



FREEDOM INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Grades 5-6

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

www.freedomintermediate.fssd.org



FREEDOM MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

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

www.freedommiddle.fssd.org



POPLAR GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 5-8

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

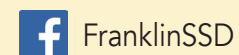
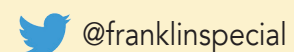
www.poplargrovemiddle.fssd.org



CENTRAL OFFICE

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

www.fssd.org



*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

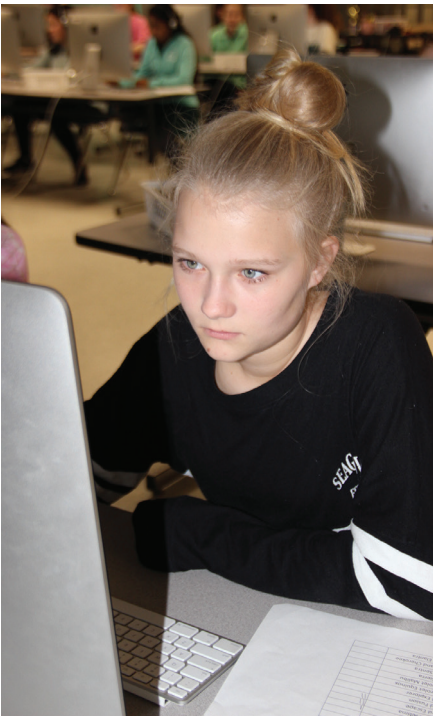
- Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Digital Literacy
- Online Research
- Discovery Education Science Techbook
- Google Apps for Education
- Video/Multimedia Experiences
- Coding
- Keyboarding

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)*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ►



**POSITIVE BEHAVIOR
SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The FSSD is committed to the academic, physical and social-emotional develop- ment of ALL students. One of the fore- most advances in education research is the effectiveness of positive behavior support programs, school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for de- fining, teaching, and supporting appro- priate 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 pos- itive behavior support programs as part of their overall approach to school climate and discipline.

LIBRARIES

The FSSD Library Media Centers sup- port 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 Spe- cialists collaborate with teachers to attain curricular goals and to ensure lessons are applicable to standards taught in the classroom. Special programs like Volun- teer 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 support- ing 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 educa- tion 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 occupation- al therapy, physical therapy, and speech and language therapy. FSSD provides a “free and appropriate public education” (FAPE) to all students in the least restric- tive 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 learn- ing 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 citizen- ship, 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 pro- ductions, musical concerts, performance contests, art exhibitions, and special events hosted by the City of Franklin, such as the Christmas Tree Lighting, Vet- erans’ 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 Confer- ence. 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 pol- icy 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
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