WELCOME FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

The Lincoln Middle School Course Description Guide is written to help you select your classes for a successful year. There are both required and elective classes. Please select your elective classes very carefully as we will make every effort to schedule the classes you request. Parents and students with questions about the course selection process or any other matter are asked to call the school to talk with a counselor or an administrator.

Middle School Office: 484-7033
Timothy Green  
Principal
Jeffrey Petzak  
Assistant Principal
Lori Ferguson  
Dean of Students

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM

The Guidance and Counseling Department is staffed by two counselors and a department secretary. This team works together to provide a comprehensive guidance and counseling program. The counselors promote student success and prepare students for the choices and decisions they will be making along their individual, educational, and career pathways. A wide variety of individual, classroom, community-centered programs, and services are provided for our students through a collaborative approach to guidance and counseling. Our program gives students skill-building experiences in career awareness, exploration, development, and educational goal setting.

In order to provide a high level of continuity and coordination of services, each student will have the same counselor for at least two of the student’s three years at the middle-school. Our goal is to work together with students, parents, and faculty to promote academic achievement and good citizenship. The counselors’ assignments for the 2017-2018 school year will be:

Guidance and Counseling Office - 484-7085
Rebekah Ward  
Counselor [A-L]
John Malbone  
Counselor [M-Z]
Lincoln Middle School has four marking periods, or quarters, per school year. One quarter equals nine weeks. Two quarters equal one semester and two semesters equal one year. This schedule allows students to have up to six elective choices beyond the required computer/technology and physical education requirements.

School begins at 7:40 a.m. and ends at 2:40 p.m., unless school is in session for an early release or half day.

Progress reports are issued midway through each marking period, and they are available online through PowerSchool. Parent conferences are scheduled each semester. Parents are encouraged to make appointments with their child’s teacher(s) as necessary.

A student’s schedule consists of core and elective classes. Core classes include language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Electives include physical education, art, technology, band, choir, Spanish, and health.

Additionally, we offer enrichment electives in the core subject areas. 7th and 8th graders have two hours of elective classes per day. All students must take one quarter of physical education and one quarter of technology; the only exception is for band students who also take Spanish 1 or Spanish 2 for high school credit. There are excellent electives to choose from and they are all listed in this course description guide.

Teaching Teams
A team refers to a group of students and teachers. Students and teachers are organized into teams of between two and four teachers.

Special Education
Special education services will be provided according to a student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The majority of services are provided in an inclusion setting.

Student Activities
Students have an opportunity to participate in several after school activities including the Building Our School Spirit Club (BOSS), the Robotics Club, Chess Club, the school-sponsored spelling bee, and the quiz bowl. The BOSS Club sponsors movie nights, spirit nights, and other events. In May of each year, the Southeastern Michigan Middle Level Administrators Association recognizes the top 8th grade scholars at an awards assembly for students and parents. Other after school activities will be offered as possible.

Interscholastic Athletics
Athletics is an integral part of our school program. We offer swimming, cross-country, basketball, cheerleading, volleyball, and track for girls. We offer swimming, football, basketball, cross-country, wrestling, and track for boys.

Lincoln Middle School Agenda Planner and Student Code of Conduct
All students receive a Lincoln Middle School Agenda Planner. The agenda planner contains general information about Lincoln Middle School and the Student Code of Conduct. Students are required to use the agenda planner to record assignments and document hall passes. The agenda planner enhances communication between home and school. Replacement cost for lost planners is $10.00.

6th Grade Schedule Summary
Each student will be enrolled in Mathematics or Accelerated Mathematics, Language Arts or Advanced Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Each class is 70 minutes. Students will also be enrolled in a nine-week (one-quarter) computer class and a nine-week (one-quarter) physical education class. Band students will alternate “Red and Green” days during the first semester to meet the elective requirements. The 2nd semester, students will only have band as their elective. All other students will select an elective from art, choir, health, or technology. Elective classes are 55 minutes each day.

Placement in an accelerated or advanced class is determined by NWEA score from 5th grade.
7th Grade Academic Requirement Summary

Each student will be enrolled in Mathematics or Accelerated Mathematics, Language Arts or Advanced Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Each student will be enrolled in a nine-week (one quarter) computer class and in a nine-week (one-quarter) physical education class. Elective classes will complete each student’s schedule.

7th Grade Required Core Classes

Mathematics 7
This course continues the use of computation skills involved with decimals, fractions, ratio, proportion and percent. The course also covers topics in geometry, statistics and probability. Integrated within the curriculum are mental mathematics skills, estimation, algebraic concepts and problem solving.

Accelerated Mathematics 7
Prerequisite: NWEA score and B+ or better in 6th grade
This transitional mathematics course covers three areas: number concepts, algebra, and geometry. This course is the prerequisite to 8th grade Algebra I. Reading is an essential skill used in this process. Students are encouraged to use problem-solving skills to apply mathematical concepts to real-life situations.

Language Arts 7
Language Arts 7 is designed to build skills in word recognition, pronunciation, thinking, reasoning, as well as oral and written communication. Grammar is reviewed to improve writing. Various forms of literature, such as fables and short stories, are an important part of the curriculum. A variety of teaching techniques are used to build vocabulary and refresh learned dictionary and research skills. Various forms of media may be used.

Advanced Language Arts 7
Advanced Language Arts emphasizes

Science 7
7th grade science uses investigative and hands-on approaches to learn concepts of force, motion, pressure, work energy forms, changes and thermal dynamics.

Social Studies 7
The purpose of the 7th grade social studies curriculum is to provide knowledge on the geography of the world. This course will build social studies and map skills. Students will be taught in theory and research-based active instructional techniques. Students will also be engaged in multiple intelligence teaching strategies to ensure learning. This course is fully aligned to state and national social studies standards.

7th Grade Elective Classes

Students are required to take: 1 quarter of technology and 1 quarter of physical education. The only exception to the requirement of technology and P.E. is for students who are taking both Spanish 1 and Band.

Physical Education 7 .25 Quarter
The primary focus of this class is to improve students’ fitness levels. Students will engage in daily fitness and team sport activities in order to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. This course will provide students with information about finding and tracking their heart rate, as well as basic health and nutrition information. Regular class discussion will include self-motivation, teamwork, fair play, and related topics.

NXT Robotics 7 .25 Quarter
In this technology course, students will be introduced to programming, logical thinking, teamwork, and project-based learning. Integrating science, math, engineering, and technology, students will program a robot to gather information and process information.

Informational Technology 7 .25 Quarter
Students will become proficient with keyboarding skills and technological interactions with software like Microsoft Word, Publisher, PowerPoint, Excel, and Digital Artwork. Students will demonstrate mastery of these programs through several individual projects. Students will also apply the appropriate technologies toward critical thinking, creative expression, and decision-making skills.

Multi Media Tech 7 .25 Quarter
Serious-minded students will work with a variety of media, use digital photography, and learn editing skills. Students will need to have average or better writing skills.

Technology Electives

Digital Publications 7 .25 Quarter
You will publish to the internal digital bulletin board, create a school newsletter including short narratives about middle school events and work on the 2018 yearbook. You need to have a B or better in Language Arts to take this class.
Fine and Performing Arts Electives

Band 7 1.0 Year
Prerequisite: 6th Grade Band
Previous band experience is expected. An audition will be required for students who did not participate in 6th grade band. Students in this class will continue to develop their ensemble skills. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students must be willing to practice at home on a daily basis, and must bring their instrument to class.

Beginning Choir 7 .50 Semester
This is a one semester beginning choir for students who are interested in participating in choir and learning how to sing. In this class students will learn the basics of vocal production and reading music. Beginning choir will perform 1-2 concert(s) a semester.

Advanced Choir 7 1.0 Year
This is a full-year, advanced option for students serious about becoming better singers through performance. This class focuses on the basics of vocal production, professional performance practices, self-confidence, and learning to read music. Concert Choir will perform 3-5 concerts a year.

Art 7 .25 Quarter
This course is designed so students can explore a variety of two and three-dimensional design subject matter. Art history is also an intricate part of this class. Some areas studied are painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics and design principles. Through the art experience, the student gains the ability to understand and appreciate the many forms of art. This course promotes the development of art skills and concepts.

Foreign Language
All students must pass two years of the same foreign language in order to earn a Michigan diploma. These credits can be earned anytime between kindergarten and 12th grade.

Spanish I 7 1.0 Year
In Spanish I the students learn the vocabulary for classroom objects, numbers, and information related to the calendar, greetings, likes and dislikes, school subjects, and how to tell time. They learn about the culture of Latin American countries and simple conversations related to the vocabulary learned in the classroom as well as writing small sentences in Spanish. This class meets the Michigan graduation requirement for a diploma.

Core Enrichment Electives

Read 180 7 .25 Quarter
Students are assigned to this support class by their counselor based on prior performance in Language arts, test scores and teacher recommendation. This personalized course in ELA will provide direct instruction and resources in a small group setting. Students will benefit from study skills and advancement for future achievement in these core areas.

Computer-Based ELA 7 .25 Quarter
The primary goal of this ELA course is to provide students with a variety of computer skills that will be useful throughout the remainder of their education and into their lives beyond school. This ELA class is an elective course where emphasis is placed on learning to use tools that will be most useful as students complete work for all classes (especially ELA). An emphasis is also placed on developing high-level thinking skills and creating knowledge and skills that will be used in everyday lives inside and outside of the educational setting. In this class, you will learn you how to maneuver Word and Google documents, create presentations, learn what makes a web site reliable and how to properly reference the site. Another important topic in this class will be cyber safety.

#Math 7 .25 Quarter
Students are assigned to this support class by their counselor based on prior performance in math, test scores and teacher recommendation. This personalized course in Math will provide direct instruction and resources in a small group setting. Students will benefit from study skills and advancement for future achievement in these core areas.

Math Mania 7 .25 Quarter
Topics covered include algebra, graphing, and geometry. The curriculum consists of mathematical tasks and questions designed to stimulate mathematical thinking and to promote discussion among students. Students will explore mathematical relationships, and further develop and explain their own reasoning of mathematical concepts. Concepts will be taught through a variety of motivating games and activities that address concepts and reinforce communication in math, computation skills, and key math strands.

Science Adventures 7 .25 Quarter
This enrichment elective will focus on exploratory skills and information in the subject of science. This course may include: Astronomy, Anatomy, Environment Issues, Forensic Science, Ecology, or Green energy.

Social Studies 7 .25 Quarter
Students in this course will be engaged in learning Social Studies in an online and traditional environment. Students will be learning about: current events, civics, economics, geography and history. Part of the focus of the course will be to prepare students for future social studies classes and curriculum. Students must feel comfortable using the computer and have grade appropriate skills.

Health 7 .25 Quarter
8th Grade Academic Requirement Summary

Each student will be enrolled in a mathematics class, either Algebra 8 or Mathematics 8, and in Language Arts 8, Science 8, and Social Studies 8. Each student will be enrolled in a nine-week (one quarter) technology class and in a nine-week (one quarter) physical education class. Elective classes will complete each student’s schedule.

8th Grade Required Core Classes

Algebra 8
Prerequisite: B+ average in Mathematics 7 with teacher recommendation. Score two years above grade level and score in the 90th percentile on a standardized test. This Algebra I course is designed to help students understand the number system through exposure to algebraic processes and use of logical reasoning. This class is an advanced mathematics class and is typically taken by students who are in the 9th grade. Students who maintain a “C” average or higher in this class will proceed to Geometry as a freshman. Students must be able to follow directions and do daily homework.

Language Arts 8
Language Arts 8 is a one-year course that emphasizes reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing. Students read a wide variety of classic and contemporary literature such as short stories, poetry, essays, plays and novels. Students do extensive writing in the form of essays, creative stories and poetry. They learn active listening techniques, do public speaking and use critical thinking skills to analyze art and the cinema as it relates to literature.

Mathematics 8
This transitional mathematics course covers three areas: number concepts, algebra and geometry. This course is designed as a stepping stone to Algebra I. Reading is an essential skill used in this process. Students are encouraged to use problem solving skills to apply mathematical concepts to real-life situations.

Science 8
This course emphasizes logical reasoning, critical evaluation and drawing conclusions by participating in scientific investigations. Topics at the 8th grade level include: heredity, evolution, weather, electricity, magnetism, heat, periodic table elements, structure of the atom, geological history, the moon and the solar system.

Social Studies 8
The focus of this class is on U.S. History from the discovery of North America through the Reconstruction Era. Students will increase their knowledge of historical events and deepen their understanding of American heritage.

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE CLASSES

Students are required to take 1 quarter of technology and 1 quarter of physical education. The only exception to this requirement is for students taking both band and Spanish 1 or 2.

Physical Education 8 .25 Quarter
The primary focus of Physical Education 8 is to improve students’ fitness levels. Students will engage in daily fitness and team sport activities in order to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. This course will provide students with basic health and nutrition information. Regular class discussion will include self-motivation, teamwork, fair play, and related topics.

Technology Electives

Digital Publications 8 .25 Quarter
You will publish a school newsletter and work on the 2018 yearbook. You need to have a B or better in Language Arts to take this class.

EV3-Advanced Lego Robotics 8 .25 Quarter
Students trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration, and innovation.

Multi Media Tech 8 .25 Quarter
Serious-minded students work on electronic bulletin board and web publications, along with school-wide posters, digital photography and editing. Students will need to have average or better writing skills to work on various forms of digital/electronic communication, including short narratives about middle school events.

Science of Technology 8 Quarter
Students trace how science has affected technology throughout history and learn about applied physics, chemical engineering and nanotechnology through exploratory activities and projects.
**Fine and Performing Arts Electives**

**Band 8**  
Prerequisite: Previous Band experience. Must provide own instrument  
Previous band experience is expected. An audition will be required for students who did not participate in 6th and 7th grade band. Students in this class will continue to develop their ensemble skills. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. Attendance/Participation at all performances is required. Students must be willing to practice at home on a daily basis and must bring their instrument to class.

**Beginning Choir 8**  
This is a one-semester beginning choir for students who are interested in participating in choir and learning how to sing. In this class students will learn the basics of vocal production and reading music. Beginning choir will perform 1-2 concert(s) a semester.

**Advanced Choir 8**  
This full-year advanced option is for students serious about becoming better singers through performance. This class focuses on the basics of vocal production, professional performance practices, self-confidence, and learning to read music. Concert Choir will perform 3-5 concerts a year.

**Social Studies 8**  
Prerequisite: Grade-level to advanced knowledge in social science  
This enrichment elective will focus on exploratory skills and information on the subject of Social Studies. This course may include lab skills, experiments, astronomy, anatomy, environmental issues, forensic science, and green energy.

**Science Adventures 8**  
Prerequisite: No previous art experience needed  
This course allows the student to explore a variety of 2 and 3 dimensional design subject matter, each for a short period of time. Some areas studied are drawing, ceramics, painting, commercial art, and design principles. This course promotes the development of skills and concepts in a workshop atmosphere.

**Spanish**  
All students must pass two years of the same foreign language in order to earn a Michigan diploma. These credits can be earned anytime between kindergarten and 12th grade.

**Spanish I**  
In Spanish I the students learn the vocabulary for classroom objects, numbers, and information related to the calendar, greetings, likes and dislikes, school subjects, and how to tell time. They learn about the culture of Latin American countries and simple conversations related to the vocabulary learned in the classroom as well as writing small sentences in Spanish.

**Spanish II**  
Grammar study becomes more in-depth, with a continued emphasis on reading, writing, and speaking skills. Oral presentations to the class are required. Culture continues to be an integral part of study. Daily study is essential for learning a world language. Students must have successfully completed Spanish 1 as a prerequisite.

**Core Enrichment Electives**

**Read 180 8**  
Students are assigned to this support class by their counselor based on prior performances in language arts, test scores, and teacher recommendation. This personalized course in ELA will provide direct instruction and resources in a small group setting. Students will benefit from study skills and advancement for future achievement in these core areas.

**Math 8**  
Students are assigned to this support class by their counselor based on prior performance in math, test scores, and teacher recommendation. This personalized course in Math will provide direct instruction and resources in a small group setting. Students will benefit from study skills and advancement for future achievement in math.

**Science Adventures 8**  
Prerequisite: Grade-level to advanced knowledge in science  
This enrichment elective will focus on exploratory skills and information on the subject of Science. This course may include lab skills, experiments, astronomy, anatomy, environmental issues, forensic science, and green energy.

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Prerequisite: No previous art experience needed  
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**Art 8**  
No previous art experience needed  
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