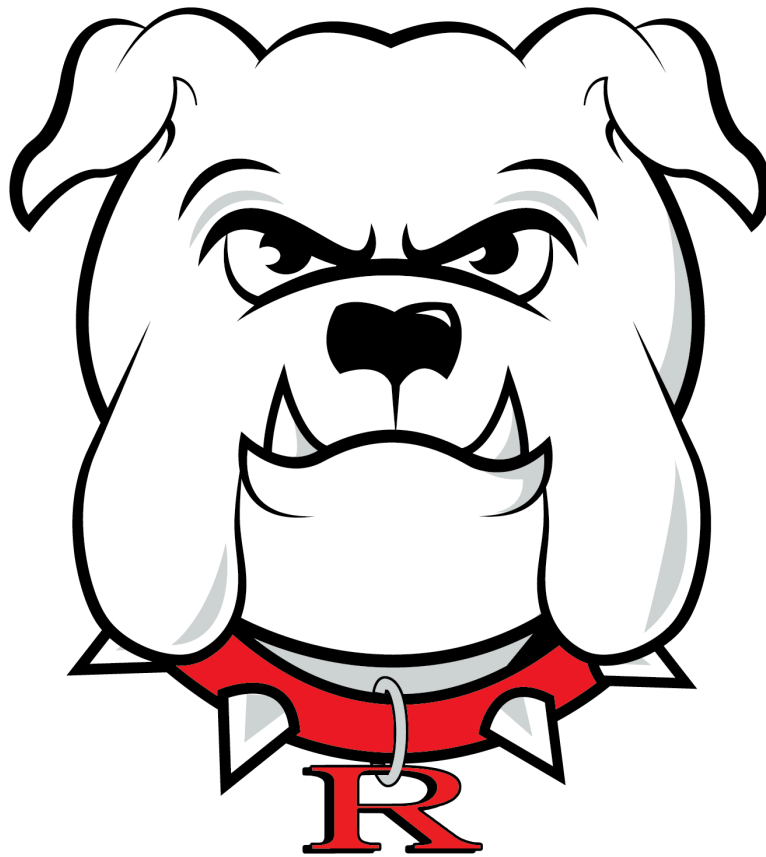


# Romeo Middle School



## Course Information Guide 7th Grade

*“Create small learning communities where each student has an advocate, can explore their interests, engage with our community, and be empowered to make change.”*

# Overview

## Daily Schedule

Below outlines a typical day at Romeo Middle School. Students have six classes plus an advisory period known as “R Time” (1st Hour).

### Romeo Middle School Full Day Bell Schedule

1st Hr.  
"R TIME"  
8:15-8:48  
(33 min)

5 Minute Passing

2nd Hr.  
8:53-9:45  
(52 min)

5 Minute Passing

3rd Hr.  
9:50-10:42  
(52 min)

5 Minute Passing

6th Grade Lunch 10:47-11:17 (30 min)	4th Hr. 10:47-11:39 (52 min)	4th Hr. 10:47-11:39 (52 min)
4th Hr. 11:22-12:14 (52 min)	8th Grade Lunch 11:44-12:14 (30 min)	5th Hr. 11:44-12:36 (52 min)
5th Hr. 12:19-1:11 (52 min)	5th Hr. 12:19-1:11 (52 min)	7th Grade Lunch 12:41-1:11 (30 min)

5 Minute Passing

6th Hr.  
1:16-2:08  
(52 min)

5 Minute Passing

7th Hr.  
2:13-3:05  
(52 min)

**\*Please note that schedule and times are subject to change.**

## “R Time” / Advisory

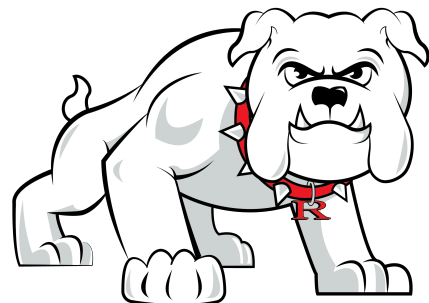
R Time takes place daily for a period of 30 minutes. These advisory groups are made up of grade level students led by teacher mentors. The goal is to provide a personalized connection within our learning environment where all students will be known by at least one adult advocate. This relationship and connection to school is fostered through intentionally scheduled lessons, group activities, and one-to-one interactions with the advisor. The structure of the program will provide opportunities for character education, bullying prevention lessons, positive behavior support, independent reading, academic modeling, organizational meetings, school wide initiatives, and fun cooperative activities. This is a mandatory year-long class.

## Teaming

In an effort to create smaller learning environments within the building, each student is placed with a team of teachers. This means that students within a team have the same teachers for their core classes.

## Trimesters

RMS runs on trimesters. Each trimester is roughly 12 weeks in length. Core classes are year long classes whereas most elective classes are a trimester in length.



## 7th Grade Course Requirements

Seventh grade students are required to take four core courses. Students also have two hours of elective courses. Each elective course is a trimester in length with the exception of Band 7, Concert Band 7/8, and Vocal 7 which are full year courses. All seventh graders are required to take a trimester of Health 7.

### Required Core Courses

English Language Arts 7

Math 7 or Advanced Math 7 (Based on Placement\*)

Science 7

Ancient History 7

### 7th Grade Elective Course Offerings

Music Students	Non-Music Students
<p>Choose One - <i>Year Long</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Band 7</li> <li>• Concert Band 7/8 (Audition Required)</li> <li>• Vocal 7</li> </ul> <p>Required - <i>Trimester Long</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health 7</li> </ul> <p>Prioritize <u>TWO</u> - <i>Trimester Long</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art 7</li> <li>• Careers &amp; Personal Finance 7</li> <li>• Drama &amp; Musical Theater 7</li> <li>• Healthy Living 7</li> <li>• Combined Physical Education 7</li> <li>• PLTW - Innovators and Makers 7</li> <li>• PLTW - Robotics</li> </ul>	<p>Required - <i>Trimester Long</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health 7</li> </ul> <p>Prioritize <u>FIVE</u> - <i>Trimester Long</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art 7</li> <li>• Careers &amp; Personal Finance 7</li> <li>• Drama &amp; Musical Theater 7</li> <li>• Healthy Living 7</li> <li>• Combined Physical Education 7</li> <li>• PLTW - Innovators and Makers 7</li> <li>• PLTW - Robotics</li> </ul>

Remediation in reading and math may be recommended for students who would benefit from these classes based on standardized test scores and screeners in reading and math.

Advanced Math 7 placement will be finalized with the successful completion of Advanced Math 6 in 6th grade or criteria met on Advanced Placement testing.

## 7th Grade Course Descriptions

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### CORE COURSES (REQUIRED)

#### **English Language Arts 7 - Full Year**

The seventh grade English Language Arts program will focus on an appreciation of literature which is reinforced through the study of a variety of genres and novels. Reading complex text will be emphasized. Additionally, students are provided opportunities to practice writing narrative, expository, and argumentative texts. Writing, conventions, listening and speaking skills are taught and practiced.

#### **Math 7 - Full Year**

Illustrative Mathematics 6–8 Math is a problem-based core curriculum rooted in content and practice standards to foster learning and achievement for all. Students learn by doing math, solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts, and constructing arguments using precise language. Lessons are designed with a focus on independent, group, and whole-class instruction. The seventh grade math program will have students focus on the following areas within the Michigan content standards:

1. Scale Drawings
2. Introducing Proportional Relationships
3. Measuring Circles
4. Proportional Relationships and Percentages
5. Rational Number Arithmetic
6. Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities
7. Angles, Triangles, and Prisms
8. Probability and Sampling

#### **Advanced Math 7 - Full Year**

Students are placed in this course through a set of placement criteria. Accelerated Math 7 is a rigorous pre-algebra course designed for students who learn at an advanced pace; both 7th and 8th grade concepts are taught. The course develops a deep conceptual and procedural understanding of mathematics. The Advanced Math 7 curriculum includes the following units:

1. Rigid Transformations and Congruence
2. Scale Drawings, Similarity, and Slope
3. Writing and Solving Equations
4. Inequalities, Expressions, and Equations
5. Linear Relationships
6. Functions and Volume
7. Exponents and Scientific Notation
8. Pythagorean Theorem and Irrational Numbers

#### **Science 7 - Full Year**

The Romeo Middle School 7th grade science curriculum supports the Michigan Science Standards, while empowering students to use science and engineering practices to address real-world issues in the Earth, Life and Physical sciences. Major topics of study will focus on Energy and Matter along with Structure and Function. These encompassing topics are designed to use a discovery-based approach to specifically answer a question about areas in science. Students will be given opportunities to explore these topics within both a classroom setting using various methods of learning and using various lab equipment in a lab setting.

## **Ancient History 7- Full Year**

In seventh grade, students investigate human history from its beginnings until about 1500 CE. Chronologically, students will explore humanity from hunter-gatherer societies through the development of civilization due to the advent of agriculture and the major world empires that emerged due to this massive revolution in human life. Students will also explore how trade has diffused people, goods and ideas around the world. Finally, students will be introduced to the origin, basic beliefs and spread of the major religions of the world. Using atlases, observing and comparing artifacts, timelines, and a variety of visual and graphic representations, students will leave this course with a broad understanding of those who have lived on and traveled the Earth before us.

## **REQUIRED TRIMESTER COURSES**

### **Health 7- Trimester**

Health is a required 13 week course in 7th grade. Course essentials will include decision making skills, refusal skills, and lifelong health and wellness habits. Students will engage in lessons covering Alcohol, Tobacco, Vaping, Drugs, and Prescription Drug Abuse. Mental and Emotional Health lessons will also be covered including stress management, mental health management and appropriate coping skills for the middle school student. Students will also receive communicable diseases instruction including state required HIV/AIDS and Human Reproduction lessons (Parents have the option of viewing materials beforehand and opting out of these lessons.)

## **ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **Art 7 - Trimester**

In seventh grade, students will continue to explore a variety of tools, media, theories and techniques at an emerging level. A trimester long sketchbook project will allow students a place to write, draw and practice daily their drawing skills learned in class. Emphasis is placed on their creative thinking and problem solving skills while still enjoying the process of art making. Some of the techniques used to accomplish these tasks will be drawing, contour, shading and value studies, composition, mixed media and other techniques to express emotion in Art. Art history will be incorporated into the curriculum and discussed as part of many lessons.

### **Careers & Personal Finance 7 - Trimester**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of career pathways and employment opportunities. While exploring different post high school career options, students will also learn the basics of personal financial responsibility, income and money management, credit, debt, saving, and investing.

### **Drama & Musical Theater 7 - Trimester**

Prepare to delve deeper into understanding the theater and the actor's approach. This course helps students improve their character development, begin script analysis to explore the motivations of characters' actions, analyze emotional responses to situations, and interpreting playwrights' intents. Students will get an opportunity to explore their experiences and turn them into a scene along with learning how to critique performances and take criticism. You will experience being a part of a production and the rehearsal process to further develop your skills, collaboration, and performance. Students may have the opportunity to sing, but it is never required of them.

### **Healthy Living 7- Trimester**

This laboratory course prepares students to learn, evaluate, coordinate, and analyze food in their daily lives and throughout their lifetime. Focus will be on understanding basic nutrition, essential nutrients, foodborne illnesses and promote the understanding of how food affects their personal health and the world around them.

### **Physical Education 7 - Trimester**

The primary focus of the physical education program is to promote good sportsmanship and provide students with the opportunity to learn and develop athletic fundamentals. Particular emphasis is placed on fitness and basic skills of individual and team sports.

### **PLTW - Innovators and Makers 7 - Trimester**

Get ready to create new innovations for real world problems. We will be exploring physical computing systems, programming logic, and introductory electrical circuits. Even if you do not wish to pursue a career in programming or coding, the critical thinking skills required are valuable for everyone. Throughout the course, you are challenged to use microcontrollers, inputs and outputs creatively to develop systems that interact with your environment. By the time the course is finished, students will be able to program basic functions using a micro:bit controller, wire and program digital and analog sensors, and digital outputs like LEDs. Students will design, create, program and present a miniature security system, a traffic light, a pedometer, an interactive robotic pet. Get ready to code LEDs to music and create electronic games and more.

### **PLTW - Robotics - Trimester**

***Note: This course may be taken one time in 7th OR in 8th grade.***

Get ready to explore the world of automation and robotics as you learn about mechanical systems, machine automation, and computer control systems using Vex V5 robotics. After hands-on building of various mechanisms, you will work collaboratively to dream up, design, build, test, evaluate, and program (code) various prototypes to solve real world problems while taking on the roles of three types of engineers: mechanical, electrical, and software engineer. With that knowledge, you will collaborate with others and use the design process to dream up, design, build, test, evaluate, and program (code) your original solutions to real-world problems. A variety of possible tasks await such as creating a prototype to help a toy company offer a new product line, an automated spinning billboard, your own automated dragster to race to the finish line, automated carnival rides, color sensing robotic arms, automated assembly lines and more.

## **FULL YEAR OFFERINGS**

### **Band 7 - Full Year**

This class is for students who have completed sixth grade band or new seventh grade students who wish to learn an instrument for the first time. Students will review and expand their range of notes, learn new rhythms, key signatures, and time signatures. Students are eligible to play in an optional Solo & Ensemble festival in January and perform as a class at three concerts: one in December, April, and May.

### **Concert Band 7/8 - (Audition Required) Full Year**

Concert Band is for students who have one or more years of experience playing a band instrument. It is open to all 8th grade students, as well as 7th grade students by audition. Students will expand their range of notes, learn more advanced rhythms, key signatures, and time signatures. Students are eligible to play in an optional Solo & Ensemble festival in January. This band will perform at Band Festival in March and school concerts in December, April, and May. 8th graders will also join the Romeo High School Band at two events: a Friday night football game in the fall and a short Memorial Day parade in the spring.

### **Vocal 7 - Full Year**

This class is a training course for beginning and intermediate vocalists. Students will learn the basics of music theory, vocal technique, proper choral singing, performance technique, choreography and sight singing. Class members will be exposed to and will perform a variety of music styles including: pop, rock, jazz, and classical. Students will participate in evening choral performances throughout the course.

## SUPPORT COURSES

### **Math Support - Enrollment Based on Placement Testing**

Math Support provides students with daily fact fluency practice, relearning, learning concepts students have never been taught before, and reviewing core math concepts. Students receive help in a small group setting with an Intervention Specialist. As always, our goal is to prepare all students with the necessary skills to be successful in school and in life. This class uses different research-based strategies to help students find success in math and build confidence in their abilities. Math Support replaces an elective slot in a student's schedule. Students are able to test out of the class, using progress monitoring assessments. Placement in this class is limited, so students are screened by the RMS Math Interventionist using the criteria listed below. (Parents may also request this intervention for their child by contacting the counseling office.)

Placement Criteria:

- Recommendation from math teacher
- Past three NWEA math assessment scores in the below average range
- Not proficient or partially proficient on the most recent Math M-STEP

### **AARI - Enrollment Based on Placement Testing**

AARI is a small-group reading intervention class that focuses on informational text comprehension skills. It is not at all a "how to read" class, but instead teaches students how to think about academic text (such as what they'd experience in science or social studies classes) in a deeper, more meaningful way. Students focus on making inferences, analyzing text structure, and determining main ideas through thoughtful discussion in a positive and engaging learning community. AARI is designed to help improve comprehension and critical thinking skills that are used in *all* areas of learning. Placement in this class is limited, so students are screened and individually assessed by the RMS reading interventionist/AARI teacher using the criteria listed below. (Parents may also request this intervention for their child by contacting the counseling office.)

Placement Criteria:

- Teacher recommendation
- Past three NWEA reading assessment scores in the below average range
- Not proficient or partially proficient on the most recent ELA M-STEP
- Two or more levels below current grade level on **informational text comprehension** on the *Qualitative Reading Inventory Assessment* (one-on-one in-person reading assessment)

### **Level Up Literacy - Enrollment Based on Teacher/Counselor Recommendations and Assessment Data**

Level Up is an academic reading support class that is designed to help improve comprehension and critical thinking skills that are used in *all* areas of learning. Students will learn how to apply specific strategies that will help them tackle the more rigorous text they encounter as they progress through middle school. This one-trimester class is designed to focus on improving the following academic reading skills:



- making inferences using text evidence
- determining main ideas and relevant supporting details
- summarizing
- using multiple strategies to find the meaning of unfamiliar words
- exploring craft to determine author's purpose

This credit/no credit support class will provide students with the opportunity to grow in an engaging, collaborative environment with a smaller group of students. Placement in this one-trimester class is determined by core teacher or counselor recommendation, most recent three NWEA reading assessment scores, grades, and proficiency level on the most recent ELA M-STEP. (Parents may also request this intervention for their child by contacting the counseling office.)

### **Level Up Academic Language - Enrollment for ELL Students Based on WIDA Scores and Academic Performance**

This class supports students in developing their use and understanding of formal academic language when reading and writing. Academic language differs from the everyday language we use with friends and family. Learning how to understand and express oneself in the more complex language of Academic English is necessary for success in school. In this credit/no credit support class, students will learn strategies for comprehending and crafting texts like those seen throughout the content areas, focusing on text structure, complex sentences, and academic vocabulary. As with the other Level Up classes, students will have the opportunity to grow in an engaging, collaborative environment with a smaller group of students. Since academic language is used in every subject area, Level Up will help improve students' learning in all content areas, not just language arts. Students can qualify for this course based on their WIDA scores and academic performance.