

# HOUGHTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Website: <http://www.hpts.us>

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August 2019

Dear New Student and Family!

I am Kristen Rundman, the Middle School Counselor. I am glad that we will have many new faces at HMS this year. I know that starting in a new school can be intimidating and you may have a lot of questions.

I would like to invite you to our New Student Orientation on Monday, August 26, 2019 from 9:00-11:00. This orientation is intended for students and parents. At this time, we will discuss specific information about lockers, use of the assignment notebook, classroom expectations, computer use, and hallway rules, lunchroom procedures, class schedules, and other items from the Houghton Middle School Student Handbook.

Sincerely,

*Kristen Rundman*  
HMS Counselor

# Middle School Orientation

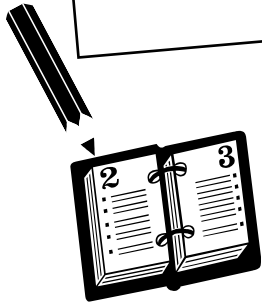
Houghton Middle School  
New Student Orientation Grades 7 & 8  
Monday, August 26, 2019 9:00 a.m.—11:00

## STUDENTS:

- School tour
- Practice your locker combination
- Find your classes

## PARENTS:

- Review classroom expectations,
- Middle School matters
- Get your questions answered



MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS  
NOW!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7th GRADE MATH CHOICES

### Middle School Math Curriculum

|                             |        |      |                           |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|---------------------------|
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | Math 6 |      |                           |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | Math 7 | -OR- | Accelerated Math 7        |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> | Math 8 | -OR- | Algebra (For H.S. Credit) |

### Middle School Math Curriculum

|           | <b>Option 1</b>           | <b>Option 2</b>           | <b>Option 3</b>           |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grade 6   | Math 6                    | Math 6                    | Math 6                    |
| Grade 7   | Math 7                    | Math 7                    | Accelerated Math          |
| Grade 8   | Math 8/<br>Intro. Algebra | Math 8/<br>Intro. Algebra | Algebra (For H.S. Credit) |
| Grade 9   | Algebra I                 | Algebra I                 | Geometry                  |
| Grade 10  | Geometry                  | Geometry                  | Algebra II                |
| Grade 11  | Algebra II Core           | Algebra II                | Pre-Calculus              |
| Grade 12* | Math related<br>course    | Pre-Calculus              | AP Calculus               |

**\*It is a State requirement that all students complete Algebra II and that a Math course be taken all 4 years of high school.**

#### Criteria used in choosing which curriculum to follow:

1. Math 6 overall GPA 3.667 (A-)
2. Recommendation of Math 6 Teacher (based on grades, timely completion of homework, math skills (multiplication & division tests and attitude towards math)
3. Scores on the M-STEP tests (Math **and** ELA = 4's)
4. End of Year Math 6 Assessment (80%)
5. Desire of student and parents

**I would like to take the following Math class in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade (check one):**

Math 7

Accelerated Math 7

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please contact Ms. Marttila if you are uncertain where your child will be most successful. If you have additional questions regarding the Middle or High School Curriculum, please contact Mrs. Stier (7th grade math teacher), or Mrs. Scullion (8th grade math teacher), or schedule a time to meet with the Middle School Math Department.

**Return to the Middle School Office by Monday, April 15th. Complete both sides of the form.**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade - 2019-2020 - EnCore Course Selection Form**

**Core Classes**

- Science 7
- Math 7 or Accelerated Math 7
- Social Studies 7
- English 7
- Physical Education 7

|   |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>STEP 1</b>                                 | <p><b>EnCore Classes</b> - EnCore class offerings are subject to change. EnCore classes are offered 2<sup>nd</sup> hour. Students requests are prioritized by grade. Seventh grade EnCore requests are not guaranteed. Students may take Band <b>OR</b> EnCore classes during second hour.</p> <p>_____ Band (full year)     <b>OR</b></p> <p>EnCore classes (9 weeks each). In addition to Tech 7, <b>select three more courses</b> (see 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course selection handout for course descriptions):</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Art</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Tech 7 (Required)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> CPR/First Aid</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Explorations in Engineering</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> FACS</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop I</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop II (Pre-requisite: Woodshop I)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Intro to 3D Printing</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>or</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in <u>Choir</u>, offered 7<sup>th</sup> hour, and would like a 2<sup>nd</sup> hour a study hall. The 2<sup>nd</sup> hour study hall is a high school study hall and will be with high school students.</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> Art                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Tech 7 (Required)</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> CPR/First Aid | <input type="checkbox"/> Explorations in Engineering |  | <input type="checkbox"/> FACS | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop I | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop II (Pre-requisite: Woodshop I) | <input type="checkbox"/> Intro to 3D Printing |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Learning   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Tech 7 (Required)</b>     |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CPR/First Aid        | <input type="checkbox"/> Explorations in Engineering  |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FACS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop I   | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodshop II (Pre-requisite: Woodshop I) |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intro to 3D Printing |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| <b>STEP 2</b>                                 | <p><b>Choir/Study Hall</b></p> <p><b>Choose 1:</b>     <input type="checkbox"/> Study Hall     OR     <input type="checkbox"/> Choir 7/8 (full year)</p>  |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| <b>STEP 3</b>                                 | <p>I understand and agree with the above course selections.</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">_____</td> <td style="width: 50%;">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student's Signature</td> <td>Parent/Guardian Signature</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Will your student be <u>returning</u> for the 2019-20 school year?</b>     Yes     No</p> <p>If not, where will you be moving? _____</p>  | _____  | _____                                     | Student's Signature  | Parent/Guardian Signature              |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| _____   | _____   |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |
| Student's Signature                           | Parent/Guardian Signature   |  |   |  |  |  |  |                               |                                     |  |   |  |  |

**Return to the Middle School Office my Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please be sure to complete both sides of the form.**

## Seventh Grade Core Classes

### English 7

English 7 covers the areas of reading, writing, grammar, language usage, listening, and speaking. Students will read short stories, essays, poems, drama, supplemental paperbacks, and books chosen individually. Writing will include letters, journals, newspaper articles, dialogue, and various creative writings. Improving sentences and paragraphs will also be stressed. Students will review grammar and will apply mechanics and usage rules to their writing. Speeches and other oral presentations will be developed.

### Physical Education 7

Activities will include the President's Challenge Fitness Testing for strength and endurance, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and skill-related fitness; personal conditioning including rowing, introduction to weight and resistance training; and outdoor skills such as cross-country, skiing, snowshoeing, hiking and winter survival. We will also play a variety of individual and team sports, as well as water sports in the pool. Lifetime recreation activities such as horseshoes, bocce ball, etc. will be explored.

### Science 7

This course emphasizes basic concepts of life, earth and physical sciences. Students are involved in daily activities in which the individual discovers truths and prepares for living in a world that is greatly influenced by science. Class time is spent in lecture, discussion and laboratory activities. Proper laboratory techniques and safety are stressed. The student should become familiar with basic laboratory equipment and how it is used. Topics covered in life science include an overview of organisms in 5 kingdoms, photosynthesis, cell functions, growth and development, and heredity. Earth science concepts include the water cycle, atmosphere, weather and climate, and solar energy. Topics covered in physical science include chemistry, forces and motion, energy and waves, sound and light.

### Social Studies 7

In Social Studies 7, students will study the geography and history of various countries in the Eastern Hemisphere. Comparison and contrast of countries will be emphasized as students develop inquiry and decision making abilities. Students will also examine the characteristics of government and economics.

### Math 7

This course was designed to provide students rich opportunities to build understanding of important mathematical concepts and develop fluency with key skills necessary for success in algebra, and to gain proficiency with the habits of mind and thinking dispositions of proficient mathematics students. To achieve these goals, the program includes content-focused lessons, 3-Act Mathematical Modeling lessons, and STEM projects. The topics covered in Grade 7 include Integers and Rational Numbers, Analyze and Use Proportional Relationships, Analyze and Solve Percent Problems, Generate Equivalent Expressions, Solve Problems Using Equations and Inequalities, Use Sampling to Draw Inferences About Populations, Probability, and Solve Problems Involving Geometry. Homework will require about 30-45 minutes daily.

### Accelerated Math 7

This course was designed to provide students rich opportunities to build understanding of important mathematical concepts and develop fluency with key skills necessary for success in algebra, and to gain proficiency with the habits of mind and thinking dispositions of proficient mathematics students. To achieve these goals, the program includes content-focused lessons, 3-Act Mathematical Modeling lessons, and STEM projects. The topics covered in Accelerated Grade 7 include: Integers and Rational Numbers, Real Numbers, Analyze and Use Proportional Relationships, Analyze and Solve Percent Problems, Generate Equivalent Expressions, Solve Problems Using Equations and Inequalities, Analyze and Solve Linear Equations, Use Sampling to Draw Inferences About Populations, Probability, and Solve Problems Involving Geometry, Congruence and Similarity, and Surface Area and Volume. Homework will require about 45-60 minutes daily.

### General Information

**Schedule changes will be permitted during the first 4 days of school and the week prior to the new semester in January.** Please be aware that the master schedule may change between now and the start of the new school year. If you have questions about the scheduling process, please contact Mrs. Rundman 482-0450 Ext. 1160 or via e-mail at: [krundman@houghton.k12.mi.us](mailto:krundman@houghton.k12.mi.us).

## **General Information-Continued**

**Reminder to Parents:** Please be sure to update the office with any address, email or phone number changes over the summer. New proof of residency is required with any address change. Changes may be sent to [kwaite@hpts.us](mailto:kwaite@hpts.us) or call 482-0450 Ext. 1090.

### **7th Grade EnCore Classes**

**Choir (Full Year):** Choir is a performance-oriented class. The number of performances varies with the interest and abilities of the choir. Opportunities are available to sing in large and small groups and as a soloist. This choir meets every day and is open to all who want to improve their singing skills.

**Band (Full Year):** This class is performance based. We will have at least three concerts per year. Students will have opportunities to perform at solo and ensemble events and clinics throughout the year. Band is open to any student with previous knowledge of an instrument. Any student may begin band at this level if they take private lessons with a teacher throughout the school year.

**Art (9 Weeks):** A variety of mediums and techniques used to create artwork will be introduced to students. Projects include drawings, watercolor paintings, acrylic paintings, ceramic pieces, tiles and collages.

**CPR/First Aid (9 Weeks):** The CPR/First Aid class will cover a variety of subject from bandaging and splinting, to certain emergencies and scenarios. CPR and the proper use of an AED machine will be taught. At the end of the course, students will have the option to become Red Cross certified in First Aid/CPR/AED. There is a charge for certification through the Red Cross.

**Explorations in Engineering (9 Weeks):** This course will introduce students to engineering concepts through exploration, hands-on activities and teamwork across engineering disciplines.

**Family and Consumer Science (F.A.C.S.) (9 Weeks):** In this Family and Consumer Skills class, students will be introduced to basic skills in the areas of cooking, baking, and sewing

**Intro to 3D Printing (9 Weeks):** Students will learn how to operate the 3d printers. They will learn how to design things using a series of free programs available online. This concept is an idea of open sourced programming and open sourced 3D printing.

**Service Learning (9 Weeks):** Service Learning is a class that integrates community service with academic instruction. It focuses on critical and reflective thinking and civic responsibility (volunteering). Students in the class will be a part of a service project where they will volunteer three times a week in the elementary school during class time. Student will also participate in a large group community service project and develop individual service projects.

**Technology 8 (9 Weeks-Required):** In Tech Explorations students will investigate what technology is and how it affects our everyday life. This will be a hands-on project based class. Students will work directly with software and develop a basic understanding of how to use them.

**Woodshop I (9 Weeks):** Woodshop I is a class that teaches students basic woodworking skills. Students will learn shop safety, band saw safety and use, sanding techniques, and basic project assembly by constructing a series of projects designed to challenge the woodworking skills of beginning woodworkers.

**Woodshop II –Pre-requisite Woodshop I (9 Weeks):** Woodshop II is a class that furthers a student's knowledge and abilities in an industrial woodshop setting. Students will learn shop safety for all tools in an industrial woodshop, and how to assemble projects in a variety of different ways by constructing an advanced woodworking project.