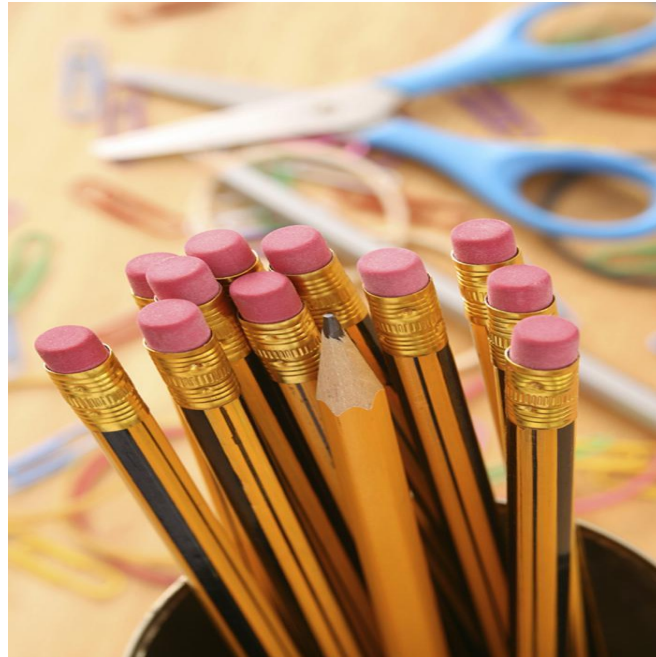


# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **The excitement of it all!**



# Counseling Staff

## Counselors

Grade 6-Mrs. Amico

Grade 7-Mr. McMillan

Grade 8-Mrs. Echols

Attendance/Counseling Secretary

Mrs. Leticia

We are always here to help!!

# Goals for Today:

- View presentation to get a better understanding of 8<sup>th</sup> grade electives and other class offerings.
- Fill out purple paper with your 8th grade class choices.

Purple sheet is due March 5th!

# What's new for 8th grade?

Some students will go to Avondale High School for 1st hour (and possibly 2nd hour) in 8th grade:

\*Biology

\*Geometry (If you are currently in Algebra I)

\*Band (If recommended by Mr. Hejka)

\*German (If you sign up and get approved)

\*They are also looking to add additional courses for 2nd hour.

Next year, the high school will be doing “block scheduling”.

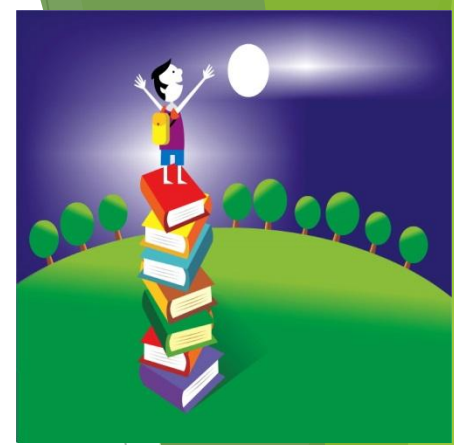
If you are going to take one of the classes on the left, you can:

- ★ Get dropped off or to the high school or take the high school bus for 1st and 2nd hour

## OPTIONS:

- ★ Take just one class and **get your own transportation back to AMS** after 1st hour
- ★ Take two classes and take a bus back to AMS after 2nd hour
- ★ Specific details TBD soon

# Class schedule



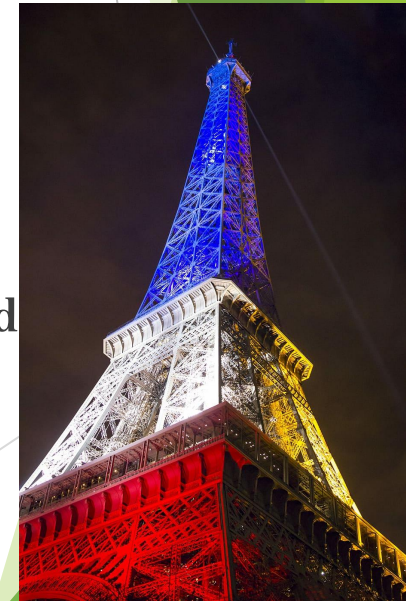
- All **core** classes will be year-long (Math, SS, English, Science).
- Band, choir and world language will also be all year-long classes.
- Study Skills (also year-long) will be offered to students who had the class this year and that have an IEP.
- Other electives will be semester-long.
- AC, Math Lab and Reading Lab may take the place of electives depending on your grades and NWEA scores this year.
- Detailed scheduling information is on our AMS website under:  
[Middle School Resources/Counseling Resources/Counseling Information](#)



# World Language



- ▶ High School students are required to take 2 years of World Language to meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements for graduation from high-school.
- ▶ Currently we offer: Spanish I, French I or German I (1 section at AHS 1<sup>st</sup> hour)
- ▶ We will also have a Spanish I class for Spanish speakers
- ▶ Not a requirement to have had language prior to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ▶ Many 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will begin their Foreign Language requirement in 8th grade that will count toward the 2 years you need to graduate, but you don't have to take it in 8th grade if you don't want to.





# WHY TAKE SPANISH?

Gracias

HABLA  
ESPAÑOL.

- ▶ It's a universal language in our country
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> most spoken language in US
- ▶ Many of our AMS friends speak it



- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACQX5nMl2wQ>





**Yes! Ja!**

## **German is offered in the Avondale School District!**

This course is offered 1<sup>st</sup> hour at the High School

You will have to get a ride/take a bus to AHS 30 minutes earlier than AMS start time!

**You probably know more German than you think! Take this short test to see how much you already know and how easy learning German can be!**

▶ What is:

- ▶ Hand
- ▶ Finger
- ▶ Haus
- ▶ T-shirt
- ▶ Schuh
- ▶ Socken

▶ *Answers: hand, finger, house, t-shirt, shoe, socks*

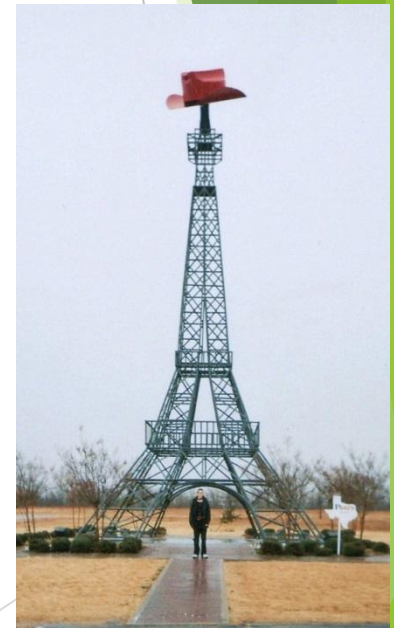
- If you thought that was easy, you'll do great in German class! The program focuses on the practical use of the language, and its goal is to prepare students for travel or study abroad and further language study! It's fun and easy to learn!
- **Study abroad grants:** We have had AHS students spend senior year in Germany on full scholarship and many more who have lived in Germany during the summer and in college!

**\*We share the German spots with high school students so if you register for German at AHS, please make sure you really want the class! After June 1st, you are locked in and you can't change the class.**

# French I

## Taught by Madame Coon

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y5Uo4gXuAPKi4j1L\\_hzFJamQqCosPxRh/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Y5Uo4gXuAPKi4j1L_hzFJamQqCosPxRh/view)



# Semester-long Electives



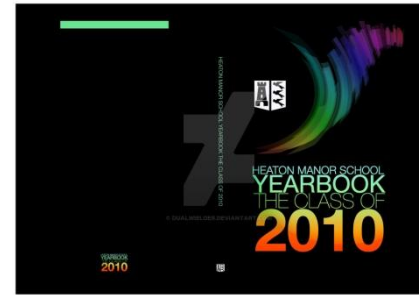
You will get either:

(2) Full year electives (Music/World Language/Study Skills)

OR

(1) full year elective and 2 semester electives

\*\*\*\*\*

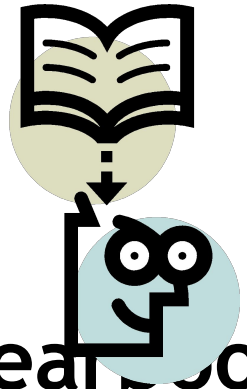


**Pick 2 of the following:**

- Sports and Music Culture
- Art 8
- Leadership
- LINKS (Must be in the Bridge Buddy lunch program this year).
- STEM Medical
- STEM Architecture
- AMS Publications (Yearbook)
- \*Environmental Science
- \*PE
- \*Multi-Media

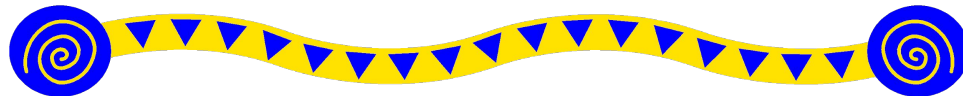


## AMS PUBLICATIONS



**\*Students will learn the basics of yearbook layout, design, photography, caption writing, reporting, and marketing.**

**\*Students will work both individually and as a team to create a yearbook publication for the AMS community.**





# Sports and Music Culture



This class will be taught with access to different types of literature and discussions that empower our reluctant reading students to gain the skills they need to thrive in high school, college, and beyond. Sports and Music Culture curriculum has middle school pathways in reading, short writings, and argumentative/persuasive debates and essays. We can expose students to multiple types of texts like, but not limited to, blogging, journalism, short stories, and poetry to prepare them for high school and beyond. Our current AMS English curriculum gives students experiences in each of these areas, but may have moved beyond the abilities of some of our vulnerable students who have not found their voice yet. This class will allow them to discuss and write about a topic that they are passionate about at the pace they need.

# MUSIC



# Art 8

Emphasis will be on:

- Art history and appreciation
- Using various media such as pencils, inks, pastels, clay and paper mache.
- Drawing and painting
- Sculpture and clay

May be able to take more than 1 semester of Art.

If interested in this option, please write Mrs. Echols a note on your purple sheet.





# Environmental Science

A new middle school environmental science elective



The purpose of this course is to teach students to:

- identify human activities that are responsible for causing current climate change, and
- what actions communities can take to mitigate the effects of global climate change.



**Oakland Schools Science Consultant, Andrea Brook: "I am not aware of any other middle schools in Oakland County who are offering Environmental Science, so kudos to you for being a flagship district!"**

# 8<sup>th</sup> grade Leadership

- Find your cause and help others—in the school or in the community
- **MUST BE able to work** independently and be self-motivated with a heart that's willing to help others!

**In Leadership class, you plan and carry out service project ideas to help make the world a better place.**

**Examples:** Canned food drive, volleyball/dodgeball tournaments to help raise money for charity, clothing drives, etc.



# Multi-Media



This class will explore the world of film and video editing. Students will learn about filming techniques and the most effective way to tell a story in film. They will also receive comprehensive training in Adobe Premiere video editing software and Sound booth sound editing software. They will then use what they have learned to create how-to videos and a video con





## PE 8

Boys and girls participating in 8th grade PE will be challenged with a variety of fitness conditioning activities that will increase their muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance. Students will develop skills to be used to play a variety of team sports along with a basic understanding of team sport rules. Indoor and outdoor activities include; basketball, volleyball, soccer, speedball, floor hockey, softball and group games. Students will participate in fitness testing. Sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership are emphasized.

MAY be possible to take more than 1 PE.

If you are interested in that option, please write a note for Mrs. Echols on your purple sheet.



## STEM—These are 2 separate semester courses:

### STEM 8 Medical Detectives-Semester 1

- ▶ In Medical Detectives, students will discover how health care professionals act as medical detectives to identify, treat and prevent illness in their patients. Students investigate body systems and how this information is processed. Medical Detectives analyze patients and data in a community outbreak simulations. Students use observation and investigation skills learned throughout the course to solve the outbreak diagnosis for the community and report their findings.

### STEM 8 Green Architecture-Semester 2

- ▶ Today's students have grown up in an age of "green" choices. In the Green Architecture unit, students learn how to apply this concept to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design using 2D and 3D computer modelling. Students will conclude the course by building 3D models of their designs.



Science



# Advanced Math-Algebra I

- ❖ Students who are currently enrolled in Advanced Math 7 will automatically go on to Algebra I next year (unless the teacher feels you aren't ready based on poor grades and work habits).
- ❖ Students who wish to take a placement test can discuss their wishes with their current math teacher.
- ❖ Math teachers will notify Ms. Amico if the interested students should take the placement test in August.
- ❖ Those students interested in AP math testing should have a minimum score of 70% or better on most recent NWEA and score of 232 or higher along with your teachers recommendation.
- ❖ Recommended students will get a testing date for August and study materials prior to the last day of school this year.



# Advanced English 8

## Placement criteria-

\*Current Adv Eng 7 students should discuss their interest in continuing next year with Mrs. Nofs. She will give Ms. Amico a list of current students who should continue in grade 8.

If you have a B or better and want to continue, please check this option off on your purple sheet.

## Other qualified (new) candidates will be invited to take a placement test based on:

- 7th grade teacher recommendation (Must have good work habits, motivation, desire for advanced placement and good attendance).
- There WILL be a lot of required reading in this course!
- B or better in Regular English 7
- Standardized Test scores --70% or better and a score of 225 or higher on the NWEA.
- Placement test will be offered in April by invitation only.

Once you accept the invitation to be in Advanced English 8, you will NOT be able to switch out mid-year next year so please understand this is a big commitment!

# NWEA and Report Card Grades

## Why do they matter?

- \*The counselors use the data from your NWEA testing (along with your most recent grades) in 7th grade to determine if you need extra help in reading (ELA Lab), math (Math Lab) or all classes (AC).
- \*If you meet the criteria, we will substitute a semester elective for a reading or math lab class.
- \***DO YOUR BEST** on the NWEA assessments and report card grades!

**What might  
your  
schedule  
look like in  
8<sup>th</sup> grade?**



# Your Schedule

- ▶ Social Studies
  - ▶ Science
  - ▶ English
  - ▶ Math
- 4 Core  
Classes**



Elective Hour #1-Full year (pick 1)

- \*Spanish I, French I or German I
- \*Study Skills (Must have an IEP)
- \*Band or choir

Elective Hour #2-Can pick another full year (above)

**-OR- Pick 2 semester electives**

Electives: Leadership, Art, PE, LINKS, Multi-Media, Environmental Science, Sports and Music Culture, STEM Medical or STEM Architecture or AMS Publications

When is your Purple Sheet due:

**Thursday, March 5, 2024**

***\*\* If you change your mind, you can email Mrs. Echols  
for any changes up until May 1st.***

# Get Involved NEXT YEAR!

Clubs

Sports

NJHS

Student Council

Mustang Connections

School Dances



Try something new....

# Problems or questions?

Email Mrs. Echols ASAP!

[sherisse.echols@avondaleschools.org](mailto:sherisse.echols@avondaleschools.org)

**Purple sheets** are due: **March 5, 2024**

# HELP



# Conclusion:

Mrs. Echols will pass out purple sheets. Fill out the sheet, sign/date and take home for your parent/guardian to sign.  
*Return signed forms to Counseling Office by March 5th.*