CARSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

2021-2022

COURSE CATALOG

HOME OF THE EAGLES!

Address 6200 Prussman Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80902

Phone (719) 382-1610

Fax (719) 382-8526
Dear Eagle Family,

Welcome to Carson Middle School!

I am honored to serve CMS for my third year in the role of Principal, and am extremely proud of the commitment our staff has made to the development of student relationships, individual skill sets, and pathways to the future. The cultural diversity that the military brings to our school allows our students and staff a real-world experience that truly separates Carson Middle School from the normalcy of educational settings. It truly is a hidden gem in middle schools of the Pike Peak region.

The student population at Carson Middle School amazes each day with their adaptability, kindness, and dedication to excellence in and out of the classroom. These students directly benefit from the work of our talented staff that has been adaptive and innovative resulting in a recognized regional model for its student “first” focus. Through their committed effort they have designed skill driven classroom settings, specialized support structures and enrichment based curriculum individualized for each and every student.

As we approach the 2021-2022 school year and the world becomes more balanced, I want to extend you the opportunity to reach out to us so that we can answer any questions on the multiple enrichment classes, activities, and opportunities our school provides to our students. It is our hope that students find their passion, specific pathway, and potential strengths through our student friendly environment and skill development.

We are honored that you are entrusting us to help be a part of your child’s educational journey and once again want to welcome you to the Eagle Family!

Sincerely,

Anthony M. Greco
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COURSE LIST 2021-2022

➢ LANGUAGE ARTS
➢ MATH
➢ SCIENCE
➢ SOCIAL STUDIES
➢ FINE ARTS
  • Visual Art
  • Music
➢ PRACTICAL ARTS
  • Career and Technology Education
  • STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math)
➢ WORLD LANGUAGE
➢ PHYSICAL EDUCATION
➢ GENERAL ELECTIVES
➢ SPECIAL EDUCATION
➢ ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS
Student Registration
All students, new and returning, must participate in Fall registration, also called Student Registration.  
NEW Student Registration: Scheduled dates for each grade level will be posted on our website - https://www.ffc8.org/CMS in July.  
Registration is 1 (one) form per household - forms MUST be filled out online and submitted to CMS during these days.  
All NEW students must appear in person during New Student Registration. New students unable to attend Back to School Days should call the school to schedule an appointment. Please call (719) 382-1610.  
In-person NEW Student Registration MUST provide copies OR email rbarela@ffc8.org of a Lease Agreement or Utility Bill, Birth Certificate, Immunization Records - NEW students unable to attend Back to School Days should call the school to schedule an appointment. Please call (719) 382-1610.  
Parents of RETURNING students (including incoming 6th graders) Register through Parent Portal – for login assistance during Summer Break connect with the District 8 Help Desk helpdesk@ffc8.org or 719-382-1608

Electronic Registration
Links to registration forms are found on our website https://www.ffc8.org/CMS (click on Enrollment). By completing and submitting forms electronically, you have registered your student for the new school year.  
Fees may be paid online for physical education uniforms, specific class fees, yearbooks, and mandatory annual laptop fee at http://ffc8.revtrak.net/tek9.asp. (*Parents and/or Students who are unable to attend registration should call the counseling department for an appointment. Students registering for school after the first day may not be scheduled into already full classes. It is always best to register before school begins.)

Enrolling New Students
Please bring copies OR email rbarela@ffc8.org the following documentation:

- Birth certificate  
- Immunization records  
- Name, address and phone number of previous school  
- Withdrawal grades from previous school for accurate course placement  
- Proof of residence (escrow paperwork, lease agreement, most recent gas/electric/water bill) a must to activate enrollment

If you are entering CMS during the school year, schedule an appointment with our registrar at (719) 382-1610 between 8:00am-4:00 pm MST, Monday-Friday.

School and District Information
Please visit our District website at wwwffc8.org or our school website at https://wwwffc8.org/cms for information to help create smooth transitions between schools and find valuable information on important events, daily announcements, newsletters, open house, athletics, clubs, high school planning, post-secondary planning, test preparation, college and scholarship information and more!! Click on links below:

- Infinite Campus
- Parent Portal

Late Enrollment and Credit Eligibility
Students enrolling after the beginning of each semester begins, or after a lengthy gap in attendance, that do not have transfer grades from a previous school, the following guidelines apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of School</th>
<th>Credit Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st-15th</td>
<td>Students may enroll. The student will be responsible for making up missed class work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th-30th</td>
<td>Students may enroll. Credit for class will be a team decision between the teacher, counselor, and/or administrator. After the 30th day Students may enroll but student will not receive credit for classes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Level Determination
New students entering from non-Colorado regionally accredited public schools and private schools shall be placed in grades and classes on the basis of their grade placement/credits in the school from which they are transferring. The district administration, through academic achievement tests and other evaluation measures as found necessary, shall determine the appropriate grade level/credit status of students transferring from home schools or private schools that have not been accredited by the Colorado Department of Education.
**McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act**
If, due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations, you must live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, or campground, on the street, in abandoned buildings or trailers, or doubled with relatives or friends, then in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Act, you are considered homeless. You, as a student, have the right to go to school, remain in your school of origin, and receive services and assistance. For information or assistance, please contact our District Social Worker for the Homeless at (719) 492-8810 or your school counselor.

**Safe2Tell 1-877-542-7233 (SAFE)**
Safe2Tell is ANONYMOUS – this means your identity is UNKNOWN. Anonymity is protected by Colorado state law. The Toll-Free number is: 1-877-542-7233 (SAFE). Enter the number into your cell phone, in case you ever need it! Web reports can be made from our main page. Safe2Tell is for serious reports only and saves lives of students in Colorado. It is NOT for pranks or hang-up calls. Remember “Telling” is not “Snitching” ... Telling saves lives. Think there’s a chance it won’t happen? NEVER LET “A CHANCE” TAKE A LIFE!

Students use Safe2Tell to report: bullying, stealing, threats, fights, drugs, alcohol, weapons, sexual misconduct, harassment, stalking, dating violence, cutting, suicidal behaviors or any other types of violent or dangerous situations that threaten their safety or the safety of others for the purpose of prevention and intervention. The purpose of Safe2Tell is to help keep students safe and healthy.

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**Grading Policies and Student Recognition**

**Grade Scale**
Grades at CMS are based on the following percentages:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D

Below 59% = F (no credit earned)

**Grade Points**
Grades for all classes are counted in the grade point average, except courses taken on a pass/fail basis. The four-point method is used in determining grade point in all regular (unweighted) classes.

### Course Grade Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Semester Honor Roll**

- **Principal's Honor Roll**......................... (Straight A's)
- **A/B Honor Roll**................................... (Nothing Less Than an A and/or B) Students will receive an Honor Roll Certificate
- **Eagle Award**....................................... One student per Team, Per Grade Level each Semester
- **M.I.C.E**............................................. Most Improved Citizenship and Effort Award
Academic Awards

Assemblies are held throughout the year to honor students whose achievements have merited recognition in a public forum. Students are encouraged to work for recognition in all areas, including academic excellence, attendance, citizenship, creativity, and athletics. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend these assemblies in support of their child’s successes at school.
Incomplete Grades
Students may request incomplete grades for extenuating circumstances. No incomplete grades will be given without administrative approval. Regardless of circumstance, make up work and/or final need to be completed within two weeks of grades being posted. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange times to meet with teachers for exams and tutoring. An “I” or incomplete grade may be changed to an “F” (or earned percentage) two weeks after grades have been posted.

Minimum Class Load Requirements
All students must enroll in six periods per day to include a full year of math, language arts, science, and social studies. Students will also enroll in two additional elective classes and an ACCESS class.

*PE is required every year. Students will take 1 semester of PE in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.

Schedule Changes
The constraints of the class schedule may make it impossible to change an elective course. If possible, students may change an elective course after the first day of school. Counselors are available for the first 5 days of the 1st and 2nd semester to make changes. Students wishing to change courses, will first need to have a parent signature on a Schedule Change Request Form available in counseling.

Examples of appropriate changes include a schedule that:
- Does not fulfill the required 6 periods
- Does not include a sufficient number of core classes (at least 1 language arts, 1 science, 1 social studies, and 1 math)
- Places a student in the wrong course level or the student does not meet the course prerequisite
- Includes a course the student has already taken
- Includes a class the student is physically unable to perform the requirements (doctor’s note required)

***If a student requests a course during Schedule Requests the student will not be permitted to change classes into another class that they did not request prior to the start of the school year and as documented in their original Student Request the prior year.

Final Exams
All students must take final exams/end of semester projects. Student attendance during final exams is mandatory. Any student with extremely extenuating circumstances must obtain approval from to take early or late finals from the CMS Principal.
### Accelerated Class Enrollment Requirements

For automatic acceptance into Accelerated or HS level course (Alg 1, Geom, Bio), students must meet the criteria below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCELERATED Language Arts and Social Studies</th>
<th>ACCELERATED Math and Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preceding ACCL. Language Arts or SS class w/grade of A or B (C with teacher recommendation)</td>
<td>Preceding ACCL. Math/Science Grade of A or B (C with teacher recommendation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMAS Advanced in Reading and/or Writing (No lower than Proficient in Either) Illuminate Test- Exceeds (or Meets w/ addtl. Data point)</td>
<td>CMAS Proficient High or Advanced in Math Illuminate Test- Exceeds (or Meets w/ addtl. Data point)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A, B in regular Language Arts or A, B or C in ACCL. Language Arts AND CMAS Proficient in Reading and Writing Illuminate Test- A, B in regular Language Arts Social Studies or A, B or C in ACCL. language arts AND Meets in Illuminate AND AVID Stretch Class</td>
<td>Grade of A or B (C with teacher recommendation) CMAS Proficient Illuminate Test- A, B in regular Math/Science or A, B or C in ACCL. Math AND Meets in Illuminate AND AVID Stretch Class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Out-of-state transfer students may substitute CMAS/Illuminate test scores for a test score from their last state.*

**AVID Students may also select 1 Accelerated course as their AVID stretch course without recommendation with approval from an Administrator.**

### Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Did you know that nearly 80% of Colorado jobs will require some form of post-secondary education and 60% will require at least a 2-year degree?

Did you know that Carson Middle School has a Career and Technical Education program that is preparing students for college and careers? Welcome to the world of Career and Technical Education --- the gateway to post-secondary workforce readiness. Today’s generation of CTE programs are totally integrated with the academic courses, combine relevance and rigor, prepare learners for college and careers, and promote partnerships among education, the workforce, business, industry, and the community. We are fortunate to have a Middle School CTE programs in our district. For more information on Career and Technical Education in Colorado, please contact any of the CTE teachers or go to [http://www.coloradostateplan.com/index.htm](http://www.coloradostateplan.com/index.htm).

### National Junior Honor Society

### Gifted and Talented

Gifted children are those students, pre-school through 12th grade, who give evidence of high achievement capability in areas such as intellectual, creative, artistic, leadership, or specific academic fields, and require differentiated learning opportunities in order to fully develop those capabilities.

**Screening Process**
A four-step process is used to identify Highly-capable and Gifted Students at CMS. A student may be nominated for consideration by a parent, teacher, previous district identification, or assessment data. A student new to FFC8 who was previously identified GT in another district/state will automatically be nominated for the screening process. A body of evidence is collected for an identification process. Based on the student’s learning profile, the Gifted and Talented team will convene to analyze the data and determine the level of appropriate identification. If a parent, student or teacher does not agree with the identification decision, he/she has the right to an appeal (see below).

**Step I-Nomination**
A student may be nominated for the identification process by
- Parent
- Teacher
- Assessment Results
- Previous GT Identification

**Step II-Collection of Body of Evidence**
The Gifted and Talented Team including a building administrator will collect and review a Body of Evidence for the nominated student. This includes assessment results, class work, parental input and teacher observations. The Identification Committee may make a recommendation for identification.

**Step III-Identification**
The Screening Committee will recommend one of the following levels of identification:
- Grade Level Learner: Body of evidence suggests the student is performing successfully on current grade level standards.
- Highly-capable Learner: Evidence suggests the student demonstrates potential and/or ability above grade level standards. The student may require differentiated teaching strategies or curriculum to ensure academic growth.
- Gifted Learner: Evidence strongly suggests the student demonstrates exceptional potential and/or ability. The student is identified as a Gifted Learner and an Advanced Learning Plan will be developed to ensure academic growth and achievement.

**Step IV-Appeal Process**
A parent, student or teacher has the right to appeal the identification decision. To initiate an appeal process the appellant should contact the administrator overseeing Gifted Education at FFCHS and complete the necessary documentation.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

#### 6th Grade Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 6th grade ELA, we explore humanity and real-world themes and lessons using fiction and non-fiction texts. Students learn to read various texts with different purposes and to write their own insights concerning universal themes and ideas using text-evidence and research.

#### 6th Grade Accelerated Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
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<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 6th grade Accelerated ELA, students thoroughly explore humanity and create connections to real-world themes and lessons using fiction and non-fiction texts. Students learn to read various texts with different purposes and to write their own insights concerning universal themes and ideas using text-evidence and their own research.

#### 7th Grade Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
In 7th grade ELA, we examine choice in the human experience as we read both fiction and nonfiction. We read a variety of genres and write explanatory, narrative, and persuasive texts, focusing on using text evidence to support ideas.

### 7th Grade Accelerated Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
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<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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In 7th grade Accelerated ELA, we examine choice in the human experience as we read both fiction and nonfiction. We read a variety of genres and write explanatory, narrative, and persuasive texts, focusing on using text evidence to support ideas.

### 8th Grade Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 8th grade ELA, we look at what it means to be an everyday hero, and we explore what it means to be human in present-day and dystopian settings. Students learn to read and write through various lenses as we discover how best to connect to the world around us through narrative, informative, and argumentative writing. 8th graders also get a chance to interact with comedy and comedic texts.

### 8th Grade Accelerated Language Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

In 8th grade ELA, we look at what it means to be an everyday hero, and we explore what it means to be human in present-day and dystopian settings. We learn how to critically question the world around us and work collaboratively to develop our own perspective. Students learn to read and write through various lenses as we discover how best to connect to the world around us through narrative, informative, and argumentative writing. 8th graders also get a chance to interact with comedy and comedic texts.

### Mathematics

#### 6th Grade Math

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Through exposure to rigorous math content, 6th grade students will begin developing the critical thinking skills needed to analyze, solve, and explain complex problems, thus preparing them with the skills and knowledge that matter most for college and career readiness. 6th Grade students will learn to model functions in numbers, equations, tables, and graphs; communicate math verbally, read and represent data in a variety of forms, and use multiple representations to communicate math concepts. Students will continue to build their concept of numbers, extend their understanding of algebraic functions by gathering, summarizing, and examining data, and analyze characteristics and relationships of geometric shapes.

#### 6th Grade Accelerated Math

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The purpose of this course is to meet the needs of high-achieving students who enjoy mathematics at a fast pace. Students will study all of the 6th grade standards in addition to 1st quarter of the 7th grade curriculum including operations with integers and rational numbers as well as working with two-step expressions and linear equations.
### 7th Grade Math

**Credit: 1.0**  
**Course Length: Year**  
**Prerequisite: None**

The course objectives taught will align with national and state pre-algebra standards for seventh grade. The course will consist of rational number operations and the application of them in expressions, equations (one and two step), probability, ratios & proportions, and geometry (area, perimeter, surface area, and volume). Key math terms will be emphasized. Students will use these mathematical applications to solve real world problems.

### 7th Grade Accelerated Math

**Credit: 1.0**  
**Course Length: Year**  
**Prerequisite: None**

The course objectives taught will align with national and state pre-algebra standards for seventh grade and part of eighth grade. The course will consist of rational number operations (square roots included) and the application of them in expressions, equations (multi-step), statistics & probability, ratios & proportions, and geometry (surface area, volume, and Pythagorean theorem). Key math terms will be emphasized. Students will use these mathematical applications to solve real world problems.

### 8th Grade Math

**Credit: 1.0**  
**Course Length: Year**  
**Prerequisite: None**

8th grade math is an introduction to basic algebra concepts and a review of arithmetic algorithms. The course emphasizes the concepts necessary to be successful in Algebra 1 and 2 in high school. Students will explore algebraic expressions and integers, multi-step equations, exponents, proportional relationships and graphing, transformational geometry, volume, algebra of right triangles, and data analysis.

### 8th Grade Algebra I

**Credit: 1.0**  
**Course Length: Year**  
**Prerequisite: 7th Grade Accl. Math**

Algebra 1 is a 9th grade level math course that provides the foundation students require for future success in high school mathematics, critical thinking, and problem solving. Algebra 1 will help students transfer their concrete mathematical knowledge to more abstract algebraic concepts. Students will explore equations and inequalities, linear functions, systems of equations, exponential functions, and polynomials. Successful completion of this course will allow students to enroll in the 10th grade Geometry math course as a freshman.

*This course is recognized for High School Level Math Credit at Fountain-Fort Carson High School*

### 8th Grade Geometry

**Credit: 1.0**  
**Course Length: Year**  
**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course will focus on the three key aspects of Geometry—measuring, reasoning, and applying geometrical ideas, and solidify Algebra I skills. Students in this course will acquire and demonstrate proficiency in reasoning and proof, perpendicular and parallel lines, congruent triangles and properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, transformations, similarity,
right triangles and trigonometry, circles, area of polygons and circles, surface area and volume of solids. Students will also demonstrate mastery of fundamental Algebra, and fundamental probability and statistics concepts. Problem solving, analysis, critical and visual thinking, mathematical and spatial reasoning, and real-world application strategies will be emphasized. 

**This course is recognized for High School Level Math Credit at Fountain-Fort Carson High School.**

This course is only offered in rare occasions for twice-accelerated students transferring to CMS with prior Algebra I course work.

### Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>Prerequisite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>6th Grade Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6th Grade Accelerated Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7th Grade Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7th Grade Accelerated Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8th Grade Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8th Grade Accelerated Science</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8th Grade Biology</strong></td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Accl. 7th Grade Science (A or B)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course will serve as an overview of the entire field of biology, with a study of basic life properties, the structure and function of the cell, DNA, genetics, evolution, ecology and systems.

### Social Studies
6th Grade Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 6

6th grade Social Studies begins the school year with an introduction to the skills required to study the four main disciplines of Social Studies: geography, history, economics, and civics. Students will explore how the physical geography of this region has shaped the culture, government, and economic systems of the Ancient civilizations of the Western Hemisphere.

6th Grade Accelerated Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 6

The 6th grade accelerated Social Studies class will cover similar content to the standard 6th grade course. Students will be challenged through inquiry-based learning opportunities and collaboration with their peers. Students will be encouraged to use their own curiosity about topics we study, to generate questions and drive their own learning.

7th Grade Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 7  Grading Scale: Unweighted

7th Grade Social Studies covers ancient civilizations from Ancient Mesopotamia to Rome! Geography and the questions about it will be central to the course as well since each civilization explores new parts of the world. Students will make connections with ancient peoples and describe how their actions also helped shape our current civilizations. There will be a variety of skills that we go over in 7th grade Social Studies. Students will start practicing good writing techniques. Students will learn how to analyze a variety of primary and secondary sources and will use evidence from the text in Document Based Questions. Students will also compare ancient governments and economic systems to those that are still in use today.

7th Grade Accelerated Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 7

7th Grade Accelerated Social Studies covers ancient civilizations from Ancient Mesopotamia to Rome! Geography and the questions about it will be central to the course as well since each civilization explores new parts of the world. Students will make connections with ancient peoples and describe how their actions also helped shape our current civilizations. There will be a variety of skills that we go over in 7th grade Social Studies. Students will start practicing good writing techniques. In the accelerated program, students often enhance class by asking more inquiry-based questions which can guide the learning environment. This has the potential to help the accelerated class get to more content after Rome, like the Middle Ages for example.

8th Grade Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 8

8th grade Social Studies unpacks the complexities of our nation’s history through discussion, thorough research skills, and examining first-hand accounts from multiple perspectives. A few topics covered include North American colonization, the American Revolution, the foundations of the US government, Westward Expansion, and the Civil War. Through these topics, students begin to understand central themes in history and the present such as conflict, perspective taking, cause, effect, diversity, geography, and politics.

8th Grade Accelerated Social Studies
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Year  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 8
**8th Grade Accelerated Social Studies** will unpack the complexities of the nation’s history through project-based learning. Students will participate in a History Night event that will combine the skills learned throughout the year. We will have researched-based debates, presentations, and argumentative writing activities. A few topics covered include North American colonization, the American Revolution, the foundations of the US government, Westward Expansion, and the Civil War.

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**FINE ARTS**

**VISUAL ARTS**

**Hand Built Ceramics**

Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 6-8  
Course Length: Semester  
Prerequisite: None  
Credit: Fine Art

Are you brand new to working with clay? Are you intimidated by three-dimensional art? In this course we will learn beginning hand-building techniques such as slab, coil, and pinch pot. Students will be able to design and construct functional ceramic pieces for their home just by using their hands and simple modeling tools. Some projects include drape mold pottery, sculpture figures, bas-relief tiles, coil vases, and more! All projects will be glazed with bright, inviting colors and can be used at home! Come create with me!

**Ceramics I**

Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 7  
Course Length: Semester  
Prerequisite: None  
Credit: Fine Art

This course is for students familiar with working with clay. Students should expect to experience the entire pottery process: from wedging clay, throwing forms on the wheel, trimming pottery pieces, and glazing. This class will be structured with required assignments resulting in a well-rounded student body of three-dimensional ceramics. Projects include wheel thrown cups (one with a handle/one without), a set of bowls, and a pitcher. Please come prepared to work hard and have persistence.

**Color and 2D Design**

Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 6-8  
Course Length: Semester  
Prerequisite: None  
Credit: Fine Art

Do you like art and being creative? Do you wish you had more skills and techniques? This course is for artists that enjoy two-dimensional art such as drawing, painting, and character design. Students will dive deeper into learning artistic skills and application to better enhance their art. As we create different projects, we will learn to apply color theory, shading, perspective, art styles, etc.

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**MUSIC**

**Concert Choir**

Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 6  
Course Length: Semester  
Prerequisite: None  
Credit: Fine Art

Students will learn about basic musical concepts through sight-singing and music theory studies and learn and practice proper vocal techniques. These skills will be applied through study and performance of multi-part treble music literature from many different genres and cultures. This course is open to 6th grade students.

**Symphonic Choir**

Credit: 0.5  
Grade: 7-8  
Course Length: Semester & Year  
Prerequisite: Audition  
Credit: Fine Art

Students will learn about basic musical concepts through sight-singing and music theory studies and learn and practice proper vocal techniques. These skills will be applied through study and performance of multi-part music literature from many different genres and cultures. This course is open to 7th-8th grade students.
Eagle Choir

A select choir setting where students will continue working and building on the skills used in concert and symphonic choir. Eagle choir will allow students to apply these skills to higher levels of music literature with more parts that use more challenging musical concepts. Students will have opportunities to build on these skills through the larger choral setting as well as small groups and solo singing. Students in this choir will be expected to participate in multiple performances outside the school setting to include but not limited to Solo and Ensemble contest and CHSAA festival. Participation in this choir will be decided by the choir director through audition.

Beginner Band

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5 (per semester)</th>
<th>Grade: 6-8</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: Audition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(2nd sem.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will begin learning how to play an instrument (initially limited to Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet and Trombone) Open to all grade levels and abilities. Students with previous experience or showing an aptitude will move into Intermediate band after 1st semester.

Intermediate Band

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Grade: 6-8</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester (Sem 2)</th>
<th>Prerequisite: Teacher Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students with prior experience or demonstrated aptitude through beginner band 1st semester will learn about their instrument at an accelerated pace. This group will play more challenging and thus more rewarding music, and make up the nucleus of a competitive band.

Percussion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Grade: 6-8</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students will learn how to play various traditional percussion instruments. (Snare drum, Mallets, other concert band style instruments.) Students will be required to purchase some of their own supplies. Class is for the whole year.

Electronic Music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Grade: 6-8</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students will learn about using a digital audio workstation to create their own beats, songs and jingles. No experience is necessary. Class is for 1 semester, and repeats after 1st semester, although enrichment can be provided for students who wish to take it twice.

PRACTICAL ARTS

CAREER and TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CTE)

STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math)

STEM- Design & Modeling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Grade: 6-7</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In this unit, students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

STEM- Automation and Robotics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Grade: 7-8</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program several mechanisms.

STEM- App Creators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
This semester-long course will expose students to computer science as a means of computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

**STEM- Basic Flight Concepts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6-8</td>
<td>Credit: Practical Art</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through the Flight and Space (FS) unit. Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

**STEM- Intro Woods & Mfg.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6-8</td>
<td>Credit: Practical Art</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Intro Woodworking & Manufacturing is a course designed to introduce students to general woodworking practices. Students will be expected to learn about and safely use hand tools, power tools, and woodworking machinery. The projects are designed to give students as much experience as possible by using many different machines and tools to produce a variety of projects.

**STEM- Medical Detectives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6-8</td>
<td>Credit: Practical Art</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course will focus on various vocabulary and cultural themes to introduce students to the Spanish language and the culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

**Spanish I**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 8</td>
<td>Credit: Foreign Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equivalent to high school Spanish 1. Students who pass successfully will receive high school credit for the class and will be eligible for Spanish 2 in HS. No previous knowledge of Spanish is required. Students must be in good academic standing in 7th grade classes to be eligible for the class.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

*PE is required every year. Students will take 1 semester of PE in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.

**6th Grade PE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Students will participate in a variety of team sports and fitness activities. PE is a one semester requirement for all students.

### 7th Grade PE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will participate in a variety of sports, activities and fitness. PE is a one semester requirement for all students.

### 8th Grade PE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will participate in a variety of sports, activities and fitness. PE is a one semester requirement for all students.

### YOGA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6-8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will learn common yoga postures in a flow style class. Physical postures, breathwork and meditation will be taught. Open to all ability levels, no experience necessary.

### Strength and Conditioning 07IWT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7-8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will use entry level strength training, aerobic conditioning, plyometrics and other various methods to improve athletic performance.

### Wrestling Class 07IWT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: None</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6-8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Open to all students, but geared towards participation in our wrestling season. No experience required. We will condition and wrestle on a daily basis in hopes of being better prepared for our season.

### Partners in PE 07PEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: Intro to PE and Teacher Rec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7-8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This course is for students with a compassion for the physically challenged, special needs student. Students considering a career in teaching are encouraged to enroll in this course. Peer assistants will work closely with students with a disability at FFCHS to provide help with physical activities in an athletic setting. Students should have a desire to help their fellow students. Students may enroll in this course repeatedly for credit. This course is for students with a compassion for the physically challenged, special needs student. Partners will work closely with the severe physical need students at FFCHS in providing meaningful activities for active engagement. Students must be able to lift at least 50 pounds and be a proficient to advanced swimmer. This class is by teacher recommendation only. Late entry will also require teacher recommendation. This course may be taken repeatedly for credit.

### GENERAL ELECTIVES

### Office Aide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit: 0.5</th>
<th>Course Length: Semester</th>
<th>Prerequisite: Teacher Rec, GPA 3.0 or above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7-8</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pre-requisite Office Aides must be a 7th or 8th grade with an A/B average GPA and no discipline referrals. On a case by case basis, some 8th grade students with less than a A/B average GPA may be allowed to be a student aide during the second half of their senior year. On a case by case basis students may request 1 aide period per semester. Students who request Office Aide will be given an application to apply. Grade for this class is pass/fail. A passing grade will not positively or negatively affect a grade point average. A failing grade, however; will negatively affect the grade point average.
Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a three-year program designed to supplement student core courses through study skills, AVID binders, note taking, and exploratory planning. Students interested in AVID must apply in the Spring of the year prior to enrollment. Students will traditionally start in AVID as 6th grade students and enroll in AVID each year following. This course may be offered during ACCESS or as an ACCESS Class.

Strategic Thinking Through Games
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Semester  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 7-8  Credit: Elective
Students will be exposed to a variety of board, card, and paper-pencil games, as well as have the opportunity to improve or create game ideas.

Interactive Civics and Travel
Credit: 1.0  Course Length: Semester  Prerequisite: None
Grade: 7-8  Credit: Elective
Thoughtful and academically motivated students will have a dynamic opportunity to explore the U. S. Constitution and the structure of the United States government through a variety of interactive projects and collaborative activities including skits, mock trials, and much more. As a special bonus, students will embark on monthly field trips designed to get them out of the classroom and into our community.

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Eligibility for Special Education Services
IDEA requires that a multidisciplinary IEP team (a group of qualified professionals and the parents) determine if a child has a disability that requires special education services. Evaluation data and Information from a variety of sources are used by the IEP team to determine if the child meets State and Federal eligibility criteria. All members of the IEP team, including parents, have the right to dispute this determination. Eligibility requires that a condition prevents the student from receiving reasonable benefit from general education.

Placement depends on Individualized Education Plans (IEP). Self-contained classes, resource classes, and itinerant support in the regular classes are available based on the student’s IEP. Other required classes will be taught with assistance in the regular education classroom with support as needed.

Areas of Eligibility Include:

- Significant Limited
- Intellectual Capacity
- Significant Identifiable
- Emotional Disability
- Specific Learning Disability
- Hearing Disability
- Vision Disability
- Speech / Language Disability
- Physical Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Deaf/Blind
- Autism
- Emotional Disability

More information about disability categories and eligibility can be found at [www.fcc8.org](http://www.fcc8.org) or at Colorado Department of Education (CDE)
Exceptional Student Services Unit
201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80203-1799
CDE Main Phone: 303.866.6600
The following courses are available only to students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**

Carson Middle School is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students. Inability to speak and understand the English language may prevent children from complete and effective participation in the general educational program. The English Language Learner (ELL) program has been developed to ensure that all students have equal access to the curriculum and equal opportunities to participate and succeed in the educational environment.

The goals of the ELL program focus on helping students with limited English skills to:

1. Attain high levels of cognitive academic language proficiency skills in English.
2. Meet the same state academic standards that all children are expected to meet.
3. Develop pride in their cultural background and respect for all members of our multicultural community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELL Language Arts 6</th>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: 1 Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: ELL Beginning Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 6</td>
<td>Credit:</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELL Language Arts 7</th>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: 1 Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: ELL Intermediate/Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 7</td>
<td>Credit:</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELL Language Arts 8</th>
<th>Credit: 1.0</th>
<th>Course Length: 1 Year</th>
<th>Prerequisite: ELL Intermediate/Advanced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade: 8</td>
<td>Credit:</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>