



# CONCORD

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## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### 2022-2023 MS Course Descriptions

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Bible** – will answer the essential question of life, “Where do I fit?” A growth emphasis on belonging will answer the following questions: How do I understand God’s Word? How do I love God’s Word? The students will understand and articulate the Christ-centered Narrative.

**6<sup>th</sup> grade History** – the study of ancient civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, India, and China, as well as classical Greece, Roman & Mayan civilization, Ancient African culture, the Golden Age of the Orient, the Byzantine Empire, and the Middle Ages

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Language Arts**— a study of literature, vocabulary, rules of grammar, recognizing and editing common mistakes, and composition at an average pace for students to master new concepts

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Language Arts**— a study of literature, vocabulary, rules of grammar, recognizing and editing common mistakes, and composition at a rigorous pace and with additional work

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Mathematics**—a study of decimals, fractions, integers, ratios, proportions, and geometry (including an introduction to algebraic terms and equations) at an average pace for students to master new concepts

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Mathematics**—a study of decimals, fractions, integers, ratios, proportions, and geometry with algebraic terms and examples woven throughout at a rigorous pace and with additional work

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Science** – the study of volcanoes, earthquakes, the weather, erosion, natural resources, cells and organisms, as well as atoms, molecules, electricity and magnetism, motion and machines

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Bible** –will answer the essential question of life, “Who am I?” A growth emphasis on identity will answer the following questions: How do I approach God? How do I relate to God, myself, and others? The students will develop authentic Christ-centered relationships.

**7<sup>th</sup> grade History** – the study of medieval times, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Mongolian Empire, the Age of Exploration, absolutism, European transformation, Middle Eastern changes, and Modern Asia

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Language Arts**—a study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and composition with a focus on improving writing at an average pace for students to master new concepts

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Language Arts**—a study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and composition with a focus on improving writing at a rigorous pace and with additional work

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Mathematics**—a study of decimals, fractions, integers, percentages, ratios, proportions, and geometry with an emphasis on how those skills will be used in algebra at an average pace for students to master new concepts

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Pre-Algebra**—a review of decimals, fractions, integers, percent, ratios, proportions, and geometry with an emphasis on how those skills will be used in algebra; a study of algebraic terms and equations including topics such as exponents, radicals, polynomials, factoring, and graphing equations; at a rigorous pace and with additional work

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Science** – the study of the first law of thermodynamics, geocentric & heliocentric theories, early astronomical devices, galaxies and nebulae, the structure and characteristics of the sun, features of planets, meteors and moons, space exploration, and the Earth’s atmosphere

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Bible** – will answer the essential question of life, “Who am I?” A growth emphasis on identity will answer the following questions: How do I approach God? How do I relate to God, myself, and others? The students will develop authentic Christ-centered relationships.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade History** – the study of the exploration and settlement of the New World, early American colonies, independence and a new nation, establishing the Constitution, the growth of the American nation, the era of Manifest Destiny, a divided nation & the Civil War, and Reconstruction

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Language Arts** — a study of literature and vocabulary, grammar basics, and research and composition basics. This course is designed for those who need more time to master concepts.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Language Arts** — a study of literature including novel studies and vocabulary, advanced composition skills including the correct usage of grammar, advanced research skills including the analysis of primary sources. This course is designed for those who are self-motivated and who have a strong work ethic.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Foundations of Algebra (Pre-Algebra)**— a review of decimals, fractions, integers, percent, ratios, proportions, and geometry with an emphasis on how those skills will be used in algebra; a study of algebraic terms and equations including topics such as exponents, radicals, polynomials, and graphing equations; at an average pace for students to master new concepts. At the end of this course, the student will have a strong foundation to take Algebra 1 as a freshman.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Algebra I**— a high school course which provides a study of algebraic terms and equations and including topics such as exponents, radicals, polynomials, inequalities, factoring, functions, graphing equations, and solving systems of equations at a rigorous pace and with additional work. Passing this course and sufficient performance on the Algebra 1 proficiency exam provides the student with a high school credit.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade Science** – the study of the classification and changes in matter, chemical & physical changes, scientific measurements, mechanics & motion, force, gravity, and momentum, energy, simple machines, thermodynamics, and electricity and magnetism

## Middle School Electives

**Art** – studies the basic elements of art and principles of design while developing each student’s own personal style and creativity through various projects. The art classes for each grade cover separate projects and skills, so students may take a different art course for each year of middle school.

**Art Appreciation** – explores an understanding of art so students may describe, critique, and appreciate works of art. The course will incorporate the role of the Christian in art, the historical and cultural context of art, and information regarding key artists.

**Band** – pushes students toward achieving the best possible musical sound out of their instruments. 6<sup>th</sup> grade Band does not require prior experience. Students will participate in an "instrument fitting" the first week of instruction to select the best possible fit for each student. 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Band does require previous band instruction. It is possible for students to join 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Band without prior experience if they commit to private lessons and additional practice time.

**Chorus** – focuses on learning to worship and lead through song. Elements also covered include: proper vocal technique, sight singing, and ear training, as well as exploring different genres within a Biblical framework.

**Community Leadership (8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only)** – Teamwork, initiative, public speaking, leadership and impulse control are just some of the necessary skills students need to succeed. In Community Leadership, students will: Learn to give feedback in a way that builds up others, implement time management and study skills, understand the importance of healthy debate, meet and listen to actual community leaders, acquire skills that result personal growth outside the classroom,

explore communication strategies that go beyond social media and text talk, become comfortable with public speaking and understand how social media can damage future opportunities and their reputation.

**Innovation Workshop (7th & 8th grade combined yearlong elective)** – designed for students who are curious, hands-on-learners. This class will challenge the student to solve problems using their imagination, along with technology, scientific and math principles. Most assignments will be tackled in small groups & the ability to work as a team is essential. Teams will design, build, & test their product, and like any innovator be willing to go back after peer review and improve your design if necessary. Can your project float, launch, survive the pressure, go the distance? See you in the Innovation Workshop.

**Life on Mission, a service elective (8th grade only)** – explores the question “What is the mission of God?” Students will study past missionaries and Christians who have laid the groundwork for missions and service today. They will hear from current gospel-focused workers serving neighbors and the nations. Students will discover how they can be a part of what God is doing in our community locally, nationally, and globally while engaging in meaningful service projects throughout the semester. This will be a fun, hands-on class committed to being the hands and feet of Jesus.

**Physical Education (P.E.)** – focuses on physical activity to promote a healthy lifestyle through games and sports, as well as learning the rules of certain sports & activities. The class will also focus on building muscle through weight training, learning proper technique to avoid injury, as well as which muscles are strengthened through each particular exercise. Students may take PE each year of middle school if desired.

**Spanish** – All 6th grade students will take Spanish as one of their 9 week elective rotations. Students who choose Spanish as their semester elective in 7th grade are then eligible to take a year long Spanish 1 course in 8th grade to earn high school credit.

**Study Skills (7th Grade only)** – Many middle schoolers need help getting and staying organized. This class will teach the most crucial learning and organizing skills needed to be successful in school. Some of these skills include: tips for studying effectively, establishing priorities, identifying goals, organizing papers, organizing a work space, how to take notes, how to read textbooks, how to monitor goals and recognize achievement.

**Theatre Arts 101 (6th grade only)** – explores the basics of acting, design, & writing for the stage as well as the history of theatre. Theatre Arts 101 is a physical, interactive class. Students will perform in front of their peers by themselves and in group scenes. Students will learn life skills such as communicating effectively to an audience, working well with a team, creative problem solving, and empathy through theatre skills. All 6th graders will participate in this elective as part of their quarterly rotation.

**Advanced Theatre Arts (7th & 8th grade combined yearlong elective)** – is a theatrical performance class available to 7th & 8th grade students. Students will learn through a variety of theatrical activities designed to set them up for success on the stage of life. There will be no after school rehearsals during the Fall semester unless students are involved in the extra-curricular Fall production. In the Spring semester, students will advance life skills through the rehearsal and performance of theatrical material for a public audience. Most rehearsals for the Spring production will take place during class time; however, at least one after school rehearsal will be required the week of the show. During the Spring semester, attendance at rehearsals and the performance are a mandatory part of the class.