



Duncan Lake Middle School

Encore Guide 24-25

Duncan Lake Middle School Encore Guide is designed to help families understand DLMS will craft a plan of action that will best prepare students for life.

Counselors will work with students throughout the two years to ensure that their plans meet middle school requirements.

Counselor Assignments

- Bari Kane (A-Li)
- Andrew Fitzpatrick (Lj-Z)

2 YEAR PLAN AT A GLANCE

7th Grade Typical Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 7	Math 7
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Science 7	Science 7
<i>World History 7</i>	<i>World History 7</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>

7th Grade Music Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 7	Math 7

Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Science 7	Science 7
<i>World History 7</i>	<i>World History 7</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>

7th Grade Music/World Language Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 7	Math 7
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Science 7	Science 7
<i>World History 7</i>	<i>World History 7</i>
<i>PE requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>STEM requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>

7th Grade World Language Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 7	Math 7
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Science 7	Science 7
<i>World History 7</i>	<i>World History 7</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>

<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
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8th Grade Typical Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 8 or Algebra	Math 8 or Algebra
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Science 8	Science 8
<i>American History 8</i>	<i>American History 8</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>

8th Grade Music Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 8 or Algebra	Math 8 or Algebra
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Science 8	Science 8
<i>American History 8</i>	<i>American History 8</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>

8th Grade Music/World Language Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 8 or Algebra	Math 8 or Algebra
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8

Science 8	Science 8
<i>American History 8</i>	<i>American History 8</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>
<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>	<i>A/B Band/Orch/Choir</i>

8th Grade Music/World Language Student

Semester 1	Semester 2
Seminar	Seminar
Math 8 or Algebra	Math 8 or Algebra
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Science 8	Science 8
<i>American History 8</i>	<i>American History 8</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>
<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>	<i>A/B World Language 1 or 2</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>
<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>	<i>Encore/Other Requirement</i>

Schedule Change Policy

Schedule change requests should be made via our online form and will only be completed if the student:

1. Has a duplicate class in the same semester
2. Has not met the prerequisites of a class
3. Needs a class requirement for completion
4. Has an open spot in their schedule

➤ [Link to Schedule Change Form](#)

Required Courses

Other Required Courses that must be included in the plan

STEM- 1 semester

Learning Labs- ELA/Math (based on academic need)

P.E. - 1 semester

SCOTS - (based on academic need)

Physical Education 7th & 8th

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

(By selecting any of the PE offerings will meet this requirement)

STEM

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

A minimum of 1 semester of STEM offering for the year 23-24

ELA Learning Lab

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Administrator recommendation

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, NWEA scores, with teacher recommendation

Math Learning Lab

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Administrator recommendation

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, NWEA scores, along with teacher recommendation

SCOTS

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Administrator recommendation

Students may be scheduled into the following classes, based on grade level qualifiers. Students receiving SCOTS support may be assigned to this class to reinforce classroom concepts for both Reading and Math.

ELA and Math

7th Grade Math Extension

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Administrator recommendation

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, NWEA scores, along with teacher recommendation.

Forensics: Drama and Speaking

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Do you consider yourself to be an inspiring actor? Maybe you like being up in front of people performing or debating? Then consider joining forensics! Forensics is a competitive group of public speaking events. Students compete in different categories, ranging from giving a performance from a piece of a play to giving a sales speech on a topic of choice. The first part of the class will be spent exploring the different individual events in the field of competitive public speaking and then students will prepare two events for the class based on their interests.

SOAR (Spatial Orientation and Analytical Reasoning)

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Students will develop spatial visualization skills in a game-themed environment, participate in critical thinking projects, and hone their strategic problem-solving skills during SOAR. Each student will be guided to learn the crucial elements of being a cohesive member of a group as they make their way through problems.

Language For Life

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

In Language for Life, students will learn, develop, and enhance their skills in narrative, informational, and

argumentative texts. Students will have the opportunity to read, write, and discuss an array of texts. Students will also learn how to understand both sides of an argument and how to successfully support their position by participating in a variety of debate formats. This class will enhance students' critical thinking, writing, listening, and public speaking skills, as well as foster one's passion for reading and writing.

Personal Finance

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Personal Finance explores the basics of informed everyday financial decisions. We study comparing costs, income, saving, taxes, loans, investing, insurance, purchasing tips and liabilities. This class gives the tools a healthy outlook on future financial decision making.

Video Editing and Media Production

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

In this class students will learn how to plan, film and use advanced editing techniques to create a variety of video projects. The techniques learned can be applied to video projects for a students' academic courses and also for fun personal projects.

ART

Introduction to Art

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This is a course that provides an introduction to art through a multimedia experience. Students will explore the elements of art (line, shape, value, form, space, color, and texture) through various types of art media and techniques. The skills learned in this course will benefit the student as they progress through the other 2-Dimensional classes.

Exploring the Arts

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Through this course, students will gain further understanding and explore techniques and skills involving a wide range of drawing materials, students will get to deepen their knowledge and explore mediums such as pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, pastels, printmaking, ceramics and Sculpture. Students will also practice the fundamental skills of drawing reality. This course will also include learning how to draw a 3-Dimensional world on a 2-Dimensional surface. Some of the areas of focus will be on perspective (1 and 2 Point Perspective), drawing facial features, proportion, and portraits, as well as other observational drawing skills. This course is designed for those who want to continue advancing/developing their skills and confidence in drawing.

Advanced Studio Art

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This course will follow the guide of TAB: Teaching Artistic Behaviors, also called Choice Art, which is a pedagogy through which students learn to think like artists. It develops critical thinking and creative problem solving skills. Often called Choice Art, because each student chooses what they want to create and in which medium or mediums they want to create the product. Skill builder lessons will introduce the students to the different materials and techniques in each medium. Students are encouraged to experiment to see how different media can be manipulated. For a work to be published and presented to an audience the students work through the Artistic Process Model, They begin with an idea, create a plan and a sketch, conference with the teacher about revisions to the plan and mediums that they would like to use to create the work, then they begin the final product, edit the final product to make it the best it can be before displaying it. This course is beneficial for all student artists that want to increase their independence and confidence in Art.

Leadership

CAL

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

CAL (Creating Authentic Leaders) is a leadership class. You will use role-plays, group activities, speeches, and projects to take responsibility, express yourself, and handle problems and decisions when they arise. There will be a focus on building skills in empathy, and communication as well as developing an understanding of attitude and self-concept. Cooperation and affirmation will be tools used to develop positive relationships with peers. Students will have fun while developing authentic leadership and essential life skills.

Academic Citizenship

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

In this course we focus on key areas: executive functioning, goal setting, employability skills, digital citizenship, communication skills, life skills, healthy living, citizenship/global learners.

Student Council

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Designed for students to plan events and service projects throughout the school year. Students will explore personality types, leadership styles, project management skills, and communication styles, and how each of those can impact a service project. Students will discover the importance, influence, and impact of positive student leadership in the community.

LINKS

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation/Student Interest

LINKS is about creating connections within a diverse group of students and ensuring that all students are acknowledged and accepted for what makes them different and what makes them the same as their peers. The student enrolled in the LINKS course will be a mentor, role model, and friend to a student with a disability. In this role, the LINKS Program students will be with their assigned peer for a minimum of one class period per day, and they will be interacting with their peers during social activities during the entire school day. In addition to being a mentor, role model, and friend, they will assist the peer student in such things as appropriate classroom behavior, organization of assignments and supplies, and focusing on what the teacher is presenting or the classroom activities.

The LINK student will attend monthly meetings to discuss the progress of his/her peer student, and contribute ideas on how to more effectively help the peer student progress toward his/her goals. During a normal school week, the LINK student will also be required to complete weekly disability awareness lessons using an online classroom environment. The LINK will learn more about the causes and prevalence of many common disabilities, methods/techniques for working with individuals with disabilities, developing social networking supports, and developing a social climate of awareness, acceptance, and inclusion. (Students will be asked to apply with final approval from staff)

Music

7th Grade Band

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Prior participation in 6th Grade Band or teacher approval recommended

7th Grade Band is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 6th Band. Students will begin to learn the advanced techniques that will help us be successful as we learn great music and progress towards HS Band. Students will perform in our three annual concerts and will have the opportunity to participate in solo & ensemble festival. Participation in 7th Grade Band also gives you the opportunity to sign up for any of our Band Encores (Mini-Strike, Pop Music Ensemble, and Film Music Ensemble), which are fun 12-week classes that explore a particular style of music in addition to what is learned in your 7th Grade Band class.

8th Grade Band

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Prior participation in 7th Grade Band or teacher approval recommended

8th Grade Band is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 7th Grade Band. Students will continue to develop the advanced techniques that will help us be successful as we learn great music and get ready for HS Band. Students will perform in our three annual concerts and will have the opportunity to participate in solo & ensemble festival. Participation in 8th Grade Band also gives you the opportunity to sign up for any of our Band Encores (Mini-Strike, Jazz Band), which are fun 12-week classes that explore a particular style of music in addition to what is learned in your 8th Grade Band class.

Mini-Strike

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Enrolled in 7th or 8th Grade Band

Learn advanced music on various percussion equipment including the steel drums, marimba, and vibes. Students will learn and perform complex literature on one of these instruments. Students must be enrolled in either the 7th-grade or 8th-grade band in order to participate in this class.

Jazz Band

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Enrolled in 7th or 8th Grade Band

This band class is for students already enrolled in 7th or 8th-grade band who wish to play more challenging music as well as learning some jazz, blues, Latin, rock, and pop music. We will do performances at the band concerts as well as possibly participate in the Thornapple Arts Council Jazz Festival in Hastings in the spring.

7th Grade Treble (Choir)

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This choir is designed for 7th-grade Soprano and Alto voices at Duncan Lake Middle School. All students will apply healthy vocal production and technique while exploring a variety of vocal music styles and genres. Participants will perform in the fall, winter & spring concerts, MSVMA Choral Festival, and at community events. Team skills, ear training, group sight-singing, and the development of poise and self-confidence are core elements of this 7th-grade choir.

8th Grade Treble (Choir)

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This choir is designed for 8th-grade Soprano and Alto voices who have demonstrated an appropriate level of rehearsal technique, teamwork, performance skills, and sight-singing at Duncan Lake Middle School. Participants will perform in the fall, winter & spring concerts, MSVMA Choral Festival, and at specialized events in both the local community and the region. Eighth-grade students will experience group

sight-singing at a high level, develop leadership skills, strengthen musical independence, and expand their repertoire. There are many solo and group singing opportunities available. 8th-grade students electing this course should contact Mr. Goodyke to set up a “meet and greet” in order to learn more about this choral experience.

7th/8th Grade Tenor/Bass (Choir)

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This choir is designed for 7th and 8th grade Tenor and Bass voices who are interested in singing at Duncan Lake Middle School. All students will apply healthy vocal production and technique while exploring a variety of vocal music styles and genres. Participants will perform in the fall, winter & spring concerts, MSVMA Choral Festival, and at community events. Team skills, ear training, group sight-singing, leadership skills, and development of poise and self-confidence are core elements of this combined 7th/8th-grade choir. There are many solo and group singing opportunities available.

7th Grade Orchestra

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Prior participation in 6th Grade Orchestra or teacher approval recommended

7th Grade Orchestra is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 6th Grade Orchestra. Students will begin to learn the advanced techniques that will help us be successful as we learn great music and progress towards the HS orchestra. Students will perform a variety of fun songs in our three annual concerts and will have the opportunity to participate at Solo & Ensemble Festival. Participation in 7th Grade Orchestra also gives you the opportunity to sign up for our Advanced Orchestra Encore, which is a fun opportunity for Orchestra students who are looking for an extra-musical challenge while focusing on different types of music in addition to what is learned in your 7th Grade Orchestra class..

8th Grade Orchestra

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Prior participation in 7th Grade Orchestra or teacher approval recommended

8th Grade Orchestra is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 7th Grade Orchestra. Students will continue to develop the advanced techniques that will help us be successful as we learn great and get ready for HS Orchestra. Students will perform a variety of fun songs in our three annual concerts and will have the opportunity to participate at Solo & Ensemble Festival. Participation in 8th Grade Orchestra also gives you the opportunity to sign up for our Advanced Orchestra Encore, which is a fun opportunity for Orchestra students who are looking for an extra-musical challenge while focusing on different types of music in addition to what is learned in your 7th Grade Orchestra class..

Physical Education

Physical Education

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

The design for this course consists of units lasting 5-10 class periods long with an emphasis on games, team and individual sports, and an introduction to physical fitness and the weight room. The fundamentals, strategy, and rules of each sport/activity will be taught and applied through practice and lead-up games and activities. Units will include but are not limited to tag games, recreational games, basketball, volleyball, football, racquet sports, hockey, etc. Grading is based on participation and citizenship. Weather permitting, we will spend as much time outdoors as possible.

Advanced P.E. Training: Speed & Strength

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students who want to improve their physical strength and explosiveness. A variety of training methods with an emphasis on improving core strength, balance, lateral and linear speed, and proper lifting techniques will ensure a safe environment for students to learn and grow. A continuous feedback loop will provide correction and motivation to set students up for success. Goal

setting for specific target areas of strength focus will take place. In addition, sports skills and games will be implemented to comply with the Michigan State Standards and Benchmarks for Physical Education. Students interested in this class should be intrinsically motivated to work hard and display a growth mindset. Fitness testing will be conducted to measure student growth. Pacer Test, BMI, Push-up, Pull-up, Sit-up, Pro-Agility, Vertical Jump, and 20 Yard Dash.

Typical Class Structure:

- Dynamic Warmup
- Drills to improve linear and lateral speed
- Lifting circuits
- Core Segment
- Stretch and Cooldown

Freshmen Health

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

HS: Credit

This course is designed to give students information concerning their physical, mental, and social well-being. Course topics will include basic human anatomy, nutrition, hygiene, major diseases (including AIDS), mental health, tobacco, drug abuse, first aid/CPR, and reproductive health.

The major outcomes of this course are: Develop patterns of behavior that will promote a full and satisfactory life, learn CPR as a life-saving technique, and learn standard first-aid procedure.

STEM (all students need 6 weeks per school year)

STEM Intro A

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students will explore game design, bridge construction, and digital animation

STEM Intro B

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Students will be introduced to computer programming, graphic design, and other areas of creative media.

Advanced STEM

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

This class will give students the opportunity to learn elements of architectural design, tower construction, and video production.

STEM Advanced PLUS

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Students will engage with an introduction to computer coding language, 3-D design, Robotics, and other areas of computer science.

World Language (HS Credit)

SPANISH 1 A

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Must have 3.0 GPA to be considered.

Spanish 1A focuses on the essentials of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish at an introductory level that includes an emphasis on oral proficiency. Students will learn language basics, beginning vocabulary, and grammar. Spanish 1A will complete units 1, 2, 3 and will culminate with a final assessment.

SPANISH 1 B

Grades 7 & 8

Prerequisite: Spanish 1A with a passing grade

Spanish 1B continues to focus on the essentials of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish at an introductory level that includes an emphasis on oral proficiency. Students will continue to learn language basics, beginning vocabulary, and grammar. Spanish 1B will complete units 4, 5, and 6 and will culminate with a final assessment.

Spanish 2 A

Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1B with a passing grade.

Spanish 2A presents the more complex structures of basic Spanish. Students will acquire a basic command of key vocabulary and sentence structure necessary for personal communication, as well as an appreciation of the breadth and variety of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will learn additional verb tenses. Spanish 2A topics will include Travel/House and Chores/Health and will culminate w/ a final assessment.

Spanish 2 B

Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 2A with a passing grade.

Spanish 2B continues to present the more complex structures of basic Spanish. Students will acquire a

basic command of key vocabulary and sentence structure necessary for personal communication, as well as an appreciation of the breadth and variety of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will learn additional verb tenses.

Spanish 2B topics will include Daily Routine/Clothing/City and Directions and will culminate with a final assessment.