

Fremont City Schools



8th Grade

Course Description Guide

2010-2011

Board of Education

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Mission Statement:

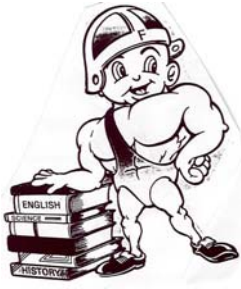
The mission of Fremont City Schools is to develop well-educated life-long learners prepared to be responsible, productive and respectful members of their communities.

District Goals:

- Increase Student Achievement
- Close Socio-Economic, Ethnic and Disability Gaps in Student Achievement
- Build Hope, Trust and Respect with our Community

Traci L. McCaudy, Ed.D.
Superintendent

David M. Chambers
Treasurer



Fremont Middle School Grade 8 Course Description Guide

This guide will help you and your parents as you look ahead and consider your educational plans for the next school year and for your future. Your plans should be determined through serious and realistic consideration of your interests and goals in life. Preparation for your future beyond high school is a major reason for educational planning even though this planning at times may seem very far off.

The purpose of the Course Description Guide is to provide you with information about the Fremont Middle School curricular program to help you choose an appropriate path of study. With help from parents, teachers and counselors this information will assist you in making your choices in planning your future and meeting the requirements necessary for promotion and graduation.

Required courses are listed first by department in alphabetical order. These are followed by elective courses in alphabetical order by department. Students should confer with their parents, teachers, and counselors as they use the Course Description Guide in developing their educational program.

Your current teachers have come to know you well. Your teachers, along with the counseling staff of the middle school will provide you with a recommendation for next year's class schedule. It is the philosophy of the Fremont Middle School that parents are a part of this process and, therefore, may request schedule changes as desired. Students and parents are encouraged to make careful decisions in changing courses being sure to include all required courses. Course changes can be made with a signed written request from the student's parent/guardian to the counselors. During the summer, the written request may be left with a secretary in the middle school office.

Requests for changing courses must be made by written request by June 14.

An exciting scholarship opportunity for all of our students begins with eighth grade. Please read page 2 which provide the details of Fremont City Schools and the University of Toledo Scholarly Savings Account Program and its eligibility requirements.

Fremont City Schools
University of Toledo Scholarly Savings Account Program
Eligibility Requirements

Beginning in the eighth grade students will have the opportunity to receive \$2,000 per year for tuition in order to attend The University of Toledo (UT).

To receive these tuition monies student must meet the following eligibility requirements per year:

- ✓ Grade Point Average: Minimum of 3.0
- ✓ Discipline: No out of school suspensions, court probation, expulsions or placement in any Juvenile Detention Center
- ✓ Attendance No more than 5 unexcused absences per semester or 3 unexcused tardies per semester

University of Toledo requirements for scholarship savings account disbursement:

- ✓ The student must graduate high school with a minimum of 3.0 GPA (4.0 scale).
- ✓ The student must meet requirements for regular admission to UT, including satisfaction of the academic core curriculum requirements including:
 - 4 years English
 - 3 years Math
 - 3 years Science
 - 3 years Social Science
 - ACT or SAT exam including writing segment
- ✓ The student must maintain an annual UT GPA of 3.0 and complete a minimum of 30 credits annually.

COURSE SELECTIONS FOR THE EIGHTH GRADE

Core Courses

- Language Arts
- Reading Edge
- Math:
 - Algebra I*
 - *Or* Pre-Algebra
- Integrated Science Level II
- American History

Encore Courses

Required:

- Financial Literacy with College and Career Readiness
- Wellness
- Computer Technology II

Electives:

- Industrial Technology
- Materials & Technology
- Cadet Orchestra
- Band
- Choir
- Art

*Grades received for Algebra I will appear on the student's high school transcript for credit and will be part of the high school cumulative grade point average.

CORE COURSES FOR EIGHTH GRADE

ENGLISH

0181 LANGUAGE ARTS

Full Year

The Language Arts program for grade 8 is standards-based and comprehensive. The language arts processes of reading, writing, listening and speaking are taught in an integrated and inter-related manner. Course components include the study of rich and varied literature including expository texts; writing in the genres of narrative, persuasive and expository; response to literature and summaries of reading materials. Students will enhance their knowledge of reading and writing strategies, including vocabulary development, spelling and grammar. A balance of oral and written language activities and on-going diagnosis and assessment will encompass the school year.

0000 READING EDGE

Full Year

This class is a reading program for seventh and eighth graders that targets the skills and strategies middle school students need to be successful in content-area learning. Students reading at or above grade level focus primarily on vocabulary development and advanced comprehension strategies. Students reading below grade level receive instruction that focuses on their particular needs, such as fluency, vocabulary development, or word analysis, using narrative and expository text at their instructional reading level. As students acquire new skills, they move rapidly through multiple levels in each school year. The extensive use of cooperative learning and regular assessments that involve students in setting individual and team goals motivate them to learn. Reading Edge is a researched-based program created by Success For All.

MATHEMATICS

0481 PRE-ALGEBRA

Full Year

This course provides a foundation in pre-algebra which includes graphing such as scatterplots and to represent situations, linear and non-linear functions, linear equations, inequalities, geometry, measurement, data analysis and probability plus more. There is an emphasis on problem-solving and describing mathematical relationships, and the applications of concepts including with the use of technology.

MATHEMATICS continued

0485 ALGEBRA I

Full Year

Algebra I includes a thorough study of topics such as functions, variations, quadratic and linear equations, and quadratic inequalities. It is a prerequisite for high school Geometry, and is recommended for students interested in attending college.

This course is for eighth grade students who have demonstrated above average skills in mathematics and have successfully completed 7th grade Honors Math. It is recommended that students taking Algebra I maintain at least a “B” average in 7th grade Honors Math and be recommended by their teacher. Students successfully completing this course will receive one credit toward high school graduation.

SCIENCE

0381 INTEGRATED SCIENCE-LEVEL II

Full Year

Integrated Science II focuses on Space Science, Earth Science, and Life Science. In the domain of Space Science, students will study galaxies, life cycle of stars, the solar system, and the motions of celestial bodies including the effects of gravity. Earth Science is about processes that shape the Earth such as plate tectonics, mountain building, volcanoes and earthquakes. Students will use models to analyze the Earth. In the Life Science domain, students will learn about variations of species, investigate extinction and evolution, understand sexual and asexual reproduction, and learn about inherited traits. Students will be engaged in scientific inquiry and learning about science and technology, and scientific ways of knowing. There is a fee for materials.

SOCIAL STUDIES

0281 AMERICAN HISTORY

Full Year

American History continues from earlier U.S. studies beginning in 1607 continuing through 1877 and will cover pre-Revolutionary America through the Civil War/Reconstruction. The historical sequence continues in eighth grade with an in-depth study of the early years of our country. This study incorporates all major areas of social studies. While students are studying a particular historic event in the United States they also look at its geographic settings, economic implications, developments in government and the role of citizens. These historical events will also be discussed in the framework of world events.

ENCORE CLASSES REQUIRED

FINANCIAL LITERACY AND CAREER READINESS

8800 FINANCIAL LITERACY WITH COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS 12Weeks

During this 12-week course the student will learn about topics such as Decision-Making and Money, Working and Earning, Getting your Money's Worth, Savings and Budgeting, Credit Concepts, and Future Goals: College & Career Planning. This course is interactive by design with opportunities for self-reflection, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. Class materials will come from a variety of sources including web-based lessons.

WELLNESS

0082 WELLNESS Full Year

Co-educational physical education is required in the eighth grade. A variety of sport and fitness activities will be offered with an emphasis on fundamentals. Each student must supply his/her own gym shorts/sweats, T-shirt, gym shoes, socks and locks. Lockers will be furnished. Emphasis will be placed on promotion and prevention of diseases. Topics will include: body systems, injury prevention, nutrition, human sexuality and discussion of current health trends.

TECHNOLOGY

6208 COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 2 12 Weeks

This course will build on computer skills learned in Computer Technology 7. This level will include database skills and the development of spreadsheets. Students will continue to practice word-processing skills through the semester and will improve their speed and accuracy.

This course will also involve career discovery based on the four career pathways. Students will be selecting a career pathway that correlates with their interests and research various career opportunities that are available.

ENCORE CLASSES ELECTIVES

TECHNOLOGY continued

0884 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

12 Weeks

Eighth grade Industrial Technology is a 12-week course concentrated in modular technology and design. It integrates multimedia computer-based instruction with high quality training on a computer module. The modules are self paced, self guided stations where students will work in groups of two to complete several lessons and experiments dealing with a wide ranged of technological fields. The students will also learn architectural and engineering concepts while they design and construct their own bridge using balsa wood. Computer software programs such as Microsoft Movie Maker, Gimp, and PowerPoint will also be explored. There is a fee for materials..

0871 MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY

12 Weeks

Eighth grade Materials & Technology is a 12 week course that introduces students to different areas of technology with the use of hands-on, problem-solving projects. These projects will involve the use of computer-aided drafting software, presentation software, hand tools, and woodworking machinery. The students will design and build their own projects while using the technology and woodworking tools. The students will be required to use proper safety procedures while using the tools and use proper documentation and citation while working in the computer lab. There is a fee for materials.

ART

0784 ART

12 Weeks

Eighth grade art has a strong focus on the elements and principles of design. Students will learn to solve visual design problems using a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional materials including drawing mediums and ceramics. The class will also incorporate art history and art criticism, in order to help prepare students for high school level art courses. Students are required to provide their own sketchbook. There is a fee for materials.

MUSIC

0786 CHOIR

Full Year

Candidates for choir must display enthusiasm, effort, ability, a willingness to participate, and a desire to be in choir. Choir students will be required to attend all rehearsals and performances by the group. Solo and ensemble participation will be offered. Students will be taught correct singing techniques, various forms and styles of music, musical theatre, three- and four-part harmony, basic music theory, and simple choreography. Evening or weekend performances should be expected. Choir members will be required to wear white blouses, black knee length or longer skirts and black shoes for girls and white shirts, black slacks, and black shoes for boys to all public performances. There is a fee for materials.

0787 CADET ORCHESTRA

Full Year

Students will play music of increasing difficulty throughout the year achieving the level of easy Class C high school music as determined by the contest lists published by the Ohio Music Education Association. Improvement in technique on individual instruments will be stressed as well as ensemble playing skills. Participation in the group is based upon the permission of the director. A minimum of four concerts will be given each year with required attendance at each performance. Orchestra students are required to adhere to the signed appearance contract. The key factor to success in instrumental music is practice. Students are expected to take instruments home and practice every day.

0789 BAND

Full Year

This is a continuation of Seventh Grade Band. Basic fundamentals of playing a musical instrument including posture, hand position, and note and rhythm reading are reviewed and expanded. More scales, more complex rhythms, and more difficult music are performed progressing to Middle School Class B literature by the end of the year. There is a minimum of three concerts each year with required attendance at each performance. Band students are required to wear black slacks, black shoes and socks, and white shirts or blouses with their uniform jacket. Performance at OMEA Large Group Adjudicated Event is also required. The key factor to success in instrumental music is practice. The student will be expected to take the instrument home every day and practice. Participation in the group is based upon permission of the director.

The Fremont City School District will not discriminate nor tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities for any reason, including on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, military status, sexual orientation or ancestry. Additionally, it will not discriminate in its employment policies nor practices.