

**La Vista
Junior High**

MONARCHS

**8th Grade
Course Registration Handbook
2009-2010**

To The Students:

This Course Registration Handbook has been designed to help you make important educational decisions. It has been developed to provide you with understanding and direction as you plan your next year of studies. Your first responsibility is to familiarize yourself with the contents of the handbook. Secondly, you should consult with your parents and plan together a course of study for your next year. And, finally, you may wish to consult with a counselor who will assist you with answers to any questions you may have regarding the registration process.

We hope you make good use of these educational opportunities. Be sure to carefully plan a successful course of study for your coming year in the junior high school and set a foundation for your educational future.

Educationally yours,

Tom Furby, Principal
La Vista Junior High

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The school counselors will provide group guidance and counseling for all students for the purpose of registration of classes for the school year. Individual counseling is provided to parents and students upon request.

Students are required to take one year of English, math, science and social studies. Physical Education and Health are also required courses. A team study hall, which meets daily all year, is required for all students. Keyboarding is a required (one quarter) elective class. Students must choose any combination of electives which will equate to 8 quarters of courses. Students must choose at least one Enrichment course, but may choose more than 1 Enrichment if they desire. Students must take a Tech. Ed course as well. Most electives are quarter classes (9 weeks in length), except Band and Chorus (year). There is no guarantee a student will be placed in all the electives he/she chooses. Classroom space and staff availability will determine final placement of students. We encourage students to carefully choose electives and identify alternate selections.

COURSES

8th Grade – Required

1. English (year)
2. Mathematics – Pre-Algebra ‘B’ (year)
 - Algebra I-A (year)
 - Algebra (year)
3. Science 8 (year)
4. U.S. History 8 (year)
5. Physical Education 8– (2 trimesters)
6. Health 8– (1 trimester)
7. Team Study Hall (year)
8. Electives (8 quarters)

Enrichment Classes

1. Reading Enrichment (quarter)
2. English Enrichment (quarter)
3. Science Enrichment (quarter)
4. History Enrichment (quarter)

Electives

1. Keyboarding 8 (quarter)- **Required**
2. Word Processing 8 (quarter)
3. 2-D Art Exploration (quarter)
4. 3-D Art Explorations (quarter)
5. Exploring Foods & Nutrition (FCS I) (quarter)
6. Exploring Teen Issues, Clothing & Design (FCS II) (quarter)
7. Industrial Technology I (quarter)
8. Industrial Technology II (quarter)
9. World Music Drumming (quarter)
10. Introductory Guitar (quarter)
11. Concert Band 8 (year)
12. Chorus 8 (year)
13. Student Aide (quarter)

<p><u>Required to take one Tech. Ed. Class</u></p>

ENGLISH

Course Title: **English 8**

Course Number: **1800**

Duration: **Year**

English 8 is intended to develop and strengthen communication skills. By integrating experiences in reading, writing, research and speaking into language and literature study, students apply acquired knowledge and understanding to their own communications.

This year-long course includes a study of literature through novels and short works of fiction and incorporates writing in multiple modes using the writing process. Integrated into the curriculum are lessons in spelling, grammar, vocabulary, and public speaking.

General Objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate writing skills and the writing process with a focus on expository and descriptive writing.
2. Students will present speeches demonstrating the qualities of a good speaker.
3. Students will be able to identify various literary concepts to improve reading comprehension.
4. Students will be able to write effective sentences, paragraphs, and essays using appropriate grammar, spelling, and vocabulary skills.
5. Students will use research skills to paraphrase, summarize, and cite credible sources.

MATHEMATICS

The math courses at the 8th grade level are divided into three groups: Pre-Algebra B, Algebra 1-A, and Algebra 1.

Course Title: **Pre-Algebra B**

Course Number: **MA08**

Duration: **Year**

Pre-requisite: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra A or teacher recommendation.

Pre-Algebra B – This course is designed as a continuation of Pre-Algebra A; it is the second section of a transition course that bridges the similarities of arithmetic and algebra. The emphasis is on prerequisite skills and concepts for algebra as well as problem solving strategies. This course will cover Pre-Algebra concepts at a pace that supports sound understanding. Coupled with 7th grade Pre-Algebra A, this course will cover the topics of Pre-Algebra over a 2 year period instead of a 2-semester period. Topics for this course include: square roots, expressions, equations, inequalities, and graphing.

Course Title: **Algebra 1-A**

Course Number: **MA60**

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Algebra 1-A – This course is designed to meet the needs of the student who will benefit from extended time frame to master Algebra concepts. The emphasis is in on building a strong foundation of basic Algebra skills. Coupled with Algebra 1-B, this course will cover the topics of Algebra over a 2 year period instead of a 2-semester period. Students will study topics such as: expressions, equations, inequalities, linear patterns, properties, linear functions, formulas, and proportional reasoning.

Course Title: **Algebra 1**

Course Number: **MA01**

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and teacher recommendation.

Algebra 1 – This course provides the foundation for all subsequent math courses. Students in this course must be highly motivated, self-disciplined, and willing to spend time at home completing assignments and studying for assessments. Successful completion of this course ensures students have a firm understanding of Algebraic concepts. Students will study topics such as: expressions, equations, inequalities, linear patterns, properties, linear functions, formulas, proportional reasoning, factoring, and radicals.

SCIENCE

The Science programs in the Papillion La Vista Public Schools have been selected to give students exposure to a wide range of topics. At the junior high level, students will learn a variety of topics about Physical Science, Life Science, and Earth Science. The basic philosophy of our programs include:

- Students will understand science concepts and skills.
- Students will learn and apply scientific inquiry to make informed and reasoned decisions.
- Students will communicate their scientific understanding.
- Students will make relevant connections using science concepts.

Course Title: Science 8

Course Number: 3800

Duration: Year

Science 8 exposes students to the physical and earth strands of science. Students will continue to pose solutions to scientific problems and real-life situations using the scientific method. The lab and activity centered approach allows students to experience science and not just observe it.

The students will investigate the following areas of scientific study:

1. Matter
 2. Astronomy
 3. Physics
 4. Weather and Climate
-

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course Title: Social Studies 8: Early United States History (1607 - 1890)

Course Number: 4800

Duration: Year

The course is a chronological survey of American History from the beginning of Jamestown, Va. (1607) through the closing of the Frontier (1890). Events of the present are related to the roots in the past, and whenever possible, an attempt is made to provide the students with the knowledge and understanding that prepares them to make good decisions in an increasingly global world. An appreciation of the diversified peoples whose ideals and efforts contributed to our democratic way of life is also one of the aims of this course.

Objectives:

1. Students will examine the reasons for settling in America and how England benefited from establishing the thirteen colonies.
2. Students will understand that disagreements between English citizens and their government resulted in colonial revolution in North America culminating in a new central government.
3. Students will understand and analyze our living Constitution.
4. Students will make sense of our early efforts to establish a new nation, and how America grew and changed from the 1780's to the 1850's.
5. Students will understand how intense feelings aroused by the slavery questions and states' rights resulted in the Civil War, and the challenges of rebuilding the nation after the war.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The mission of the Papillion - La Vista Public Schools Physical Education Department is to provide students with opportunities, in a diverse environment, to gain knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes, and appreciation in physical activities, which contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

Course Title: **Physical Education (P.E.) 8**

Duration: 24 weeks or 2 trimesters

Purpose: The purpose of our program is to *prepare* students with the knowledge and skills to *pursue an active, healthy lifestyle*.

Students will:

- Standard 1: Demonstrate competency in motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities.
 - Standard 2: Demonstrates and apply concepts and principles of human movement to the development of motor skills and the learning of new skills.
 - Standard 3: Participate regularly in physical activity.
 - Standard 4: Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.
 - Standard 5: Exhibit responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in physical activity settings.
 - Standard 6: Understand that physical activity provides the opportunity for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and communication.
-

HEALTH 8

Course Title: **Health 8**

Duration: 12 weeks or 1 trimester

Health is required of all eighth graders. Health is intended to help young people develop positive attitudes, values, goals, and behaviors—based on sound knowledge—with the underlying concept of abstinence.

Health is a course which meets the following objectives:

1. To provide individuals with adequate and accurate knowledge of family life in its physical, psychological, social, and moral dimensions.
2. To help clarify and strengthen values and attitudes related to family and to sexuality.
3. To enhance feelings of self-worth and self-esteem.
4. To increase skills in decision-making and communication.

Health concepts:

1. Sexuality and abstinence (physical, psychological, social, and emotional)
W.A.I.T. Program is implemented
2. Weight management (nutrition and eating disorders)
3. Alcohol and substance abuse.
4. Sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS.

ADAPTIVE P. E.

Adaptive P. E. is designed for students who will benefit more from an individualized and developmental physical education program. This may be due to some physical, mental, social, or emotional reason. Individualized learning is made possible through trained student-peer tutors who work with the exceptional students under the guidance of the instructor. Adaptive P. E. provides the opportunity for the student to improve at their own pace.

Purpose: The purpose of our program is to *prepare* students with the knowledge and skills to *pursue an active, healthy lifestyle*.

Students will:

- Standard 1: Demonstrate competency in motor skills and movement patterns needed to perform a variety of physical activities.
- Standard 2: Demonstrates and apply concepts and principles of human movement to the development of motor skills and the learning of new skills.
- Standard 3: Participate regularly in physical activity.
- Standard 4: Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.
- Standard 5: Exhibit responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in physical activity settings.
- Standard 6: Understand that physical activity provides the opportunity for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and communication.

ELECTIVE COURSE

ART

Course Title: 2-D Art Explorations

Course Number: 6800

Duration: Quarter

This course is intended for any student who enjoys activity and making special projects. Students will experiment with a variety of art media with an emphasis on two-dimensional and exposure to three-dimensional experiences.

Projects may include watercolor, contour drawing, wire sculpture, painting, printmaking, mosaics, collage, and scratch board.

An art textbook will periodically be used to introduce the student to various concepts involved in two and three-dimensional art. Quizzes and tests may be given but will be kept to a minimum.

Course Title: 3-D Art Explorations

Course Number: 6801

Duration: Quarter

Fees: Students may be asked to bring things from home or purchase additional materials for special projects.

This course is intended for any student who enjoys making things with his/her hands. Students will be exposed to the field of three-dimensional art and the magic of creating the illusion of three-dimensions on a two-dimensional surface.

Projects may include pottery, 1 and 2 point perspective drawing, paper and clay sculpture, wheel-throwing, and kite making.

An art textbook will periodically be used to introduce the student to various concepts involved in three-dimensional art. Quizzes and tests may be given but will be kept to a minimum.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental music is offered to students who have the enthusiasm and discipline to pursue the playing of a wind or percussion instrument. At the junior high/middle school level our emphasis is not upon performance but musical fundamentals. Those fundamentals especially stressed will include counting, reading music, understanding musical terminology, the acquisition of major, minor, and chromatic scales, and rehearsing in a large group. Each band performs at least two concerts a year.

Participation in band consists of daily band rehearsals, weekly lessons, and quarterly scales. Opportunities to play in small groups (ensembles), to perform solos, and to participate in honor bands and concerts are all part of the program. Students also have the opportunity to attend various special sessions such as Master Classes and recitals.

Band Classes: Concert Band 8.

Additional groups – Jazz Band, Percussion, Woodwind, and Brass Ensembles.

Course Title: **Concert Band 8**

Course Number: 6810

Duration: Year

Requirements: Any 8th grader with at least two years of instrumental training. Beginners must confer with the band director and take lessons until they have attained an appropriate skill level.

JAZZ BAND

Jazz Band is an auditioned group open to 7th and 8th grade band students. Jazz band instrumentation is as follows: Saxes (alto, tenor, bari), Trumpet, Trombone, Piano, Bass, Guitar, Vibes, Drum Set. The jazz band meets two mornings a week before school and has several performances throughout the school year.

LAB BAND

Lab Band is a jazz ensemble open to all band students and instruments interested in learning jazz style. This ensemble begins rehearsing second semester. The band meets once a week after school. They will have one performance as a part of the spring jazz concert.

Course Title: **World Music Drumming**

Course Number: 6812

Duration: Quarter

World Music Drumming is open to any 8th grade student interested in learning to play the hand drums. We will learn the drums orally/aurally. There will be no music reading.

In addition to learning hand drums, we will learn many of the percussion instruments associated with African and Caribbean music.

The class will learn drumming techniques as well as play in ensembles. They will also learn songs, dance, clapping songs, and watch videos on these subjects.

Course Title: **Introductory Guitars**

Course Number: 6813

Duration: Quarter

Introduction to guitar is open to any 8th grade student with an interest in, and discipline for, learning to play the guitar. The student will learn basic chords for accompanying songs. We will learn rhythm/accompaniment guitar orally/aurally.

Guitars for classroom use are supplied for the class. Purchase/ownership of a guitar is not required.

VOCAL MUSIC

Course Title: **Chorus 8**

Course Number: 6811

Duration: Year

Requirements: A choral uniform (shirt) is required for performances and will be purchased by the student. Students pay for their own costume if they are part of a small group. Choice of costume is decided by the instructor.

Chorus is for any student who enjoys singing in a large group. This class meets every day throughout the year. Solo singing will not be required; however, many solo opportunities will be available for those who aspire to greater challenges. Students may also audition for swing choir, which meets before school on select days.

Four concerts will be required of all students, generally in October, January, March, and May. In addition to this, we will seek other music making and listening experiences, perhaps touring a cathedral or seeing an opera. Upon completion of Chorus the student will have the ability to:

1. Sing unison, two, three and four part music of varying difficulty levels.
2. Identify many vocabulary terms specific to choral music.
3. Identify basic music style periods.
4. Sight sing music in any key signature in major keys.
5. Improve singing through use of specific vocal production techniques.

BUSINESS / COMPUTERS

Course Title: **Keyboarding 8**

Course Number: 6830

Duration: Quarter

This is a **required** class for all 8th grade students that builds upon the introductory keyboarding skills the students learned in the 7th grade. Students will learn to "touch type" the number and symbol keys in addition to reviewing the letter keys introduced to them in 7th grade. Students will also learn the numeric keypad and how to operate the sub-keyboard. Emphasis is placed on proper technique and position as well as the ability to proofread and edit copy as the students work to develop a usable level of speed, accuracy and skill at the keyboard.

Course Title: **Word Processing 8**

Course Number: 6831

Duration: Quarter

Prerequisite: Keyboarding 8

This is an elective class for all 8th grade students who have successfully completed Keyboarding 8. The students will learn to use Microsoft Office WORD to produce the following formatted documents: book reports, stories, letters, poems, envelopes, memos, e-mail messages and tables. Students will continue to build proper keyboarding technique and editing skills. The desired outcome of this class is that the student will have a usable skill in formatting documents that he/she might be required or desire to produce at this age. The students will also be introduced to voice technology.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Family and Consumer Sciences provide opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge, attitude, and skills essential to balance home, family, and work place roles and responsibilities.

Course Title: *Family and Consumer Science I (Exploring Foods & Nutrition)*

Course Number: 6820

Duration: Quarter

FCS I (Exploring Foods & Nutrition) is a 9-week course, which focuses on exploring fundamentals, encouraging critical thinking and promoting responsible decision-making skills. The curriculum includes consumer issues and careers in the area of foods and nutrition.

- I. Nutrition
 - A. Making Healthy Food Choices
 - 1. Food Guide Pyramid
 - 2. Dietary Guidelines
 - 3. Nutrients
 - B. Avoiding Health Risks
- II. Food Preparation
 - A. Meal Planning
 - B. Food Selection
 - C. Safety and Sanitation in the Kitchen
 - D. Tools and Equipment
 - E. Measuring Basics
 - F. Preparation Techniques

Course Title: Family and Consumer Science II (Exploring Teen Issues, Clothing & Design)

Course Number: 6821

Duration: Quarter

Fees: \$15.00 - \$25.00 will cover the cost of projects the students will take home.
Fees will vary depending on project selected.

FCS II (Exploring Teen Issues, Clothing & Design) is a 9-week course, which focuses on exploring fundamentals, encouraging critical thinking, and promoting decision-making skills. Typical student projects include pants, shorts and quillocks. The curriculum includes consumer issues and career explorations.

- I. Self Discovery
 - A. Understanding Yourself
 - B. Decision Making

- II. Clothing Construction and Care
 - A. Fibers and Fabrics
 - B. Sewing Equipment and Sewing Safety
 - C. Boxer Shorts, Sleep Pants or Quillow Construction
 - D. Clothing Decisions (as time allows)
 - E. Clothing Care (as time allows)

- III. Environmental Management
 - A. Housing Choices
 - B. Elements and Principles of Design
 - C. Organizing Living Space
 - D. Caring for Living Space (as time allows)

- IV. Developing Interpersonal Skills
 - A. Communication Skills
 - B. Conflict Resolution
 - C. Developing Relationships
 - D. Understanding Families

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY I / INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY II

Course Title: Industrial Technology I and II

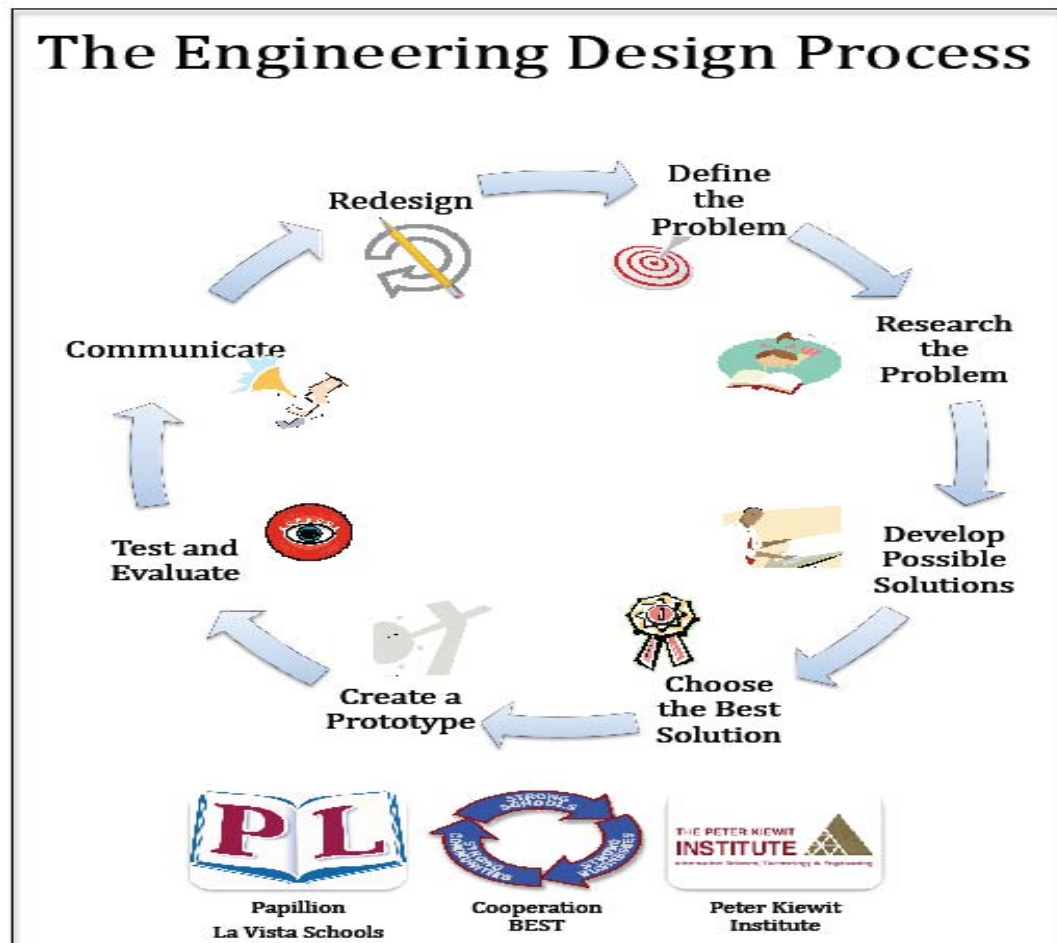
Course Number: 6860 - 6861

Duration: Quarter

FEE: There is a \$10.00 lab fee which will cover the cost of projects that will become the possession of the student. (I.e. Clock, B-Ball Game, Catapult, H2O rocket, Marble Mania, DVD of iMovie Video etc...)

Industrial Technology is a nine week course in which students combine resources and techniques into systems, realizing technology as a system. By simulating systems, assessing their impacts, and relating this experience to their seventh grade course, students gain an insight into how to approach the problems and opportunities of a technological world in a broad sense. They also explore occupational areas and educational programs for technology-oriented careers. Experiences will range from Drafting (SketchUp), Robots (Lego NXT Mindstorms), Catapults, iMovie/Flash, various manufacturing projects (Clock, Basketball, Co2 Car), and other open ended problem solving activities. These experiences will be hands-on projects incorporating The Engineering Design Process.

9 weeks Industrial Technology I / Industrial Technology II students will use:



ENRICHMENT COURSES

Enrichment courses are designed to enhance student knowledge in the areas of English, science, social studies, and reading. These courses contain materials, activities, and information that go beyond the normal scope of study for the CORE subjects. Various topics and activities will engage the student in a learning experience that will have a relationship to the CORE subjects (English, science, social studies, and reading.)

All students are required to take at least one Enrichment class.

Course Title:	Enrichment courses
Course Title/Number:	6870 Reading Enrichment
	6880 English Enrichment
	6881 Science Enrichment
	6882 History Enrichment
Duration:	Quarter

STUDENT AIDE

Any student who wishes to become a student aide must be willing to work with staff members, secretaries, counselors, and administrators to carry out designated responsibilities. The student must be reliable, responsible, and punctual. He/she must have good attendance at school, keep information confidential, and be willing to give up an elective course selection.

Course Title:	Student Aide
Course Title/Number:	6902 Student Aide (quarter)
Intended for:	All Students – <u>Teacher input required</u> - Must make application with the counselor to be considered as a student aide.

CO-TAUGHT CLASSES

At each grade level there are classes that are co-taught. Two teachers, a general education teacher and a special education teacher, share responsibilities for presenting information in co-taught classes. Some students are assigned to co-taught classes by a multi-disciplinary team. Some students are in co-taught classes by the random assignment of the computer program. Co-taught classes are the same as other classes in the department, except that they are taught by two teachers.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

La Vista Junior High is organized to provide on-site services to all students with disabilities. The delivery system is based on the development of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) that is written to meet the unique needs of each student with a disability. Support is provided in the least restrictive environment to allow individual students to make learning progress. Related services, such as transportation, adaptive physical education, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, hearing and vision consultation, and counseling are available when stated on the IEP.

Parents and special educators, based upon IEP goals and objectives, complete registration for classes for any student who qualifies for special education services.

CHILD FIND NOTICE

The Papillion-La Vista Public Schools have an ongoing goal of locating and identifying all children, from birth through age 21, who have special needs. The district will provide any child or youth who has a disability an appropriate public education at no cost to the parents of the child. Children or youth with disabilities are those who have hearing impairments, vision impairments, behavioral disorders, both deafness and blindness, health impairments, specific learning disabilities, mental disabilities, multiple disabilities, speech and language impairments, physical disabilities, autism or traumatic brain injuries. In addition, children and youth with any disability which substantially limits a major life activity may receive modifications to allow them access to an appropriate education (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended).

The Papillion-La Vista Public Schools request your help in locating children and youth with disabilities who are eligible to benefit from Special Education. If you know of a child or youth who is a resident of the district, who may have a disability and is not receiving needed services, please contact George E. Spilker, Director of Special Services, 420 South Washington St, Papillion, Ne. 68046. Mr. Spilker should also be contacted if you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is a prestigious listing of students who have excelled academically in their first and second semesters of schoolwork. Students who earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher and who earn no grade lower than a (3-) will qualify for the Honor Roll. There are no weighted grades at the junior high level.

GRADE SCALE

The grading scale at La Vista Junior High is as follows:

1	=	100-93
1-	=	90-92
2+	=	87-89
2	=	83-86
2-	=	80-82
3+	=	77-79
3	=	73-76
3-	=	70-72
4+	=	67-69
4	=	63-66
4-	=	60-62
5	=	below 60

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Papillion-La Vista Public Schools

Nondiscrimination Policies & Procedures

The Papillion-La Vista Public Schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, disability, or age in admission or access to, or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding complaints, grievance procedures or the application of these policies of nondiscrimination:

Employees: Renee Jacobson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
420 South Washington Street
Papillion, NE 68046.

Students: Dr. Brad Conner, Director of Student Services
420 South Washington Street
Papillion, NE 68046,
Phone: (402) 537-6218.

School Lunch Program Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal law and U. S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call 800-795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provided and employer.