

*Regional Safe School Program
Of Lake County*

Course Catalog

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RSSP Curriculum Introduction

The Regional Safe School Program curriculum is delivered via a two-pronged approach of teacher-assisted courses and an online learning curriculum. The main curricular device employed in both course formats is the online IVSA Curriculum (www.IVSAschool.org), which is a rigorous, standards-aligned, interactive education program.

The IVSA Curriculum provides courses that are designed to fit differing student needs and ability levels by allowing differentiation of instruction. To maintain up-to-date information and to continue to meet the changing needs of students, IVSA offers elective courses which allow students to fulfill most graduation requirements. Moreover, the material presented by IVSA is constantly updated, so students are receiving the most up-to-date and accurate information possible.

Due to the interactive nature of the IVSA courses and the diligence of the teaching staff, students enrolled in the RSSP are often able to finish credits in a shorter amount of time than in the traditional classroom. This assists students to recover credits and move ahead with their studies while enrolled in the program.

Table of Contents

Content	Page #
RSSP H. S. Course Catalog	1
High School Curriculum	2
English	2
Math	2
Science	2
Social Studies	3
Physical Education	3
Electives	3
RSSP M. S. Course Catalog	4
Middle School Curriculum	5
Language Arts	5
Math	5
Science	5
Social Studies	5
Physical Education	5
Electives	5

RSSP H. S. Course Catalog

Course Number	CORE COURSES	Credit
01001A000	ENGLISH 1	1.00
01002A000	ENGLISH 2	1.00
01003A000	ENGLISH 3	1.00
01004A000	ENGLISH 4	1.00
02051A000	PREALGEBRA	1.00
02052A000	ALGEBRA 1	1.00
02056A000	ALGEBRA 2	1.00
02072A000	GEOMETRY	1.00
02157A000	CONSUMER MATH	1.00
02110A000	PRECALCULUS	1.00
03001A000	EARTH SCIENCE	1.00
03051A000	BIOLOGY	1.00
03159A000	PHYSICAL SCIENCE	1.00
03151A000	PHYSICS	1.00
04001A000	WORLD GEOGRAPHY	1.00
04051A000	WORLD HISTORY	1.00
04101A000	US HISTORY	1.00
04151A000	GOVERNMENT	0.50
04161A000	CIVICS	0.50
04201A000	ECONOMICS	0.50
08001A000	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1.00
08016A000	LIFETIME FITNESS	1.00
08051A000	HEALTH	0.50

Course Number	ELECTIVE COURSES	Credit
01062A000	GOTHIC LITERATURE	0.50
01069A000	MYTHOLOGY & FOLKLORE	0.50
01104A000	CREATIVE WRITING	0.50
03004A000	ASTRONOMY	1.00
03053A000	ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY	1.00
04251A000	ANTHROPOLOGY	0.50
03053A000	ETHNIC STUDIES	1.00
04251A000	ANTHROPOLOGY	0.50
04254A000	PSYCHOLOGY	1.00
04258A000	SOCIOLOGY	0.50
55156A000	BASIC DRAWING	0.50
05151A000	ART APPRECIATION	0.50
05152A000	ART HISTORY	0.50
05152A000	ART IN WORLD CULTURES	0.50
10008A000	COMPUTER BASICS	0.50
12053A000	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	1.00
12104A000	ACCOUNTING	1.00
03214A000	FORENSIC SCIENCE	1.00
16054A001	CULINARY ARTS	1.00
16054A003	NUTRITION & WELLNESS	0.50
19262A000	PERSONAL FINANCE	0.50
22151A000	CAREER PLANNING	0.50
19257A000	LIFE SKILLS (Advisory)	1.00

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High School English

Our English curriculum is constructed to maximize student opportunities to develop, enhance, and demonstrate mastery of the necessary communication skills for academic success. Following the Illinois Common Core Standards, the English courses taught at the Regional Safe School Program require students to:

- demonstrate independence
- build strong content knowledge
- refine and share their knowledge through writing and speaking
- respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- comprehend as well as critique.
- value evidence.
- use technology and digital media strategically and capably.
- come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

Also, in accordance with the Common Core Standards, RSSP English courses seek to provide students with the skills necessary for college success by exposing them to literary classics and requiring critical thinking skills for in-class assignments.

High School Math

The mathematics curriculum is delivered through the computer-based education system called IVSA with direct teacher interaction and assistance. Due to the difficulty that many students have with math, our math courses are small in size so as to allow maximum one-on-one time for any student who needs assistance. The combined instructive nature of our math courses allows students to learn the material in the way that best suits them. If a student most effectively works independently, they are allowed to do so; if the student needs teacher guidance, they can get that as well. Moreover, since each student works at his/her own pace they are not encumbered by the needs of the other students in the class.

High School Science

The science curriculum of the Regional Safe School Program is heavily based on important overarching concepts in several areas. The science courses in the program are divided between Biology, Earth Science, and Physical Science, which cover a majority of the core science classes offered in the traditional high school curriculum. Additionally, students are allowed to apply their skills and learn material through virtual laboratory experiments and demonstrations. The laboratory aspect of the RSSP science classes enables students to connect scientific concepts to the broader world outside the classroom and apply the lessons learned in a practical way. These skills fall within the Common Core Standards, which form the basis of all courses within the Regional Safe School Program. These skills include, but are not limited to:

- Comparing and combining data from a single data presentation with data from a complex data presentation
- Analyzing given information when presented with new, simple information
- Predicting the results of an additional trial or measurement in an experiment
- Selecting a complex hypothesis, prediction, or conclusion that is supported by a data presentation or model
- Understanding precision and accuracy issues

- Determining whether given information supports or contradicts a complex hypothesis or conclusion and why
- Understanding the methods and tools used in a simple experiment

High School Social Studies

The curriculum for Social Studies at the Regional Safe School Program demands students exhibit the skills and strategies necessary for success across the curriculum. Social studies, by nature, allows for students to develop cross-curricular critical-thinking skills that will serve them well both in and outside of the classroom. Additionally, our social studies courses engage students in all academic inquiry and skill-building levels. These skills include but are not limited to, reading, writing, research, answer synthesis, and Socratic Dialogues. The RSSP social studies curriculum is directly tied to the Common Core Standards as students are required to demonstrate an understanding of:

- Text Types and Purposes
- Production and Distribution of Writing
- Research to Build and Present Knowledge
- Range of Writing

Through all of the course offerings within the discipline, the social studies program at the Regional Safe School Program seeks to teach students the importance of the historical past through the prism of the present day world. Making history and social studies applicable to today's students is one of the most important ideals of the social sciences and the overarching theme by which the social studies program at RSSP is designed.

High School Physical Education

Our physical education curriculum at the Regional Safe School Program is challenging to both students with high and low levels of physical fitness. By incorporating fitness related activities, team and individual sports, as well as strength building, the Regional Safe School Program PE curriculum effectively covers the major areas of fitness that our students need. The team-building nature of the sports played in PE classes has an impact well beyond just a classroom grade. Our students are taught to function together as a unit to achieve a concrete goal as well as learn the importance of sportsmanship and interpersonal/inter-team dynamics.

High School Electives

While enrolled in the Regional Safe School Program, students can earn credits that fulfill their graduation requirements, including elective coursework. Electives are offered to students via the computer-based IVSA Curriculum, a rigorous, standards-aligned interactive education program. IVSA encompasses a broad range of subjects that best match student interests and high school graduation requirements (for a complete list of courses, refer to the High School Course Catalog, page 1).

RSSP Middle School Course Catalog

Course Number	CORE COURSES
01034A000	Language Arts (grade 6)
01035A000	Language Arts (grade 7)
01036A000	Language Arts (grade 8)
01037A000	MS Language Arts
02036A000	Mathematics (grade 6)
02037A000	Mathematics (grade 7)
02038A000	Mathematics (grade 8)
02039A000	MS Mathematics
03236A000	Science (grade 6)
03237A000	Science (grade 7)
03238A000	Science (grade 8)
03239A000	MS Science
04436A000	Social Studies (grade 6)
04437A000	Social Studies (grade 7)
04438A000	Social Studies (grade 8)
04439A000	MS Social Studies
08016A000	MS Lifetime Fitness
08052A000	MS Health & Fitness
19257A000	MS LIFE SKILLS (Advisory)
22253A000	MS SOCIAL SKILLS (Advisory)

Course Number	ELECTIVE COURSES
05156A000	MS Basic Drawing
10008A000	MS Computer Basics
10205A000	MS Game Design
12005A000	MS Keyboarding
05155A000	MS 2D Studio Art
05118A000	MS Exploring Music
72002A000	State Test Preparation
72003A000	MS Study Skills

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Middle School Language Arts

The combined instructive nature of the language arts courses allows students to learn the material in an individualized way. Skills taught in our language arts courses include but are not limited to:

- Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Reading and interpretation of fiction and non-fiction stories, articles, novels and plays
- Writing and related writing projects.

Middle School Math

Due to the difficulty that many students have with math, our math courses are small in size so as to allow maximum one-on-one time for any student who needs assistance. Students engage in whole class instruction, in order to strengthen new learned skills. The combined instructive nature of our math courses allows students to learn the material in the way that best suits them. Skills taught in our math courses include, but are not limited to:

- Using mathematical operations involving fractions, decimals, and integers
- Reading tables and graphs
- Using ratios, rates, and unit rates
- Creating and using functions
- Solving algebraic equations for single and multiple variables
- Introduction and development of the use of the Coordinate Plane

Our mathematics curriculum is tailored to the needs of our students and is based primarily in pre-algebra and algebra concepts.

Middle School Science

The science curriculum contains materials and skills related to life, earth, and physical sciences.

Middle School Social Studies

The social studies curriculum focuses primarily on concepts in United States history, including the United States and Illinois Constitution Tests.

Middle School Physical Education

The PE curriculum is varied in terms of the activities offered each day, but focuses on individual and team athletic and fitness skills.

Middle School Electives

While enrolled in the Regional Safe School Program, all middle school students are required to take elective courses each quarter as they are factored into promotion to the next grade level. IVSA encompasses a broad range of content in order to encourage students to pursue interests and passions beyond the core curriculum. A complete list of available electives is listed on page 8, Middle School Course Catalog.