

Antioch Upper Grade School



Inspiring a Passion for Personal Excellence

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Dear Parents/Guardians of 7th Grade Students,

We are excited to welcome your child to 7th grade at AUGS! The purpose of this letter is to communicate about the encore options available to your child for this coming school year. Additional details about other elements of the schedule at AUGS will be communicated as we move forward in our planning. The scheduling process requires a great deal of coordination between the teachers, students and parents. For this reason, we start the process early and try to communicate all the necessary information clearly.

Course **requests** for incoming 7th graders occur in multiple steps. In May, students request their choices of encore in the computer labs at their buildings. This encore process is separate from placements for core content and intervention classes. Student schedules will be created in June and July after placement for core and intervention classes has been completed. Parents will then receive a complete student schedule electronically (if there is an email address on file) or by mail in August.

Students and parents have the opportunity to **request** the student’s top four interests. **We will try to honor as many requests as possible. If you select a full year music Encore (Band, Choir, Orchestra) this will be a top choice.** Included in this packet is information about the options available to 6th graders as well as a worksheet to prepare you and your student for the upcoming course request process. Within the next few days, students will be making their Encore class **requests** on a computer based survey, so please return the Encore Request Worksheet with your child to help expedite the process.

Here is a “generic” sample (organization of classes will vary by grade level):

Trimester 1	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Encore	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5
Trimester 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Encore	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5
Trimester 3	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Encore	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5

****Trimester Encore Classes change each trimester.**

Sincerely,

The AUGS Administrative Team

7th Grade Encore for the 2019-2020 School Year

Full Year Encore Classes

Full Year Music

BAND: Full Year

7th Grade Band: 7th grade Band is an Encore course for students who have participated in band during their 6th grade year. 7th grade band students will perform 5-6 concerts per year with an emphasis on improved tone production, range, note and rhythm production, sight-reading ability, rudiments, and scales. Students are also encouraged to audition for the IMEA Jr. High Honor Band in September and participate in Solo & Ensemble Contest in February. Band grades will be determined by weekly lesson attendance, practice chart completion, and attendance at required performances outside of the regular school day.

ORCHESTRA: Full Year

7th Grade Orchestra: Orchestra is an Encore course for students who have participated in orchestra at least during their 6th grade year. Previous experience is required and previous elementary school experience is a highly recommended. 7th Grade orchestra students will perform 4 concerts per year, and are encouraged to participate in Solo & Ensemble Contest in February. A more detailed study of rhythms, scales, string techniques, and musical concepts will be applied in this course. Orchestra grades will be determined by weekly lesson attendance, practice chart completion, projects and attendance at required performances outside of the regular school day.

CHOIR: Full Year

7th Grade Choir: Choir students will sing two to three part music in many genres such as classical, folk, holiday, jazz, rock, musical theatre, and pop. The emphasis will be on developing a good singing tone, building musicianship, reading music, sight-reading and voice part independence. Choir students have the option of participating as soloists or in small groups in Broadway Showcase, the Solo and Ensemble Festival and the Art Crawl. This choir is open to any 7th grade student who wishes to be a part of a vocal performing group. The choir performs at least four concerts per year in the evening. Attendance at the concerts is required.

Full Year Foreign Language

German 7/8 and Spanish 7/8

German/Spanish is a **two-year encore class** that serves as an introduction to beginning level German/Spanish. Upon completion of two years and teacher recommendation students will place into German/Spanish II in high school. The middle school curriculum reflects collaboration between the middle and high school teachers and is equivalent to German/Spanish I at the high school.

Students will learn how to effectively communicate in German/Spanish. At the end of two years students will be able to listen, read, speak and write according to the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching Foreign Language) novice standards.

German and Spanish Topics Read a book from Target Culture

Shopping German Book: Das kleine ich bin ich

City Life Spanish Book: Pobre Ana

Daily Routine

Animals

7th Grade Trimester Encore Classes (12 weeks)

Trimester encore classes **with no** full year music or foreign language class - Students are scheduled in 6 different trimester encore classes

Trimester encore classes **with** a full year music class or foreign language class - Students are scheduled for the music/foreign language encore class and 3 different trimester encore classes

Computer Applications

Students enrolled in the Computer Applications classes are exposed to all of the International Society for Technology Education Standards. Each grade level has a different focus. Students will think creatively and problem solve while they practice technology skills. Students will also spend the first part of the period everyday typing as they increase their accuracy and speed. Each course has been created to be engaging and fun, while they learn valuable 21st century skills.

7th Grade - Students will learn about basic computer applications, information literacy, and video editing through project-based learning – Cafeteria Conundrum (redesigning the cafeteria)

Global Journalism

The seventh grade students will continue to advance their writing and language skills by writing a variety of news stories such as: lifestyle, editorials, reviews, world news, sports, and dip into advertising. In all grade levels, students are meeting the language, reading, and writing Common Core State Standards in a 21st century learning environment.

Adobe Photoshop (Graphics Arts)

7th Grade-Adobe Photoshop

Photo Manipulation and Pixel Art:

Students will use the program Photoshop to manipulate photographs and work with various filters. Then students will create a blueprint that will allow them to make pixel art in which they will get to choose what media to create their final product: Perler Beads, Minecraft, Legos, or as an Animated Gif. The objective of the class is that students will not only learn the technical aspects to changing a photograph, but to understand that when altering digital media comes great responsibility. Students will also realize that certain art styles come back in style. Pixel art not only provides restriction which sparks creativity, but it also incorporates various Principles of Design in which students are piecing together the Elements of Design.

Creative Writing/Interactive Language Arts

Students will explore and produce poetry, drama, and historical fiction writings. Students will apply aspects of theatre, presentation, and interview skills using original and existing creative writing pieces.

The course will include attention to dramatics, multicultural communication, audience analysis, speaking opportunities, research, organization, and critical thinking. Students will gain an appreciation of speaking through an understanding of the components, terms, personnel, history, styles, and techniques of theatre and public speaking. Students will study and practice developing character traits and will be introduced to improvisation and dramatic stage performances.

In all grade levels, students are meeting the speaking, listening, reading, and writing Common Core State Standards, IL standards for Fine Arts, ELA communication standards in a 21st century learning environment, as well as Social Emotional learning standards.

7th Grade: Analyze & create original narrative works using figurative language and "show me" details to develop characters and settings. Experience pantomime, improv, and reader's theatre skills. Perform a reader's theatre play to and with a group of peers as a final project focusing to characterization.

Art (Visual Fine Art)

In addition to their intrinsic value, the arts contribute to children's development and enrich the quality of life. The Visual Art Curriculum aligns with Illinois State Standards for the Fine Arts.

Students participating in 7th Grade Visual Fine Art, will learn and utilize the basic principles of design; pattern, contrast, balance, emphasis, unity, movement, and rhythm. They will demonstrate these concepts in a variety of activities that build upon their previous knowledge and skills. Students will continue **drawing, painting,** and creating **sculptures**. Using their imagination or through observation, students create work from both representational and/or non-representational images. The Visual Fine Art curriculum incorporates related art history and culture.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) - (2 class choices)

7th Grade Medical Detectives PLTW

Students learn rigorous and relevant problem solving through activities, projects, and problem-based learning. They use technology to solve problems while gaining skills in communication, collaboration, higher level critical-thinking, and creativity. Students participate in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math).

Students will be taught **PLTW Medical Detective Unit**.

Part 1: Medical Background/ Biomedical Science

Students will learn about training and college beyond high school and write a resume. They learn about epidemics/ disease/ inoculations and how medical professionals use logical steps to evaluate, diagnose, and treat patients. How to check Vital signs including heart rate, blood pressure, and temperature will be taught. Students will evaluate patient case files to diagnose the pathogen responsible for the patient's mystery illness.

Part 2: Mysteries of the Human Body Systems

Students learn about the nervous system and the brain; a complex organ that is organized into specialized regions. They learn about genetic traits, genetic inheritance and how genetic diseases are passed on. They also learn how our sense work in hands on labs. Students will:

- Dissect a sheep's brain, accurately identifying and describing the function of the specified structures while comparing and contrasting the brains of a human and sheep.
- Evaluate patient family history as part of a medical exam and create a pedigree.
- Determine the probability of a child inheriting a genetic disease.
- Use appropriate laboratory methods to isolate DNA from cheek cells.
- Analyze how changes in the huntingtin gene affect the resulting protein and nerve cell function.

7th Grade Energy and the Environment PLTW

Energy and the Environment is a Project Lead the Way STEM unit of study focused on the growing global demand for energy, available energy sources, and the impact of the energy consumption on the environment. Students investigate energy consumption and the impact of that consumption from personal, national and global perspectives. They explore sustainable energy sources and identify ways to reduce human impact on society and the environment through renewable energy solutions and energy conservation.

2019-2020 7th grade Encore Request Worksheet

Return this worksheet to your homeroom teacher. A representative from AUGS will visit your class to guide you in the electronic request procedure.

Student First and Last Name (Print):

Select your current team:	Knights	Spartans	Titans
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	Encore Class Name
Encore Request	

**Students taking Band and Orchestra must communicate with their music teachers for approval.

**All Encore class schedules are based on the number of request and class availability.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date