



8th Grade Curriculum

Religion *(Departmentalized)*

Religion for Grades 7 and 8 is taught by both the senior and associate pastors in preparation for Confirmation in eighth grade. In addition to in depth study of the Lutheran Catechism, various advanced biblical topics are discussed and learned. The ultimate faith instruction goal is for each student to end up having a strong relationship with Christ in order to carry them through their next journey of education and life.

English *(Departmentalized)*

Eighth grade English is centered around *God's Gift of Language, a faith-based curriculum published by A Beka Book. The Christian perspective calls for standards of correct grammar, usage, and spelling. Concepts include capitalization, punctuation, paragraphing, and the writing process. Major emphasis is placed on the eight parts of speech building on concepts presented in previous years. The eighth grade curriculum emphasizes the orderly structure of our language and to teach students to use the English language effectively.*

Literature

Students read and analyze a variety of short stories including drama, non-fiction, poetry, and folk literature. A large focus is placed on developing a greater understanding of literary terms and analyzing text. Two novel studies are also incorporated into the curriculum. The *Accelerated Reader* program is used to supplement/encourage novel reading, as well as required weekly reading logs. Formal, including proper MLA formatting, as well as informal writing is performed in all areas of reading.

Math *(Departmentalized)*

The Saxon Math curriculum in seventh grade (Course 3) uses a distributed approach to break up the concepts learned across the year using the spiral method. This allows students more time to practice and master math skills and concepts. Saxon for eighth grade reviews algebraic operations and ratios. The program focuses on algebraic equations and expressions, ratios, geometry, measurement (area, perimeter, and volume), and probability. Critical thinking and problem-solving are included within each lesson.

Science

Students study earth and space science in which they learn of God's amazing earthly creation as well as outer space. Studies include geology, oceanography, meteorology, astronomy, environmental science, and chemistry. A great emphasis is placed on developing students' understanding of creation and refuting evolutionary concepts. Students are also given a variety of laboratory experiences to encourage critical thinking and to employ scientific and engineering methods. Each student is required to participate in the Science Fair in the year that it is offered.

Social Studies *(Departmentalized)*

History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism uses a variety of strategies and practices to engage the students in learning about the history of our great nation. This curriculum begins with exploration of the "New World" covering major events leading up to the United States becoming a brand new nation, the expansion of our nation from the east to the west coast, continues through the Civil War, and closes with the Industrial Revolu-



tion. Teach TCI offers an online curriculum where students are able to interact with the text and take virtual field trips. Education is brought to life to achieve positive and consistent results.

Technology

Students in this class use critical thinking, problem-solving, and cooperative learning to design and create a variety of multimedia projects. Special areas of emphasis include coding, robotics, digital video, digital audio, graphics, and web development. In addition, the issues surrounding digital citizenship will be addressed through this course. The students continue to employ *Typing.com* to improve typing speed and accuracy. A variety of technology is utilized including desktops, laptops, and iPads throughout the year.

Art

Students are encouraged to express their creativity by the examination and application of the elements of visual art including line, shape, texture, value, color, and space. Students explore and develop individual abilities as they study and use design, color, drawing, painting, and sculpting. Both two- and three-dimensional projects are emphasized as well as a variety of inter-curricular projects that enhance learning across the curriculum. Students' appreciation and inspiration are strengthened by an art history review of a variety of artists and time periods.

Physical Education *(Departmentalized)*

Students will be proficient in a *Locomotor* ability to run, leap vertical jump, horizontal jump, hop, skip, gallop, slide and land properly. Students will be proficient in *Object Control* to underhand roll/throw, dribble with hands/feet, kick, punt, catch, under/over hand strike. Students will be proficient in *Fitness* in demonstrating power, strength, endurance, flexibility, aerobic capacity in the one-mile run. Students in addition will show competency in the following games: Badminton, Pickleball, Bowling, Football, Frisbee, Golf, Handball, Floor Hockey, Soccer, Volleyball, Basketball, and Softball.