

HERITAGE OAK *Private Education*



Middle School Program Guide 2018-2019

Following are the 2017-2018 Middle School course offerings listed by subject area. Further details of the courses are presented by the faculty; additional middle school program information is outlined in the HOPE Middle School Guide.





Dear Middle School Students and Parents,

Welcome to Heritage Oak Middle School! It is with pleasure that I welcome you to Heritage Oak Private School. Grades sixth, seventh, and eighth are dynamic, exciting times in your lives; these are formative years during which girls and boys grow into young women and young men. In our Heritage Oak Middle School, they not only learn valuable curriculum lessons, they learn about themselves. As such, they gain advanced skills, mature attitudes, and a sense of self.

Our Middle School teachers work together to create cross-curricular learning experiences for our students. Our program exposes students to core subjects of math, science, social studies, and language arts, integrated with the use of technology. In addition, we offer foreign languages, fine arts, and physical education. Today's world requires critical thinkers and problem solvers; thus, the Middle School Program of Study focuses on motivating our students to achieve a higher level of independent thinking which is a necessity in our world today.

As you prepare for the upcoming school year, please take some time to review this program guide, which offers you not only information about our middle school policies and procedures, but information about course descriptions and your middle school experience as a whole. You will realize that by experiencing such a program, you will be well prepared for your adolescent years, high school, and ultimately, life.

We are extremely proud of our middle school, and are thrilled that you're a part of it. Best wishes for a fabulous school year!

Sincerely,

Latrese Jackson

Middle School Director

Middle School Goals for Learning

LEARNING TO LEARN

- Students make a commitment to create quality work and strive for excellence
- Students use a variety of learning strategies, personal skills, and time management skills to enhance their learning
- Students reflect on and evaluate their learning for the purpose of improvement

EXPAND AND INTEGRATE KNOWLEDGE

- Students connect knowledge and experiences from different subject areas
- Students use what they already know to acquire new knowledge, develop new skills, and expand understanding
- Students demonstrate integrated knowledge and skills in applying multidisciplinary approaches to solving problems or completing tasks

DEVELOP COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- Students communicate with clarity, purpose, and understanding of audience
- Students integrate the use of a variety of communication forms and use a wide range of communication skills
- Students recognize, analyze, and evaluate various forms of communication

DEVELOP THINKING AND REASONING SKILLS

- Students gather and use information effectively to gain new information and knowledge, classify and organize information, support inferences, and justify conclusions that are appropriate to context and audience
- Students utilize, evaluate, and refine the use of multiple strategies to solve a variety of types of problems
- Students generate new and creative ideas by taking considered risks in a variety of contexts

DEVELOP INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

- Students work with others in a variety of situations to set and achieve goals
- Students manage and evaluate their behavior as group members
- Students deal with disagreement and conflict caused by a diversity of opinions and beliefs

DEVELOP PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Students take responsibility for personal actions and demonstrate honesty, fairness, and integrity
- Students respect themselves and others, and understand and appreciate the diversity and interdependence of all people
- Students demonstrate an understanding of and responsibility for global and environmental issues
- Students act as responsible citizens in the community, state and nation

From the National Study of School Evaluation

SCHEDULE

The seven-period schedule offers students a liberal arts sampling of courses in preparation for high school. Forty five minute class periods allow instruction to be delivered with a focus question to begin the class, delivery of the lesson, and review. Five minutes between each class gives students enough time to regularly use their lockers, rather than toting heavy backpacks or using rolling cases to each class.

CURRICULUM

The Program of Study (included at the end of this guide) covers detailed course descriptions of the middle school curriculum. Further, teachers provide class agendas via email that provide focus questions, class work, and homework. As such, all students can adhere to the course schedule at all times.

ASSESSMENT

In addition to ongoing assessments in the class via quizzes, tests, and daily assignments, student progress is measured through:

★ **Project-based learning**

Hands-on projects allow students to apply their learning, rather than merely memorize it. Middle school highlights such application, as students use multiple intelligences and creative thinking to demonstrate their learning. Often, these projects are cross-curricular, making the learning even more meaningful to the students.

★ **Exams**

Semester and Final exams are administered to assess individual student progress in a traditional setting. While the focus is not on test taking, these exams provide students practice needed for completing such tasks.

SHOWCASE CELEBRATIONS

Students learn by organizing, planning, and hosting several events and festivals to showcase their learning. These applications provide excellent cross-curricular opportunities and real audiences for students to share their knowledge. We are pleased to have our students participate in the HOPE Science Fair **this spring**, OCDE Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Math Counts Competition and the end of the year HOUSE Academic Pentathlon.

CULTURE AND CHARACTER

Cotillion Classes

Originally a French form of dance, Cotillion is now known as training that children and young adults attend to learn manners and proper social behavior in the context of formal dance. Each year, starting in February and continuing until May, we provide these valuable classes, taught by

Cotillion specialist Mrs. Rebekah Negrete. She will specialize this year on ballroom dance, fine dining instruction, and public speaking. These classes are mandatory and will be graded.

Students will apply the skills learned throughout the year during four formal on campus luncheons with real dinnerware.

International Luncheon

On this day, we celebrate the diversity of our students. This very special event involves a multicultural potluck and an opportunity for students to dress up in attire that represents their families' native lands.

HOUSE MENTORING PROGRAM

All students are assigned to a house teacher, who also serves as a mentor. This relationship is for the students and for the parents. Homeroom teachers are the "go to" contact on campus for each student, overseeing general whereabouts and records. In addition to distributing important materials, house teachers also update students with announcements and dates for their calendars. Finally, house teachers meet with their students each day, which allows them to serve as mentors and coaches, guiding students through their middle school years.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Winston Churchill said, "You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give." Such a sentiment is the rationale behind the Husky House Community Service program. Heritage Oak's community service program gives students the opportunity to experience personal growth and gratitude through their dedication to values that enhance our society. Heritage Oak students' participation helps them recognize the needs of the less fortunate, understand our environment, appreciate our history, and gain the kind of self-respect that can be earned only by giving. **Students earning more than 50 hours in a school year will receive a special certificate.**

All students at HOPE Middle School participate in two community service days during the school year that are arranged by the HOPE faculty. Students are encouraged to participate in additional self-motivated community service projects throughout the school year.

Middle School students will be exposed to a variety of service opportunities, thus preparing them for high school service requirements:

- Canned Food Drive – November
- Acts of Gratitude/Warm and Cozy – December
- Operation Warm and Cozy – December
- King Day of Service, Working Wardrobes Clothing Drive – January
- Houses – Adopt a Charity (ongoing)

FIELD TRIPS

Throughout the year, middle school students experience learning hands-on via off-campus field trips. These trips serve to strengthen learning in all classes.

Sixth Grade

Environmental Nature Center Focus on Earth Science and Ecology Program

Students use scientific method and perform experiments to determine the interactions between abiotic and biotic factors in two terrestrial ecosystems. Students observe the temperature, soil moisture level, soil pH, plant adaptations, plant density, and fire potential in two terrestrial ecosystems. They discuss energy exchange within the ecosystem, encounter live producers, consumers, and decomposers, and play games to learn about the energy pyramid and energy transfer in the food chain. Students visit the ENC's green building to view its renewable energy elements — the solar panels and wind turbine — and discuss how the sun and wind provide energy to power our lights and computers

Walk Through the Ancient World

Welcome to *Walk Through the Ancient World™*! This program is designed to allow your students to actively participate in a rich retelling of ancient history. Through storytelling, games, and drama, history will come alive! Discover Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome through an imaginary tour of the ancient civilizations. Students portray historical people of the past, such as Julius Caesar, Cleopatra, and Socrates. Students broaden their understanding with maps, timelines, and games.

Play

Orange Lutheran High School's production of *The Wizard of Oz* is an enchanting adaptation of the all-time classic, totally re-conceived for the stage. Developed from the ever-popular MGM screenplay, this production contains the beloved songs from the Oscar-winning movie score, all the favorite characters and iconic moments, plus a few surprises along the way.

Seventh Grade

Medieval Times - Take a Field Trip to the 11th Century!

Imagine a history lesson presented by a King and his Noble Court set within the walls of an 11th century-style castle. Every detail is painstakingly recreated as your students take a personal journey back to the Middle Ages.

Step back in time and experience spectacular horsemanship, amazing swordplay, medieval games of skill and an authentic jousting tournament between six brave knights of the realm. As the tournament takes place, the castle's serfs and wenches serve your students a feast fit for a King.

Aquarium of the Pacific

Students will take a journey of discovery through the world's largest ocean at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Students will participate in a hands-on class about the predators of the sea followed by a walking tour of this amazing facility.

The Wizard of Oz

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Eighth Grade

Riley's Farm - Students take an educational day trip to historic Oak Glen to learn, first hand, what it might have been like during the Civil War. This is an interactive adventure including recreations of historical events giving students the opportunity to see, hear and feel the sounds of the past.

Knott's Berry Farm – Energy in Motion Physics Program – Students will participate in a four hour Physics program titled, “Application by Design,” that will challenge and engage their minds.

Museum of Tolerance – Students will travel to Los Angeles to participate in a hands-on interactive tour of the Holocaust exhibit and Tolerance center. The state-of-the-art interactive exhibits will expose our students to the dynamics of prejudice and discrimination historically and today. It is an inspirational time to learn from the past, engage in the present, and assume responsibility for the future.

Superior Court – Students will travel to the North Justice Center in Fullerton and take part in a mock trial as well as participate in a court tour.

Play

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HUSKY ADVENTURES

Designed to enhance the curriculum, these exciting trips transport students to unique situations, making learning come to life.

★ **Sixth Grade – “Exploring the Wonders of the Universe!”**

AstroCamp is located near Idyllwild, CA, in the San Jacinto Mountains. The camp provides creative and dynamic coursework in astronomy, physical science, space exploration and planetary sciences. Classes are designed to inspire students toward future success in both academic and personal pursuits.

★ **Seventh grade – “Catalina Here We Come!”**

Three days and two nights at the Catalina Island Marine Institute (CIMI.) At the Catalina Island Marine Institute students will embark upon a science adventure that will not only teach marine science and island ecology, but also stimulate curiosity for nature. The three-day program consists of a series of half-day learning activities, which include snorkeling, island ecology hikes, oceanography, and marine biology.

★ **Eighth grade – “Discovering Our Capitol”**

Six days and five nights in Washington D.C. and New York City. Students embark on World Strides’ finest tour program. Designed to enhance social studies curriculum, students will gain a deeper understanding of our history, the consequences of choices, and of their role in our continuing American story. Action packed days are accompanied by fun and educational evening activities. Students discover U.S. History and government in two of the most powerful cities in the world: Washington, D.C. and New York City. Explore historic landmarks you’ve only read about in books or seen on T.V., such as the White House, United States Capitol, and the Statue of Liberty. Students honor our country’s heritage by visiting some of the nation’s most remarkable sites and memorials, including Ellis Island, Arlington National Cemetery; and the World War II, Jefferson, and Vietnam Veteran Memorials. Students also tour Columbia, Georgetown and Howard University.

RECOGNITIONS/CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

★ **National Junior Honor Society**

The National Junior Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. Students with a GPA of 3.7 or higher after the first semester are invited to apply for membership. Their applications are then reviewed by NJHS committee. Students who accept the invitation for membership are inducted into the local chapter at a ceremony held in February.

★ **Citizen of the Month**

Each month, teachers nominate and vote for middle school students who demonstrate the qualities of great character that were featured. Areas in which students can be nominated are: respectful, responsible, caring, punctual, reliable, creative, optimistic, self-motivated, persevering, gracious, ambitious, courageous, resourceful, joyful, kind, patient, tolerant, honest, thankful, polite, considerate, generous, cheerful, loyal, sympathetic, patriotic, trustworthy, fair, and cooperative. The students are honored during the monthly house activity.

In addition, each month our House time and PLP sessions focus on developing positive character in our students with activities and discussions.

★ **H.O.P.E Card – Helping Others Pursue Excellence**

The middle school teachers are committed to helping their students pursue excellence and always demonstrate good character. The “HOPE CARD” is a way to recognize the excellence and good character that our students display on a daily basis. HOPE CARDS are issued to students by teachers and staff members when they are caught exemplifying the following character traits: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Students earning cards are honored and rewarded during each house event.

★ **Husky High Five**

Husky High Fives are a way for students to recognize and acknowledge one another performing for a positive event or act. When a student spots another student going above and beyond in a positive character trait, they can nominate them to receive a Husky High Five through an online form.

Kindness Crew

Members of the Kindness Crew will promote encourage and inspire Kindness amongst students, staff & community. Their goal is to create a positive school environment for every student. Throughout the year the crew will create monthly Kindness challenges that will challenge, inspire and impact the lives of the students within our school

★ **Getting Ready for High School**

Starting September, we open our campus to the local private and public high schools by inviting them to come speak to our eighth-grade students about what it takes to be ready for the rigor of their programs. Students and parents are also provided with a “High School Analysis” of these selected schools to assist them in determining the best fit for them. This is followed by monthly workshops with the Middle School Director. These workshops assist students in preparing for interviews, identifying their goals, and developing a resume and ultimately a “Student Professional Portfolio”. The portfolio is designed to have the students enter high school prepared for the college/scholarship application process in future years. This process gives the students an opportunity to foster self-critique, reflection, and critical thinking skills.

★ **Personal Learning Plans (PLP’s)**

The PLP will assist in measuring each child's rate of improvement. At the middle school level, our goal will be to get the students involved in their learning. They will gain knowledge of their academic goals, develop an ongoing portfolio of their progress, conduct student - parent conferences to discuss their progress, review the plan, and set new academic goals as appropriate. The PLP will consist of two parts: an academic improvement plan and an area of opportunity for growth plan.

- The academic improvement plan is designed to challenge the student in areas of identified need for growth, based on their individual CTP test results, and classroom performance as noted by his or her teachers.

- The area of opportunity will be personalized to your child's character development and digital citizenship. This could range anywhere from organizational skills, self-esteem, responsibility and leadership, to becoming more comfortable speaking in front of peers and improving the use of polite manners.

The outcome of your child's individual progress will be discussed in quarterly emails as well as at the formal conference in November. It is our job as a school to effectively understand all aspects of your child and to communicate effectively the progress being made in the daily classroom environment.

★ **Digital Citizenship**

As our culture and society have moved into a digital lifestyle, we recognize that our education must change and adjust as well. We have incorporated digital citizenship into our classrooms and have spotlighted it in our PLP sessions by introducing digital citizenship curriculum and activities monthly.

★ **HUSKY Awards**

We recognize our students' outstanding accomplishments at a very special ceremony. At year end, we host the HUSKY Awards ceremony to award one or two students per subject area who show passion, talent, and diligence. The most prestigious award of the ceremony is the Director's Humanitarian award which is bestowed upon the student who demonstrates active community service and all six pillars of character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship) on a regular basis, becoming the model Husky.

★ **Honors Lists**

Academic excellence and outstanding conduct are the goals of every Middle School student. At the end of each quarter, students will be honored for their academic effort and conduct with the following certificates:

Executive Director's Honor Roll List

Achievement of 4.0 in all four grading periods for the year.

Director's Honor Roll List

Achievement of 4.0 in both grading periods of the semester.

Gold Honors

Achievement marked by a grade point average of 3.75 to 4.0.

Blue Honors

Achievement marked by a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74.

Valedictorian – Salutation

Valedictorian and Salutatorian are selected as the top two students in 8th grade who have been part of our middle school for all three years. These students would have the highest GPA over 6 semesters here at Heritage Oak.

Associated Student Government (ASG)

2018-19 Cabinet

President: Celine Tseng

VP: Kamila Portero

Secretary: Audrey Her

Treasurer: Natalie Esteban

The Associated Student Government (ASG) at HOPE is responsible for creating a fun, exciting and unified student body through their lunch time activities, snacks once a month, Valentine Grams, and \$1 Free dress days. We also support many charitable organizations by our "Give To" campaigns. We donate to a canned food drive to support Canning Hunger, Operation Warm and Cozy to provide warm apparel for homeless shelters and Working Wardrobe.

ASG also oversees Earth Day at the school where we have the awesome task of educating our school students to the importance task of reusing and renewing our valuable resources. ASG is the platform to get involved and contribute to many school programs while having a great time doing it!

National Junior Honor Society

The **National Junior Honor Society** is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle level students. More than just an **honor** roll, **NJHS** serves to **honor** those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character.

Scholarship- Students must have a minimum cumulative non-weighted GPA of 3.50 at the end of the 6th and 7th grade years only. 8th graders may not be inducted.

Leadership- Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem-solvers, promoters of school activities, idea contributors, dependable and persons who exemplify positive attitudes about life. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activities while working with or for others.

Service- This quality is defined through the voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation and with positive, courteous and enthusiastic spirit. Members are required to complete a minimum of 25 hours of community service hours annually.

Citizenship- The student who demonstrates citizenship understands the importance of civic engagement; has a high regard for freedom and justice; respects the U.S. form of government; respects the law for all citizens at the local, state, and federal levels; and demonstrates mature participation and responsibility in activities such as scouting, community organizations, or school clubs.

Character- A student with character must demonstrate the following six qualities: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship. Candidates will be selected on their ability to demonstrate and uphold these standards; and generally, maintains a clean disciplinary record.

Students who meet the scholarship requirement will have an opportunity to complete a form detailing their accomplishments in and commitment to service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

★ **Parent Involvement**

Director's Roundtable

Collaboration between home and school is what makes our school unique and helps ensure success with our children. Quarterly meetings are held to invite parents to meet with the Directors and give input into the middle school program at Heritage Oak.

Parent Volunteer Opportunities

If you have extra time and want to stay involved in your child's education, then Middle School has various opportunities throughout the school year for you to stay involved. A list of parent volunteer opportunities can be found on the Middle School Edline page.



Middle School Program of Study 2018-2019

Following are the 2018-2019 Middle School course offerings, listed by subject area. Further details of the courses are presented by the faculty; additional middle school program information is outlined in the HOPE Middle School Guide.

LANGUAGE ARTS

6th grade

After focusing on the Art of Language and its development in fifth grade, sixth grade Language Arts delves into the art of literature via a genre study through independent and class readings. Students will immerse themselves in the reading of varying genres such as science fiction, mystery, non-fiction, and realistic fiction. Students will work to improve their reading skills by utilizing strategies such as summarizing, inferencing, reflecting, and responding. During reading, students study the elements of literature in context and apply these skills to related writings, using learned organization and note-taking skills. Through these writings, students focus on developing fluency in their writing, as well as continuing to learn proper structures in sentences, paragraphs, and essays. Writing conventions, parts of speech, vocabulary, grammar, and spelling are addressed as students transfer learned skills to their personal writing as they prepare for the future to discover their voice.

7th grade

Seventh grade English continues the journey started in sixth grade, as it serves to encourage the development of individual writing style and discovery of voice. This particular journey takes students through stories of the world, as they reflect on who they are and relate their personal experiences as a seventh grader growing up in society, thus enhancing and integrating the Social Studies curriculum. By studying various authors' styles, students gain an understanding of the tools writers use, and then apply such tools to their personal writing. Novels and short stories, all with a focus on creativity, allow students to study specific authors and their styles. In turn, students experiment with a multitude of writing genres, such as short stories, poetry, and descriptive essays. In addition, exploration of language devices grant students the opportunity to study: words at play, similes, metaphors, sensory words, and color words, encouraging students to collect words to energize their writing. Students are expected to learn and apply the steps of the writing process as they understand audience and purpose, then make revisions and progress toward professional publication of their writing. Writing conventions are taught on an individual basis, with emphasis on word choice and style. Successful completion of this course produces a proficient and talented creative writer who has discovered their voice.

8th grade

Having discovered their writing voices, students in eighth grade English learn to take a stand as they develop their formal writing skills. Focusing on structure and format will give the students the expertise to transfer their writing voice to convincing, logical positions. This emphasis on structure correlates to other content areas, thus cementing student voice with research, facts, and content information. For instance, Physical Science studies are supported with English composition. In addition, students read texts analytically to dissect author purpose and point of view. Units and texts focus on themes such as justice, fairness, propaganda, utopia, and equality, as lessons merge with the U. S. History curriculum. As students study structure, they learn what strategies complement their voice and use writer's tools such as transitions, effective word choice, proper essay format, and parenthetical notation. In turn, students gain the skills necessary to compose several writing samples, including persuasive essays, compare and contrast vignettes, and research papers. Diverse writing lessons reinforce structure and allow students to create reasonable, well-supported arguments, rather than relying solely on opinion. In turn, students feel well versed and are able to deliver a professional presentation, in both written and verbal communications.

SOCIAL STUDIES

6th grade: The Ancient World

The sixth-grade social studies curriculum focuses on the geography, history, and cultures of the ancient world. After a brief unit on Early Humans and the Rise of Civilization, the students will learn about extraordinary world of Ancient Egypt and the Near East. From there the students will journey to Asia for units on Ancient India and Ancient China. The year concludes with an exploration of the rise of Western civilization in Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome. Throughout the year students have the opportunity to explore the influence of geography, religion, systems of government, and writing on the development of ancient Empires. By experiencing and appreciating the goals, struggles, and decisions of past cultures, students begin to gain a deeper understanding of the world-changing issues facing societies today.

7th grade: The Medieval World and Beyond

The seventh grade curriculum is rich in fascinating history, geography, and culture, all of it having modern-day applications. The year begins with Christian Europe in the Middle Ages and then moves into the rise of Islam and its expansion to Europe and the Crusades that followed. China and Japan come into the curriculum as well, with fascinating units on Imperial China and Medieval Japan. The later part of the year covers European exploration and the Renaissance and Reformation that gave birth to that exploration. Latin America before and after European colonization is studied, as is the Enlightenment, and the Scientific Revolution. It is a year of study designed to prepare young people to engage in our increasingly globalized world.

8th grade: The United States Through Industrialism

In the eighth grade the United States is the focus of the curriculum. From the Revolutionary War to the Industrial Revolution, students encounter the main themes of American history: the development of democracy, Western Expansion, Slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, relations with Native Americans, Industrial Growth, and Political Reform. Students are challenged to expand their own skills as they complete a variety of assignments (individual and cooperative) related to the course curriculum; these assignments involve a series of student driven assignments designed to improve their research, analytical, presentation skills, and writing skills in preparation for high school.

SCIENCE

6th Grade Earth Science

The Earth Science Program at HOPE adheres to both the National and California Science standards emphasizing a more complex understanding of the Earth. HOPE incorporates the scientific model: STEAM, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math into the curriculum. The course explores origins and the connections between the physical, chemical, and biological processes of the earth system. Students experience the content of Earth Science through inquiry-based research, investigations and focus on topics associated with matter, energy, crystal dynamics, cosmic evolution, earth formation structures, geochemical processes, and the expanded time scales needed to understand events in the earth system. Earth Science provides the knowledge, skills, and habits needed for problem solving. The curriculum emphasizes the ability of the students to plan and conduct credible scientific research, to sketch, engineer, and build ingenious models and to incorporate music in their class presentations (STEAM).

7th Grade Life Science

The Life Science Program at HOPE adheres to both the National and California Science standards which emphasize a more complex understanding of change, cycles, patterns, and relationships in the living world. HOPE incorporates the scientific model, STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math into the curriculum. Students build on basic principles related to these concepts by exploring the cellular organization and the classification of organisms; the dynamic relationships among organisms, populations, communities, and ecosystems. This scientific view defines the idea that explanations of nature are developed and tested using observation, experimentation models, evidence, and systematic processes based on logical thinking. Inquiry skills at this level include organization and mathematical analysis of data, manipulation of variables in experiments, and identification of sources of experimental error. The culminating event of each classification is a wet dissection. The science curriculum incorporates the investigation of science concepts, the use of technology, engineering, and

building scientific models, dissection sketches (artistic creativity) and incorporating math in their presentation models.

8th Grade Physical Science

The Physical Science Program at HOPE adheres to both the National and California Science standards. These standards stress an in-depth understanding of Physics and Chemistry. For example: The structure of matter and the characteristics of energy, the organization and use of the periodic table; physical and chemical changes; nuclear reactions; temperature and heat; sound; light; electricity; and magnetism; work, force, and motion. HOPE incorporates the scientific model, STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math into the curriculum. The Physical Science standards continue to build on skills of systematic investigation with a clear focus on variables and repeated trials. The curriculum emphasizes the ability of the students to plan and conduct scientific research, to sketch, engineer, and build ingenious devices to problem solve, and to incorporate math into their class presentations.

MATHEMATICS

6th Grade Math

The sixth grade math curriculum, Math Connects Course 2, focuses on a broad range of mathematical topics and will challenge students to develop their critical thinking skills and creative problem solving in the real world by explaining and justifying their answers. Topics studied will include: integers, pre-algebra, proportions, percentages, functions, probability, and transformations. The goal of Math Connects Course 2 is to learn and remember the foundational skills of mathematics to prepare students to be successful in algebra and beyond. The term “foundational” is appropriate because mathematics, perhaps more than any other single subject, is a cognitive structure that builds upon prior learning.

Pre-Algebra

Glencoe Pre-Algebra focuses on introductory algebra topics. It is designed to facilitate the transition from the concrete concepts of arithmetic to the abstract concepts of algebra. Students will also continue to study a broad range of mathematical topics such as expressions and equations, multi-step equations and inequalities, ratios, proportions, similar figures, linear and nonlinear functions, and two and three dimensional space, which will build their skills needed for algebra. They will use real world situations and problems to challenge their critical thinking skills, further their mathematical understanding, and develop the ability to explain and justify answers to others.

Algebra I

Pearson's Algebra 1 Common Core Edition transitions from arithmetic operations used in Math Connects Course 2 and Pre-Algebra textbooks to the use of symbols to represent unknown or varied quantities in these operations. Pearson's Algebra 1 also continues the study of statistics and probability and geometry introduced in secondary school mathematics. The textbook will challenge students with problem-solving and offer visual and interactive learning lessons to solidify abstract ideas. Students will use everyday situations and problems to further mathematical understanding, and develop the ability to explain and justify their answers

Geometry

Geometry offers students many opportunities to explore geometric situations, develop conjectures and prove their conjectures using a variety of methods. The Geometry textbook encourages students to use the axiomatic system and to communicate their geometric reasoning using geometric proofs. Algebra continues to play an important role within the geometric concepts learned in class.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

6th Grade Spanish

This course is designed to introduce students to the grammar concepts and vocabulary needed to speak, and write in Spanish. Students will build on concepts learned in Elementary Spanish while reviewing greetings, conversation and numbers in Spanish. Spanish speaking countries and culture lessons will be incorporated into each unit of the curriculum. Videos, listening activities and internet activities will keep students active in learning Spanish grammar and vocabulary from the text. By the end of the year students will feel comfortable translating, writing and holding basic conversations in Spanish. Class time will be used to practice vocabulary, learn new grammar concepts, and develop written projects to utilize skills learned.

7th Grade Spanish

This course is designed for students to continue learning Spanish through a variety of instructional methods. Students will continue to improve grammar concepts and vocabulary. Students will build on concepts learned in previous years and practice dialogues and skits in order to reinforce their Spanish. Videos, listening activities and internet activities will keep students active in learning Spanish grammar and vocabulary from the text. By the end of the year students will feel comfortable translating, writing and holding basic conversations in Spanish. Class time will be used to practice vocabulary, learn new grammar concepts, and develop projects utilizing technology.

8th Grade Spanish

This course is designed to give students a comprehensive introduction to the Spanish language and varied cultures of the Hispanic world. Through instruction in the four major linguistic competencies (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), students will gain the skills necessary to express themselves in a variety of everyday situations. Emphasis is on vocabulary acquisition and using language in context to convey meaning, grammar fundamentals supporting effective communication, and the appreciation of other cultures.

6th Grade French

The primary objectives of the French language program in Grade 6 are to help students to develop their proficiency in the French language through the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to instill in students an understanding and appreciation for the French language and culture around the world. The course is an integration of video, audio, and text activities leading to the complete language development. It is designed to accommodate all students by appealing to a variety of learning styles.

7th Grade French

The primary objectives of the French language program in Grade 7 are to help students to improve their proficiency in the French language through the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to instill in students a better understanding and appreciation

for the French language and culture around the world. The course is an integration of video, audio, and text activities leading to the complete language development. It is designed to accommodate all students by appealing to a variety of learning styles.

8th Grade French

The primary objectives of the French language program in Grade 8 are to help students to improve their proficiency in the French language and to develop their cultural sensitivity. By interweaving language and culture, the course seeks to broaden students' communication skills and deepen their appreciation of other cultures.

MUSIC

Concert Band/Wind Ensemble

This is a performance-oriented class geared towards students that demonstrate a strong mastery of the fundamentals of tone quality, rhythm and listening skills. As the premier concert band of HOPE, students are expected to achieve a high level of success and have additional responsibilities beyond the classroom. *Concert band* and Wind Ensemble place an emphasis on the refinement of fundamentals of performance, both individually and as a group, and development of discriminating listening skills. The program strives to produce intelligent consumers of music with an appreciation of the arts as a form of communication and self-expression. This is a year-long course.

6th-8th Grade String Chamber Orchestra

This course is designed for 6th and 7th grade students who participated in the 5th/6th grade orchestra class at Heritage Oak. Students will have the continuous opportunity to perform as well as developing strong leadership skills while learning music theory, history and ensemble performance. This is a year-long course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Middle School P.E.

The course develops a positive self-image and encourages each child to set an attainable goal within the standards of the physical fitness program. The Heritage Oak fitness program encourages students to become life-long participants in a wholesome recreational activity. The curriculum will begin with the introduction of basic skills, team sports, and further concepts that will enhance and promote athleticism. The sixth, seventh and eighth-grade competency increases through a wide range of physical activity. Students at these ages will be able to set physical fitness goal independently.

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

Middle School Debate

This class is designed to develop and foster the skills necessary for public speaking through research, teamwork, and current events. The program uses the methods and format of the Middle School Public Debate Program (MSPDP). During this course, students will learn to develop and improve communication skills that will help in school and at work, improve relationships with family and friends, and deal with challenges. Students attend the Debate and Public Speaking class three (3) class periods each week and will be involved in researching

topics, giving individual speeches, debating interesting and current topics, developing effective speaking, listening, and research skills.

OPTIONAL Husky Debate Team

The Husky Debate team is a member of the Orange County Debate League. Participation on the competitive team requires a one-year commitment and is open to anyone with prior or current MSPDP experience. The Husky Debate Team is not required, but strongly suggested to anyone who does not have prior engagements after school and on weekends. There are approximately six (6) tournaments throughout the year that students will be required to attend, held either Saturdays or Sundays. Tentative dates for the 2017-2018 tournament year are during:

September 22, 2018– Debate Workshop (open to all 5-8th graders)

October 20, 2018 – Scramble Tournament

December 1 or 15^t, 2018 – Holiday Tournament (OCDL will finalize this date by the October Scramble)

February 9, 2019 – Winter Classic Tournament

March 30, 2019– Spring Special Tournament

May 4, 2019 – Orange County Debate League Championship

Musical Theatre

This course is an introduction and overview of theatre, primarily the musical aspect, as an art form; emphasizing on understanding the nature of drama and its place in culture, the history and theory of theatre and the production process. Students will not only learn how to act and sing, but they will also have the chance to learn about stage lighting, prop design, scene design, and sound. Students will meet three (3) times a week. Two (2) of these meetings will be dedicated to acting and singing, and one (1) of the classes will be dedicated to production, sound, and stage design. This is a yearlong course.

Electives

The Middle School elective's program is an important component of Heritage Oak curriculum. The elective program encourages our students to pursue interests and passions beyond the core curriculum. Elective courses are curriculum-linked to enrich the school's academic program according to Heritage Oak's educational philosophy and mission.

The elective's schedule is based on the semester system. Students enroll in one elective per semester. Each class will meet twice per week for 50 minutes during the seventh period of the day. Each semester contains offerings to provide a broad enrichment experience.

The following electives are offered: Photography, Ceramics, Sports Conditioning, Fitness Fun, Leader in Me Show Choir, Visual Art, Computer Applications, Computer Programming and a variety of Online Courses (Into to Commercial Art, Journalism , ASL, Leadership and Reading Comprehension).

Sixth Grade students are enrolled in MS Prep (Study Skills) the first semester and have the option to choose an elective the second semester. Seventh and eighth grade students choose an elective for each semester.