

CHORUS

Students will:

- Become more proficient in the technical aspects of singing
- Sing music from other cultures so as to expand the knowledge and understanding of non-western musical traditions
- Perform music with stage presence and poise in an effort to build self-confidence



VISUAL ART

Students will:

- Explore different mediums and processes in creating art/art works
- Develop a vocabulary that enables them to speak about art in terms of design and images
- Create works of art that focus on learning techniques and expressing ideas through images
- Understand, explore and employ the elements of art and principles of design



PERFORMING ARTS

Students will:

- Experience the fun of improvisation
- Develop an understanding of acting through exploring the art of facial communication
- Study character development
- Practice writing scripts and monologues using inspiration from personal experience
- Explore directing and theater rehearsal techniques
- Learn the basics of Technical Theater by designing soundscapes, lightscapes, sets, props and floor plans for specific plays
- Learn appropriate terminology and apply it when articulating criticisms and praises of theatrical performances
- Focus on physical movement, gesture, and bodily expression on stage



OUR MISSION

The Pentucket Regional School District seeks to inspire its students with a love of learning and to enable them to develop their academic potential and individual talents in an atmosphere that cultivates independent thinking. We will prepare our students to develop respect for others and to be responsible citizens of a global society.

OUR VALUES

Respect
Accountability
Integrity
Opportunity

Schools in the Pentucket Regional School District are dedicated to providing an up-to-date and challenging curriculum at each grade level. These curriculum brochures represent an overview of the comprehensive competencies at each grade level and in each subject and/or specialist area. Students and parents are able to review the rich curriculum offered in our District.

Pentucket Regional School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.



Dr. Frederick N. Sweetsir School
104 Church Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-8319/Fax: 978-346-7844
Grades Pre K-2

Helen R. Donaghue School
2 Union Street Extension
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-8921/Fax: 978-346-7839
Grades 3-6

Dr. Elmer S. Bagnall School
253 School Street
Groveland, MA 01834
Tel: 978-372-8856/Fax: 978-521-8956
Grades Pre K-6

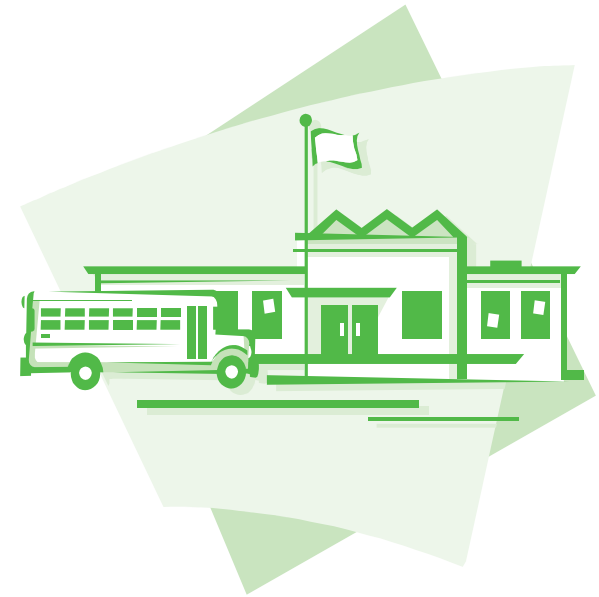
Dr. John C. Page School
694 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2671/Fax: 978-363-2234
Grades Pre K-6

Pentucket Regional Middle School
20 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2957/Fax: 978-363-2720
Grades 7-8

Pentucket Regional High School
24 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-5507/Fax: 978-363-2730
Grades 9-12

Central Services
Office of the Superintendent
Office of the School Committee
22 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Tel: 978-363-2280/Fax: 978-363-1165

Visit us @ www.prsd.org



GRADE 8 CURRICULUM



PENTUCKET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Groveland
Merrimac
West Newbury

Pentucket ... a culture of continuous learning

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will:

- Identify, analyze, and apply knowledge of different genres
- Write coherently with a clear focus on the development of expository and persuasive composition
- Analyze and apply structures and origins of modern English grammar usage and vocabulary development
- Develop and present projects of creative expression and develop styles of presentation; create and implement rubrics to reflect expectations
- Use a variety of modern technology to create and present oral and written research: Power Point, Inspiration, web quests, slide shows



READING

Students will:

- Apply word identification strategies to unknown words in context
- Improve fluency in reading
- Identify main idea and supporting facts in outline format

MATHEMATICS

Students will:

- Recognize and represent linear and non linear relationships in reality-based situations
- Understand slope and determine the slope of a line
- Solve linear equations and inequalities
- Explore introductory applications of the Pythagorean Theorem
- Recognize and represent exponential patterns (population growth, compound interest, depreciation)
- Recognize and understand quadratic relationships
- Explore the characteristics of a quadratic function
- Explore symmetry, transformations (rotation, reflection, translation, dilation), and congruencies of geometric shapes
- Evaluate expressions using order of operations

MATHEMATICS (continued)

Students will:

- Simplify expressions using properties of equality (associative, distributive, and commutative)
- Explore systems of linear equations
- Explore data analysis by comparing sample distributions, sample size, and data displays

EARTH SCIENCE

Students will:

- Utilize the scientific method and metric measurements as tools of inquiry to gather and analyze data
- Choose and produce appropriate graphs to visually represent data collected during an experiment
- Calculate density of a substance after measuring mass and volume; relate density to natural processes on Earth
- Model the structure of atoms
- Compare and contrast elements and compounds
- Compare and contrast the behavior and arrangement of molecules in solids, liquids, and gases
- Explain the causes of Earth's seasons, lunar and solar eclipses, and day and night
- Relate gravity and inertia to planetary motion as well as the formation of stars, planets, and other bodies in the universe
- Describe current theories regarding the formation of the universe and galaxies
- Differentiate among radiation, conduction, and convection, the three methods of heat transfer
- Recognize the role of Earth's land masses, oceans, and atmosphere in regulating climate and supporting life on Earth
- Understand the relationship between a modern industrial society and the environment, and discuss possible solutions to environmental problems
- Describe the theory of plate tectonics and relate it to Earth's geological formations; give evidence to support the theory



SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will:

- Analyze the ancient civilization of Rome while understanding the fundamental issues behind a representative form of government
- Understand the role of religion in the shaping of medieval Europe
- Identify how the Renaissance brought about a re-birth in learning throughout Europe, including key figures in the arts and sciences
- Analyze the role of the Protestant Reformation in changing peoples' view of religion in Europe and how those changes resulted in North American colonization
- Understand how religious and economic factors contributed to the Age of Exploration
- Compare and contrast the settlement patterns of the 13 original North American colonies
- Evaluate the role of the French and Indian War in the changing relationship between the colonies and Great Britain
- Examine the sequence of events that led to the colonists declaring their independence from Great Britain.
- Discover how the ideals of the European Enlightenment influenced Thomas Jefferson's writing of the Declaration of Independence
- Understand the impact of George Washington in leading the colonies to victory against the British thus insuring the birth of a new nation



INTRODUCTORY FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Students will:

- Be able to conduct basic conversations (greetings, names, how one is doing, where one is from, etc.) in the target language
- Recognize and use classroom expressions
- Describe personalities, appearances, and clothing
- Talk about age, dates, birthdays, and holidays
- Talk about school, free time activities, and schedules
- Discuss likes and dislikes
- Accept and refuse invitations

INTRODUCTORY FOREIGN LANGUAGE (continued)

Students will:

- Learn to use common verbs (to have, to be, to go, etc.)
- Describe events taking place in the present and future
- Learn supporting grammar such as adjective agreement
- Become familiar with the cultures of the French, German or Spanish-speaking worlds



HEALTH EDUCATION

Students will:

- Recognize how healthy habits influence growth, development and longevity
- Identify the personal benefits of making positive health decisions
- Analyze diet and fitness levels using software and identifying methods of improvement
- Explain how healthy character traits benefit dating relationships and lead to appropriate dating attitudes and conduct
- Explain the benefits of abstinence, postponing sexual behavior, and setting limits on sexual behavior
- Describe short and long term consequences of sexually related risk behaviors
- Understand and respect individual differences and their role in preventing violence
- Identify the social and emotional consequences of bullying and harassment
- Review and demonstrate methods of conflict resolution
- Discuss the issues around media literacy and Internet safety



BAND

Students will:

- Read musical notation
- Play major and minor scales (winds only)
- Play rudiments and rolls (percussion only)
- Perform on a variety of instruments (percussion only)
- Keep a steady tempo in the ensemble
- Perform in balance with the ensemble