



**FREEDOM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

**Grades 5-6**

840 Glass Lane  
Franklin, Tennessee 37064  
615-790-4718

[www.freedomintermediate.fssd.org](http://www.freedomintermediate.fssd.org)

@fssdfis

freedomintermediate

@fssdfis



**FREEDOM MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Grades 7-8**

750 New Highway 96 West  
Franklin, Tennessee 37064  
615-794-0987

[www.freedommiddle.fssd.org](http://www.freedommiddle.fssd.org)

@fssdfms

freedommiddlestars

@fssdfms



**POPLAR GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Grades 5-8**

2959 Del Rio Pike  
Franklin, Tennessee 37069  
615-790-4721

[www.poplargrovemiddle.fssd.org](http://www.poplargrovemiddle.fssd.org)

@fssdpgms

poplargrovemiddle

**CENTRAL OFFICE**

507 New Highway 96 West  
Franklin, Tennessee 37064  
615-794-6624

[www.fssd.org](http://www.fssd.org)

@franklinspecial

FranklinSSD



*Excellence in Teaching  
and Learning for All*



**MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS GUIDE**

Freedom Intermediate  
Freedom Middle  
Poplar Grove Middle



*Excellence in Teaching  
and Learning for All*



**GEOMETRY**

**Based on qualifying criteria**

Tools of Geometry  
 Transformations and Symmetry  
 Congruent Figures  
 Lines and Angles  
 Triangles  
 Quadrilaterals  
 Coordinate Proof Using Slope and Distance  
 Similarity and Transformations  
 Angles and Segments in Circles  
 Arc Length and Sector Area  
 Circles  
 Parabolas  
 Volume Formulas  
 Solids  
 Modeling and Problem Solving

**WORLD LANGUAGE**

**Based on qualifying criteria**

World Language 1B:  
 French: Communication, Comprehension Skills, Advanced Readings, Passé Compose, Culture, Poetry  
 Spanish: Review of skills, Grammar Concepts and Vocabulary, Guided Conversations, Past and Future Tenses, Writing, Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Language, Study Skills  
*(1B is the second half of this course; 1A occurs in grade 7)*

**RELATED ARTS**

Computer  
 Health  
 Physical Education  
 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)  
 Art  
 Band  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Chorus

**TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION**

Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship  
 Microsoft Office Suite  
 Digital Literacy  
 Online Research  
 Discovery Education Science Techbook  
 Google Apps for Education  
 Video/Multimedia Experiences  
 Coding  
 Keyboarding

**CO-CURRICULAR FIELD TRIPS**

Williamson County Water Treatment Plant  
 Williamson County Career Fair  
 Kentucky Kingdom (STEM Day)  
 Spanish Classes: Local Mexican Restaurant

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**

Art Club  
 Arts Shows  
 Athletics  
 Dance Team  
 Photography Club  
 Band  
 Battle of the Books  
 Best Buddies  
 Choir/Honors Choir  
 Destination Imagination  
 Drama Club  
 Jazz Band  
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
 Green Team Environmental Club  
 Math Olympiad  
 National Junior Beta Club  
 National Junior Honor Society  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Student Council  
 Tutoring  
 Walking Club  
 Running Club  
 Yearbook Club



\* Extracurricular activities, co-curricular field trips, and related arts courses may vary from school to school.

**HUMANITIES:  
READING & LANGUAGE ARTS**

Writing: Argument, Narrative,  
Informative/Explanatory  
Writing Strategies  
Research Projects  
Standard English Language Conventions  
Stories, Dramas, Poems  
Literary Non-Fiction  
Oral Presentations  
Literacy Analysis  
Composition Skills for Academic Writing  
Novels  
Library Media Skills

**HUMANITIES: SOCIAL STUDIES**

Document-Based Writing  
Primary Sources  
Informational Texts  
United States History and Geography  
Colonization of North America to  
Reconstruction and the American West  
Colonialism  
Development of a New Nation  
The Constitution and Foundation of the  
American Political System  
Growth of the Young Nation  
The United States' Role on the World  
Stage (1789-1849)  
Sectionalism of the American North,  
South, and West  
Slavery in America  
Civil War and Reconstruction  
Westward Expansion after the Civil War



**SCIENCE\***

Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences  
Scientific Inquiry  
Embedded Technology and Engineering  
Life Science: Cells  
Interdependence: Interaction of Living  
and Non-Living Things  
Flow of Matter and Energy: Their Flow  
through the Biosphere  
Heredity: Adaptations  
Biodiversity and Change: Complex  
Organisms' Response to Environment  
The Universe, Earth, and the Atmosphere:  
Earth's place in the Cosmos, Major  
Geologic Events, Physical  
Characteristics and Chemical Makeup  
of the Atmosphere  
Matter: Composition, Structure, Behavior  
Energy and Motion: Transformation of  
Energy, Movement of Objects  
Forces in Nature: Gravity, Magnetic  
Fields, Electrical Currents  
*\*Dedicated and equipped science labs  
for hands-on lessons*

**MATH**

Properties of Integer Exponents  
Square Roots and Cube Roots  
Rational and Irrational Numbers  
Scientific Notation  
Functions  
Linear Equations  
Transformations and Congruence  
Angle Relationships  
Pythagorean Theorem  
Volume  
Scatter Plots  
Linear Models  
Statistics and Probability

**ALGEBRA I  
Based on qualifying criteria**

Quantitative Reasoning  
Algebraic Models  
Functions and Models  
Patterns and Sequences  
Linear Functions  
Linear Equations and Inequalities  
Multi-variable Categorical Data  
Rational Exponents and Radicals  
Geometric Sequences and Exponential  
Functions  
Exponential Equations/Models  
Modeling with Linear Systems  
Polynomials  
Graphing Quadratic Functions  
Connecting Intercepts, Zeros, and  
Factors  
Quadratic Equations  
One-Variable Data Distribution  
Linear Modeling and Regression  
Functions and Inverses  
Matrix



**PHILOSOPHY**

In keeping with the FSSD's mission, the middle schools seek to:

- Develop a community of learners that emphasizes academics along with kindness, encouragement, caring, and compassion.
- Provide a comprehensive array of instructional programs and experiences for students that focus on all essential areas of education and adolescent development.
- Encourage collaboration and shared decision making involving students, teachers, administrators, support staff, parents, and community members.
- Emphasize continuous improvement and a constant search for better ways of educating students.

**BELIEFS**

The Franklin Special School District holds the following beliefs:

- An excellent teaching and learning environment where success is celebrated is essential.
- Learning thrives in an environment where differing viewpoints are respected.
- Everyone can learn when instruction is differentiated to meet individual needs.
- Every individual is valued and respected.
- Parents must be actively engaged in the education of their children.
- Challenging fine arts curricula and strong physical education programs are necessary to enhance the whole learner.
- Curricula should be rigorous and relevant to real life.
- Lifelong learning is inspired by creating an atmosphere of curiosity.
- Parental and community involvement is essential to successful schools.
- Great schools are central to strong communities!

The Franklin Special School District Middle School Course Offerings Guide describes the programs, courses, and activities that are available in grades 5-8. This guide serves as a resource to inform students and parents of the grade level content and opportunities available in the FSSD middle schools.

All courses are aligned with the Tennessee Academic Standards and taught in accordance with locally developed pacing guides, which assists FSSD teachers in planning instruction and ensuring specific content is addressed with consistency across the district. The Middle School Course Offerings Guide encompasses information on academic courses and programs. The Middle School Handbook, which is distributed at the start of the school year, provides more detailed information about the day-to-day operation of the school. Information about each school is available on the school websites under the Parents & Students tab. Questions should be directed to the individual school.

# Excellence in Learning Experiences

The following program opportunities and learning supports are available in addition to, or in conjunction with, the typical academic content areas. These programs are vital to ensuring education is tailored to students' needs and interests.

## ACCELERATED LEARNING

The FSSD recognizes the unique needs of both accelerated learners and students who meet the Tennessee eligibility standards for intellectually gifted. Delivery of instruction is based on the needs of our learners. An Accelerated Learning Specialist in each school works with students and/or consults with classroom teachers to differentiate instruction for advanced learners.

## INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED

According to the State of Tennessee, "Intellectually Gifted" describes a child whose intellectual abilities and potential for achievement are so outstanding that the general curriculum alone is inadequate to appropriately meet the student's educational needs. If a parent or teacher makes a formal request for gifted eligibility testing, the school will schedule a review meeting. When appropriate, the process to gather and review data will be initiated. Decisions regarding assessment of giftedness are based on documented data.

## HONORS PROGRAM

The FSSD is committed to delivering instructional programs with a deliberate focus on meeting student needs with personalized instructional experiences. Students who meet the qualifying criteria may choose to participate in the FSSD

Honors Program, which offers a general education honors curriculum with content delivered at a faster pace for students who thrive with that extra challenge. Beginning in the 5th grade, the Honors Program offers more rigorous and complex instruction that emphasizes in-depth study, analytical thinking, and creative problem solving. Qualifying students may participate in Honors classes in English/language arts, math, science, and high school credit courses.

## HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES

Algebra I, Geometry, and World Languages are offered to middle school students for high school units of credit. In order to qualify for enrollment in these classes, students must meet the qualifying criteria. Students who maintain a grade of B or higher, and complete the final assessment specific to each course, receive high school credit granted by Williamson County Schools.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER (ELL) PROGRAM

The English Language Learner (ELL) program supports students from non-English language backgrounds by equipping them with reading, writing, speaking

and listening skills to productively engage with peers in the general education setting. Teachers tailor academic programs to meet the individual learning needs of each student based on their English proficiency level. English language services are provided through a variety of methods: pullout programs, scheduled ELL classes, inclusion support and other service models using a variety of developmentally appropriate instructional resources.

## SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

The school counseling program is an integral part of the total school environment. Licensed school counselors guide the counseling programs at each campus with the support of teachers and administrators. FSSD school counselors have expertise in addressing issues that may present obstacles to overall well-being; thereby, helping students to achieve academic and personal success. Career Exploration is incorporated into the middle level counseling program. The school counseling learning objectives are aligned with the National School Counselor Standards and are delivered in concert with the school's curriculum, facilitated by school counselors in collaboration with classroom teachers in both large and small group format.



## RELATED ARTS

Computer  
Health  
Physical Education  
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)  
Art  
Band  
Orchestra/Strings  
Chorus

## TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

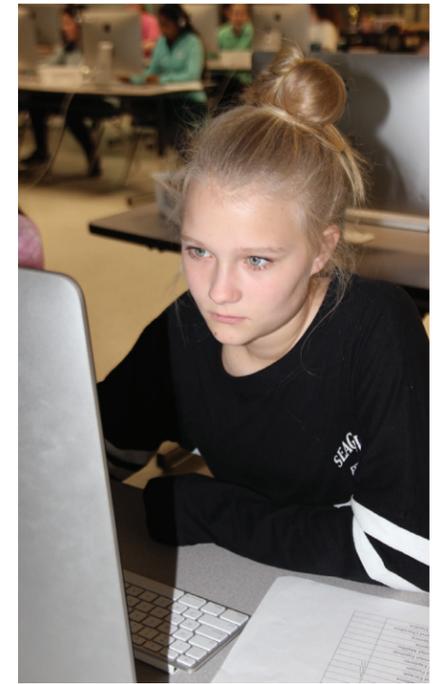
Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship  
Microsoft Office Suite  
Digital Literacy  
Online Research  
Discovery Education Science Techbook  
Google Apps for Education  
Video/Multimedia Experiences  
Coding  
Keyboarding

## CO-CURRICULAR FIELD TRIPS

Nashville Children's Theatre  
Belle Meade Plantation: 100 Years of History Tour  
STEM Field Trip  
Shakespeare Experience (In-House)

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Art Club  
Art Exhibits  
Athletics  
Dance Team  
Band  
Battle of the Books  
Best Buddies  
Choir/Honors Choir  
Destination Imagination  
Drama Club  
Jazz Band  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Green Team Environmental Club  
Math Olympiads  
National Junior Beta Club  
National Junior Honor Society  
Orchestra/Strings  
Photography Club  
Student Council  
Tutoring  
Walking Club  
Running Club  
Yearbook Club



\* Extracurricular activities, co-curricular field trips, and related arts courses may vary from school to school.



#### HUMANITIES: READING & LANGUAGE ARTS

Writing: Argument, Narrative, Informative/Explanatory  
Standard English Conventions  
Writing Strategies  
Stories, Dramas, Poems, Novels, Classics of American Literature  
Independent Reading  
Oral Presentations  
Literary Terminology and Analysis  
Critical Thinking Skills  
Composition Skills  
Research Skills  
Library Media Skills

#### HUMANITIES: SOCIAL STUDIES

Map and Graph Skills  
Reference Skills  
Critical Thinking Skills  
Informational Texts  
Primary Sources  
Document-Based Writing  
Climate, Environment, and Resources  
World History and Geography  
Middle Ages to the Exploration of the Americas  
Fall of the Roman Empire  
Islamic World (400 AD-1500s)  
Africa (400 AD-1500s)  
China (400 AD-1500s)  
Japan (400 AD-1500s)  
Middle Ages in Western Europe  
The Renaissance and Reformation  
The Enlightenment and Scientific Revolution  
The Age of Exploration

#### SCIENCE\*

Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences  
Scientific Inquiry  
Embedded Technology and Engineering  
Cells: Structure and Function, Processes  
Flow of Matter and Energy: Their Flow Through the Biosphere  
Heredity: Genes, Chromosomes, Inherited Traits  
The Earth: Geologic Events, Renewable and Non-Renewable Resources, Global Change  
Motion: Simple Machines, Newton's Laws, Waves, Speed and Velocity  
*\*Dedicated and equipped science labs for hands-on lessons*

#### MATH

Ratios and Proportions  
Proportional Relationships  
Unit Rate and Constant of Proportionality  
Scale Drawings  
Operations with Positive and Negative Rational Numbers  
Expressions  
Linear Equations  
Percent Increase and Decrease  
Populations and Samples  
Compare Populations  
Probability Models  
Problem Solving with Area, Surface Area, and Volume  
Geometric Constructions

#### ALGEBRA I

##### Based on qualifying criteria

Quantitative Reasoning  
Algebraic Models  
Functions and Models  
Patterns and Sequences  
Linear Functions  
Linear Equations and Inequalities  
Multi-variable Categorical Data  
Rational Exponents and Radicals  
Geometric Sequences and Exponential Functions  
Exponential Equations/Models  
Modeling with Linear Systems  
Polynomials  
Graphing Quadratic Functions  
Connecting Intercepts, Zeros, and Factors  
Quadratic Equations  
One-Variable Data Distribution  
Linear Modeling and Regression  
Functions and Inverses  
Matrix

#### WORLD LANGUAGE

##### Based on qualifying criteria

World Language 1A:  
French – reading, writing, speaking, listening, culture, vocabulary and grammar, language study skills  
Spanish – reading, writing, speaking, listening, culture, vocabulary and grammar, language study skills  
*(1A is the first half of this course; 1B occurs in grade 8)*

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#### POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

The FSSD is committed to the academic, physical and social-emotional development of ALL students. One of the foremost advances in education research is the effectiveness of positive behavior support programs, school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. In partnership with Vanderbilt University and the Tennessee Department of Education through the Tennessee Positive Behavior Supports Project, all FSSD schools incorporate positive behavior support programs as part of their overall approach to school climate and discipline.

#### LIBRARIES

The FSSD Library Media Centers support the curriculum and instruction of Tennessee Academic Standards, provide students and staff with the necessary skills to become information literate, and encourage reading for pleasure, academic research, and information. The Library Media Specialists ensure student access to a variety of resources including books, periodicals, videos and online resources, and supervise the responsible use of these materials by students. Library Media Specialists collaborate with teachers to attain curricular goals and to ensure lessons are applicable to standards taught in the classroom. Special programs like Volunteer State Book Awards and the Battle of the Books offer students the opportunity to extend classroom requirements and achieve increased reading proficiency.

#### RTI2

The RTI2 framework is a 3-tier model of instruction and interventions supporting students in learning and progress at all tiers. All students are screened three times each year in order to make the best instructional decisions. Along with high quality core instruction, specific time is set aside for students to receive inter-

ventions and enrichment based on need determined by screening results. For most students, these interventions are sufficient in helping them make progress. For some students, more intensive interventions or special education referrals may be necessary. Use of the RTI2 process helps students get prompt intervention, support and enrichment within the general education environment.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

A continuum of special education services is available for students with disabilities at the middle school level. Programs offered in middle schools within the FSSD include services for all federal and state defined disabilities as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA). The special education program is comprehensive and strives to meet the academic, behavioral, social, physical and adaptive needs of each students it serves. Options include a range of services which are determined by the Individual Education Program (IEP) team. Related services include occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech and language therapy. FSSD provides a "free and appropriate public education" (FAPE) to all students in the least restrictive educational setting that best meets each student's needs. Questions related to special education procedures or services may be directed to the school principal or the Special Populations Supervisor.

#### SERVICE LEARNING

Throughout the year, FSSD middle schools provide many opportunities for students to participate in service learning, a form of project-based learning in which academic goals are accomplished through community service events. Service learning is a powerful approach to teaching that provides students with authentic learning experiences in which they learn academic content in a real-world context. This approach helps to develop citizenship, responsibility, and many other positive character virtues.

#### FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

FSSD middle schools offer a rich fine arts program, showcased through two theater facilities outfitted with professional quality sound and lighting. Students are provided opportunities to participate in visual and performing arts, band, strings, drama and chorus via major drama productions, musical concerts, performance contests, art exhibitions, and special events hosted by the City of Franklin, such as the Christmas Tree Lighting, Veterans' Day Parade, Rodeo Parade and the Christmas Parade.



#### ATHLETICS

Middle school students participate in varsity and junior varsity sports in grades 6-8. Based on the sport and size of the school, the teams participate in either the Williamson Middle Athletic Association or the Greater Nashville Athletic Conference. Current sports programs include:  
Baseball • Basketball • Cross Country  
Cheerleading/Competition Cheerleading  
Football • Golf • Soccer • Softball  
Tennis • Track • Volleyball • Wrestling

#### TECHNOLOGY

Students in grades 7 and 8 have 1:1 laptop access (grades 5 and 6 forecast for 2017-18 implementation), enabling students to use district-owned devices at school to facilitate their access of online content and research opportunities. Middle school students may also participate in the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program in classrooms where instructional technology is implemented to create more engaging lessons. Details of each school's BYOD policy can be found in the school handbook.

**HUMANITIES:****READING & LANGUAGE ARTS**

Writing: Opinion, Narrative, Informative/Explanatory  
 Reading: Literary and Informational Texts  
 Stories  
 Drama  
 Poetry  
 Myths  
 Standard English Language Conventions  
 Oral presentations  
 Written Reports  
 Novels  
 Library Media Skills

**HUMANITIES: SOCIAL STUDIES**

Research and Critical Thinking Skills  
 Writing for History  
 Geographic Tools  
 Primary Sources  
 United States History from 1850: Civil War and Reconstruction, Industrial America and Westward Expansion, World War I, Roaring Twenties, World War II, Great Depression, Civil Rights Movement, Tennessee History, Modern United States

**SCIENCE**

Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences  
 Scientific Method  
 Cells: Plant and Animal  
 Interdependence: Organisms in an Ecosystem, Environmental Impacts of Humans and Natural Disasters  
 Flow of Matter and Energy: Photosynthesis  
 Heredity: Inherited Genetics or Environmental Interaction  
 Biodiversity and Change: Natural Selection, Analysis of Fossils  
 Microworlds  
 Ecology and Ecosystems: Terrariums  
 The Universe: Solar System  
 Earth: Geologic Events  
 Motion: Mass, Force and Distance  
 Forces in Nature: Gravity  
 Matter: Chemical and Physical Properties  
 Energy: Potential and Kinetic, Heat Transfer  
 Weather and Climate  
 Atmosphere: Landforms and Water

**MATH**

Operations with Whole Numbers  
 Operations with Decimals  
 Operations with Fractions  
 Volume  
 Introduction to Algebra  
 2-D Geometry and Measurement  
 Graphing and Data Analysis  
 Problem Solving

**RELATED ARTS**

Exploratory French  
 Exploratory Spanish  
 Study skills  
 Computer  
 Physical Education  
 Art  
 Band  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Chorus

**TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION**

Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship  
 Microsoft Office Suite  
 Digital Literacy  
 Online Research  
 Discovery Education Science Techbook  
 Google Apps for Education  
 Video/Multimedia Experiences  
 Coding  
 Keyboarding

**CO-CURRICULAR FIELD TRIPS**

Chattanooga Aquarium  
 Literature-Aligned Trips/Events

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**

Art Club  
 Art Exhibits  
 Band  
 Battle of the Books  
 Best Buddies  
 Choir/Honors Choir  
 Destination Imagination  
 Drama Club  
 Film Club  
 Jazz Band  
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
 Green Team Environmental Club  
 Math Olympiads  
 National Junior Beta Club  
 National Junior Honor Society  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Student Council  
 Tutoring  
 Walking Club  
 Running Club  
 Yearbook Club



\* Extracurricular activities, co-curricular field trips, and related arts courses may vary from school to school.

**HUMANITIES:****READING & LANGUAGE ARTS**

Writing: Argument, Narrative, Informative/Explanatory  
 Reading: Literary and Informational Texts  
 Standard English Conventions  
 Stories  
 Dramas of Shakespeare  
 Poetry  
 Classics of American Literature  
 High Quality Contemporary Works  
 Seminal U.S. Documents  
 Oral Presentations  
 Research Projects  
 Novels

**HUMANITIES: SOCIAL STUDIES**

Geography  
 Informational Texts  
 Primary sources  
 World History and Geography  
 Early Civilizations through the Decline of the Roman Empire  
 Human Origins in Africa through the Neolithic Age  
 Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient India, Ancient China, Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome

**SCIENCE**

Earth, Life, and Physical Sciences  
 Scientific Inquiry  
 Embedded Technology and Engineering  
 Life Science: Cells  
 Interdependence: Matter and Energy in an Ecosystem, Biotic and Abiotic Elements, Biomes  
 Flow of Matter and Energy: Potential Energy, Transformations, Law of Conservation of Energy  
 Heredity: Plant and Animal Reproduction  
 Biodiversity and Change: Organisms  
 The Universe: Solar System  
 Earth: Seasons, Eclipses  
 The Atmosphere: Physical and Chemical Properties, Weather  
 Matter: Composition, Structure  
 Energy: Transformation  
 Forces in Nature: Electrical Circuits

**MATH**

Application of Operations with Decimals and Fractions  
 Ratio, Proportion, and Percent  
 Statistics and Probability  
 Geometry  
 Equations with Rational Numbers  
 Integers  
 Problem Solving

\* Extracurricular activities, co-curricular field trips, and related arts courses may vary from school to school.

**RELATED ARTS**

Exploratory French  
 Exploratory Spanish  
 Study Skills  
 Computer  
 Physical Education  
 Art  
 Band  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Chorus

**TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION**

Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship  
 Microsoft Office Suite  
 Digital Literacy  
 Online Research  
 Discovery Education Science Techbook  
 Google Apps for Education  
 Video/Multimedia Experiences  
 Coding  
 Keyboarding

**CO-CURRICULAR FIELD TRIPS**

Renaissance Center  
 William Ridley 4-H Center  
 Literature-Aligned Trips/Events

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**

Art Club  
 Art Exhibits  
 Athletics  
 Band  
 Battle of the Books  
 Best Buddies  
 Choir/Honors Choir  
 Destination Imagination  
 Drama Club  
 Film Club  
 Jazz Band  
 Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
 Green Team Environmental Club  
 Math Olympiads  
 National Junior Beta Club  
 National Junior Honor Society  
 Orchestra/Strings  
 Student Council  
 Tutoring  
 Walking Club  
 Running Club  
 Yearbook Club