EIGHTH GRADE CURRICULUM

IN EIGHTH GRADE GRAMMAR & COMPOSITION our students will:
- write essays using the classical oration structure: thesis, proof, refutation, etc.
- use their outlining skills to organize their compositions
- be able to format essays using both Chicago and Turabian style manuals
- continue to master English grammar by sentence diagramming and other exercises

IN EIGHTH GRADE LITERATURE our students will read and discuss:
- novels such as To Kill a Mockingbird and Robinson Crusoe
- poems such as “Ozymandias” and “Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night”
- Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing and speeches by E.B. White and Rachel Carson
- short stories from Chekov, Hawthorne, Tolstoy, and Dostoevsky

IN EIGHTH GRADE HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY our students will:
- read and hear about the major defining events of American history from 1877-2020
- study the physical and political geography of Europe and the Middle East
- evaluate the rights and principles contained in the Declaration of Independence
- understand the difference between violent and non-violent forms of activism
- understand the causes and ramifications of the major wars of the twentieth century

IN EIGHTH GRADE LATIN II our students will:
- translate Latin stories such as “The Judgment of Paris” and “The Labors of Hercules”
- study the passive voice in pluperfect, perfect, and future tenses
- Complete Wheelock’s Latin chapters 18-27

IN EIGHTH GRADE ALGEBRA I our students will:
- study and apply the laws of algebra and conditional equations
- understand fundamental operations with polynomials
- solve word problems involving systems of equations
- solve quadratic equations using the quadratic formula

IN EIGHTH GRADE INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS our students will:
- understand the laws of motion and the concepts of force, work, energy, and power
- know the basic terms and concepts of electricity
- conduct experiments involving connections between electricity and magnetism
- study the electromagnetic spectrum, refraction, and reflection

IN EIGHTH GRADE ART our students will:
- understand and apply the six main composition rules of photography
- study the great works of art and architecture of the twentieth century
- create their own painting in watercolor and acrylic paints using two-point perspective

IN EIGHTH GRADE MUSIC our students will:
- become familiar with instruments and works of music from non-Western cultures
- study American musical theater including Ziegfeld, Gershwin, Bernstein, Rodgers, and Hart
- sing choral arrangements as part of the eighth grade choir