Early High School Program
LMC Middle/High School
Fall 2022

Introduction: LMC’s Early High School program affords students in grades 7-8 opportunities in various content areas to earn “early” high school credits (transferable). Each content area has unique expectations and standards for student application. Earning early high school credits allow students to experience additional elective courses, challenge themselves with high school level rigor, and begin to open their high school schedule to allow for Advanced Placement and dual credit courses, global studies experiences (study abroad), Career and Technical Education, internships and engaging in a sneak-peak of what high school will be like. Early high school provides a door of opportunity and experiences. Enrollment in early high school courses will take place in May. Academic Advisors will explain opportunities and meet with eligible students during the spring scheduling cycle. Grades and credits earned in the Early High School Program apply to the students’ high school transcript.

Mathematics: Algebra I, Geometry (grades 7-8)
Science: Biology (grade 8)
English: Journalism (grade 8)
Social Studies: World History (grade 8)
World Language: Spanish I, French I, Latin I (grade 8)
Personal Finance/Global Trading: (grade 8)
2D/3D Art: (grades 7-8)

Mathematics: Algebra Grades 7-8

- Eligibility Targets
  - Successful completion of Pre-Algebra
  - MAP Scores 95th percentile, Mathematics
  - Teacher/Advisor Recommendation
**Description:**
This is a required, first year algebra course. The key content involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations or inequalities. This course also includes study of monomial and polynomial expressions, exponents, functions, and rational expressions. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving applications.

**Mathematics: Geometry Grades 7-8**
- Eligibility Targets
  - Successful completion of Algebra
  - MAP Mathematics-95th percentile
  - Teacher/Advisor Recommendation

**Description:**
Geometry introduces students to the basic principles of Euclidean geometry. Students will learn key definitions, symbols, notations, theorems, and properties of geometric figures which serve as the foundation for the course. Emphasis is placed on developing deductive reasoning and logical thinking skills through the use of geometric proofs. Geometry includes a study of right triangle trigonometry that is developed through similarity relationships, two- and three-dimensional figures, transformations, area, surface area, and volume formulas.

**Social Studies: World History Grade 8**
- Eligibility Targets
  - B+/88% average or higher in both Middle School Language Arts and Social Studies
  - MAP Reading-80th percentile
  - Teacher/Advisor Recommendation
  - *This course is scheduled in addition to middle level social studies placement

**Description:**
This course is a survey of world history from early civilizations to the present day. The class takes both a chronological and thematic approach, giving students both a sense of historical progression and the ability to see global patterns among various societies. A strong emphasis will be on current global issues, giving students an understanding of the connection between world history and what is happening in the world today. Developing geography skills and incorporating current events will be an important part of this course.

**Science: Biology Grade 8**
Eligibility Targets

○ A-/90% average or higher in Middle School Science
○ MAP Reading-80th percentile, Science-90th percentile
○ Teacher/Advisor Recommendation
○ *This course is scheduled in addition to middle level science placement

Description:
The Next Generation Science Standards is a multi-state effort in the United States to create new education standards that are "rich in content and practice, arranged in a coherent manner across disciplines and grades to provide all students an internationally benchmarked science education. "NGSS-aligned course explores the living world with emphasis on biological interactions in everyday life. Students will investigate cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, cellular processes, and the diversity of life. Concept oriented information, laboratory experiences, experimental design, technology, and data analysis are emphasized. This course includes a laboratory component.

English: Journalism Grade 8

Eligibility Targets

○ B/80% average or higher in Middle School English
○ *This course is scheduled in addition to middle level English placement

Description:
This course is designed to develop basic entry-level skills and specific topics related to scholastic journalism. The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of print or electronic stories and photography for the production of three LMC publications: Laker Vision, Newsletter, Yearbook.

World Language: Spanish I, French I, Latin I Grade 8

Eligibility Targets

○ B/80% average or higher in Middle School English
○ MAP Reading-75th percentile, Language Arts 75th percentile
○ Teacher/Advisor Recommendation

Descriptions:
Spanish I, a course based on Michigan’s Academic Standards for World Languages, introduces students to effective strategies for beginning Spanish language learning, and to various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to make and respond to basic requests and questions, understand and use appropriate greetings and forms of address, participate in brief guided conversations on familiar topics, and write short passages with guidance. This course also
emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as reading isolated words and phrases in a situational context and comprehending brief written or oral directions. Additionally, students will examine the practices, products and perspectives of Spanish-speaking culture; recognize basic routine practices of the target culture; and recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

French 1, This course introduces the students to elementary French conversation and being able to express themselves in everyday situations. This course addresses basic elementary grammar, the reading of simple French stories, beginning French composition, authentic listening activities and the culture of French speaking locations and people. Main conversation topics include: introducing oneself, talking about food, family, interests and different actions in the present and past tenses.

Latin 1, introduces students to the basics of the Latin language, beginning with a review of basic English grammar to ensure that necessary terminology is understood. The lessons proceed through noun and verb endings, adding more complex structures as the course progresses.

**Personal Finance/Global Trading Grade 8**

- Eligibility Targets
  - B/80% average or higher in Middle School Mathematics
  - MAP Reading-75th percentile, Language Arts 75th percentile
  - Teacher/Advisor Recommendation

**Description:**
The Finance Lab provides students with a hands-on learning environment to examine the principles of market structure which drive the financial marketplace. Students will work with software simulation programs to provide a real-world experience. Dual-screen monitors at each station as well as LED tickers winding along the lab will provide continuous live feed of current stock processes. Students will work in breakout spaces designed for group projects and classroom meetings.

In this introductory finance course, students learn basic principles of economics and best practices for managing their own finances. Students learn core skills in creating budgets, developing long-term financial plans to meet their goals, and making responsible choices about income and expenses. They gain a deeper understanding of capitalism and other systems so they can better understand their role in the economy of society. Students are inspired by experiences of finance professionals and stories of everyday people and the choices they make to manage their money.

**2D/3D Art Grades 7-8**

- Eligibility Targets
  - Teacher/Advisor Recommendation

**Description:**
The elements and principles of design are the basic core upon which the Art Program is developed. Each level of Art is built upon the previous year of study. Students are able to use a wide variety of materials in the areas of Calligraphy, Drawing, Acrylic Painting, Oil Painting, Pottery, Collage, Colored Pencil Drawing and many other artistic endeavors.