

## Grade Eight Subject Overview

ELA	<p>In the 2024 - 2025 School Year, we rolled out a new English Language Arts curriculum in grades 6, 7, and 8 called Fishtank ELA. The guiding principles for Fishtank are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Building knowledge to nurture critical thinking.</li><li>● Centering diverse, relevant, and rigorous texts.</li><li>● Prioritizing student voices and ideas to build agency.</li><li>● Learning to write, writing to learn.</li></ul> <p>For more about Fishtank ELA, visit the website: <a href="https://www.fishtanklearning.org/curriculum/ela/">https://www.fishtanklearning.org/curriculum/ela/</a></p>
Math	<p>In grades K-8, we use the <i>Illustrative Mathematics</i> (IM) curriculum. IM Math is a problem-based core curriculum rooted in content and practice standards to foster learning and achievement for all. Students learn by doing math, solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts, and constructing arguments using precise language. Information for families is available <a href="#">online</a> in both English and Spanish.</p>
Science	<p>In 6<sup>th</sup> grade science, we use a curriculum called <a href="#">STEMScopes</a>, which is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and the MA Curriculum Frameworks.</p>
Social Studies	<p>8th grade social studies follows the <a href="#">2018 MA History and Social Science Framework</a>. The year focuses on American Government and civics, and it culminates with the <a href="#">8th grade civics project</a>.</p>

SEL	<p>For SEL, we use the second step curriculum. Here's an overview of the units covered:</p> <p><a href="https://www.secondstep.org/middle-school-curriculum">https://www.secondstep.org/middle-school-curriculum</a></p> <p>We also have anti-bullying units.</p>
"Specials" Library, Music, Art, Spanish, Health, Physical Education	<p>You can find an overview to these subjects in the parent guardian guide on pages 59 – 61.</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DRVfeJYY_8gYwzpuAjabAO2yaUD-r_ZNin3TncjNr5w/edit#heading=h.gi16nadnw774">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DRVfeJYY_8gYwzpuAjabAO2yaUD-r_ZNin3TncjNr5w/edit#heading=h.gi16nadnw774</a></p>