

LAKE CITY

**Columnneetza Junior
Secondary School**

**Student Programming
Handbook 2024-2025**

GRADE 8

FALCONS

Welcome to Grade 8

Welcome to the Grade 8 Learning Community. Our program not only provides each student with an excellent learning experience, but is also designed to assist in making a successful transition to the secondary school system. The Learning Community is designed to provide a safe, supportive, and caring environment where students can explore their interests and express their individuality in the semester system. Grade 8 is a unique year as it reinforces past knowledge and also offers the chance to explore future interests.

We look forward to meeting our new Grade 8 students and we hope that you will enjoy your transition to secondary school. Our staff will assist you in your learning experiences, and, in turn, we expect that you will make every effort to ensure your success.

We encourage students and parents to communicate with the school. If you have questions or concerns, please call one of the numbers below.

Administration:

Ms. Hattie Darney, Principal

Mr. Matthew Cullum, Vice Principal

Ms. Alina Cameron, Vice Principal

Counsellors:

Ms. Tara Burtenshaw &

Mr. Jonathan Harding

Indigenous Support Worker:

Mr. George Fraser, Mr. Jordy Moise &

Ms. Katrina Wilde

Youth Engagement Worker:

Ms. Courtney Mailhot

Columnetza Junior Secondary School 250-392-4158

Please check out our website and Facebook page☺

Facebook Page: Lake City Secondary

GRADE 8 STUDENTS TAKE THE FOLLOWING COURSES:

English 8

Science 8

Social Studies 8

Mathematics 8

Physical Education 8 / Hockey 8 / Aquatics 8

French 8, Secwepemc 8, Tsilhqot'in 8, Carrier 8, Spanish 8

Explorations 8 (an elective rotation that includes Band 8)

ENGLISH 8

The objective is continued improvement of reading and writing skills. Language skills include studies in basic grammar and language conventions (subject/verb agreement, pronoun usage, sentence structure, etc.). These skills lead into writing skills which include paragraphs, reports, essays, and other writing exercises. The reading component will develop comprehension and vocabulary skills. The course also includes a poetry unit.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

In this course, students will engage in an examination of world civilizations from 500A.D. to 1600A.D. Topics studied will include medieval and renaissance societies, daily life, art, religion, early economic systems, and world geography.

MATHEMATICS 8

This curriculum includes the five major organizers of problem solving, numbers, patterns & relations, shape & space, and statistics & probability. Integration within these organizers is emphasized. Instruction tools such as a graphics calculator and computer will be used to help conceptualize these ideas. Connecting physical, graphic, pictorial, symbolic, and mental representations of mathematical ideas is also emphasized.

SCIENCE 8

Science 8 covers such topics as: the basis of chemistry and matter, investigating living things and microbes, discovering energy, and examining the earth. These topics are studied using a variety of formats including step-by-step experiments, reading activities, informal discussions, and student designed investigations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 (PHE)

This course is designed to let students experience as many activities as possible. It will be divided into an outdoor sport/games unit and an indoor sport/games unit. Areas of study include: fitness & health awareness, track & field, games, plus selected indoor & outdoor team games (volleyball, soccer, basketball, floor hockey, softball, rugby, & more).

AQUATICS 8 (instead of PHE)

The Aquatics Course is open to students in Grade 8 and is designed to enhance the student's physical fitness and skills in an aquatic setting. Some previous swimming skills are required

(level 10 Red Cross equivalent). The course will cover swimming skills, fitness, teaching, mentoring, games, activities, and lifesaving skills. Most sessions, but not all, will be at the aquatic center. This course will be taken instead of P.E. 8. The primary focus of the Aquatic curriculum is to develop proficient technical skills and fitness in swimming activities, mentor and teach swimming skills, and enhance safety and lifesaving skills.

The option to achieve “certification” in some skills will be an additional cost.

HOCKEY 8 (instead of PHE)

This program is offered to grade 8 students. This season we a basic skills development program will be offered. The goal of this class is to afford the opportunity to students who have previously had no opportunity to play the sport. Equipment is required, but the school can help with equipping players with hockey gear if players do not have equipment.

For more information please contact Terry Duff at 250-392-6284 or terry.duff@sd27.bc.ca

EXPLORATIONS 8 (EXPO)

Students will be given an opportunity to sample these elective courses to help them in their selection of electives in grade 9. Exploration electives may include: Foods, Woodwork, Drama, Art, Metalwork, Media Arts, Technology Education, Power Technology, and Leadership. The courses are between 21-24 days and are offered throughout the year.

BAND PROGRAM 8

There will be a junior band program offered at the junior campus. Students taking Band 8 will do so during their Explorations rotation. Instruments are not provided; they may be rented or purchased.

FRENCH IMMERSION 8

Students will take Francais Langue 8, Sciences Humaines 8 and one elective in the French language (Art Visuels 8), as well as English 8, Math 8, Science 8, PE 8 and some of the grade 8 Expo Electives and/or Band 8.

LEARNING SUPPORT & LIFE SKILLS

Additional support will be provided for students who require adaptations to the curriculum. This will be provided through support blocks, in class support or pull out intervention. Additional help for students is available from the Learning Support staff. Furthermore, students requiring physical, and sensory support during the day will receive additional support from the Resource Teacher and Education Assistants.

INDIGENOUS SUPPORT

Social and academic support will be provided to Indigenous students through our Indigenous Support Workers' offices and through additional offerings in the school throughout the year.