

### Technology

- Demonstrate effective input of text and data, using keyboarding with proper technique
- Work with various Microsoft Office programs
- Choose appropriate tools and information resources to support research
- Describe and practice safe Internet usage
- Recognize the ethical and legal implications of plagiarism of copyrighted material
- Utilize critical thinking skills through the use of grade level appropriate software

### Music

- Perform compositions containing progressively complex notation
- Sing or play works from different genres with expression and technical accuracy
- Analyze original or prepared musical scores and demonstrate how the elements of music are manipulated

### Art

- Incorporate various art elements and principles in the creation of works of art
- Identify form, function, craftsmanship, and originality
- Compare and contrast works of art in various media that utilize the same art elements and principles of design

### Media

- Locate materials using the card catalog search
- Recognize the need for accessing and using information
- Select specific media related to interest or curriculum needs
- Use Media Center resources to complete a research project

### Career and Character Education

- Analyze personal interests, abilities, and skills through various measures, including self-assessments
- Practice goal setting and decision making in areas relative to life skills
- Describe and demonstrate appropriate character traits, social skills, and positive attitudes

### Mission Statement

*The Mission of the Mount Arlington School District is to ensure that our children succeed personally, academically, socially, and physically. Through our commitment and passion to promote excellence, we will continue to provide our students with a safe, challenging and inspiring learning environment so that each student may achieve his/her full potential. In partnership with the community, our students are provided with a sound foundation to support a life long journey of opportunity and success.*



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# Mount Arlington Public Schools



## Eighth Grade Learning Benchmarks

In Eighth Grade, a student will...

### Language Arts

- Read for a variety of purposes and respond to diverse genres, materials, and texts
- Read and use inflection and phrasing to increase fluency and expression; adjust reading rate
- Expand reading comprehension through recognition of vocabulary using varied strategies
- Read literally, inferentially, and critically to evaluate story elements, genres, and themes
- Recognize propaganda and bias in written work
- Use self-monitoring techniques/strategies and perspective of the author to aid comprehension
- Analyze text for the purpose, voice, and perspective of the author
- Interpret and analyze literary devices
- Speculate about text by generating literal and inferential questions
- Engage in the writing process (brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, publishing)
- Utilize all rules of formal writing and figurative language in writing
- Apply conventional grammar and spelling skills
- Write collaboratively and independently for a variety of purposes and audiences
- Write multi-paragraph (min. 5 paragraphs) on both teacher-selected and self-selected topics
- Demonstrate the ability to research and gain information from a variety of media
- Interpret, take notes, and summarize data resulting in an research project and/or oral presentation with visual representations
- Use narrative and descriptive writing techniques that show compositional risks
- Develop the use of a personal style and voice effectively
- Review scoring criteria of relevant rubrics
- Critique own/peer writing samples with the goal of revising
- Maintain a collection of writing (literacy folder or portfolio)

### Math

- Extend understanding of the number system by constructing meanings for rational numbers, percents, exponents, roots, absolute values, and numbers represented in scientific notation
- Understand and use ratios, proportions, and percents in a variety of situations
- Construct meanings for common irrational numbers such as  $\pi$  (pi) and the square root of two
- Estimate square and cube roots of numbers
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean theorem
- Solve problems requiring calculations that involve different units of measurement
- Understand and apply the standard algebraic order of operations
- Solve problems that involve compound measurement units such as speed, air pressure, and population density
- Develop and apply strategies and formulas for finding perimeter and area
- Develop and apply strategies and formulas for finding surface area and volume of a three-dimensional figure
- Recognize, describe, extend, and create patterns involving whole numbers, rational numbers, and integers
- Graph functions, understand and describe their general behavior
- Select and use appropriate representations for sets of data, and measures of central tendency
- Emphasize on using the mathematical process in problem solving
- Explain mathematical thinking

### Science

- Plan experiments, conduct observations, interpret and analyze data, draw conclusions and communicate results
- Develop problem solving and inquiry skills reflected by formulating usable questions and hypotheses
- Describe the development and exponential growth of scientific knowledge and technological innovations
- Analyze experimental data sets using measures of central tendency (mean, mode, median)
- Recognize that complex multicellular organisms are composed of and defined by interactions of cells, tissues, organs, and systems
- Understand the structure and behavior of atoms, elements, mixtures and solutions
- Develop an increased understanding of natural laws as they apply to motion, forces, and energy transformations
- Understand the structure, dynamics, and geophysical systems of the Earth

### Social Studies

- Evaluate the uses of history to appreciate and understand America's heritage
- Analyze the benefits of using oral and personal history to enhance one's understanding of the past
- Classify the causes and effects of events in social, political, economic, and wars to assist in understanding the beliefs and traditions of America
- Develop a research paper on historical figures using varied media and research methods
- Evaluate the relationship between geography and American foreign and domestic policy
- Compare and contrast the characteristics of agricultural and industrial economic systems
- Evaluate the relationship between economic prosperity and political influence
- Analyze the origins of the American Constitution
- Evaluate the role of compromise throughout America's civic past
- Conduct mock trials and debates based on the philosophy of the Constitution of the United States

### World Language

- Use language to engage in conversation
- Understand and interpret spoken and written language
- Make connections and compare the language/culture with their own
- Develop an increased knowledge of Spanish grammar

### Health and Physical Education

- Demonstrate advanced movement patterns and specific sport skills
- Develop all around physical fitness
- Practice cooperation, respect, and sportsmanship in a group setting
- Evaluate the impact of healthy behaviors and choices on personal and family wellness
- Analyze local and state public health efforts to prevent and control diseases and health conditions
- Predict social situations and conditions that may require adolescents to use decision making skills
- Investigate how the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs impact thinking, reaction time, and behavior
- Recognize the physical, emotional, and social impacts of adolescent relationships