



## Core Values

 Respect

 Responsibility

 Integrity

 Accountability

The Littleton Public Schools are committed to providing a challenging and comprehensive curriculum that meets the needs of all students and is consistent across grade levels. This guide provides an overview of the essential learning outcomes for a given subject area in a specific grade level and describes what students should know and be able to do. More detailed information is available at each school or Central Services.

### SHAKER LANE SCHOOL

Grades PreK - 2  
978-486-3959  
35 Shaker Lane  
Littleton, MA 01460

### RUSSELL STREET SCHOOL

Grades 3 - 5  
978-486-3134  
55 Russell Street  
Littleton, MA 01460

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6 - 8  
978-486-8938  
55 Russell Street  
Littleton, MA 01460

### HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9 - 12  
978-952-2555  
56 King Street  
Littleton, MA 01460

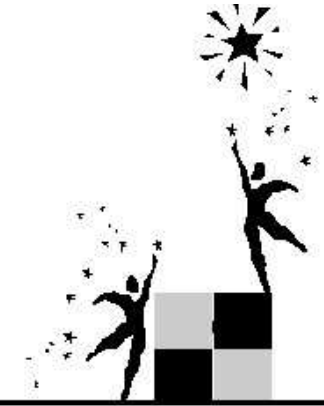
### CENTRAL SERVICES

Office of the Superintendent  
Office of the School Committee  
978-486-8951  
Town Office Building  
33 Shattuck Street  
Littleton, MA 01460

[www.littletonps.org](http://www.littletonps.org)

The Littleton Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or age.

# HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY/ SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES



*Our mission  
is to inspire and  
sustain learning  
and achievement,  
preparing each student  
for the challenges  
of life in  
the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

**LITTLETON  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
LITTLETON, MA



## INFORMATION

### Advanced Placement U.S. History:

The AP United States History course provides students with the breadth of knowledge and analytic skills to deal critically with the major concepts taught in U.S. History I and U.S. History II. Students who select this course prepare to take the AP exam in May through intensive reading and writing preparation. AP courses are college level and most colleges/universities accept them for credit if a passing score is achieved.

### Additional Social Studies Electives:

In addition to the electives described here, the Social Studies Department offers additional electives on a cyclical basis including; History and Film: When Soldiers Come Home, Russian History and European History. Students can also choose from various electives through the Virtual High School.

## LAW

### Students will:

- Explain the purpose of a legal system
- Understand fundamental aspects of our Constitution, particularly as they relate to rights of the individual and criminal procedure (Bill of Rights)
- Understand the structure, function, and interrelatedness of the branches of federal government
- Trace the passage of a law from development to legislative approval
- Defend their individual freedoms and explain the balance between rights and responsibilities
- Participate as an informed citizen in our representative democracy, including voting, citizen advocacy, and jury participation
- Discuss various methods of dispute resolution
- Explain the structure of the Federal and Massachusetts Court Systems
- Define various common crimes and apply this knowledge in the evaluation of activity for criminality
- Evaluate appropriateness of punishment meted out by our legal system
- Explain and apply rights of the accused
- Explain and apply possible defenses to accusations of criminal activity
- Evaluate the rights of citizens with respect to the fourth Amendment
- Describe the mechanics and purpose of a trial
- Explain the principles behind civil litigation
- Explain citizen rights and responsibilities as consumers

## PSYCHOLOGY

### Students will:

- Trace the development of psychology as a science and explain the creation of the different branches of psychology
- Evaluate the degree to which traits are caused by nature (genetics) or nurture (environment)
- Apply the principles of validity and reliability to various testing situations
- Explain fundamental concepts of scientific research in general, and of psychological research in particular
- Evaluate ethical considerations in conducting various kinds of psychological research
- Explain the basic structure of the human nervous system and endocrine system as related to psychology
- Differentiate between sensation and perception
- Evaluate several theories of human motivation and apply concepts to their lives
- Design, conduct, and evaluate a conditioning experiment to change some aspect of his/her life
- Explain the basic functions of memory and the mechanics of learning
- Discuss various psychological disorders, including causes, symptoms, and treatments
- Evaluate new information about psychology presented through media

## ECONOMICS

### Students will:

- Compare and contrast how the different economic systems determine what to produce, how to produce it, and for whom to produce it
- Define the concepts of supply and demand and draw graphs that represent their utility in identifying an equilibrium price
- Identify factors that cause changes in supply and demand
- Analyze ways that supply and demand influence personal finances
- Demonstrate that the different features of market economies are influenced by the roles played by businesses, consumers, labor unions, and non-profit organizations in market economies
- Identify flaws in a market economy and demonstrate the ways that government can provide possible solutions
- Define and explain fiscal and monetary policy
- Identify the means by which economic performance is measured, evaluate them, and propose other methods of measurement
- Explain the basic functions of money, banks, and other financial institutions
- Describe the organizations and functions of the Federal Reserve System
- Analyze the benefits and disadvantages of trade controls and barriers
- Identify and describe major international trade agreements and explain their impact on the economies of participating countries

