

Specials

In grade 8 specials, students will spend one half of a semester exploring topics in each of the following subject areas

- Health
- Music
- STEM Lab
- Technology
- Visual Art
- Wellness (students assigned to three sessions)

We believe that students have the best opportunity to succeed in school when the home and school form a partnership. We encourage parents to familiarize themselves with these objectives. If you have questions about your child's program, please contact your child's teacher or principal.

Norton Middle School

215 West Main St.

508-285-0140

Mr. Vincent Hayward, Principal

Mr. Ronnie Goldstein, Assistant Principal

Guidance Department

508-285-0144

Christopher Maloof - Grade 6 Guidance Counselor

Alison Tosches – Grade 7 Guidance Counselor

Norma Fowler – Grade 8 Guidance Counselor

Lisa Daley – School Adjustment Counselor

Karen Giatrelis – School Psychologist

Michele Baeta – Special Education Team

Chairperson

Terri MacLean – Guidance Secretary

Social Studies

In grade 8 social studies, students will study ...

- The First Americans
- North American Explorations
- European Explorations
- Colonization and Colonial Societies
- French and Indian War
- Road to Independence
- Revolutionary War
- Articles of Confederation
- The US Constitution
- Ratification Compromises
- Enlightenment
- Scientific Revolution
- Early US Government



World Language

In grade 8 French or Spanish, students will study ...

- Identifying cognates
- Basic greetings and Introductions
- Classroom objects, subjects, and commands
- Vocabulary of the family relationships
- Numbers, days of the week, and months
- Vocabulary of likes and dislikes
- Telling Time
- Vocabulary of sports and leisure time activities
- Food vocabulary
- Subject Pronouns and Verb Tenses
- French or Spanish Speaking Countries

Office of Curriculum & Instruction

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Norton Public Schools

Curriculum Guide

Grade 8

*Excellence
in Education*

The grade level objectives listed in this guide represent the course of study specified by the Massachusetts State Standards, which are based on the Common Core State Standards as well as Norton's locally designed curriculum for this grade. The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of the content objectives for the core subjects of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies for each grade level. Most students are expected to demonstrate proficiency of these objectives by the end of the school year.

English Language Arts

Reading Standards for Literature

- Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.
- Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
- Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.
- Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader create such effects as suspense or humor.
- Analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.
- Identify and analyze the characteristics of irony and parody in literary works.
- Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.
- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature including stories, dramas, and poems, at the high end of grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Reading Standards for Informational Text

- Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.
- Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
- Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

Reading Standards for Informational Text Continued

- Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums to present a particular topic or idea.
- Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; recognize when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
- Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.
- By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Writing Standards

- Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
- Write short narratives, poems, scripts, or personal reflections that demonstrate understanding of the concepts of irony or parody.
- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
- Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently as well as to interact and collaborate with others.
- Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
- Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Mathematics

In grade 8 mathematics, students will...

- Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers
- Work with radicals and integer exponents.
- Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
- Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
- Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
- Use functions to model relationships between quantities.
- Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.
- Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Science

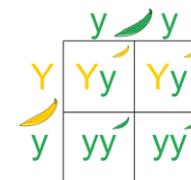
In grade 8 science, students will study...

Earth Science

- Earth's Structure
- Radiation, Conduction, and Convection
- Earth's Surface Changes
- Fossils
- Earth in the Solar System

Life Science

- Structure and Function
- of Cells
- Reproduction and Heredity
- Evolution and Biodiversity
- Changes in Ecosystems
- Over Time



Physical Science

- Properties and States of Matter
- Elements, Compounds and Mixtures
- Motion of Objects
- Forms of Energy