

GRADE 8 FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES PROGRAM

In the 8th grade, Family and Consumer Science classes meet every day for one marking period. The program is intended to help students develop skills, attitudes and understandings related to decision making and management of personal resources, and to develop insights into their interactions with people in a variety of relationships.

Since no textbook is used, students are required to keep a separate, pocket-style folder/notebook. In addition to notes taken in class, students are expected to keep all hand-outs distributed in class, completing these as appropriate. Notebooks will be checked and graded periodically.

Students learn about interpersonal skills: what these skills are, how they work, and how to develop more effective ways of dealing with people in the situations that arise in life. The skills are developed through a combination of observation and participation, and form the basis for acting on decisions made, especially those concerning personal behaviors. The substance abuse unit concentrates on addictions, particularly those to alcohol and tobacco. The human sexuality unit includes information on human reproduction and sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS.

In the Foods and Nutrition unit, students learn about the many things that influence their food choices, and what the latest scientific development related to food and its uses means to them. Students will expand their basic food preparation skills including proper measuring, reading and following a recipe, proper use of kitchen tools, and safe and sanitary food handling practices.

Class attendance is very important to ensure success in this course. Students will be excused for regularly scheduled music lessons, but not make-up lessons. Students who miss class for any reason (excused absences, field trips, etc.) will be expected to make up any missed work.

Grades are determined by:

- assembly and completion of notebook
- demonstration of specific skills
- food lab grade (process, not product!)
- quizzes
- home meal project