Eighth Grade Families: In Walla Walla Public Schools, we operate in an aligned and coherent system. This means students will receive access to the same promise standards no matter which school they attend. The eighth grade team at your child’s school will support all students to reach proficiency on the promise standards listed below, while also addressing all of the eighth grade math and language arts standards. Teachers identified these promise standards in alignment with previous and following grade levels to ensure skills build from year to year, and lead to a successful educational career in Walla Walla Public Schools.

Eighth Grade Math Promise Standards

- Interpret the equation \( y = mx + b \) as defining a linear function, whose graph is a straight line; give examples of functions that are not linear.
- Construct a function to model a linear relationship between two quantities. Determine the rate of change and initial value of the function from a description of a relationship or from two \((x, y)\) values, including reading these from a table or from a graph. Interpret the rate of change and initial value of a linear function in terms of the situation it models, and in terms of its graph, or a table of values.
- Know and apply the properties of integer exponents to generate equivalent numerical expressions.
- Use square root and cube root symbols to represent solutions to equations of the form \( x^2 = p \) and \( x^3 = p \), where \( p \) is a positive rational number. Evaluate square roots of small perfect squares and cube roots of small perfect cubes. Know that \( \sqrt{2} \) is irrational.
- Graph proportional relationships, interpreting the unit rate as the slope of the graph. Compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways.
- Use similar triangles to explain why the slope \( m \) is the same between any two distinct points on a non-vertical line in the coordinate plane; derive the equation \( y = mx \) for a line through the origin and the equation \( y = mx + b \) for a line intercepting the vertical axis at \( b \).
- Give examples of linear equations in one variable with one solution, infinitely many solutions, or no solutions.
- Solve linear equations with rational number coefficients, including equations whose solutions require expanding expressions using the distributive property and collecting like terms.
- Understand that solutions to a system of two linear equations in two variables correspond to points of intersection of their graphs, because points of intersection satisfy both equations simultaneously.
- Understand that a two-dimensional figure is congruent to another if the second can be obtained from the first by a sequence of rotations, reflections, and translations; given, two congruent figures, describe a sequence that exhibits the congruence between them.
- Use informal arguments to establish facts about the angle sum and exterior angle of triangles, about the angles created when parallel lines are cut by a transversal, and angle-angle criterion for similarity triangles.
- Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.
- Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in real-world and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.
Eighth Grade Language Arts Promise Standards

- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of literary text.
- Cite textual evidence to support analysis of informative text.
- Determine central idea of text, write an objective summary.
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.
- Trace/evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text.
- Support claims with reasoning and relevant evidence.
- Use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion and clarity among reasons and evidence.
- Introduce the topic clearly; organize information into broader categories; include formatting and multimedia.
- Develop and strengthen writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study.
- Use context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
- Use common, grade-appropriate Greek/Latin affixes/roots as clues to the meaning of a word.
Eighth Grade Social Studies Promise Standards

- Evaluate the logic of reasons for a position on an issue or event.
- Create and use research questions to guide inquiry on an issue or event.
- Engage in discussion, analyzing multiple viewpoints on public issues.
- Use appropriate format to cite sources within an essay, presentation, and reference page.
- Explain key ideals and principles outlined in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.
- Analyze the structure and powers of government at the national level.
- Analyze how a claim on an issue attempts to balance individual rights and the common good.
- Analyze how the forces of supply and demand have affected the production, distribution, and consumption of goods, services, and resources in the United States in the past or present.
- Analyze how the environment has affected people and how people have affected the environment in the United States in the past or present.
- Explain and analyze migration as a catalyst for the growth of the United States in the past or present.
- Explain how themes and developments help to define eras in United States history from 1763 to 1877.
- Explain and analyze how individuals and movements have shaped United States history (1763-1877).
- Explain and analyze how technology and ideas have impacted United States history (1763-1877).
- Analyze multiple causal factors to create positions on major events in United States history (1763-1877).
- Analyze how a historical event in United States history helps us to understand contemporary issues and events.