

Marquette Catholic Middle School

Curriculum Guide



2010-2011

Introduction

Marquette Catholic School System shares the mission of creating a community where excellence and Catholic Christian morals, values, and traditions are nurtured for the formation of the whole person. Through the formation of positive attitudes toward the meaning of education in our lives, growth in understanding religious beliefs, self-discipline and respect for the rights of others, individual students grow and develop as Catholic Christian citizens.

The curriculum of our school falls under guidelines and mandates of the State of Iowa Department of Education, the Archdiocese of Dubuque, and Marquette Catholic Schools.

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of topics included in our Marquette Catholic Middle School curriculum. This guide is not intended to be an all-inclusive or exhaustive list. The topics covered, the depth at which they are covered, and their order and pacing is subject to ongoing revision.

Grade Level Expectations

Grade level expectations are the official set of standards and benchmarks that are used by Marquette Catholic Schools for K-12th Grade. Copies of this lengthy document are available for review at Marquette Catholic. The GLE's are undergoing continued review by the Archdiocese of Dubuque and Marquette Catholic School System.

Textbooks

Although not the official curriculum, textbooks play an important part in our academic program. Depending upon the grade level expectations of a particular subject area, textbooks or other resource materials will be used to varying degrees. Teachers may use parts of chapters, skip some chapters, and/or utilize other supplementary materials.

Religion

As adolescents grow in their journey of faith, religion integrates their social, intellectual, and spiritual needs.

In its broadest scope the religion program in middle school covers the Old Testament and salvation history in sixth grade, the New Testament and the person of Jesus in seventh, and the gospel message and traditions found in Church History in eighth. Our religion standards require our students to demonstrate knowledge of the message taught, to reflect Christian involvement in service, and to show evidence of Christian relationships as we build our Christian community. In addition, each grade level will utilize a service contract to encourage students to demonstrate service in their family, school, parish, and community.

Sixth Grade

In the beginning

- Our story of faith
- Why are we here?
- Good and evil
- We celebrate Mary:
Daughter of Zion

The journey and the promise

- Called on a journey of faith
- God wants to save us
- Our relationship with God
- We celebrate All Saints: A
consecrated people
- The one who is to come
- Leader of leaders
- God's wisdom
- The promised one
- We celebrate Advent: O
come, o come Emmanuel!

Founded on the gospels

- Sharing the good news
- The church grows
- Together as one body
- We celebrate Christmas:
The promise fulfilled
- True to the promise
- The way of love
- Living injustice and
peace
- The Holy Spirit in action
- We celebrate holy lent: 40
days in the desert

Sacraments of Salvation

- The call of baptism
- Called to serve
- Together in love
- We celebrate Holy Week:
Sacrifice and Salvation
Journey to the Future
- All the Faithful
- Christians as one
- Waiting for the new
creation
- We celebrate Easter: Our
story of Salvation

Prayers

- Prayer of St. Francis
- Corporal Works of Mercy
- Spiritual Works of Mercy
- The Magnificat
- Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Four Gospels
- Way of the Cross/Stations

Seventh Grade

In God's image

- Teaching from scripture
- Freedom, Responsibility, and Conscience
- Those who guide us
- Sin and Separation
- Forgiveness and Reconciliation
- Our Sexuality
- Respecting life
- We are one body
- Our prophetic role

Prayer Service/Project

- Each student will participate in at least one prayer service or project.

Community Service

- Each student will be expected to perform 3 hours of community service per quarter.

Eighth Grade

Catholic Knowledge

- 7 attitudes that lead to sin
- 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Seasons of the Church
- Liturgical Year
- Fast and Abstinence Laws
- Corporal Works of Mercy
- Spiritual Works of Mercy
- Holy Days of Obligation
- Parts of the Mass

Religions of the World

- People of the Old Testament
- The Early Church
- The Teaching Church
- Professing Our Faith
- Celebrating in Community
- Living Faithfully
- The Church Alive
- The Church in the World
- Now and Forever
- Sharing Our Faith

Prayer Service

- Each student will participate in at least one prayer service.

Community Service

- Each student will be expected to do 5 hours of community service per quarter.

English

English class focuses on spelling, grammar, mechanics, and writing skills. Different writing genres, including daily life writing skills, are taught incorporating spelling, grammar, process writing, different types of writing, and the six plus traits of writing.

Sixth Grade

Daily Oral Language

Word Study:

Spelling
Prefixes & Suffixes

English:

The Sentence
Nouns
Verbs
Modifiers
Cap. & Punct.
Pronouns
Prepositions

Types of Writing:

Descriptive/ Paragraph
Personal Narrative
Comic
Opinion/ Persuasion
Expository

Writing Process

Prewrite
Draft
Revise
Edit
Publish

Six + Writing Traits

Ideas
Organization
Voice
Word Choice
Sentence Fluency
Conventions
Presentation

Seventh Grade

Daily Oral Language

Word Study:

Spelling
Greek & Latin Roots

English:

The Sentence
Nouns
Verbs
Modifiers
Cap. & Punct.
Pronouns
Prepositions
Complex Sentences

Types of Writing:

Descriptive/ Menu
Narrative/ Mystery
Persuasion/ Commercial
Expository

Writing Process

Prewrite
Draft
Revise
Edit
Publish

Six + Writing Traits

Ideas
Organization
Voice
Word Choice
Sentence Fluency
Conventions
Presentation

Eighth Grade

Daily Oral Language

Word Study:

Spelling
Greek & Latin Roots

English:

The Sentence
Nouns
Verbs
Modifiers
Cap. & Punct.
Pronouns
Phrases
Clauses

Types of Writing:

Descriptive/ Poem
Narrative/ Short Story
Opinion/ Persuasion/
Debate
Expository

Writing Process

Prewrite
Draft
Revise
Edit
Publish

Six + Writing Traits

Ideas
Organization
Voice
Word Choice
Sentence Fluency
Conventions
Presentation

Literature

Junior high literature uses the Accelerated Reading Program daily. Students are given about 25 minutes of silent reading time. During this time the teacher meets with students, looks over goals and assists those who need help. The remainder of the class consists of lessons covering reading skills and vocabulary taken from the short stories, novels, poetry, and plays read together in class as well as their Accelerated Reading books and other sources.

Accelerated Reader

This is a program that allows the student to choose his/her own reading material based on individual ability. Students are given an individual goal (the number of points he/she needs to earn for the quarter) and a range (the levels of books he/she should be reading). Both the goal and range are based on scores taken from the ITBS. At the end of each quarter, the teacher will conference with the student about performance and together they will decide the student's new goal for the next quarter.

Sixth Grade

Accelerated Reader
Reading Strategies
Read Aloud
Nonfiction Unit
Bridge to Terabithia
Short Story Unit
Poetry
Various Projects
Journaling

Seventh Grade

Accelerated Reader
Reading Strategies
The Miracle Worker
Nonfiction Unit
The Outsiders
Mythology
Poetry-Narrative Poems
Various Projects
Mark Twain

Eighth Grade

Accelerated Reader
Reading Strategies
Poetry through Music
The Contender
To Kill a Mockingbird
Mark Twain Author Study

- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*
- *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

Nonfiction "Holocaust" Unit
Animal Adventure Literature
Circle Unit
Short Stories

- "The Fall of the House of Usher" – Poe
- "Gift of the Magi" – O. Henry

Sixth Grade Math

Connecting

- Arithmetic to Algebra
- Order of operation
- Properties
- Estimating
- Writing expressions and equations
- Solving one step equations

Fractions

- Writing and reducing
- Mixed numbers and improper fractions
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- Equations with fractions

Decimals

- Place values and rounding
- Scientific notation
- Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division
- Equations with decimals

Statistics

- Reading and interpreting graphs
- Displaying data
- Mean, median, mode

Measurement

- Perimeter and area of polygons

Patterns

- Divisibility Rules
- Prime and Composite numbers
- Prime factorization
- Least common multiple
- Greatest common factor

Integers

- Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division

Seventh Grade Math

Review of Problem Solving Strategies

Throughout the Year

Decimals

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Metric system
- Terminating and repeating decimals
- Estimating
- Order of operations
- Properties

Integers and Equations

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of integers
- Solving and writing two step equations
- Spreadsheet creation

Fractions and Number Theory

- Compare and order fractions
- Divisibility rules
- Prime factorization
- Simplifying fractions
- Fraction-decimal-percent

Fractions and Mixed Numbers

- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Units conversion
- Solving equations with fractions and mixed numbers

Proportions and Percent

- Ratios
- Unit rates
- Scale drawings
- Using proportions to find percent

Geometry

- Patterns
- Congruency
- Polygons
- Vocabulary
- Proofs

Geometry/Measurement

- Perimeter
- Area
- Circumference
- Volume
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Square root

Intro on How to Use a Graphing Calculator:
TI-81

Intro to Algebra

Review Integers (add, subtract, multiply & divide)

Properties

Order of Operations

Simplifying, Solving and Writing 1 and 2
Step Equations

Eighth Grade Pre-algebra

Review of integers, properties, and order of operation

Simplifying, solving, and writing equations and inequalities

Graphing in the Coordinate Plane.

- Linear equations slope
- Symmetry
- Rotations

Rational and Irrational Numbers

- Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division
- Square root
- Pythagorean Theorem

Proportions

- Similar figures
- Sine, cosine, and tangent

Percent

- Proportions and equations
- Circle graphs
- Interest

Geometry

- Vocabulary
- Patterns
- Proofs
- Formulas

Measurement

- Metric and Customary Units
- Dimensional analysis
- Surface area and volume of space figures

Probability

- Counting outcomes
- Permutations and Combinations

Unit on using a graphing calculator-will use the TI-81 throughout the year

- Create different types of graphs on the calculator
- Graph linear equations
- Exploring sequences

Problem solving strategies will be taught and used throughout the year

Create a spreadsheet on the computer

Eighth Grade Algebra

Algebra provides a broad introduction to simplifying rational and irrational numbers, solving equations and inequalities, simplifying and factoring polynomials, simplifying rational expressions, linear equations and functions, and solving systems of linear equations. Problem solving is emphasized. Students should be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers, decimals, and fractions and understand the order of evaluation before entering this course. A scientific calculator is required.

Prerequisites for 8th grade students

- 8th stanine or above on the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test
- 85% mathematics composite or above on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills
- Recommendation of the middle school mathematics instructor
- 8th grade students are expected to maintain a minimum B- average in Algebra I. Any student failing to do so through the 1st quarter may (after parent and administrative consultation) be rescheduled into the 8th grade pre-algebra course.

Science

Science is a search for answers to questions about the world. In the study of earth, life, and physical science students gain an understanding of different aspects of how the world works. Students learn and understand the nature of scientific inquiry. Students use appropriate tools and techniques to gather, analyze, and interpret scientific data. They evaluate results of scientific investigations, experiments, and demonstrations. Students engage in cooperative learning, critical thinking, problem solving, questioning, and hands-on activities through a variety of different instructional strategies, learning styles, and assessments.

Sixth Grade

Textbook: Earth Science
Glencoe/McGraw Hill
2005

Nature of Science

- What is Science Work of Scientists Earth Materials
- Minerals
- Rocks
- Resources Earth's

Internal Processes

- Plate Tectonics
- Earthquakes
- Volcanoes Earth's Air and Water
- Atmosphere
- Weather
- Climate
- Weathering
- Erosion

Science Fair

- Invention Convention

Seventh Grade

Textbook: Life Science
Glencoe/McGraw Hill
2005

Nature of Science

- Scientific Method Exploring & Classifying Life Cells and Heredity
- Cell Structure and Function
- Cell Processes & Energy
- Cell Reproduction
- Heredity: Genetics/Mendel
- Genetics since Mendel

Human Body System

- Structure and Movement of skeletal, muscular, skin
- Nutrients and Digestion
- Circulatory System
- Respiration & Excretion
- Control & Coordination of Nervous system sense
- Regulation and Reproduction
- Immunity and Disease

Plants

- Reproduction and Processes

Science Fair

- Scientific Process Experiment

Eighth Grade

Textbook: Physical Science
Glencoe/McGraw Hill
2005

Nature of Science

- Measurement Science
- Energy and Motion
- Motion
 - Forces
 - Energy
 - Work and Machines

Nature of Matter

- Classification of Matter
- Solids, Liquids, Gases

Chemistry

- Properties of Atoms
- Properties of Periodic Table
- Properties of Elements
- Chemical Bonds

Electricity Magnetism

Sound Light

Science Fair

- Rube Goldberg Simple Machine

Social Studies

The Social Studies Curriculum focuses on the historical, political, geographic, cultural, economic, and religious influences of various areas and time periods. The sixth grade curriculum studies ancient world cultures through the Middle Ages. Seventh graders study World History from the Renaissance to Current times. In eighth grade, students study American History from the Constitution through the 20th Century.

Sixth Grade

- Early Civilizations
- Ancient Egypt
- Ancient Near East
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Rome
- Ancient China
- Ancient India
- Western Europe: The Middle Ages
- Middle East: Origins of Islam
- The Americas Early Peoples/Cultures
- The Renaissance and Reformation
- The Industrial Revolution
- World War I and its aftermath
- World War II and its aftermath
- Intro Unit on Map Skills
- Geography of each civilization studied

Seventh Grade

- Canada
- The United States
- Mexico
- Central America and the West Indies
- Northern South America
- The Central Andes
- The Southern Cone
- Brazil
- The British Isles and Scandinavia
- The Heartland of Western Europe
- The Countries of Southern Europe
- Eastern Europe
- The Soviet Union

Eighth Grade

- New Nation
 - Constitution
 - 3 branches of Government
 - First political parties
- Expansion
 - Louisiana Purchase
 - War of 1812
 - Westward Expansion
 - Sectional Differences
- Civil War
 - Social Reform Movements
 - Challenges to slavery
 - The War of 1861-1865
 - Reconstruction
- Reshaping the Nation
 - Western Frontier
 - Industrialization
 - Immigration 20th Century
- Overseas
- Expansion/Involvement
 - Imperialism
 - World War I
 - World War II
 - The Cold War
 - Vietnam
- 20th Century Domestic Issues
 - Post-WWII Prosperity
 - Civil Rights Movement
 - Reaction to Vietnam

Music

The students and I will explore different types of music through singing, dancing, playing various instruments, and reflective listening. We will study the anatomy of the human voice and how it changes through adolescence. Music reading and interpretation skills will be solidified throughout all three grade levels. Liturgical/seasonal music along with basic piano skills will be included in the Music Curriculum when time is permitted. The majority of the class periods will be dedicated towards learning new music and the lessons that are taught with the music. A minimum of two class periods a month will be dedicated to general music class.

Sixth Grade

Elements of Music

- Beat/Rhythm
- Notes/Value
- Measures/ Bar Lines/
Meter/ Time Signature
- Staff/ Pitch/ Grand Staff
- Treble Clef
- Bass Clef
- Dynamics
- The Human
Voice
- How the voice is created
- Changed and unchanged
voices
- Unison, two, and three
part singing

Music History

Musical Theater

Seventh Grade

Elements of Music

- Rests/Value
- Division of the Beat
- Dotted Notes
- Ledger Lines
- Whole and Half Steps/
Scales
- Intervals
- Sharps/ Flats/ Naturals
- Key Signatures
- The Human Voice
- The Anatomy of the
Human Voice
- Stages of the changing
voice
- Charting our vocal ranges
- Unison and 2&3 part
singing Music

Music History

Musical Theater

Eighth Grade

Elements of Music

- Enharmonic Notes/
Accidentals
- Tempo
- Repeat signs/ first and
second endings/ DC &
DS/ Coda/ Fine
- Dynamics
- Ties/ Slurs/ Articulation
- Other Scales

The Human Voice

- Review stages of the voice
change
- Chart our vocal ranges
- Unison and 2&3 part
singing

Music History

Musical Theater

Physical Education

The focus on Physical Education will be to:

- Help students improve basic skills and physical fitness levels through a wide variety of activities.
- Promote a sense of fair play, cooperation and sportsmanship at all times.
- Develop a desire to pursue enjoyable activities that will enhance lifelong wellness.

Units Covered

The President's Challenge Physical Fitness (Fall)

Volleyball

Soccer

Frisbee Golf

Flag Football

Basketball

Archery

Bowling

Table Tennis

Dance

Cooperative Learning/Team Games

Tennis

The President's Challenge Physical Fitness (Spring)

Softball/Wiffleball

Each grade level utilizes the above listed activities advancing to more progressive skill levels each year. Grades 6-8 meet each week for 1 period (60-120 minutes) of instruction.

Research Information Technology (RIT)

Research Information Technology (RIT) is a year long class where students work on computer and Spanish skills.

Computer Skills

Keyboarding
Word Processing
Spreadsheets
Publisher
PowerPoints
Internet

Spanish

Formal Assessments

Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)

The ITBS is given to all 6-8 grade students each year. This is a series of standardized tests in the areas of Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation, Usage and Expression, Math Concepts and Estimation, Math Problem Solving and Data Interpretation, Math Computation, Social Studies, Science, Maps and Diagrams, and Reference Materials. The ITBS generally takes parts of 6 days to administer and a student's scores are sent to parents when they become available. The ITBS results are used in a variety of ways including measuring student progress from year-to-year, measuring a student's overall achievement, and school-wide measurement of a grade-level or subgroups academic achievement.

Cognitive Ability Tests (CogAT)

The CogAT is given to seventh grade students each year. This is a series of standardized tests used to identify approximate ability levels of students. There are three tests that are given as part of the CAT tests and it takes part of 3 days to administer this assessment. The verbal score relates to visual problem solving. These are results used to compare student academic potential with their current achievement. The CogAT results are sent to parents when they become available.

Iowa Collaborative Assessment Modules (ICAM)

ICAMs are used by schools in the Archdiocese of Dubuque to fulfill a state requirement for alternative assignments. These tests are given to eighth graders in the areas of Reading and Math. The ICAMs take parts of 2 days to administer and are given each spring. These tests require written responses and calculations and therefore are hand-scored by the Area Education Agency each summer. The school will receive a grade level summary in the fall from the previous year but parents will not receive individual results.

Science Multiple Assessments (SCASS)

The SCASS is used by schools in the Archdiocese of Dubuque to fulfill a state requirement for alternative assessments. This assessment is given to seventh graders in the area of Science. This assessment is generally administered in the spring. The SCASS requires students to conduct a given scientific experiment and to provide expanded written responses to questions. Teachers score the results based on a rubric and a grade level summary is reported to the office. Parents will not receive individual results but are welcome to discuss their child's scientific experimentation skills with the Science teacher at any time.

Interscholastic Athletics

Marquette Catholic Middle School is a member of the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union. Students compete against students from other schools in five separate seasons:

Season	Boys	Girls
August-October October-Dec. January-March April-May May-June	Football/Cross Country Basketball Track & Field	Volleyball/ Cross Country Basketball Track & Field Softball

Only seventh and eighth graders are allowed to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Other Activities

Math Counts

Science Fair

Speech Contest

Scripps Spelling Bee

Archery - Shared Program with Bellevue Community Schools