



**Ida
Middle
School**

**Course
Descriptions**

2019/2020

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Ida Middle School staff is to create a safe, supportive, and conducive environment wherein all students are empowered to become life-long learners. The intellectual, physical, social, and emotional needs of the students will be met with a variety of instructional strategies based on individual needs.

Student Assessments

	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
NWEA Math	X	X	X	X
NWEA Reading	X	X	X	X
STAR Math	X	X	X	X
STAR Reading	X	X	X	X
MEAP Math	X	X	X	X
MEAP Reading	X	X	X	X
MEAP Writing	X		X	
MEAP Science	X			X
MEAP Social Studies		X		

**Designated classes require staff to meet the "Highly Qualified" criteria established by the Michigan Department of Education.*

5th Grade Math *

Students learn developmentally appropriate math in numbers and operations, algebra, geometry and measurement, and data analysis. Envision Math materials are used. Focus areas include: (1) Multiply/divide whole numbers, decimals and fractions, (2) Add/subtract whole numbers, decimals and fractions, (3) Convert measurements, (4) Concepts of volume, (5) Numerical Expressions, Patterns, and Relationships, (6) Place value, (7) Line Plots, (8) Classifying figures, and (9) Ordered Pairs.

5th Grade Social Studies *

This course is filled with new learning experiences that allow students to understand how their country was established. Focus areas include: (1) The beginnings of man in North America, (2) Native American groups, (3) Explorers, (4) The development of the 13 colonies, (5) The fight for freedom the colonies endured during the Revolutionary War and the establishment of the Constitution.

5th Grade Language Arts *

Students are engaged in a variety of learning opportunities that develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening within the daily program. The Craft Plus Writing Program is used for student development in all phases of the writing process. Targeted writing areas include expository, descriptive, persuasive, narrative and poetry. Houghton Mifflin Spelling and Vocabulary is the textbook we use to build our spelling skills.

5th Grade Reading *

This course supports a balanced approach to literacy. Students are engaged in a variety of learning opportunities that develop reading, writing and listening within the daily program. Houghton Mifflin's Expeditions Text and novels are used to teach comprehension, fact or opinion, cause and effect, predicting, and story structure. Strategies are used to increase comprehension. The Craft Plus Writing Program is used for development in all phases of the writing process. Targeted writing areas include expository, descriptive, persuasive, narrative and poetry. Theme, voice, journal writing, and grammar skills are reinforced daily. Students also participate in the Accelerated Reader program.

5th Grade Science *

Students study Earth, Physical, and Life Science. Our textbooks are Scott Foresman Diamond Edition. Our main topics include: Plants, Planets & Sun, Matter, and Energy.

5th graders are also responsible for completing a Science Fair Project to submit to our school Science Fair, with chances to go on to the Monroe County Science Fair.

5th Grade Physical Education

This class covers the benchmarks as mandated by the State of Michigan including health related fitness and resistance training, invasion games, net games, target games, striking/fielding games and net/wall games. Each student needs a pair of shorts or sweat pants, white or grey t-shirt with first name on the front and last name on the back, socks and tennis shoes. Every student is expected to participate each class period dressed in the proper gym clothes. A written statement from a qualified physician is necessary to excuse the student from participation for any extended period of time. Grades are based on effort, participation, fitness test results, attitude and sportsmanship.

5th Grade Art *

This course is designed to be a formal introduction to the fundamental building blocks of art education. It stimulates and releases their imaginations through creative and flexible forms of thinking, self-reflections and experimentation of different media forms. Students explore cultural and historical connections by describing, analyzing, interpreting, and making informed decisions about their artwork and the nature of art. Students create a sketchbook and use them consistently before each project. They are engaged daily in the writing process as well as tackling connections between mathematics, history and science. This class empowers students to create their own picture based language, two dimensional as well as three dimensional objects. It is also designed to help students love to learn and become lifelong learners.

5th Grade Computers Class

Through this class, students will work with a variety of software programs. Although the course moves quickly, students are able to work at their own pace and improve upon their skills using computer technology. Students will also work on keyboarding and improving their typing skills. Students are required to complete specific technology lessons on Study Island, an online program designed to help students master the State technology standards. The computer curriculum is based on the Michigan Educational Technology Standards.

5th Grade Band

This course is an introductory-level instrumental music class. All students will be fitted for instruments at the beginning of fifth grade and may register for the class if interested. Students will be introduced to the technique of their selected instrument, and theoretical concepts that are essential to reading music. Grading is based on participation in out-of-school concerts (one per semester) and written and playing assessments. Outside of class practicing is not required, but is strongly encouraged by the instructors. This is a full-year course, but students wishing to drop at the semester may with written parental permission. Students will learn correct techniques of tone production, instrument care and proper holding and playing positions of their instrument. Students will be tested over notes, rhythms, and overall playing of pieces assigned.

5th Grade General Music

This class teaches the basic music fundamentals of singing, performing, and understanding musical concepts. Students' activities such as ear training, using the voice in singing, note reading in unison and in two parts, and a variety of musical activities and games. Listening, acting and performance skills are practiced. The final result is putting this together in the form of a theme centered musical on stage in front of an audience. There are points given for daily involvement and also one final performance grade for performing appropriately at the end concert.

5th Grade Michigan Model

Students are learning from the Michigan Model for Health curriculum. In this class the focus areas include: Social and Emotional Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity, Safety, and Personal Health and Wellness.

5th Grade Enrichment Classes

An opportunity for students to relearn and practice content that is taught in the core classes of math, social studies, and reading.

5th Grade Resource Room *

The resource room is a service based classroom for students who have been identified as either learning disabled, emotionally impaired, or physically or otherwise health impaired. In a small classroom setting, the student works directly with the instructor on organizational skills, study skills, and individualized educational program goals.

5th Grade MTSS*

MTSS is a research-based, Multi-Tiered System of Support provided by educators at Ida Middle School. This systemic approach focuses on every student's achievement by utilizing a universal screening process in identifying those who are at-risk and may not be responding well to core instruction. Identified students are provided intensive support based on their individual needs while their progress is closely monitored.

6th Grade Math *

This course is specifically designed to meet the Michigan Common Core Standards in mathematics. The following topics are covered; whole numbers, decimals, and box plots, fractions, percentages, ratios, proportions, integers, pre-algebra, area, perimeter, and 3D shapes.

6th Grade Social Studies *

This social studies curriculum is the first year of a two year geography based course that introduces students to the physical and human geography of the world with an emphasis on the western

hemisphere. Beginning with the foundations of geography, students explore different ways in which the earth is represented and how geographers use specific tools and technologies to answer geographic questions. Students will also examine a variety of global issues such as migration/immigration, human-environment interactions, globalization, and conflict and cooperation. Course content is aligned with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and the CCSS for Literacy in History and Social Studies.

6th Grade English Language Arts *

The course includes a study of English grammar and the steps of the writing process. Students will learn to write descriptive essays, informational reports, business letters, compare and contrast pieces, newspaper articles, and persuasive essays. Students will also deliver various presentations, including explanatory, persuasive, and literature-based presentations.

6th Grade Science *

This science class focuses on life science topics. Five main areas are explored throughout the year: ecosystems and environmental science issues, organization of living things, body systems, cells, and heredity. Hands-on activities and inquiry based studies are combined with gathering knowledge from informational text to provide students with in-depth learning.

6th Grade Physical Education

This class covers the benchmarks as mandated by the State of Michigan including health related fitness and resistance training, invasion games, net games, target games, striking/fielding games and net/wall games. Each student needs a pair of shorts or sweat pants, white or grey t-shirt with first name on the front and last name on the back, socks and tennis shoes. Every student is expected to participate each class period dressed in the proper gym clothes. A written statement from a qualified physician is necessary to excuse the student from participation for any extended period of time. Grades are based on effort, participation, fitness test results, attitude and sportsmanship.

6th Grade Art *

This course investigates the different kind of line qualities by sketching, contour, blind contour, gesture drawing, perspective, identifying shapes, mixing colors, creating textured images, experimenting with different values, forms and spaces. These elements are linked to the principles of art design inspiring students to develop their ability to see, discern, perceive, create, and identify art-related careers. We incorporate art history and art criticism and make connections to the curricula of other subjects such as math, history, and science. Through their daily drawings and writing process, the student has the opportunity to develop their ability to draw what they see, refine their fine motor skills, and use imaginative problem solving skills to describe, analyze, interpret, and judge artworks of their own and other artists inspiring them the love of learning by helping them discover their own personal voice.

6th Grade Computers Class

Through this class, students will work with a variety of software programs. Course projects include general word processing, creating presentations, identifying computer parts, defining technology vocabulary, collecting and organizing data, searching the Internet, designing online avatars, and making a website. Students will improve upon their computer skills, increase their keyboarding ability, and successfully begin to problem solve their way through most computer programs. The computer curriculum is based on the Michigan Educational Technology Standards.

6th Grade Band (Prerequisite: Participation in fifth grade band or director approval)

In this course, students will continue to develop techniques learned in fifth grade band. Ranges of instruments will be expanded, musical concepts of tone and interpretation will begin to be explored in detail, and students will be introduced to new theoretical concepts. Music prepared for concerts will increase in difficulty and will include more variety in style. Grading is based on participation in out-of-school concerts (one per marking period), practice journals, and written and playing assessments. This is a full-year course, but students wishing to drop at the semester may with written parental permission for academic concerns.

6th Grade Michigan Model

Michigan Model's health curriculum is designed by the Michigan Department of Community Health. During this course the topics covered are; emergency preparedness and safety, social and emotional health, nutrition and physical activity, and alcohol and drug awareness.

6th Grade Careers

Careers class is designed to help students strengthen and/or develop an understanding of their likes and dislikes as well as their natural abilities when choosing a career path. The course offers multiple "Career Cluster" activities to help funnel students into areas of possible career choices. The class also offers many aptitude tests to help students narrow their vast opportunities when it comes to choosing a career path. Students will also use technology when researching certain career paths to help with questions they may have as well as to gain a better understanding of specific career options.

6th Grade Geography Skills *

This course will focus on enhancing students understanding of Geography. The course will take a hands-on approach as students create many projects related to the different aspects of Geography. Students will create a variety of maps by hand along with using technology to create thematic maps. Furthermore, students will examine the role technology plays in the field of Geography ranging from satellite images to GIS. Finally, students engage in weekly test-taking strategies to improve standardized test scores in social studies.

6th Grade Drama

Students learn about Shakespeare's three primary plot structures and identify them within in the context of a play. They also incorporate one of the plot structures into their own original skit. Students perform a play for younger students at the close of the marking period.

6th Grade Resource Room *

The resource room is a service based classroom for students who have been identified as either learning disabled, emotionally impaired, or physically or otherwise health impaired. In a small classroom setting, the student works directly with the instructor on organizational skills, study skills, and individualized educational program goals.

6th Grade MTSS*

MTSS is a research-based, Multi-Tiered System of Support provided by educators at Ida Middle School. This systemic approach focuses on every student's achievement by utilizing a universal screening process in identifying those who are at-risk and may not be responding well to core instruction. Identified students are provided intensive support based on their individual needs while their progress is closely monitored.

6th Grade Skills Seminar*

The purpose of a Skills Seminar class is to reinforce content taught in core curricular areas and to provide students the opportunity to complete work, improve areas of identified weaknesses, and to learn how to accurately self-access personal performance (such as grade-tracking). Topics will include, but are not limited to note-taking, writing skills, reading skills, time management, team building, and career planning. When possible (in most cases), students enrolled in the course will have the opportunity during the class period to talk with another of their teachers for extra help in a course where they are experiencing particular difficulty, or to be tutored by another teacher while doing an accelerated work assignment.

6th Grade Exploring Agriculture*

Agriculture is Michigan's second largest industry, contributing more than \$101.2 billion to the state's economy. Exploring Agriculture analyzes the different aspects of the agricultural industry. This course is designed to give students a general understanding of the importance of the agricultural industry. Upon completion of this course students will be able to analyze different aspects of the agricultural industry and how it affects their daily lives. Students will have a working knowledge of American agricultural history, Michigan agriculture, and the significance of the agricultural education program. Students will be aware of the various career opportunities in the agriculture industry as well as providing a broad based coverage of horticulture, animal science, environmental science, biotechnology, agricultural economics, plant and soil science, agricultural science, and agribusiness tools and equipment.

7th Grade Math *

This class is designed to prepare students for success in math and in life! Students will cover Michigan Common Core standards in the topic areas of integers, rational numbers, analyzing data, ratios, percent, equations, inequalities, geometry and probability. Students will be using a variety of lessons and activities to help further understand the content and application to the world. The textbook, McDougal Littell Math Course 3, has the latest strategies/techniques that are aligned with the curriculum.

7th Grade Pre-Algebra (Prerequisite: Teacher approval) *

This is a fast pace honors class that is designed to prepare students for success in high school algebra. Students must maintain a B or higher average. The class will cover Michigan Common Core standards for both 7th and 8th grade in the topic areas of integers, exponents, rational/real numbers, analyzing data, ratios, percents, equations, inequalities, functions, geometry and probability. Students will be using a variety of lessons and activities to help further understand the content and application to the world. The textbook, McDougal Littell Pre-Algebra, has the latest strategies/techniques that are aligned with the curriculum.

7th Grade Social Studies *

This course is the second year of a world regional geography course, and focuses primarily on the eastern hemisphere. This course emphasizes regional distinctions, including population characteristics, the environment, basic resources and physical geography, political and economic structure, historical geography, and economic activity within the eastern hemisphere. Students will use a variety of activities to learn the material, including reading, note-taking, class discussion, presentations, and projects.

7th Grade English Language Arts *

This course is designed to develop students' literacy skills including reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing. The standards addressed are found in the Common Core State Standards. Students learn the elements characteristic of descriptive, expository, and narrative writing through classroom anchor texts, lessons, and independent exploration of the genre. A thorough understanding of each type of writing will be demonstrated through student-produced texts exhibiting the characteristics of each type of writing. Students will develop specific writing skills to improve organization, grammar, and mechanics.

7th Grade Literature *

Students will read 4-6 novels, analyze speeches, and develop skills and concepts needed to understand informational text. Themes and ideas presented in each novel will be compared and contrasted to modern media formats including film and video. All literature students will participate in the Accelerated Reading program. To ensure success in this program, students will be provided silent reading time and be able to take AR Quizzes on a classroom computer. A suggested reading level will be assigned to students based upon individual STAR Reading Test scores. Emphasis will be to enjoy Literature, "Readers are Leaders!"

7th Grade Science *

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of basic chemistry and physics principles. Students will learn about the properties of solids, liquids, and gases as well as have knowledge of atoms and the Periodic Table and also chemical reactions. Students will also be introduced to physics. The topics covered include motion, forces, energy, electricity, and electromagnetism.

7th Grade Physical Education

This class covers the benchmarks as mandated by the State of Michigan including health related fitness and resistance training, invasion games, net games, target games, striking/fielding games and net/wall games. Each student needs a pair of shorts or sweat pants, white or grey t-shirt with first name on the front and last name on the back, socks and tennis shoes. Every student is expected to participate each class period dressed in the proper gym clothes. A written statement from a qualified physician is necessary to excuse the student from participation for any extended period of time. Grades are based on effort, participation, fitness test results, attitude, and sportsmanship.

7th Grade Art *

This course celebrates the ability to provide students with the means to think, feel, and understand the world around them in unique ways. It strengthens the ability of one to problem solve, communicate skills of self-expression, become aesthetically aware of the multiple points of view such as understanding globally different heritages from different cultures all the while using different media to express their personal voice. They grow in their ability to think and learn independently through their own field of awareness and become aware of others' field of awareness through fiber arts, beading, drawing, painting and ceramics.

7th Grade Careers/Computers

Careers/Computers provide students with the opportunity to become better prepared to enter the working environment. Each project in the course is integrated with computer technology. Students primarily use Microsoft Word, Inspiration, PowerPoint, SeaMonkey (a web page composer), and various Internet resources. One resource in particular, Career Cruising - a website designed to help students develop an EDP (Educational Development Plan) - will be utilized during the course. Emphasis for all projects will be placed on the importance of presenting students' best side to employers, co-workers, and the community.

7th Grade Band (Prerequisite: Participation in sixth grade band or director approval)

Throughout the course, outside assessment (festivals) on an individual and group level and a performance at the Homecoming football game will be added to the curriculum. Musical concepts of tone, intonation, technique, rhythm, and interpretation will be explored in detail. A large unit of study will involve the logistics of preparing and performing solo and ensemble music. Grading is based on participation in out-of-school concerts (one or two per marking period), practice journals, and written and playing assessments. This is a full-year course, and, based on the dates of the festivals, students must provide a commitment for the entire year.

7th Grade English Enrichment *

The purpose of English Enrichment is to develop students' literacy skills including reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing. The standards addressed are found in the Common Core State Standards with a special focus on critical viewing. Students will further develop the skills learned in seventh grade English Language Arts while specifically focusing on the elements of film to promote critical analysis of visual media.

7th Grade Michigan Model

A course, based on selected modules from the Michigan Model curriculum. Students will learn about nutrition, and the importance of a healthy diet. Sun exposure safety covers the risks associated with overexposure to the Sun and tanning lamps, and ways students can protect their skin from damage. They will learn about family emergency preparedness for such things as fire, flood, severe weather, evacuations, and shelter-in-place emergencies. A short unit on bicycle safety is included.

7th Grade Resource Room *

The resource room is a service based classroom for students who have been identified as either learning disabled, emotionally impaired, or physically or otherwise health impaired. In a small classroom setting, the student works directly with the instructor on organizational skills, study skills, and individualized educational program goals.

7th Grade Skills Seminar*

The purpose of a Skills Seminar class is to reinforce content taught in core curricular areas and to provide students the opportunity to complete work, improve areas of identified weaknesses, and to learn how to accurately self-access personal performance (such as grade-tracking). Topics will include, but are not limited to note-taking, writing skills, reading skills, time management, team building, and career planning. When possible (in most cases), students enrolled in the course will have the opportunity during the class period to talk with another of their teachers for extra help in a course where they are experiencing particular difficulty, or to be tutored by another teacher while doing an accelerated work assignment.

7th Grade MTSS*

MTSS is a research-based, Multi-Tiered System of Support provided by educators at Ida Middle School. This systemic approach focuses on every student's achievement by utilizing a universal screening process in identifying those who are at-risk and may not be responding well to core instruction. Identified students are provided intensive support based on their individual needs while their progress is closely monitored.

8th Grade Pre-Algebra *

In this course, the students will further their study in the world of algebra. The skills and processes learned in previous courses are now applied with more depth and rigor to algebraic and geometric concepts. Topics include (1) variables, expressions and integers; (2) equations; (3) inequalities; (4) factors, fractions and exponents; (5) rational numbers; (6) ratios; (7) proportional reasoning; (8) probability; (9) percent applications; (10) linear functions; (11) real numbers and trigonometry; (12) geometric skills and formulas; (13) data analysis and probability; (14) polynomials and nonlinear functions, and (15) transformations.

8th Grade Algebra I *

(Can be completed in 8th grade for high school credit)

The student will be introduced to the basic structure of algebra, acquire the ability to apply algebraic concepts and skills, and perceive the role of deductive reasoning in algebra. Topics include (1) numbers

and sets; (2) variables and mathematical expressions; (3) equations; (4) real numbers; (5) transforming equations; (6) using equations to solve problems; (7) inequalities; (8) polynomials; (9) graphing functions and relations; (10) percents; (11) ratios; (12) rational and irrational number operations; (13) factoring; (14) algebraic fractions, and (15) transformations.

8th Grade American History. 1789 until 1889 *

Content of this course focuses primarily on 16 chapters in History Alive! The United States associated with 19th century America. Beginning with the creation of the United States Constitution and concluding with the rise of industry in the United States during the late 1800's. The course promotes cultural literacy regarding social, political, and economic developments and core democratic values that have contributed to the United States becoming a world power. A substantial amount of reading, writing and research is required to successfully complete this two-semester course.

8th Grade English *

This course introduces students to terminology, methods, and objectives to further develop an appreciation and understanding of literature, composition, and writing skills. It is designed to specifically focus on critical reading and reflection, grammar and usage, language development and genre conventions. Students will explore a variety of critical perspectives in an effort to raise literacy awareness. Students will focus on writing as a process, developing their identities as writers and engage in the writing process.

8th Grade Earth Science *

(Can be completed in 8th grade for high school credit)

Earth Science is a full-year core class covering most of the Earth Science High School Content Expectations. The first quarter is devoted to atmosphere and weather. The remainder of the year includes geology and the hydrosphere. Geologic topics include rocks and minerals, plate tectonics and related concepts such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and mountain building, weathering and soil formation, as well as Earth history. The role of the hydrosphere in geologic processes includes glaciers, erosion and deposition by water, and groundwater.

8th Grade Spanish I *

(Can be completed in 8th grade for high school credit)

In this course, the areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture are emphasized. The student learns useful vocabulary for some basic communication. A good background in English is helpful, but not a prerequisite.

8th Grade Physical Education

This class covers the benchmarks as mandated by the State of Michigan including health related fitness and resistance training, invasion games, net games, target games, striking/fielding games and net/wall games. Each student needs a pair of shorts or sweat pants, white or grey t-shirt with first name on the front and last name on the back, socks and tennis shoes. Every student is expected to participate each class period dressed in the proper gym clothes. A written statement from a qualified physician is necessary to excuse the student from participation for any extended period of time. Grades are based on effort, participation, fitness test results, attitude and sportsmanship.

8th Grade Art *

This is a marriage between 5th, 6th, and 7th grade art. It focuses on sequential learning experiences that develop and apply art design elements and principle concepts in an expressive and imaginative way. They are challenged to write and illustrate their own children's book with the use of computer

technology, and create their own personal imagery to broaden their aesthetic education by creative problem solving. Students prepare a portfolio, work in sketchbooks and keep a journal. They will also learn about career pathways as well as recognize the impact of new technology as a means to broaden and expand upon their artistic knowledge and skill. Self-responsibility and creative motivation are a must.

8th Grade Computers

This course is based on the Michigan Educational Technology Standards, and is designed to increase students' ability to work with multimedia. While students will utilize a variety of software, a large portion of time will be spent specifically on Camtasia, a screen recording and video editing software. Students also will access a series of online technology tutorials covering topics ranging from 'Computer History' to 'Digital Animation.' Additionally, students will be required to meet a standard level of proficiency on technology standards as presented through Study Island, an online learning tool.

8th Grade Band (Prerequisite: Participation in seventh grade band or director approval)

This course will continue to refine techniques established in seventh grade band. Additional focus on preparation for high school level band will occur through participation in a second year of festivals (in which expectations are raised), regular classroom instruction, and a detailed unit of study on marching band concepts and techniques. Grading is based on participation in out-of-school concerts (one or two per marking period), practice journals, and written and playing assessments. This is a full-year course, and, based on the dates of the festivals, students must provide a commitment for the entire year.

8th Grade Astronomy*

Topics include a brief overview of the history of astronomy, and how technology, especially different types of telescopes, has enhanced our knowledge. Students learn about the structure and activity of the Sun, and how it affects the Earth. This knowledge is used as a basis for understanding stars in general, their life cycles, and the different types of stars. The larger scale structure of the Universe is explored as students learn about different types of galaxies.

8th Grade Woodshop

The woodworking course involves the basic understanding of the safety and operation of a various woodworking tools and machines. The majority of the class will take place in the shop towards the completion of project builds. Safety and proper operation of the tools and equipment will be the main priority in this class at all times.

8th Grade Ida Backyard History *(Prerequisite: Application Process)

This course is for students with above-average writing and communication skills. In this course, students will produce the middle school yearbook, produce 8-10 newsletter-style programs for the varsity football and basketball games, produce Ida history-themed lessons and teach them to second-grade students, write scripts and act them out for a historical interpretive tour in the fall and spring, maintain a web presence as well as a social media presence, and perform community-service activities related to the Ida/Monroe County community.

8th Grade Healthy Living*

Content of this course focuses on helping students gain the skills and knowledge they need to understand the many changes during adolescence, developing communication abilities, managing feelings, living HIV/STI free, improving friendships, resisting negative peer pressure, increasing knowledge about harmful drugs and building teamwork strategies.

8th Grade Resource Room *

The resource room is a service based classroom for students who have been identified as either learning disabled, emotionally impaired, or physically or otherwise health impaired. In a small classroom setting, the student works directly with the instructor on organizational skills, study skills, and individualized educational program goals.

8th Grade Skills Seminar*

The purpose of a Skills Seminar class is to reinforce content taught in core curricular areas and to provide students the opportunity to complete work, improve areas of identified weaknesses, and to learn how to accurately self-access personal performance (such as grade-tracking). Topics will include, but are not limited to note-taking, writing skills, reading skills, time management, team building, and career planning. When possible (in most cases), students enrolled in the course will have the opportunity during the class period to talk with another of their teachers for extra help in a course where they are experiencing particular difficulty, or to be tutored by another teacher while doing an accelerated work assignment.

8th Grade MTSS*

MTSS is a research-based, Multi-Tiered System of Support provided by educators at Ida Middle School. This systemic approach focuses on every student's achievement by utilizing a universal screening process in identifying those who are at-risk and may not be responding well to core instruction. Identified students are provided intensive support based on their individual needs while their progress is closely monitored.

ONLINE CLASSES*

Ida students enrolled in grades 5 to 12 are eligible to enroll in online courses. Students may select courses from the online e2020 course catalog, or select courses from the statewide catalog of online courses including Michigan Virtual High School.

<http://www.edgenuity.com/>
<http://www.mivhs.org/Courses/English-Language-Arts>

Online classes may be taken under the following criteria:

The class, taught at Ida Middle School by an Ida Middle School teacher, has already been attempted and failed. The class is being retaken for a grade only.

There are several exceptions this criteria:

- The counselor, teacher, administrator, parents, and student come to consensus on an alternative arrangement.
- The online class is taken before or after the regularly scheduled school day.
- The online class is taken during summer school.
- The online class is taken for grade recovery and replaces an elective class during the school day.
- The student has exhausted reasonable elective class offerings and the online class is taken as an elective that is not offered at Ida Middle School.
- Special Education students will be determined on a case by case basis.

Additional Policies specific to Edgenuity Online Classes:

- The failure that was earned before enrolling in the online class will stand.

- No quiz, test, or exam resets will be granted until all coursework is completed.
- Students have a maximum of 3 attempts to pass assessments.
- If students do not pass the assessment on the third try, the student must restart the entire chapter/unit.
- If on any other website other than the required online class, the student will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including the loss of their opportunity to gain credit. (If this happens, the student gives up his/her right to recover a grade for any other class through online classes. All recovery courses must be taken in the traditional classroom.)
- After a grade is granted for an-online class, the student must take the school exam for the class. This exam will not count toward the grade for the class; the information will be used for analysis only.