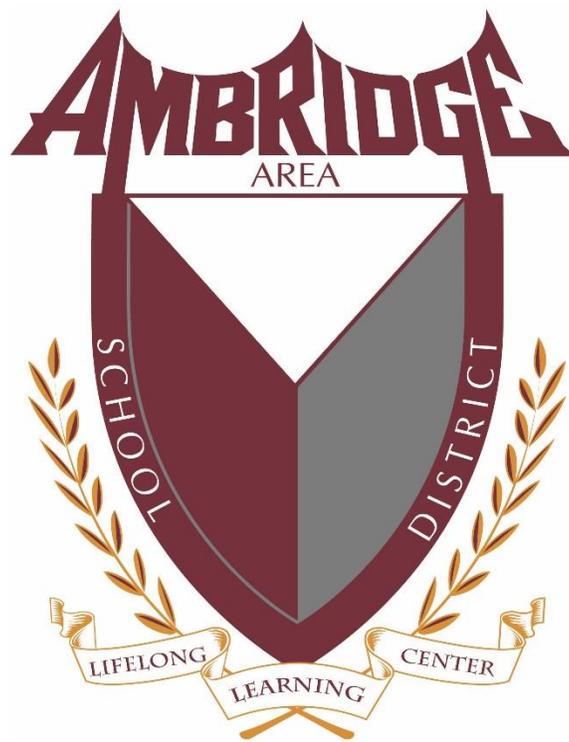


Ambridge Area Middle School



Course of Studies Book 2019 - 2020

AMBRIDGE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Scott Angus – *President*
Mrs. Terry Mylan – *Vice President*
Mrs. Valerie Pedigo – *Treasurer*
Mrs. Cathy Fischer
Mrs. Mary Jo Kehoe
Mr. Roger Kowal
Mrs. Kimberly Locher
Mr. James Sas
Mr. James Wear
Mrs. Megan Trumbull – *Solicitor*
Ms. Marianne Salzman – *Board Secretary*

CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

(724) 266-2833

Dr. L. Joan Welter, Ed. D. – *Superintendent of Schools*
Mr. Barry King – *Director of Academic Affairs*
Mr. Doug McCausland – *Director of District Operations*
Dr. Lee Myford – *Director of Pupil Services*
Mrs. Lori Heim – *Technology Supervisor*
Mr. Dave Matzie – *Facilities Manager*
Mr. Brian Miller – *Athletic and Transportation Director*

AMBRIDGE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

401 First Street
Freedom, PA 15042
Main Office: 724-266-2833 (EXT. 3296)
Fax Number: 724-869-5321
Guidance Office: 724-266-2833 (Ext. 3284)

Mr. Thomas J. McKelvey – *Principal*
Ms. Genifer Scaletta – *School Counselor*

Secretarial Staff

Ms. Samantha Cermak
Mrs. Jennifer Buchanan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact Information	2
Table of Contents	3
General Information	4
2019-2020 Sixth Grade Courses	5
Sixth Grade Advanced Courses and Exploratory.....	6
Sixth Grade Electives	9
2019-2020 Seventh Grade Courses	10
Seventh Grade Advanced Courses and Exploratory	11
Seventh Grade Electives.....	14
2019-2020 Eighth Grade Courses	15
2019-2020 Eighth Grade Advanced Courses and Exploratory	16
2019-2020 Eighth Grade World Language and Electives	19
2019-2020 6 th , 7 th , and 8 th Grade School Counseling, Learning Support and Speech Service....	20
Math Progression	21
Exploratory Progression	22
Ambridge Area Cyber Academy	23
Clubs and Activities	24
Sports	26

GENERAL INFORMATION

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Percentage	Quality Points
A	90% – to – 100%	4.0
B	80% – to – 89%	3.0
C	70% – to – 79%	2.0
D	60% – to – 69%	1.0
E	0 – to – 59 %	0.0

Grades in most classes will be calculated by percentage and reflected as such on the report card.

The following chart provides basic information on the Ambridge Area Middle School’s annually administered state exams.

GRADE LEVEL	TEST	PURPOSE
6 th Grade	PSSA Mathematics PSSA English Language Arts	Assess student growth Plan Instruction Required State Assessment
7 th Grade	PSSA Mathematics PSSA English Language Arts Algebra Keystone	Assess student growth Plan Instruction Required State Assessment
8 th Grade	PSSA Mathematics PSSA English Language Arts PSSA Science Algebra Keystone	Assess student growth Plan Instruction Required State Assessment

2019-2020 Sixth Grade Courses

READING

Reading 6 (36 Weeks)

Reading 6 is a literature based course that is aligned to English Language Arts PA Core Standards. Instruction in this course is meant to foster growth in a student's ability to analyze and make connections of text, based on text evidence, within and between texts. Also, reading, responding, and understanding pieces of literature and the demonstration of comprehension skills are the key objectives of this course.

ENGLISH

English 6 (36 Weeks)

English 6 is a course designed to enable students to gain essential skills to master several modes of writing including expository and narrative. Students will study grammar and mechanics while working toward improving their vocabulary leading to enhanced writing skills. Also, writing in various sentence structures will be emphasized in order to construct well-developed paragraphs and basic essays.

MATHEMATICS

Math 6 (36 Weeks)

This course is designed for all 6th grade average math students. Topics covered are as follows: numbers, number operations, proportionality: ratios and rates, equivalent expressions, equations and inequalities, relationships in geometry, and measurement and data. Students who complete this course successfully will advance to Math 7 the following academic year.

SCIENCE

Science 6 (36 Weeks)

Science 6 serves as a course that integrates principles of Life and Earth sciences to teach critical thinking skills through labs and other problem solving activities. Topics covered include: scientific method, earth/space science, weather, climate and atmospheric processes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6 (36 Weeks)

Social Studies 6 serves as an integrated course that examines both historical time periods as well as world geography. These topics allow for the examination of non-fiction text for the purpose of making connections of text based evidence within and between texts. Several ancient civilizations will be examined for the purpose of promoting critical thinking skills through the analysis of discussed material.

SIXTH GRADE ADVANCED COURSES

Successful advanced class applicants will be determined by the following prerequisite criteria:

- Previous year's cumulative grade point average in the given subject (85% or better if advanced, 90% or better if regular)
- Teacher recommendations for given subject

Note: Advanced class size is limited due to the number of seats, classes and instructors. Gifted students do not automatically qualify for all advanced classes.

Advanced Reading 6 (36 Weeks)

Advanced Reading 6 is a course designed to challenge those students who have excelled in language arts and have demonstrated a willingness to aspire to higher academic standards. Advanced Reading 6 is a literature based course that is aligned to English Language Arts PA Core Standards. Instruction in this course is meant to foster growth in a student's ability to analyze and make connections of text, based on text evidence within and between texts. Also, reading, responding to, and understanding pieces of literature and the demonstration of advanced comprehension skills expressed in different forms of writing is an essential skills developed throughout this course.

Advanced English 6 (36 Weeks)

Advanced English 6 is a course designed to challenge those students who have excelled in language arts and spelling and who have demonstrated a willingness to aspire to higher academic standards. Critical thinking and memorization are integral to this course. Students will study advanced grammar and mechanics while working toward improving their vocabulary leading to enhanced writing skills. Also, writing in various sentence structures will be required in order to construct well-developed paragraphs and multi-piece compositions. Modes of writing will include: narrative, persuasive, expository, and argumentative.

Advanced Math 6 (36 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): PROFICIENT or ADVANCED PSSA SCORES / TEACHER RECOMMENDATION/ 80% or HIGHER AVERAGE for MATH 5

This course is designed for students who are advanced in mathematics. This course in combination with Advanced Math 7 will prepare students to take Algebra I in 8th grade. Topics covered include: numbers, number operations, proportionality: ratios and rates, equivalent expressions, equations & inequalities, relationships in geometry, measurement and data, the number system, and ratios and proportional relationships. Advanced math students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* program and local competition. Students who complete this course successfully with teacher recommendation will take Advanced Math 7 in 7th grade.

Advanced Science (36 weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): PROFICIENT or ADVANCED PSSA SCORES / TEACHER RECOMMENDATION/ 80% or HIGHER AVERAGE for SCIENCE 5

The Advanced Science 6 course curriculum will present advanced topics using higher order thinking skills using a similar course sequence as Science 6. This course will develop the students' ability to use problem solving, critical thinking and data analysis skills. The students will use these skills to master and appreciate the world around them by learning about Earth Science. The course is designed to challenge student and enrich them through the use of presentations, demonstrations and labs. Topics covered would be scientific method, atmosphere, weather, climate, and Earth/Space science related content area.

Advanced Social Studies (36 weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): TEACHER RECOMMENDATION/ 80% or HIGHER AVERAGE for SOCIAL STUDIES 5

This advanced course will focus on ancient civilizations. Early Man, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages will be explored using Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's World Civilization's curriculum and its online components. The content areas of geography, government, and economics will be integrated into this historical study. Topics that occur in the news, especially those related to archaeological findings will be discussed as they present themselves. Student engagement and participation in class is vital in this advanced course. Many of these class discussions will be student-driven. Individual and group presentations of factual based research information will also be used so that students can learn from their peers as well as the teacher.

Accelerated Math 7 (Grade 6) (36 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): ADVANCED PSSA SCORES/ TEACHER RECOMMENDATION/PLACEMENT TEST/ 85% or HIGHER AVERAGE for MATH 5

This course is designed for highly advanced mathematics students. Accelerated Math 7 (Grade 6) serves as the entry course for the curriculum silo (course sequence) that leads to AP Calculus BC (The equivalent of College Calculus 2) in high school. Students will be required to successfully complete the 6th grade math course in Edgenuity over the summer in addition to qualifying with the prerequisites. Topics covered include: number operations, expressions, equations and inequalities, geometry, statistics, probability, real numbers, exponents and scientific notation, proportional and non-proportional, relationships and functions, solving equations and systems of equations, transformational geometry, and measurement geometry. Accelerated Math 7 (Grade 6) students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* program and local competition. Students who complete this course successfully with teacher recommendation will take Algebra I in 7th grade.

6th Grade Exploratory

ART 6 (9 Weeks)

This course emphasizes the development of basic skills and techniques. Units in drawing, painting, sculpture, color theory, color and design, and art history enrich each student's experience. Both two-and three-dimensional projects will be undertaken in this quarter course.

Computer Science Discoveries I (9 Weeks)

The first 9-weeks of CS Discoveries introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. This course will also follow a design process to learn how to empathize with and prototype an app for a target audience. Students will also develop a web page.

Exploring Computer Applications I (9 Weeks)

The course will introduce and improve the skills needed in producing quality word documents and presentations. The students will be instructed on how to use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint Application Software, and MS Excel in creating productive projects while still improving keyboarding skills.

Family and Consumer Science 6 (9 Weeks)

This course will introduce Family and Consumer Sciences to Middle School Students. Students will take part in hands-on activities designed to help them develop an understanding of nutrition, basic food preparations and leadership skills. Throughout the course, students learn the importance of teamwork, communication, food preparation and nutrition through their work in the foods lab. They will focus on basics relating to nutrition, measuring, equipment and tools, safety and sanitation, as well as basic foods preparation.

Health 6 (9 Weeks)

The 6th grade Health curriculum is designed to help educate and lead students to better overall lifestyle choices. Topics introduced pertain to life skills that students will be able to utilize on a daily basis. Students will learn about a variety of harmful substances that they may begin to encounter in various social settings. Social health will be an integral part of the curriculum where students will learn about media/peer influence, cyber safety, bullying, and communication skills. Students will be educated in hygiene, violence prevention, healthy food choices, basic first aid and human growth and development. Developing and maintaining positive relationships will be included to help students appropriately deal with home, school, and peer relationships.

Music 6 (9 Weeks)

The units taught in the 6th grade music classroom include world music drumming, bucket drumming, Orff instruments, and steel pans. World music and bucket drumming units further develop and enhance skills associated with time keeping, rhythm reading, and performing together in an ensemble. The steel pan and Orff units focus on note reading skills and applying that literacy on melodic instruments. All units taught in the 6th grade classroom enhance skills necessary to perform in band and/or chorus and will provide an overall appreciation for music.

Physical Education 6 (9 Weeks)

The 6th Grade Physical Education curriculum provides students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve and maintain physically active and healthful lifestyles. The curriculum follows a progression based upon the fundamental knowledge and skills learned in the elementary program. Students are expected to participate regularly in physical activity, achieve personal fitness and activity goals, and learn skills necessary to perform a variety of physical activities.

STEAM 6 (9 Weeks)

Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) opens opportunities for students to understand how aspects of technology are prevalent throughout their lives. In the STEAM lab, students will connect learning from all subject areas through cross-curricular projects. Projects will be aligned to the PA Core Standards and will draw on inspiration from the engineering design process while using concepts from the different classes taken throughout the day. Students will connect not only what they are learning in science and math, but also in reading and language arts through the use of technology and engineering. Real-world connections and authentic learning experiences are provided.

Electives

Band 6 (Elective/36 Weeks/M, W, F)

This performance-based course develops instrumental proficiency, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble playing. Two, required evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills. Small group ensembles will be scheduled as necessary on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Chorus 6 (Elective/36 Weeks/M, W, F)

This performance-based course expands vocal repertoire and singing technique, develops sight-reading skills, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble singing. Two, required evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills. Small group ensembles will be scheduled as necessary on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Guitar I (18 Weeks/T, Th)

PREREQUISITE(S): 3.0 Average GPA and TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This course is designed for the beginning guitar player. The students will learn basic music theory, identification of parts of the guitar, 1st position notes, beginning chords, blues progressions, tablature, and accompaniment styles and picking patterns. Students will play examples representing musical styles from folk to rock music, where performance skills are emphasized on a daily basis. NOTE: This is a Tuesday/Thursday course that will take place during 6th grade tutorial.

2019-2020 Seventh Grade Courses

READING

Reading 7 (36 Weeks)

This course is designed to meet the needs of those students who are reading on grade level. Reading comprehension, vocabulary development, use of graphic organizers, fluency in oral reading, and listening skills are the focus of this course. Instruction in this course is meant to foster growth in a student's ability to analyze and make connections of text, based on text evidence within and between texts.

ENGLISH

English 7 (36 Weeks)

The primary aim of this course is to lay the foundation for writing and communicating by stressing the following areas: grammar, usage, mechanics, sentence structure, vocabulary, and spelling skills. There is continuing development of the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and sharing; and considerable emphasis is placed on paragraph development. Basic speech skills are taught, and the novel is explored through adolescent literature.

MATHEMATICS

Math 7 (36 Weeks)

This course is designed for all 7th grade average math students. Topics covers are as follows: the number system, ratios & proportional relationships, expressions, equations and inequalities, geometry, statistics, and probability. Students who complete this course successfully will advance to Math 8 the following academic year.

SCIENCE

Science 7 (36 Weeks)

This course will have a curriculum focused on the physical sciences (physics and chemistry). The course will provide students with instruction on the nature of science, using a discovery process to teach the scientific method, and the use of metric measurements and tools in scientific investigations. Students will be introduced to a variety of laboratory activities that promote skills such as data collection, problem solving, and critical thinking.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 7 (36 Weeks)

This course explores the countries and people of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Map-reading skills are used extensively to chart geographical data such as topography, resources, and climate. Historical information is studied to gain insight into cultural differences and their influence on present-day customs. Current issues relating to economics, industry, commerce, and democracy are also introduced. Library research and various hands-on activities are structured so that students can further explore and experience cultural diversities. The focus of the study is Pennsylvania history from colonial days through the Industrial Revolution.

SEVENTH GRADE ADVANCED COURSES

Successful advanced class applicants will be determined by the following prerequisite criteria (Unless designated differently in the course description):

- Placement exams/essays for given subject.
- Previous year's cumulative grade point average in the given subject (85% or better if advanced 90% or better if regular)
- Teacher recommendations for given subject

Prerequisites, approval and signature required prior to enrolling in any Advanced Course

Note: Advanced class size is limited due to the number of seats, classes and instructors. Gifted students do not automatically qualify for all advanced classes.

Advanced Reading 7 (36 Weeks)

Instruction in this course is meant to foster growth in a student's ability to analyze and make connections of text based on text evidence within and between texts. Reading selections are developed through the use of context clues, main ideas, details, inferences, foreshadowing, and reader's knowledge of material, character role-playing and other critical reading skills. Literary techniques and story elements are discussed with each selection. Silent reading techniques such as Preview, Question, Relate, Read, Review, and Demonstrate are discussed and modeled with each selection.

Advanced English 7 (36 Weeks)

Advanced English 7 is an optional course designed to challenge those students who have excelled in language arts and spelling and who have demonstrated a willingness to aspire to higher academic standards. The curriculum of this course will emphasize conventions and vocabulary study, as well as composition and the exploration of mature literature. Critical thinking and memorization are integral to this course.

Advanced Math 7 (36 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): PROFICIENT or ADVANCED PSSA SCORES / TEACHER RECOMMENDATION/ 85% or HIGHER AVERAGE for MATH 6

This course is designed for those students who are advanced in mathematics and are planning a post-secondary education. Topics covered are as follows: expressions, equations and inequalities, geometry, statistics, probability, real numbers, exponents and scientific notation, proportional and non-proportional relationships and functions, solving equations and systems of equations, transformational geometry, and measurement geometry. Advanced math students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* program and local competition. Students who complete this course with teacher recommendation will take Algebra I in 8th grade.

Algebra I (36 weeks)

PREREQUISITE(S): SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION of ACCELERATED MATH 7 (GRADE 6)/TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This course is designed for the highest level of advanced math students who are planning to take AP Calculus BC (The equivalent of College Calculus 2) in high school. The course consists of topics such as: numbers and expressions, equations and functions, linear relationships, exponential relationships, statistics and data, polynomial expressions and equations, and functions and modeling. The focus of the class will be to prepare the students to be successful on the Algebra Keystone Exam. Algebra students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* competition. Challenging assignments, which will require extra time, will be given on a regular basis. Students who successfully complete this course will take Geometry in 8th grade.

Advanced Science 7 (36 Weeks)

The Advanced Science 7 course curriculum will present advanced topics related to Science 7. This course helps students see, appreciate, and understand their physical environment by including principles of Earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics. Emphasis will be placed on developing problem solving, critical thinking, and data analysis skills. The course is designed to challenge students and enrich students through presentations, demonstrations, and lab activities. Topics covered include the following: metric measurement, physical/chemical changes, atoms, elements, periodic table, motion, forces, simple machines, transfer of energy, waves, and electromagnetic spectrum. Computer skills for completion of lab reports are strongly recommended.

Advanced Social Studies 7 (36 Weeks)

In this advanced course, students will discuss and learn how each region of the world is interconnected. This course will present advanced topics related to Geography 7. It will develop map-reading skills to be used extensively for interpretation and geographical information such as topography and location. Students will explore the countries and people of both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres, using historical information to envision cultural differences as they influence present-day customs. Current issues relating to economics, industry, commerce and government are integrated in order to gain a complete understanding of diverse cultures. Library research and various hands-on activities are structured so that students can acquire an in-depth understanding and can experience cultural diversities. The focus of the study is Pennsylvania history from colonial days through the Industrial Revolution.

7th GRADE EXPLORATORY

Computer Science Discoveries II (MANDATORY REQUIREMENT) (9 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES I

The second 9-weeks rotation of CS Discoveries introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. As a whole, this 9-weeks focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science, and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression.

Exploring Computer Applications II (MANDATORY REQUIREMENT) (9 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: EXPLORING COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I

The course will introduce and improve the skills needed in producing functional spreadsheets and creative publications. The students will be instructed on how to use Microsoft Excel and Publisher Application Software in creating productive projects while continuing to improve their keyboarding skills.

Art 7 (9 Weeks)

This course will build upon skills developed in Art 6. The class will involve extensive hands-on studio work in drawing, painting, sculpture, fibers, and art history. Students will learn how to manage and maintain a working studio environment. Both two- and three-dimensional projects will be undertaken in this quarter course.

Exploratory World Language (9 Weeks)

This course is designed to introduce students to both Spanish and Italian so that students may choose which World Language to study. Students will cover basic vocabulary, geography, and culture related to both languages. Students will be given the opportunity to learn basic skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in the target language.

Family and Consumer Science 7 (9 Weeks)

This F&CS introductory course will familiarize students to the topics of leadership development and career exploration, while challenging them to apply mathematics and English language arts skills in real world applications. Leadership development explores the topics of positive relationships, decision making, communication, individuality, goal setting, and conflict resolution. The understanding of these leadership skills will help guide students as they begin their career exploration journey. This will enable students to select and explore careers that match their interests, while showcasing their strengths. Students will focus on how both leadership skills and career exploration will prepare them to be strong citizens and employees.

Health 7 (9 Weeks)

The 7th grade Health curriculum is designed to meet the needs of the students by implementing physical, social, and mental/emotional health into their lives to gain total wellness. The course will provide students with current, accurate, and beneficial topics so they can make informed decisions when it comes to their overall health. The students are encouraged to attain peak health by using the learned preventative measures and skills in their everyday lives. The course will focus on current trends in nutrition, harmful substances, wellness, disease prevention, relationships, and social/emotional health.

Physical Education 7 (9 Weeks)

The 7th Grade Physical Education curriculum will meet five days a week. The curriculum provides students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve and maintain physically active and healthful lifestyles. In this Physical Education course students will be exposed to a variety of activities/sports that can provide opportunities for relationship building, challenges, enjoyable and life-long activities. The course will also lead students to a healthy lifestyle by keeping them engaged and exposing them to new/different units.

Technology Education 7 (9 Weeks)

This is an exploratory course of technology and engineering. Students will have one quarter to explore what technology education has to offer inside and outside the classroom. The class is broken up into five units: each unit builds on the one before it. Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) is the first unit where students master the use of a ruler and will begin mechanical drawing, using a computer software to produce simple machine parts. The second unit is an introduction to the Engineering Design Process with various problem solving activities. The third unit is an introduction into the world of robotics and programming. They will use *Lego EV3 Mindstorms*. The fourth unit is bridge design where students design, build, and strength test the bridges they make in class. The final unit is the cap stone, manufacturing technology were students make a small project using machines and tools from industry.

ELECTIVES

Band 7 (Elective/36 Weeks/Full Year/Full Time)

This performance-based course develops instrumental proficiency, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble playing. Two, required evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills.

Chorus 7 (Elective/36 Weeks/Full Year/Full Time)

This performance-based course expands vocal repertoire and singing technique, develops sight-reading skills, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble singing. Two, required evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills.

2019-2020 Eighth Grade Courses

READING

Reading 8th Grade (36 Weeks)

The course is designed to meet the needs of those students who are reading on grade level. Instruction in this course is meant to foster growth in a student's ability to analyze and make connections of text, based on text evidence within and between texts. The goals of this course are to increase comprehension skills and vocabulary development and make the student an organized, independent reader and learner. Reading selections are developed through the use of context clues, main ideas, details, inferences, foreshadowing, and reader's knowledge of material. Literary techniques and story elements are discussed with each selection.

ENGLISH

English 8 (36 Weeks)

This communications course builds upon the foundations established in the 7th grade English class and prepares the students for their freshman year. Grammar, usage, and mechanics, along with vocabulary development, will continue to be stressed. The steps of the writing process will be followed as students prepare paragraphs and compositions. Also, students will present speeches, complete information science based research activities, and explore literature through novels and plays.

MATHEMATICS

Math 8 (36 Weeks)

This course is designed for all students who have successfully completed Math 7. Topics covered are as follows: real numbers, exponents, scientific notation, proportional and non-proportional relationships and functions, solving equations and systems of equations, transformational geometry, measurement geometry, and statistics. Students who successfully complete this course will take Algebra I or Algebra 1A in 9th grade based upon teacher recommendation.

SCIENCE

Integrated Science 8 (36 Weeks)

The 8th grade integrated science curriculum utilizes the *Glencoe Integrated Science Level Blue* text book. Level Blue provides students with online access and accurate comprehensive coverage of life science including Environment and Ecology. The strong content coverage integrates a wide range of hands-on experiences, critical-thinking opportunities, and real-world applications. This course includes the Unit study of Humans and Heredity, Ecology, Cell Biology, and Chemistry and Matter. A major component is the annual statistic poster project. The top ten students will compete in the annual Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Competition. The textbook has a rich bank of science content and plenty of examples to make that content relevant to daily life. In addition, the book clearly outlines lesson objectives and vocabulary. By mastering these concepts and terms, students gain a solid base in science and will be well prepared for high school science courses. This program meets state and national standards for science.

SOCIAL STUDIES

American Civics 8 (36 Weeks)

This course is an in-depth study of the government on the federal, state, and local level. Students use the textbook, periodicals, newspapers, and other media to help them explore and follow legislative procedures and political processes. Citizenship and responsibility to our democracy are covered in detail. These topics allow for the examination of non-fiction text for the purpose of making connections of text based evidence within and between texts.

EIGHTH GRADE ADVANCED COURSES

Successful advanced class applicants will be determined by the following prerequisite criteria:

- Previous year's cumulative grade point average in the given subject (85% or better if advanced 90% or better if regular)
- Teacher recommendations for given subject

Prerequisites, approval and signature required prior to enrolling in any Advanced Course

Note: Advanced class size is limited due to the number of seats, classes and instructors.

Gifted students do not automatically qualify for all advanced classes.

Advanced English 8 (36 Weeks)

The curriculum of this course is designed for accelerated English students. It will emphasize diction through specialized and SAT preparation vocabulary study and the refinement of composition through homework essays, on-demand classroom responses to prompts, and a mini research paper. Memorization will be integral to success in this course. Mastery of essential grammar skills will be stressed. Critical and creative thinking and the exploration of mature literature are furthered in this course.

Algebra I (36 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ADVANCED MATH 7/TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This course is designed for those students who are advanced in mathematics and are planning a post-secondary education. The course consists of topics such as: numbers and expressions, equations and functions, linear relationships, exponential relationships, statistics and data, polynomial expressions and equations, and functions and modeling. The focus of the class will be to prepare the students to be successful on the Algebra Keystone Exam. Algebra students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* competition. Challenging assignments, which will require extra time, will be given on a regular basis. Students who successfully complete this course with an 80% or higher will take Honors Geometry in 9th grade. Students with lower than an 80% will take Algebra II in 9th grade.

Geometry (36 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ALGEBRA I/TEACHER RECOMMENDATION

This course is designed for the highest level of advanced math students who are planning to take AP Calculus BC (The equivalent of College Calculus 2) in high school. Particular emphasis is placed on geometric proofs and the use of geometric formulas. Major units include congruent triangles, perpendiculars, parallels, angles, parallelograms, trapezoids, circles, congruence, similarity, angle measurement, area of plane figures, surface area, volume, and methods of proof. Geometry students will be required to participate in the *MathCounts* competition. Challenging assignments, which will require extra time, will be given on a regular basis. Students who successfully complete this course will take Honors Algebra II in 9th grade.

Advanced Science 8 (36 Weeks)

Advanced Science 8 is a highly intensified study of the *Glencoe Integrated Science Level Blue* text book and *Environment & Ecology for Pennsylvania: Meeting the Standards* textbook. The level of course work is designed for students with an extremely strong work ethic and a keen interest and ability in science. This course includes the Unit study of Humans and Heredity, Ecology, Cell Biology, and Chemistry and Matter. As part of the curriculum each student will complete an individual or team science fair research project for competition in the Annual 8th Grade Science Fair and if a top 20 winner, participate in the Pittsburgh Science Fair. Attending a Spring Stream Study and possible participation in the Beaver County Envirothon competition are parts of the course curriculum. All field trips scheduled by teacher are mandatory participation. Strong computer applications skills are necessary for successful completion of lab reports. This program meets our state and national standards for science.

Advance Social Studies 8 (36 Weeks)

This is a challenging course with an in-depth study of the government on a federal, state, and local level. Students will use the textbook, periodicals, newspaper, and other media to explore and follow legislative procedures and political processes. Topics covered include a detailed study of rights, responsibilities, and the duties of citizenship, the different forms of

government, and the structure of our own government. These topics allow for the examination of non-fiction text for the purpose of making connections of text based evidence within and between texts. The course is similar to American Civics but will cover topics in greater detail. The class will use advanced learning techniques to challenge the students. For example; the students will be expected to actively discuss, debate, and critically analyze different issues involving our government and current social ideas.

Eighth Grade Exploratory Semester Courses (Students will take four courses)

Exploring Computer Applications II/Computer Science Discoveries II (MANDATORY REQUIREMENT) (18 Weeks)

This combined course introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. As a whole, this course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science, and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. This course will also introduce and improve the skills needed in producing functional spreadsheets and creative publications. The students will be instructed on how to use Microsoft Excel and Publisher Application Software in creating productive projects while continuing to improve their keyboarding skills.

Fitness for Life (MANDATORY REQUIREMENT) (18 Weeks)

The 8th Grade Health Curriculum (Health for Life) will begin to elaborate on health topics that will help prepare them for healthy lives as young adults. The topics covered will enhance skills that students were introduced to in the 6th and 7th grade curriculum while also adding in a multitude of new important subjects. This course will expand on harmful substances while focusing on the specifics of tobacco, various drugs, alcohol, the ways to prevent making poor substance decisions, and consequences that would coincide with usage. Social health and relationships will help educate students on dating, peer pressure (refusal skills), conflict resolution, parent involvement, decision making skills and social media decisions. The Physical Education curriculum offers a variety of physical activities that meet the individual preferences and activity needs of all students. The students will participate in team sports, racquet sports, fitness and leisure activities.

Child Development (18 Weeks)

This course will prepare students for careers in child related fields, while also focusing on childcare and safety. Partnering with the American Red Cross, students will have the opportunity to become certified babysitters certified in basic first aid and CPR. Topics include the following: basic child development, how to provide care for infants and children, how to stay safe, what to do in an emergency, how to choose age-appropriate activities, and how to recognize and handle a variety of behaviors. Students will also learn the basics of providing childcare, including the importance of professionalism, communication skills, and responsibility. Students will write a resume and practice interview skills. Students who successfully complete the course will receive a printable certificate from The American Red Cross.

Computer Science Discoveries III (18 Weeks)

PREREQUISITES: COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES PARTS I AND II AND/OR TEACHER APPROVAL.

Where the prerequisite courses center on the immediately observable and personally applicable elements of computer science, Computer Science Discoveries III asks students to look outward and explore the impact of computer science on society. Students will see how a thorough user-centered design process produces a better application, how data is used to address problems that affect large numbers of people, and how physical computing with bare circuit boards allows computers to collect input and return output in a variety of ways.

Foods and Nutrition (18 Weeks)

This course is designed for the student who is interested in the preparation of nutritious foods that can be prepared quickly. While expanding on the skills learned in F&CS 7, students will discover how to plan and prepare food products that are part of a balanced diet using shortcut cooking methods. Students will practice time and energy-saving techniques during each food preparation lab; while, also learning how to make wise decisions when choosing convenience foods. Throughout the course, students will develop the skills and confidence to use a variety of kitchen appliances while preparing quick and nutritious dishes. All students will do a demonstration of a recipe from the course. This course is great for any student who does not have the time to do more-involved cooking.

Introduction to Sculptures and Crafts (18 Weeks)

This course is designed for students who wish to work with different artistic disciplines to discover areas of further study in the visual arts. Students will have the opportunity to learn about various methods and materials within several fine art disciplines. Sculptural projects will include clay work with casting, wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques, wire and metal sculptures, soft sculptures and an introduction to plaster. The fiber arts portion of this course will teach students crochet basics and how to read patterns, each student will take home a handmade scarf, hat, or mittens. There will be opportunities to learn about and create Batik and Shibori dyed cloths and participants may opt to stitch handbags or wallets out of their hand dyed material. Beginning jewelry methods of chain making and bead work will also be covered in this course.

Pre-Engineering (18 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: APPROVAL OF THE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION TEACHER FROM 7TH GRADE, AND A 3.0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE OR HIGHER FROM 7TH GRADE.

Students will be formally introduced to a multi-segmented activity based curriculum that provides them with a broad base of competencies in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM). Problem solving and design activities will be assigned in the areas of systems control technology, leadership, transportation, structural engineering, communications, and robotics. Students will participate in the leadership training experience and the competitive events involved with the Technology Student Association (TSA). Students will compete individually or in groups to gain valuable experience in all areas of systems technology including aspects such as technical writing and prepared presentations. Evaluation will reflect successful completion of assignments and teacher observation.

Principles of Transportation (18 Weeks)

PREREQUISITE: APPROVAL OF THE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION TEACHER FROM 7TH GRADE.

The students will explore the basic types of transportation systems. Areas of exploration will include land, air, and sea vessels. Some activities may include Co2 Cars, Mouse Trap Vehicles, Gliders, Various Boat Hulls, and Rockets. Students will become acquainted with the many career opportunities in transportation technology and its related fields. Evaluation will be based upon successful completion of assignments, quizzes, and teacher observation.

Steel Drumming (18 Weeks)

This performance-based course will provide students the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to perform on steel pans and other unique world percussion instruments. Along with fundamental performance techniques, students will explore the cultures of other countries and enhance their overall understanding of musicianship. Prior or current experience in band or chorus is highly recommended. A culminating evening performance will take place at the end of the semester. Possibly an evening performance will take place at the end of the semester.

Theater Arts (18 Weeks)

This introductory level course will provide students the opportunity to explore both theatrical technology and performance. The first 9 weeks will focus on the skills needed to carry out the responsibilities of six primary categories of technical theatre, including costumes, props, lighting, sound, stage management, and scenery. During the second 9 weeks, students will develop the skills necessary to produce and perform a small-scale theatrical performance. Additional collaborations with the language arts department will allow for increased student involvement. The semester will culminate with a daytime performance for the student body.

WORLD LANGUAGES

PREREQUISITE: 8TH GRADE ONLY –THIS CLASS IS RESERVED FOR HIGH ACHIEVING ACADEMIC STUDENTS AND BASED ON TEACHER RECOMMENDATION.

Italian I (36 Weeks, 1 High School Credit)

PREREQUISITE: 80 % IN ENGLISH

Rigorous course requirements include frequent homework assignments, participation in class discussions, presentations, and various assessments. Italian I presents the fundamentals of Italian grammar, pronunciation, conversation, and writing. Emphasis is on oral work and vocabulary building. Attention is given to the culture of the country through music, filmstrips, and readings.

Spanish I (36 Weeks, 1 High School Credit)

PREREQUISITE: 80% IN ENGLISH

Rigorous course requirements include frequent homework assignments, participation in class discussions, presentations, and various assessments. Spanish I introduces the principles of grammar and aims to build an active vocabulary. The culture and customs of Spain and Mexico, and South America are given special attention via videos, readings, and discussion. Spanish influences in the U.S. are also discussed.

ELECTIVES

Band 8 (Elective/36 Weeks/Full Year/Full Time)

This performance-based course develops instrumental proficiency, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble playing. Two evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills.

Chorus 8 (Elective/36 Weeks/Full Year/Full Time)

This performance-based course expands vocal repertoire and singing technique, develops sight-reading skills, enhances music theory knowledge, and cultivates community through ensemble singing. Two evening public performances presented annually will allow students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills.

SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

The Ambridge Area Middle School Counseling Program is an integral part of the total educational experience for each student. As professionals, certified counselors serve as advocates for all students while working to establish and preserve partnerships with educators, parents and community members. The counseling program is determined by the developmental needs of our students. The certified school counselors encourage all students to reach their full potential within the context of their individual, family, and multicultural perspectives. The counselor provides proactive and preventive services to every student, every year to strive and guide each student to become a lifelong learner and a productive, interactive, and successful citizen.

LEARNING SUPPORT/EMOTIONAL SUPPORT/LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMS

Learning Support/Emotional Support/Life Skills Programs 6th, 7th and 8th Grade (36 Weeks)

Students who qualify for special education services (Learning Support/Emotional Support/Life Skills) will receive academic support through the appropriate program. They may receive assistance with regular education courses, or they may receive direct instruction in a modified course provided by the special education faculty. Inclusion classes are also available in the regular education programs. These classes include the certified subject teacher and a member of the special education staff. Each student's program is based on specific needs as developed through the yearly Individualized Education Program (IEP).

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SUPPORT PROGRAM

Speech and Language Support Program 6th, 7th and 8th Grade (36 Weeks)

Services are provided to students who have communication disorders such as impaired language, voice, fluency, and articulation to such a degree that it affects their academic achievement.

**AMBRIDGE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL
MATH PROGRESSION**

Grade Level	Student Grouping	Materials	Course Name
Grade 6	Student Placement by Rubric	<p style="text-align: center;">Go Math 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Go Math Advanced 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Math 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advanced Math 6</p>
Grade 7	Student Placement by Rubric	<p style="text-align: center;">Go Math Grade 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Go Math Accelerated 7 Year 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Go Math Advanced 2 Year 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Math 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advanced Math 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advanced Math 7</p>
Grade 8	Student Placement by Rubric	<p style="text-align: center;">Go Math Grade 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Algebra I: Analyze, Connect, Explore</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Math 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Algebra I</p>

**AMBRIDGE AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL
ACCELERATED MATH PROGRESSION**

Grade 6	Student Placement by Rubric	Go Math Accelerated 7	Accelerated Math 7 (Grade 6)
Grade 7	Student Placement by Rubric	Algebra I: Analyze, Connect, Explore	Algebra I
Grade 8	Student Placement by Rubric	Holt McDougal Geometry	Geometry

EXPLORATORY PROGRESSION

Rotation #1	6 th Grade Exploratory	Rotation #2
ART 6		Music 6
HEALTH 6		PE 6
STEAM 6		F&CS 6
EXPLORING COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I		COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES I
Tutorial – Choice: band or chorus (M,W,F), Guitar (T, Th) - intervention and study time with team		
	7 th Grade Exploratory (2019-2020)	
Rotation #1		Rotation #2
EXPLORING COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II		COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES II
HEALTH 7		PE 7
TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION 7		F&CS 7
ART 7		ITALIAN/SPANISH EXPLORATORY
Tutorial – Choice: band or chorus (M-F) - intervention and study time with team		
<u>Eighth Grade Course Offerings</u>		
Full Year Courses: Spanish, Italian or Reading		
<u>Semester Requirements:</u>		
2019-2020	FITNESS for LIFE	EXPLORING COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II/ COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES II
2020-2021	FITNESS for LIFE	
<u>Eighth Grade Course Offerings</u>		
✓ 2019-2020: choose 2	✓ 2020-2021: choose 3	
Computer Science Discoveries II, Steel Drumming, Pre-Engineering, Principles of Transportation, Theater Arts, Intro to Sculptures and Crafts, Child Development, Foods and Nutrition Tutorial: Band, Chorus (FY/FT), Intervention/Study with Team		

AMBRIDGE AREA CYBER ACADEMY

The Ambridge Area School Board approved a partnership between Ambridge Area School District and Seneca Valley Academy of Choice, resulting in the creation of our own cyber/hybrid alternative for students. Highlights of the Ambridge Area Cyber Academy are as follows:

1. Free personalized education plan for AASD students
2. Resources of caring, highly qualified AASD professional staff
3. A Cyber Lab to utilize at the high school
4. An array of extracurricular activities and clubs
5. Flexibility of scheduling, guidance counselor services, and scholarship opportunities
6. Opportunities to be creative, productive, discover, and explore potentials
7. Teaches students responsibility, time management, self-discipline, dedication, independence and a global perspective
8. Upon completion of all graduation requirements, students will graduate with an Ambridge Area Diploma
9. Courses are aligned to the AASD Common Core Curriculum
10. Students will earn letter grades on both report cards and transcripts
11. If meeting eligibility, students can also participate in all Ambridge Area-sponsored events including Homecoming, Prom, graduation, athletics and activities.
12. Physical Education can be completed at a local gym as a Pass/Fail course. (Medical Documentation on file may be required and at the administrations discretion prior to acceptance in a cyber PE course.)
13. Health screenings are offered at school

Requirements / Pre-Requisites:

1. Any senior enrolled in the cyber academy must complete all graduation and senior requirements prior to graduation in order to receive their diploma.
2. An application to enroll in the cyber program **must be completed on-line** prior to enrollment on the district website at www.ambridge.k12.pa.us.
3. The ability to enroll in a cyber program is only available during the beginning (first week) of each 9-week grading period.
4. The timeframe for scheduling is due to the nature of classes being assigned as a nine-week portion of a curriculum. Adhering to this time schedule will ensure that no student has insufficient time to complete the required amount of work for a grading period.
5. Enrollment past the scheduling time frame will be reviewed as per case-basis. Exceptions to the enrollment period and curriculum will be at the discretion of the administration.
6. Medical documentation may be required for cyber enrollment, including but not limited to enrolling in the Health and Physical Education cyber program.
7. Once an application is received, it will be reviewed by our educational team to determine the best placement for the student.
8. A parent/teacher conference may be scheduled in order determine the best course of action for the student.
9. The criteria for enrollment that are examined include the following: Attendance; Motivation and Potential Success; Academic Success; Medical Documentation as per need basis.
10. Students must complete all requirements as listed.
11. Attendance by actively logging in and completing the material is mandatory, and will be monitored. Any violation of not actively completing the course hours required online will be handled through our administration and truancy office.
12. Students required to take the Keystone Exams based on courses scheduled must report to the school to do so as per state requirements.

If you would like to know more about our program, please feel free to contact the district at 724-266-2833 and/or visit the district website at www.ambridge.k12.pa.us.

CLUBS and ACTIVITIES

NOTE: Sign-ups for all clubs will occur during activity periods in the first month of school. Students should pay particular attention to school announcements for more information.

Art & Photography Club

The Art and Photography Club are for 8th graders who wish to continue their artistic experience. Students will explore various media, including photography, as to content, expression, modifications and selection of subject matter to create an art form. When possible, local artists will demonstrate their art for the students to learn new techniques through a hands-on experience. School cameras may be used, but it is desirable for students to have the use of their own camera for school activities. Students will have the opportunity to help design displays for school functions and the Art show.

INTERACT

INTERACT is a community outreach club that promotes awareness regarding the needs of the community. Students in this organization focus on community service projects in order to build strong leadership skills and learn the value of volunteerism. Some of the activities include Make-A-Difference Day, March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon, Special Olympics (as huggers and timers), plus many more.

Dance Decoration Club

This club is for students who wish to create decorations along with hanging these items for a desirable display. Students will be responsible for ideas for dances through drawing, painting, displaying and take down.

Science Club

The focus of after-school science activities is on enhancing experiences that middle school students have with science. After-school science clubs are one way to incorporate the kinds of learning activities recommended by state and national science standards. The goal of the science club is to help integrate club activities with classroom curriculum. This club uses mini-competitions and labs focusing on Physical Science, Ecology and Environmental concerns while meeting the Pennsylvania Academic Standards. Students will also be able to discuss their concerns and learn about the environment, ecology, conservation, recycling and the preservation of nature to meet State Ecology/Environmental Academic Standards.

Student Council

Student Council is an organization that represents the student body and is focused on building valuable leadership skill for students. Discussion is focused on current problems and student presentation of his/her point of view. Student Council provides guides, ushers, and buddies for special events at the middle school. The club also decorates for special dances and raises funds for special occasions. The club will also have the opportunity to attend conferences to further build their leadership skills. Membership is by election of homeroom representatives and officers.

National Junior Honor Society

The NJHS is the leader among educational organizations and societies that promotes recognition for middle level students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. Membership is a privilege bestowed upon identified students who meet established criteria. . If eligible, students are notified, by the faculty council, after the second semester and are required to fill out an application. Twelve volunteer hours are required. This is a student driven program. Please contact Genifer Scaletta in the guidance office for more details.

Newspaper

The Newspaper club is designed to give students a basic understanding of journalism and newspaper writing techniques. Newspaper students are responsible for writing, editing, designing and laying out the newspaper which reflects the life and times of the Ambridge Area Junior High School community. Students will write, edit, and layout 4-6 issues of the school newspaper in print. Students will also develop skills in photography and comic drawing.

ACADEMIC – BASED OPPORTUNITIES

Johns Hopkins

Students in grades seven and eight are eligible to participate in CTY Talent Search sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. The purpose of the Talent Search is to identify and assess the academic abilities of highly able students. Eligibility requirements consist of meeting qualifying scores on the most recent standardized aptitude or achievement tests in mathematics, verbal, or composite score categories. These students will then be given the opportunity to apply and register for the SAT (college placement test) to be taken in December or January. A variety of services and opportunities is available to these students after they test by the Talent Search. More information on CTY can be found by visiting their website: cty.jhu.edu

Math Counts

This is a national coaching and competition program designed to stimulate algebra students' interest and achievement in mathematics. Mathletes begin preparation in the fall for all competitions. (Honors Algebra & 7th Grade Honors).

COMPETITIONS

Beaver County Academic Games

AGLOA (ACADEMIC Games League of America) provides a series of competitions in Language Arts, English, History, and Mathematics throughout the nation resulting in a National Championship Tournament. County competitions are held at various local venues.

Beaver County Envirothon

The Beaver County Envirothon is an environmental issues and awareness competition for high school students sponsored by several local environmental agencies. All conservation districts in Pennsylvania hold competitions at the county level and then send their winners to the Pennsylvania State Envirothon. Students are challenged in the areas of Forestry, Soils and Land Use, Aquatics, Wildlife, and a Current Issue.

Forensics Competition

Provides students the opportunity to participate in competitive speech and debate activities. Students learn about public speaking and refine their skills in order to become more comfortable speaking in front of a group. Forensic categories that may be practiced include the following: poetry, dramatic interpretation, prose, multiple-reading, declamation, news broadcast, storytelling, extemporaneous, and impromptu. Students may have the opportunity to participate in multi-school competitions throughout the school year.

Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Sciences

The Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) is a statewide organization of junior and senior high school students designed to stimulate and promote interest in science among its members through the development of research projects and investigations. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is divided into 12 PJAS regions. Each PJAS region consists of two or more counties. Every PJAS region has one or more directors and a treasurer who oversee the operation of the region. PJAS also has a State Director, a State Secretary, and two State Treasurers as well as committees for Judging, Safety, Technicians, and Awards.

Pittsburgh Science Fair

The Covestro Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair (Covestro PRSEF) will celebrate its 81st year of open competition of research projects in the fields of science, mathematics and engineering at Heinz Field. This competition is open to all students in grades 6-12 from 21 counties in Western Pennsylvania and Garrett County in Maryland.

TSA (Technology Student Association)

PREREQUISITE: APPROVAL OF THE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION TEACHER BY APPLICATION PROCESS FROM THE PRIOR YEAR.

Students will be introduced to a multi-segmented activity based curriculum that provides students with a broad base of competencies in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Problem solving activities will be assigned in some areas of leadership, systems control technology, transportation, structural engineering, communications, and robotics. Students will participate in the leadership training experience and the competitive events involved with the Technology Student Association (TSA). Students will compete individually or in groups to gain valuable experience in all areas of systems technology including aspects such as technical writing and prepared presentations. Evaluation will reflect successful completion of assignments and teacher observation. DUES ARE REQUIRED.

SPORTS

Mr. Brian Miller

Athletic Director

Phone: 724-266-2833 (Ext. 2235)

High School Fax Number: 724-266-5056

NOTE: A PLAY TO PARTICIPATE FEE OF \$50.00 PER ATHLETE PER YEAR IS REQUIRED AND MUST BE PAID BEFORE PLAYING. This is a one-time fee, meaning that a student can participate in as many sports teams as he/she desires but the cost is only a onetime fee of \$50.00. THERE IS ALSO A TRANSPORTATION FEE OF \$50.00 FOR EACH SPORT A CHILD PLAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. ABSOLUTELY NO CASH IS ACCEPTED. All checks or money orders must be made payable to: Ambridge Area School District

FALL

Basketball (Girls)

The girls' basketball season starts at the beginning of school year and runs through mid-November. Players have the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Cross Country

This program is open to 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Cross-country requires distance running. Junior high participants generally run between 1.5 and 2 miles. The sport offers the students the opportunity to set and strive toward goals while staying in shape for other activities as well.

Football

The program gives the boys the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Soccer (Girls)

The girls' soccer season is from the beginning of the school year and runs through October. Players have the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Soccer (Boys)

The boys' soccer season is from the beginning of the school year and runs through October. Players have the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level

WINTER

Basketball (Boys)

The boys' basketball season begins in mid-December and runs through mid-February. Players have the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Volleyball (Girls)

This program is open to 7th and 8th grade girls. The girls learn all aspects of playing volleyball. Tryouts are in late January, and the season runs from mid-February through mid-April.

Wrestling

This program is open to all 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. It gives them the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

SPRING

Baseball (Boys)

This program is open to 7th and 8th grade boys. It gives them the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Softball - Fast Pitch (Girls)

This program gives the 7th and 8th grade girls the opportunity to develop and practice skills while learning similar systems and philosophies used at the high school level.

Track & Field (spring season)

This program is open to 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Athletes have the opportunity to learn and compete in most of the events sanctioned at the high school level. Track and field offers the opportunity for students to set and strive toward goals while staying in shape for other activities as well.

Volleyball (Boys)

This program is open to 7th and 8th grade boys. The boys learn all aspects of playing volleyball. Tryouts are in early March, and the season runs from March through mid-May.

BRIDGER SPIRIT

Cheerleader

Cheerleaders promote school spirit and pride within the student body for all home football and basketball games and pep assemblies. Tryouts are in the spring for the next school year.

VOLUNTEERS

P.A. Announcers

These teacher-selected students are responsible for morning and afternoon announcements. Student must be in 8th grade, must be a member of Student Council, and must maintain at least a "B" average. Seventh grade students may try out for announcer at the end of the school year.

