

# Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School



2026-27  
7th Grade  
Course Registration Packet

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# Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School

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*We Care and Challenge with Character . . . Kinard Character*

# 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE PLACEMENT INFORMATION

## **MATH**

Math placement is determined by Kinard staff using the following data and observations:

- Proficiency and work habits in current math course
- Math CMAS scores
- Math MAPS scores

The following courses offered at the middle school level are equivalent to **high school courses** and count toward the student's GPA and high school graduation requirements.

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2

Please contact your child's math teacher or David Meuret, Math Department Leader, at (970) 488-5478 or [dmeuret@psdschools.org](mailto:dmeuret@psdschools.org) if you have a specific math placement question.

## **HONORS ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS**

In 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, we offer differentiated numeracy and literacy classes to best meet the needs of our diverse student population. See above for placement criteria into leveled math classes designed to best meet students' numeracy needs. For literacy, we offer an Honors English course option in both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Additionally, in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we also offer an Honors Science course option to better align with students' numeracy abilities and to provide additional challenge for students prepared for a higher level of scientific study and mathematical applications.

Placement criteria into Honors courses include:

- Achievement test scores of proficient to advanced (most recent CMAS and/or MAPS)
- Proficient or advanced academic and work habit grades
- Completed application and required components

These courses are intended for highly motivated and academically skilled students who wish to actively participate in a challenging course of exploration. Students must meet specific criteria including the commitment to put forth the extra effort necessary for success in an academically challenging environment. Honors courses will teach the Core Knowledge Curriculum and State Academic Standards; however, the student should be willing to become a self-directed learner and explore the content on a deeper level. Students must complete the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Honors Application form (page 12 of this document) to be considered for honors literacy placement in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. The application *must be completed and returned on or before Thursday, February 5, 2026*, to the Kinard Student Services office. Any applications received *after February 5<sup>th</sup>* will be added to a waiting list.

***Notification of Honors placement will occur by late April by email.***

## **MUSIC**

Music is required in 7th grade at Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School. Students continue to build upon the foundations of music learned in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Course offerings include Choir, Band, and Orchestra.

Please contact Scott Wheeler, Music Department Leader, at (970) 488-5488 or at [swheeler@psdschools.org](mailto:swheeler@psdschools.org) if you have a specific music placement question.

# 7th GRADE WORLD LANGUAGE PLACEMENT INFORMATION

## WORLD LANGUAGE

### What World Language courses can a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student choose to take?

- World Language is **required** in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Students can choose between Spanish 1A or French 1A. All 1A World Language courses are full year courses and are designed for students to acquire a deeper understanding of the language by means of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and learning about the cultures of the target language.
- If students took a level 1A course at Kinard during 6<sup>th</sup> grade, then they will proceed to level 1B. They may also choose to retake a level 1A in the same language or take level 1A in a new language.

### Is it possible for a 7<sup>th</sup> grader to postpone starting a World Language course until their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year?

- No, World Language is required for all 7<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### Where are students placed if they have prior extensive experience with a language?

- Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students with prior extensive experience in a World Language can be placed into a 1B course. Placement into a 1B course is based on one or more of the following requirements:
- Prerequisite of level 1A
- Or mastery of the 1B entrance assessment
  - The 1B entrance assessment will require students to proficiently read, write, listen, and speak in the target language. The entrance assessment will be administered for incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who meet the necessary requirements during the first few weeks of school; assessment times will be determined per teacher/student request and availability. Students must earn a score of proficient on the entrance assessment in order to enroll in a 1B course as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student.

**Note:** The following courses offered at the middle school level are the equivalent of a high school course and count toward the student's GPA and high school graduation requirements.

- Spanish 1A + Spanish 1B = Spanish 1\*
- French 1A + French 1B = French 1\*
- Spanish 2 = Spanish 2
- French 2 = French 2

\*World Language students need to complete both the 1A and 1B courses to receive credit for either Spanish 1 or French 1.

Please contact Leslie Husted, World Language Department Leader, at [lhusted@psdschools.org](mailto:lhusted@psdschools.org) if you have specific World Language placement questions.

For additional information regarding Graduation Requirements and PSD Policy, please review the district policy at: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/policies/IKF-2017.pdf>.

For information regarding the opportunity to earn a PSD Seal of Biliteracy on a student's high school diploma, go to the PSD Seal of Biliteracy website at: <https://sites.google.com/psdschools.org/psdsealofbiliteracy/home>.

# **Middle School Courses for High School Credit**

## **Qualifications**

Poudre School District middle school students have the option to receive high school graduation credit for taking courses at the middle school level that meet the PSD graduation requirements.

The Kinard courses listed below have been approved to receive high school credit:

## **Mathematics:**

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2

## **World Language:**

- Spanish 1A/1B\* = Spanish 1
- Spanish 2
- French 1A/1B\* = French 1
- French 2

*\*Levels 1A and 1B must both be completed to receive high school credit.*

## **Eligibility Requirements**

Students meeting the requirements will receive high school credit for their course and the information will be automatically recorded on their high school transcript. The grade in the course will also be included in the calculation of the student's high school grade point average (GPA). Students are eligible to receive high school graduation credit for an approved course by meeting the following requirements:

1. Complete all four quarters of the yearlong course.

**AND**

2. Pass the course with an overall grade of D or higher.

## **Opt-Out Option**

Students/parents have the option of declining high school graduation credit for the approved courses listed above. If students/parents determine that they would like to decline the high school credit, they must complete the “*PSD High School Credit for Middle School Courses Opt-Out Form*”. This form must be submitted to the high school registrar at any point from the first day of the student's ninth grade year through the last day of the student's ninth grade year. Once the credit is declined, the grade record removal is permanent and non-reversible. Declining credit only means that the student will begin accumulating their credit once they enter ninth grade at the high school. Declining credit does not keep the student from progressing on their pathway.

For additional information regarding Graduation Requirements and PSD Policy please review the district policy at: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/policies/IKF-2017.pdf>.

# SEVENTH GRADE 2026–2027

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ENGLISH

#### LA710 English/Language Arts 7 Core Knowledge

Year Long

**Prerequisite: None**

This class addresses Core Knowledge topics, in combination with the four main Colorado Reading and Writing standards (Oral Expression and Listening, Writing and Composition, Reading for All Purposes, and Research and Reasoning). Students will utilize scaffolded reading and writing strategies to encourage growth as they produce poetry, narrative, and various multi-paragraph compositions, and they apply basic grammar, mechanics, and spelling to all genres of writing. They learn to apply reading skills to understand various texts that include *Code Talker* (novel), *Hello, Universe* (novel), *The Tempest* (play), and *The Diary of a Young Girl* (autobiography), and are exposed to various levels of poetry, short stories, speeches, and essays. Students learn, use, and understand the meaning of Latin and Greek roots and their connections to other content areas. Students focus on learning critical thinking skills, and how and when to use the best reading and writing strategies for different purposes. Outside reading and writing is a requirement for this course.

#### LA713 Honors English/Language Arts 7 Core Knowledge

Year Long

**Prerequisite: None**

**Application Required: on page 12**

This class addresses Core Knowledge topics in combination with the Colorado Academic Standards. Students analyze and create various multi-paragraph essays, as well as poetry and narratives. They apply more advanced grammar, usage, and mechanics to all genres of writing, and self-evaluate their writing according to teacher- and student-created goals. Students learn and apply the skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation when they read various texts that may include *Code Talker* (novel), *Hello, Universe* (novel), *The Tempest* (play), and *The Diary of a Young Girl* (autobiography), as well as various levels of poetry, short stories, and Latin roots and phrases. Students will engage in an independent study of various genre texts to extend upon in-class curriculum that will necessitate extensive effort outside of class. Students focus on using critical thinking skills to determine the best reading and writing strategies for different purposes. Outside reading and writing is a requirement for this course.

### SCIENCE

#### SC728 Science 7 Core Knowledge

Year Long

**Prerequisite: None**

This 7<sup>th</sup> grade class is an integrated science sequence that utilizes a combination of instructional strategies and resources. Core Knowledge topics, in combination with state science standards addressed in this class include: nature of science, ecology, photosynthesis and respiration, cell structure and function, genetics, heredity, related body systems, and adaptation of species for survival.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

#### SS730 Social Studies 7 Core Knowledge

Year Long

**Prerequisite: None**

In 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Core Knowledge content will be delivered in a manner which thoroughly addresses Colorado Academic Standards in history, geography, civics, and economics. 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies presents the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century from global and American perspectives. Topics include: Creating a Constitution, A New Republic and the War of 1812, Westward Expansion, The Civil War and Reconstruction, Immigration, Industrialization, and Urbanization, WWI, the 1920s, The Great Depression, and all related geography. 7<sup>th</sup> grade social studies emphasizes skills such as reading and analyzing texts and maps, applying critical thinking strategies, using evidence to support claims, and map making skills.

# SEVENTH GRADE 2026–2027

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### MATHEMATICS

#### **MA740 Math 7**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Math 6 and teacher recommendation based on data and observations**

Math 7 is based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Colorado Academic Standards. These standards define what students should understand and be able to do. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade standards focus on six critical areas: (1) understanding and applying proportional relationships; (2) operating with rational numbers; (3) working with expressions and linear equations; (4) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions; (5) working with two-and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (6) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Math 8.

#### **MA745 Math 7/8**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Math 6 and teacher recommendation based on data and observations**

Math 7/8 is based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and approximately half of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Colorado Academic Standards. These standards define what students should understand and be able to do. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade standards focus on six critical areas: (1) understanding and applying proportional relationships; (2) operating with rational numbers; (3) working with expressions and linear equations; (4) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions; (5) working with two-and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (6) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade standards included in this course focus on three critical areas: (1) connecting proportional relationships and linear equations; (2) solving linear equations; and (3) extending work with shapes to congruence, similarity, and volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Math 8 or Algebra 1 (with supporting data and teacher recommendation).

#### **6230 Algebra 1\***

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Math 7/8 or Math 8 and teacher recommendation based on data and observations**

The middle school Algebra 1 course includes approximately half of the Colorado 8th Grade Math Standards and standards from the Colorado High School Academic Standards. These standards define what students should understand and be able to do and focus on: (1) writing, graphing, and solving linear, exponential, quadratic, square root, and rational equations and functions; (2) writing and solving systems of equations; (3) understanding and applying the laws of exponents; (4) understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem; and (5) constructing and analyzing data displays. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Geometry.

*\*Students in these courses will receive high school credit unless they don't meet the requirements or opt-out. See page 5 for additional information. For more information regarding Graduation Requirements and PSD Policy, please review the district policy at: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/policies/IKF-2017.pdf>*

# SEVENTH GRADE 2026–2027 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## WORLD LANGUAGE

### **4708 French 1A**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grades: 7<sup>th</sup>**

French 1A provides students with an introduction to the French language and Francophone culture, with an emphasis on communication in the target language. Students are introduced to a variety of everyday topics and foundational structures during this year-long course. Activities include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

### **4709 French 1B\***

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: French 1A**

**Grades: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**

In French 1B, the continuation of French 1A, students continue the study of the French language and Francophone culture. Upon successful completion of this course, students will receive high school credit for level 1 French. With an emphasis on communication in the target language, activities for this course include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

### **4728 Spanish 1A**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Grades: 7<sup>th</sup>**

Spanish 1A provides students with an introduction to the Spanish language and cultures, with an emphasis on communication in the target language. Students are introduced to a variety of everyday topics and foundational structures during this year-long course. Activities include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

### **4729 Spanish 1B\***

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Spanish 1A**

**Grades: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>**

In Spanish 1B, the continuation of Spanish 1A, students continue the study of the Spanish language and culture. Upon successful completion of this course, students will receive high school credit for level 1 Spanish. With an emphasis on communication in the target language, activities for this course include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

Please contact Leslie Husted, World Language Department Leader, at [lhusted@psdschools.org](mailto:lhusted@psdschools.org) if you have specific World Language placement questions.

*\*Students in these courses will receive high school credit unless they don't meet the requirements or opt-out. See page 5 for additional information. For more information regarding Graduation Requirements and PSD Policy, please review the district policy at: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/policies/IKF-2017.pdf>*

# SEVENTH GRADE 2026–2027 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## MUSIC

### **2590 Concert Band (Intermediate and Honors Band)**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Beginning Band and Instructor Approval**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core Knowledge requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in band. Students will be placed into an ability-based band (Beginning Band, Intermediate Band, Honors Winds, or Symphonic Band). Students new to Kinard should contact Mr. Perez at [mperez@psdschools.org](mailto:mperez@psdschools.org) to set up an audition.

### **2600 Concert Orchestra (Intermediate and Philharmonia/Honors Orchestra)**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Beginning Orchestra and Instructor Approval**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core Knowledge requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in orchestra. Students will be placed into an ability-based orchestra (Beginning, Intermediate, Philharmonia, or Symphony). Students new to Kinard should contact Mrs. Griffey at [lgriffey@psdschools.org](mailto:lgriffey@psdschools.org) to set up an audition.

### **2650 Choir 7 Core Knowledge (Intermediate Choir)**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: Beginning Choir**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core Knowledge requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in choir. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students new to Kinard should contact Mr. Wheeler at [swheeler@psdschools.org](mailto:swheeler@psdschools.org) to set up an audition if they want to join the Intermediate Choir.

# SEVENTH GRADE 2026–2027

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

#### **3588 7th Grade Comprehensive Health & Physical Education**

**Year Long**

**Prerequisite: None**

Students will deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Colorado State Health and Physical Education standards which include: (1) movement competence and understanding, (2) physical and personal wellness, (3) social and emotional wellness and (4) prevention and risk management. Physical Education emphasizes skill development through a variety of team and individual activities such as floor hockey, biking, dance, cardio kickboxing, archery, volleyball, and fitness training. Comprehensive Health focuses on Healthy Hearts, healthy relationships, human sexuality, sexual harassment and assault prevention, and goal-setting. Across all units, students strengthen communication, collaboration, and self-management skills to support confidence, competence, and lifelong wellness.

### ART

#### **1090 Visual Arts 7 Core Knowledge**

**Semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

The seventh grade Visual Arts class builds on knowledge of the fundamentals of art: elements of art (line, shape, space, form, color, value, and texture) and principles of design (balance, rhythm, unity, emphasis, movement, pattern, and contrast). The course touches on drawing, painting, sculpture, and ceramics. Students will relate the visual arts to cultural and historical events through the Core Knowledge Sequence. Students develop an appreciation and confidence through successful art experiences of their own.

### TECHNOLOGY

#### **1650 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology (Computer Science Exploration)**

**Semester**

**Prerequisite: None**

This course will focus on the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills necessary for students to be successful in middle school and beyond. Specifically, students will review productivity software and cloud-based applications. In addition, they will learn how to solve problems using the design cycle, digital photography, 3D modeling, basic programming, data analysis, how computers impact their users, physical computing and circuits, networks, and internet safety. Students will learn to use their skills and knowledge to deliver the highest quality work using technology tools.

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## 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE HONORS APPLICATION

Complete this page and turn it in with your course request form (pg. 13) to Student Services by **February 5, 2026**, if you're interested in taking the English honors class next school year. *\*Please note: We are not offering 7<sup>th</sup> grade science or social studies honors courses in the 2026-27 school year as we believe we can best meet the needs of all students through differentiation of the standards-based curriculum.*

**To be placed into an honors class, you must meet the following criteria and complete the required components below. English teachers will review all student data to determine the best placement for each student.**

1. Student must have Advanced or Proficient CMAS/MAPS scores.
2. Student must have Advanced or Proficient class grades in their current English class.
3. Student must complete the required Learning Reflection. This is a task that will be completed in 6<sup>th</sup> grade English classes and provides an opportunity for students to explain why they feel an honors class is a good fit for them next year.
4. Student must acknowledge the statements below by signing their name and indicating they understand the expectations of an honors English course for 7<sup>th</sup> grade. ***Please note: Teachers will make final placement decisions, based on the completed components and the required criteria for placement.***

### Student Statement of Interest:

***Please select only the honors courses that you are interested in for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.***

Honors English 7

### Student and Parent Signatures:

**STUDENT:** If I am accepted into the English honors class, I agree to complete all my assignments on time and at a level of high quality, to actively participate in class discussions, and to show initiative in all aspects of this class. I expect to be challenged. I commit to maximizing my in-class time and using time outside of class to continue to demonstrate my learning.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student signature)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT:** If my child is accepted into an honors class, I agree to show my support of their learning and their study skills.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent signature)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request Form

**2026 – 2027**

[www.kin.pedschools.org](http://www.kin.pedschools.org)

Student Name (*neatly print first and last*): \_\_\_\_\_ ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK to the left of each class you are choosing for your 7<sup>th</sup> grade year.

\* Indicates an application is needed for admission to that class by acceptance criteria.

REQUIRED CLASSES	REQUIRED CLASSES
Course #	Course Title
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>LANGUAGE ARTS</u></b></p> <p>___LA710 English 7 CK</p> <p>___LA713 *Honors English 7 CK <i>*Application required (pg. 12)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SCIENCE</u></b></p> <p>___SC728 Science 7 CK</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SOCIAL STUDIES</u></b></p> <p>___SS730 Social Studies 7 CK</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>WORLD LANGUAGE</u></b></p> <p>___4708 French 1A</p> <p>___4709 French 1B**</p> <p>___4728 Spanish 1A</p> <p>___4729 Spanish 1B**</p> <p><b>**Level 1A must be completed prior to the Level 1B course selection.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>MUSIC</u></b></p> <p>___#### Choir</p> <p>___#### Band</p> <p>___#### Orchestra</p> <p>Select the music class you want to join in 7th grade. Students will be placed in a music class based on auditions/placement criteria.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>MATHEMATICS</u></b></p> <p><b>For Review ONLY: Students will be placed in a math class based on the placement criteria on page 3.</b></p> <p>MA740 Math 7</p> <p>MA745 Math 7/8</p> <p>MA840 Math 8</p> <p>6230 Algebra</p>	<p><b>For Review ONLY: Students are automatically enrolled.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>PHYSICAL EDUCATION- Year Long</u></b></p> <p>3588 PE &amp; Health 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TECHNOLOGY- Semester</u></b></p> <p>1650 Computer Science Explorations</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ART- Semester</u></b></p> <p>1090 Visual Art 7</p>

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**All completed forms are due in the Student Services office on or before Thursday, February 5, 2026.**