

8th Grade

- **Math:** Eighth Grade Math will include the Number System, Expressions and Equations, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability curriculum domains. Algebraic concepts are practiced throughout the year. Freshman algebra will also be offered to those students who have demonstrated an aptitude and academic readiness to meet the challenges of rigorous coursework. Our students will be able to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reason abstractly and quantitatively, and construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. Our integrated STEM classes aim to engage students in real life problem solving through math and science.
- **Language Arts:** Students read across different genres to discover and understand the past, present, and future through literature and writing. The Writer's Workshop and 6 +1 Trait Writing is implemented providing students with the framework to experience and find their voice in writing. Rigorous focus and integration of vocabulary and grammar skills to support and enhance reading, writing and speaking skills. Effective use of technology as a resource to support all learning styles.
- **Science:** Eighth grade physical science focuses on basic principles of chemistry and physics. Students observe and analyze motion starting with atomic particles and building to the physically larger systems described by Newton and Kepler. This course is hands on and inquiry based with a large emphasis on lab work, applied knowledge, and the communication of scientific ideas.
- **Social Studies:** A history course designed to introduce 8th grade students to American history beginning with Reconstruction through present day. The course is organized to provide an understanding of how and why particular events, and patterns of events, occurred in our society. This class provides opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding and begin to critically analyze the geographic, political, and economic developments that affected historical events.
- **Religion:** Religion is taught across the curriculum and woven throughout all subjects and student activities and service opportunities. In addition, students take a religion class and are engaged in units of study that are aligned to the Diocesan religion curriculum. Eighth grade religion focuses on understanding one's role in the Church community, demonstrating our call to live out the Gospel, and understanding the history of the Church. The course is deeply rooted in Ignatian spirituality and our Jesuit roots and includes participation in the Arrupe Project, a service-learning units based on Catholic Social Teachings and the Corporal Works of Mercy where students "pay it forward" by becoming personally engaged in their response to social injustice.
- **PE:** Next year in physical education, students will apply concepts that enhanced their health and wellness. Students will learn how to incorporate the five components of fitness to any sport or exercise to increase their performance. We will infuse technology into the curriculum as an extra resource for understanding how their body systems work. Students will work individually, in small groups, and as a whole class to work on their social and emotional skills. The SLEs will be incorporated into the curriculum to help guide the students and give them a well-rounded education.
- **Music:** Students will learn different aspects of music, including music theory, appreciation, and music performance. Students will have the opportunity to continue learning how to read music in Treble and Bass clef, as well as learning

- how to read guitar tab and chord sheets. In junior high, students have use of guitars to continue their music education.
- **Art:** In this project-based course, students will explore a variety of techniques for making art through a range of media. Students will learn how to masterfully identify and utilize the elements and principles of art and design. As students become makers of art, they are simultaneously immersed in a variety of art worlds including examination of how visual art reflects and relates to our Catholic Faith.
 - **Spanish:** Course Philosophy: “Communication is an authentic exchange of information for a real purpose between two or more people.”
In this Spanish course your student will learn vocabulary and grammar from various units in the Realidades textbook along with other print resources. Through the use of audio, visual, and communicative activities, students will be able to apply the language in a practical way.
The students will have the opportunity to learn about customs and traditions from Spanish speaking countries creating connections through comparisons of their own cultural practices.