

Eighth Grade Ethics Syllabus

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Course Description

In eighth grade ethics, students will explore varying definitions of ethics and apply them to themselves and both their local and global communities. They will conduct research, read critically, and participate in and lead discussions throughout the course. We will begin by addressing the history and philosophies surrounding ethics, and then move into ethics as they apply to ourselves and our everyday lives. We will then expand to a discussion of ethics in our behavior, relationships, and communities, and will finish by applying our learning to contemporary issues of social and environmental justice.

Policies & Procedures

During the first week of school, each class will hold and discussions to create a class contract that will serve as our policies and procedures for the year. This document will cover expectations of behavior, work ethic, and homework, and will be sent home for both parent and student signatures once complete. Our policies will be consistent with those created and sent home by the entire 7-8 team.

Dates:

Quarter 1 (August 10 – October 2): 8B
Quarter 2 (October 13-December 16): 8A

Standards:

Standard 1: Understands ethics as a reflection of human actions and how those actions lead to happiness

- Understand the changes that occur to both girls and boys as they go through puberty
- Recognize the importance of hygiene and nutrition to health

Standard 2: Contribute in a constructive way to the well-being and relationships in your school and community

- Research and understand substances and behaviors that are harmful to the body

Standard 3: Identify and reject different forms of discrimination in your school and community, and to identify different media that promotes discrimination

- Understand the role of different communities and social groups in shaping identity
- Understand the impact of discrimination on self-identity and self esteem
- Understand that special populations are deserve accommodation

Standard 4: Think critically about ideas relating to human and social issues

- Listen attentively to the ideas and commentaries of others
- Participate constructively to the ideas of commentaries of others
- Value and respect the ideas and commentaries of others