North Colonie Curriculum Overview



Content Area: World Languages Grade Level: 8

Course Name: Grade 8/1R (French, German, Russian, Spanish)

Course Description: Students in Grade 8 continue to have World Language class daily. Vocabulary as well as cultural themes are taught through many of the following: music, games, presentations, songs, gesturing, group work, readings, written expression, projects, videos, and making real connections with students from target language countries. (May vary by language.) Students will also make cultural comparisons and reflect on their own cultural experiences. The Grade 8 World Languages and Culture Curriculum follows the NYS syllabus for Modern Languages as well as the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages guidelines. (ACTFL) The Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking skills learned are transferable to other content areas as well as general life skills and knowledge, thus preparing our students to be active members of a global community.

At the end of Grade 8, in preparation for Checkpoint B (grades 9 and 10) they will be able to:

- Express oneself in conversations on very familiar topics
- Can ask formulaic questions and respond by listing, naming and / or identifying
- Express needs, preferences and feelings using practiced or memorized words and phrases, facial expressions and gestures
- Understand the main idea of oral or written text, with visual support
- Make inferences based on prior knowledge and / or background
- Make cultural comparisons
- Identify important cultural characteristics and traditions

Description	Year Long Progression of Skills
Course Themes and Topics: (based on NYS Themes and	Identity and Social Relationships: • Expanded question words

Description	Year Long Progression of Skills
Topics for World Languages)	 Identity Describing others in detail (people, family and things) Expanded celebrations, cultural practices and traditions
	 Contemporary Life: Expanded sports, hobbies and vacation leisure activities (with irregular verbs and tenses) Food and meal taking (cultural foods, ordering in restaurants, paying for the bill) Communities and Neighborhoods (directions, places we are going to / what we will do there, expanded transportation) Travel (airports and international travel, clothing / packing / shopping)
	 Science, Technology and the Arts: Continued introductions to relevant authors, artists and architects from those countries Health and Wellness (Medical concerns, body parts, emotional and physical well - being) Physical Environment, Climate, Weather and Geography: (numbers, expanded geography and physical environments) Expanded Technology, Media and Social Media

NYS Standard	Links
The NYS Presentational, Interpretive and Interpersonal communicative standards (in the domain of Novice) will be interwoven throughout the 3 years of world language study at the Middle School.	NYS Learning Standards for World Languages (2021)