

## **CURRICULUM SUMMARY**

The purpose of the summary is to present an overview of the curriculum. Parents, community, and teachers of other disciplines are the intended audience of the curriculum summary.

### **Overview - Grade 8**

Middle school integrated digital information technology (IDIT) teaches eighth graders to use technology in support of personal productivity and self-directed learning. Technology is integrated throughout the day in all content areas and is used by students during instruction, school activities, and completion of projects and assignments. Students learn to use technology to demonstrate learning, create products, communicate, and collaborate with others and acquire skills using various digital devices, software, applications, and the Internet. Further, 8th graders are taught to practice safe, legal, ethical, and responsible use of digital devices, information and technology. Units of study will include:

**Creativity & Innovation**-*The ability to think and act in a new way, to make something new, or to change something that already exists to be used in a new way.*

**Students:**

- Create original products to demonstrate learning using a variety of digital media.
- Use digital tools to enhance communication, problem solving, and creativity.
- Examples:
  - Websites/Portfolios
  - Formatted Word Documents
  - Graphic Arts projects
  - Animations
  - Formatted Spreadsheets
  - Formatted Graphs
  - Multimedia presentations

**Communication and Collaboration**-*The ability to create persuasive communications using various media including websites, video, audio, text, or animated multimedia.*

**Students:**

- Collaborate and publish with peers, experts, and others using a variety of digital media.
- Identify effective uses of technology for communicating ideas with multiple audiences.
- Use collaborative digital tools to explore and contribute to projects with other learners.
- Examples:
  - Google collaborative projects
  - Blogging
  - Podcasting
  - Videoconferencing
  - Skype
  - Facetime
  - Wikis

**Research and Information Fluency**-*the ability to find, evaluate, utilize, share, and create content using information technologies and the Internet*

**Students:**

- Use a variety of digital resources to locate information.
- Critically evaluate the quality of Internet sources for academic purposes.
- Process and share information in a variety of ways.
- Identify and demonstrate understanding of laws regarding copyright, fair use, and plagiarism
- Examples:
  - Use collaborative tools to share research
  - Collaborate using cloud-based media with peers and others

**Critical Thinking & Problem Solving**-*the ability to use knowledge, facts, and data to effectively solve problems.*

**Students:**

- Define and identify authentic problems and solutions for investigation.
- Identify problems and devise strategies for solving routine hardware and software problems.
- Use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, and solve problems.
- Gather data, examine patterns, and apply information for decision making using available digital resources.
- Evaluate choice of technology tools used during problem-solving.
- Examples:
  - Use database or spreadsheet applications to solve problems, make predictions and analyze results

**Technology Operations & Concepts**-*the technology operations, systems, and concepts we want students to know.*

**Students:**

- Use various operating systems, devices, software, and digital tools through integration of technology in all curricular areas.
- Use applications and devices productively for academic purposes.
- Use and transfer technology skills and techniques to new and current learning.
- Examples:
  - See attached Middle Level IDIT Standards Checklist 7-8

**Digital Citizenship**-*Respects self/others (etiquette, access, law), Educates self/connects with others (communication, literacy, commerce), Protects self/others (rights & responsibilities, safety, health & welfare).*

**Students:**

- Practice safe, legal, and responsible use of digital devices and information technology.
- Recognize consequences and/or potential long-term ramifications of unethical, dangerous, and/or irresponsible use of digital devices and information technology.
- Examples:
  - Participate in Digital Citizenship portion of 8th grade online course.