

Mayfield Middle School

What to Expect in 8th GRADE



Purpose of the Grade Level Guide

- Provide parents a general overview of the content taught at each grade level
- Provide information regarding the district instructional materials used to teach the content
- Provide key communication tools that provide information on student progress
- Provide information regarding district testing
- List resources that can be used to gain additional information

Language Arts

The 8th grade Language Arts course covers the Ohio Learning Standards in English Language Arts for 8th grade. The English Language Arts Standards include reading standards for literature and informational text, writing standards, speaking and listening standards, and language standards. Reading topics covered include analyzing key ideas and details, analyzing the craft and structure, and integrating knowledge and ideas from multiple sources. Writing types covered include argumentative, informative/explanatory, and narrative writing. Speaking and Listening standards include demonstrating comprehension through collaborative discussions. Language standards include conventions of standard English and grade-appropriate vocabulary. Students will read across multiple genres through various thematic units. Expectations for text complexity and level of analysis increase from previous grade levels. Levels of 8th grade Language Arts classes include Enriched, at level, intervention, and self-contained classroom (SCC).

Materials/Programs: *IXL* - online learning platform *Just Words* - intervention program

Mathematics

8 Math - 8th grade Mathematics covers the Ohio Learning Standards for 8th grade. Topics covered in the course include understanding linear functions, solving one variable equations, understanding linear systems, transforming shapes, using scientific notation, applying the Pythagorean Theorem, understanding angle relationships with a transversal, finding volume of circular shapes, and interpreting statistics. A scientific calculator is required. Levels of 8th grade Mathematics classes include at level, intervention, and self-contained classroom (SCC).

Algebra 1 - Algebra 1 covers the Ohio Learning Standards for Algebra 1. The focus for the course is quadratic expressions, equations, and functions, comparing their characteristics and behavior to those of linear and exponential relationships. The need for extending the set of rational numbers arises, and real and complex numbers are introduced so that all quadratic equations can be solved. The link between probability and data is explored through conditional probability and counting methods. Incorporated into each of the content standards are the 8 standards of Mathematical Practice. Algebra 1 is a high school credit course and is taught at the pace, depth, and rigor of a high school "honors" level course. A scientific calculator is required and an online graphing calculator will be used.

Geometry - Geometry includes the study of shapes and their connections to the world. Students will start with the basic figures of point, line, and plane to develop and prove theorems as well as understand postulates. Key concepts addressed are: transformations and symmetry, similarity and congruence, right triangle trigonometry, properties and measurements of plane figures, three dimensional shapes, investigation and proof, geometric construction, and algebra and probability. Incorporated into each of the content standards are the 8 standards of Mathematical Practice. Geometry is a high school credit course and is taught at the pace, depth, and rigor of a high school "honors" level course. A scientific calculator is required and an online graphing calculator will be used.

Materials/Programs: *Big Ideas* - math textbook *IXL, Delta Math, Desmos* - online learning platforms

Science

The 8th grade Science course covers the Ohio Learning Standards in Science for 8th grade. Topics covered include continued development of science inquiry, reproduction, genetics & heredity, natural selection, fossils and geologic time, constructive and destructive agents on and within the Earth, and as energy, motion and forces. Levels of 8th grade science include at level and self-contained classroom. Levels of 8th grade Science classes include at level and self-contained classroom (SCC).

Materials/Programs: *Gizmos* - online learning platform

Social Studies

The 8th grade Social Studies course covers the Ohio Learning Standards in Social Studies for 8th grade. The content emphasized in this class includes colonization of the Americas, the founding of the United States, American government, expansion of the U.S., and the wars that shaped our nation. Levels of 8th grade Social Studies classes include at level and self-contained classroom (SCC).

Electives

In 8th grade, students can choose to specialize in content from the STEAM circuit and/or Skills for Adolescence circuit, can continue with choir or band, and/or can build their own circuits from the below quarter-long courses. Students may also choose to begin learning a World Language (and earn high school credit). No matter what combination of courses a student chooses, their elective courses will focus on the competencies in the Profile of a Mayfield Wildcat, and courses have projects/products where students demonstrate and reflect on their development in one or more of the competencies. Courses are either full-year, one semester, or one quarter in length. Students choose the combination of courses they would like to take from the below choices:

Full Year Electives

- Band
- Vocal Dimensions
- French 1
- Italian 1
- Spanish 1

Semester Electives

- Art
- Ceramics
- Our House Leadership

Quarter Electives

- Automation and Robotics
- Creative Writing
- Drama
- Gaming
- Health and Wellness (Cooking)
- Horticulture (Greenhouse)
- Journalism and News Writing
- Film and Video Production
- PE Team Sports
- Medical Detectives
- Music History: From Then to Now
- Podcasting
- Psychology
- Rock Band
- Lego Robotics
- Speech and Debate
- Fitness, Agility, and Strength
- PE Lifelong Fitness and Recreation

Communication with Parents

The Learning Platform used at Mayfield Middle School is Schoology. Schoology is an online classroom where students interact with content, share and collaborate. Parents can use the platform to see student assignments and the learning that is happening in the classroom. Teachers also post in progress grades in Schoology.

Infinite Campus is the student information system that is used across the district. Finalized grades (report cards) will be posted in Infinite Campus. The annual OLR, school store, and absence requests are also entered through Infinite Campus

District and State Testing

Three times a year students will take the STAR Reading and STAR Math computer-adaptive assessments. STAR Reading and STAR Math provides insights regarding students' overall literacy/math achievement and growth. Throughout the year students will also keep current on the IXL Real Time Diagnostic assessment, working approximately 10-15 minutes per week in the IXL Diagnostic Arena. The IXL Real Time Diagnostic assessment provides information on the specific skills students have mastered or need growth. IXL also provides a personalized action plan for students based on the Real Time Diagnostic.

Students will take the [Ohio State Tests](#) in English Language Arts, Math, and Science. Information on district testing can be found [here](#).

Resources

For additional information regarding our curriculum and programs, please refer to the following resources:

[Mayfield Middle School Course Catalog](#)

[Mayfield Middle School Handbook](#)

Mayfield City Schools Website: <https://www.mayfieldschools.org/>

Ohio Department of Education Website: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>