

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

### COURSE CONTENT

#### UNITED STATES HISTORY

- Exploration, Settlement, Revolution
- Constitution/Political Processes
- Developing a New Nation
- Westward Expansion & Division
- Civil War/Reconstruction
- Industrialization

### SKILLS

- Analyzing Text for Information
- Primary Source Documents
- Research Methods
- Oral/Written Reports
- Cooperative Learning
- Academic Discussion
- Engaging in Arguments for Evidence
- Digital Citizenship
- Geography Skills

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS AT GOMS**

**Book Club**  
**Drama Club**  
**Girl Up Club**  
**Running Club**  
**Broadcasting Club**  
**Creative Writing Club**  
**Robotics/Coding Club**  
**The Green Scene**  
**Mural Club**  
**Game Club**  
**Math Contest Squad**  
**Club**  
**Academic Pentathlon**  
**Yoga Club**  
**Looming for Love Club**

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
Our mission at Granite Oaks Middle School, a leader in collaborative and dynamic learning, is to inspire all students to develop their unique abilities with a well-balanced, quality educational experience through high academic standards and diverse extra curricular opportunities strengthened by engagement with our families and community.

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The 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum at Granite Oaks is based on the California Common Core Standards (CCCSS). The CCCSS focus is on critical thinking and problem solving and supports reading, writing, speaking and listening skills infused throughout the curriculum.

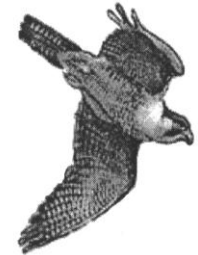
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**Granite Oaks Middle School**  
*A California Distinguished School*  
*A National Blue Ribbon School*  
2600 Wyckford Boulevard  
Rocklin, CA 95765

(916) 315-9009  
FAX (916) 315-9885  
Attendance: 315-9009 ext 4105

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Parent and Student Guide To Understanding the Eighth Grade Academic Program



## Granite Oaks Middle School

*A California Distinguished School*  
*A National Blue Ribbon School*

Rocklin Unified School District

**2017-2018**

Jay Holmes, Principal  
Jeff Christensen, Assistant Principal  
Linda Marcarian, Counselor  
Rosemary Elston, Counselor

## INTRODUCTION

Granite Oaks Middle School is a highly academic school. At Granite Oaks, each student is assigned to an academy; academies are teams of up to four teachers with 70 to 140 students. All academies have rigorous expectations in the core curricular areas of language arts, mathematics, social science and science. All students are expected to meet or exceed the same high learning standards. Each academy will teach the same course content which incorporates the state-mandated standards and district benchmarks in each subject area.

## SCIENCE

### COURSE CONTENT

- Matter and Physical/Chemical Interactions
- Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
- Energy
- Waves and their Applications
- Engineering Designs

### SKILLS

- Asking Questions and Defining Problems
- Developing and Using Models
- Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
- Analyzing and Interpreting Data
- Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking
- Constructing Explanations
- Engaging in Arguments from Evidence
- Obtaining, Evaluating and Communicating Information

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### COURSE CONTENT

#### Writing

- Argument/Persuasive
- Informative/Explanatory
- Narrative

#### Reading

- Literature
- Informational Text

#### Language

- Conventions
- Vocabulary

#### Speaking and Listening

- Presentations (including multimedia)
- Collaborative Discussions

### SKILLS

- Note Taking/Annotating
- Time Management
- Test Taking Strategies
- Cooperative Learning
- Organization

## ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (BY APPLICATION)

Advanced Language Arts is a course that allows students who are interested in English to delve deeply into a differentiated curriculum and expand their writing skills. Placement in Advanced Language Arts is done via a selection process that includes prior English grades, recommendations from teachers, and an application. Students enrolled in Advanced Language Arts will not receive high school credit.

## MATHEMATICS

### COURSE CONTENT

- Algebra
- Area/Volume
- Geometry
- Problem Solving
- Probability/Stats
- Pattern/Functions
- Proportions, Ratio, Percent

### TOOLS

#### (For Mathematics and Science)

- Scientific Calculator
- Graph Paper
- Metric Ruler

## ACCELERATED MATHEMATICS (BY PLACEMENT)

Integrated 1 is the first mathematics course of the three-year sequence offered at Rocklin and Whitney High Schools. Students taking Integrated 1 in 8<sup>th</sup> grade will not receive high school credit, though the course grade will appear on their high school transcript.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR  
ALL QUALIFYING STUDENTS  
A.V.I.D.  
California Junior Scholarship  
Federation (CJSF)  
Student Senate  
Honor Band  
Spelling Bee  
Athletics  
Cheerleading  
Academic Pep Rally  
Math and Science Olympiad**