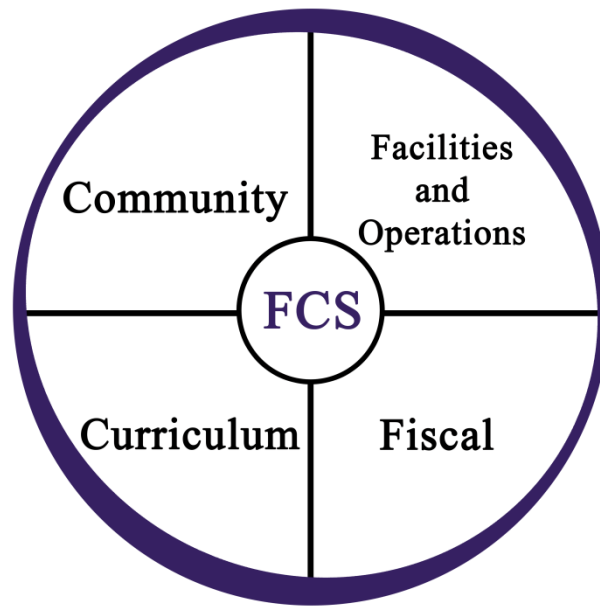


# Fremont City Schools



**Fremont Middle School  
Grade 8  
Course Description Guide  
2019-20**

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**Mission Statement:** We are committed to delivering a means to live as high achieving students, high performing workforce members, community stakeholders, and diverse individuals.

**Vision Statement:** Develop individuals who will thrive as they find their place in their local and global world.

**Board of Education**

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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.

The Course Description Guide includes information regarding a variety of offered courses. Required courses are listed first by department in alphabetical order. These are followed by required encore 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. We pride ourselves at FMS to offer courses to meet students' individual needs. Some of the courses are differentiated, such as mathematics, which are assigned according to the appropriateness of the students' academic need. It is the philosophy of the Fremont Middle School that parents are a part of this process and should feel free to ask questions as necessary. 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.

Students enrolled at Fremont Middle School who are identified by the school district's Evaluation Team as having disabilities shall have access to all courses offered to non-disabled students. Additionally, these students shall have access to all extra-curricular and non-academic activities as offered by the school district. Our Intervention Specialists teach students using the general education curriculum plus offer additional support classes as recommended by their IEP.

**Requests for changing courses must be made by written request by June 1.**

**Please call the Counseling Department at 419-332-5569.**

## **COURSE SELECTIONS FOR EIGHTH GRADE**

### **Required Core Courses**

- Language Arts
- Math:
  - Algebra I\*
  - *Or* Math 8
- Science
- American History

### **Required Encore Courses**

- Wellness (Health & Physical Education) (1 semester total Health/PE)

### **Elective Encore Courses**

- Art 8 I (no pre-requisite for either class) (1 semester)
- Art 8 II (no pre-requisite for either class) (1 semester)
- Band 8 (All Year)
- Cadet Orchestra (All Year)
- Choir 8 (All Year)
- Music 8 (All Year)
- Visual Communications 8 (1 semester)
- S.T.E.M. Robotics & Application 8 (1 semester)
- S.T.E.M. Engineering Fundamentals 8 (1 semester)

### **College Credit Plus Courses**

Students who wish to participate in College Credit Plus (CCP) must indicate their interest by completing the Intent to Participate by April 1. Informational meetings are held between January-March, 2019.

## **DESCRIPTIONS OF REQUIRED CORE COURSES FOR EIGHTH GRADE**

### **ENGLISH**

#### **LANGUAGE ARTS 8**

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.

### **MATHEMATICS**

#### **MATHEMATICS 8**

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 the use of technology.

#### **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 Math 7 II. It is recommended that students taking Algebra I maintain at least a “B” average in Math 7 II and be recommended by their teacher. Students successfully completing this course will receive one credit toward high school graduation. Students enrolled in this course will participate in the Ohio State End of Course Test and earn points toward graduation requirements.

## **SCIENCE**

### SCIENCE 8

Full Year

Science education at Fremont Middle School covers the following topics: the physical Earth; forces and motion; and species and reproduction. These themes focus on helping students use scientific inquiry to discover patterns, trends, structures, and relationships that may be described by simple principles. Students learn to work in groups to conduct investigations, participate in group discussions, and hands-on activities.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### AMERICAN HISTORY 8

Full Year

American History continues from earlier U.S. studies beginning in 1492 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.



## **DESCRIPTIONS OF REQUIRED ENCORE CLASSES**

### **WELLNESS**

#### **WELLNESS 8 (Health & Physical Education)**

Semester

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. The Health emphasis will be placed on healthy decision making including diet, drugs and alcohol, and social interactions with peers.

#### **WELLNESS 8 (Health & Swim)**

Semester

Co-educational swim is an option to fulfill the PE requirement of eighth grade. Students will be provided instruction of the fundamental strokes utilized in swim and diving techniques. Each student must supply his/her own appropriate swimsuit, goggles, and towel. Lockers will be furnished. The Health emphasis will be placed on healthy decision making including diet, drugs and alcohol, and social interactions with peers.

## **DESCRIPTIONS OF ELECTIVE ENCORE COURSES**

### **ART**

#### **ART I (2D)**

Semester

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. (no pre-requisite for the class)

ART II (3D)

Semester

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. (no pre-requisite for the class)

**MUSIC**

CHOIR 8

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.

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. 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. There is a fee for materials.

## BAND 8

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. There is a fee for materials.

## MUSIC 8

Semester

The focus of this class is to study different genres of music students will experience through listening, singing and playing instruments eighth grade General Music is a non-performance music class. Students will learn defining characteristics of different genre of music such as Classic, Folk, Blues, and Rock and Roll. Students will also study World Music, the History of Rock and Roll, and non-performance careers in the music industry.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

## VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS 8

Semester

Visual Communications 8 is a semester course that introduces students to different areas of Visual Communications Technology (VCT) and Graphic Design Technology with the use of technology based projects. These projects will consist of digital photography web-site design, video editing, and coding. Students will complete each activity in the computer lab while using advanced computer skills, software programs, and hardware (videos cameras, digital still cameras). There is a fee for materials.



## S.T.E.M.: ROBOTICS & APPLICATION 8

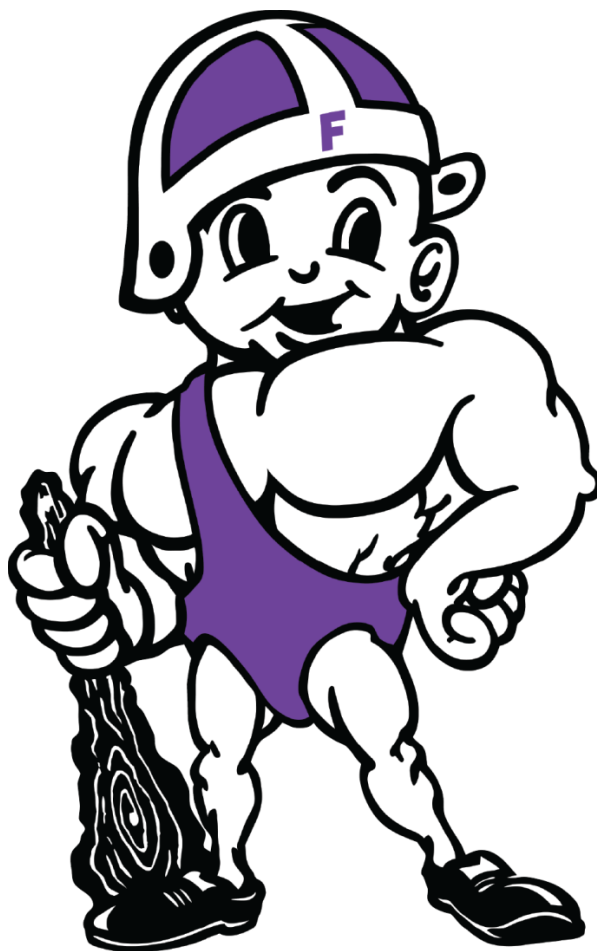
Semester

S.T.E.M.: Robotics & Application is a one semester, eighth grade course that applies the concepts of S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and robotics technology by the use of hands on, problem-solving applications. The curriculum offers flexible project-based units that instill engineering practices and principles by building and programming different styles of robots. Robotics learning teams will be established to facilitate the design, building, and application portions of the projects. These learning teams will apply their knowledge and skills in the testing of their robots based on predetermined challenges. There is a fee for materials.

## S.T.E.M. ENGINEERING FUNDAMENTALS 8

Semester

Eighth grade S.T.E.M. Engineering Fundamentals is a course that focuses on the S.T.E.M. curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and other different areas of technology with the use of hands-on, problem-solving projects. These projects will required the use of 3D Printers, AutoCAD, AutoDesk Inventor, Solid Works, Laser Engraving equipment, and woodworking tools. Students will safely complete each activity in the classroom/workshop, while demonstrating knowledge of content, scientific principles and problem-solving skills. Technology will be utilized to aid in research and development during the design processes of the hands-on project. 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.



The Board's policy of nondiscrimination extends to students, staff, job applicants, the general public and individuals with whom it does business and applies to race, color, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, age, disability or military status.