

QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL



MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2010-2011

The Quaboag Regional School District and the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School insures equal employment, educational opportunities, and affirmative action regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, homelessness or sex, in compliance with the Title VI and Title IX or the handicap in compliance with Section 504

3/11/10

Table of Contents

Principal's Message	3
Mission Statement	4
Goals/Expectations	4
Grading System	6
Homework/Make Up Work	6
Report Cards/ Progress Reports	6
Extra Help	6
English	7
Mathematics	8
Social Studies	10
Science	10
World Language	12
Business and Technology	13
Music	13
Family and Consumer Science	15
Art Department	15
Physical Education	16
School Map	17

QUABOAG REGIONAL MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

*DECISIONS ARE MADE IN THE
BEST INTERESTS OF OUR STUDENTS*



284 OLD WEST BROOKFIELD ROAD
WARREN, MASSACHUSETTS 01083

●
TELEPHONE 413.436.5991
FAX 413.463.9636



THE TOWNS OF WARREN AND WEST
BROOKFIELD ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
PROVIDERS AND EMPLOYERS

BRETT M. KUSTIGIAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
413.436.9256

ELIZABETH ZIELINSKI, ED.D.
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
413.436.9256

GREGORY MYERS
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
413.436.5991

MARY M. DERNALOWICZ
INTERIM DEAN OF STUDENTS
413.436.5991

THOMAS NICHOLSON
HEAD GUIDANCE COUNSELOR
413.436.5991

DAVID BOUCHARD
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS
413.436.5991

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

On behalf of the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School faculty, guidance department, and administration, we are pleased to introduce the 2010-2011 *Program of Studies*.

Guided by our school's mission statement and expectations for student learning, the *Program of Studies* was created to help students and their parents choose a challenging and interesting curriculum, a curriculum that will not only satisfy the requirements for graduation, but prepare students for a promising and fulfilling future.

We urge all students to take full advantage of the many challenging and fulfilling curricular and extracurricular opportunities available to them at Quaboag Regional Middle/High School. We offer a wide variety of electives, honors and advanced placement courses, extracurricular activities, and a host of exciting courses available to QRMHS through the Virtual High School program (VHS).

We are very proud that Quaboag Regional Middle/High School is fully accredited under the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). This accreditation, which was renewed in the spring of 2002 after a very successful NEASC evaluation visit, is a measure of how well we adhere to the seven NEASC standards for education, which range from curriculum and instruction to school resources for learning. We are very proud of our NEASC accreditation and we continue to look for opportunities to make the learning experiences of our students second to none.

We strongly encourage students and their parents to use this valuable resource and carefully consider our mission statement and expectations for student learning as they plan their schedule for next year. Please feel free to call upon the assistance of our faculty, guidance department, and administration as you develop a course of study that meets your future goals and needs. We are eager to assist you in finding a schedule that best meets your student's educational needs.

The faculty, staff, and administration of Quaboag Regional Middle/High School remain steadfast in achieving our vision to create a school where all students may achieve at the highest levels. We are mission-driven, student-centered, and always seeking to improve. Have a great year!

Sincerely,

Gregory B. Myers
Principal
Students

Mary M. Dernalowicz
Interim Dean of



COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Mission Statement

The mission of the Quaboag Regional School District is to form a partnership with parents and the community to prepare our diverse population of students to become lifelong learners in a nurturing, safe environment with high expectations so they will become responsible, productive citizens in an ever changing global society.

Decisions are made in the best interest of our students.

Goals and Expectations for Student Learning

Quaboag Middle High School students will:

Think Critically

Interpret information accurately
Propose theories that are based on fact
React to opinions with facts
Make connections
Evaluate sources of information
Make sound decisions.

Communicate Effectively

Respond in writing to assignments and assessment clearly, cohesively, and completely
Express ideas clearly when speaking
Understand and apply verbal and non-verbal communication and self expression
Demonstrate skill in listening
Utilize technology when appropriate

Respect themselves and the school community

Act truthfully, honorably and assertively
Maintain academic, emotional, and physical well being
Show care and concern for people and property for the common good
Treat others with courtesy, fairness, and acceptance

Act Responsibility

Behave to ensure the safety of themselves and others
Obey laws, rules, and regulations, for the school and the community
Fulfill commitments and obligations honestly and expeditiously

Work Collaboratively

Share ideas and opinions
Accept differences and strengths
Participate in the give-and-take decision making
Value being a member of a group

Use Current Technologies

Know how and when to use technological tools
Access and utilize computer software appropriately
Demonstrate ability to navigate the complexity of the internet

Maintain a Global Perspective

Be aware of issues that transcend geographic and political boundaries
Recognize effects and consequences of global technology
See effects of American culture on other societies
Respect diversity in life
Realize how the planet itself impacts life and lifestyles.

Contribute Positively

Be involved in the life of the school
Participate in activities which benefit others (community service, etc.)
Share awareness of others' needs

Accept Challenges

Try new approaches
Reach beyond known capabilities
Risk failure
Dare to be self-directed

Value Learning

Do assignments on time and with care
Attend classes
Ask questions
Be curious
Apply knowledge (reference internship program)

Strive for Excellence

Set personal goals
Work for continuous improvement
Search out enrichment

Discover Joy

Be creative
Give positive feedback
Enjoy the opportunities for learning and personal growth
Appreciate/value the good/quality work of self and others

Grading System

Excellent	A+ to A-
Good	B+ to B-
Fair	C+ to C-
Poor	D+ to D-
Failing	F

Grading Code

P	Pass
I	Incomplete
W	Withdraw
M	Medical Excuse
N	No Grade

Report Cards

Report cards are issued four times during the school year. Grades are reported for the first term, second term, first semester, third term, fourth term, second semester and year.

Progress Reports

Poor school attendance often results in poor academic performance and may well cause difficulty in the future. Progress reports are issued in the middle of each marking period to call the attention of students, and that of their parents, to work that is not up to the standards expected. In many instances it is desirable that such notices be supplemented by a conference between the student, his/her parents, and the teacher. On occasion, students and their parents may wish to discuss scholastic difficulties with guidance counselors as well. Teachers may also use the reports to record work students have done exceptionally well.

Homework

Homework is assigned in all those courses in which it is feasible and useful. It will vary from simple practice assignments to be completed in one night to involved projects covering a period of several weeks. The amount of credit to be given to such assignments is determined by the nature of the course and the policy of the teacher. If the class is given an assignment, each member must pass in the work on time or make it up.

Make Up Work

Incomplete work at the end of marking period must be made up within **ten** school days after report cards are issued or a failing grade will be recorded for the missing work. The principal may approve an extension of time when special circumstances prevail. Class work missed because of an excused absence should be made up as soon as possible, at the discretion of the teacher. Work missed during un-excused absence(s) will not be given credit. Students who have not completed all course work within **ten** days of the conclusion of the school year will receive a permanent grade of "F" and will receive no credit for the course. Students who are absent on a day when a test or quiz is given will make up the test or quiz as per STUDENT HANDBOOK REQUIREMENTS. Students, who must leave school before the end of the year, must complete their work before leaving.

Extra Help

A student who has been ill, is not working up to ability, or is having difficulty, should report to their teachers for individual help. Every teacher has after school time devoted to this purpose. Teachers may require a student to attend help sessions.

*****ENGLISH*****

GRADE 7

Reading (169)

Full Year Course

This course uses Scholastic Read180. Read180 is a research –based, intensive reading intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below the proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high interest literature, and direct instruction in reading and writing skills. Program informational pamphlets are available upon request.

English 7 (173)

Full Year Course

This program has three major components, aligned with the Massachusetts English Language Arts framework; language, literature, and composition. The **language** component focuses on grammar usage and mechanics, vocabulary acquisition, review of spelling rules, and speaking and listening skills. The **literature** component builds on basic comprehension, but stresses literary analysis through the application of literary devices. Students will develop an understanding of audience and purpose through their work with different genres, novels, short stories, poetry, mythology, drama and non-fiction. The **composition** component focuses on essay writing in preparation for the MCAS ELA long composition. However, there is also an emphasis on paragraph mastery, achieved through both informal and formal writing assignments, creative writing, daily writing prompts, and open response practice. The steps of good writing habits are stressed; prewriting, drafting, revising and evaluating, editing and publishing.

Writing 7 (177)

Full Year Course

Students will practice writing structured essays with extensive drafting and editing. Assignments will be generated by the writing teacher as well as teachers from other subjects. Class time will be allotted to work on writing assignments from other classes when necessary.

GRADE 8

Reading 8 (181)

Full Year Course

Grade 8

This course uses Scholastic Read180. Read180 is a research –based, intensive reading intervention program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below the proficient level. The program directly addresses individual needs through adaptive and instructional software, high interest literature, and direct instruction in reading and writing skills. Program informational pamphlets are available upon request.

English 8 (183)
English 8 Honors (182)
Grade 8

Full Year Course

This course is intended for students whose language skills are at or above grade level. One novel is required to be read the summer before starting class. Three additional novels are read and reported on throughout the year, along with short stories, essays, poems, drama, and current informational literature. The language component is concentrated in vocabulary expansion and composition and media frame works are also addressed.

Writing 8 (178)
Grade 8

Full Year Course

Students will further refine their ability to write structured essays including paragraph essays in a number of styles. These may include persuasive, descriptive, defining, and research based writing. Extensive drafting and editing work will continue. Assignments will be generated by the writing teacher as well as teachers in other subjects. Class time will be allotted for work on writing assignments from other classes when necessary.

*****MATHEMATICS*****

The mathematics program at Quaboag Regional Middle/High School has raised the expectation level for student achievement in both seventh and eighth grades. The courses that used to be the honor-level standard for students—Pre-Algebra in grade 7 and Algebra 1 in grade 8—are now the standard for all students in those grades. Those students needing additional time to master the concepts in these courses will be given an additional period on their schedule for increased math instruction. Those students completing a course in one period will receive honors-level credit for the course. Students requiring additional Algebra 1 instruction in the 9th grade will be placed in an Algebra 1 class. Students will not move on in the math sequence beyond Algebra 1 until they have successfully completed the course

Pre Algebra 7 (370)
Pre-Algebra 7 Honors (371)
Grade 7

Full Year Course

Pre Algebra 8 (383)
Grade 8

Full Year Course

This course introduces the basics of algebra including solving equations with one variable, integers, and rational numbers. It also reviews operations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals within the context of solving equations. Elementary number theories, ratios, proportions and percents are also covered. Problem solving is

incorporated throughout the course with emphasis on writing equations from problems and open-ended problems. There is an emphasis on Algebra concepts and relations.

Algebra I-1 (Part 1) (388)

Full Year Course

Grade 8: CP level

Prerequisite: Pass Pre-Algebra 7

Algebra I-1 will cover all of the material in the first half of Algebra I but cover the material over a FULL YEAR thus giving students more time to absorb the critical concepts of Algebra. Emphasis will be on solving equations in one variable, order of operations, integers and the properties of Algebra as they apply to rational numbers. An understanding of absolute values, the ability to compare irrational numbers and translating word problems to symbolic algebra will be covered. Students will learn about linear equations and the patterns inherent in slope and intercept. Students taking this course will learn vocabulary and the precision of algebraic language. Students will work on study and test-taking skills.

Algebra I Honors (381)

Full Year Course

Grade: 8

Students will learn the concepts of simplify, expressions, solving one and two variable equations, inequalities and systems of equations. Writing linear equations and graphing them in the coordinate plane are covered. Exponents, radicals, absolute values, and polynomials will allow students to recognize, solve and graph diverse types of functions. Problem solving is emphasized in all areas of this course.

Comprehensive Math (378)

Full Year Course

Grade 7 & 8

This course provides experience with all the topics needed to become proficient in the 7th & 8th grade Massachusetts Standards for students who may have had sufficient experience by grade level to be successful on the state MCAS test. This course is designed for students who may be struggling with grade-level math and need some intervention before taking the state-wide test. All areas of math that are needed to successfully master the state test will be emphasized along with good study and test taking skills.

*****SOCIAL STUDIES *****

Ancient Civilization (273)
Grade: 7

Full Year Course

In Ancient Civilizations students will study the origins of human beings in Africa and the early civilizations that flourished in the Mediterranean area. Students will study the civilizations of Ancient Mesopotamia, Phoenicia, Israel, Greece and Rome. As we discuss each society, we will focus on the religions, governments, trade, philosophies, and powerful ideas that profoundly shaped the course of world history. Special emphasis will be placed on mapping skills and ties to current events. Throughout the year, students can expect to complete several projects and writing assignments.

U.S. History 1 (283)
U.S. History I Honors (282)
Grade: 8

Full Year Course

This course will follow the learning standards as outlined in the Massachusetts History Curriculum Frameworks and the curriculum guide of the Quaboag Regional Social Studies Department. The time period of American history to be covered in this course is from 1763-1877. Students will review the social and economic conditions of the thirteen original colonies. They will learn about the important factors that led to the outbreak of the Revolution as well as the consequences of the Revolution, including the writing and key ideas of the U.S. Constitution. Students will also study the basic framework of American democracy and government such as popular sovereignty, federalism, expansion, the establishment of political parties, and economic and social change. Finally students learn about the growth of sectional conflict, how sectional conflict led to the Civil War, and the consequences of the Civil War, including Reconstruction.

*****SCIENCE *****

Quaboag Regional Middle/High School offers a well-balanced science program to all students. Our primary goal is two fold:

- 1) To establish scientific literacy so that students, upon entering the work force, can make intelligent decisions regarding science-based issues.
- 2) To provide a strong foundation for those students who plan to attend college. Each course is structured to emphasize the process of science as a way of thinking and doing. The laboratory experience is a way by which special skills are developed to achieve this aim.

In this way, students develop both an understanding of and an appreciation for inquiry and scientific methodology.

Life Science 7 (473)

Full Year Course

Grade: 7

This course presents a scientific study of the structure and function of living organisms and their ecological relationships. The content will include the following topics: classification of organisms, the structure and function of cells, systems in living things, reproduction and heredity, evolution and biodiversity, living things and their environment, energy and living things, and changes in ecosystems over time.

The activities completed in this course are designed to introduce and reinforce thinking skills such as observing and inferring, developing models, interpreting tables and diagrams, organizing information, and cause and effect. These activities will also reinforce process skills such as classifying, interpreting maps, sequencing, organizing data, and predicting and experimenting. These activities reinforce laboratory skills such as measuring mass, length, volume, and temperature as well as the proper care and use of the microscope. Students will be expected to study a local ecosystem as well as make suggestions about improving the quality of life in the ecosystem. The principal of living responsibly within our environment will be emphasized.

**Physical Science-
Technology & Engineering (483)**
**Physical Science Honors
Technology & Engineering (482)**

Full Year Course

Grade: 8

The study of physical science encompasses a broad range of phenomena, generally focusing on non-living things. This course will aid students in understanding the circulation of matter and energy through primarily nonliving systems. This course complements the biological sciences, allowing students to view the world at the microscopic level and observe trends involving matter and energy at a macroscopic level. Introductory chemistry and physics concepts are taught to broaden students' knowledge in preparation for secondary level science disciplines and to help students better understand the chemical and physical world around them.

Among the physical science topics covered in this course are nature of matter and energy, scientific inquiry, measurement techniques, the organization of chemical elements, chemical reactions, atomic bonding, and motion and forces. Students can expect to participate in hands-on laboratory assignments, research projects, classroom discussions, class preparations, tests, quizzes, regular homework assignments and other activities that are helpful in the learning process.

*****WORLD LANGUAGE *****

The study of several foreign languages is encouraged at Quaboag Regional, but the extensive study of at least one is essential if a student is going to be able to handle a language comfortably. Provided that students study regularly and develop good habits, the courses are designed and paced so that students will have a successful foreign language experience. It is highly recommended that students take at least three years of a foreign language; and more is preferred. Most four-year colleges and universities require a minimum of two years of the same language as an entrance requirement. Students electing to take a world language in the middle school will begin the class in grade 7 and continue study in grade 8. Students completing the two- year sequence in French or Spanish and having a minimum grade of “B” will receive placement credit for the equivalent of the first year of the language at the high school level. Students will then be placed in the second year of the language in grade 9.

French IA MS (684)

Two Year Course

French IB MS (685)

Grades: 7 and 8

A second language is best acquired in much the same way our native language is learned. Students are exposed to as much French as possible through listening and reading, intentionally tailored to their level of understanding. Students are taught vocabulary and structure through the context of stories and conversation, as well as through gestures and pantomime that mimic real life situations. Due to the highly participatory nature of this course, regular attendance, as well as a desire to participate in all classroom activities is an important key to success.

Spanish IA MS (667)

Two Year Course

Spanish 1B MS (668)

Grades: 7 and 8

Spanish IA and 1B introduces basic vocabulary, grammatical structure and present tense verb conjugations. Students learn vocabulary for use in practical conversation in daily activities related to introductions, family, likes and dislikes, school activities and schedules, telling time, leisure activities and sports, and weather. The course is designed to introduce students to the cultures of Hispanic countries and regions of the USA. A wide variety of cultural differences are presented in order to enable the student to better appreciate the international complexities of the modern world.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

Computer Keyboarding (539)

Quarter Year Course

Grade: 7 Graduation Requirement

Keyboarding is learning to master the alphabetic and numeric keys using the touch-typing

method of keyboarding to properly input information. After learning how to key efficiently with good speed and accuracy, the student will develop this skill to higher levels and learn to apply their keyboarding skills by composing letters, reports, tables, and other informational processing documents. Keyboarding is a universal skill that students will use throughout their lives for personal and career use.

Technology Engineering (485)
Grade: 8

Quarter Year Course

This class is an exploratory class that provides 8th graders with an exposure to technology education using woodworking processes as a model. Students will explore individual and group design processes, hands-on problem solving through a variety of small projects and will learn to work as an individual and as part of a team. Students will explore the woodworking design process through the design and construction of various projects. Intended to prepare students for the Engineering the Future course, they will learn to use basic woodworking tools, study safety, and develop pride in their work.

Technology Literacy I (583)
Grade: 8

Semester Course

This required course emphasizes technology, writing, and communication skills in a project-based learning environment. Students will begin the course developing their keyboarding skills using a software program that teaches correct finger placement, builds basic skills, and then works on speed and accuracy. In the second half of the course, students will work on technology literacy projects that engage them in open-ended, authentic tasks utilizing application software such as Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Access. All projects focus on using technology to support research, writing, communication, critical thinking, and data analysis skills. This course is the first of two courses designed to ensure our middle school students meet the state and national educational technology literacy standards.

*****MUSIC*****

Concert Band
Grade 7 (859)
Grade 8 (860)

Full Year Course

This performing ensemble is open to any student in grade 7 or 8 who wishes to play a band or percussion instrument. Rehearsals focus on technical development, tone production, intonation, musical terminology and ensemble playing. Musical development is reinforced through individual instruction and daily practice. Students will reinforce and refine the skills learned in elementary school and continue to work towards musical proficiency.

Concert Chorus 7 (853)
Concert Chorus 8 (854)

Full Year Course

This performing ensemble is open to any student in grade 7 or 8 who enjoys singing. Literature is drawn from a wide variety of musical styles including musical theater, world and ethnic, folk, popular, and traditional choral repertoire. Rehearsals focus on vocal technique and skills, breath support, sound production, solo and ensemble singing, and music literacy. The Concert Chorus performs throughout the year at concerts, assemblies, and festivals.

Note: Concert Chorus meets after school

Select Choir (866)

Full Year Course

The Honors Select Choir is open by audition to any student in grades 7-12 who is interested in performing more demanding vocal literature. Music is drawn from the acappella repertoire of the Renaissance to music of the present day including pop and jazz. Rehearsals focus on blend, balance, and group dynamics. Outside preparation of material is expected. This ensemble meets after school from Mid-September through June and attendance is mandatory at all rehearsals. If a student misses more than 3 rehearsals, they may be dropped from the ensemble. Attendance is expected at all performances including festivals, competitions, and school concerts and assemblies

Music Explorations

Quarter Year Course

Grade 7 (861)

Grade 8 (857)

The goal of this course is to provide meaningful, relevant, and purposeful experiences in music, while providing a deeper understanding of the music found in today's society. Through critical listening, performance applications, analysis, improvisation, and discussion, students will discover the diverse cultural, historical, and social elements that comprise music. Attendance at all school festival performances is required.

*****FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE*****

Family Consumer Science (778)

Quarter Year Course

Grade: 7

The grade 7 Family Consumer Science program provides experiences related to clothing

and food areas. The emphasis will be on the practical use of equipment and resources, while the theme of human behavior and wellness will pervade the nine week period of instruction. The clothing unit develops skills for following directions and coordination while the food unit will introduce basic nutrition and analyze food habits. This class meets for 45 minutes, daily, for one quarter.

Family Consumer Science (784)
Grade: 8

Quarter Year Course

The grade 8 Family and Consumer Science program is a continuation of the seventh grade program and is designed to develop more advanced skills. Students will acquire a greater and broader knowledge of nutrition. They will practice more advanced methods of stress management, focusing on the senses. Students will incorporate life skills as they apply to holidays and special occasions.

This class meets 45 minutes, daily, for one quarter.

*****ART*****

The Art Department provides courses open to students in all grade levels. The overall goals of the art program are to teach the fundamentals of design, drawing, painting, and sculpture, to introduce students to the art of other cultures, to increase visual awareness, and to develop a sense of appreciation for the arts. Students will develop basic skills and explore their creative potential through a wide variety of experiences.

Art 7 (806)

Semester Course

Grade: 7

Seventh grade art encourages students to develop a strong appreciation of the visual arts and experience different avenues for visual expression. They will experience working in numerous 2D and 3D media to produce works that show an understanding of concept and craftsmanship. Students will include elements of design in their art and be able to verbally explain the composition. Experimentation and self-expression is emphasized.

Art 8 (868)

Quarter Year Course

Grade: 8

Eighth grade art encourages students to develop a strong appreciation of the visual arts and experience different avenues for visual expression. Students will continue to explore advanced techniques with 2D and 3D media and produce works that show an understanding of the media's history and culture.

*******PHYSICAL EDUCATION*******

Physical Education 7 (961)
Physical Education 8 (968)

Semester Course

The physical education curriculum in middle school is planned to meet the unique needs of the middle school students. Activities will have a social emphasis that will promote peer interaction so that students can help each other. Students will develop fundamental and complex movement skills. They will safely participate in a variety of physical activities and understand the concepts of health related fitness. Students will also develop and use rhythmic skills as a means of expression. Using movement as the medium, students will use effective communication skills for specific situations resulting in healthy behaviors for all.

Health/Education
Grades: 7 (970)
8 (980)

Quarter Year Course

The middle school health program is a comprehensive curriculum designed to meet the needs of the adolescent individual. Health education addresses many of the topics which are critical in today's society including personal safety, first aid/CPR (certification is available for a nominal fee), drugs and alcohol, family relationships, human anatomy, and character education. The program will focus on the process of healthy living and the skills needed to maintain a lifestyle which is stable physically, mentally and socially. The students learn and have the opportunity to practice a process. Students develop skills to become better able to focus, adapt, and adjust to situations, to make healthy decisions, to set goals, and select activities that contribute to personal health, the health of others, and a quality environment.

