

Nagel Middle School

2020-21 Course Guide

1500 Nagel Road, Cincinnati, OH 45255

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www.foresthills.edu/nagel

Nagel Middle School Core Beliefs

1. School is organized around students and how they will be inspired or impacted. **To provide students with high levels of content that is engaging, challenging, and satisfying.**
2. High expectations for ALL. **A challenge for every student.**
3. Focus on the development of needs of middle school age children. **Maximize encore selections for students.**
4. Teacher Teams empowered to make decisions about: time, space, students, and instruction. **Flexible block scheduling.**
5. Every student should be known well by at least one adult. **Student/Teacher Advisory time planned into the week.**
6. Technology is a Teaching and Learning Tool. **Technology is integrated into everything we do.**
7. Every student will be involved in at least one extracurricular activity. **Maximum student opportunities that are relevant, fun, and developmentally sound.**
8. School is a learning community where all students are learners and work collaboratively in teams. **School within a school atmosphere.**

Principal
Anita Eshleman

Assistant Principals
Emily Bamber
Stephanie Meibers
John VanderMeer

Counselors
Christine Hamm
Carolyn Heller
Kathy Roberts

Administrative Assistants
Courtney Presar
Hilary Snyder
Lori Stout
Gaye Bridgett

Learning Commons
Kyle Mack
Donna Mitchell

CAREER PATHWAYS

Forest Hills School District is committed to assisting students in developing a school experience that matches their individual interests, skills, and knowledge, while preparing them for next steps on their journey to future-readiness. Career pathways help students to personalize their educational plan and reach goals that extend beyond high school. A career path indicates a broad spectrum of careers that have similar characteristics and requirements for employment. The U.S. Department of Education has identified 16 career clusters designed to help students focus on career aspirations. Forest Hills career pathways take those 16 and combine them into four broad and flexible paths for academic instruction and student exploration. These are:

Important Numbers:

Nagel: 513.474.5407

Athletic Office: x2215
Attendance: x2223
Counseling: x2201
Health Dept: x2250
Learning Commons: x2214



Health and Social Services



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)



Arts, Humanities, and Communication



Business, Law, and Finance

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The Health and Social Services pathway includes a large and diverse group of careers that promote education, health, diagnosis, treatment, and wellness. Careers in this pathway have the potential to improve and save the lives.



Careers in STEM are exciting, challenging, and ever-changing. STEM careers may involve designing, inventing, or building a wide variety of commodities. Learners who pursue one of these career fields may be involved in planning, managing, and providing scientific research or professional and technical services including laboratory, research and development services.



Careers in Arts, Humanities, and Communications tap into creative and expressive talents. This career pathway requires the ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written form and strong reading skills. In many ways, this pathway is about storytelling in various forms, capturing the human experience and reflecting it back to various audiences, helping others reflect upon the world around them, and inspiring others to make a difference.



The Business, Finance, and Law pathway includes careers in planning, organizing, directing and evaluating functions essential to efficient and productive organizational operations, helping people and companies reach goals and achieve dreams. Learners with an interest in the Business, Finance, and Law pathway should develop a variety of skills including but not limited to strong interpersonal, presentational, and leadership skills.

7th Grade Required Courses

English Language Arts

This course is designed around high-quality literary and informational texts to develop the skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening, that are the foundation for creative and purposeful expression in language. It will address the 7th grade Ohio's Learning Standards. Emphasis will be placed on close, attentive, and critical reading to tackle complex texts and evaluate intricate arguments. Student writing will be developed as a means of asserting and defending claims, demonstrating what the students know, and conveying what they have thought, felt, or experienced.

Math 7

This course is an on-grade level course that addresses the 7th grade Ohio's Learning Standards. It builds on the foundation established in 6th grade of the following topics: the number system, ratios and proportional relationships, statistics and probability, geometry, and expressions and equations. Mathematical practices, as defined by OLS, are woven through each unit.

Accelerated Math 7

This course is an accelerated math class that addresses both 7th and 8th grade math content from the Ohio Standards and will prepare students for Algebra 1 in the 8th grade. This course addresses the following topics: rational numbers and exponents, proportionality, and linear relationships, introduction to sampling and inference, and creating, comparing, and analyzing geometric figures.

Science

This course has three areas of concentration: earth and space science, which focuses on Earth's hydrologic cycle, patterns that exist in atmospheric and oceanic currents, the relationship between thermal energy and the currents, and the relative position and movement of the Earth, sun, and moon; physical science which focuses on the empirical evidence for the arrangements of atoms on the Periodic Table of Elements, conservation of mass and energy, and transformation and transfer of energy; life science which focuses on the impact of matter and energy transfer within the biotic component of ecosystems.

Social Studies

The seventh grade year is an integrated study of world history from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D. Beginning with ancient Greece and continuing through global exploration, this course focuses on how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic, and political factors. Students will develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today.

7th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter

Each of the below courses will occur for 9 weeks

Fine Arts-Visual

#1 Drawing and Painting



This is an exercise in observation. It is for all ability levels. The goal is to develop your ability to communicate with pencil and paint on paper. We will do this by looking at a variety of artists and their work noting how they used their understanding of the "ingredients and recipes" of art to make their art more engaging.

#2

Sculpture



This class is intended to introduce the Elements of Art through the exploration of different sculptural techniques, such as ceramics and other media. Students will develop a better understanding of Art through creating sculptures and being able to explain and defend their artistic choices using appropriate vocabulary.

#3

Graphic Arts



In graphic arts we explore the world of digital art. Using Photoshop, and a variety of other technology we learn to manipulate images, and create works of art impossible to build with any other art medium. Each project provides the opportunity to use a variety of tools and different artistic styles. We also discover real world professions that utilize graphic design, such as advertisers, digital animators, game designers, and more!

Fine Arts-Music

#4

Music Technology



Students in the music technology class will receive hands-on experience with programs similar to those used by professional composers and arrangers to create music using computers and synthesizers. Students will learn the fundamentals of music using tools of their choice.

7th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter (continued)

Each of the below courses will occur for 9 weeks

STEM

#5 Medical Detectives



In this 7th grade course, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, dissect a sheep brain, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

#6 Design and Modeling



Through hands-on experiences students discover the Engineering Design Process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design multiple prototypes and meet the challenge put before them.

#7

Gift.Ed



[Students must be identified as superior cognitive, reading gifted, or math gifted to qualify for this course]

This course will provide interdisciplinary opportunities for critical thinking, problem solving, and independent learning. Goals include using technologies that incorporate STEM topics and applying creative thinking skills to open-ended challenges. Student input and interests will be considered as knowledge and leadership skills in areas of interest are developed through self-driven investigations.

World Language

#8

World Language Exploratory



This World Language Exploratory course introduces students to various World Languages and the cultures of people who speak them. The purpose for this class is to help students understand and appreciate diversity within our world and to encourage them to choose the long term study of a World Language. Students learn the four World Language standards: communication, culture, connections, and comparisons. Students who take this quarter long course will be exposed to Mandarin, Latin, German, and Spanish over the course of 9 weeks. This course is not a prerequisite to take a World Language in 8th grade or at the high school level.

7th Grade Encore Courses Semester

Each of the below courses will occur for 18 weeks (2 consecutive quarters)

Required for All 7th Graders

#9

Wellness

This course provides a combination of health and physical activity to achieve overall lifetime wellness. The impact of lifestyle choices on all aspects of personal health are discussed including physical, mental, emotional, social, and environmental. Activities in this course may include but are not limited to: nutrition, physical fitness, lifetime activities, individual and team sports, stress management, disease prevention, substance abuse, and healthy relationships. The information and skills necessary for making informed and healthful decisions to promote wellness will be discussed with an emphasis on others.

Performing Arts

#10

Women's Chorus 7*

#11

Men's Chorus 7*

This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a year-long option

This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a year-long option

7th Grade Encore Courses Year-Long

Each of the below courses will occur for 36 weeks (4 consecutive quarters)

Performing Arts

#12**Band 7**

This class includes a study of instrumental performance skills. The principles of good posture, efficient breathing and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

#13**Orchestra 7**

This class includes a study of instrumental performance skills. The principles of good posture and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

#14**Women's Chorus 7***

This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a semester-long option

#15**Men's Chorus 7***

This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a semester-long option

8th Grade Required Courses

English Language Arts

This course is designed around high-quality literary and informational texts to develop the skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening that are the foundation for creative and purposeful expression in language. Emphasis will be placed on close, attentive, and critical reading to tackle complex texts and evaluate intricate arguments. Student writing will be developed as a means of asserting and defending claims, demonstrating what the students know, and conveying what they have thought, felt, or experienced. Students experience a variety of writing experiences tied to what they are reading including: routine writing, analytical writing, and narrative writing. Students will learn to research and present their findings in a variety of informal and formal ways including oral presentations, argumentative or explanatory compositions, and/or multi-media products.

Math 8

This course is an on-grade level course that covers the 8th grade Ohio's Learning Standards. This course builds on the foundation established in 7th grade of the following topics: the number system, statistics and probability, geometry, and expressions and equations. This course also includes an in-depth study of functions. Mathematical practices, as defined by CCSS, are woven through each unit.

Algebra I

This course is worth a High School credit and students will be responsible for taking an Ohio State Assessment in the spring for a portion of their HS graduation requirements. It is a combination of 8th grade Ohio's Learning Standards and Algebra I Learning Standards. This course builds on the foundation established in 7th grade of the following topics: the number system, statistics and probability, geometry, and expressions and equations. This course also includes an in-depth study of functions. Mathematical practices, as defined by OLS, are woven through each unit.

Science

This course has three areas of concentration: Earth Science focuses on the physical features of Earth and how they are formed. This includes the interior of Earth, rock record, plate tectonics, and landforms. Physical Science focuses on forces and motion within on and around the Earth and within the universe, and Life Science focuses on the continuation of the species (reproduction, diversity of species, and genetics)

Social Studies

The content of this course includes the time period of 1492 to 1877 Exploration through Reconstruction in the United States of America. While students are studying a particular historic event in the United States, they also look at its geographic settings, economic implications, developments in government and the role of citizens.

8th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter

Each of the below courses will occur for 9 weeks

Fine Arts-Visual

#1 Drawing and Painting



This experience will help you gain a better understanding of both drawing and painting. We will explore a variety of artists and their work so you can broaden your knowledge and understanding of art and develop your ability to create original two dimensional art works with pencil and paint. While prior experience is not required, the class is a continuation of your seventh grade experience.

#2

Sculpture



This class is intended to introduce the Principles of Art through the exploration of different sculptural techniques, such as ceramics and other media. Students will develop a better understanding of Art through creating sculptures and being able to explain and defend their artistic choices using appropriate vocabulary.

#3 Graphic Arts



In 8th grade graphic arts we further explore the world of digital art. Using Photoshop, and a variety of other technology we learn to manipulate images, and create works of art impossible to build with any other art medium. This year we work on creating images that appear realistic, even though they may be fantastic and whimsical. Each project provides the opportunity to use powerful tools and implement different artistic styles. We also will discover real world professions that utilize graphic design, such as advertisers, digital animators, game designers, and more!

Fine Arts-Music

#4 Music Technology



Students in the music technology class will receive hands-on experience with programs similar to those used by professional composers and arrangers to create music using computers and synthesizers. Students will learn the fundamentals of music using tools of their choice.

8th Grade Encore Courses

Quarter (continued)

The courses below will take place for 9 weeks

STEM

#5

Experience This!

By the end of the quarter, students will have studied many different facets of Science, technology, engineering and mathematics. (STEM) The goal is to make this class hands on with the design engineering concepts and engaging for students through projects and discoveries that will stretch their minds and imaginations!!!

#6

Chemical Engineering

In this 8th grade course, students will learn how combining chemistry and engineering can help to solve real-world problems related to world hunger, pollution of our environment, creating new materials, or meeting demands for energy. Student experiences include making ice-cream, evaluating bonds formed from homemade glue, creating & using inorganic paints, and cleaning up an oil spill.

#7

Gift.Ed

Students must be identified as superior cognitive, reading gifted, or math gifted to qualify for this course

This course will provide interdisciplinary opportunities for critical thinking, problem solving, and independent learning. Goals include using technologies that incorporate STEM topics and applying creative thinking skills to open-ended challenges. Student input and interests will be considered as knowledge and leadership skills in areas of interest are developed through self-driven investigations.

8th Grade Encore Courses Quarter (continued)

The courses below will take place for 9 weeks

Wellness

#8 Foundational Fitness



Through a series of workouts including, but not limited to, yoga, resistance training, aerobic conditioning, kickboxing, cycling, plyometrics, and core strengthening students will understand the benefits of various forms of conditioning designed to improve different aspects of their level of fitness. The goal of this class is to expose students to various exercise modes in hopes that they will a) find one that they feel comfortable doing for life and b) be more comfortable in exploring other exercise options when given the opportunity.

#9 Sports Medicine



Through classroom engagement and hands-on experience students will become familiar with the concepts relevant to sports medicine. The class is designed for students who are interested in fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, nursing, EMT, and other sports medicine related fields. It is offered as a classroom and lab course to provide students with an avenue through which to explore these fields of study. Upon completion of this course, students will receive a 2 year certification in CPR and First Aid.

8th Grade Encore Courses

Semester

Each of the below courses will occur for 18 weeks (2 consecutive quarters)

Wellness

#10

Lifetime Sports



Students in this class will have the opportunity to experience a variety of group and individual activities that promote a lifelong healthy lifestyle. Students will gain an understanding of rules, strategies, and techniques of a variety of team and individual sports and recreational activities. Developing teamwork and promoting wellness through a variety of activities will be emphasized. Students are not required to wear a PE uniform, but are asked to dress for activity.

Performing Arts

#11

Women's Chorus 8*



This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a year-long option

#12

Men's Chorus 8*



This class includes the study of vocal and choral performance skills. Students will study and learn the fundamentals of good healthy singing habits and practice. They will also learn the process and study of choral music score reading, explore elements of music history, and discover eclectic vocal performance genres -and languages - from all over the world. The elements above are combined in an encouraging and energetic team-building environment which help to guide young singers to become successful student musicians with a passion for creating superior choral music. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also a year-long option

8th Grade Encore Courses Year Long

The courses below will take place all year (36 weeks)

Performing Arts

#13

Band 8

This class includes a study of instrumental performance skills. The principles of good posture, efficient breathing and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

#14

Orchestra 8

This class includes a study of instrumental performance skills. The principles of good posture and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

#15

Women's Chorus 8*

This class includes a study of choral performance skills. The principles of good posture, efficient breathing and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also offered as a semester course

#16

Men's Chorus 8*

This class includes a study of choral performance skills. The principles of good posture and tone quality in an ensemble will be stressed. This class will also focus on learning the elements of music through performance. Performances outside of the school day are required for this class.

*Is also offered as a semester course

World Language

#17 **German**#18 **Latin**#19 **Mandarin**#20 **Spanish**

These courses are worth a high school credit and students will be responsible for taking high school exams. In level one, the students are introduced to culture, basic vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation, which are keys to building a foundation in reading and speaking. The curriculum includes basic communicative skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students can choose from **German, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish**. Once we have determined the amount of requests for each language, students that qualify to take a World Language will get a confirmation on their schedule verification form in May. Students will be able to indicate a 1st choice and 2nd choice, should there not be enough room in their 1st choice, but still qualify.