



Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202

www.psd202.org

Learning Goals

Grades

6-7-8



We prepare learners for the future

Our Mission

The mission of Plainfield Community Consolidated School District No. 202 — the primary source of comprehensive, high quality education in a trusting, supportive environment — is to develop, at all levels, responsible, successful citizens by providing an education, in cooperation with home and community, which: fosters each individual's value, uniqueness, and importance and promotes lifelong learning in an ever-changing society.

Our Goals

District 202 recognizes the need for a vision that embraces and embodies the desires and aspirations of our learning community. We will encourage and support our students, parents, community, staff, and Board of Education as they dedicate their time, talent, and resources in support and pursuit of these goals.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Sixth grade students will interpret a variety of text throughout the content areas utilizing vocabulary, reading strategies, and literacy skills. They will be able to formulate a multi-paragraph composition integrating the writing process for a specific audience and purpose and locate, organize, and use information from various sources to communicate ideas. Accelerated students will interpret a variety of text throughout the content areas utilizing vocabulary, reading strategies, and literacy skills, formulate a multi-paragraph composition integrating the writing process for a specific audience and purpose and locate, organize, and use information from various sources to communicate ideas.

Seventh grade students will use multiple word analysis skills, knowledge of literary devices and text structures as well as analytical reading strategies to interpret meaning of grade level text across a wide variety of genres and content areas, use the writing process to develop a writing piece using a style appropriate to the audience and use listening and speaking skills effectively to a given setting and audience. Accelerated students will use multiple word analysis skills, knowledge of literary devices and text structures as well as analytical reading strategies to interpret meaning of grade level text across a wide variety of genres and content areas, use the writing process to develop a writing piece using a style appropriate to the audience and use listening and speaking skills effectively to a given setting and audience.

Eighth grade students will identify details that reveal genre and organizational patterns in fiction and non-fiction, locate basic facts, draw simple generalizations and conclusions about the main characters in uncomplicated texts, explain how literary devices such as dramatic irony and figurative language contribute meaning through reading, writing, and speaking and engage in the writing process by composing various essays with appropriate organizational patterns, focus, and support. Accelerated students will identify details that reveal genre and organizational patterns in fiction and non-fiction, locate basic facts, draw simple generalizations and conclusions about the main characters in uncomplicated texts, explain how literary devices such as dramatic irony and figurative language contribute meaning through reading, writing, and speaking and engage in the writing process.

MATHEMATICS

The mathematics curriculum includes a balance of conceptual understanding, skills practice, and in-depth higher-level thinking and problem solving, always beginning with conceptual understanding.

Holt's mathematics programs offer a national and state standards based balanced approach of real-world applications, hands-on labs, worked-out examples, writing exercises, and practice that enables students to develop both conceptual understanding and procedural knowledge. An important part of our math program provides for students using math manipulatives and teachers modeling in every classroom—including Algebra 1. The teachers have created district-wide aligned written outcomes and components for the entire school year at each level. The grade 8 Algebra 1 mathematics curriculum and texts are aligned with Algebra 1 at the high school. Each grade's curriculum is the same for every math classroom at that grade level—district-wide. Through the Math Subject Area Committees, teachers continually connect with grades 5 and 9 to support students entering and leaving the middle school mathematics program.

At each level the Holt series intertwines concepts and skills to make math more relevant. Courses 1, 2, and 3 present content area and specific standards from NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) Principles and Standards for School Mathematics: Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Data Analysis and Probability, Problem Solving, Reasoning and Proof, Communication, Connections, and Representation.

The *Holt Algebra 1* program provides an ongoing monitoring and assessment strand to check for student understanding. The program also provides a consistent emphasis on mathematics literacy with a focus on reading and writing in mathematics. The mathematical content is based on NCTM standards.

Learning components include the Tools of Algebra, Solving Equations, Solving Inequalities, Solving and Applying Proportions, Graphs and Functions, Linear Equations and Their Graphs, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Exponents and Exponential Functions, Polynomials and Factoring, Quadratic Equations and Functions, Radical Expressions and Equations, and Rational Expressions and Functions.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth grade Social Studies is a World History course following mankind's first journey from the earliest human civilizations through the Ancient River Valley Cultures, the Renaissance, Pre-Columbian North America, and the Age of Exploration. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical and cultural achievements that have had significant impact on the development of mankind, emphasizing those that have had an influence on the development of the United States.

Seventh grade Social Studies is a United States History course focusing on the early years of American development from colonization through the Pre-Civil War years, including the State and Federal Constitutions and government institutions. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical and social achievements that have had significant impact on the development of the United States and its participation in the global community.

Eighth grade Social Studies is a United States History course focusing on the later years of American development from the Pre-Civil War years through current events. Students will study political, economic, historical, geographical, and social achievements that have had significant impact on the development of the United States and its participation in the global community.

SCIENCE

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade science addresses national, state, and district science standards. Emphasis is placed on integration, critical thinking and real life application. Sixth grade, among other components, will characterize changes caused by interactions between Earth's living, chemical, and structural components. Seventh grade, among other components, will classify and organize living organisms based on structure. Eighth grade, among other components, will explore and analyze the forces that have shaped the Earth and universe, using scientific investigation and discussion of current theory. As a result of their learning process, students will be able to:

Demonstrate a positive interaction with his or her environment

- Utilize appropriate technologies within his or her life
- Apply physical, biological, or chemical modeling within systems
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of classifying the world
- Analyze natural systems to determine what patterns exist as a means of determining causality
- Apply the concept of energy as a mechanism for producing change within systems
- Apply problem-finding and problem-solving skills to simple research projects
- Analyze the Earth as a system, examining internal and external influences
- Apply the scientific method to evaluate a specified situation
- Examine the interaction of human civilization and the environment
- Utilize safe laboratory practices
- Analyze experimental work done by others when appropriate
- Apply principles of scientific inquiry in order to make scientifically literate personal decisions
- Effectively communicate the results of scientific inquiry
- Apply basic scientific standards and research practices in the process of scientific inquiry

EXPLORATORY

Art

6th, 7th and 8th grade Art provides students with an introduction to various materials and techniques. Students work with color, shape, value, and line. This includes clay construction, weaving, drawing, painting, recognition of works of art from various cultures and art history.

Music

6th, 7th and 8th grade students will learn rhythm, melody, history and Culture, Musical Theatre, Instruments and other musical elements.

Family & Consumer Sciences

Family and Consumer Sciences instruction focuses on food preparation and sewing, with supplemental work in the area of nutrition. Kitchen safety and sanitation procedures, basic cooking skills, and etiquette rules are covered as well as completion of a basic sewing project.

Industrial Technology

(Woods Lab) Enrollment in the Woods Lab option of Industrial Technology provides student exposure to measurement, safety and a project related to creation of a woods project. The use of hand tools is emphasized in the 6th and 7th grades, with the introduction of power tools in the 8th grade.

(Tech Lab) Training in the Tech “Synergistics” Lab provides content exploration experiences through multi-media and multi-modal experiences. Hands-on experiences, computer applications, and videotapes are all included. At each grade level, students are able to select two seven-day rotations to experience. Areas include applied physics, audio broadcasting, computer graphics, and animation, electronics, energy, power and mechanics, engineering towers, flight technology, graphic communications, research and design, robots, rocketry and space, and light and laser. Career Education is addressed as part of this rotation.

Instructional Technology

In recent years, instructional technology experiences have become infused into the instructional classroom learning experience to provide more authentic learning and application of technology to learning. Only 6th grade instruction remains an isolated computer instructional option for middle school students. In this rotation, students are able to establish their baseline skills and expand from their knowledge base, preparing them for the instructional technology that will occur within their classrooms throughout middle school instruction.

Physical Education/Health

Sixth grade students will demonstrate why healthy habits affect overall wellbeing and their importance in the prevention and treatment of illness and injury. They will apply knowledge and basic skills necessary to incorporate a variety of health and fitness activities that lead to lifelong wellness. Seventh grade students will demonstrate knowledge of how body systems grow, work, and develop in relationship to fitness and nutrition and expertise in basic skills and apply knowledge towards formulating lifelong wellness habits. Eighth grade students will evaluate the implications of personal decisions as they relate to a healthy lifestyle and combine knowledge and skills in the development of their individual lifelong wellness plan.

Music

General Music instruction focuses on rhythm, melody, History and Culture, Musical Theatre, Instruments and other elements.

Note: Choir and Band are available at 6th, 7th, and 8th.

The District has adopted *Holt Rinehart and Winston Mathematics* Course 1 for 6th grade, Course 2 for 7th grade, and Course 3 for 7th grade accelerated and 8th grade pre-algebra curriculum. *Holt Algebra 1* book supports our 8th grade algebra curriculum that is identical to the high school’s Algebra 1 course.