EIGHTH GRADE COURSE DESCPRIPTION

**Bible 8**

What does it take to survive junior high? This unique course sets the pace for confronting life with Bible-based values as well as encouraging student to extend themselves beyond merely surviving to thriving in the midst of everyday challenges and overwhelming experiences. With an in-depth study of the life of an Old Testament and New Testament person, students will learn the true meaning of Romans 8:37 “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

**English 8**

Eighth grade grammar aides the student in mastering the eight parts of speech and applying them in writing and speaking. The student is prepared for more advanced high school English studies by building a strong foundation through weekly spelling, vocabulary, poetry and literature lessons. The foundation is further solidified through a variety of writing assignments including outlines, descriptions, book reports, and a research paper.

**Creative Writing 8**

The creative writing class is an extension of the English 8 curriculum and serves to expose students to a more in depth look at the entire writing process while extending them extra time to develop their own writing skills in preparation for high school and college writing.

**Pre-Algebra**

Pre-Algebra class is designed to review basic mathematics skills, give a strong emphasis to basic skills necessary for algebra, introduce square roots, special triangles, and further develop understanding of graphs, statistics, probability, and geometry.

**MATH: Algebra I (8th grade, 1 credit)**

Prerequisite: Passing algebra entrance exam and approval of 7th grade math teacher. Must make a "C" or better to exit/pass this course.

Algebra I is designed to teach students thinking and reasoning skills. This course emphasizes the development of problem-solving skills to lay a foundation for the more advanced math courses. The course content includes basic operations in the real number system, solving word problems, understanding relations, functions, and graphs. Students are introduced to systems of linear equations and inequalities, integral exponents, all forms of polynomials and their factors, rational and irrational expressions, radicals, and quadratic equations.

**Physical Science**

This is an 18 weeks course that introduces students to the basic concepts of matter and motion through the study of the universe, solids, liquids, heat, birds, magnetism, and electricity. Emphasis is placed on demonstrations and labs. A science project is required. During the second semester a course introducing the concepts of physical fitness, nutrition, diseases that attack the body, safety, and spiritual growth is taught.

**America, Land I Love**

This course presents the history, geography and governmental structure of the United States from a Christian perspective. Display maps, flashcards, time-lines, chapter reviews, tests, and quizzes reinforce the interesting narrative approach of the curriculum. Current events are due each nine-weeks to keep students abreast of history as it is happening in the world around them.

**Rotation (6th-8th):**

**Music/Drama (6th-8th Grade, one nine-weeks)**

Music theory, history, and drama is studied in this combined class for one nine-week period. Students study and perform a musical drama at the end of each nine-weeks.

**Physical Education (6th-8th Grade, one nine-weeks)**

One nine-weeks of Physical Education including rules, drills, and play of team and individual sports including: basketball, football, softball, volleyball, team handball, soccer, swimming, and tennis. Conditioning and flexibility are a part of every class; ending the nine-weeks with the President’s Fitness Challenge. Sportsmanship and team work are a top priority.

**Computer (6th-8th Grade, one nine-weeks)**

A general survey of the basic computer skills; hands-on experience with the computer for the purpose of familiarity; using the computer as a tool. A strong emphasis placed on learning and using Microsoft Office software (Word, Excel, Publisher and PowerPoint).

**Art (6th-8th Grade, one nine-weeks)**

A nine-weeks course where students are taught one and two point perspective, basic drawing skills and techniques, and correct use of art tools and materials. Materials include oil pastel, clay, watercolor, tempera paints, crayons and colored pencils. Each student is encouraged to develop any artistic abilities they may have.