Career and Technology

Title: GTT7 App Creators
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 7

Course Number: 27820000

This unit will expose students to computer science as a means of computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

Title: GTT8 Medical Detectives
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 8

Course Number: 27891000

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

Miscellaneous

Title: Life Fitness 7th
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 7

Course Number: 24991500

Life Fitness is a related arts class taught through the physical education department. It focuses on nutrition, exercise, along with cardiovascular and strength building activities. The purpose of the class is to encourage habits that lead to healthy, active adult life. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Life Fitness 8th
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 8

Course Number: 24993700

Life Fitness is a related arts class taught through the physical education department. It focuses on nutrition, exercise, along with cardiovascular and strength building activities. The purpose of the class is to encourage habits that lead to healthy, active adult life. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Exploratory 7
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 7

Course Number: 27019200

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and learn information and skills that will enhance their academic and personal lives in middle school. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Exploratory 8
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 8

Course Number: 27019500

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and learn information and skills that will enhance their academic and personal lives in middle school. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Skill Building 7th

Course Number: 27991700

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 7

This course focuses on skills that students need to make better and more efficient use of study time. Students will actively engage in learning time management skills, study techniques, organizational skills, test-taking strategies, as well as other topics that will strengthen their performance in the classroom. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Service Learning

Course Number: 27993900

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6 - 8

Service Learning is designed for participants to learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service experiences that meet community needs through a collaboration between the school and community. It provides students with opportunities to use newly acquired skills and knowledge in real-life situations in their own communities. The course emphasizes essential life skills such as effective communication, problem solving, goal setting, and teamwork. Students will address real-life problems and make meaningful contributions to the school and community. The emphasis will be on planning, serving, and evaluating. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Skill Building 8th

Course Number: 27994100

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 8

This course focuses on skills that students need to make better and more efficient use of study time. Students will actively engage in learning time management skills, study techniques, organizational skills, test-taking strategies, as well as other topics that will strengthen their performance in the classroom. PREREQUISITE: None