

PROGRAM GUIDE



The registration procedure includes several steps to help students make careful choices. Students will have an opportunity to meet with

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Exploratory Courses:

The mission of the Counseling Department is to provide support services and curricular programs that contribute to the development of responsible, productive, and effective individuals who demonstrate lifelong learning skills, embrace cultural diversity, show respect for self and the rights of others, work cooperatively and practice good citizenship. As recommended by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association, our counseling programs focuses on the personal, social, academic, and career development of all students.

The 6th grade English Language Arts program continues to develop students' language arts abilities through a wide range of multilevel activities. Reading instruction focuses on developing skills in reading comprehension and vocabulary within a workshop model. Reading choice books across multiple genres plays a large role in the daily instruction. Teachers provide instruction through mini-lesson, small group instruction, and conferring with individual students. Students continually self-assess their own writing through both in-class reading and writing assessments and assignments that focus initially on the structure of the single paragraph and later on the multi-paragraph essay. Students produce multiple drafts and revise them in response to peer reviews and formal instruction in writing strategies, grammar, mechanics, and style. Through short talks, oral reports, dramatic readings, and practice in note taking, students work to improve their speaking and listening skills.

This curriculum is committed to making connections across instructional units of study and to application of mathematics in the real world.

The general goal of this course is to develop mathematical skills and to apply these skills to solve problems in contexts that are interesting to the students. The topics of study include a more in-depth look at:

- Factors and Multiples and the Distributive Property
- Ratios, Rational Numbers, and Equivalence

: This year long course provides an overview of Ancient Civilizations. Active reading skills, study strategies and research skills will be taught and practiced as students investigate these units:

- P.I.E.C.E.S (Politics, Interactions with the Environment, Culture, Economics, Social Organizations) History, and 5 Themes of Geography
- Hunter/Gatherer
- River Valley Civilizations: Mesopotamia/Egypt
- China
- Greece/Rome

The sixth grade art course further develops the sense of artist inquiry that we find in all aspects of our lives. It meets every other day of the six day cycle throughout the year. In this course, students will study historical and cultural influences of the visual arts as they

The 6th Grade choir is intended for all students who enjoy singing. Students are required to attend one rehearsal per six day cycle during AREA. Rehearsals include training in singing skills, reading music, and singing a wide variety of music. Participation in two concerts is a requirement of this course. Sixth grade students may audition for Sylvan Singers select choir.

This exploratory technology and engineering course (12 weeks) is designed for 6th grade students to utilize and develop 21st century STEM skills to solve problems through project based learning. The 6th grade Engineering area of technology education uses a systems approach for student directed learning and instruction. Units of study include: Innovation, Research & Design, Problem

The 7th grade English program continues to develop students' language arts abilities through a wide range of multilevel activities. Reading instruction focuses on developing skills in reading comprehension and analysis. Students read short stories, novels, myths, legends, and poetry related to a variety of age--appropriate themes. Writing instruction focuses on developing skills in expository,

Statistics and Data Analysis unit in 6th grade will be extended to make sense of population samples. This course includes analyzing and making predictions using experimental and theoretical probabilities of events.

This course places a deep emphasis on abstract thinking and problem solving and moves at a fast academic pace. The course will extend the number system to include negative numbers, develop algorithms to add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers and rational numbers. The cours

good reading skills, motivation, perseverance and the ability to share thinking both verbally and in written form. The course includes hands-on/minds-on and STEM related activities, as well as laboratory experiences correlated with large and small group work.

: This year long course provides an overview of United States history. The course begins with a study of the early days of the American Republic and follows the development of the United States through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Particular emphasis is placed on the people, events and ideas that shaped the early years of America's history. Students will reflect on the significance of historical events and how such events influence the present. The study of primary

Seventh grade band is intended for students who have previous instrumental music experience and are interested in continuing development of their musical skills. Sufficient instruction and experience on a band instrument to play band materials at the 7th grade level is a prerequisite. Beginners are accepted at the discretion of the director.

In this course, students will learn musical skills and concepts through a variety of wind band literature. Musicians will develop their note reading, rhythmic skills, and musical vocabulary while focusing on tone production and instrumental technique. Students will work to develop performance skills including playing in tune, performing with expression, and responding to the conductor and to their fellow musicians. Assessments will include both formative and summative performance skill assessments, and some written assessments.

Seventh grade band meets two periods per six day cycle. A third rehearsal takes place in an activities period. In rehearsals students work on concepts of ensemble playing while preparing for two concerts. Band members are also required to attend one small group lesson each six day cycle in a small group held during school hours on a rotating basis. Concert participation is one of the requirements of this course.

Seventh grade students also have an opportunity to perform with the Jazz Band and/or Symphonic Band, co-curricular offerings

The 8th

This course places a deep emphasis on abstract thinking and problem solving and moves at a fast academic pace. Linear equations, functions, and inequalities are the primary focus of the first half of the course, with emphasis on solving equations and inequalities graphically and algebraically. The concepts of linear equations and inequalities are extended to systems of linear equations and inequalities. A study of absolute value equations and inequalities extends conceptions and skills of linear equations and inequalities. Equivalent expressions involving exponents, polynomials, rationals, and radicals are the primary focus of the second half of the course, with an emphasis on creating simplified equivalent forms using properties of real numbers. The course includes a statistics unit on analyzing data using plots and graphs. The course also includes a study of quadratic functions including graphing, factoring, and problem solving.

The general goals of this course are to develop an in-depth understanding of geometric concepts and use logical reasoning skills. The topics to be covered include properties of angles, lines, polygons and congruence, similarity, coordinate geometry, justification and proof, right triangles, vectors, circles, two-dimensional and three-

This course of study is designed for students at any ability level. Using the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the theme of “Change”, students will develop an understanding of Chemical Changes, Changes to Organisms and the Earth over Time, and Climate Change. To help students better understand the science concepts embedded in these units, the appropriate NGSS Science Practices and Crosscutting Concepts will be applied. Emphasis is given to the development of quantitative skills necessary for scientific measurement and establishing evidence based explanations and conceptual models. Throughout the course students will develop good reading skills, motivation, perseverance and the ability to share thinking both verbally and in written form. The course includes hands-on/minds-on and STEM related activities, as well as laboratory experiences correlated with large and small group work.

All eighth grade students take one semester of music, which meets every other day of the block for eighty minutes. Units of student include piano, singing, composition, music history of the Romantic, 20th

7th and 8th Grade String Orchestra: Middle School orchestra is intended for students interested in improving their skills on an orchestral string instrument. Students work on concepts of orchestral ensemble

This course is similar to what students experienced in 7th grade. Classes meet three days per six day cycle. Additional vocabulary, simple sentences, and grammar are presented as well as a more extensive exploration of culture and geography. Emphasis remains on oral communication, although some reading and writing activities are included. Students who take the three day per cycle French course in grade 8 may take French 1 Experienced in grade 9.

This project based technology and engineering course (12 weeks) is designed for 8th grade students to utilize and develop 21st century STEM skills to solve problems through creative learning activities. This Engineering area of technology education uses a systems approach for student directed learning and instruction. Units of study include, but are not limited to: STEM Research & Design, Sustainable Energy & Power, Transportation Technology, System Control Robotics, Electronics and Programming/Coding, Structural Engineering, and CNC Technology. All of these areas of technology make use of a hands-on and minds-on approach to student centered learning.

The State College Area School District provides challenging learning experiences for all students that build on their individual strengths and optimize their abilities. Gifted and Learning Enrichment services, in concert with SCASD's core program, ensure

In compliance with Pennsylvania State Law, the State College Area School District provides to all exceptional students a free and appropriate public education. For purposes of definition, the term "exceptional" refers to students with disabilities to the extent that their unique learning needs require specialized educational programming.

The special education process is designed to begin with the student. His/her strengths, weaknesses, and learning needs are determined through the evaluation process. If a need for special education services is found, school officials and parents work together in developing an appropriate program of education. This specially designed instructional plan for an exceptional student is referred to as an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Following the guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the State College Area S 6 () 6 (and) 6 (l) [(Se) 2 (e) 2 nlya lin

Choice:

The State College Area School District makes a nontraditional approach to secondary education available to the families of the district. The Delta Program primarily serves students in grades 6-12. There is a middle-school cohort (6-8) and high school cohort (9-12). Through the philosophies of shared decision making, community-based learning, flexibility, and the teaching of responsible behavior, the Delta Program, since 1974, has provided an innovative educational option for secondary students.

Shared Decision Making:

The Delta Program is a cooperative effort among students, parents, and staff to provide an optimum learning environment through shared decision making. A personalized learning program is developed by a team made up of the student, a staff advisor, and

Co-Ed Programs: after school programs

Archery	Field Hockey
Penn Skates	Tennis

As students decide which courses they wish to take each year, they should also consider participation in extracurricular acti

Extended School Year Services, and Assistive Technology Services are provided according to the Pennsylvania Special Education Regulations.

Behavior Intervention Plans include a variety of techniques to develop and maintain skills that will enhance an individual student's or young child's opportunity for learning and self-