



CURRICULUM GUIDES

A Work in Progress

GRADE SEVEN

Rev. 2008

Overview

The curriculum guides for Cathedral School are modeled after a report distributed by the State Board of Education entitled, Learning Results. The Learning Results were developed from a task force comprised of citizens, educators and business representatives who came together to identify what Maine students should know and be able to do by the time they leave school. Input was gained through various public process methods, such as public hearings, surveys, student meeting, etc.

The Learning Results are essential for all Maine Students because the demands of contemporary life and work require us to know and be able to do a great deal. These demands ask us to be:

- *Clear and Effective Communicators*
- *Self-Directed and Life-Long Learners*
- *Creative and Practical Problem Solvers*
- *Responsible and Involved Citizens*
- *Collaborative and Quality Workers*
- *Integrative and Informed Thinkers*

These six specific areas of knowledge and skills are called the **Guiding Principles**.

Learning Results have been developed in each of these subject areas:

- *Career Preparation*
- *English Language Arts*
- *Foreign Languages*
- *Health & Physical Education*
- *Mathematics*
- *Science*
- *Social Studies*
- *Visual & Performing Arts*

At Cathedral School, we have the unique opportunity and responsibility to teach *Religion* as a primary subject and to assure our students experiences of “Faith in Action”!

As you explore our new presentation for curriculum guides for each grade, please keep in mind that this is a *work in progress* and we are still fine-tuning the details. Enjoy, and please feel free to ask our Principal or your child’s teacher any questions related to our curriculum or the Learning Results report.

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1. RELIGION

Text: **Blest Are We**
Silver Burdett and Ginn

- Demonstrates knowledge of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) from the New Testament to understand the answer to Jesus' question, "Who do you say I am?"
- Recognizes that Jesus Christ is full human while being fully divine.
- Learns how to make moral choices with the Holy Spirits guidance.
- Studies all seven Sacraments, Ten Commandments, Stations of the Cross, Holy Days, Beatitudes, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Attends Masses and Prayer Services.
- Celebrates all Holy Days.
- Recognizes selected prayers: Sign of the Cross, Lord's Prayer, Prayer of Sorrow, Gloria, Nicene Creed, Hail Mary, Glory Be to the Father.
- Learns to contrast Gospel writers and reason for placement in church calendar.

2. LITERATURE/LANGUAGE ARTS

Text: **Literature, Course 2**
Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
English Composition and Grammar
Harcourt Brace Jovanovich

- Reads literature in a variety of genres, which illustrate distinct cultures in a variety of genres, and formulates and defends assumptions based on the literary elements.
- Reads, listens to or views a variety of texts in order to identify, represent, and support or oppose various viewpoints on a debatable issue.
- Evaluates the connections between, and identifies the universality of themes among, various forms of literature.
- Produces a well-developed piece of writing on demand, in response to an assigned prompt, that is organized, uses language effectively, has voice and demonstrates control of mechanics in a manner appropriate to the demands and the complexity of the assigned tasks.
- Independently and accurately uses standard oral and written language conventions in formal and informal situations.
- Generates an initial text on a self-selected topic, using prewriting strategies, and then use strategies for revision to improve correctness, clarity of purpose and expression in a finished piece for a specific audience.
- Uses a variety of media and technological resources to investigate multiple topics for creative and expository written and oral presentations.
- Uses research skills to locate, collect, organize, and share materials from a variety of resources to inform, describe, entertain, and/or persuade depending on audience and purpose.
- Adjusts reading, listening, and viewing strategies in order to comprehend a variety of materials for a variety of purposes.
- Identifies bias in oral, written, and visual materials.
- Identifies how and when the power of language creates impressions and generates bias.
- Evaluates the reliability of information from the mass media.
- In reading, discussing or writing about written materials independently, poses questions, predicts, interprets and responds to build comprehension.

Each semester students are required to read additional novels which vary with the personality and reading level of the class.

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3. FOREIGN LANGUAGE (French 2)

Text: **Recontes 2** McGraw Hill

Understands that culture is multi-faceted and includes language, behavioral practices, ideas and perspectives, and products (i.e. Music, foods, literature)

- Infers themes, ideas or perspectives about the target culture by examining tangible products of culture, to include popular music and dance, literature, architecture and education.
- Explains how idiomatic expressions impact communications and reflect culture.
- Demonstrates more than one way to express an idea across languages.

Makes linguistic, economic, political, geographical, cultural and historical connections between and among countries and people.

- Observes, identifies and discusses patterns of behavior typical of their peer group in the native and target cultures.
- Understands the process of word borrowing from one language to another.
- Distinguishes between the sound and writing systems of the target language and these same elements in the native language.
- Identifies cultural beliefs and perspectives of people in both the native and target cultures relating to family, school, work and play.

Provides, obtains, interprets, and uses information from a variety of sources, including technologies and worldwide resources.

- Follows simple classroom commands and directions.
- Answers questions on the content of announcements and messages on familiar topics.
- Follows a set of directions to develop a product.
- Reads and evaluates written work in simple sentence form by editing, revising and creating a final draft.
- Identifies the primary messages in short written informational texts on familiar topics.
- Reads and interprets multiple-step written directions and simple printed information (advertisements, posters).
- Understands main ideas and supporting details of short narratives on familiar topics.
- Comprehends short spoken messages in the target language on topics being studied in other classes.
- Recognizes common oral phrase groupings and structures.
- Collects data, identifies main ideas, themes and details from authentic TV, radio or live presentations from the target culture.

Engages in conversations and discussions about everyday topics and current events using authentic information.

- Uses strings of short sentences to exchange information about personal events and familiar situations.
- Asks for and gives spoken directions and simple instructions.
- Compares and contrasts people, objects, and events using short spoken sentences.
- Interviews a peer on a specified topic.

Presents information, concepts, and ideas on a variety of topics orally and in writing to an audience of listeners or readers or both within and beyond the school setting.

- Uses a series of connected sentences to write notes or letters on topics of personal interest.
- Prepares stories or brief written reports on daily life or a topic studied in another subject area.
- Writes summaries of the main ideas, events, people, places and things in

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instructionally appropriate texts.

- Narrates in writing and explains feelings about a special personal event.
- Uses strings of short-spoken sentences to present information about topics of interest and current events.

4. MATHEMATICS

Text: **Transition Math** Part 1
Scott Foresman, Addison Wesley

NUMBERS AND NUMBER SENSE:

- Uses numbers in a variety of equivalent forms (integer, fraction, decimal, percent, exponential) in practical and theoretical problem solving.
- Demonstrates understanding of the relationships among the basic arithmetic operations on different types of numbers.
- Applies concepts of ratios, proportions, percents, and number theory (i.e. Primes, factors, and multiples) in practical and other mathematical situations.
- Represents numerical relationships in graphs, tables, and charts.
- Describes the structure of the real number system and identify its appropriate applications and limitations.
- Explains what complex numbers (real and imaginary) mean and describe some of their many uses.

COMPUTATION

- Computes and models all four operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, integers, and percents, applying the order of operations.
- Creates, solves, and justifies multi-step, real-life problems including those with ratio and proportion.
- Uses various techniques to approximate solutions, determine the reasonableness of answers, and justify the results.

DATA ANALYSIS AND STATISTICS

- Assembles data and use matrices to formulate and solve problems.
- Constructs inferences and convincing arguments based on data.
- Determines and evaluates the effect of variables on the results of data collection.
- Predicts and draws conclusions from charts, tables, and graphs that summarize data from practical situations.

PROBABILITY

- Finds the probability of simple events and makes predictions by applying the theories of probability.
- Explains the idea that probability can be represented as a fraction between and including zero and one.
- Uses simulations to estimate probabilities.
- Finds all possible combinations and arrangements involving a limited number of variables.

PATTERNS, RELATIONS, FUNCTIONS

- Describes and represents relationships with tables, graphs and equations.
- Analyzes relationships to explain how a change in one quantity can result in a change in another.
- Uses patterns and multiple representations to solve problems.
- Creates a graph to represent a real-life situation and draws inferences from it.
- Translates and solves a real-life problem using symbolic language.

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- Models phenomena using a variety of functions (linear, quadratic, exponential, trigonometric, etc.)

ALGEBRA CONCEPTS (Introduced in Seventh Grade but expanded in Eighth Grade)

- Uses the concepts of variables and expressions.
- Solves linear equations using concrete, informal, and formal methods which apply the order of operations.
- Analyzes tables and graphs to identify properties and relationships in a practical context.
- Uses graphs to represent two-variable equations.
- Demonstrates an understanding of inequalities and non-linear equations.
- Finds solutions for unknown quantities in linear equations and in simple equations and inequalities.
- Investigates concepts of variation by using equations, graphs, and data collection.
- Formulates and solves equations and inequalities.
- Analyze and explain situations using symbolic representations.

MATHEMATICAL REASONING

- Supports reasoning by using models, known facts, properties and relationships.
- Demonstrates that multiple paths to a conclusion may exist.
- Analyzes situations where more than one logical conclusion can be drawn from data presented.

MATHEMATICAL COMMUNICATION

- Translates relationships into algebraic notation.
- Uses statistics, tables, and graphs to communicate ideas and information in convincing presentations and analyze presentations of others for bias or deceptive presentation.
- Restates, creates, and uses definitions in mathematics to express understanding, classify figures, and determine the truth of a proposition or argument.
- Reads mathematical presentation of topics within the Learning Results with understanding.

5. SCIENCE

Text: **Life Science**
Glencoe/McGraw Hill

Comprehends the similarities, diversity and interdependence of living and non-living things in the environment.

- Establishes the relationship between the atmosphere of and the hydrosphere.
- Describes the impact of weather patterns on the earth and its people.
- Identifies examples of both fresh and salt-water resources.
- Deciphers the system for determining the scientific name of every living thing.
- Generates examples of the variety of ways that organisms interact through competition and commensalism.
- Analyzes similarities and differences among organisms within each taxonomic level (with focus on the Protist and Animal Kingdoms).

Recognizes that cells are the basic units of life that can reproduce themselves.

- Compares and contrasts human organ systems with those of other species.
- Analyzes the different functions of different cells in multi-celled organisms.
- Prepares and studies microscopic slides of plant and animal cells.
- Records observations and reflections.
- Establishes the relationship of cells, tissues, organs and organ systems of the human

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body.

Understands the basis of life and that all-living things change over time.

- Provides an example of the concept of natural selection and its role in evolutionary change.
- Explains how sexual reproduction can lead to offspring that have traits different from the traits of their parents.
- Describes how new varieties of plants and animals have been produced by humans through selective breeding for certain traits.
- Explains how mutations can be caused by gene mutation or chromosomal alteration.

Understands and demonstrates measurement skills.

- Uses both metric and English units of weights and measures.

Uses scientific reasoning to justify ideas and make informed decisions.

- Provides examples of the variety of ways people can form generalizations and know the implications of each.
- Supports reasoning using models, known facts, properties and relationships.
- Identifies stereotypes in common inferences about persons, places, things, and events.

Understands the short- and long-term impact of personal behaviors on health.

- Analyzes the relationship between healthy behavior and the causes and prevention of chronic and communicable diseases.
- Classifies the phases of chemical dependency and evaluates the effects of substance use and abuse and nicotine addiction on oneself and friends and family members.
- Examines the importance of assuming responsibility for personal health and behaviors.
- Analyzes a personal health assessment to determine health strengths and risks and develops strategies to improve or maintain personal and family health.
- Distinguishes between safe and risky or harmful behaviors in relationships and demonstrates ways to avoid and reduce situations that threaten personal safety such as physical, emotional and sexual abuse.
- Develops injury prevention and management strategies for personal safety, including recreational safety, including recreational safety and given a specific situation, recommends first aid care.
- Analyzes how health-related decisions and personal health goals are influenced by individuals, family and community values and predicts the consequences for self and others.
- Applies strategies and skills needed to attain personal health goals.
- Demonstrates a decision-making process to resolve health issues and problems individually and collaboratively.

Understands the interrelationship of mental, emotional, social and physical health.

- Critiques the interrelationship of mental, emotional, social, and physical health during adolescence.

6. SOCIAL STUDIES

Text: **The American Journey**,
Glencoe/ McGraw Hill

- Identifies the characteristics of a democratic government.
- Explains relationships between rights and responsibilities in a democratic society.
- Explains how people have adapted to and/or modified their environments in specific

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- times and places.
- Evaluates how world trade issues can affect a nation's economy and how trade can influence and transform societies. (Junior Achievement)
 - Examines the patterns and results of international trade. (Junior Achievement)
 - Demonstrates principles of entrepreneurship. (Junior Achievement)
 - Analyzes how changes in technology, costs and demand determine the price of goods and services. (Junior Achievement)
 - Describes the government of another nation drawing distinctions between this government and our own (Social Studies, Time Magazine for Kids)
 - Uses current events to analyze the relationship of the United States and its citizens with other nations.
 - Examines and analyzes current events to become active participants in the community.
 - Examines civic rights, liberties, and responsibilities established in the US Constitution and Bill of Rights.
 - Identifies and describes unique contributions of different cultures to society.
 - Recognizes the characteristics and stages of human growth and development.
 - Analyzes benefits and problems when cultures have interacted.
 - Visualizes and constructs maps of the world and its subregions to identify patterns of human settlement, major physical features, and political divisions.
 - Defines the characteristics of historical turning points.
 - Evaluates the impact of changes on past and present cultures.
 - Describes the effects of historic changes on daily life.
 - Traces simultaneous events in various parts of the world.
 - Predicts outcomes by using knowledge of past and current events.
 - Analyzes how scarcity affects governments and individuals' decisions about production and consumption of goods and services.
 - Examines the birth of the nation through historical occurrences within social, political, and economic life.
 - Explains how regions are connected and how people, goods and ideas move among them. (Junior Achievement)
 - Identifies and explains factors involved in settling and developing cities in various times and places.
 - Explains how migration influences the character of places.
 - Describes how a culture grew and changed during "a golden age".
 - Evaluates the influences of nationality, ethnicity, religion and socioeconomic status on personal identity.
 - Explains how cultural differences may cause people to react differently to situations.