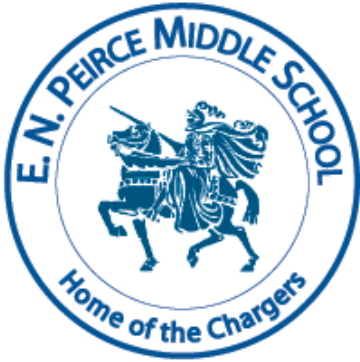


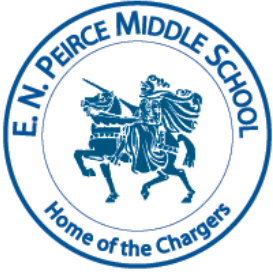
**E.N. Peirce Middle School
Course Selection Assembly
6th and 7th grade Parents
January 28, 2020
Dr. Shawn Cruice**



Middle School Course Description Guide Distribution

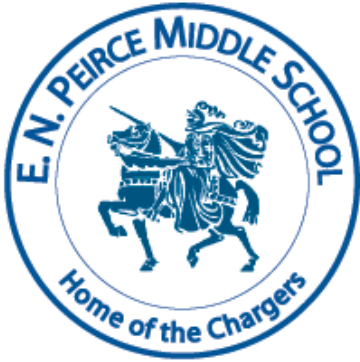
- Pushed out to student laptops on January 15th
- Also available on the WCASD and Peirce website

<https://www.wcasd.net/Domain/4797>



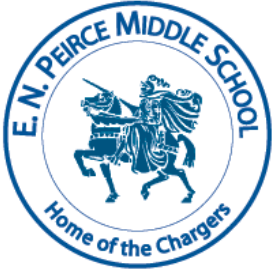
Course Selection Timeline

Date	Action
2/3 – 2/13	Teacher Recommendations
2/18 – 2/26	Student/Parent Course Selection
3/2 – 3/11	First Verification Window
3/16 – 3/23	Second/Final Course Verification
3/24	Course Change Deadline



What's New??

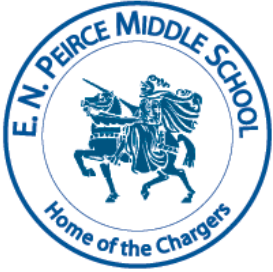
- New Leveling Descriptors
- New Unified Arts Options for 8th grade



NEW LEVELING DESCRIPTORS

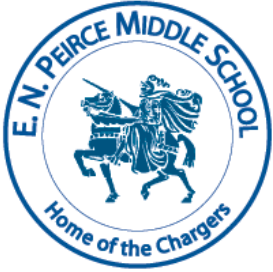
- **Accelerated Honors** (formerly Accelerated)
- **Honors** (formerly Level 1)
- **Grade Level** (formerly Level 2)

****Old descriptors will still be used in the course selection system until the summer***



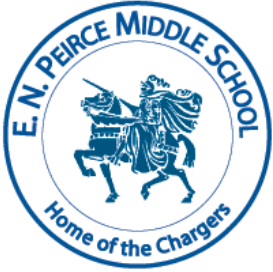
Accelerated Honors (formerly Accelerated)

- Accelerated Honors courses are designed for students who can learn **advanced** content at an **accelerated pace**. These courses provide students with a **rigorous** curriculum that extends **beyond** grade level standards. These courses promote **collaborative and self-directed** learning through a variety of instructional activities and assessments.



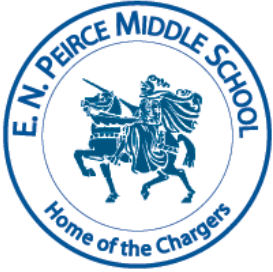
Honors (formerly Level 1)

Honors courses are designed for students who can learn **enriched** content at a **challenging** pace. These courses provide students with a **rigorous, grade level** curriculum. These courses promote **collaborative, guided, and self-directed learning** through a variety of instructional activities and assessments.



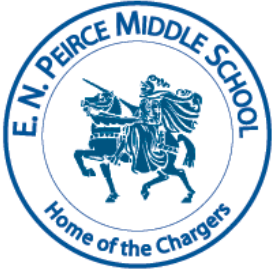
Grade Level (formerly Level 2)

Grade level courses are designed for students who can learn at a **continuous** pace. These courses provide students with **essential skills and content knowledge** aligned to **grade level** standards. These courses promote **collaborative and guided learning** through a variety of instructional activities and assessments.



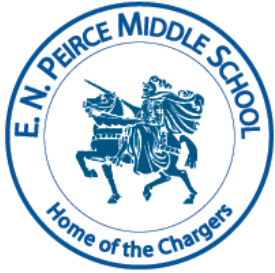
February 3rd – 13th

- Teacher Recommendation Window
- Teachers will make recommendations for English, Math, Reading/World Language, Science (7th grade teachers only), and Social Studies (7th grade teachers only)

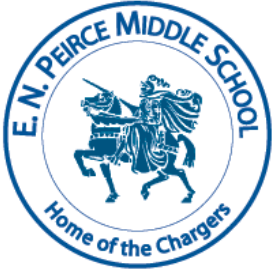


Placement Decisions

- Placement of students into appropriate courses is an important factor that contributes to student success.
- Multiple data points: PSSA, PVAAS, student performance in class (report card grades), and teacher recommendations.
- *Additional assessment data may be considered should any be available for individual students.*



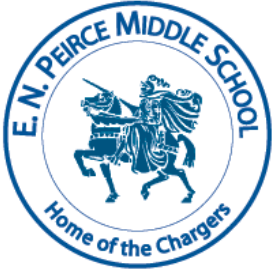
7th Grade Recommendations



English

7th Grade Courses

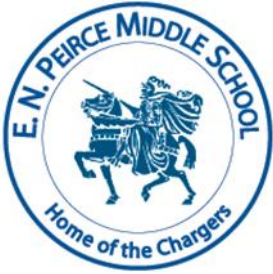
- English 7 Accelerated Honors
- English 7 Honors
- English 7 Grade Level



Mathematics

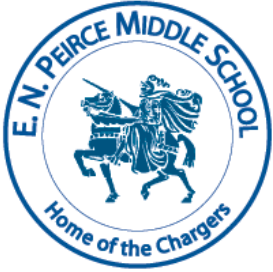
7th Grade Courses

- Algebra 1 Accelerated Honors
- Mathematics 7 Honors
- Mathematics 7 Grade Level
- Math Plus 7 (2-day class during Unified Arts)



Reading or World Language

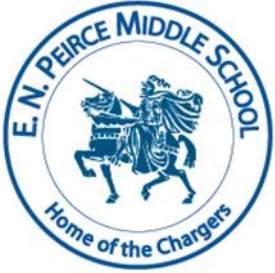
- 7th grade is students' last official year to take reading and build upon comprehension skills and practice reading strategies.
- Students will be recommended for either **Reading** or a **World Language**.
- If recommended for a World Language, students may still choose to take a Reading Class instead.
- Reading Courses: Reading Through Time Honors, Reading Through Time Grade Level, Reading Plus
- World Language: Spanish 1 or French 1



Reading OR World Language

IMPORTANT!!

- If recommended for Reading:
You will see a Reading class listed as part of the schedule when you view recommendations (do not select a World Language)
- If NOT recommended for Reading:
 - Select either French 1, Spanish 1, or Reading Through Time



World Language

- Spanish 1 or French 1
- High-proficient or advanced in reading PSSA in 5th and 6th grades
- Grades of A's and B's in English and Reading classes in 6th grade.



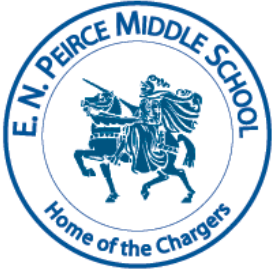
Reading

Reading Through Time

Students will apply reading skills and strategies developed in this class in all content areas.

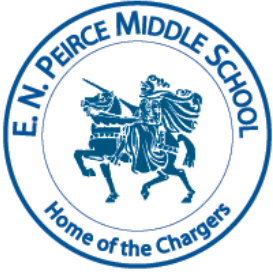
Reading Plus

Provides intense, formal reading intervention by a reading specialist. Students who are required to take this course will be selected based on need as determined by multiple criteria.



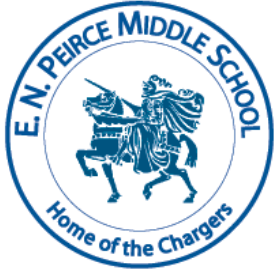
Science

- No levels in 7th grade
- Leveled in 8th grade ONLY (two levels)

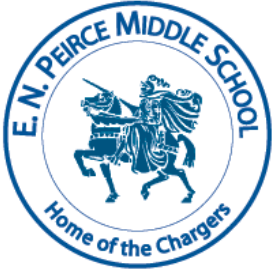


Social Studies

- No Levels in 7th Grade
- Leveled in 8th grade ONLY



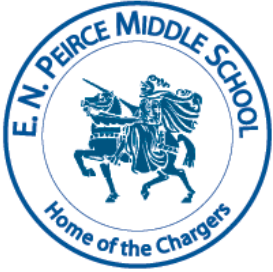
8th Grade Recommendations



English

8th Grade Courses

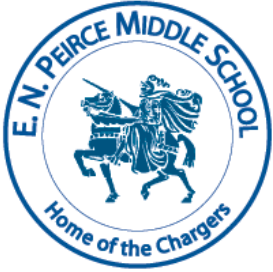
- English 8 Accelerated Honors
- English 8 Honors
- English 8 Grade Level



Mathematics

8th Grade Courses

- Geometry 8
- Algebra 1 - Grade 8
- Pre-Algebra 8
- Math Plus 8 (2-day class during Unified Arts)

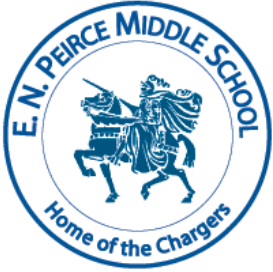


Social Studies

- Leveled in 8th grade ONLY (two levels)
- 7th Grade Teachers will complete recommendations

Course Options:

- US History (1787-1914) Honors
- US History (1787-1914) Grade Level

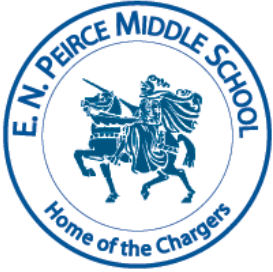


Science

- Leveled in 8th grade ONLY (two levels)
- 7th Grade Teachers will complete recommendations

Course Options:

- Science 8 Honors
- Science 8 Grade Level



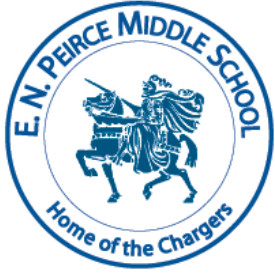
February 18th – 26th

6th Grade Students/Parents

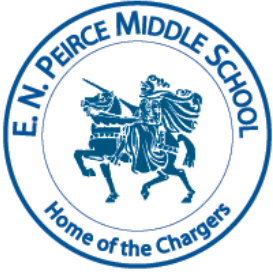
- View teacher recommendations from content area classes
- If not recommended for Reading, select a WL or Reading class
- Select a music (chorus, band, orchestra or classroom music)

7th Grade Students/Parents

- View teacher recommendations from content area classes
- If not recommended for Reading, select a WL or Reading class
- Select 4 Unified Arts classes (and two alternates)

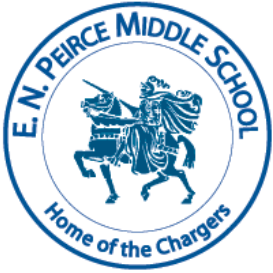


7th Grade Schedule



Sample 7th Grade Schedule: Seven full periods plus lunch

1. English
2. American History
3. Unified Arts
4. Unified Arts
5. Lunch
6. Science
7. Reading Through Time OR World Language
8. Math



7th Grade Unified Arts

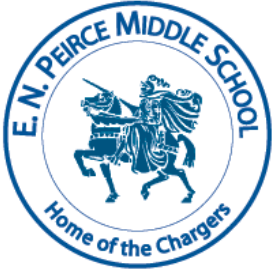
UA Period #1 2-Day year long classes

- Health
- P.E.
- *Music (band, chorus, orchestra OR classroom music)

UA Period #2 6-Day Quarterly Classes

- Art
- Computer Science
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Technology Education

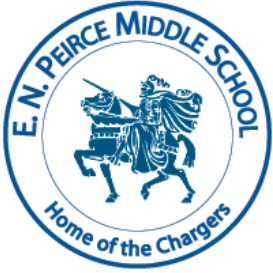
**Students must choose a music class.*



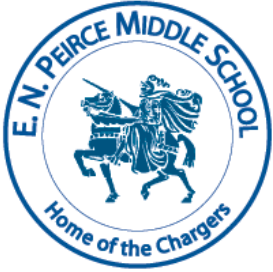
Performing Music

All rising 7th Grade students must select a music class: Classroom Music OR a Performing Music (Chorus, Band, and Orchestra).

- Students in Band, Chorus, and Orchestra will perform individually, in small groups, and in an ensemble.
- Students in all music classes will receive a grade.
- Students in a performing music class must have an interest in improving their singing or playing an instrument.

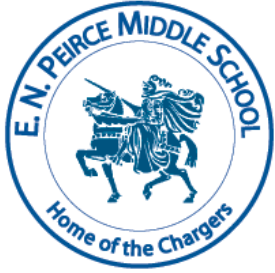


8th Grade Schedule



Sample 8th Grade Schedule: Seven full periods plus lunch

1. Unified Arts
2. Unified Arts
3. English
4. Reading OR World Language
5. Science
6. Lunch
7. Math
8. U.S. History



Reading or World Language

Reading and Writing for Life

- Apply reading strategies for non-fiction and fiction text
- Develop critical thinking skills and analysis of text
- Develop note-taking techniques to locate essential information
- Develop inquiry and research skills
- Increase vocabulary from reading a variety of genre and academic vocabulary from content area subjects



8th grade World Language choices

- French
- Spanish
- German
- Italian
- Latin
- French 2
- Spanish 2



UA Period 1 (6-day Quarterly Class)

Arts and Humanities

Choose 2 + 1 Alternate

1. Art in 2-D
2. Art in 3-D
3. Family, Food, Finance
(Formerly Early Child Development)
4. Popular Music
5. **Guitar*

**new course*

Technology

Choose 2 + 1 Alternate

1. Culture, Cuisine, Connections
(Formerly Creative Chef)
2. Transportation Engineering and Design
3. Sustainable Design
4. **Innovative Coding*
5. * *Junior Entrepreneur*

UA Period 2 (2-day classes)

Option A

- Health 8 (2 days all year)
- PE 8 (2 days all year)
- AND
- Performing Music (2 days all year)
 - Chorus 8
 - or
 - Band 8
 - or
 - Orchestra 8

Option B

- Health 8 (2 days all year)
- PE 8 (2 days all year)
- AND
- Teen Impact (Q1)
- *Intro to Internet/Web Design (Q2)*
- Design for the Real World (Q3)
- *Digital Media Creator (Q4)*
**new course*
(order of courses will vary)

8th Grade Music

Performing Music

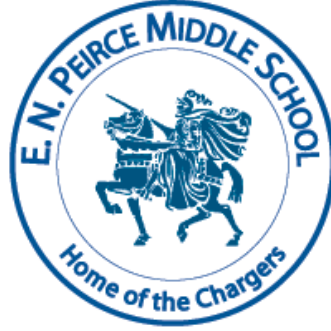
Band, Orchestra, Chorus

- These are for people who want to perform with a group and give concerts in those groups. They function the same way they did in 6th and 7th grade.
- They are elective, meaning they are not required. However, if you have been in these groups, we encourage you to stay in them.
- Concert Chorale for next year is auditioned at the end of this year and is your homeroom for 8th grade. Orchestra, Band, and Chorus students can do this.
- It *may* be possible for students to be enrolled in more than one performing music in 8th grade.

8th Grade Music

What's New?

- There is no longer Classroom Music for 8th Grade.
- 8th Grade Music Electives - Marking Period Courses
 - Guitar – NEW!
 - Popular Music – now 6 days per cycle
- Any student can sign up for one or both of these.
- Students can take these courses in addition to Band, Chorus, and Orchestra.
 - Example: An 8th Grade Band student can also be enrolled in Guitar and Popular Music



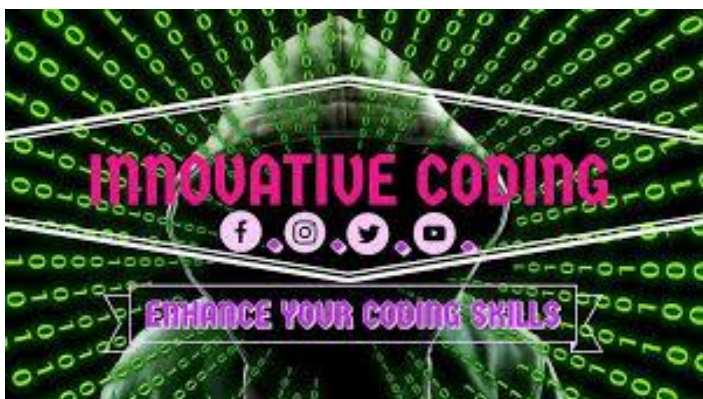
New Unified Arts Classes for 8th Grade

Guitar



- Introductory class for all musical backgrounds
- Objectives include:
 - exploring the fundamentals of guitar performance
 - reading traditional notation, tablature and chord **12** charts
 - playing individually as well as in groups
 - understanding the musical concepts of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form
 - develop a deeper appreciation for all styles of music

Innovative Coding



Meet Everyday for 1 Quarter

Interested in learning code? In this class you will create and design games, animations, and other digital media tailored to your interests. The coding language you will be learning is used by companies like Amazon, Google, Facebook, Instagram, Netflix, and more!

Junior Entrepreneur

Meet Everyday for 1 Quarter

Have an idea for a product or service?

In this class you will have the opportunity to create a brand name, interactive website, social media presence and video to promote your idea.



Intro to Internet and Web Design

2 days a Cycle for a Quarter

Let's create a website! This class will focus on design, layout, and interface of a website. Topics will also include how a network operates, digital citizenship and the various functions of a website.



The background features a vertical gradient from light purple at the top to light blue at the bottom. Scattered across the surface are numerous water droplets of various sizes, some with soft shadows, giving a fresh and clean aesthetic.

CULTURE, CUISINE, CONNECTIONS

(FORMERLY CREATIVE CHEF)

CULTURE, CUISINE, CONNECTIONS

COMPREHENSIVE FOODS COURSE

FOCUS ON THE FACTORS THAT AFFECT

DIETARY CHOICES

MEAL PLANNING

FOOD PREPARATION

RECIPE EVALUATION





FAMILY, FOOD, FINANCE

(FORMERLY EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT)



FAMILY, FOOD, FINANCE

*EXPLORE FAMILY, NUTRITION, AND
COMMUNITY*

*ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE
DEVELOPMENT AND NEEDS OF
CHILDREN*

*BUDGET CONSCIOUS MEAL
PREPARATION AND PLANNING
NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENT*



Course Selection Procedure



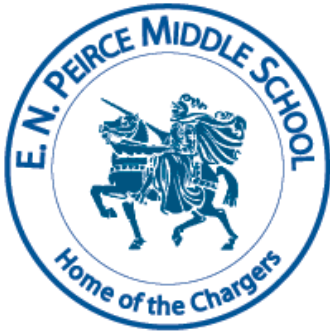
During the week of February 18th – 26th, go on Parent Portal with your child:

6th graders

- View teacher recommendations
- Choose Music Class
- If NOT recommended for Reading, choose a language OR reading class

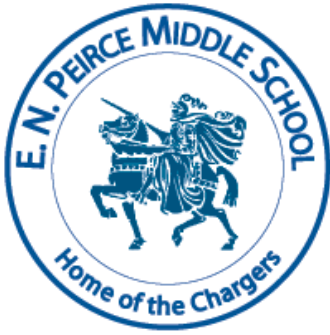
7th graders

- View teacher recommendations
- Choose Music Class
- Choose a World Language or Reading class
- Choose 4 Unified Arts Electives + 2 Alternates



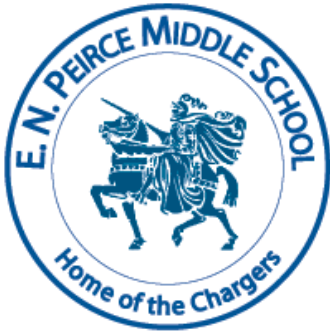
Special Education Students & the Course Selection Process

- Regular Education teachers will make recommendations for special education students in their classes.
- Special Education students will be able to view these recommendations on-line.



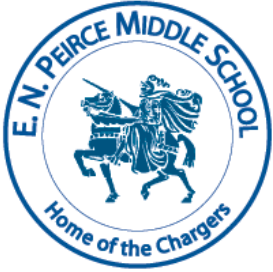
Special Education Students & the Course Selection Process

- **SPECIAL EDUCATION students in**
DIRECT INSTRUCTION classes will be hand-scheduled into their DIRECT INSTRUCTION classes this summer.
- The recommendations for scheduling into DIRECT INSTRUCTION classes are made by the IEP team at an IEP meeting.



Special Education Students & the Course Selection Process

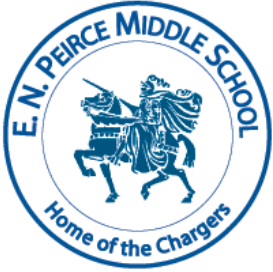
- IEP needs of each student is paramount and may exclude Special Education students from taking requested Unified Arts classes.
- **Special Education students should still request their preferred Unified Arts Electives.**



March 2nd - 11th

First Verification



- Review recommendations on-line
- Change requests can only be made using a [Course Request Form](#) which can be found in the main office or on the Peirce website

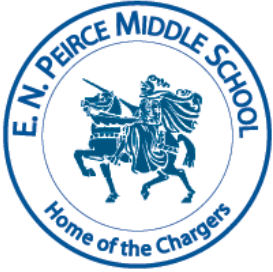


March 16th - 23rd



2nd Verification

-  Check to make sure any change requests are reflected online
-  Check with Dr. Cruice if the change is not reflected



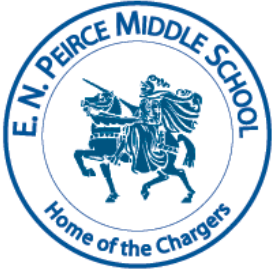
March 24th

DEADLINE FOR

Course Level Change Waivers

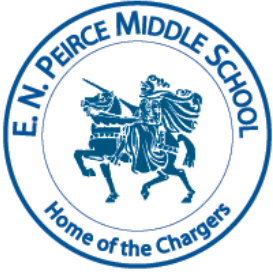
and

Elective Courses



RECAP

Date	Action
2/3 – 2/13	Teacher Recommendations
2/18 – 2/26	Student/Parent Course Selection
3/2 – 3/11	First Verification Window
3/16 – 3/23	Second/Final Course Verification
3/24	Course Change Deadline



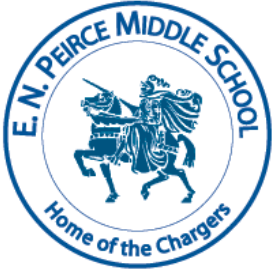
Important!!!

To view recommendations and select classes, you **MUST** use your Parent Portal account.

Access the WCASD Website

<http://www.wcasd.net>

- **There you will be able to access the Parent Portal link and get to the Parent Portal sign-in page**



Parent Portal

Need to Create an Account or Add a Child?

Call Mrs. Joanne Carnevale (Peirce Attendance Secretary) for assistance at 484-266-2518 or jcarnevale@wcasd.net .

Lost User Name or Password?

On Parent Portal parent sign in page, click on “Forgot User Name or Password.” Enter your email address, the system will email your credentials so you can log in to the Parent Portal.

Who will I contact if I have a question?

Building Scheduler

Dr. Cruice

484-266-2503

scruice@wcasd.net

6th Grade Counselor

Mrs. Thorne

484-266-2513

athorne@wcasd.net

7th Grade Counselor

Mrs. DeMarco

484-266-2511

cdemarco@wcasd.net

Please contact the office if you have any questions!!!



We are here to help you!