

**Carthage Junior High Requirements and Electives  
2020-2021**

Requirements for Incoming 7 <sup>th</sup> Graders	
Full Year Requirements	One Semester Required
Communication Arts	PE/Health
World Geography	Keyboarding
Science	
Math 7 or Pre-algebra (to be determined by current math teacher) – required	

Requirements for 8 <sup>th</sup> Graders	
Full Year Required	One Semester Required
Communication Arts	PE/Health
American History	Computer Applications
Science	
Math 8 or Algebra 1 (to be determined by current math teacher)	

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- 1. Electives at the junior high level are introductory and allow students the opportunity to explore various educational avenues.**
- 2. Students will be placed in elective classes based on availability.**

The electives available at Carthage Junior High are listed on the following pages. Some electives have prerequisites that must be met prior to enrolling in the class. These include:

- Choir and Sound Machine: Students interested in these classes must speak with their music teacher and audition.
- Band: Students interested in band must have played in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or audition for a band instructor prior to the class being added to requests. If you choose to be in band in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, it will remain on your schedule the entire school year.
- Leadership: Students interested in leadership must complete an application. Please have students request these packets from their school counselors. No late applications will be accepted.
- PLTW Classes: Either the PLTW Automation and Robotics or Medical Detectives courses require a science teacher recommendation that addresses both interest and past performance in science curriculum.

## Electives for 2020-2021

### Full year electives:

#### **Band:**

Students will be exposed to a variety of musical experiences.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band:** The band is split into two classes; Woodwind class and Brass/Percussion class. The families will combine for performances throughout the school year. Band students will have opportunities to participate in Honor band, solos, and small ensembles, as well as full concert band contests and performances. Incoming JH students need at least a year of band or private instruction prior to enrolling.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band:** The band is split into two classes; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Jazz Band class. Band students will have opportunities to participate in Honor band, solos, and small ensembles, as well as full concert band contests and performances. Incoming JH students need at least a year of band or private instruction prior to enrolling.

#### **Choir:**

##### **7<sup>th</sup> grade Performance Choir:**

Students will build upon the fundamentals of singing. The curriculum will include many styles of choral music, including popular, sacred, multicultural, and classical. Participation in concerts and choral festivals is required for this class.

##### **8<sup>th</sup> grade Performance Choir:**

Students will continue to build upon the fundamentals of singing. The curriculum will include many styles of choral music, including popular, sacred, multicultural, and classical. Participation in concerts and choral festivals is required for this class.

#### **Sound Machine:**

This choir is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders by audition only. Students will be considered according to their music reading skill and vocal maturity. The following vocal/musical skills for ensemble singing will be stressed: proper vocal production, blend and balance, sight-reading proficiency, ear training, expansion of range, technical facility, acapella singing, dynamic ability, and part independence. Participation in concerts and choral festivals is required for this class. Out of school rehearsal and practices are part of the course grade. These activities are important and extend learning from the classroom. Private lessons are encouraged for all students. Practicing outside of class will vary with the individual.

**All music classes are required to have a signed parent/student behavior contract.**

#### **Leadership:**

CJHS Student Leadership Council is designed to develop student initiative and leadership, stimulate school spirit, encourage cooperation and promote wholesome interest in school activities while maintaining standards of good citizenship among students. Leadership students must have at least a "C" average and maintain acceptable behavior.

This class requires an application process with an essay component as well as teacher recommendations. Students will receive a daily grade and are expected to participate in an extensive list of out of school activities on many weekends and week nights. There is limited space for each grade level. Not all candidates are guaranteed a position in the class.

### Semester electives:

#### **Art:**

Students will be exposed to different techniques and creative problem solving. We explore concepts through drawing, painting, sculpting and designing and many others.

Students are required to have a sharpened WOODEN pencil every day and your own set of colored pencils would help.

#### **Career Technology:**

Explore a wide variety of aspects and processes involved in the fields of woodworking, construction, home/building repair and maintenance. Students will use critical thinking, problem solving, reading, and evaluation techniques while designing and creating individualize projects. Strict safety rules and procedures will be utilized as students learn to properly use and maintain various power and hand tools. This class is intended for students that are truly interested in gaining knowledge and experience in the fields of construction, design, and woodworking.

Students are required to complete a minimum of two projects per semester.

#### **Exploratory Spanish:**

Students will be introduced to the Spanish language and culture. Students will have many opportunities to use and understand very basic Spanish as they interact with their peers and teacher. They will explore the rich traditions and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries in a student-centered environment.

#### **FACS:**

This course introduces students to knowledge needed for their roles as family members, homemakers, consumers and wage earners. Students will encounter introductory experiences in: nutrition, food preparation and safety, manners and etiquette, consumer issues, interpersonal and family relationships, as well as community services.

## Electives for 2020-2021

### **Introduction to Creative Arts:**

This course is an introductory study of theatre and speaking events. Students will study voice diction, improvisation, theatre history, technical theatre, persuasive speaking, storytelling, basic communication, readers' theatre and public forum debate.

### **Introduction to Graphic Design:**

This class exposes students to the careers associated with Animation, Graphic Design, and Web Design and covers basic concepts in the following areas: Animation, Graphic Design, Web Design, and Career Concepts.

### **Music Appreciation:**

This class introduces students to the history, theory and genres of music. Student will explore the history of music, learn about cultures from around the world, how instruments are made based on the availability of resources, and basic music theory including various forms and styles. Students will get hands on learning experience with guitars, hand drums, boomwackers and other classroom instruments focusing on rhythm, tempo, and synchronization in a group.

### **Project Lead the Way Advanced Robotics: PLTW AR:**

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

### **Project Lead the Way Medical Detectives: PLTW MD:**

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs. In the Computer Science unit, students discover the principles of this fast-growing field by focusing on creativity and an iterative design process as they create their own basic apps using MIT App Inventor. One quarter will be spent on each module.

***Enrollment Requirements for both PLTW classes: Teacher recommendation and past performance including GPA and behavior will be considered. Limited to 20 students per class.***

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade ONLY:**

#### **Office or Media Center Aide:**

This elective allows students the opportunity to work in either the Main Office or Media Center as an aide for staff. They will have a variety of tasks related to the location assigned. *There are only 2 spaces available each hour for each semester. You MUST be recommended by a teacher and have excellent attendance and behavior.*