

***Twin Falls School District
Middle School
8th Grade Registration Book***

2017-2018



Eighth Grade Course Offerings

**Robert Stuart Middle School
South Hills Middle School
Vera C. O'Leary Middle School**

This guide is to assist you in registering for all three middle schools within the TFSD. Each school has minor variances in course offerings to better meet their unique circumstances. If you have any questions please contact your child's school.

Required Subjects

Math
Language Arts
Physical Science
History
Health (Semester)
IDLA Keyboarding (Semester) (Required at RSMS and SHMS)
Careers (Semester) (Required at OMS – elective choice at RSMS and SHMS)

In addition to required classes, eighth graders will take two of the following:

Elective Subjects

Television Productions	Art
Publications/Yearbook	Drama
Advanced Drama (RSMS only)	PE
Beginning Band	Athletic Conditioning (OMS only)
Intermediate Band	Young Living
Advanced Band (OMS only)	STEM: Science of Technology
Beginning Orchestra	STEM: Design and Modeling
Intermediate Orchestra	Media Tech
Choir	Web Design (OMS only)
Concert Choir (OMS & SHMS only)	IDLA Career Exploration
Girls' Choir	
Clerk (Library, Office, or Teacher)	

Middle School Credit System

Please be aware that the Twin Falls School District adopted a Middle School Credit System in accordance with Idaho Law. A student must pass 80% of their courses and have 90% attendance each semester.

Extra Help/Intervention

Students with ISAT scores basic or below may lose their electives and be placed in an intervention class for Math, Reading, and/or Language.

Advanced opportunities: (formerly called the 8 in 6 program)

See the following web page for more information: <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/student-engagement/advanced-ops/>

Advanced Opportunities allow for students to individualize their high school learning plan and get a jump start on their future. These options include dual credit, technical competency credit, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate programs. Beginning in the summer of a student's 6th grade year they may enroll in high school credits to get a head start on their high school Career. Most high school courses are taken through IDLA although there are other providers available.

The Fast Forward program can provide funding for students who participate in Advanced Opportunities.

Fast Forward

The Fast Forward program provides every student attending an Idaho public school an allocation of \$4,125.00 to use towards Advanced Opportunities in grades 7-12. The program was expanded by the Legislature in 2016 through the passing of [House Bill 458](#). The fund can be used for:

- **Overload Courses**

An overload course is a high school level course that is taken in excess of the student's regular school day. These courses are offered online, during the summertime, and after school. In the event that student incurs a cost for such courses, the Fast Forward program can pay up to \$225.00 for the cost of the course. Overload courses must be above and beyond the full course load offered by the student's local school.

- **Dual Credits**

Dual credit are courses taken by high school students that are transcribed on their high school and college transcripts. The Fast Forward program can pay for up to \$75.00 per credit, and in most cases, the cost of these credits is \$65.00. Dual Credit courses can also be taken online, by virtual conferencing, or in some cases students can go directly to the college/university campus. *More information on specific Idaho colleges and universities can be found in the [Links](#) tab.*

- **Exams**

Student can utilize Fast Forward funds to pay for a variety of college-credit bearing or professional technical exams. These include Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or Career & Technical Education (CTE) exams. A full list of qualifying exams is available in the [Resource Files](#).

If you are interested in pursuing Advanced Opportunities, you may be overwhelmed with the application process and college-level lingo. Here are some helpful tips to set you up for success:

- **Meet with your school guidance counselor**

Your school and district will have Advanced Opportunities available locally. By meeting with your counselor, you can learn more about their Career Development plan, as well as course options that are at the high school campus, college campus, or online.

- **Develop a four to six year learning plan**

Having a preliminary course plan sketched out is critical to effectively take advantage of the possibilities available through Advanced Opportunities. The learning plan should include courses that will be taken for dual credit. This should be a fluid document because long term goals are likely to change. Thoughtful and intentional planning will help ensure that the credits you earn will apply toward the certificate or degree you intend to attain.

- **Reach out to Colleges/Universities**

Idaho institutions have personnel available to assist you in planning for the transition between high school and college. Reach out to the dual credit offices across the state to learn about the options available for high school students. Do not feel limited to just your local institutions. Many colleges/universities have both online and satellite campuses.

- **Create a Fast Forward account**

By creating an account, you will be able to track where your funds are, request payment for courses and exams, and view the status of payments. Accounts must be activated by your school before funds are allocated. Check with your local school district to learn more about your local application process for Fast Forward funding.

REQUIRED SUBJECTS - 6 Classes

MATHEMATICS

MATH 8

This course is designed to prepare the student for first-year Algebra. This is a critical bridge between elementary mathematics and Algebra 1. To be successful in Algebra 1, students should have a solid foundation of computation with rational numbers, an introductory knowledge of linear equations, the ability to solve multi-step equations, and be fluent in ratios and proportions.

ALGEBRA 1:

The purpose of this course is to better prepare students to be successful in the next sequential math Class. First semester, the course focuses on expressions, functions, rational numbers and solving, graphing and analyzing linear equations and inequalities. Second semester, the course focuses on operations with polynomials, factoring, quadratic equations, rational expressions, radical expressions and the quadratic formula. Students have the option to receive high school credit for this course.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

The main focus of this course is to immerse eighth grade students into the art of language: oral, written, and spoken. The study of grammar, usage, sentence structure, writing skills, effective communication skills, and library usage (media and reference materials) for research is included in this course. Students will experience the development and maintenance of basic reading skills (word attack, comprehension, and vocabulary development). The course will include a study of the elements of literature and will adapt to different genres of reading. Reading will extend the students' skills in functional, recreational, and critical reading. The Accelerated Reading program will create growth in student reading ability and help students become independent and self-directed readers.

HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS 8 (See the last page for Honors at OMS)

This class would be taken in place of Language Arts 8, however, students will work towards a deeper, and more accelerated level of understanding of the eighth grade Language Arts curriculum. Additional course work will be required above Language Arts 8 requirements.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

This course covers the basic fundamentals of chemistry and physics – structure and properties of matter, force and motion, and forms of energy – in a variety of laboratory and classroom activities. This information is vital for success on the Idaho ISAT and future science classes.

HONORS PHYSICAL SCIENCE (See the last page for Honors at OMS)

This course covers the fundamentals of chemistry and physics – structure and properties of matter, force and motion, and forms of energy – in a variety of laboratory and classroom activities. Students will be expected to do a substantial amount of independent research outside of the classroom in addition to daily class work. The information learned is vital for success on the Idaho ISAT and future science classes.

HISTORY 8

This course is a study of American History with emphasis on the “Manifest Destiny” theme. Topics include geography, government/civics, immigration, conflict, and compromise.

HEALTH

Health education is required for 1 semester. Health topics will include mental and emotional health, family and social health, growth and development, nutrition, personal health and physical activity, alcohol, tobacco, and drug education, communicable and chronic diseases, consumer and community health, environmental health, and injury prevention and safety. Class lectures, discussions, role playing, community guest speakers, and various hands – on activities are an integral part of this curriculum.

KEYBOARDING 8

This semester course is designed to teach proper technique, hand position and touch control. Speed and accuracy are facilitated through the use of tutorial software. Keyboarding skills will be used in formatting and producing: letters, tables and academic and business reports.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS – 2 Classes

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY

Students of Media Tech will participate in a “hands-on”, practical approach to various forms of current and emerging media and technology to build success in today’s world. The software used in this class is only in the Media Tech lab, therefore time management is essential. It is important that students complete their work during the allotted class time.

PUBLICATIONS/YEARBOOK 7/8

Students in the course will create and design all aspects of the school’s yearbook. Students take digital pictures of school activities, edit images with editing software, and design the yearbook using an online program. Students also learn how to procure a record of the year via photo journalism and written word. Students develop a concept of meeting deadlines. Students in this class must be responsible workers and be able to work without constant supervision from the teacher. At RSMS these students will create a school newspaper as well.

TELEVISION PRODUCTION 7/8

Students in this course will be introduced to the operation of a television studio, experiencing live and prerecorded formats. Students will have the opportunity to participate in various aspects of television production and will learn the stages of broadcast production, teamwork, basics of camera usage, lighting, sound, set design, linear and digital video editing, interviewing skills, and talent techniques. Students will produce the news show for their school.

STEM: DESIGN AND MODELING (RSMS only – offered last year as Pathways Technology)

Design and Modeling (DM) provides students opportunities to apply the design process to creatively solve problems. Students learn and utilize methods for communicating design ideas through sketches, solid models, and mathematical models. Students will understand how models can be simulated to represent an authentic situation and generate data for further analysis and observations. Students will use

sketches, measurements (dimensions), surface area and volume calculations to communicate their ideas and designs. Students will be introduced to using a CAD (Computer Aided Design) program to create graphical models of their designs.

STEM: Science of Technology – (Preferred Prerequisite – Design and Modeling)

Science of Technology (ST) provides students opportunities to discover engineering as it relates to chemistry, physics, and nanotechnology. Students will learn about chemistry and engineering concepts to help solve problems related to world hunger, pollution of our environment, creating new materials, or meeting demands for energy. They will explore nanomaterials and learn about their applications and how those applications will affect our future. Students will get to explore physical properties of materials, simple machines, and how they create motion, and to analyze and improve mechanisms society uses today. Students will complete activities like making ice cream, creating adhesives, and cleaning up an oil spill.

WEB DESIGN (OLMS and SHMS only)

In this course, students will explore an introduction to web design. Students will learn what makes a website useful and attractive, and put that information into practice by developing pages for their web portfolio. Skills learned in this class will be basic web design rules, website development, html format, and web page best practices.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

This is a continuation of our physical education course at the middle school level. This includes increased emphasis on physical fitness skills, improving fitness levels, instruction in additional team and individual sports, games and activities. Emphasis will also be placed on game strategies and sport specific movements needed to participate in a variety of team and individual sports. There may be an emphasis on some weight-lifting as well. Personal and social responsibilities will also be discussed and practiced during the school year.

ATHLETIC CONDITIONING (OMS only)

This class is a teacher approval class designed for athletes. It is recommended that you participate in a sport at some time during the year to take this class, but it is not a requirement if the teacher approves the student. The class will be a five day a week workout class with weight lifting, plyometrics, speed work, conditioning, and many other aerobic and anaerobic exercises to build speed and strength in the athlete. This course will be a blend of seventh and eighth graders as well as males and females.

ART 8

8th Grade Art is designed to challenge the student by a continuous in-depth study of the elements of design (line, space, form, shape, texture, color, and value) and an introduction to the principles of design (contrast, rhythm, movement, balance, pattern, emphasis, and unity.) Throughout the year the student will apply his/her knowledge of drawing concepts, perspective, shading techniques, graphic design, composition development, and various painting media. Basic pottery processes will be introduced.

Where applicable, references to historical art masters will be studied. 8th Grade Art is highly recommended if the student wants to continue at a secondary level.

DRAMA 8

The 8th grade drama class is semester long and will allow students to get a basic overview of the subject as well as participation in a main stage production. Exploring history, terminology, stagecraft, and the many aspects of theatre will take a hands-on approach. Students will also be exposed to the aspects of production skills such as acting (vocal & physical), improvisation, lights sound, costumes, makeup, building props, directing and theatre critiques. We will also focus on lifelong skills such a positive work ethic, organization, developing responsibility that come with freedom, developing cooperative and supportive teams, and increasing self-confidence. Some after school hours may be required for this class.

8 ADVANCED DRAMA (Yearlong)

In this theatre course, we will review the basics of drama and then go more in-depth while taking on many types of production which will include a full length play. This is a hands-on class and all students will be required to participate and attend all productions, which may include after school hours. Exploring history terminology, stagecraft, and the many aspects of theatre will take a hands-on approach. Students will also be exposed to the aspects of production skills such as acting (vocal & physical), lights, sound costumes, makeup, building set and props, directing, and theatre critique. We will also focus on lifelong skills such as a positive work ethic, organization, developing responsibility that come with freedom, building cooperative and supportive teams, and increasing self-confidence.

YOUNG LIVING 8

Students will build basic life skills which will help them meet the challenges of their daily lives. They will learn information and practical skills related to such topics as: healthy living, foods and nutrition, life management, textiles, apparel and child development. This is a projects based class, where students will be cooking in the kitchen and working on a sewing project. There is a class fee that is due when their sewing project is picked out. Projects may be between \$6 and \$25.

BEGINNING BAND

Beginning Band is for students who want to learn to play flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn, tuba, or percussion (drums & bells). Students are encouraged to supply their own instruments; students can use a school instrument for the year, free of charge if needed. The availability of some school instruments is limited. Students desiring to play percussion (drums and bells) must have had two years of piano lessons or the equivalent, and will be tested for rhythmic ability and coordination. Students chosen to play percussion will need to buy drumsticks and a practice pad to begin with and a snare drum by Thanksgiving; purchase of a practice set of bells is encouraged. Drummers will also be expected to pay a modest fee for use of other school percussion equipment. 8th grade students will be in this class with lower grades.

INTERMEDIATE BAND

Students who have completed one year of Band (or equivalent experience) should take Intermediate Band 8. Student will further develop their technical and expressive skills, musical knowledge. Intermediate Band is a performance-oriented ensemble and will perform for daytime and evening concerts, festivals, and may perform in other events. A wide variety of music is studied. Intermediate

Band students are eligible to participate in District Solo/Ensemble Festival and District Honor Band. School-owned instruments are available to use for a modest rental fee of \$40 per year; drummers must pay a \$30 Drum Fee to use school-owned percussion instruments.

ADVANCED BAND (OMS only)

Students who have completed **two years of Band** (or equivalent experience) should take Advanced Band 8. Students will further develop their technical and expressive skills, musical knowledge. Advanced Band is a performance-oriented ensemble and will perform for daytime and evening concerts, festivals, and may perform in other events. A wide variety of music is studied. Intermediate Band students are eligible to participate in District Solo/Ensemble Festival and District Honor Band. Students are encouraged to provide their own instrument. However, school-owned instruments are available to use for free.

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA 8

This is a beginning course, designed for those students who are interested in learning the violin, viola, cello or string bass and have had little or no experience. School-owned instruments (viola, cello, and string bass) are available to use. You will probably need to furnish your own violin if that is your instrument of choice. 8th grade students will be in this class with lower grades.

INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA 8

(Prerequisite: Beginning Orchestra or equivalent private study)

This course is a continuation of Beginning Orchestra and is for students who are interested in mastering more advanced string ensemble techniques, and the study of concert music for performance. Music of many historical periods and styles will be studied, discussed and performed; there will be an emphasis on historical/cultural context of music performed and critical thinking/evaluation skills will be developed in relation to the pieces studied. Students participate in several concerts, Clinic and Festival.

CHOIR 8

Mixed Chorus is a course designed to teach beginning choral / singing techniques. The various methods used include music reading, 2 (SA) and 3 (SAB) part singing, vocal training, choral blending, basic music theory, music history, music appreciation and the opportunity to sing many styles of music literature. Students will also learn and practice proper concert and performance etiquette. The choir will have 2-4 required evening performances.

GIRL'S CHOIR

It is an elite vocal ensemble. **Entrance is by audition only and is limited.** Emphasis in this course is on masterful singing from each individual singer, as well as from the entire group. Students participating in Bel Canto develop an excellent understanding of the language and structure of music and knowledge of proper concert etiquette. The girls' choir is called Bel Canto at RSMS, Chantaire at OMS, and yet to be named at SHMS.

CONCERT CHOIR

Concert Choir is a select vocal ensemble. Students must have a minimum of one previous year of choral experience or the permission of instructor to enroll. Emphasis is on great choral singing in two, three, and four-part harmony, and continued growth in music theory. This class will perform several times throughout the year

STUDENT CLERK (Teacher aide, Office or Library)

This class is designed for mature, responsible students interested in providing service to others. Participating students will become assistants in the office or library. Applicants are carefully screened for acceptability by the staff and faculty of O'Leary Middle School or Robert Stuart Middle School. Students taking this class will receive a pass/fail grade. Student can lose this class for not fulfilling requirements of duties.

IDLA (IDAHO DIGITAL LEARNING ACADEMY)

This is an on-line learning and instructional program. It allows students to take courses that are not offered as a part of the regular course offerings at the middle school level, for example, world language courses. IDLA may also be used for remediation or enrichment of student learning.

- Placement in an IDLA course requires a parent/student meeting with the building principal prior to a student being placed in an IDLA course.
- IDLA may not be used to replace a course that is offered as a part of the general curriculum.
- There may be a tuition fee associated with an IDLA course.
- There is a middle school coordinator in the classroom but this is an online class. The instructor is not in the classroom.

8th Grade Career Exploration

This 8 unit course covers the 16 Career Clusters and occupations within them, as well as employability skills such as time management, communication, and decision making. Students will learn about their personality, dependable strengths, and career options, as well as, how to grow their personal network. Students will use a variety of tools, including Idaho's Career Information System (CIS), and will complete a final portfolio that includes their 8th grade plan, a resume, their interest inventory results, and a summary of their future goals. Students may transfer their CIS portfolio to their local school at the conclusion of the course.

Robert Stuart Middle School

8th Grade Registration

Student Legal Name: _____ M ___ F ___ Birthdate: _____

Address (No PO Box) _____ Home Phone _____

City (if other than Twin Falls) _____ Work Phone _____

8th Grade Required Classes

- **Mathematics**
- **Language Arts**
*Mark here if you are interested in Honors LA _____
- **Physical Science**
*Mark here if you are interested in Honors Science _____
- **History**
- **Health/Keyboarding (semester each)**

****NO TEACHER REQUESTS****

For detailed class

* Placement into Honors classes will be based upon student interest, teacher recommendation and test scores.

8th Grade Elective Classes

**Any student with test scores lower than proficient in Reading, Math or Language with a teacher recommendation will be enrolled in a remediation class that will take the place of an elective.

Select 4 credits of electives. Number them 1-4.

Select 4 credits of alternates. Number them 5-8

The number of credits are in parenthesis

- ____ (2) Concert Choir
- ____ (2) Bel Canto (audition)
- ____ (2) Beginning Band
- ____ (2) Intermediate Band
- ____ (2) Beginning Orchestra
- ____ (2) Intermediate Orchestra
- ____ (1) Art
- ____ (1) Young Living
- ____ (1) P E
- ____ (1) Drama
- ____ (1) Media Technology

- ____ (2) Drama (Advanced)
- ____ (2) TV Productions
- ____ (2) Student Clerk (Office Clerk, Library, Counselor, Teacher Aide) (circle preference) Clerks will be screened by teacher recommendation and grades.
- ____ (1) STEM: Design and Modeling (same class as Pathways Technology in 7th grade)
- ____ (1) IDLA Career Exploration
- ____ (1) STEM: Science of Technology

Date

Student Signature

Parent Signature

 **O'LEARY MIDDLE SCHOOL** 
8TH GRADE PRE-REGISTRATION

Student Name _____ M ___ F ___ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone _____

8th Grade Required Classes

<u>Credits</u>		<u>Credits</u>	
2	Mathematics	2	Social Studies
2	Physical Science	2	Language Arts
1	IDLA Middle School Careers	1	Health (1 semester)

8th Grade Elective Classes

Choose a total of 4 credits of electives – **Number 1-4**

Choose a total of 4 credits of alternate electives – **Number 5-8**

You must have handed in an application in order to choose an application required class

Alternate electives MUST be different choices than electives

Circle 1 credit for semester classes, 2 credits for yearlong classes

<u>Credits</u>		<u>Credits</u>	
_____ 1 or 2	Athletic Conditioning **(application required)**	_____ 2	Publications **(application required)**
_____ 2	TV Productions **(application required)**	_____ 1 or 2	Physical Education
_____ 1 or 2	Drama	_____ 1 or 2	Art
_____ 1 or 2	Young Living	_____ 1	Web Design
_____ 1	Media Technology	_____ 1	STEM
_____ 2	Band (circle 1) Beginning Intermediate Advanced		
_____ 2	Orchestra (circle 1) Beginning Intermediate		
_____ 2	Choir (circle 1) Beginning Concert Chantaire (audition)		
_____ 2	Office/Teacher/Library Clerk (circle1) **(application required)**		

NO TEACHER REQUESTS

For detailed class descriptions, go to the O'Leary School website: <http://ol.tfsd.org/>

Date

Student Signature

Parent Signature

SOUTH HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

8th Grade Pre-registration

Student Name _____ M ____ F ____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Required Classes

*Language Arts
Math
*Physical Science

History
Health/Keyboarding

Circle if interested in the following Honors classes: Language Arts Science

*Honors classes will be filled based on student interest, teacher recommendations and test scores.

Elective Classes

***Students may be removed from an elective class if they need extra support in Reading, Math or Language.

Choose a total of 4 credits of electives – Number 1–4

Choose a total of 4 credits of alternate electives – Number 5–8

Alternate electives MUST be different choices than electives

<u>Credits</u>		<u>Credits</u>	
_____ 2	Publications /Yearbook	_____ 2	Beginning Band
_____ 2	TV Productions	_____ 2	Intermediate Band
_____ 1	Physical Education	_____ 2	Beginning Orchestra
_____ 1	Art	_____ 2	Intermediate Orchestra
_____ 1	Young Living	_____ 2	Choir (___ mark if took choir last year)
_____ 1	IDLA Career Exploration	_____ 2	Girls' Choir (Audition)
_____ 1	Web Design	_____ 2	Clerk (Circle 1)
_____ 1	Media Technology		Office/Teacher/Library
_____ 1	STEM: Science of Technology		

****NO TEACHER REQUESTS****

For detailed class descriptions, go to either O'Leary's or Stuart's site: <http://ol.tfsd.org/> or <http://rs.tfsd.org/>

Date

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Honors Opportunities

O'Leary Only

This year there will be an opportunity for honors/advanced coursework in areas beyond Language and Science. Every core class will have an honors component within the course that will require students to extend (go deeper) into their class project/assignment as assigned by their teacher.

Honors opportunities will be made available in all core subjects (with the exception of math, which will accelerate students based on established criteria in order to identify students that would most likely be successful in an upper level class). All students are eligible without application for Honors classwork. Each teacher will specify the particular requirements for students to earn the "Honors" designation for that class. This change in policy is to include more students in the honors program and to base the honors status on a student's willingness and ability to do the depth of work and maintain high expectations for themselves.

Requirements for Honors Opportunity Language Arts:

1. No more than 1 late assignment in the semester
2. No missing work
3. All test scores at or above a 90%
4. Completed honors work at satisfactory level (minimum of one assignment per quarter) This will be the same for all teachers at that grade level.
5. Students must meet A.R. goal
6. Students must have a minimum cumulative grade of at least 85% at quarter and semester
7. Must complete requirements for both quarters in order to have honors status for semester
8. Students will be responsible for tracking their own progress towards meeting the honors status

Requirements for Honors Opportunity Science and History:

1. No more than 1 late assignment in the semester
2. No missing work
3. All test scores at or above a 90%
4. Completed honors work at satisfactory level (minimum of one assignment per quarter) This will be the same for all teachers at that grade level.
5. Must complete requirements for both quarters in order to have honors status for semester
6. Students will be responsible for tracking their own progress towards meeting the honors status
7. Students must have a minimum cumulative grade of at least 85% at quarter and semester