

North Muskegon Middle School Course Description Booklet



2011-2012

This handbook contains valuable information needed for each student to plot their courses for the year. As you review the information contained on these pages, you will find core courses are the building blocks of the middle school curriculum. We encourage all students to look at elective courses as opportunities to expand their personal interests and supplement their skills. Decisions are best made in a partnership approach with school, staff, and family working together to ensure success.

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MISSION

The staff of the North Muskegon Public Schools, in partnership with parents and the community, will educate each student. Our mission is student mastery of skills to promote life-long learning and the development of positive self-esteem leading students to become productive, responsible citizens.

DEMOGRAPHICS

North Muskegon is a suburban community in Muskegon County with a population of 4031 according to the 2000 census. North Muskegon Public Schools has a total enrollment of 943 students as of the February 2011 head count. North Muskegon Elementary School has 443 students, the middle school has 222 students, and the high school has 278.

North Muskegon residents have the highest median family income in the county as well as the highest educational attainment. The district has maintained over a 90% college matriculation rate since the 90's.

Enrollment: February 2011

Middle School: 222

Trimester Example

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Class 1	Class 6	Class 11
Class 2	Class 7	Class 12
Class 3	Class 8	Class 13
Class 4	Class 9	Class 14
Class 5	Class 10	Class 15

Grade 6

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Math 6	Math 6	Math 6
Language Arts 6	Language Arts 6	Language Arts 6
Science 6	Science 6	Science 6
PE	Social Studies 6	Social Studies 6
Elective	Elective	Elective

Grade 7

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Transitional Math 7	Transitional Math 7	Transitional Math 7
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Science 7	Science 7	PE
Health	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 7
Elective	Elective	Elective

Grade 8

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Math 8	Math 8	Elective
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Science 8	Science 8	Science 8
PE	US History 8	US History 8
Elective	Elective	Elective

I. State Curriculum Links...

Sixth Grade

[Science Sixth Grade GLCE](#) [PDF](#)

[Social Studies Sixth Grade GLCE](#) [PDF](#)

[ELA 6th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)

[Mathematics 6th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)

Seventh Grade

[Science Seventh Grade GLCE](#) [PDF](#)

[Social Studies Seventh Grade GLCE](#) [PDF](#)

[ELA 7th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)

[Mathematics 7th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/078_Health_10v2_178902_7.pdf

Eighth Grade

[Social Studies Eighth Grade GLCE](#) [PDF](#)

[ELA 8th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)

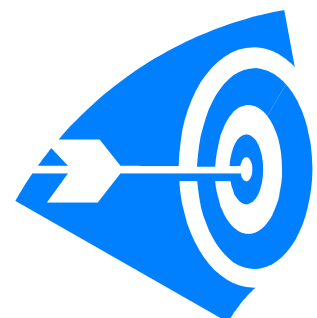
[Mathematics 8th Grade GLCE Links](#) [PDF](#)



II. Student Achievement

MEAP PERCENTAGE PROFICIENT LEVEL 1 & 2

Grade	Subject	Fall 2007	Fall 2008	Fall 2009	Fall 2010
6th	READING	95	88	96	93
6th	MATH	90	94	88	94
6th	SOCIAL ST	82	85	88	79
7th	READING	91	89	84	89
7th	MATH	91	96	94	97
8th	READING	94	88	91	89
8th	MATH	94	90	91	87
8th	SCIENCE	97	94	94	87



SUMMER SCHOOL

North Muskegon Public Schools is a member of the White Lake Area Community Education family. WLACE sponsors summer school for grades 6-12 in CORE classes every summer, some online and hybrid options are available. Students retaking failed CORE courses must have counselor signed permission sheets in order to register. Students considering summer school for NON-failed courses must consult with counselors prior to registration for permission. 2010 costs were \$150 per subject per session. Maximum of 1 credit can be obtained by summer school. Go to www.wlace.org or call 766-3001 for current dates and pricing.

MICHIGAN'S CAREER PATHS

What are career pathways?

These are broad groupings of careers that share similar characteristics and whose employment requirements call for similar competencies.

How do I use them?

Career pathways can help you develop a plan on how to prepare for your chosen career interest. Courses are listed according to the six Michigan Career Pathways. When you are selecting courses, keep in mind those courses that match your pathway.

SIX PATHWAYS

Area 1: Arts & Communication

Careers related to humanities and the performing, visual, literary and media arts. Sample careers include artists, journalists and graphic designers. These careers are interesting to people who value creativity and seek opportunities to express themselves.

Are you a creative thinker? Are you imaginative, innovative, and original? Do you like to communicate ideas? Do you like making crafts, drawing, playing a musical instrument, taking photos, or writing stories? This may be the career path for you!

Area 2: Business, Management, Marketing & Technology

Careers related to all aspects of business including accounting, business administration, finance, information processing and marketing. Sample careers include accountants, business managers and auto salespersons. These careers are interesting to people who are good in math, feel comfortable using computer programs, and enjoy being the leader of the group.

Do you enjoy being a leader, organizing people, planning activities, and talking? Do you like to work with numbers or ideas? Do you enjoy carrying through with an idea and seeing the end product? Do you like things neat and orderly? Would you enjoy balancing a checkbook, following the stock market, holding an office in a club, or surfing the Internet? This may be your career path!

Area 3: Engineering/Manufacturing & Industrial Technology

Careers related to technologies necessary to design, develop, install or maintain physical systems. Sample careers include mechanics, airplane pilots and engineers. These careers are interesting to people who enjoy working with tools, equipment and other kinds of machinery.

Are you mechanically inclined and practical? Do you like reading diagrams and blueprints, and drawing building structures? Are you curious about how things work? Would you enjoy painting a house, repairing cars, wiring electrical circuits, or woodworking? This may be the career path for you!

Area 4: Health Sciences

Careers related to the promotion of health as well as the treatment of injuries and disease. Sample careers include physicians, nurses and veterinarians. These careers are interesting to people who like to know how the body works and care about the well-being of people and animals.

Do you like to care for people or animals that are sick or help them stay well? Are you interested in diseases and in how the body works? Do you enjoy reading about science and medicine? Would it be fun to learn first aid or volunteer at a hospital or veterinary clinic? This may be your career path!

Area 5: Human Services

Careers related to child care, civil service, education, hospitality and the social services. Sample careers include counselors, teachers, law enforcement officers, and religious leaders. These careers are interesting to people who enjoy interacting with people and helping them solve their problems.

Are you friendly, open, understanding, and cooperative? Do you like to work with people to solve problems? Is it important to you to do something that makes things better for other people? Do you like to help friends with family problems? Do you like reading, storytelling, traveling, or tutoring young children? This could be your career path!

Area 6: Natural Resources and Agriscience

Careers related to natural resources, agriculture, and the environment. Sample careers include fish and game wardens, marine biologists and farmers. These careers are interesting to people who enjoy working outdoors and are interested in nature and animals.

Are you a nature lover? Are you practical, curious about the physical world, and interested in plants and animals? Do you enjoy hunting or fishing? Do you like to garden or mow the lawn? Are you interested in protecting the environment?

Academic Support

Career Pathway: 1

credit varies

terms vary Grades: 6, 7, 8

Prerequisite: IEP

Academic support is full year course taught by a special education teacher in a small group setting. It is a class designed to help support students in their core classes as well as develop specific areas of need for each student. This class is highly individualized according to students' needs and IEP goals and objectives.

Skills Practiced:

- Organizational skills
- Study skills
- Reading skills/strategies
- Written expression skills
- Math skills
- Pre-teaching/re-teaching various grade level skills
- Social skills
- Time management skills

PERFORMING ARTS

Glenn Burek, Music Education, Western Michigan University
Beth Slimko, Music Education, Butler University

Middle School Band

1 ½ credits 3 terms Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1 Prerequisite: *The ability to play a standard concert band instrument at an age-appropriate level. A membership audition may be required.*

Middle School Band involves the preparation and performance of concert band literature. The basics of ear training, music history, music theory, music composition, instrumental technique, music acoustics, and the business of music, will also be covered. Participation in all official band functions is a requirement. Exceptions must be arranged with the director. Daily individual home practice is required. Public performances include fall, holiday, winter and spring concerts, Band Festival, and others.

Middle School Choir

1 ½ credits 3 terms Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1 Prerequisite: *none*

The content of this course aligns with Michigan's standards for vocal music. Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music. Students will learn to read music, including an understanding of rhythmic notation and meter. Students will listen to and be able to analyze and describe various forms of music. Several musical performances will be required (fall concert, holiday concert, pops concert, festival, spring concert, and community events). A choir workbook and shirt are required. Students must purchase these items. Fundraising opportunities will be available, as well as financial support from the Music Boosters for students in need. Sixth graders may opt to take spring term (Choir C) if schedule permits.

Middle School String Orchestra 1 ½ credits 3 terms Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1 Prerequisite: *The ability to play a standard orchestral string instrument at an age-appropriate level. A membership audition may be required.*

Middle School String Orchestra involves the preparation and performance of concert string orchestra literature. The basics of ear training, music history, music theory, music composition, instrumental technique, music acoustics, and the business of music, will also be covered. Participation in all official orchestra functions is a requirement. Exceptions must be arranged with the director. Daily individual home practice is required. Public performances include fall, holiday, winter and spring concerts, Orchestra Festival, and others.

VISUAL ARTS

Trisha Benaway, Art, Western Michigan University

***Exploring Multicultural Art**

½ credit

1 term

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1

Prerequisite: none

This class will explore a variety of cultures and art forms from around the world. Knowledge will be gained about these cultures through reading, researching, discussing, viewing and creating. The following continents, projects and media may be explored: Continents (Africa, Asia and South America), Projects (Modern Nigerian Painting, Coiled baskets of Botswana, Bark painting, African masks, Adinkra cloth, Islamic geometric design, and cut paper designs), Media (tempera, textiles, dye, paper, pencil, marker, clay, paper mache, and watercolor).

* Course offered alternate years

***Exploring Careers in Art**

½ credit

1 term

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1

Prerequisite: none

This art class is designed to introduce students to a variety of artistic careers. Students will gain knowledge through reading, writing, discussions and creating works of art. The following careers, lessons and media may be explored: Careers (graphic design, advertising, industrial design, fashion design, architecture, animation, special effects and illustration), Lessons (Art Talk text chapter 4 careers in art, product package design, character development, miniature golf design, figure drawing, perspective drawing), Media (tag board, tempera, watercolor, ink, pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, pastels, clay).

* Course offered alternate years

***Sculpture and Design**

½ credit

1 term

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathway: 1

Prerequisite: none

Students will use a variety of sculpting media while employing the elements and principles of design. Media may include: paper mache, wood, clay, plaster, cardboard and found objects.

* Course offered in 2011-2012



COILED BASKET/TRIVET
~MULTICULTURAL ART CLASS



COLORLED PENCIL PROJECT
~CAREERS IN ART CLASS

WORLD LANGUAGES

Bernadette Billock, French, French Institute and GVSU
Tracy Schofield, Spanish/Social St, Hope College & Michigan State Univ.

World Languages 7-8 *½ credit* *1 term* *Grades: 7, 8*

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 *Prerequisite: None*

This is a unique opportunity to get exposed to several foreign languages including French, German, Swedish and Spanish. In addition to memorizing basic vocabulary and phrases, as well as songs, you will explore the culture and work on fun projects for each of these languages. This class is guaranteed to be a great learning experience. It is intended for students eager to discover other countries and cultures. Furthermore, it will help you make a decision as to which language you would like to pursue next year.

French Language 8 *or* **Spanish Language 8**

1 credit *2 terms* *Grade: 8*

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 *Prerequisite: 2 Recommendation*
(7th grade LA teacher and another content teacher)

This is a **unique** opportunity for motivated and academically sound students at the middle school grade level to be able to participate in a first year high school level language course **for high school credit**. Upon passing this class with a 70% grade, freshmen students have the opportunity for placement in the second level of high school language. This class is guaranteed to be a great learning experience. It is intended for students eager to learn and speak another language while exploring countries and cultures. We strongly encourage students to pursue the languages with minimal gapping at the high school level in order to achieve the best level of proficiency. **For additional information regarding this class, please see h.s. course descriptions.*

ENGLISH

Tanya Kolkema, El Ed, Grand Valley State University
Patricia Howard, El Ed/English/Science, Western Michigan University
Sarah Knuth, English/Journalism, Central Michigan University

Language Arts 6 (required) *1 ½ credits* *3 terms-all year* *Grade: 6*

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 *Prerequisite: none*

Reading, writing, listening, and speaking are essential life skills. The middle school English language arts curriculum focuses on developing these skills to build a foundation for student success in high school and the activities of everyday life. During the process of improving these essential skills, students will study various literary genres, practice grammar, usage, and mechanics, learn new vocabulary, and engage in writing workshop. Students are expected to learn to view the English language as a tool for communication and reflection.

Units of Study:

- **Literary Genres:** McDougal Littell's *The Language of Literature* will guide this unit of study. Primary units will include nonfiction, drama, and fiction. *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor is the literature connection to the Latin America Unit in social studies.
- **Writing Workshop:** Students will receive writer's notebooks that they will use to develop writing skills in this continuous unit of study.
- **Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics:** Using McDougal Littell's support materials, students will practice skills through various activities and exercises. Student writing will influence the focus of grammar, usage, and mechanics study.

- Reading for Enjoyment: This ongoing independent reading unit encourages students to read for fun at least twenty minutes each day.
- Vocabulary: Students are tested on the vocabulary words every Friday. At the beginning of each week, students receive a list of five words. The following week, those five words will be on the test again as a review. The number continues to increase weekly until there are twenty-five. At the end of the trimester, the exam will include all words from that trimester.

Language Arts 7 (required) 1 ½ credits 3 terms-all year Grade: 7

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: LA 6

Language arts includes the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing. 7th grade language arts is a year long class (three terms) with a strong emphasis in reading and writing.

Units of Study:

- Literary Genres: Units of study will include nonfiction, fiction, drama, science fiction, and poetry. McDougal Littell *The Language of Literature* will be the primary resource. We will also read two fiction novels.
- Writing Workshop: The focus of Writing Workshop will be on personal narratives. The culmination of this unit will be a final exam project due at the end of the third term.
- Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics: Units of study will include the sentence and its parts, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections. D. O. L (Daily Oral Language) will be used to practice correct grammar usage.
- Reading Workshop: Students will be required to read independently both during and outside of class as they develop comprehension skills by using reading strategies on a regular basis.
- Vocabulary: Weekly lessons will help students develop a stronger vocabulary. Lessons will be at the beginning of each week and a quiz at the end.



Language Arts 8 (required) 1.5 credits all year Grade: 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: LA 7

Reading, writing, listening, and speaking are essential life skills. The middle school English language arts curriculum focuses on developing these skills to build a foundation for student success in high school and the activities of everyday life. During the process of improving these essential skills, students will study various literary genres, practice grammar, usage, and mechanics, learn new vocabulary, and engage in writing workshop. Students are expected to learn to view the English language as a tool for communication and reflection.

Units of Study:

- Literary Genres: McDougal Littell's *The Language of Literature* will guide this unit of study. Primary units will include nonfiction, drama, and fiction. "The Diary of Anne Frank," a drama based on the book *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*, is the principal work studied.
- Writing Workshop: Students will receive writer's notebooks that they will use to develop writing skills in this continuous unit of study.
- Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics: Using McDougal Littell's support materials, students will practice skills through various activities and exercises. Student writing will influence the focus of grammar, usage, and mechanics study.
- Reading for Enjoyment: This ongoing independent reading unit encourages students to read for fun at least twenty minutes each day.
- Vocabulary: At the beginning of each week, students will receive a list of ten words along with exercises for using them. Students will be quizzed on the words every Friday. Unit tests will be given periodically.

Creative Narrative Writing ½ credit 1 term Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

This one term course aims to create genuine student interest in writing and eliminate or reduce any fears students may have of writing. The key concepts of the course are as follows:

- Students will participate in the writing process by creating narrative pieces of various genres.
- Students will gain understanding of the six traits of writing by reading and discussing excerpts of published authors' pieces that will, in turn, serve as models for their own writing.
- Students will practice effective conferencing strategies.
- Students will gain knowledge of the art of revising for publication.

Greek Mythology ½ credit 1 term Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

Learn what life was like during ancient Greek times. This simulation allows students to become a member of ancient Greek society. Students will also focus on Greek mythology, including a study of the gods and goddesses. The class will read Ulysses by Bernard Evslin.

Resource Room Language Arts credit varies 2-3 terms Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: IEP

Resource room language arts is a three term class taught by a special education teacher in a small group setting. The areas of study include reading, written expression, speaking, listening, and viewing with a strong emphasis in remedial reading and writing. Many areas of the class are individualized to each student according to their needs and IEP goals and objectives.

Areas of Study:

- **Reading Workshop:** Students are required to read independently in and outside of class and will learn and use various reading strategies to build comprehension skills.
- **Novel Units:** Students will read multiple fiction novels and complete various literature activities developed to analyze literary aspects of the novels.
- **Reading Program:** The students will participate in a specialized reading program designed to teach secondary students flexible strategies for decoding long words and to increase their oral and silent reading fluency and comprehension.
- **Writing Workshop:** The focus of writing workshop will be the Lucy Calkins Writing Units, 6+1 Writing Traits, and the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing and publishing).
- **Grammar:** The units of study in grammar include: sentence and its parts, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions. D.O.L. (Daily Oral Language) is used throughout the year to practice correct grammar usage and editing skills.
- **Vocabulary:** The students will complete vocabulary study throughout the year to develop and expand their word base and to increase basic reading and comprehension skills.

MATH

Joanna Berry, El Ed/Science/Math, Grand Valley State University
Ryan Berends, Chemistry/Math, Grand Valley State University
Al Karaba, Physics/Math, Michigan State University

Math 6 (required) 1 ½ credits 3 terms-all year Grade: 6

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

There are twelve main units covered throughout the year in sixth grade math: whole numbers and decimals, data and graphs, patterns and variables, number theory and fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, multiplying and dividing fractions, ratio and the relation to proportions and percents, geometry, measurement, probability, integers, and equations and inequalities.

Math 7 (required) 1 ½ credits 3 terms-all year Grade: 7

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: Math 6

Mathematics weaves three themes-applied arithmetic, pre-algebra and pre-geometry-by focusing on arithmetic operations in mathematics and the real world. Variables are used as pattern describers, abbreviations in formulas, and as unknowns in problems, and are represented on the number line and graphed in the coordinate plane. Basic arithmetic and algebra skills are connected to corresponding geometry topics.

Resource Room Math credits vary terms vary Grades: 6-8

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: IEP

Resource Room Math is a full year remedial math class taught by a special education teacher in a small group setting. The class is designed to address weaknesses in the area of math, along with supporting specific IEP math goals and objectives.

Pre Algebra or Algebra 1 (required) 1 credit 2 terms Grade: 8

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: Math 7

This class explores the traditional concepts of Algebra I including equation solving, graphing lines and curves, using quadratic equations, factoring and linear systems. Also use of the graphing calculator is introduced as well as applications of computer spreadsheets. **Pre-Algebra is NOT for high school credit, however Algebra1 IS for high school credit.**

SCIENCE

Christine Livingston, Art/El Ed, Western Michigan University
Chuck Rypstra, Chemistry/History, Michigan State University
Rick Howard, El Ed/Science/Social St, Michigan State/Western Michigan

Science 6 (required) 1½ credits 3 terms Grade: 6

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

The sixth grade science curriculum at North Muskegon covers the following topics: viewing the earth and sky, light and vision, sound and hearing, composition of matter, physical and chemical changes, matter in solutions, acids/bases and salts, describing the living world, viruses and simple organisms, animal life, plant life, ecology, and the solar system.

Science 7 (required) 1½ credits 2 terms Grade: 7

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: Science 6

The seventh grade science curriculum at North Muskegon covers the following topics: forces and pressure, forces in earth, circulation, work and energy, machines, thermal energy, movement in the body, elements, minerals, rocks, and cellular life. The course mode consists of readings, notes, projects, labs, and assessments. Students are required to take semester exams.

Science 8 (required) 1½ credits 3 terms Grade: 8

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: Science 7

The curriculum is designed to cover and expand the students' knowledge of many aspects of science. Topics covered include; electricity, magnetism, atomic structure, atomic bonding, geologic time, solar system, galaxies, universe, digestive system, weather phenomena, and continental movement.

Projects & Investigations ½ credit 1 term Grades: 6-8

Career Pathways: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

This elective is designed to cover and expand the students' knowledge of many aspects of science. "Projects and Investigations" is a chance for students to study the area of science THEY want to know more about and build their science writing and thinking skills. The students and teacher decide the syllabus within the first week. Options include planting a school garden, entering the science fair, running their own myth-busters, and/or preparing and presenting new experiments.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Tanya Kolkema, El Ed, Grand Valley State University

Rick Howard, El Ed/Science/Social St, Michigan State/Western Michigan

Chuck Rypstra, Chemistry/History, Michigan State University

Overview – The aim of the following comprehensive social studies curricula is to focus on different perspectives of thoughtful judgment based on the study of history, current events and geography, and to use critical thinking skills and active learning to ensure that the following goals will be achieved: (1)Students will recognize the complex and independent nature of the world's political, economic and social systems, (2)Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of basic human commonalities and differences, (3)Students will gain an awareness of how perceptions, values and priorities differ among various individuals, groups and cultures, (4)Students will commit to the development of skills that will enable them to respond creatively to local, national and international events and participate effectively at those levels.

Social Studies 6 (required) 1 ½ credits 2 terms Grade: 6

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

Units from *GEOGRAPHY The World and Its People Volume 1*

First Term

Globes, Maps, Graphs & Charts

World Religions – not in text

MEAP Preparation

Units one-five

U.S., Canada, Europe & Russia

Third Term

Unit Four – Europe

Literature Connection – *Girl of Kosovo* by Alice Mead

Family Economics - A Simulation

Second Term

Units two - ten

Africa, Asia & Antarctica

Lit Connect– *The Sky Is Falling* by Kit Pearson

Unit Three – Latin America

Lit Connect – *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor

Social Studies 7 (required) 1 ½ credits 2 terms Grade: 7

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: SS6

Units from GEOGRAPHY *The World and Its People* Volume 2

First Term

Review of the following:

Globes, Maps, Graphs & Charts

Regional Review of U.S., Canada & Europe

World Religions – not in text

International Law and the Geneva Conventions – not in text

Second Term

Unit Five – Russia and the Independent Republics

Lit Connect– *Angel on the Square* by Gloria Whelan

Unit Six – Southwest Asia and North Africa

Lit Connect – *Soldier Mom* by Alice Mead

Third Term

Unit Seven – Africa South of the Sahara

Literature Connection – *Year of No Rain* by Alice Mead

Unit Eight – Asia

Unit Nine – Australia, Oceania and Antarctica

United States History 8 (required) 1 credit 2 terms Grade: 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: SS7

This class covers America from early civilizations through the Reconstruction Period after the Civil War. The course focuses on the United States internal developments and challenges and the emerging role as a leader in the Americas. Relevant current events are studied in order to make the connection of the past to the present.

Service & Leadership ½ credit 1 term Grades: 6, 7, 8

Career Pathways: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Prerequisite: none

This course will focus on helping students to care about one another and to emphasize the power of individual action. It is individual action (leadership) that inspires others to serve in meaningful ways. Students will learn about various cultures and historical events that have negatively impacted specific types of people in order to understand the need for compassion and action. Students will be encouraged to volunteer for the local and/or global community.