



Swanson Middle School Differentiation Report First Quarter, 2021-2022

Grade 6 English Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visual Literacy ● Descriptive Writing ● Elements of Fiction Intro to Personal Narrative Unit 	Differentiation Strategies Offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Breakout groups--peer discussions ● BrainPOP activities ● Writing topic/style choices ● Dialogue--different perspectives
Grade 7 English Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Author's Craft & Poetry ● Realistic Fiction - "Facing Adversity" 	Differentiation Strategies Offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individual independent reading goals ● Socratic seminar discussion ● Book clubs
Grade 8 English Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum Storytelling Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading and writing a narrative ● Reading included fiction and nonfiction memoir ● Writing was student choice of fiction or nonfiction narrative Reading content included: the study of the elements of plot, characterization, setting, tone, mood, author's word choice, and how to respond to reading in their writing Writing content included: the development of conflict, setting, tone, mood, word choice and the use of figurative language and how to convey a theme to the reader Grammar content included: sentence structure, parts of speech, punctuation and MLA formatting	Differentiation Strategies Offered Students invited to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write from multiple perspectives ● Develop a flashback or flash forward in their narrative ● Develop illustrations to accompany their narrative ● Set individual reading and writing goals ● Read more challenging texts ● Confer on writing with direct feedback from Resource Teacher for the Gifted and classroom teacher

Grade 6 US History Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
<p>Curriculum Digital Citizenship US History - Geography Over Time (Unit 1). Topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basics of World Geography (continents, oceans, hemispheres, latitude & longitude) ● American Indians and their environment (5 cultures living in diverse North American locations and their adaptation to their environment) ● European Exploration (motivations & obstacles for European countries; legacy & consequences of exploration - including Columbian Exchange and Transatlantic Slave Trade) ● Colonial America (emphasis on colonial regions and colonial society) 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extension activity offered on World Geography Mapping Lab - students could answer additional questions for extra credit ● Writing assignment on American Indians - students wrote a postcard about visiting one of the five American Indian cultures studied and working in details about food, clothing, housing, geography, technology. Students were given freedom to pick the culture of their choice and to be as creative as possible in how they presented required details of the assignment. Although the guidelines were 5-8 sentences, students were encouraged to go above and beyond and do outside research (from a teacher curated Newsela text set) to provide additional details ● Newsela text sets on the history mini unit have been provided for students who finish required work early and choice of articles is encouraged. (US History is continuing to think about other extension activities that could provide choice.)
Grade 7 Civics and Economics Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social-Emotional-Learning Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tech Skills - Introduced tools for learning and how we would use them in our class (Canvas, Google Slides) ○ Introduce inquiry-based learning ● Regions (Student-centered) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teamwork ● Unit 1 Foundations of Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Basic Principles of Government ○ The Role of the Constitution 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student choice for various activities including a Choice Board on Canvas linked to curriculum including current events, videos, articles and other areas of interest ● Extension opportunities which extend the learning of Civics and Economics ideas and link to real world application

Grade 8 World Geography Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Geography & Geographic Skills (5 Themes of Geography: Movement, Region, Location, Human-Environmental Interaction, Place + Mapping Skills) ● Physical Geography (Earth in Space, Climate, Vegetation, Human Adaptation) ● Cultural Geography (Elements of Culture, Material v. Nonmaterial Culture, Belief Spectrum, Cultural Change, Migration) 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student choice for various activities ● Extension opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ extension after mini quizzes ○ project extensions to replace or supplement Unit Assessments ○ exploring topics in greater depth through optional available resources ○ competitive visual analysis and mapping practice through GeoGuessr and Seterra ● Grouping students in different World Geo classes with different teachers for different levels of instruction

Grade 6 Science Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
<p>Curriculum: Lab safety, our solar system, scientific method/inquiry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6.1: The student will demonstrate an understanding of scientific reasoning, logic, and the nature of science by planning and conducting investigations. ● 6.8: The student will investigate and understand the organization of the solar system and the interactions among the various bodies that comprise it. 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice with library research, applying the scientific method through labs and/or classroom activities, and designing presentations. These strategies build student skills to successfully participate in the Independent Science Project and Swanson Science Fair as early as 7th-grade. ● Weekly differentiated class activities that ask higher order thinking questions and/or provide extension opportunities or challenge questions.
Grade 7 Science Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
<p>Curriculum Lab safety, scientific method, experimental design/graphing, characteristics of life, cells, and microscopes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LS.1 The student will demonstrate an understanding of scientific and engineering 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practice with applying the scientific method through labs and/or classroom activities and designing procedures to test a hypothesis. Students have been provided the option to participate in the Independent Science Project and Swanson Science Fair.

<p>practices by: planning and carrying out investigations, interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating data, constructing and critiquing conclusions and explanations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LS.2 The student will investigate and understand that all living things are composed of one or more cells that support life processes, as described by the cell theory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiated instructional/hands-on lab activities that ask higher order thinking questions and/or provide extension opportunities or challenge opportunities to encourage independent exploration through use of technology and lab tools. PBS Learning Resources, CK-12, and IXL content-related learning tools on Canvas.
<p>Grade 8 Science Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experimental Design and scientific investigation Forms of energy Energy transformations and conservation of energy Introduction to properties of matter 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student selection of science projects allowed for open ended investigation of questions Extensions of Gizmos to expand upon content Gifted Resource teacher provided opportunity to discuss research and form their ideas for their independent projects

<p>Grade 6 - Math 6 Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integers, integer operations, absolute value, exponents, perfect squares Coordinate planes Rational numbers, fraction/decimal/percent conversions 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensions (open middle, higher order thinking questions, application problems) Access to IXL (all grades are an option) Challenges Dreambox provides natural extensions when students master content CML Contests offered VML Contest will be offered MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
<p>Grade 6 - Pre-Algebra Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integers, integer operations, order of 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensions (open middle, higher order thinking

<p>operations, absolute value, square roots, estimating square roots, perfect squares, exponents with positive and negative bases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinate planes ● Real number system, fraction/decimal/percent conversions, scientific notation 	<p>questions, application problems)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to IXL (all grades are an option) ● Challenges ● Dreambox provides natural extensions when students master content ● CML Contests ● VML Contest will be offered ● Rigorous course learning 6th, 7th and 8th grade math ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
<p>Grade 7 - Math 7 Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Absolute Value ● Perfect squares and square roots ● Scientific notation and powers of ten ● Compare and order rational numbers ● Practical problems with rational numbers ● Evaluate algebraic expressions ● Solve two step linear equations 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extensions (open middle, higher order thinking questions, application problems) ● Access to IXL (all grades are an option) ● Challenges ● Dreambox provides natural extensions when students master content ● Gifted Resource extensions such as scholastic math challenge. ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
<p>Grade 7 - Pre-Algebra Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Absolute Value ● Perfect squares and square roots ● Scientific notation and powers of ten ● Compare and order real numbers ● Real number system ● Pythagorean Theorem ● Practical problems with real numbers ● Evaluate algebraic expressions ● Solve two step linear equations 	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extensions (open middle, higher order thinking questions, application problems) ● Access to IXL (all grades are an option) ● Challenges ● Dreambox provides natural extensions when students master content ● CML Contests ● VML Contest will be offered ● Rigorous course learning 7th and 8th grade math ● Gifted Resource extensions such as scholastic math challenge. ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
<p>Grade 7 - Algebra I Int. Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)</p>	<p>Instructional Methods & Practices</p>
<p>Curriculum</p>	<p>Differentiation Strategies Offered</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Laws of exponents to simplify expressions ● Evaluate algebraic expressions ● Represent real world situations algebraically ● Solve multistep linear equations ● Solve absolute value equations ● Solve literal equations for a variable ● Analyze linear functions ● Composition of functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Higher order of thinking Number Sense Routines ● Concept exploration activities prior to introduction of topic ● Higher order of thinking Practice Sets ● Choice activities/practices ● Optional practice activities prior to assessments ● Extension activities in Desmos ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
Grade 8 Pre-Algebra Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compare and order real numbers ● Real number system ● Square roots and perfect squares ● Consumer applications ● Evaluate algebraic expressions 	Differentiation Strategies Offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spiral Review ● Use of notecards ● Extension activity applying concepts to block coding activity using Tinkercad ● Project on application of percent change in real life ● Choice Stations ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club ● After school support on Tuesdays and Thursdays for questions/answers on topics and assignments and study support for assessments
Grade 8 Algebra I Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Laws of exponents to simplify expressions ● Evaluate algebraic expressions ● Represent real world situations algebraically ● Solve multistep linear equations ● Solve literal equations for a variable ● Analyze linear functions 	Differentiation Strategies Offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Higher order of thinking Number Sense Routines ● Concept exploration activities prior to introduction of topic ● Choice activities/practices ● Optional practice activities prior to assessments ● Targeted after school activities to reinforce concepts that should have been learned in prior math classes but students never mastered ● After school support on Tuesdays and Thursdays for questions/answers on topics and assignments and study support for assessments ● Extension activities in Desmos ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
Grade 8 Algebra I Int. Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum	Differentiation Strategies Offered

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Laws of exponents to simplify expressions ● Evaluate algebraic expressions ● Represent real world situations algebraically ● Solve multistep linear equations ● Solve absolute value equations ● Solve literal equations for a variable ● Analyze linear functions ● Composition of functions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Higher order of thinking Number Sense Routines ● Concept exploration activities prior to introduction of topic ● Higher order of thinking Practice Sets ● Choice activities/practices ● Optional practice activities prior to assessments ● Extension activities in Desmos ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club
Grade 8 Geometry Int. Curriculum (i.e., summary of standards/content instructed)	Instructional Methods & Practices
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Logic statements ● Proofs ● Angles formed by transversal of two lines ● Constructions 	Differentiation Strategies Offered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of Anchor Charts ● Opportunity to earn extra credit that encourages good study habits ● Rube Goldberg Project that applies Law of Syllogism ● Collaborative activities that lead students through discovering/proving theorems used in proofs ● MathCounts Canvas course and after school club