Indian Prairie School District
6th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter Courses (9 Weeks)

Art I
Students will focus on developing skills which include drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, and collage. They will have the opportunity to experiment and refine skills using a variety of art media. Elements and principles of design will be emphasized in each project.

6th Grade Family & Consumer Science (FACS)
This hands-on course introduces students to the Family and Consumer Science curriculum. The areas of concentration include: nutrition and wellness, food lab experiences, family life skills, and sewing basics. Cooperative learning and practical life skills are an integral part of this course.

6th Grade Introduction to Technology
This course emphasizes Basic Technical Drawing & Computer Aided Drafting (CAD). Through the use of textbooks, workbooks, lectures, discussions, and lab time, students will become familiar with technical drawing instruments and equipment, fundamentals of technical drawing, lab safety, lab production, standard methods of measuring, Computer Aided Drafting, and identification and demonstration of proper use of various tools. An additional project will focus on the engineering process.

6th Grade General Music
Students will take a musical journey through different time periods and cultures via listening, composing, and performing. Students will also develop written and verbal skills to analyze music to become life-long consumers of this indispensable art form.

Foreign Language Experience (FLEX)
This course is an introduction to Chinese, German, French, and Spanish. It includes culture, geography, and the mastery of basic vocabulary and grammatical structures. Some of the areas covered by the course include greetings, classroom, objects, commands, numbers, foods, time, colors, weather, seasons, months and days of the week. The purpose of this course is to expose students to languages that they might want to take in middle or high school.

Study Skills
The content of this course will focus on six different skill areas that fall within the vast context of Study Skills. These areas include organization, time management/personal responsibility, active listening, note taking/summarizing, test-taking skills, and goal setting. Students will participate in a variety of activities in order to strengthen their skills in each of these areas of focus and learn to apply these skills to their work in other courses.

Semester Courses (18 Weeks)

Computers I (Required)
This course helps students improve keyboarding speed and accuracy while incorporating introductory word processing along with introduction to databases, spreadsheets and charts, graphics and presentation software.

Computers II
This course continues to help students improve keyboarding speed and accuracy while incorporating intermediate word processing, introduction to databases, spreadsheets and charts, graphics and presentation software.
Year Long Courses (36 Weeks)

6th Grade Physical Education (27 weeks) & Health (9 weeks) (Both are Required)
Physical Education plays a major role in a student's overall educational experience. All students are required to participate in Physical Education for 3 quarters (27 weeks). The program focuses on building a foundation for life-long learning through physical activity, fitness, wellness, and team building. These components provide an opportunity for the development of each student’s physical, social, and emotional well-being. Students will also participate in 6th Grade Health for 1 quarter (9 weeks). Health covers the different aspects of physical, mental and social health, and how these aspects affect each persons overall well being. Some areas covered include Healthy Relationships, Disease, ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs), Injury Prevention and Reproductive Wellness.

6th Grade Band
Sixth grade band is for students who have completed band during their fifth grade year. Any student who has not completed fifth grade band in District 204 must have approval from the director before enrolling in band. The class meets daily and performs approximately five times each year. Special activities are scheduled throughout the school year. In addition to the daily band rehearsal, technique classes are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Band students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation will ensure that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in band may also audition to participate in Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble that meet before school.

6th Grade Chorus
In sixth grade chorus, the singers study a variety of music from different styles and cultures. Through classroom activities and performance, these students further develop their knowledge of the elements of music, proper vocal technique, and music reading skills. Students will sing a wide variety of quality choral music and will participate in at least four performances a year. If you were not enrolled in chorus as a 5th grade student, please contact a faculty member of the Choral Department before completing the attached form.

6th Grade Orchestra
Any student who has completed orchestra during their fifth grade year is encouraged to continue their music education by enrolling in sixth grade orchestra. Any student who has not completed fifth grade orchestra in District 204 must have approval from the teacher before enrolling in sixth grade orchestra. The class meets daily and performs at least four concerts during the school year. In addition to daily orchestra class, technique classes (pull-out lessons) are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation ensures that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in orchestra may also audition to participate in an advanced honors orchestra that meets before school. Students also may choose to take part in contests, festivals, and/or a before school fiddle group. Additional special activities are scheduled throughout the school year.
Indian Prairie School District 204
7th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter Courses (9 Weeks)*

Art I*
Students will focus on developing skills which include drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, and collage. They will have the opportunity to experiment and refine skills using a variety of art media. Elements and principles of design will be emphasized in each project.

Study Skills*
The content of this course will focus on six different skill areas that fall within the vast context of Study Skills. These areas include organization, time management/personal responsibility, active listening, note taking/summarizing, test-taking skills, and goal setting. Students will participate in a variety of activities in order to strengthen skills in each of these areas of focus and learn to apply these skills to their work in other courses.

*These courses are offered at the 7th grade level for those students in Band, Chorus, or Orchestra who did not have the opportunity to take them as 6th grade students.

Semester Courses (18 Weeks)

Art II
This class is a continuation of Art I, building on skills and concepts. Exploration of different mediums and art techniques occur while creating two-dimensional and three-dimensional art products. Hands-on activities provide students an opportunity to practice creative and critical problem-solving.

7th Grade Exploring Technology
This course will utilize computer modules to expose students to Communication, Transportation, Energy & Power, Manufacturing & Construction. Students will choose up to 3 of the modules. Additional projects will be developed through problem solving skills associated with an engineering focus. (The modules are as follows: Introduction to Technology, Aerodynamics, Automation & Robotics, CAD, Computer Graphic Design, CNC Mill, CNC Lathe, Exploring Electricity, Engineering & Stress Analysis, Fiber Optics & Lasers, Radio Broadcasting, Video Production, CO2 Raceway, Space & Rocketry, Alternative Energy, or Plastics.) Project work is dynamic and there are three different types of hands-on challenges; mini-problems, minor projects, and open-ended design problems. Students are encouraged to search for solutions beyond the first right answer.

Computers II (Required) Note that some students will complete this requirement during sixth grade.
This course continues to help students improve keyboarding speed and accuracy while incorporating intermediate word processing, introduction to databases, spreadsheets and charts, graphics and presentation software.

7th Grade Family and Consumer Science (FACS)
During this semester hands-on course, students will participate in both sewing and food experiences. Students will be introduced to the sewing machine. They will construct a variety of useful projects applying both hand and machine sewing skills. Students will also learn appropriate ways to care for clothing. In the foods section of the course, students will participate in a variety of kitchen lab activities that will enhance food preparation techniques and facilitate self-sufficiency in the kitchen.

World Music: Culture Jam
Culture Jam is a hands-on exploration of current music from around the world. Students will create, perform, and experience music using a variety of instruments and technology.
Year Long Courses (36 Weeks)

7th Grade Physical Education (27 weeks) & Health (9 weeks) (Both are Required)
Physical Education plays a major role in a student’s overall educational experience. All students are required to participate in Physical Education for 3 quarters (27 weeks). The program focuses on building a foundation for life-long learning through physical activity, fitness, wellness, and team building. These components provide an opportunity for the development of each student’s physical, social, and emotional well-being. Students will also participate in 7th Grade Health for 1 quarter (9 weeks). Health covers the different aspects of physical, mental and social health, and how the aspects affect each persons overall well being. Some areas covered include Healthy Relationships, Emotional Empowerment, ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs), Injury Prevention and Reproductive Wellness. The subject of STIs and AIDS will be reviewed during Reproductive Wellness.

Foreign Language
These courses are designed as a two year course to be started in 7th grade and then completed during 8th grade.

- **German I** places emphasis on structure and beginning proficiency; German I introduces the student to basic conversation and self-expression in German. As students learn to understand, speak, read, and write German on a basic level, they will also be introduced to aspects of German culture, particularly relating to the everyday life of teenagers.

- **French I** introduces the student to practical vocabulary and basic grammatical structures that will enable him or her to communicate in simple French. The course focuses on speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as various aspects of French culture. Oral communication is stressed.

- **Chinese I** is designed to introduce the student to a base in sound, tones and basic concept of characters. It has different tones, pinyin, strokes, etc. than the romance/Germanic languages. The target audience is non-native speakers but students with native backgrounds will also benefit from this course. The course will include 75% language and 25% culture. This course will demand a high level of commitment from students as they will not become as proficient in the same amount of time as in a romance/Germanic language.

- **Spanish I** is designed to train the student to understand, speak, read, and write basic Spanish, as well as presenting a cultural background of the Spanish-speaking people. Oral communication is stressed.

7th Grade Band
Seventh grade band is for students who have completed band through the sixth grade. Any student who has not completed sixth grade band in District 204 must have approval from the director before enrolling in band. The class meets daily and performs approximately five times each year. Special activities are scheduled throughout the school year. In addition to the daily band rehearsal, technique classes are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Band students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation will ensure that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in band may also audition to participate in Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble that meet before school.

7th Grade Chorus
In seventh grade chorus, the singers study a variety of music from different styles and cultures. Through classroom activities and performance, these students further develop their knowledge of the elements of music, proper vocal technique, and music reading skills. Students will sing a wide variety of quality choral music and will participate in at least four performances a year. If you were not enrolled in chorus as a 6th grade student, please contact a faculty member of the Choral Department before completing the attached form.

7th Grade Orchestra
Any student who has completed orchestra through their sixth grade year is encouraged to continue their music education by enrolling in seventh grade orchestra. Any student who has not completed sixth grade orchestra in District 204 must have approval from the teacher before enrolling in seventh grade orchestra. The class meets daily and performs at least four concerts during the school year. In addition to daily orchestra class, technique classes (pull-out lessons) are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation ensures that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in orchestra may also audition to participate in an advanced honors orchestra that meets before school. Students also may choose to take part in contests, festivals, and/or a before school fiddle group. Additional special activities are scheduled throughout the school year.
Semester Courses (18 Weeks)

**Mixed Media Technology (Semester)**
Mixed Media Technology explores the ever growing world of digital media. The class will look through a lens at the effect of audio media, visual media and the combination of audio and visual media in the world. The curriculum will included podcasting, public speaking, radio broadcasts, photography, advertising, making movies, photojournalism and digital storytelling.

**Advanced Computers (Semester)**
This course will explore advanced operations and functions of the Microsoft Office suite. Students will be involved in a business simulation. Some assignments may include business cards, letterhead design, company customer and employee spreadsheets and databases. In addition, students may explore web publishing, audio, video, graphic design and a mixture of multi-media application.

**Design & Sculpture (Semester)**
In this course, students will focus on creative problem-solving while making three-dimensional and design-inspired art products. Emphasis is on elements of art and principles of design composition as well as sculptural techniques and materials. Media may include, but is not limited to; ceramics, wire, paper and found objects.

**Drawing & Painting (Semester)**
This course will focus on the elements of art, principles of design composition, the basic techniques and concepts of drawing and painting. Students will experiment and refine technical skills using a variety of media including, but not limited to, watercolor, acrylic paints, colored pencil, chalk, oil, pastels, and graphite.

**Advanced Technology (Semester)**
This course will utilize computer modules to expose students to Communication, Transportation, Energy & Power, Manufacturing & Construction. Students will choose up to six of the following modules; Introduction to Technology, Aerodynamics, Automation & Robotics, CAD, Computer Graphic Design, CNC Mill, CNC Lathe, Exploring Electricity, Engineering & Stress Analysis, Fiber Optics & Lasers, Radio Broadcasting, Video Production, CO2 Raceway, Space & Rocketry, Alternative Energy, or Plastics. Each module fulfills six technical objectives, six academic correlations, and six universal outcomes. Project work is dynamic and there are three different types of hands-on challenges; mini-problems, minor projects, and open-ended design problems. Students are encouraged to search for solutions beyond the first right answer. As a supplemental activity, students will utilize the lab to construct a project.

**Manufacturing Technology (Semester)**
Students will explore areas of manufacturing; including safety, materials, tools, machinery, processes, and related careers. Students will use wood and plastic as primary materials for the production of various projects to be taken home.

**8th Grade Foods (Semester)**
This Family and Consumer Science course is designed to help new cooks master the basic essentials of food preparation. During this semester long course, students will acquire basic working knowledge about how to select and prepare nutritious foods, maintain good health, and become environmentally responsible consumers. Students will practice good safety and sanitation procedures, while preparing various food products in the lab kitchens.

**8th Grade Sewing (Semester)**
This self-paced course helps beginning/intermediate sewing students improve their hand and machine sewing skills. Topics will include: how to purchase fabric, patterns, sewing equipment identification, and consumer awareness. Students will construct a variety of projects that may include: pajama pants, chef's apron, and a pillow project. Students will be responsible for supplying their own fabric and notions for their projects. (Small lab fee will be required.)

Year Long Courses (36 Weeks)

**8th Grade Physical Education (27 weeks) & Health (9 weeks) (Both are Required)**
Physical Education plays a major role in a student’s overall educational experience. All students are required to participate in Physical Education for 3 quarters (27 weeks). The program focuses on building a foundation for life-long learning through physical activity, fitness, wellness, and team building. These components provide an opportunity for the development of each student’s physical, social, and emotional well-being. Students will also participate in 8th Grade Health for 1 quarter (9 weeks). Health covers the different aspects of physical, mental and social health, and how these aspects affect each persons overall well being. Some areas covered include Healthy Relationships, Emotional Empowerment, ATOD (Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs), Healthy Eating and Reproductive Wellness. The subject of STIs and AIDS will be reviewed during Reproductive Wellness.
8th Grade Band
Eighth grade band is for students who have completed band through the seventh grade. Any student who has not completed seventh grade band in District 204 must have approval from the director before enrolling in band. The class meets daily and performs approximately five times each year. Special activities are scheduled throughout the school year. In addition to the daily band rehearsal, technique classes are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Band students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation will ensure that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in band may also audition to participate in Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble that meet before school.

8th Grade Chorus
In eighth grade chorus, the singers study a variety of music from different styles and cultures. Through classroom activities and performance, these students further develop their knowledge of the elements of music, proper vocal technique, and music reading skills. Students will sing a wide variety of quality choral music and will participate in at least four performances a year. If you were not enrolled in chorus as a 7th grader, please contact a faculty member of the Choral Department before completing the attached form.

8th Grade Orchestra
Any student who has completed orchestra through their seventh grade year is encouraged to continue their music education by enrolling in eighth grade orchestra. Any student who has not completed seventh grade orchestra in District 204 must have approval from the teacher before enrolling in eighth grade orchestra. The class meets daily and performs at least four concerts during the school year. In addition to daily orchestra class, technique classes (pull-out lessons) are scheduled on a rotational basis allowing for small group instruction to improve individual instrument performance techniques. Students will be scheduled into a technique class once per week in lieu of another class on their schedule. The rotation ensures that no subject is missed more than once every four weeks. Students enrolled in orchestra may also audition to participate in an advanced honors orchestra that meets before school. Students also may choose to take part in contests, festivals, and/or a before school fiddle group. Additional special activities are scheduled throughout the school year. Eighth grade orchestra is a prerequisite for enrolling in high school orchestra.

Foreign Language (A student can only select a Level II course if he/she is enrolled in a Level I course during his/her 7th grade year)
These courses are designed as a two year course to be started in 7th grade and then completed during 8th grade.

- **German II** puts an emphasis on structure and beginning proficiency; German II introduces the student to basic conversation and self-expression in German. As students learn to understand, speak, read, and write German on a basic level, they will also be introduced to aspects of German culture, particularly relating to the everyday life of teenagers.

- **French II** introduces the student to practical vocabulary and basic grammatical structures that will enable him or her to communicate in simple French. The course focuses on speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as various aspects of French culture. Oral communication is stressed.

- **Chinese II** is designed to introduce the student to a good base in sound, tones and basic concept of characters. It has different tones, pinyin, strokes, etc. than the romance/Germanic languages. The target audience is non-native speakers but students with native backgrounds will also benefit from this course. The course will include 75% language and 25% culture. This course will demand a high level of commitment from students as they will not become as proficient in the same amount of time as in a romance/Germanic language.

- **Spanish II** is designed to train the student to understand, speak, read, and write basic Spanish, as well as presenting a cultural background of the Spanish-speaking people. Oral communication is stressed.