

CANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2023-2024

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PURPOSES

The Program of Studies booklet is written for the purpose of informing students, parents and other interested persons about the curriculum offerings and program requirements at Canton Middle School. Our school community seeks success for all students in our changing world. Our curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills that will help them to lead successful and productive lives in the 21st century. Our curriculum is developed around several themes:

- Developing literacy and numeracy skills;
- Providing essential knowledge;
- Understanding the connections between various disciplines;
- Preserving our cultural heritage;
- Preparing for high school;
- Understanding and practicing the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

The courses listed and described in this booklet are all designed to provide a rigorous, challenging and well-balanced curriculum for early adolescent students. While each course is taught separately by a teacher trained and certified in a particular discipline, the academic teachers on each team work together to make important connections between the various subject areas. This interdisciplinary approach is designed to make the curriculum more meaningful by helping students to see relationships between areas of knowledge and improve understanding and learning as a result. Each team consists of four academic teachers and 80-100 students. In addition to working together on interdisciplinary units, the team teachers also work together to use the curriculum to teach and emphasize important learning and study skills.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION POLICY

Canton Middle School requires that all students pass English, math, social studies and science to be permitted to move on to the next grade level in those subject areas. The teams and the School Counseling Department will carefully monitor the academic progress of students and will work closely with students, parents and faculty to help students remediate failing grades.

During the 3rd quarter, parents will be notified, in writing, if a student is in danger of failing a required course. Students who do not pass a course for the year may be required to take that course in summer school, repeat the course the following year, or face the possibility of repeating an entire grade. Parents are urged to contact the School Counseling Office for additional information.

Questions and Additional Information

Parents with questions or in need of additional information about the Canton Middle School Curriculum and Program of Studies are urged to contact Canton Middle School Counselor, Mrs. Amy Brintle at 860-693-7712.

OVERVIEW OF THE CMS CURRICULUM

	<u>Grade 7</u>	<u>Grade 8</u>
<u>Required</u>	English Mathematics Science Social Studies Physical Education *Concert Band *Chorus *Music Technology	English Mathematics Science Social Studies Physical Education MAGIC Project (Special Project completed through Advisory)
<u>Experiential Courses</u> Required 30 day rotation	Computer Coding Health Digital Citizenship I	Introduction to Robotics Health Digital Citizenship II
<u>Experiential Courses</u> 30 day rotation (Select 3 out of 4)	Art Applied Physics & Engineering Music Technology Experiential Family and Consumer Sciences	Art Creative Writing CMSI: Media Mysteries Drama Science of Nutrition
<i>Enrollment figures will be used to determine whether or not all Experiential courses will run.</i>		
<u>Electives</u>	Spanish 1A Spanish I	Spanish 1B Spanish II Concert Band Chorus Music Technology
<u>By Referral</u> or Request	Language Arts Lab Math Lab Special Education	Language Arts Lab Math Lab Special Education

*NOTE: Students **must** select one music course in Grade 7

ENGLISH

The middle school English program is committed to creating independent and lifelong readers, writers, and thinkers. Through the practice of reading and writing workshop models, our students will continue to receive individualized instruction to support their growth as learners. Emphasis will be placed on daily practice of skills, regular teacher feedback, and flexibility of student choice in materials.

ENGLISH 7

This class is designed for middle school learners to practice, develop and further their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The English 7 course includes reading units such as an author study, historical fiction, and poetry. Writing units of study may include realistic fiction, companion novels, and poetry. Students are expected to read independently throughout the year.

ENGLISH 8

This class is designed for middle school learners to practice, develop and further their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The English 8 course includes units of study in reading and writing where students may explore the dystopian novel and approaches to classic literature, while developing writing skills through literary analysis and original memoirs. Students are expected to read independently throughout the year.

LANGUAGE ARTS LAB

The Language Arts Lab is primarily designed to provide content support to students needing assistance to demonstrate grade level skills. Additionally, students enrolled in the lab may seek help with research papers, essays, note-taking, outlines, lab reports, and reading assignments. Enrollment in the Language Arts Lab is by teacher referral or by individual appointment.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Students who attended Canton Intermediate School have had exposure to Spanish in 5th and 6th grades. All 6th grade Spanish students will take a placement test to help determine their appropriate level placement at CMS.

SPANISH 1A - FULL YEAR

Students will continue to build on their studies from 6th grade. This course will include basic grammar concepts and thematic vocabulary structures and pronunciation. Students will be able to perform at the novice proficiency level (ACTFL guidelines) in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. In addition, students will deepen their understanding of a variety of cultural perspectives and practices from Spain and Latin America. Such activities may include skits or simulations of authentic situations, interviews, compositions, or visual representations relevant to a specific theme. The course allows for activities such as games, skits, videos, and songs which enhance language acquisition and retention. Technology will be used to evaluate oral proficiency.

This course is the equivalent to the first half of Spanish I.

SPANISH 1B - FULL YEAR

Students will continue to build their vocabulary and grammar and will be ready to incorporate dialogues and readings pertinent to Spanish and Latin American cultures. Students will be able to perform at the novice proficiency level (ACTFL guidelines) in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, however, activities are designed to further develop these four skills. Such activities may include skits or simulations of authentic situations, interviews, compositions, or visual representations relevant to a specific theme. The course allows for activities such as games, skits, videos, and songs which enhance language acquisition and retention. Technology will be used to evaluate oral proficiency

This course is the equivalent to the second half of Spanish I.

Upon successful completion of Spanish 7 and Spanish 8, students will earn one high school World Language credit. They will begin Spanish II or Spanish II Honors at Canton High School.

SPANISH I – FULL YEAR

Pre-requisite: Teacher recommendation and an A average on placement test

Students will build on their studies from 6th grade. In this course, students will move at a much faster pace and must be ready for a rigorous and in-depth study of the language and culture. They must have an outstanding work ethic and excellent study habits. Students will be able to perform at the novice proficiency level (ACTFL guidelines) in reading, writing, listening, and speaking by the end of this course. Classroom activities are designed to further develop these four skills. Such activities may include skits or simulations of authentic situations, interviews, compositions, or visual representations relevant to a specific theme. Technology will be used to evaluate oral proficiency.

Students will take a final exam and will earn one high school World Language credit upon successful completion of this course.

SPANISH II – FULL YEAR

Pre-requisite: B- or better in Spanish I and a passing grade on the Spanish I final exam

Spanish II builds upon the basic skills, cultural information and oral activities presented in Spanish I. There is a concentrated effort to increase student's understanding and use of the language through the presentation of more complex grammatical structures and in-depth reading of passages which instill an awareness of Central American culture and geography. Students will hear and use the target language almost exclusively as the year progresses.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will take a final exam and will earn one high school World Language credit. They will then be eligible to take Spanish III or Spanish III Honors at Canton High School.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies curriculum in grades 7 and 8 aims at providing students with a broad background in history and the social sciences. Special emphasis is placed on increasing knowledge of events in the news. Recognizing the unique characteristics of students at this age level, efforts are made to make these courses active. Multiple methods, materials, and activities are used.

WORLD CULTURES AND GEOGRAPHY (Grade 7)

This course presents an in-depth study of the geography of the developing world, highlighting Latin America, Africa, Southern Asia, and the Middle East. This course applies the Five Themes of Geography to study physical features, cultures, resources, and current issues. Focus will be on skill development including geographic skills, critical thinking, debate, discourse, reading, argumentative writing and research. Students will also spend considerable time studying current events.

UNITED STATES HISTORY, 1607 - 1877 (Grade 8)

This course presents to students a survey of American history from its colonial beginnings in 1607 to the end of Reconstruction after the Civil War (1877). Students will study early American political philosophy using primary source documents as well as the evolution of the role of the federal government. Students will also study the growth and expansion of the nation, its economy, as well as its social and cultural developments and reforms. The causes of both the American Revolution as well as the Civil War will be studied in depth, and the degree to which Reconstruction was a tragic failure will be assessed. The notion of the American Dream will be evaluated and the American Identity will be defined. Skills to be developed include the reading of primary and secondary sources, graphs, charts, and maps, as well as historiography. Students will write extensively.

MATHEMATICS

The middle school mathematics program is offered at different levels to students. All levels are taught in accordance with the Common Core State Standards. The department recommends that students wishing to purchase a calculator for grade 7 or 8 choose a TI-34 multi-view model.

MATHEMATICS 7

Grade 7 Math is divided into two levels – Academic and Honors. The academic level is a challenging 7th grade program which focuses on skill development, problem solving and critical thinking. Students recommended for the Math 7 Honors course meet objective criteria, demonstrate exceptional study skills and are required to have mastered the basic math skills, including operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percents. Both levels of Mathematics in grade 7 utilize the Illustrative Mathematics curriculum and include hands-on, discovery based activities, enrichment projects, group work, mathematical discussion and experience using calculators.

MATHEMATICS 8

Mathematics 8 is a Pre-Algebra course that is challenging and focuses on skill development, critical thinking and introductions to algebraic and geometric concepts utilizing the Illustrative Mathematics curriculum. This course also includes problem solving, writing equations, mathematical discussion, activities and enrichment projects.

ALGEBRA I

An average of a “B” or better in Math 7 Honors and/or teacher recommendation is required for Algebra. The Algebra course follows the high school curriculum. All grade 8 math courses include problem solving, writing equations, instruction with graphing software, activities and enrichment projects. ***Students in Algebra I will be required to take a final exam that will be included as part of their grade. Students who successfully complete Algebra I in grade 8 will receive a high school math credit.***

CMSI: Media Mysteries (Grade 8) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

Can your team unlock clues to solve a mystery? Are claims made in movies and on television realistic? Would the Powerball grand prize in cash fit in your parent’s car? How does a footprint at a crime scene help the police with their investigation? These are some of the questions that you might investigate as we use movies, tv clips and other media sources to investigate and solve mysteries. Students will use modern investigative techniques, logical reasoning and technology tools to solve real world applications. Students will improve their critical thinking and logical reasoning skills throughout this 30 day experiential.

MATH SUPPORT – Canton Middle School offers a Math Support Lab where students can be assigned to work on math concepts with which they are struggling. Students assigned will work with a qualified tutor on both current concepts and prior math skills.

SCIENCE

The middle school science curriculum is designed to provide students with basic skills, content knowledge and an understanding of concepts in the earth, life and physical science areas. The skills, knowledge and conceptual understanding obtained in middle school science classes will prepare the students for future science classes as well as motivate them to pursue high school science electives. The curriculum is designed to prepare students to meet the requirements of the State of Connecticut Mastery Testing (CMT) in science. Concepts and skills taught in grades 7 and 8 are also reflected in the grade 10 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Both of these assessments are shifting focus to the newly adopted Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) by the State of Connecticut. Current curriculum will embed the three dimensions of science: cross cutting concepts, disciplinary core ideas, and science and engineering practices.

SCIENCE (Grade 7)

This course provides a basic introduction of selected Life Science and Earth Science topics. Topics dealt with include the cell, human biology, microbes, genetics, astronomy, Earth’s structure, changing landforms and environmental issues. Emphasis is placed on learning science inquiry and lab skills, including use of the microscope, metric measurements, use of lab equipment and lab safety.

SCIENCE (Grade 8)

The eighth grade science program is designed to provide the student with a basic knowledge of physical science within a lab based curriculum. This program further develops concepts as they relate to science and scientific inquiry. Students will study forces and motion, work, energy, simple machines, robotics, light and sound. Science proficiency requires the student to formulate questions, test hypotheses, draw conclusions and communicate results using scientific methods as applied to a broad spectrum of science content. Eighth grade science is an integral part of the process in guiding students toward science proficiency, literacy, numeracy and engineering practices.

SCIENCE OF NUTRITION (Grade 8) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

This 30 day course is designed to enhance the current science curriculum work for students as they study the human body and nutrition. The course examines choices in healthy eating, nutritional value, proper safety technique, and menu planning. A kitchen lab component helps to reinforce key course concepts.

STEM EDUCATION

The STEM program provides students with a breadth of opportunity to experience science, technology, engineering and mathematics in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Students develop their understanding of STEM related concepts and principles as well as their creative and technical talents through the process of solving real world challenges. They become innovators and inventors, self-reliant and logical thinkers, and technologically proficient problem solvers as they analyze problems, design and construct solutions, and reflect on their performance leading to continued improvement. Through these STEM courses, students gain experience with and exposure to the thought processes, tools, and resources employed to create products that meet society's needs. Topics include computer science, computational thinking, robotics principles, engineering design, physics, manufacturing, 3D design, and electronics.

COMPUTER CODING (Grade 7) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

This course provides students with an introduction to the principles of computer science through computer coding and interactive program design. Using the graphical programming language Scratch, an educational program developed at MIT, students explore key computer science concepts such as methods, variables, event handling, loops, and conditional statements. Students explore these concepts through a series of structured learning activities as they program two dimensional characters to perform required tasks. After progressing through the course, students showcase their newly acquired skills by developing and coding their own video game. Throughout the course, instruction focuses on the development of the critical and creative thinking skills embedded in computer science.

APPLIED PHYSICS AND ENGINEERING (Grade 7) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

This integrated STEM course provides students with the opportunity to utilize concepts from the worlds of mathematics and physical science and put them into practice through the development of engineered solutions.

Through posed challenges and practical problems, students proceed through the design, construction, and development of working prototypes for their solutions. In this process, students learn and model the skills and competencies of engineers in their work. Topics of study and development include the engineering design process, real world physics, construction and manufacturing techniques, 3D modeling and printing, and integrated systems development. Throughout the course, students develop an understanding of the thought processes, tools, and resources employed by industry to create products that meet society's needs.

INTRODUCTORY ROBOTICS (Grade 8) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

Introductory robotics builds on the knowledge and skills gained in Computer Coding as students develop, construct, and program their own robots. In this hands-on, team-based experiential, students use LEGO EV3 robots to learn about integrated systems as robots sense, plan, and act. As students face posed challenges, they work to further develop their engineering process skills as they design, build, program and document their process. Topics include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, decision-making, timing sequences, and propulsion systems

MAGIC PROJECT – GRADE 8 ONLY

All eighth grade students will complete experience projects in which students select a new activity or experience they think will benefit their personal lives. The students will investigate their options, participate in the activity (outside the classroom), and communicate their findings/reactions using one of several formats during small group presentations beginning the spring of their eighth grade year. Advisors oversee these projects and guide students throughout the process.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP I (Grade 7) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

Digital Citizenship I is a required 30-day experiential class that addresses cybersafety and information literacy. The curriculum focuses on cybercitizenship (netiquette), cyberbullying, research skills across a wide variety of platforms, and organization of information. The research projects prepare students to identify and use reliable sources efficiently. Students work with a variety of software tools and formats to organize, display and communicate their findings. They receive initial exposure to citing sources correctly and consistently. All students are expected to complete an information literacy and internet citizenship test at the conclusion of this course.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP II (Grade 8) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

Digital Citizenship II is a required 30-day experiential course that equips students with strategies for continuing to foster online safety and privacy, higher level research skills, and academic honesty through authentic learning experiences. It follows up on issues and concepts raised in Digital Citizenship I. Citing sources correctly to avoid plagiarism are embedded into the projects, and students continue to develop organization skills through detailed outlining and effective use of graphic organizers and other techniques. Students continue to use a variety of software tools and formats to organize, display, and communicate their findings. All students are expected to complete an information literacy and internet citizenship test at the conclusion of this course.

LEARNING COMMONS

Canton Middle School has a dedicated Learning Commons. There are two goals: to foster information literacy and to promote intellectual curiosity through reading for pleasure as well as purpose. The collection is aligned with the curriculum and updated each year and throughout the year. Whole class instruction includes, but is not limited to, web evaluation, use of a wide range of reference materials, and organizing data and resources into products such as papers or projects.

Students are welcome to use the Learning Commons for independent study before and after school or through assigned study hall time. Computer use in the Learning Commons supports academic work and at each computer we offer internet access and various databases to enable students to work on their assignments. Please refer to the [Learning Commons website](#) for detailed information.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

The middle school program in Family and Consumer Sciences includes the exploration of two areas of life skills. Students may choose to further their study of these areas with elective courses in the upper grades that may influence their post-graduate and career choices. Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Chapter activities are integrated throughout the course. Additional opportunities exist for after-school participation in community service, leadership, and projects which encourage student involvement on state and national levels through FCCLA.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (Grade 7) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

Life skills in food technology, nutrition and written and oral communication skills are combined in this 30 day course. Students work together to develop culinary skills through participation in multiple labs. The food preparation is based upon the principles of nutrition, how to interpret information on labels and adaption of the basic recipe.

DRAMA

DRAMA WORKSHOP (Grade 8) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

Through pantomime, improvisation, and one-act plays, students will explore many theatrical aspects of drama. At the completion of each 30 day cycle, selections will be presented for middle school students, staff, and parents through assembly programs. Only students interested in participating in dramatic performances should select this course.

CREATIVE WRITING

CREATIVE WRITING (Grade 8) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

Do you enjoy writing short stories? Poetry? Personal essays or memoirs? Students in this course will explore the many genres of creative writing through narrative exercises, maintaining writing notebooks of their ideas, experimenting with their own style and voice, revising their work, creating portfolios of their best pieces, sharing their work with their peers, and providing peers with feedback. Ultimately, students will seek out other audiences for sharing and receiving recognition for their work. Only students interested in developing creative writing skills should select this course.

ART EDUCATION

The middle school art program is made up of four components:

Aesthetics

To develop and expand the child's aesthetic perception and awareness of his/her physical environment.

Art Production

To develop both the cognitive and affective skills of the student through creative problem solving and critical thinking. Producing unique works of art helps the student understand the media and the process that artists use. Through the decision-making process, there is growth in sensitivity, perception and skill.

Art History

To develop knowledge and understanding of other cultures and our cultural heritage, as well as gaining insight into social values and conditions.

Criticism and Appreciation

To develop a base for making informed judgments by analyzing and reacting to the environment. The student will acquire a basic understanding of art concepts, elements and principles of design.

ART (Grade 7) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

ART (Grade 8) ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL

Each experiential group is given 2-3 different projects and several smaller exercises in two and three dimensional design. Media and topics vary throughout the year, but may include assignments in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, photography, computer graphics, puppetry, product design, textiles or crafts. Grades are based on the attitude and effort of the individual student, as well as their creative solutions to visual problems.

MUSIC EDUCATION

The middle school music program emphasizes continued development of fundamental skills introduced in the lower grades. In vocal music, increased emphasis is placed on note reading, rhythmic understanding, tone and vocal production and range development. In instrumental music, the emphasis is on note reading, rhythmic understanding, tone, increased range, intonation and tuning, and general musicianship. Students are expected to make greater commitments to skill development, leading to more sophisticated levels of performance. There is a minimum of two concerts per year. Please see www.cantonmusic.org for more information under FAQs/Middle School.

CONCERT CHOIR (Grade 7) ELECTIVE FULL YEAR

This is a performance-oriented course designed to teach students singing skills through a varied repertoire of music and vocal instruction. Music theory, sight-reading, ear training, ensemble skills, and a basic overview of vocal production are emphasized and assessed in this course. Audition and performance opportunities in regional music festivals are offered. Several performance opportunities exist throughout the course of the year.

Rules governing this course: Attendance at all concerts is mandatory and proper concert attire is required. This is a full year course that requires dedication from all students who participate. ***Enrollment in concert choir is a full year commitment.***

CONCERT BAND (Grade 7) ELECTIVE FULL YEAR

This is a performance-oriented course with an emphasis on refining basic instrumental and rehearsal techniques. Posture, breathing, embouchure and sound production will be addressed, as well as rhythm and note reading, dynamic and articulation skills. Students will be evaluated on lesson assignments, class/rehearsal participation and written work.

Rules governing this course: Attendance at all concerts is mandatory and proper concert attire is required. This is a full year course that requires dedication from all students who participate. ***Enrollment in concert band is a full year commitment.***

GROUP LESSON PROGRAM (Grade 7 Instrumental)

Students enrolled in Concert Band will receive weekly small group lessons throughout the school year. These lessons, similar to those at CIS, will meet on a rotating schedule and are a fundamental part of the music program. In lessons, students will develop sight reading skills, tone production skills and listening skills along with other skills necessary to a student's musical development.

CONCERT CHOIR (Grade 8) ELECTIVE FULL YEAR

This is a performance-oriented course designed to teach students singing skills through a varied repertoire of music and vocal instruction at a more advanced level. Music theory, sight-reading, ear training, ensemble skills, and a basic overview of vocal production are emphasized and assessed in this course. Audition and performance opportunities in regional music festivals are offered. Several performance opportunities exist throughout the course of the year.

Rules governing this course: Attendance at all concerts is mandatory and proper concert attire is required. This is a full year course that requires dedication from all students who participate. ***Enrollment in concert choir is a full year commitment.***

CONCERT BAND (Grade 8) ELECTIVE FULL YEAR

Continued emphasis will be placed on developing proper instrumental and rehearsal techniques. Further emphasis will be on the proper learning and performance of standard concert band literature at a more advanced level. Students will be evaluated on lesson assignments, class participation and written work.

Rules governing this course: Attendance at all concerts is mandatory and proper concert attire is required. This is a full year course that requires the dedication of all students electing to participate. ***Enrollment in concert band is a full year commitment.***

GROUP LESSON PROGRAM (Grade 8 Instrumental)

Students enrolled in Concert Band will receive weekly small group lessons throughout the school year. These lessons are a continuation from Grade 7 and are a fundamental part of the music program. In lessons, students will develop sight reading skills, tone production skills and listening skills along with other skills necessary to a student's musical development.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Grade 7) ELECTIVE 1/2 YEAR

For students interested in an alternate to band or chorus to fulfill 7th grade music requirement.

This introductory course examines developments in music technology, and relates them to modern musical styles. Students begin by exploring how music affects them personally, through recordings and compositions. Then they examine the development of music technology and its relationship to Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)/computer applications. Elements of music theory are introduced and integrated throughout the course and culminate in one or more student created musical compositions.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Grade 8) ELECTIVE 1/2 YEAR

This course is an extension of the 7th grade Music Technology class but the 7th grade course is not a prerequisite. It exposes students to other computer software packages, and will culminate in one or more student-created musical compositions and projects.

NOTE: This course meets two days per week.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Grade 7) 30 DAY ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL (see description above)

**Music Technology Experiential is open to students enrolled in Band or Chorus Only*

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Grade 8) 30 DAY ELECTIVE EXPERIENTIAL (see description above)

**Music Technology Experiential is open to students enrolled in Band or Chorus Only*

ADDITIONAL PERFORMING GROUPS

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAMBER SINGERS (Grade 7 & 8)

Chamber Singers is open to all 7th and 8th graders in chorus. Good sight reading skills, good tone quality, and a commitment to high performance standards are the prerequisites.

MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE (Grade 7 & 8)

The Jazz Band is open to all students in grades 7 and 8 and enrolled in the middle school instrumental music program. Auditions will be necessary if an overload of certain instruments occurs. There will be opportunities for the development of jazz improvisation skills.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

OUR MISSION

The Middle School's *Healthy and Balanced Living* program promotes the vital role that physical activity plays in answering this key essential question: "How do I live a healthy and balanced life?" To help students answer this question, **we provide a wide variety of lessons which develop the skills and values of an active lifestyle and encourage the lifetime pursuit of healthy living and fitness.**

To accomplish this we provide opportunities for students to:

- Gain the skills necessary to perform a variety of physical activities.
- Understand and apply principles of body movement to the development of physical skills.
- Demonstrate the value and benefits of physical activity and its contributions to a healthful lifestyle.
- Engage in cooperative activities, including group or team experiences.
- Observe the rules of fair play and the advantages of good sportsmanship.
- Develop self-control and respect for the rights of others.
- Access, evaluate and use information from various resources to achieve overall wellness.
- Use state fitness test results to set goals to attain a better fitness level.
- Tolerance and acceptance of others.

Physical Education classes meet 2 or 3 times per week in Grades 7 and 8.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education at CMS is viewed as an interdisciplinary program. Students are exposed to health related topics in science, family and consumer sciences, social studies, English and physical education. This approach to health allows students not only to learn specific information, but to become aware of the interrelation of health information among many disciplines.

HEALTH (Grade 7) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

This course presents factual information from a research based health curriculum. The Botvin Life Skills Training Curriculum focuses on self image, self improvement, making decisions, smoking, alcohol, marijuana, communications skills, social skills, assertiveness, advertising techniques, time management and conflict resolution.

HEALTH (Grade 8) REQUIRED EXPERIENTIAL

Eighth grade Health includes a variety of topics including mental and emotional health along with topics such as inhalants, prescription and OTC drugs, bullying, depression, suicide and human reproduction. The class uses group activities, articles, class discussion, role playing and other activities in order to promote good decision making and healthy living.

SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

A full-time school counselor is assigned to students in grades 7 and 8. The school counselor works with all students, parents, teachers, staff and the community, in order for every student to achieve academic and social success. School counseling services are delivered in four specific ways:

- **Responsive Services** – Meeting immediate student needs (counseling, crisis intervention, consultation, referral, mediation, information-providing);
- **Classroom Counseling Curriculum** – Designing, structuring, and delivering classroom lessons so that students develop specific outcome-driven competencies in all grades (personal/social, academic, career) and driven by the needs of the school population;
- **Individual Student Planning** – Assisting students with goal setting (behavioral, academic, etc.);
- **System Support** – School-wide program planning and implementation, consulting with other professionals, coordination of various supports for students and families.

A full-time psychologist is available to middle school students through referral by the principal or through the PPT process for special education students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education program at Canton Middle School offers a continuum of services, which includes resource room, co-taught classes and educational support classes. A Planning and Placement Team (PPT) determines the most appropriate placement for eligible students and seeks to modify and individualize the curriculum to meet the needs of students. Resource room support is provided with assignments from general education classes and students are offered help with organization and study skills. Co-taught classes (usually one to two a year) are general education classes taught by a general education teacher and a special education teacher. The education support model offers small, self-contained classes taught by a special education teacher. Our overall goal is to build student confidence, skills and compensatory strategies which will enable the student to function in general education classes.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

In compliance with regulations implementing Title VI, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972 (H.E.W. Office of Civil Rights), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1987, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and appropriate state laws, the Canton Board of Education adopts the following statement:

The Canton Board of Education as a matter of policy does not knowingly condone discrimination on the basis of sex, age, race, religious creed, national origin, color, marital status, sexual orientation, ancestry, present or past history of mental disorder, intellectual disability, learning disability or physical disability, in treatment, or employment, or admission or access to education programs, and services provided or operation by the Canton Board of Education.

The Non-Discriminatory Compliance Officers for the Canton School System are:

Title IX/Equity Officer	Mrs. Lori DeVito	860-693-7707
Sec. 504 Officer	Mr. Kevin Case	860-693-7704

In order to provide prompt, equitable resolutions of citizen, student and employee complaints, the Board of Education has adopted a grievance procedure that is available in the Superintendent's and all school offices.