

Eighth Grade

Curriculum and Program Highlights

Literature

- Become familiar with well known authors by reading selections
- Plot, point of view, and setting are discussed
- Independently completed book reviews
- Increased vocabulary development
- Monthly book reports
- Elements of fiction: characterization, symbolism, tone, irony
- Analysis and critique will be emphasized
- Daily writing in journals
- Read newspapers, periodicals, and listen to news on a regular basis
- Effectively report information learned from media sources
- Give orderly oral reports
- Construct research paper from researched material
- Accelerated Reading supplementary program with incentives
- Foreign Languages – French or Spanish elective and Latin

English

- Variety of writing: persuasive, expository, creative
- Planning of writing and revision
- Grammar and vocabulary building
- Parts of speech and punctuation
- Writing fluency, coherence and voice and mechanics
- Spelling, handwriting, and drama are also reinforced
- Public speaking and drama

Mathematics

- Students will be assigned to appropriate math groups depending on skill level
- Higher level ability will take pre-algebra, algebra, algebra II or geometry
- Algebra will include polynomials, applying fractions, linear equations, and systems, rational and irrational numbers
- Advanced students may attend an appropriate math class at Monogue High School

Science/Health

- Reading, experiments, note-taking, demonstrations, in individual and small group activities
- Study the properties and structure of matter, periodic law, and the periodic table of elements
- Practice scientific method and critical thinking
- Human biology and heredity will be explored and in relation to human sexuality
- Elementary Physics to identify and use formulas dealing with motion, fluid forces, work, power and energy
- Learn about the use and misuse of substances: drug awareness
- Prepare a science experiment for school wide and regional competition along with a research paper from researched materials
- Attend Catalina Island Marine Institute

History/Social Studies

- People and events which formed contemporary American society
- Cause and effect relationships will be explored
- The roles of women and minorities in forming our current values
- Note taking skills
- Outlining
- A formal term paper will be required
- Government
- Current events

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Physical Education

- Develop skills at Lakeridge Tennis Club in swimming, tennis, weights, basketball, volleyball, and other group sports
- Or, extend skills and confidence in basketball, soccer, and volleyball guided by the Brookfield coaching staff
- Develop personal sense of wellness
- Demonstrate sportsmanship

Computer

- Extend keyboarding skills
- Power Point projects
- Use of computer for assignments involving writing, problem solving
- Utilize increasingly complex programs at teacher direction, including writing and editing using spell check, and other functions
- Maintain individual disk with personal writing
- Responsible use of the Internet and the World Wide Web
- Spread sheet, letter writing, graphics, data base, web publishing applications will be explored
- Write, edit, compile and distribute a fully illustrated student newspaper

Specialized Programs

- Project Discovery field trip to Sky Tavern for team building ropes course Community Service is encouraged
- Student government participation including election of officers
- Accelerated Reading (rewards program)
- Invention Convention/Science Fair/Physics demonstration choices
- French and/or Spanish and Latin
- Spectra Art (art appreciation curriculum)
- Friendship classes
- Upper class socials planning and implementation
- Daily hot lunch
- Skiing, martial arts, chess, tennis, Spanish, and clay class available
- Music for musical presentations
- Europe travel experience
- Lakeridge Tennis Club is available
- Elective classes such as journalism, guitar, cooking, art appreciation, yearbook preparation
- Economics through Junior Achievement is explored
- Lessons in boarding or skiing are available in winter
- Outdoor Education program provided by Yosemite Institutes, outdoor winter survival, and other outdoor camps/activities