



ESSENTIAL LEARNING FOR EIGHTH GRADE

At the end of Eighth Grade, students should be able to demonstrate mastery of the following material:

The mission of San Jose Christian School is to advance the kingdom of God by providing exceptional teaching and curriculum fully integrated with Biblical perspective. Within our Christian community we live to engage and transform culture for Jesus Christ.

LANGUAGE ARTS

- Annotate texts from a variety of genres (news, novels, essays, etc.)
- Analyze American poetry using the TPCASTT method
- Examine and analyze a Shakespeare play; write a sonnet
- Read and evaluate different types of nonfiction
- Read and analyze a dystopian novel and find examples from the world today which correlate with the author's commentary
- Read and discern various genres of literature with a Christian worldview and interpret text from this viewpoint
- Integrate and cite textual evidence in MLA format
- Write a novel analysis essay using Step Up to Writing
- Prepare and participate in a debate on a current topic
- Research, prepare slides for, and present a TED-style talk on a current topic with the goal of giving voice to the voiceless
- Identify the parts of speech and apply to proper sentence structure; diagram accurately
- Memorize and correctly use vocabulary words including Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes
- Create a tutorial video on one or more rules from Strunk and White's Elements of Style

MATH 8

- Explain one's personal mathematical thinking
- Recognize and apply the following concepts: linear and inverse variation, the Pythagorean Theorem, exponential growth and decay, symmetry and transformations, and systems of linear equations
- Manipulate mathematical symbols in preparation for upper level math

BIBLE

- Memorize and explain context of key Bible passages
- Analyze one's relationship with the Living God by answering the following questions: Who is God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)? Who am I? What place do I have in the story of God and His people?
- Discover and engage in inductive Bible study, spiritual conversations, and spiritual disciplines
- Read and interpret the Gospels and Acts and relate teachings to daily life
- Appraise the role of faith and doubt in our relationship with God
- Write a research paper on one NT letter using Step Up To Writing accordion essay format
- Define transformation, sanctification, and personal character growth through the study of C. S. Lewis' *Voyage of the Dawn Treader*
- Introduce five major world religions in their historical, theological, and geographic contexts: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism. Understand humanism and atheism.
- Compare and contrast Christianity to other major world religions
- Hold spiritual conversations with Christian adults on key topics

ALGEBRA 1

In addition to Math 8 Essential Learning Outcomes, Algebra 1 students will:

- Recognize and apply inequalities in both one and two variables as well as in quadratic functions
- Solve (theoretically and experimentally) quadratic equations
- Identify, transform, and apply various functions including linear, inverse, quadratic, absolute value, cubic, and square root
- Study basic statistics

HISTORY (U.S. HISTORY)

- Describe and apply the basic principles embodied in the Constitution
- Evaluate U.S. history in a contemporary and Biblical context
- Analyze the relationship between past events to current issues
- Evaluate and assess the issues, social tensions, and events surrounding colonization, the American Revolution, the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, immigration and the Progressive Era

SCIENCE (PHYSICAL SCIENCE)

- Describe and explain a model of the following: atomic composition molecules, law of conservation of mass, transfer of kinetic energy, how distance affects potential energy, movement of waves through various materials, and chemical reactions
- Explore and describe the following: Newton's Three Laws, electric and magnetic forces, synthetic materials, digital vs. analog signals, and how gravity depends on the masses of interacting objects
- Investigate the physical, social, and emotional changes in adolescence
- Summarize the human reproductive cycle
- Discuss the advantages of abstinence before marriage

TECHNOLOGY / DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

- Develop an approach to technology and one's digital presence based on effective communication and wise decision-making
- Interact with a variety of digital tools and digital resources
- Use technology as a tool for learning and problem-solving

SPEAKING & LISTENING

- Communicate and listen effectively in collaborative groups
- Use evidence to give and explain an argument
- Analyze the effect of acting and expression on the understanding of a play
- Communicate with group members and resolve conflict

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Build a higher level of personal muscular and cardiorespiratory fitness
- Demonstrate the ability to take responsibility for their own body composition and nutrition
- Create various workouts based on targeted muscle groups
- Perform and explain basic fundamentals and tactics from team sport units
- Identify Christian decisions relating to competition

MUSIC (CONCERT BAND / JAZZ BAND / CHOIR)

- Enjoy music as a gift from God and share musical gifts positively within the community
- Turn setbacks into growth opportunities for personal and music growth through reflection and goal setting
- Listen attentively as musicians and fellow human beings
- Explain and demonstrate proper breathing mechanics for excellent singing or playing
- Develop instrumental or vocal skill mastery in a community environment

ART

- Integrate elements of art into projects: line, color, shape, value, form, space, and texture
- Explore techniques in watercolor, acrylic paint, charcoal, oil pastel, marker, and colored pencil
- Analyze and respond to artwork from various artists