

MORENCI AREA SCHOOLS

MIDDLE/HIGH

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

ENGLISH

ELA 6

Grade 6

Sixth Grade English class will reinforce and expand the skills to effectively use our English language. This will include a study of grammar, parts of speech, and increased vocabulary.

Technology will also be incorporated into the English class. This will include educational apps that pertain to a variety of ELA skills. Students will also use Chromebooks to create and present meaningful class presentations covering a range of skills that involve Language Arts. Google Classroom will be used extensively.

Resources include Teachers Pay Teachers, Tween Tribune, Newsela, Ereading, and CommonLit. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

ELA Workshop 6

Grade 6

An important aspect of the class will be a focus of the four genres of writing. Students will demonstrate understanding of the four genres through various assignments and projects using the Writing Process as a tool for success. Focus Correction Areas will be the skills expected of the students. These skills are generated from the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). FCAs will be taught on each writing assignment and will be expected to be mastered by the students by the end of the year.

Novels will be read and themes will be incorporated into the STREAM concept. The novels may include Choosing Up Sides, A Long Walk To Water, The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind, and A Song For A Whale.

Technology will also be incorporated into the Reading/Writing class. This will include educational apps that pertain to a variety of ELA skills. Students will also use Chromebooks to create and present meaningful class presentations covering a range of skills that involve Language Arts. Google Classroom will be used extensively. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Students will explore the major purposes for writing - to describe, to tell a story, to explain, and to persuade. They will also continuously review and apply the writing process in their own work. Google Classroom will be used both to convey material and submit assignments for approximately 70-75% of the material. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction during any period of remote learning.

ELA 7

Grade 7

Students will complete writing assignments and projects to cover Common Core State Standards. There will also be opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines in order to problem solve. We mainly focus on critical thinking, narrative writing (through a storytelling unit), and explanatory writing. They will also have two reading-focused units during the school year in order to focus on comprehension, the components of a story, and theme analysis (Novels may include Al Capone Does My Shirts and The Outsiders.) Google Classroom will be used both to convey material and submit assignments for approximately 70-75% of the material. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction during any period of remote learning.

ELA Workshop 7

Grade 7

The focus of this course will be to strengthen basic reading and writing skills. These skills are generated from the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The reading segment will focus on the students' ability to read and process information independently. They will have a reading log, frequent library visits, and a required minimum of at least four (4) books read independently (or with small groups). At least one novel (*The Wednesday Wars*) will be read as a class. The writing portion of class will be largely focused on the writing process.

Technology will also be incorporated into the Reading/Writing class. This will include educational apps that pertain to a variety of ELA skills. Students will also use Chromebooks to create and present meaningful class presentations covering a range of skills that involve Language Arts. Google Classroom will be used extensively. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

ELA 8

Grade 8

Students will complete writing assignments and projects to cover Common Core State Standards. They will be given opportunities to apply knowledge from other disciplines in order to problem solve. We mainly focus on critical thinking, deductive reasoning, explanatory writing, and persuasive writing; grammar will be reviewed in relation to effective writing per state standards. Students will also have reading focused units focused on identifying key details, identifying the components of an argument, and interpreting poetry (Reading will include selections from the short story collections *Uncle Tom's Children* and *Last Witnesses* as well as the novel *A Wrinkle in Time*.) Google Classroom will be used both to convey material and submit assignments for approximately 70-75% of the material. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction during any period of remote learning.

ELA Workshop 8

Grade 8

An important aspect of the class will be a focus of the four genres of writing. Students will demonstrate understanding of the four genres through various assignments and projects using the Writing Process as a tool for success. Focus Correction Areas will be the skills expected of the students. These skills are generated from the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). FCAs will be taught on each writing assignment and will be expected to be mastered by the students by the end of the year.

Novels will be an important part of the class for improving Reading comprehension, leading novel discussions, and increasing vocabulary skills. The novel will be: *The Crossover*, *Number the Stars*, *Coyote Sunrise*, and *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus*.

English 9

Grade 9

Using contemporary and classic literature, as well as nonfiction selections, students will be instructed in literary techniques and its influence in writing and speaking. Instruction will include writing, grammar, and vocabulary through texts, preparation for the PSAT using Khan Academy, and regular discussion and analysis of literature (based on 9-10 Common Core Standards). The vast majority of coursework is completed using Google Classroom. Students will also use online program No Red Ink for grammar and writing practices.

Advanced English 9

Grade 9

Similar to English 9, Advanced English 9 uses contemporary and classic literature as well as nonfiction selections to instruct students in literary techniques and its influence in writing and speaking. Instruction will include writing, grammar, and vocabulary through texts, preparation for the PSAT using Khan Academy, and regular discussion and analysis of literature (based on 9-10 Common Core Standards). In addition, Advances English 9 will incorporate higher level critical thinking tasks and rigorous writing assessments intended to prepare students for Honors English 11. The vast majority of coursework is completed using Google Classroom. Students will also use online program No Red Ink for grammar and writing practices.

****In order to enroll in Honors English 9, students must complete a summer reading assignment.***

English 10

Grade 10

English 10 focuses on a combination of English Language Arts skills including reading, writing, language, speaking and listening (based on 9-10 Common Core Standards). Throughout the year we will explore fundamental ideals such as freedom, equality, opportunity, and protected rights, especially as they have been tested and interpreted in the U.S. as well as in other countries. In addition to four anchor texts (*Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald), students will also read non-fiction works (e.g. essays, speeches). The vast majority of coursework is done using Google Classroom. Students will also use the online program No Red Ink for grammar and writing practice.

Advanced English 10

Grade 10

Like English 10, Advanced English 10 focuses on a combination of English Language Arts skills including reading, writing, language, speaking and listening (based on Common Core Standards). Throughout the year, we will explore fundamental ideals such as freedom, equality, opportunity, and protected rights, especially as they have been tested and interpreted in the U.S. as well as in other countries. In addition to five anchor texts (*I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai (summer), *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald), students will also read non-fiction works (e.g. essays, speeches). An additional anchor text may be added in the spring. In addition to the standard curriculum, Advances English 10 will incorporate introductory rhetorical analysis instruction, higher-level critical thinking tasks and rigorous writing assessments intended to prepare students for Honors English 11. The vast majority of coursework is done using Google Classroom.

Students are recommended for Advanced English 10 based on aptitude, achievement and attitude. In order to enroll in Advanced English 10, students must complete a summer reading assignment.

English 11

Grade 11

English 11 is a survey course that includes the study of short stories, novels, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. In addition to the study of literature, writing is emphasized. Through literature, class discussion, projects, journals, and various writing assignments, students will improve their reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar, critical, and creative thinking skills (based on 11-12 Common Core Standards). Khan Academy will be used to prepare students for the SAT. The vast majority of coursework is completed using Google Classroom.

Honors English 11

Grade 11

The objectives of Honors English 11 are to prepare students for real-world language tasks (i.e. consuming and communicating information), and college-level reading, writing and responding. Honors English 11 focuses on a combination of ELA skills including reading, writing, language, speaking and listening (based on 11-12 Common Core Standards).

Honors English 11 provides intense skill building in the following areas:

- Critical reading (mostly non-fiction, but some fiction)
- Rhetorical analysis (i.e. studying the art of effective writing, inc. rhetorical triangle)
- Style and usage (e.g. clarity, correctness, organization, etc.)
- Understanding how claims are supported with evidence
- Academic writing (e.g. argument, analysis, synthesis)
- Use and citation of outside sources (MLA)
- Formal and informal verbal communication

Texts include *Night* by Elie Wiesel, *1984* by George Orwell and *They Say, I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing 3rd Edition* by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, in addition to the required summer reading. Students will also read non-fiction essays, primary sources and informational writings.

The vast majority of coursework is done using Google Classroom. Students will also use the online program No Red Ink to prepare for the SAT.

Students are recommended for Honors English 11 based on aptitude, achievement and attitude. In order to enroll in Honors English 11, students must complete a summer reading assignment.

English 12

Grade 12

Senior Level English is based on the Michigan Merit Curriculum. Students will engage in broad reading and writing experiences to encompass literary texts, nonfiction literary texts, and other informational texts. The main goal of the course is to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies developed in English 9 through 11, so as to prepare students for their future. The vast majority of coursework is completed using Google Classroom.

Honors English 12

Grade 12

Honors English 12 is an advanced course, offering possibilities for advanced literary study in preparation for college English. The course will focus heavily on analysis of novels and plays, but some short stories and poems will be included, as well as film adaptations. Anchor texts include *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, *Oedipus the King* by Sophocles, *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare, and *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, in addition to a required summer reading text and possibly 1-2 additional texts, as time allows.

By the end of this course, students should be able to interact with a work of literature using an analytical, critical approach. Student responses, whether written or oral, should show depth and focus on concepts and stylistic choices to reveal insights, rather than simply summarize or react to the work. An introduction to research and analysis of published literary criticism will be included.

A working knowledge of literary terms and rhetorical devices will be important to our discussion. Many of these will be review, but it will be important that students have a command of those most commonly used in our discussion.

Students will write frequently in response to our readings. Discussion, both small group and whole group (in-person and online), will be a regular part of our classroom experience. It is expected that students will come to class prepared and willing to discuss any assigned readings. The vast majority of coursework will be done using Google Classroom.

Students are recommended for Honors English 12 based on aptitude, achievement and attitude. In order to enroll in Honors English 12, students must complete a summer reading assignment.

MATHEMATICS

Math 6 Interventions

Grade 6

Students will review key concepts being taught in Math 6, such as fractional operations, ratios, and surface area. They will also practice math facts and standards taught in previous grades to increase confidence, as well as mastery. The smaller class size will allow for intensive remediation and more individualized instruction.

Math 6

Grade 6

Students in Math 6 will review and extend their previous knowledge of fractions. They will solve problems with integers and rational numbers. We will review area and volume, as well as introduce surface area (using nets) and composite area and volume. Sixth graders will practice the order of operations and exponents. Pre-algebra concepts will be introduced for equations and inequalities. Instructions of ratios will include unit rates and percentages. New graphing concepts covered will include histograms and box plots, in addition to a review of line plots. The curriculum utilized will be Maneuvering the Middle.

Advance Math 6

Grade 6

Students will be able to learn at a faster pace and higher level in a small group setting. Instruction will follow 7th grade common core math standards, including topics such as the following: rational numbers, proportional relationships, algebraic foundations, and data analysis. Daily lessons and assessments primarily come from the 7th grade Maneuvering the Middle curriculum. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Math 7 Interventions

Grade 7

Students will review key concepts being taught in Math 7, such as rational number operations, integers, and algebraic foundations. They will also practice standards taught in previous grades to increase confidence, as well as mastery. The Exact Path program will allow students to work on math skills online through an individualized program, with the teacher providing direct instruction as needed. The smaller class size will allow for intensive remediation and more individualized instruction. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Math 7

Grade 7

Instruction includes the computation of rational numbers to include integers, fractions, decimals and percents. Students will learn what makes things proportional and how to solve for unknowns in these relationships. Instruction also targets data analysis and probability; algebraic foundations such as equations and inequalities; and functional / linear relationships. Daily lessons and assessments primarily come from the Maneuvering the Middle curriculum but will also include Google Classroom, Kuta Software and Flipped Math.

Advances Math 7

Grade 7

Students will be able to learn at a faster pace and higher level in a small group setting. Instruction will follow 8th grade common core math standards, including topics such as the following: the real number system, algebraic foundations, linear equations, and geometry concepts. Daily lessons and assessments primarily come from the 8th grade Maneuvering the Middle curriculum.

Math 8 Interventions

Grade 8

Students will review key concepts being taught in Math 8, such as the real number system, geometric calculations, and algebraic foundations. They will also practice standards taught in previous grades to increase confidence, as well as mastery. The Exact Path program will allow students to work on math skills online through an individualized program, with the teacher providing direct instruction as needed. The smaller class size will allow for intensive remediation and more individualized instruction.

Math 8

Grade 8

Instruction includes the study of real numbers and their properties, exponent rules, scientific-standard notation, algebraic relations and functions, linear equation systems with an emphasis on solving through graphing and substitution. Also students will study the geometry concepts of Pythagorean Theorem; volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres, as well as various angle relationships. PSAT preparation, a key component of this class, includes timed warm-ups, bubbled and gridded answers, process of elimination, etc. Daily lessons and assessments primarily come from the Maneuvering the Middle curriculum but will also include programs like Google Classroom, Kuta Software and Flipped Math.

Pre-Algebra

Grade 9

Instruction includes topics such as algebraic symbols, properties of real numbers, exponent rules, positive and negative numbers, linear equations, graphing, exponents, scientific-standard notation, and fractions. There is an emphasis on problem solving which applies algebra skills to practical use. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Algebra 1

Grade 8-9

Instruction includes topics such as algebraic symbols, properties of real numbers, positive and negative numbers, linear equations, factoring, graphing, exponents, quadratic equations, and fractions. There is an emphasis on problem solving which applies algebra skills to practical use. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Geometry / Advanced Geometry

Grade 10

The discovery of Geometry should be taken following successful completion of topics in algebra. A study is made of the inter-relations of points, lines, and planes. It includes a formal introduction to inductive and deductive reasoning in proofs and logic. It covers topics of parallel and perpendicular lines, congruence, and similarity, circles, trigonometric functions, transformations and symmetry. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Algebra II / Honors Algebra II

Grade 11

The second year of algebra should be taken immediately following the first year of geometry in your sophomore or junior year. It includes a rigorous review of elementary algebra, its basic terminology, notation, concepts, skills, and application by means of the structure of the real number system. It covers such topics as: relation and function of linear and quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, binomial series, matrices, and determinants. Technology will be integrated in this course. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Pre-Calculus

Grade 12

Students should be taken during the junior or senior year. It includes the solution of the right and general triangles and study of theorems and formulas bearing upon the relation among the sides and angles of the triangle. Study covers complex numbers, hyperbolic functions, logarithmic functions, inverse functions, and circular and polar coordinates. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

SCIENCE

Science 6 - Earth and Space Science

Grade 6

Students in Science 6 will grow in their knowledge and hands-on experience with our solar system and space, earth science, and technical skills needed to be successful while doing science. Topics covered include weather patterns, geological and water cycles, ecology, human impact and interactions, and the history of Earth. Students will also complete an exploration of our solar system and the universes beyond. We learn in a Project Based classroom that focuses on how all of learning and life is connected. We work to build those real life connections between the subject areas through our projects both inside and outside the classroom, in our greenhouse and gardens, and in our STREAM program.

Curriculum: TCI Science (online), Project Lead The Way (PLTW online), and Kesler Science (online)

Science 7 – Life Science

Grade 7

Students in Science 7 will grow in their knowledge and hands-on experience with all aspects of life science. This includes the study of both plant and animal cells, genetics, ecology and human impacts and interactions with the world. Students will learn and practice appropriate science lab skills such as microscope use, dissection, data collection and application, and safety. We learn in a Project Based classroom that focuses on how all of learning and life is connected. We work to build those real life connections between the subject areas through our projects both inside and outside the classroom, in our greenhouse and gardens, and in our STREAM program.

Curriculum: TCI Science (online), Project Lead The Way (PLTW online), and Kesler Science (online)

Science 8

Grade 8

Students in Science 8 will grow in their knowledge and hands-on experience with our solar system and space, motion/force/energy, earth science, and technical skills needed to be successful while doing science. We learn in a Project Based classroom that focuses on how all of learning and life is connected. We work to build those real life connections between the subject areas through our projects both inside and outside the classroom, in our greenhouse and gardens, and in our STREAM program.

Curriculum: TCI Science (online), Project Lead The Way (PLTW online), and Kesler Science (online)

Coding & Competition

Grades 7-8 Pre-Req Required

Coding & Competition is part of our STREAM program. This is the second course in the Computer Science and Engineering pathway, leading students to greater success in technical, engineering, and computer science courses. Student-led design, engineering, and mechanical building skills are used to solve real-world problems which are the cornerstone of this course. Students will work to design and build robotic mechanisms ranging from simple to complex. Students will be involved in robotic challenges ranging from in class collaborations, head to head competitions and timed trials, to out of district formal competitions. Students will further explore using our advanced VEX components such as high speed motors, onboard cameras, and optical, sonar and photosensitive sensors.

****In order to enroll in Coding & Competition, students must have successfully completed Automation & Robotics or have prior permissions.***

PLTW Automation & Robotics

Grades 6-8

Automation & Robotics is part of our STREAM program. Student-led design, engineering, and mechanical building skills are used to solve real-world problems which are the cornerstone of this course. Students will work to design and build robotic mechanisms ranging from simple to complex. Mechanisms will be powered first through human input, and later through the use of pseudocode-controlled motors, sensors, and cameras.

Curriculum: PLTW Automation and Robotics (online curriculum)

Biology

Grade 9

Biology is the study of life. The major topics covered in this course include: scientific process and thinking, cell biology, genetics, biochemistry, ecology, evolution, and classification of living things. Technical vocabulary is used in this class and mastery is essential for the understanding of scientific concepts. Quizzes over vocabulary understanding are essential to the class. Students will be expected to perform lab activities, computer related activities, projects, as well as day to day notes and assignments. Homework is an expected component of the class. Projects include individual and group based. Portions of the class may be held outdoors, depending on the unit of study. Students will explore and present careers related to Biology. Google classroom is an integral part of this course. Class announcements, assignments, materials, and other information will be regularly posted in Google classroom. This is the recommended freshman science course.

Chemistry

Grade 10

This is an introductory course to the fundamental concepts of general chemistry. Areas of study include: Scientific processes, measurements and analysis, atomic structure, organization of the periodic table of elements, chemical nomenclature, balancing equations, types of reactions, and stoichiometry. Students will be expected to perform lab activities, computer related activities, and projects, in addition to day-to-day notes and assignments. Homework is an expected component of the class. Chemistry involves math, observation, reasoning, and laboratory work. Students will correlate the lab activities with the concepts taught in class. The majority of lab activities are “green” and do not require the use of harmful chemicals. The course requires an application of math and problem solving. Homework and projects are an expected component of the class. Projects include both individual and group-based activities. Students will explore and present famous chemists and chemistry careers to the class. Google classroom is an integral part of this course. Class announcements, assignments, materials, and other information will be regularly posted in Google classroom. This is the recommended sophomore science course.

Advanced Chemistry

Grade 10

This is an introductory course to the fundamental concepts of general chemistry. Areas of study include: Scientific processes, measurements and analysis, atomic structure, organization of the periodic table of elements, chemical nomenclature, balancing equations, types of reactions, and stoichiometry. Students will be expected to perform lab activities, computer related activities, and projects, in addition to day-to-day notes and assignments. Homework is an expected component of the class. Chemistry involves math, observation, reasoning, and laboratory work. Students will correlate the lab activities with the concepts taught in class. The course requires application of more advanced math, faster paced curriculum and more rigorous problem solving than the standard Chemistry class. Homework and projects are an expected component of the class. Projects include both individual and group-based activities. Students will explore and present

famous chemists and chemistry careers to the class. Google classroom is an integral part of this course. Class announcements, assignments, materials, and other information will be regularly posted in Google classroom. This is the recommended sophomore science course.

Honors Chemistry

Grade 10

This is an advanced science course, introducing students to more advanced fundamental concepts of general chemistry. Areas of study include: Scientific processes, measurements and analysis, atomic structure, organization of the periodic table of elements, chemical nomenclature, balancing equations, types of reactions, and stoichiometry. Students will be expected to perform lab activities, computer related activities, and projects. Homework is an expected component of the class. Chemistry involves math, observation, reasoning, and laboratory work. Students will correlate the lab activities with the concepts taught in class. The course requires application of more advanced math and more rigorous problem solving than the standard Chemistry class. Homework and projects are an expected component of the class. Projects include both individual and group-based activities as well as student led and independent projects. The culminating project at the Honors level is an independent semester long research project with presentation. Class announcements, assignments, materials, and other information will be regularly posted in Google classroom. Entry to this course requires student request, a grade of B or above in both Biology and Algebra 1, in addition to teacher approval.

Zoology Course

Grades 10-12

Description: Zoology is defined as the study of the origin and development of animal species, the habits and behavior of animals, and the interaction between animals and their environment. Zoology makes a huge impact on our world through the scientific study of the evolution, anatomy, physiology, behavior, habitats, and health of animals and humans. By studying animals we develop a better understanding of how we, ourselves, function and interact with the world around us. The search for answers to our questions puts us in the incredible position of being able to affect change, empower better choices, and develop solutions for a stronger, healthier world.

Anatomy and Physiology

Grades 11-12

Designed to give an overview of the human body, how it functions, and diseases and disorders that affect body systems. The course is designed to be hands on and student-led, teacher mediated. Assignments will be given in clusters with deadlines to complete the work. Discussion and clarification will be given, as needed, during student work time. Self-motivation is essential to completing the work on time.

Computer-based and traditional laboratory procedures will be used to obtain, organize and enhance learning. Dissection is a class requirement. Cow eyes and sheep hearts will be dissected in this course. Presentations, both group and individual, are common in this class.

Physics

Grades 11-12

Description: Physics is a branch of science concerned with the nature and properties of matter and energy. Physics includes topics such as mechanics, heat, light and other radiation, sound, electricity, magnetism, and the structure of atoms. Physics can answer questions such as, why the sky is blue, why the earth rotates on its axis, and how and why global warming is changing our world. Physics is at the heart of airplanes, computers, cell phones, wireless charging and many more technologies intricately woven through everyday life. In this course, you will also learn

invaluable life skills. You will develop critical thinking skills, objective reasoning, and problem solving skills that you can take with you for the rest of your life.

PLTW Biomedical Science

Grade11-12

Students will analyze the evidence found at a crime scene and help the medical examiner uncover clues left on a body to solve a mystery. Question, diagnose, and propose treatment and care for patients in a family medical practice. Track down the source of a mysterious outbreak at a local hospital. Access and stabilize a patient during an emergency and prepare for medical surge and mobile medical care. Collaborate with professionals in other fields to innovate and design solutions to local and global medical problems.

Whether seeking a career in medicine or healthcare or simply looking to for the challenge of real-world problems, students in Principles of Biomedical Science will practice how to think creatively and critically to innovate in science and will gain practical experience with experimental design and the design process.

PLTW Principles of Engineering

Grades 11-12

Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of materials and structures, automation, and motion. Students develop skills in problem-solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. Throughout this course students will learn about and discover the connections engineering has with physics, chemistry, and the life sciences and how to utilize this content to solve problems in school and in their future careers.

PLTW Principles of Engineering II

Grades 11-12

Immersive course where students will be engaged in multiple modalities of learning about the practice of engineering and its associated careers. This course will consist of a semester of Materials and Structures and a semester of Statistics and Kinematics. Students explore these topics through project based learning, individual and team research, exploring career opportunities, and a focus on community and world impact.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Geography

Grade 6

Combines science and geography. It touches on many topical subjects in today's world. Students will show understanding of how to use maps and other tools needed to study geography. Students will spend time learning about geographic features of the world as well as how it has impacted the people who live there, so that they can become well informed citizens of the world. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Ancient History

Grade 7

The curriculum introduces the students to the beginnings of human life. The class covers the great civilizations of the ancient world, and the impact they have had on the modern world. This includes but is not limited to Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

American History

Grade 8

While the focus of the 8th grade curriculum involves content from the study of the Constitution through the Civil War and Reconstruction, the class begins with a review of colonization and the American Revolution. This helps students to better comprehend the necessity of forming a new government through the completion of the Constitution. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Sports History

Grade 9-12

Involves learning the history of basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, and golf. Historical and cultural impacts of athletes, teams, and major events will be covered in each sport along with discussions about modern topics and issues.

World History

Grade 9 & 10

World History A/B is a two-semester course intended to develop an interconnected framework of world history that underscores large-scale patterns, long-term changes, and interactions in human history, spanning from the fall of classical civilizations in the 300s CE up through the 21st Century. This includes coverage of world religions, trade networks, the Middle Ages, the Age of Discovery, the rise and fall of empires and nation-states, the era of global political revolutions, the Industrial Revolution, the World Wars, the Cold War and decolonization, etc. In surveying around 1,700 years of world history, this course is also intended to advance students' understanding and mastery of world geography. It aims to examine continuities and changes that have brought the world to where it is today, by focusing on global themes and trends and asking those questions pertinent to all human societies. As global citizens, it is essential to understand the historical forces that have helped to shape humans' worldviews and to construct a global perspective. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

This course will introduce students to operations and procedures of the U.S. Federal Government. Using real world examples as well as simulations students will not only learn the processes that take place within the federal government, they will also practice them. Students will perform research, pass laws, and participate in mock elections, debates, as well as other projects in order to build an understanding of the U.S. government. Students will examine how the three branches of the federal government operate, processes within the government including lawmaking and voting, and how the U.S. government interacts with the world. By the end of the Semester, students will be able to describe and diagram the structure of the federal government as well as many of the processes that take place within the government. Textbook used: Government Alive! Power, Politics, and You. This class uses Google Classroom as a platform to post work and other materials used in class. As the Michigan Department of Education once stated in its Michigan High School Content Expectation for Civics:

“Citizenship...is the ‘engine of constitutional democracy and a free society’ and knowing our rights and responsibilities as citizens ‘fuels that engine.’ Democratic societies do not function without the participation of informed and responsible citizens. Civic education, therefore, is one of public education’s central missions. The education of the next generation of citizens is essential to the well-being of American constitutional democracy...”

Economics**Grade 11**

Economics will examine the many levels of economics that exist. Including personal, business, national, and international. Students will learn economic theory and then apply that theory within a real-world context. Students will examine how economic decisions are made by individuals, corporations as well as nations. Personal finance lessons will give students a window into the world of mortgages, loans, and taxes. Students will also examine the differences in economic systems throughout the world including mixed, market, and command economies. The textbook used in this course is: Econ Alive! The Power to Choose. Google classroom is used in this course as a platform to post work done in class as well as additional education materials. . As the Michigan Department of Education once stated in its Michigan High School Content Expectation for Economics:

“Understanding economics...is becoming essential for citizens in our national and increasingly interconnected world economy. Increasingly, productive members of society must be able to identify, analyze, and evaluate the causes and consequences of individual economic decisions and public policy including issues raised by constraints imposed by scarcity, how economies and markets work, and the benefits and costs of economic interaction and interdependence. Such literacy includes analysis, reasoning, problem solving, and decision making that helps people function as consumers, producers, savers, investors, and responsible citizens.

Students who meet the expectations will understand how economies function and how to apply the concepts and principles of economics to their lives as individuals and as citizens...” Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

ART

Middle School Art

Grades 6-8

Leonardo de Vinci, the great artist, thinker, inventor, and problem-solver began his work through observation and recorded it through drawing. Visual art, a language of communication, is a way to understand the world through line, shape, color, space, texture and values, and then to create it anew through imagination. As the capstone middle school visual art experience, Art 8 builds students' skills, independence, and confidence through conception, creation, and exhibition of their work. Lessons intentionally guide students through rich and diverse hands-on art making experiences in a variety of media and art disciplines so they may become expressive young adult artists. Art history and criticism is smoothly intertwined with visual concepts to guide our next designers and makers in the visual world. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Elements of Art & Design

Grades 9-12

This course is designed to provide a foundation for advanced courses and satisfies the required art credit. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as a basis for composition. Students will explore a variety of artists, art processes and materials such as drawing, painting, printmaking, two & three-dimensional design, and digital art. Student artwork will reflect aesthetics & cultural and historical contexts. Willingness to get involved in the creative process is a more important requirement than the student's talent or previous experience. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Studio Art

Grades 9-12

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of drawing and painting and provides examples, demonstrations and assignments that offer opportunities to execute that understanding through the use of artistic techniques and self-expression. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Virtual Art/ Graphic Design I (max 12-15 students)

Grades 9-12

Emphasis is on visual communication principles and visual presentation aspects of Web pages, including page layout, typography, color theory, navigation, and image creation and editing. Students will apply principles of design in the creation of a Web site. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Graphic Design II (max 10-12 students)

Grades 11-12

A continuing examination of elements of design, spatial relationships, typography and imagery as they apply to practical visual solutions for print and Web applications. Students are introduced to operating procedures in the art department, design studio, and printing plant. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish I

Grade 9

The beginning Spanish student will learn to speak, write, read and understand basic Spanish on a variety of specific topics. Additionally, students will also learn some basic history and cultural background of Spanish-speaking countries. All students will use Google Classroom and Google Drive daily as part of their learning instruction.

Spanish II

Grade 10

This class will build on skills learned in Spanish I and expand them into more complex situations. Students will begin to utilize the language in skits, plays and other group projects. All students will use Google Classroom and Google Drive daily as part of their learning instruction.

Spanish III

Grade 11

Spanish III and IV is a combined class. In Spanish III students will be required to learn new tenses (4). They will continue to build on what they have learned in the previous two years. Students are responsible for continuing to learn more cultural and historical aspects of the language. They will be asked to use their skills to help tutor other students in Spanish I and II if needed. Students give presentations, perform skits and conversations, and discuss world issues in Spanish. All students will use Google Classroom and Google Drive daily as part of their learning instruction.

Spanish IV

Grade 12

Spanish III and IV is a combined class. In Spanish IV students will be required to learn a new tense and to be subject to more intense conversations. They will continue to build on what they have learned in the previous three years. Students are responsible for continuing to learn more cultural and historical aspects of the language. They will be asked to use their skills to help tutor other students in Spanish I and II if needed. Students give presentations, perform skits and conversations, and discuss world issues in Spanish. Spanish IV students are also required to read a Novella together by the end of the year. All students will use Google Classroom and Google Drive daily as part of their learning instruction.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education 6

Grade 6

Students learn about the different components of physical fitness, which include muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance. Students engage in a variety of activities to improve their physical fitness and sportsmanship. Through instruction, students also learn rules about sports (e.g., basketball, volleyball, etc.). Students are assessed on their physical fitness throughout the semester. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Physical Education 7

Grade 7

Students learn about the different components of physical fitness, which include muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance. Students engage in a variety of activities to improve their physical fitness and sportsmanship. Through instruction, students also learn rules about sports (e.g., basketball, volleyball, etc.). Students are assessed on their physical fitness throughout the semester. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Physical Education 8

Grade 8

Students learn about the different components of physical fitness, which include muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance. Students engage in a variety of activities to improve their physical fitness and sportsmanship. Through instruction, students also learn rules about sports (e.g., basketball, volleyball, etc.). Students are assessed on their physical fitness throughout the semester. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Physical Education

Grade 9-10

The goal of this class is to teach students how to take care of their healthy bodies and be life-long exercisers. This class includes participation in a variety of both individual and team activities including team sports (e.g., flag football), net sports (e.g., volleyball), individual fitness (e.g., cardiovascular work), strength training (e.g., weight lifting), and flexibility (e.g., yoga). Coordination, endurance, physical fitness, agility, speed, teamwork, and knowledge of rules are required for engaging in these activities. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Grade 8 or Freshman Health

Grade 8-9

Health lessons are taught from the Michigan Health Model. Lesson topics include nutrition, tobacco, alcohol and other drug prevention, healthy relationships, personal safety, social emotional learning, STD's/HIV, and CPR. Students are assessed on critical thinking, class discussions, projects, and pre/post tests. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

High School Fitness

Grades 10-12

The goal of this class is to teach and promote lifetime training programs that can be used to maintain optimum physical fitness throughout high school and beyond. This course will also emphasize physical skills and cooperation strategies through participation in team sport to help students develop the techniques and attitudes to work with others in sport now and in team settings in the future. Google Classroom is used as the main form of communication for this course. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

The goal of this program is to enhance athletic performance through a personalized program that may include weight lifting, flexibility training, plyometric, speed/agility training, and mental performance strategies. Google Classroom is used as the main form of communication for this course. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

MUSIC

Band 6

Grade 6

Band 6 is a beginning band class for students who are interested in playing band instruments. This class has been modified to accommodate both grades due to the effects of COVID and will likely change back in the future to a 6th grade only class. This class introduces the students to all of the basic techniques that they will need to be able to perform on a musical instrument. Students learn basic skills in the categories of history, theory, composition, and performance. Students perform three (3) concerts per year at school only. The concerts include the winter concert, the pre festival concert, and the spring concert. Students are evaluated based on their improvement using written tests and performance. Students who join 6th grade band are required to perform in the class for the entire year. All performances are graded assessments of the class. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Band 7/8

Grade 7-8

Band 7/8 is a junior high band class of intermediate level, composed of 7th and 8th grade students. The students perform three concerts at home throughout the year. The first concert being a winter concert, the second is a pre-festival concert and the third is a spring concert. In addition to this, the band can travel to another school in Lenawee County for the District 8 Band and Orchestra Festival at the end of February or beginning of March. The 8th grade band students also perform in the Memorial Day parade and at graduation in the spring. The graduation performance and Memorial Day Parade are required performances for their grade. Students are evaluated in this class using written tests and exams, in addition to performance tests on their instrument based on their skill level. This is a full year course. Students who enroll in this class are expected to remain in the class for the entire year. All performances are graded assessments of the class. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Foundations MS

Grade 7

Teaches students a basic knowledge in the areas of career exploration, technology skills, and general life skills. Students will participate in both individual and group work throughout the year. Career exploration will include topics like, discovering personal interests, what kind of jobs are out there, learning of the skills needed, what kind of training is necessary. Technology skills include communication, using word/spreadsheet style documents through word and google docs. Life skills include topics, like why plan/manage, how to plan/manage, and personal finance. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction, and Google Classroom will be used to administer information to run the class.

Symphonic Band

Grades 9-12

The band performs a wide variety of music from traditional wind band music and marches as well as popular and musical show tunes. Some serious contemporary music can be expected as part of the band's repertory since so much is written for the band idiom.

Each student is evaluated with regard to his/her overall musicianship, respect, attendance, and effort throughout the year. Since attendance is required for all scheduled performances, students have the responsibility to arrange their schedule to accommodate the band calendar that is published each school year.

The Symphonic Band performs in four major concerts, and participates in various band festivals throughout the year. They will also play at Friday football games and basketball home games as requested. Students must enroll for the full year to be eligible for membership. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Ukulele HS

Grades 9-12

Ukulele is a very basic ukulele class. It is designed to entice even the most novice of players and offers skill development for those with some skills that are already in place. Students learn the history of the ukulele, how it's made, and how to perform with it. Students start off with basic techniques of strumming small chords and singing beginner songs. As they travel through the class they learn how to pick, and sing as well. At the conclusion of the course, all students should be able to perform short campfire songs on the ukulele while singing. More experienced players may be expected to perform more advanced songs at the courses end. Students are graded on their knowledge of ukulele history, their knowledge of the ukulele compositions we study, the music theory that they learned throughout the class and their progress in performance on an individual basis of the concepts we work on to play the ukulele. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction and Google Classroom will be used to administer information to run class.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students who are served by the Special Education Department will plan their course selections through the annual I.E.P. review process using the least restrictive environment.

Resource Room Classes

Grades 6-8

Resource Room may be elected by students on Individualized Education Plans who need specialized instruction outside of the general education classroom. Course content parallels the general education curriculum and is offered to assist students with remediation of basic skills and prepare them for more rigorous coursework.

Transitions

Grades 6-8

The purpose of this course is to enhance social competence through instruction of skills necessary to engage in successful communication, enhance self-awareness, and navigate the social world both in and out of the classroom atmosphere. Students' IEP goals will also be incorporated into the lessons.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Enrichment 6

Grade 6

6th grade Enrichment class is designed to help students practice skills in the following areas: social skills, life skills, consumer math, cooking & baking, character education, basic sewing, reading comprehension, problem-solving, and effective communication. Students also work on individual art projects throughout the school year. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Careers and Technology Skills

Grades 6-8

Teaches students a basic knowledge in the areas of career exploration, technology skills, and general life skills. Students will participate in class discussion, complete worksheets, watch video clips and participate in both individual and group work throughout the year. Career exploration will include topics like, discovering personal interests, what kind of jobs are out there, learning of the skills needed, what kind of training is necessary. Technology skills include communication, using word/spreadsheet style documents through word and google docs. Life skills include topics, like why plan/manage, how to plan/manage, personal finance. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Farmer's Market Small Business Development

Grades 6-8

An integrated math, science, and communications course focused on the capstone project of planning and implementing a student-run farmer's market. Students will cover mathematical topics such as financial planning, record keeping, offering value-added products, and profit/loss reports. Learners will engage in professional communication as they reach out to vendors and develop a marketing plan to be shared with the community. Students will also be researching effective growing techniques so that they may grow plants to sell at the school's market stall, utilizing the school's greenhouse and outdoor garden spaces. Also, students will develop a community presentation encouraging healthy, local food consumption which will be shared with the community during the Farmer's Market.

Steam

Grades 6-8

Students will engage collaboratively in applying your knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math through various problem-based learning opportunities. Students will learn academic and life skills that are reality-based and personally relevant to the student. STEAM courses will provide students' hands-on experience working with up to date research and technologies. Throughout the course of the school year, students will be immersed in an exploratory learning environment where they will gain further depth of knowledge in academics while building a core set of life skills. Students will perpetually engage in self-evaluation where they will reflect upon their progress, points of interest, experiences, and talents, which can help guide the student when picking courses of study, or career interests later in life.

Seminar

Grades 6-12

Students will receive differentiated instruction and academic support in all content areas. Students will have access to each teacher during Seminar. This will reinforce skills taught in the classroom and provide students with small group instruction.

Study Skills

Grades 6-12

Study Skills classes are offered to students with IEPs. Students complete assignments and tests from their classes and work on IEP goals and objectives. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Academic Assist

Grades 9-12

This is an elective course and designed to help general education students who may be having difficulty in their core academic classes. Students will learn to get the most out of their study time, learn how to stay organized and use the academic resources that are available to them to make them successful in their other academic classes.

Creative Writing

Grades 9-12

Students will be given the opportunity to develop a creative outlet through additional writing experiences in fiction and nonfiction. Creative writing allows students to promote self-expression, to explore various writing styles, and to strive for variety in diction, sentence structure, and format.

Literature Through Film

Grades 9-12

Students will explore a variety of contemporary and classical themes in literature through a series of carefully selected films. An emphasis is placed on written comparisons and analytical perspectives. Students will interpret cinematic elements and analyze the way in which film conveys theme, characterization, plot, central image, and other aspects of the development of a story. Students will also write and discuss the ways in which visual expression differs from other aspects of interpretation of stories and ideas. Students will be required to read pieces of literature to analyze and discuss.

Mindfulness

Grades 9-12

This is largely based on the act of practicing mindfulness. Mindfulness practice can decrease feelings of stress and anxiety, improve relationships, enhance concentration & learning, and have many more positive influences on one's life. In the first part of this course, students will learn what mindfulness is, how to practice, and understand the many benefits of practicing. In the second part, students will practice a variety of mindfulness activities and techniques including yoga, meditation, journaling, deep breathing, and more. This course uses Google Classroom and a variety of websites and apps (e.g., Calm) as resources. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

Online Course Offerings

Grades 9-12

Morenci Area Schools utilizes Edmentum as the provider for online classes. Online courses are available to all grade levels at Morenci High School.

To see a complete listing of district approved courses, copy and paste the following link: <https://www.edmentum.com/course-catalog?state=421>

School Newsletter

Grades 9-12

Will explore current events and highlights, while enhancing English Language Arts (ELA) skills. Each week, the newsletter will combine engaging stories, informative articles, and exciting event coverage, all designed to promote literacy and critical thinking through thought provoking work. (Potential Name: The Bulldog Beat)

Stress Management

Grades 9-12

Designed to help students understand what stress is, identify what it may look and feel like in students' lives, and practice and apply a variety of stress management coping strategies and techniques. Being able to identify stressful situations and learn how to make better choices will help lead students to choosing a more satisfying and happier life. At the completion of this course, students will better understand how to handle themselves when presented with difficult situations. Additionally, lower stress levels are related to living longer, healthier, and more fulfilling lives. This course uses Google Classroom and a variety of websites and apps (e.g., Calm) for a variety of resources throughout the semester. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction.

World War II

Grades 9-12

Provides an in-depth exploration of World War II, tracing its origins from the aftermath of World War I and the Russian Revolution. Students will examine the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, the impact of militaristic Japan, and the global conflicts in Europe and the Pacific. The course delves into significant events such as the Holocaust, the Manhattan Project, and the Atomic Bomb, as well as the geopolitical aftermath including the seeds of the Cold War. Additionally, the class will explore post-war developments in Germany and Japan, including the complex issues of Holocaust denial and postwar reconciliation.

Yearbook

Grades 9-12

Members of this class are responsible for funding and producing the annual yearbook. Students are expected to be independent workers with strong artistic, writing and/or business aptitudes. Writing, photography, graphic design, marketing, sales, and public relations are all skills needed for this course. Some after-school time will be required for event coverage. This is a full year course, and students are expected to remain in the course for the entire year, unless permission to drop is granted by the instructor. Seniors must finish assigned pages to the instructor's satisfaction after graduation, if necessary. Google Meet will be used for virtual instruction. Teacher permission is required for enrollment in this course.

Art Entrepreneurship

Grades 10 -12

Students will focus on the end-to-end process of creating and selling school merchandise. From ideation and design to production and marketing, students will gain hands-on experience in developing and selling a range of products. Emphasis is placed on understanding target markets, branding, and the practical aspects of bringing merchandise to market.

Dual Enrollment

Grades 10 -12

This option is available to students who have met state standard scores on the ACT, PSAT or SAT tests and have taken any college recommended prerequisites. College courses must fit in alignment with State requirements and fit within the student's schedule. If interested, contact the counseling office.

Academic Lab Assistant

Grades 11-12

A non-GPA elective course for upper level students. Students best suited for this course would have good communication skills, organizational skills, and must have taken the assigned course previously with a B+ or better. Students who are assigned to a classroom as an Academic Lab Assistant will participate in class, assist all peers with clarification of assignments and projects. Students will also offer tutoring and mentoring. Students may also be required to participate in service-learning projects and training throughout the school year. Grades earned as an academic lab assistant will not earn GPA credit.

Lab Assistant

Grades 11-12

Tasks, Responsibilities and Skills

Lab Assistant Tasks:

1. Make solutions and dilutions. Need to be able to calculate number of moles, molarity, and use dilution formula.
2. Use of laboratory equipment. How to use pipette, biurets, beakers, graduated cylinders, fume hood, Bunsen burner, balances, hot plates, Vernier probes etc.
3. Set up demonstrations and testing demonstrations to make sure they work.
4. Sorting chemicals based on reactivity.
5. Chemical disposal. Flinn handbook.
6. Testing experiments and getting mock data to use.
7. Setting up labs. Getting correct lab equipment, chemicals etc. out and ready for classes.
8. Tearing down labs. Putting away equipment and materials used.

Adulting 101

Grades 11-12

Designed to direct you on how to be successful once you graduate high school. The content is structured to be hands-on and interactive to help you master life skills for success after high school. Both college bound and non-college bound students will benefit from this course. Content includes: creating and managing a budget, balancing a bank account, paying for college and large purchases, and many other household skills you will need to have a successful future. The course also includes a portion on entrepreneurship and what it takes to run or work for a business. Most of the curriculum will be completed online. This course is a full year and is intended for juniors and seniors.

Independent Study Maintenance

Grades 11-12

The student will be working directly with our Maintenance department to get hands-on experience with a maintenance job. The student will get hands-on experience with Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, Chemical Storage, Disposal, and Proper Use, as well as the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The student will keep a daily log of all activities completed as well as a journal of new experiences.

Independent Study Principles of Engineering (POE)

Grades 11-12

Principles of Engineering (POE) is a foundation course of the high school engineering pathway. This survey course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a post secondary engineering course of study. Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of materials and structures, automation, and kinematics. The course applies and concurrently develops secondary level knowledge and skills in mathematics, science, and technology. Students have the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APB) learning. By solving rigorous and relevant design problems using engineering and science concepts within a collaborative learning environment, APB learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and problem solving skills. Students will also learn how to document their work and communicate their solutions to their peers and members of the professional community. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education.

Leadership

Grades 11-12

A designed to develop and improve the leadership skills each person possesses. Areas from goal setting to team building to personal relations to problem solving will be covered. Learn what leadership is all about by learning about your leadership style, developing goal-setting skills, communication skills, decision making skills, teamwork and much more. You will develop your leadership skills further by studying time and stress management, parliamentary procedure, peer pressure, self-confidence, assertiveness and a positive attitude. Students will work with leadership projects and event planning within the school district and the community including a student-mentoring program.

Student Service & Leadership

Grades 11-12

The focus of this class is to allow our students to identify areas of need in the classroom/district and implement plans to serve and lead. This could include elementary, middle, or high school classroom settings to help tutor, mentor and build relationships with students while exemplifying the leadership it takes to be a positive role model. Students may also be involved in community service opportunities and may be asked to donate time outside of school hours.

Includes but not limited to:

- Learn to lead / use intuition to improve our buildings / community
- Organize and set up school improvement plans --> all building events
- Main focus would be on effective communication / servant leadership
- One-on-One plus group efforts to help students academically and athletically.
- Read / implement leadership books into our daily lives --> Public speaking, teach lessons about their findings, etc.

Addendum to Course Catalogue

The following courses are offered as part of the State of Michigan's virtual learning initiative. Section 388.1621f (Virtual Course) allows districts to enroll pupils in virtual courses. The virtual courses must be published in the districts' catalogue of board-approved courses.

Through an agreement with Edmentum the following courses are available to Morenci Area Schools' students.

- All in person course offerings listed above are also available through Edmentum.