



2025-2026

Course Catalog:

Middle/High School

Any information marked “TBD” will be updated as soon as the information is available. Contact Matushka Carissa at carissaavant@gmail.com with any questions.

This catalog lists the books that parents must provide for the middle/high school level classes. Parents may purchase the books from any source, but hyperlinks are provided below so that parents may ensure they are purchasing the correct edition of the book. Parents are responsible for providing their student with a backpack, water bottle, lunchbox, and school uniform (see uniform policy). The Co-op uses registration fees to provide all basic school, art, and lab supplies, such as pencils, notebooks, folders, binders, paper, math tools, scissors, glue, crayons, colored pencils, etc. The Co-op does not provide calculators for middle/high school math classes.

Science Courses

High School Biology

TEACHER: Karen Turner – krhodesturner@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: This high school biology course will cover topics ranging from cell biology, characteristics of life, genetics, biotechnology, molecular biology, ecology, prokaryotes, protists, fungi, plants, animals, invertebrates and vertebrates, to human biology. We will build scientific inquiry skills and critical thinking as we examine these foundational biology topics through readings, coursework, discussion, and hands-on labs.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

Discovering Design with Biology Textbook

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Lab equipment and materials

Math Courses

Math – Dimensions 7/8

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: The program uses the Singapore math approach and emphasizes problem solving and empowers students to think mathematically, both inside and outside the classroom. Pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and some advanced math topics are included in this rigorous series. Dimensions Math 7 and 8 **together** cover Pre-algebra and Algebra 1 topics, with some geometry. This class is for students covering Dimensions 7 and 8 over a three-year period, rather than two years.

Note that the scheduled class time is longer than a typical Co-op class because it will include both time for instruction and time for students to work assigned problems with the teacher available for questions.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

[Dimensions Math Textbook 7A](#)

[Dimensions Math Textbook 7B](#)

A scientific calculator

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Math tools set (ruler, protractor, compass, etc)

Student workbook pages as needed

Math – Dimensions 8

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: The program uses the Singapore math approach and emphasizes problem solving and empowers students to think mathematically, both inside and outside the classroom. Pre-algebra, algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and some advanced math topics are included in this rigorous series. Dimensions Math 7 and 8 **together** cover Pre-algebra and Algebra 1 topics, with some geometry. After completing Dimensions 8, the student is ready for Geometry and Algebra 2.

Note that the scheduled class time is longer than a typical Co-op class because it will include both time for instruction and time for students to work assigned problems with the teacher available for questions.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

[Dimensions Math Textbook 8A](#)

Dimensions Math Textbook 8B

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Math tools set (ruler, protractor, compass, etc)
Student workbook pages as needed

Geometry

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: The textbook by Harold Jacobs is organized into 16 sections covering topics that include segments, angles, deductive reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, coordinate geometry, congruent and similar triangles, quadrilaterals, right triangle trigonometry, circles, and area and volume. Mathematical proofs are covered as well.

Note that the scheduled class time is longer than a typical Co-op class because it will include both time for instruction and time for students to work assigned problems with the teacher available for questions.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

[Geometry: Seeing, Doing, Understanding, 3rd Edition \(Harold Jacobs\)](#)

Math tools set (ruler, protractor, compass, etc)

Language Arts Courses

Middle School Grammar & Writing

TEACHER: Jenny Folsom – jennylfolsom@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: Middle School Language Arts will emphasize grammar and writing skills with additional practice in memorization. Grammar will consist of a 10-minute daily practice of capitalization, punctuation, sentence combinations, and other grammatical concepts. Writing instruction will continue the progymnasmata model that starts with well-known and excellent writing models to discuss, analyze, and introduce writing concepts. Students will learn to write persuasive essays and end the year with a guided research paper. We will also read and analyze a short novel to complement instruction.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

[Easy Grammar Ultimate Series Grade 8, Student Workbook](#)

[Writing & Rhetoric Book 6: Commonplace, Student Edition](#)

[Writing & Rhetoric Book 7: Encomium & Vituperation, Student Edition](#)

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

I, Juan de Pareja, by Elizabeth Borton de Treviño

High School Literature & Composition

TEACHER: Fr. Photius Avant – fatherphotius@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: Students will become familiar with literature from the Renaissance and Early Modern Periods. They will also write to reflect and to evaluate the themes and purposes of the literature.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

The Faerie Queene by Edmund Spenser

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe

The British Tradition II: Poetry and Prose from the Elizabethan to the Neoclassical Age (1485-1784 A.D.), Third Edition, published by Memoria Press

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

None

History Courses

Middle School: Renaissance and the Early Modern World

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: We will study world history during the Renaissance and early modern periods, including the Protestant Reformation, the Counter-Reformation, the Age of Exploration, early European colonialism, and the Scientific Revolution. Students will have assigned weekly readings from an age-appropriate history spine book. They will learn about significant people, places, and events as we move chronologically through these eras. Daily map work will familiarize the students with the geography of the periods. During class, additional media will be presented related to the weekly readings, such as artworks, photos of famous places, educational videos, and stories of famous people. In-class discussions and activities will reinforce the readings and deepen students' understanding of the major events and their impacts. Each week will include a lesson on either a development in art, literature, or science or a significant Orthodox saint during the era.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Renaissance and Reformation Times, by Dorothy Mills, Memoria Press edition

An Age of Science and Revolutions, 1600-1800, by Toby E. Huff

History map student pages

High School: Renaissance and the Early Modern World

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: High school history students will cover the same time periods in world history as the middle school students, but they will have a different history spine book and will regularly be asked to read and discuss primary source documents. They will participate in class discussions and activities with the middle school students, but once a week they will have a separate discussion on either a primary source document or an additional reading that provides deeper analysis of a historical era or event. They will be asked to reflect on the significant movements of the era, such as the rise of humanism, globalization, and wars of religion.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Western Civilization: A Concise History – Volume 2, by Dr. Christopher Brooks

The Kingfisher Illustrated History of the World

Getting the Reformation Wrong: Correcting Some Misunderstandings, by James R. Payton, Jr.

Various primary source documents

History map student pages

Elective Courses

Middle-High School Christian Instruction

TEACHER: Fr. Photius Avant – fatherphotius@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: Students will learn and be able to articulate the framework, dogmas, and doctrines of the Orthodox Christian Church. They will also learn how to read the Fathers of the Church in a manner that is both edifying and consistent with Church Tradition.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Fundamental Assumptions of the Christian Faith, by Mark A. Tarpley

Beginning to Read the Church Fathers, by Mark A. Tarpley

On the Incarnation, St. Athanasius (SVS Press Popular Patristics Series edition)

Middle-High School Music

TEACHER: Mat. Carissa Avant – carissaavant@gmail.com

DESCRIPTION: Students will continue learning solfege-based sight-singing methods, basic music theory, and the basics of Orthodox liturgical music. Students will memorize the eight obhikod stichera tones and will learn the musical components of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. They will prepare music for non-liturgical performances as well, such as for the parish Christmas recital and an end-of-year showcase.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

Sheet music and theory worksheets

Middle-High School Physical Education

TEACHER: Jeff Turner

DESCRIPTION: The PE class will meet once per week and will include a variety of activities, primarily team-based games that encourage cooperation and a positive competitive attitude.

PARENTS SHOULD PURCHASE:

None

CO-OP WILL PROVIDE:

PE equipment