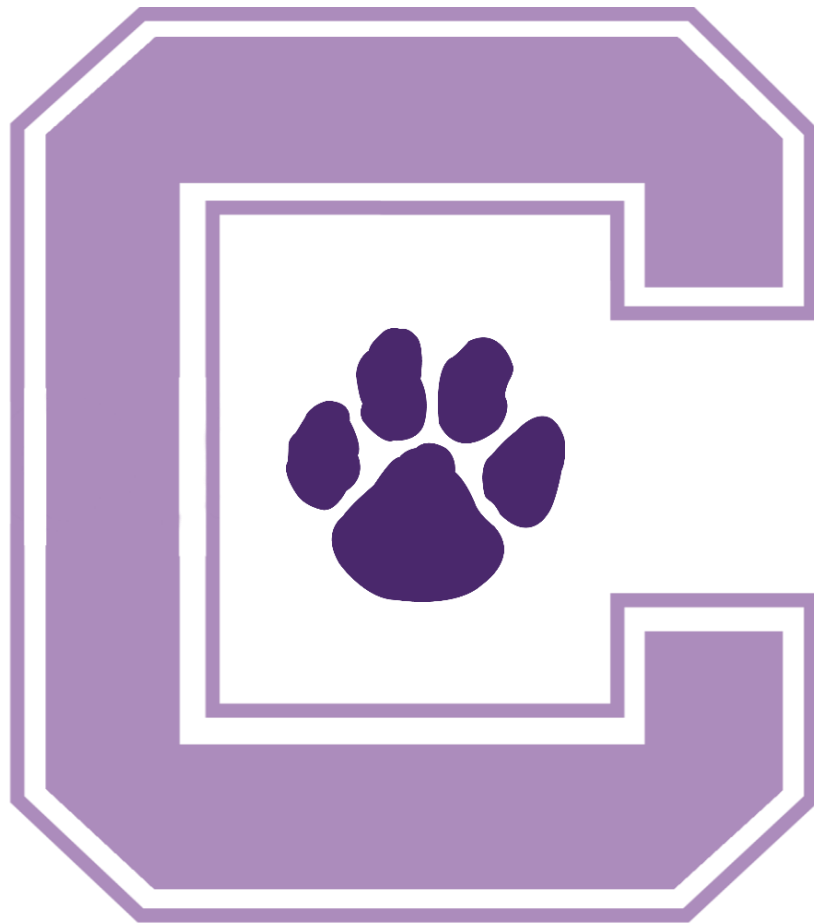


# **CORTLAND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**



**Curriculum Guide  
2020~2021**

The purpose of the Cortland Jr. High School is to foster a community of positivity, self-reliance, and love of learning.

### **Positivity**



The practice of being positive or optimistic in attitude.

### **Self-Reliance**



Using one's own efforts and resources to help others and themselves.

### **Love of Learning**



Being internally motivated to learn a new topic regardless of any external rewards.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE COUNSELING STAFF

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*This guide briefly explains the programs and courses available to you at Cortland Junior High School. Upon your reviews, it is important that you understand the requirements for completing 7th and 8th grade.*

*At the Junior High level, the following courses are required: English, Social Studies, Math, Science, Home & Careers (7<sup>th</sup>), Information Literacy (7<sup>th</sup>), Art (7<sup>th</sup>), General Music (7<sup>th</sup>), Exploratory Foreign Language (7<sup>th</sup>), Technology (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>), Health (8<sup>th</sup>), and CTE (8<sup>th</sup>). Junior High students also take French or Spanish one period per day for the entire year. In addition, all students take Physical Education every other day, all year.*

*Seventh Grade students are required to take one music course from the following selections: Repertory Ensemble, Chorus, Orchestra, Band or General Music. Performing music groups are taken only with teacher recommendation. Junior High students are also required to take an art course in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and a health course in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.*

*With departmental approval 8<sup>th</sup> grade students may accelerate in Art and/or Math and/or Technology.*

*Based on achievement test results or teacher recommendation, a student in Junior High may be provided academic help in English Language Arts and/or Math.*

*Please feel free to call the Counseling Office at 758-4032 with any questions or concerns that you may have.*

*We wish you the very best during the 2020-2021 school year.*

*Mrs. Penny Pomeroy*

*Ms. Shannon Constantino*

## COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENT

Teams 1 & 4	Mrs. Penny Pomeroy
Teams 2 & 3	Ms. Shannon Constantino

# ART

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## 7010 JUNIOR HIGH ART

### Grade 7

Art gives the students varied experiences in several art media as well as an appreciation for the world around them. They may work on design projects using drawing, painting and sculpture as they explore the elements of art.

## 7030 STUDIO IN ART (Accelerated)

### Grade 8 - Teacher Recommendation Only

2 Semesters

1 Credit

This is a high school course that some exceptional 7<sup>th</sup> grade students may be recommended to take in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the class alongside high school students. Students studying a musical instrument will not be able to fit both courses in their schedules.

This course is required before taking most high school Art courses. It satisfies the graduation art/music requirement and can be used in an elective sequence for graduation. There is an emphasis on drawing from observation. In addition to drawing, students will also explore various art disciplines such as painting, printmaking and sculpture. Art history, art critiques, and general vocabulary are included throughout the year. A comprehensive final exam is given. Studio in Art is more difficult than Comprehensive Art or New Media Art and is intended for anyone considering taking more advanced high school art classes.

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

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## 1020 ENGLISH 7

English 7 is dedicated to developing students' reading and writing skills. There is a strong focus on reading comprehension, analyzing text, and studying various genres. Writing well-structured paragraphs, improving grammar, and vocabulary acquisition are stressed. Students also spend some time preparing for the seventh grade New York State ELA test.

## 1120 ENGLISH 8

Along with practice on a concentration of essential reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills, students are given the opportunity to practice with a variety of genres, which include creative and expository tasks. Teaching of effective writing techniques and reading comprehension skills assists in preparation for the New York ELA 8 test given in spring.

## 1065 ELA LAB JH

ELA lab is intended to assist students who are at risk of not achieving the state learning standards in ELA, or who are at risk of not gaining the knowledge and skills needed to meet or exceed designated performance levels on state assessments.

**Requirements for entering:** Students will be eligible if they score below the designated performance level on the NYS Assessments in ELA and/or district procedures. Frequency and intensity of service will be made by the building administrator in consultation with course instructors and will be based upon individual student needs.

**Requirements for exiting:** Enrollment in the lab will end when the student has successfully attained designated performance levels on quarterly assessments.

## ***FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES***

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F.A.C.S. supports every academic area through real life experiences. It prepares students to participate in the rapidly changing and increasingly complex work. While learning content students will be encouraged to practice cooperation, leadership and good citizenship skills.

### **7610 HOME & CAREER SKILLS**

#### ***Grade 7***

#### ***20 Weeks***

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Content includes decision making and goal setting; character education; personal hygiene and clothing maintenance; environmental and personal living space; food nutrition and wellness; and family and friend relationships.

### **7615 CTE 8 (Career & Technical Education)**

#### ***Grade 8***

#### ***10 Weeks***

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Content includes working with children; career exploration; financial and consumer management.

## ***HEALTH***

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### **9510 JH HEALTH**

#### ***Grade 8***

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New York State requires that each student must successfully complete one-half year of health in Junior High and one-half credit in Senior High. The eighth grade course is designed to be an introduction to senior high health and, therefore, is a necessary requirement towards graduation. This comprehensive course covers knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and life skills, including critical thinking, decision-making, resistance, and coping skills. These skills are related to units on Consumer, Personal, Community, and Environmental Health; Nutrition and Fitness; Wellness vs. Disease; Chemical Substances; Mental Health; First Aid & Safety; and Human Growth, Development, Sexuality, and Family Life. All Health Education courses provide valuable learning experiences for students to discover more about themselves and others as they strive to develop and maintain healthy lifestyles.

## ***LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH***

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### **5000 EXPLORATORY FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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This course explores the languages and cultures of a variety of countries. Students will be exposed to both the French and Spanish language and will decide which language to take in 8th grade at the completion of this course.

## 5010 FRENCH 1

2 Semesters

1 Credit

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An introduction to French, this course encompasses training in speaking, reading, writing, and understanding the spoken language. Basic grammar is studied including the present tense, negation, adjectives, adverbs, and word order. The focus is on reading, writing, and conversational strategies, and a study of the culture of French speaking people. Such areas as personal identification, the family, transportation, the weather, and idiomatic expressions are represented. The student will pass the local French 1 course in order to earn the required one credit.

## 5310 SPANISH 1

2 Semesters

1 Credit

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As an introduction to the Spanish language, this course includes training in listening, speaking, reading, and writing at the beginning level. Basic grammatical structures are studied, as is the culture of Spain, Central and South America. The student must pass the local Spanish 1 course in order to earn the required one credit.

# LIBRARY SCIENCES

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## 7620 INFORMATION LITERACY

Grade 7

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Students will learn to identify, evaluate, refine, and ethically use a variety of resources and media. In the library students will learn to use information-seeking techniques as it pertains to work they are doing in their core classes. Students will also continue to pursue their personal literary interests using resources in the library. Students will be introduced to Naviance Career Planning and Assessments to help students realize goals, skills, values, and interests.

# MATHEMATICS

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## 3010 MATH 7A (Accelerated)

**Grade 7 - Assignment into Mathematics Accelerated 7 class is made contingent upon the following procedures and/or criteria.**

2 Semesters

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**General Procedure for Entering the Math Accelerated Program:** All students in grade 6 who want to enter the Math Accelerated Program need to complete the application process. The process includes the following components:

- A formal letter of request by the student to the Mathematics Curriculum Leader indicating why he/she wishes to take Math Accelerated. A parent or guardian must also sign this letter. This letter must be mailed to the Mathematics Curriculum Leader, Cortland JSHS, 8 Valley View Drive, Cortland, NY 13045.
- Complete a timed mathematics assessment, date and time to be announced. If the student is unable to attend, arrangements can be made to make up this mathematics assessment.
- Teacher recommendation and mathematics average from 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- AIMS Web Plus data

## SELECTION CRITERIA:

Score Level	Cortland Math Assessment	Teacher Recommendation	Math Average	AIMS Web Plus Data
4	▪ 95 – 100%	▪ Strongly recommend based on ability, work ethic and attendance.	▪ 95 – 100%	▪ Level 4
3	▪ 90 – 94%	▪ Recommend based on ability, work ethic and attendance.	▪ 90 – 94%	▪ Upper 1/3 Level 3
2	▪ 85 – 89%	▪ Some hesitation to recommend based on the absence of any of the three criteria; ability, work ethic or attendance.	▪ 85 – 89%	▪ Middle 1/3 Level 3
1	▪ 80 – 84%	▪ No recommendation, other than parent.	▪ 80 – 84%	▪ Lower 1/3 Level 3

### General Criteria for Continuing in the Math Accelerated Program:

- Any student in Accelerated Math 7 must maintain a Mathematics average of 80% or higher at the end of the first marking period, a cumulative average of 85% or higher at the end of the second marking period and a cumulative average of 85% or higher at the end of the year.
- Any 8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics accelerated student who is taking Algebra I R must maintain a Mathematics average of 85% or higher at the end of the first making period and second marking period.

Exceptions to these procedures will be made only by a consensus of Mathematics teacher, student, student's counselor, Mathematics Department Curriculum Leader, student's parent/guardian, and principal, following a meeting of all of the above.

### 3020 MATH 7

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An introduction to Mathematics 7 will cover content topics: ratios and proportional relationships, rational numbers, expressions and equations, percent and proportional relationships, statistics and probability, and geometry. For more details, see the NYS Common Core Curriculum at <http://www.engageny.org/resource/grade-7-mathematics>

### 3120 MATH 8

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Mathematics 8 will cover content topics: integer exponents, scientific notation, the concept of congruence and similarity, linear equations, examples of functions from geometry, linear functions, and Introduction to irrational numbers using geometry. For more details, see the NYS Common Core Curriculum at <https://www.engageny.org/resource/grade-8-mathematics>

### 3223 ALGEBRA 1 R

#### Grade 8

**Prerequisite:** *Passing Mathematics 7A with 85 or higher. Accelerated students must maintain an average of 85 or above to remain in this class.*

2 Semesters

1 Credit

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Algebra 1 R will cover the content topics: solving equations and inequalities, functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions and equations, and statistics (data analysis).

Regents Exam Requirement: Algebra I Common Core Regents (June)



## **3250 JH FUNDAMENTALS OF MATH**

***Grades 7 and/or 8***

***2 Semesters (Every Other Day)***

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This is a remedial class for students who have been designated as being in need of additional mathematics instruction (Academic Intervention Services). It is intended for those students who have been determined (through various measures and criteria as set forth in the district's A.I.S. plan) to be in danger of not meeting state assessment score. The instruction will be based primarily upon the individual deficiencies/needs of each student with a focus toward improving their basic mathematical concepts and skills and preparing them for the next New York State Mathematics assessment and success in their current mathematics class.

# **MUSIC**

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The purpose of the CESC Music Department is to provide all students with a high quality music education that promotes life-long learners, performers, and supporters of the fine arts.

Selection of these performing groups is based on the recommendation of the music teacher. Students in Band and Orchestra can also elect to be in Chorus.

## **5610 MUSIC JH**

***Grade 7 - All Students***

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Students will experience many different ways to make music and they will learn how to keep music a part of their lives outside of school. Units include, among other things, guitar, had chime ensemble and West African drumming. Students will perform, compose, arrange and produce music.

## **5650 JH CHORUS**

***Grades 7 & 8***

***Prerequisite:*** *Recommendation of elementary chorus teacher*

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Musical Skills are developed in rehearsals through the study and practice of vocal development, choral habits, reading, writing music, and performing a variety of musical styles in three and four-part harmony. Lessons are required. Select students perform in Area All-State, NYSSMA Solo Festival and All-County Choral festivals. All students will perform concerts in December and in the spring.

## **5710 JH CONCERT BAND**

***Grades 7 & 8 - Meets every other day***

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Rehearsals address musical development of the intermediate musician. This is a course designed with a focus on the advancement of the students' knowledge and skill on their own instrument, ensemble membership, and the teaching of music fundamentals. Another key element of this course is for students to connect how their musical ability can be shared within the community. The band performs at three regular concert and special events throughout the year. Students are responsible for attending schedule lessons once every six school days. Daily practice is expected.

## **5730 JH STRING ORCHESTRA**

**Grades 7 & 8 - Meets every other day**

**Prerequisite:** *Recommendation of previous orchestra director and achievement of the district's curriculum benchmarks*

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Rehearsals address musical development of the intermediate musician and are fast-paced and exciting. This is a course designed with a focus on the advancement of the students' knowledge and skill on their own instrument, ensemble membership, and the teaching of fundamentals such as, but not limited to, notes, rhythms, and musicianship. Another key element of this course is to create comprehensive musicians through the study of music and world history, literature, and theory in relation to the pieces being studied. The orchestra performs at three regular concerts and special event throughout the year. Students are responsible for attending scheduled lessons once every six school days. Daily practice is required.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

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### **9007 PE BOYS JH**

### **9070 PE GIRLS JH**

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Physical Education is a mandated subject in New York State. The focus of physical education is to educate and empower all students as independent learners and to sustain regular lifelong physical activity which is the cornerstone to leading a healthy, productive and fulfilling life.

Classes are conducted in an active, caring, supportive and non-threatening environment in which every student is expected to participate to the best of their ability. All students regardless of ability are provided a learning environment that is modified when necessary to allow for maximum participation. Modifications can be made within a regular physical education class or students can be assigned to a designated adapted physical education class. Any student with a physician documented medical condition, either temporary or permanent, will have their program modified accordingly.

Seventh and eighth graders can be assigned into classes together but separated by gender. Activities suited for young adolescents are taught with an emphasis upon team sports, physical fitness, and personal & social responsibility. Activities may be taught in a co-educational setting when appropriate.

The following expectations apply to students in the Physical Education classroom: punctuality, preparedness, respect, cooperation, sportsmanship and safety. Students should be prepared with appropriate gym clothes and sneakers in order to safely participate.

## **SCIENCE**

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### **4020 SCIENCE 7**

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Science 7 introduces students to basic skills and concerns in Life Science. These skills include measurements (metric), use of the microscope and experimentation including dissection of some preserved specimens. The main areas of study in Life Science are: the cell, the plant kingdom, the animal kingdom, genetics, simple living things, and ecology.

## **4120 SCIENCE 8**

Physical Science 8 introduces students to basic skills and concepts of Chemistry and Physics at the intermediate level. Much of the students' time is spent on laboratory activities to learn skills as well as scientific concepts. Physical Science topics include: composition and properties of matter, energy, heat, waves (light and sound), electricity and magnetism, as well as motion and forces. There is a New York State Intermediate-Level Science Exam at the end of the school year that covers all intermediate-level science concepts learned in 5th through 8th grade, so students will also review key concepts in Life, Earth, and Physical sciences, as well as laboratory skills.

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## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

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### **2020 SOCIAL STUDIES 7**

A study of American History from the time of the American Indian civilizations through the Civil War period. Included in this study is a close look at New York State, its development, its history and how it is governed. Seventh graders can also expect a continuation of the building skills, which have been started in social studies classes in elementary school.

### **2120 SOCIAL STUDIES 8**

This course is a natural continuation of that which is taught in grade 7. American history, with a special emphasis on New York State history, is presented starting with Reconstruction (1865) and continuing to the present. Eighth graders can expect to learn and continue to develop those skills which have been taught earlier in school. Units covered: Reconstruction, A Changing Society, Expansion and Militarism, World War I, Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression, World War II, Foreign Policy, Demographic Change, Domestic Politics and Reform.

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## **TECHNOLOGY**

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### **7310 INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY 7**

*Grade 7*

### **7320 INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY 8**

*Grade 8*

This course involves a program of instruction designed to develop an understanding of problem solving through the use of systems in fields such as production, transportation, and communications by emphasizing applied activities through working with tools, machines, and devices used in the home and workplace. Instruction includes modules addressing: What is technology, what is needed for technology, how people use technology to solve problems, systems and subsystems, how technology affects people and the environment, choosing the right resources, how resources are processed by technological systems, and impacts, decisions, and choices about technology and you.

## **7325 INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY**

**Grade 8**

*1 Semester*

*1/2 Credit*

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This elective course is open to any 8<sup>th</sup> grade student interested in learning more about the world of digital technology. This is a hands-on course that allows students to start learning about the digital world around us. Computers are a powerful technology and this course allows students to use them in a productive educational way. The skills learned in this class will give students an advantage when developing presentations in high school and beyond. Units of study include computer graphics, digital photography, video production, and computer presentations. This course provides students with a basic introduction to the Adobe and Microsoft suites.