

Grade 7

Course Information

2026-2027



Listed below are brief descriptions of the courses offered to students in 7th grade.

See the registration form for students' options for selecting and requesting elective courses.

***Please keep in mind, students will be able to request electives, but requests cannot always be granted depending on the student's schedule and class sizes.*

All 7th grade students are required to be scheduled in a music class; either Band and/or Choir for the full year OR one quarter of Music Exploration. Please review the course descriptions for these classes.

Students struggling academically may be placed in a smaller, structured homeroom per teacher recommendation for a quarter or more where they will receive more individualized assistance.

If you have questions about course registration please contact:

Sammy Croatt
School Counselor, grades 7-9
scroatt@isd1.org
218-927-7124

REQUIRED FULL-YEAR COURSES

English 7 OR Honors English 7 (placement determined by English teacher)

The focus of this core class will be developing our skills as critical thinkers, readers, writers, speakers, and listeners. Several genres will be covered including, but not limited to, fiction and nonfiction (articles and novels), short stories, poetry, drama, grammar, writing and research skills, media literacy, and speech communication.

Honors English 7 will develop the same skills, but with a deeper focus on critical thinking and analysis, higher-order reading and writing requirements, and some public speaking opportunities.

Math 7

In Math 7 students will review and build on topics learned in earlier grades including: fractions and fraction operations, integers and integer operations, ratios and proportions, area of 2-dimensional objects, and volume of 3-dimensional figures. We will also explore algebra topics including solving one and two step equations, working with squares and square roots, and graphing linear equations.

Science 7

This course will introduce students to a wide variety of largely life science-based material. Topics include but are not limited to: utilizing the scientific method, classification, metric system, vocabulary, natural selection and evolution of life, disease transmission and impact on society, cells, and genetics. The student's school-issued, one-to-one device (MacBook) will be a vital tool toward effectively satisfying the requirements of this course.

Social 7

This course will consist of a survey of American History from early settlement through the post Civil War era. This class is a continuation of the American History curriculum taught in fifth grade and works in conjunction with the American History curriculum students will receive in their tenth grade class. Units will include: early colonies and exploration, the American Revolution and early government, growth of the United States, Civil War and Reconstruction, and rise into the modern era.

REQUIRED QUARTER COURSES

Tech and Fab Lab Exploration (1 Quarter)

This course is designed to encourage students to use the design process and software to create a variety of items. Possible topics included in this class are robotics, vector design using Affinity Designer and Publisher, Spreadsheets, FabLab equipment, potentially including the laser cutter, 3-d printer, vinyl cutter and embroidery machine.

Health 7 (2 Quarters)

Health 7 is a required two quarter course that covers the different body systems, nutrition and physical fitness, drug use, tobacco use including vaping, communication and conflict resolution skills, prevention of violence, CPR, and sexual pressures.

Physical Education 7 (2 Quarters)

Two quarters of Physical Education 7 are required for all students. **Students in band will have physical education every other day opposite band for the full year.* The primary objective is to encourage and develop the physical, emotional, and social skills necessary for the participation in sports and life-long activities. Students will participate in a variety of team and individual activities along with working on fitness. Students are graded on dressing for PE class as well as full participation to the best of the student's ability in all activities. Students may not wear the clothes they wore to school for physical education class. Appropriate, functional athletic shoes are also required. Student dress will follow the school dress code policy and the PE department.

Music Exploration 7 (1 Quarter, only required if *not* in Band or Choir)

Music Exploration 7 is required only for students who do not register for band and/or choir. We will explore many different areas of music. Some units include: music history, piano, guitar, GarageBand, musicals, etc.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Soprano/Alto Choir 7/8 OR Tenor/Bass Choir 7/8 (Full-year)

***Students registering are expected to stay in choir for the entire year.**

Choir is a year-long course that meets every other day during 5th period opposite of Homeroom. The 7th grade girls' and boys' choirs are entry level choirs in the choral program at AHS. The boys will be combined with the 8th grade boys choir and the girls with the 8th grade girls choir. The boys and girls choirs will sing choral music of various musical styles. In the process, singers will improve their singing voice, music reading, solfege, technique, expression, general musicianship, concert preparation, and teamwork. These choirs sing mainly unison, two-part and some three-part music. Both choirs perform in concert during the months of December and May. All 7th grade students can sign up for this choir.

Band 7 (Full-year)

***Students registering are expected to stay in band for the entire year.**

****STUDENTS MUST BE IN 6TH GRADE BAND TO AUTOMATICALLY REGISTER FOR BAND.**

Band 7 is designed for students who wish to play the traditional woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments in a large group ensemble. We give three concert performances a year. In addition to our three concerts, students will participate in our local marching band performances and have the opportunity to be in pep band and jazz band. Students are to attend a minimum number of lessons per grading period. Home practice is highly encouraged, but not required for participation. Band meets every other day opposite Physical Education for one class period all year.

*****STUDENTS NOT CURRENTLY IN BAND, MUST GET PERMISSION FROM MR. MEEKS BEFORE HANDING IN THEIR REGISTRATION FORM.** A quarter of lessons only will then be required before a student may join band. School instruments are available to use at no charge. We have trumpets, trombones, baritones, saxophones, clarinets and tubas available. If interested in trying any of these, contact Mr. Meeks at 927-2115 ext. 3120.

Art 7 (1 Quarter)

A class designed for all students to develop a deeper understanding and apply the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in their own artwork. In addition, students will develop various art skills and techniques. Throughout the class students will actively engage in various art activities including: art production art criticism or critiquing and exploring art history. Students will be given the opportunity to experience a wide variety of art media and develop techniques in their own work.

Current Events 7 (1 Quarter)

With all that is happening in the news it is more important than ever to know what is occurring in the world around you. This class will examine events as they take place locally, nationally, as well as globally. We will use a variety of information sources to examine events from different perspectives. Topics covered will include: politics, the war on terrorism, world leaders, economics, music, sports, movies, and the people that play important parts in each of these. The course will culminate with students creating their own newscasts to share with the class. This course will be graded pass/fail.

Industrial Technology 7 (1 Quarter)

Seventh grade students will be exposed to a variety of hand tools and machine safety. Students will get the opportunity to learn a usable trade skill and gain knowledge that they will be able to use in their future within many different areas in their life such as: home repair, woodworking, shop safety, tool repair, and metal-working. Students will learn about renewable and non-renewable energy sources and environmental impacts each might create. This course includes some group work and a PowerPoint presentation to help students with their public speaking skills. Students will create, build, and design a Co2 Dragster car. Students will also make four shop projects including: Push stick, Tulip, Wind chime, and Marshmallow/Hotdog Roaster. Students will be learning about the stabber side and port side of a boat, how they float, move, and how they can be propelled. This is a fun, hands-on course that involves both individual and group work. Students will have the opportunity to make, create, and design three different boats in class such as: Steamboats, paddle boat, and a duct tape boat.

INTERVENTION COURSE

Literacy Intervention 7 (varies, typically 1-2 quarters based on student need)

**Enrollment in this course is based on teacher recommendation based on student need. Parents will be notified if their child is recommended for the course.*

This course will reinforce reading comprehension skills by developing vocabulary, providing opportunities to answer and ask questions about a text, teaching a routine for determining main idea, teaching students to monitor their understanding while reading, and practicing reading complex texts. Students may also be given structured homework assistance.

Aitkin High School Daily Schedule



7th & 8th grade

First bell rings at 8:15am.

8:20 – 9:14 am	1 st Period
9:18 – 10:12 am	2 nd Period
10:16 – 11:10 am	3 rd Period
11:14 – 11:41 am	Lunch (27 mins)
11:41 – 12:26 pm	Homeroom (45 mins)
12:30 – 1:24 pm	5 th Period
1:28 – 2:22 pm	6 th Period
2:26 – 3:20 pm	7 th Period

*There is 4 minutes of “passing time” between each class.

*Each academic class period is 54 minutes long.

*Homeroom is a time for working on assignments, studying, reading, and getting help from teachers.