



## Duncan Lake Middle School

### Encore Guide 25-26

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-K)
- Andrew Fitzpatrick (L-Z)

**All students have Seminar on Tuesdays and Thursdays for 30 minutes.**

**Some Encore classes are offered on A or B days only, and some meet every day. See the description of Encore classes below for how often they meet.**

#### Schedule Change Policy

Schedule change requests need to be submitted by a parent to the student's assigned counselor, and are only done if:

1. There is a duplicate class in the same semester
2. There is a slot in the schedule with no class
3. The student needs a class requirement for completion

#### Typical Schedules

##### 7th Grade Typical Schedule

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 7 (Algebra)	Math 7 (Algebra)
Science 7	Science 7
World History	World History
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day

**7th Grade Music (Band, Choir or Orchestra)**

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 7 (Algebra)	Math 7 (Algebra)
Science 7	Science 7
World History	World History
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Band 7	Band 7
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day

**7th Grade World Language Student**

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 7 (Algebra)	Math 7 (Algebra)
Science 7	Science 7
World History	World History
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 7
Spanish 1	Spanish 1
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day

***\*\*\*7th graders should not sign up for Spanish and a music selection as they will have to drop one of them in 8th grade to complete the STEM and PE requirements.\*\*\****

**8th Grade Typical Student**

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)	Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)
Environmental Science	Environmental Science
American History	American History
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day

**8th Grade Music (Band, Choir or Orchestra)**

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)	Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)
Environmental Science	Environmental Science
American History	American History
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Orchestra 8	Orchestra 8
Encore A day/Encore B day	Encore A day/Encore B day

**8th Grade Music/World Language Student**

Semester 1	Semester 2
Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)	Math 8 (Algebra or Geometry)
Environmental Science	Environmental Science
American History	American History
Language Arts 8	Language Arts 8
Orchestra 8	Orchestra 8
Spanish 1	Spanish 1

## Assigned or Required Courses

### **Physical Education 7th & 8th (1 semester for all students)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** None

**Meets on A and/or B days**

Completing any one of the following will meet this requirement: PE, Advanced Speed and Strength or Unified PE. Descriptions of each are listed below.

### **STEM (1 semester for all students)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** None

**Meets on A and/or B days**

Completing any one of the following will meet this requirement: STEM Blue, STEM Gold, STEM Purple, STEM Green, or MEERA. Descriptions of each are listed below.

### **ELA Learning Lab (Required based on need)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** Administrator recommendation

**Meets on A or B days**

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, ELA iReady Diagnostic scores and teacher recommendation

### **Math Learning Lab (Required based on need)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** Administrator recommendation

**Meets on A or B days**

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, Math iReady Diagnostic scores and teacher recommendation

### **SCOTS (Required based on need)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** Administrator recommendation

**Meets on A or B days or every day depending on the need**

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.

## Encores

### **7th Grade Math Extension**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** Administrator recommendation

**Meets on A or B days**

Students will be placed in this course based on M-Step scores, Math iReady Diagnostic scores and teacher recommendation

### **SOAR (Spatial Orientation and Analytical Reasoning)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite:** None

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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.

### **Freshmen Health**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**HS: Credit (Must have 3.0 cumulative gpa)**

**Meets every day**

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.

### **CAL**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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: Teacher Recommendation/Student Interest**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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)

## **ART Encores**

### **Introduction to Art**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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.

## **Music Encores**

### **7th Grade Band**

Grades 7

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

**Meets every day**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 6<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band also gives you the opportunity to sign up for any of our Band Encores (Mini-Strike and Jazz band).

### **8th Grade Band**

Grades 8

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

**Meets every day**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 7<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**Prerequisite:** None

**Meets every day**

This choir is designed for 7th-grade Soprano and Alto voices. 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 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets every day**

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.. 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.

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

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets every day**

This choir is designed for 7th and 8th grade Tenor and Bass voices. 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

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

**Meets every day**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 6<sup>th</sup> 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. .

### **8th Grade Orchestra**

Grades 8

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

**Meets every day**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra is a fun class that builds on everything we accomplished in 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

**PE Encores (options to meet the PE requirement. Only one of 2-year period is required)**

### **Physical Education**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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**

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**Unified PE**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisites: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

Unified PE provides a unique opportunity for students with and without disabilities to come together through ongoing educational and physical activities, using the power of Special Olympics. The Unified Physical Education course is structured around the national physical education standards and grade-level outcomes. Students in Unified Physical Education courses may have the opportunity to participate in competitions with other schools or attend Special Olympics events.

**STEM Encores (Options to meet the STEM requirement. Only one over 2-year period is needed)**

**STEM Purple**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**STEM Gold**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**STEM Blue**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**STEM Green**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

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

**MEERA (Michigan Engineering, Engineering-Related, and Advanced Manufacturing)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: None**

**Meets on A or B days**

This program introduces students to the concepts of engineering, design, and problem-solving through engaging, hands-on activities that build excitement for future STEM opportunities.

**World Language Encores (HS Credit)**

**SPANISH 1 A (Not recommended for 7th grade Music students)**

Grades 7 & 8

**Prerequisite: Must have 3.0 GPA to be considered.**

**Meets every day**

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**

**Meets every day**

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

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

**Meets every day**

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

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

**Meets every day**

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.