



# Junior High Course Guide

Grades 7 and 8      2023~2024

Coudersport Area Jr.-Sr. High School

698 Dwight Street  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
814.274.8500  
FAX: 814.260.4022

updated: 2-23

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## Administration

Superintendent  
Principal

Mr. Drew Kyle  
Mr. Dan Eskesen

## School Counseling Center

School Counselor

Mrs. Rachel Minard

## Faculty

Agriculture  
Algebra  
Art  
Band  
Chorus  
Computers  
Current Events  
Effective Habits  
English  
Geography  
Geometry  
Health  
History  
Industrial Technology  
Language  
Learning Support  
Life Skills  
Math  
Music  
Physical Education  
Reading  
Science  
Smart Lab  
Stats and Probability

Mr. Mike Davis, Mrs. Olivia Hoffman, Mrs. Laura Strawderman  
Mrs. Emily Kellogg  
Mrs. Sarah Batson  
Mr. Stephen Ouellette  
Ms. Megan Ambrose  
Mrs. Christy Stager  
Mr. Scott Robinson  
Mr. John Sherry  
Ms. Jordan Caldwell  
Mr. Dan Marzo  
Mrs. Olivia Hoffman, Mrs. Laura Strawderman  
Mrs. Cheryl Morey  
Mrs. Kristi Barber  
Mr. Mike Ingalls  
Mrs. Jennifer Askins  
Ms. Sky Barney  
Ms. Emily Parana  
Ms. Misty Reed  
Mr. Stephen Ouellette  
Mr. Scott Andrews, Mr. Scott Easton, Mrs. Cheryl Morey  
Miss Brigitte Dubots  
Mr. Nick Klepfer  
Mrs. Theresa Daniels  
Mrs. Laura Strawderman

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Disclaimer: Any modifications to this Registration Guide will be posted to [www.coudyschools.net](http://www.coudyschools.net) following the approval of the Coudersport Area School District Board of School Directors.

## Directory

If you have specific questions, please refer to the following list of resources available to assist you in supporting your child's school success:

Main Office: 814-274-8500

Principal: 814-274-8500

School Counseling Center: 814-274-8553

School Counselor: 814-274-8553

Assistant Principal: 814-260-4025

Superintendent: 814-274-9480

Nurse: 814-260-4023

Athletics: 814-260-4021

Food Service Director: 814-260-4014

Transportation: 814-274-0509

Website: <http://www.coudyschools.net>

## Welcome

Welcome to Coudersport Area Junior-Senior High School! We are so excited to have you here learning with us, and we value your partnership as we strive to create an atmosphere where all students feel safe and supported and experience academic, social, and emotional success.

We are committed to providing a relevant, rigorous, and well-rounded educational experience for all of our students, and we ensure that each student who graduates from CHS will be fully prepared to pursue his/her academic or vocational interests. Our teachers foster creativity, collaboration, communication, and the critical thinking skills in students that are essential for success in the twenty-first century. Not only do our students have an optimal learning environment, they also have access to numerous extracurricular and co-curricular activities. We strongly encourage every student to get involved and make the most of his/her experience at Coudersport Area Junior-Senior High School!

## Mission Statement/Beliefs

The mission of the Coudersport Area School District, in partnership with students, educators, family, and community is to provide a safe and supportive learning environment in which each child has the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills to become a self-motivated, capable, and competent lifelong learner.

The Coudersport Area School District has identified the following beliefs in support of the mission:

- 🌐 All children are unique and capable of success.
- 🌐 Education is a dynamic process.
- 🌐 Education is a necessary and valuable tool.
- 🌐 Students should be encouraged to become self-motivated, life-long learners.
- 🌐 An environment should be provided where all students have the opportunity to develop their abilities.
- 🌐 Education is a partnership of students, educators, family, and community.

Through adherence to our mission and beliefs, students and educators alike will continue to confidently meet the challenges of the 21st century.

## Parents as Partners

Parents can help by...

**...making it clear that education is valued.**

You cannot expect your child to take school seriously if you do not.

**...making good work habits the rule.**

Provide time and space for your child to work. Help your child learn to organize and prioritize work.

**...being an education partner.**

Work with the school and with your child's teachers. Do not hesitate to call or to make an appointment to see a teacher, a counselor, or an administrator. Discussing a problem as soon as it occurs can save a lot of grief later.

**...modeling playing by the rules.**

Sometimes people think that they do not have to live by rules they do not like. This is not a good policy. Students need to respect school rules, each other, and adults. They benefit from knowing how to work within the system to create change.

**...helping your child be responsible.**

"Trial and Error" is an excellent teacher! Early adolescents need to understand that their actions have consequences, both positive and negative. Do not rescue your student. Be involved, yet believe that struggle is necessary for growth.

**...staying involved in your child's life.**

Middle school students make many new friends. Know your child's friends.

**...being a good listener - a patient and non-judgmental one.**

Middle school students can be non-communicative. You may need to ask leading questions to find out anything at all! If you are willing to listen, you will learn more. By helping students analyze and understand their own thinking instead of immediately judging their thoughts, parents can support their children as they become independent thinkers. Let them problem-solve the situation instead of telling them what they should do.

**...volunteering at school or volunteering to help the school at home!**

Research shows those students whose parents volunteer or are involved do better than those whose parents do not.

## **General Information**

### Availability of Grades

Coudersport Jr.-Sr. High School operates on a four nine-week grading system. At the end of each nine weeks, a report card will be sent home with each student.

### Online Access for Student Grades

In order to access the Parent Grade Portal, please go to the Coudersport Area School District website and click on the Grade Portal tab. Click on the Parent Portal login link to be taken to a “Parent Portal Login” page. Click Parent Portal Registration to begin the process. You will need to have your child’s student identification number (lunch account number) to link your account with your child’s name. If you have more than one child in our school, you will only need one identification number to get the process started. Simply add your other children to your account. Once you have provided all the required information, you can click the “Create Account” tab to finish the process. You will receive an automatic email message from the system that will let you know that your account has been sent to the school district for approval. Please allow 24 hours during regular business hours for your account to be approved. You will then receive another automatic email that will ask you to verify your email and to sign in with the username and password that you created during the initial set-up.

### Grading Scale

95-100 (A) 4.0  
90-94 (B+) 3.5  
85-89 (B) 3.0  
80-84 (C+) 2.5  
75-79 (C) 2.0  
70-74 (D) 1.0  
Under 70 (F) 0.0

Grades are available as a service to parents and students, however, the grades are in real time and changes may occur. The official grade for the nine weeks is taken from the report card, and this will be the grade reported on final transcripts. Teachers are responsible for updating grades, however, the administration realizes teachers need time to post grades in order to allow for grading and reading of assignments and tests.



### Honor Roll Rules

In order to make the **Distinguished Honor Roll**, a student must attain an average of 95% or above in all subjects with no grade below 80% in any subject. To make the **Honor Roll**, a student must attain an average of 90% or above in all subjects with no grade below 80%. Courses which use a letter grade or satisfactory must be passing. No one will be eligible for Honor Roll with incomplete grades. Students enrolled in Honors Courses will receive 1.05% additional added to the nine weeks grade provided that the student earned a minimum of 80% in the class on their own prior to the additional points being added to the grade.

### Eligibility

A student cannot be failing more than one (1) class in order to maintain eligibility for extra-curricular activities. A student must maintain an overall average of 70%. Students not meeting the grade standards are subject to ineligibility.

### Supplemental Instruction Requirements

Students who have not demonstrated proficiency in English Language Arts (ELA) and/or Mathematics on the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) – or an approved alternative assessment – shall be afforded additional instructional opportunities through a grade-level learning plan developed by the school. The plan will assist each student in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve at the proficient level. Remediation, through Differentiated Instruction, etc., will be offered during the school year to address areas of concern and to increase individual levels of proficiency.

### Summer School

A student who fails two (2) or more credits for the year will be considered for grade-level retention and may qualify for summer school. Upon completion of summer school, the status of the student will be reassessed to determine eligibility for promotion.

## Course Descriptions\*

*\*The offering of any course detailed in this registration guide is dependent upon sufficient enrollment and/or scheduling demands as determined by the administration.*

### Agriculture

#### Exploring Ecology 8 (formerly Exploring Agriculture 8)

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

This course explores the relationships between organisms and their environment. Students will also study the various ecosystems from around the world.

### Art

#### Art 7

*Grade 7 \* Semester \* Alternate Days \* .25 credit*

This course is designed to build on acquired skills and knowledge from your elementary education through the study of art history, class discussion, research, the study of artworks, and the creation of studio projects.

#### Art 8

*Grade 8 \* Semester \* Alternate Days \* .25 credit*

This course is designed to build on skills and knowledge from 7<sup>th</sup> grade art, through the study of art history, class discussion, research, the study of artworks, and the creation of studio projects.

### Career

#### Effective Habits 8

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

Effective Habits is loosely based on the acclaimed "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" book by Stephen Covey. Students will explore such life lesson topics as; goal setting, organizational skills, communication skills, interdependence, personal responsibility, and many more. This course will help to build a foundation for which all other learning can be built upon.

## English

### English 7

*Grade 7\* Full Year\* Daily\* 1 credit*

English 7 builds on the sequential review and development of grammar and communication skills through a variety of writing styles. Examples of short stories, novels (one per semester), poetry, and drama are used to further develop analytical skills that students can benefit from and use in a cross-curricular manner. English 7 will further develop a student's writing, reading, and speaking skills. The studies in writing and in literature in English 7 will benefit the student as he or she continues into English 8. Curriculum, instruction, and assessment are aligned with state and national standards, and assist in the student's preparation for Pennsylvania System of School Assessment testing in the Spring.

### English 8

*Grade 8\* Full Year\* Daily\* 1 credit*

English 8 continues to build onto the English 7 curriculum, focusing on the sequential review and development of grammar and communication skills through a variety of writing styles. Examples of short stories, novels (one per semester), poetry, and drama are used to further develop analytical skills that students can benefit from and use in a cross-curricular manner. English 8 has a strong focus in deeper analysis of reading will further develop a student's writing, reading, and speaking skills, and prepare them for English 9 the following school year. Curriculum, instruction, and assessment are aligned with state and national standards, and assist in the student's preparation for Pennsylvania System of School Assessment testing in the Spring. English 8 embodies the development of observing, thinking, listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. This program is designed to address individual student needs.

## Health

### Health 7

*Grade 7\* Quarter\* Daily\* .25 credit*

Health imparts general knowledge related to the various physiological systems of the human body. Emphasis is placed on substance abuse, nutrition, personality, mental health, infectious and noninfectious diseases, first aid and safety, and human sexuality.

## History

### World History 7

*Grade 7\* Full Year\* Daily\* 1 credit*

This is a survey course that covers the period from the first civilization in Mesopotamia to nation forming after the Middle Ages. This year-long course will include a great deal of technology and cooperative learning activities.

### American History 8

*Grade 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

This is a survey course that covers the period from the discovery of America to the causes of the American Civil War. This year-long course will include a great deal of technology and cooperative learning.

### Geography 8

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

Geography 8 explores geography on the global level and focuses on US Geography. Throughout this course, we will place an emphasis on the five themes of geography as well as the ways that geographers look at the world around us. Additionally, students will be able to visualize the countries, oceans, and landforms of the world through multiple interactive and online resources.

## Language

### Introduction to Language 8

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

Students study basic vocabulary and grammar in both French and Spanish with the goal of helping to make an educated decision of which language to study in 9th grade.

## Math

### Math 7

*Grade 7 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

In grade 7, students will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

### Math 8

*Grade 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

In grade 8, students will focus on four critical areas: 1. formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations in one variable and systems of linear equations by graphing; (2) grasping the concept of a function, comparing functions in different forms, and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two and three dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. (4) using rational and irrational numbers to estimate, order and evaluate operations in scientific notation.

### Pre-Algebra

*Grade 7 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

*Open to Grade 7 students (together with Math 7) scoring Advanced in Math (PSSA) and/or with administrative approval*

This course is designed to increase the skills needed to be successful in algebra. Students will be introduced to variables, expressions, order of operations, and basic problem-solving skills. The course also covers absolute value, the coordinate plane, and different algebraic properties. Students will build on these skills by learning how to solve multi-step equations, inequalities, and the complex algebraic functions that accompany them (such as exponents). Students will build on their existing knowledge of fractions by examining ratios, proportions, probability, and converting to/from decimals. Additionally, students will be introduced to percent and problems requiring the application of percent.

### Algebra I

*Grade 7, 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

*Open to Grade 7 students (together with Math 7) scoring Advanced in both Math and ELA (PSSA) and/or with administrative approval*

*Open to Grade 8 students (together with Math 8) scoring Advanced in Math (PSSA) and/or with administrative approval*

Students will deepen and extend their understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will engage in methods for analyzing, and using functions. Students will fluently move between multiple representations of functions including but not limited to linear, exponential and quadratics.

### Geometry

*Grade 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

*Open to Grade 8 students (together with Math 8) scoring Proficient or Advanced (Keystone Algebra Exam)*

The purpose of the course is to formalize, deepen and extend students' geometric and algebraic experiences. Students will continue their work with similarity and congruence. Students explore more complex geometric concepts, and relationships, including: formal mathematical arguments, transformations, the coordinate system, right triangle trigonometry, circles and probability.

### Algebra II

*Grade 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

*Open to Grade 8 students (together with Math 8) scoring Basic or Below Basic (Keystone Algebra Exam)*

Students extend their repertoire of functions to include polynomial, rational, trigonometric, and radical functions. Working closely with families of functions, students will apply their understanding of transformations. Students will model situations and solve equations

including quadratics over the set of complex numbers and exponential equations using the properties of logarithms. Students will use descriptive statistics and probability as a tool for making inferences about data.

### Graphing and Measurement 8

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

Students will strengthen their knowledge of coordinate plane algebra by studying the concepts of slope, graphing linear equations, writing equations in slope intercept, plotting data into scatter plots, identifying correlation, and making estimates based off bivariate data. Students will also be evaluating equations and formulas through calculating area of circles, calculating the volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres, and utilizing the Pythagorean theorem to find lengths of right triangle sides.

## **Music**

### General Music 7

*Grade 7 \* Semester \* Alternate Days \* .25 credit*

General Music 7 takes a hands-on approach to learning music. Students will use guitars to build on their knowledge of music notation. Students will learn the basics of guitar playing as well as a brief history of the guitar before they learn to play the guitar. Each student will advance at his/her own pace through an increasingly more challenging list of songs.

### General Music 8

*Grade 8 \* Semester \* Alternate Days \* .25 credit*

General Music 8 is a two part course. The first marking period is used to learn about the various percussion instruments. Then students use those instruments to compose a song with group members. In the second part of the course, students will learn how to create and use guitar chords. Students will learn a set of basic songs before they can choose the songs that they want to learn.

## **Physical Education**

### Physical Education 7

*Grade 7 \* Full Year \* Alternate Days \* .5 credit*

The Physical Education program provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports, individual sports, and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong physical activities. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, self-improvement, and friendly competition.

### Physical Education 8

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The Physical Education program provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports, individual sports, and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong physical activities. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, self-improvement, and friendly competition.

## **Reading**

### Reading 7

*Grade 7 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

In seventh grade, students demonstrate their ability to read challenging complex texts closely and cite multiple examples of specific evidence to support their claims. They are able to recognize the interplay between setting, plot, and characters and provide an objective summary of a text apart from their own reaction to it. They are adept at stepping back to comparing and contrasting different interpretations of a topic, identifying how authors shape their presentation of key information and choose to highlight certain facts over others. Seventh grade students trace how an argument develops within a text and assess the validity of the evidence. They make their reasoning clear to their listeners and readers and constructively evaluate others' use of evidence while offering several sources to back up their own claims. The use of vocabulary has developed to the point where they distinguish between denotative and connotative meaning and analyze the effect of specific word choice on tone.

### Fundamentals of English Language Arts 8

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

This course offers a comprehensive review of grammar, writing skills, research skills, and analysis techniques as students grapple with high-quality, complex, nonfiction texts and great works of literature. The focus of informational texts shifts from narrative to expository. Students know how to cite textual evidence supporting an analysis or critique. Students know how to question an author's assumptions and assess the accuracy of the claims. Eighth grade students read closely and find evidence to use in their own writing; they analyze two or more texts that provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify whether the disagreement is over facts or interpretation. They analyze how point of view can be manipulated to create specific effects such as dramatic irony and investigate how particular passages within a text connect to one another to advance the plot, reveal a character, or highlight an idea. Students have developed a strong vocabulary of academic words which they use to speak and write with more precision.

### Read 180

*Grade 7, 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

*Open to Grade 7 and 8 students by invitation only*

Read 180 is an intense, comprehensive reading intervention program designed to increase students' reading levels. The program consists of whole and small group direct instruction, independent reading, writing practice, and computer-based individualized instruction.

## **Science**

### Science 7

*Grade 7 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

Science 7 is a course that is designed to give students a background in many science topics so that they may use them as a stepping stone for future science courses. Students will be learning various basic skills that they can apply to all sciences including Earth Science, Physical Science, and Biology. Students will also be learning procedures and safety practices that are used in a laboratory setting.

### Science 8

*Grade 8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* 1 credit*

Science 8 is a project-based course that is designed to enhance problem solving skills through engineering practices. The projects will be used to cover a variety of science topics that include motion, energy, the universe, forces, computer programming, weather, and systems. In doing the projects, students will develop and practice real-world skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, project-planning and communication.

## **Technology**

### Computer Literacy 7

*Grade 7 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

The first part of this nine weeks class will focus on mastery of the computer keyboard, specifically proper techniques, style, and speed. Additionally, students will analyze and discuss safe Internet practices. The second part of this nine weeks class will focus on Google Drive. This section of the class will focus on learning and using the Google Drive online software. Students will acquire vast skills in using Google Drive and collaborate on many of the educational benefits it offers.



### Jr. High Financial Literacy

*Grade 8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

This 9-week personal finance course will introduce students to core personal finance skills and real-world strategies to help them effectively manage their personal finances. Topics include decision-making, bank account basics, budgeting, saving, consumer skills, and digital citizenship.

### Industrial Technology 7

*Grade 7 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

This course is designed as an introductory course in woodworking. The course will cover safe operation of equipment, basics of developing and drawing plans, correct use of tools, various types of assembly procedures, use of various finish materials and a general understanding of the lumber industry.

### Smart Lab

*Grade 7,8 \* Quarter \* Daily \* .25 credit*

Smart Lab learners will explore and apply a wide range of technologies to project-based work. Students develop and practice real-world skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, project planning, and communication. Students create ePortfolios to document and present their work. Systems of technology explored in the Smart Lab include mechanics and structures; computer graphics; scientific data and analysis; digital communications; alternative and renewable energy; robotics and control technology; circuitry; and software engineering.

## Electives

### Current Events

*Grade 7,8 \* Full Year \* Alternate Days \* .5 credit*

Current Events is a survey class of news-making events. Events are studied across a range of disciplines to understand how the world is constantly changing and how people and organizations shape our society.

### Junior High Chorus

*Grade 7,8 \* Full Year \* Alternate Days \* .5 credit*

Junior High Chorus meets every other day for the entire school year. Concert choir is a class for those who enjoy singing in a group. The majority of the grade will be based on participation. There are two concerts where attendance is required, the Christmas and Spring concerts. All rehearsals are done in school. The concerts are the only evening events requiring attendance. These events are graded for participation since they represent the final project in this class. In addition to participation, a worksheet will be given for students to complete in class every two weeks. This will cover a theory concept being taught or something related to the music being studied. All class materials will be provided. A student must be a member of concert choir in order to audition for show choir.

### Junior High Band

*Grade 7, 8 \* Full Year \* Alternate Days \* .5 credit*

This is a class for any student interested in learning to play music in a concert band setting. Students may play any concert band instrument. These include the flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone/euphonium, tuba, and percussion. Any student may join regardless of current musical ability. During the course, the students will learn a variety of music at different skill levels across many cultures. Students will participate in a minimum of two concerts per year (winter and spring). Students will also be required to attend instrumental lessons during the school day.

### Literature in Film

*Grade 7, 8 \* Full Year \* Alternate Days \* .5 credit*

This elective class will examine literature and its portrayal through film. Students will compare and contrast written and film versions of various literary pieces. They will analyze the authenticity of the film to the original work and hypothesize as to why changes were made in the adaptation.

## Study Skills

### Study Skills

*Grade 7,8 \* Full Year \* Daily \* (not for credit)*

This focused study hall will be assigned by administration in an effort to support students' understanding and application of appropriate skills in academic coursework as needed. The study skills teacher will collaborate with core content area educators on an on-going basis.

