

**CURRICULUM GUIDE  
2019-2020**

**MOLALLA RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**WOLVERINES**

**CREATING EXCEPTIONAL READERS, OUTSTANDING WRITERS, AND INFLUENTIAL COMMUNICATORS**

**WE ARE UNSTOPPABLE!**

## THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

It is our mission to provide our students with a rich, academic experience that breathes new life into their education. Each class that we offer will directly support our goal of creating exceptional readers, outstanding writers, and influential communicators. New and existing courses will be designed to use relevant material and focus on purposeful reading, writing, and discussion.

Outlined below is the programming designed for the 6th grade year:

### **Sixth Grade**

Language Arts .....	Full Year
Social Studies.....	Full Year
Math.....	Full Year
Science.....	Full Year
Physical Education and Health.....	Full Year
Communications 1.....	1 Trimester
Type Like A Pro.....	1 Trimester
Exploratory "Compass".....	4 Trimesters
<b>OR</b>	
Band/Choir.....	Full Year
AND 1 'Compass' class	1 Trimester

### **Sixth Grade Sample Schedule**

Period	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
1	Language Arts		
2	Social Studies		
3	Math		
4	Homeroom		
5	Science		
6	PE/Health	PE/Health	PE/Health
7	Type Like a Pro	Communications 1	Compass
8	Band/Choir/ELD or 3 Compass Classes		

### **6th Grade Exploratory 'Compass' Options**

Students will choose one of the following options:  
 1 year long elective and one, one trimester long Compass class

**OR**

4, one trimester long Compass Class Options

### **Year Long Elective Class Options**

- Beginning Band
- Concert Band (teacher approval needed)
- Choir

**One Trimester Compass Class Options**

Ancient Civilizations and Innovations	Sign Language	Introduction to Graphic Design
Language Arts PLUS	Sign Language 2	Drawing 1
Introduction to Art	The Ultimate Math Warrior	Poetry Analysis and Book Creation
Ceramics 1	Introduction to Block Printing	The Game of Life
The End Of The World As We Knew It	Intermediate Ceramics	Painting 2
Painting 1	Photography 1	Drama
Study Like A Pro	Ceramics 2	

**\*Reading Labs are by Ms. Boyer referral only**

**Reading Lab\* (Social Justice)**

**Reading Lab\* (X-Files Edition)**

**Reading Lab\* (Historical Perspective)**

**Seventh and Eighth Grade**

Language Arts .....	Full Year
Social Studies.....	Full Year
Math.....	Full Year
Science.....	Full Year
Physical Education and Health.....	2 Trimesters
Communications 2 (7th grade).....	1 trimester
Communications 3 (8th grade).....	
Electives.....	6 Trimesters

**Seventh and Eighth Grade Sample Schedule**

Period	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
1	Language Arts		
2	Social Studies		
3	Math		
4	Homeroom		
5	Science		
6	PE/Health	PE/Health	Elective 1
7	Elective 2	Communications 2 or 3	Elective 3
8	Band/Choir/ELD or 3 Elective Classes		

**7th and 8th Grade Elective Options**

Students will choose six trimesters from the following elective options. Students are required to take Communication 2 their 7th grade year and Communications 3 their 8th grade year.

**Full Year Elective Options (3 trimesters)**

- Beginning Band
- Concert Band
- Choir
- Journalism/Yearbook (teacher approval/application required)
- Leadership

### **One Trimester Electives**

American Culture	The Ultimate Math Warrior	Recreational Sports
Business and Marketing	Sign Language 1	Sign Language 2
Creative Non-fiction/Memoirs	Cultures Around The World	Greek Mythology
Xtreme Literature	Intro to Block Printing	Photography 1
Language Arts PLUS	Sci-Fi/Fantasy Writing	Intro to Art
Drawing 1	Intro to Graphic Design	Automation and Robotics
Painting 1	3-D Design	Ceramics 1
Painting 2	The Game of Life	Ceramics 2
S.T.E.M. Machines	Lights! Camera! Action!	Drama
Leadership (must take at least 2 tris)	Study Like a Pro	Historical Studies
Using Technology to Influence Others	The End Of The World As We Knew It	

### **\*Reading Labs are by Mrs. Boyer referral only**

**Reading Lab\* (Social Justice)**

**Reading Lab\* (X-Files Edition)**

**Reading Lab\* (Historical Perspective)**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **ART**

#### **DRAWING 1**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

An introductory course exploring the basic elements and principles of observational drawing, using traditional and experimental media. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

#### **CERAMICS 1**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Fee- \$10**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

Survey of ceramic construction techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab. Use of surface decoration, glazes and ceramic kiln firing. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

#### **CERAMICS 2**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Fee- \$10**

**Prerequisite: Ceramics 1**

**Repeatable: No**

A continuation of ceramic construction techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab. Use of surface decoration, glazes and ceramic kiln firing. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

#### **INTRODUCTION TO ART**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

This is an Art survey course. Students learn the basics in a variety of media, ranging from drawing, painting, basic design, and sculpture. Students will learn Art vocabulary and must read three articles and write three response papers over the course of the trimester.

## **INTRODUCTION TO BLOCK PRINTING**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will explore block printing through history and cultures around the world. Prints will be designed from observation and from imagination to illustrate a theme and students will explore single and multi layered printing to create an aesthetically pleasing work of art. Prints will be made on paper as well as textiles. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

## **INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHIC DESIGN**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

This course is an introduction to the profession of graphic design. This includes the fundamentals of visual communication using symbology, typography, illustration, and photography. Lectures include an introduction to the history of graphic design and art movements that influenced the field. Students are made aware of and will acquire experience in the graphic design profession. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

## **3-D DESIGN**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Fee- \$10**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

This is an introduction to design elements and principles as they apply to three-dimensional space and form. Idea explorations in various media including wire, clay, plaster, paper, and found objects. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

## **PAINTING 1**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

This is an introduction to watercolor, tempera, and acrylic painting techniques. Students will explore observational painting as well as painting from reference material. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

## **PAINTING 2**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Painting 1**

**Repeatable: No**

Students take a deeper look into to watercolor, tempera, and acrylic painting techniques. Students will explore observational painting as well as painting from reference material. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY 1**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Intro to Art**

**Repeatable: No**

An introduction to the fundamental principles of digital photography as applied in fine art, documentary, photojournalism and commercial applications. Students will gain practical understanding of manipulating a digital single lens reflex 35mm camera (DSLR) and out putting images for the web and print through an introduction to hardware, software, internet technologies and computer file organization. Topics range from managing light by balancing meter reading by controlling the ISO, aperture, to shutter speed. Students will create an internet portfolio presented on a template website, live on the internet, as part of their final project. Students will participate in critique and write three critique response papers and three reflection papers over the course of the trimester.

# BUSINESS

## BUSINESS AND MARKETING

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will explore successful business practices and learn about the qualities of an entrepreneur. Many of the assignments in the class will be group projects and presentations. Students will be encouraged to be innovative as they come up with mock businesses and solve problems.

## THE GAME OF LIFE

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will learn the foundations personal finance through videos, reading, research, and discussion. Cash, credit, debit, debt, saving, investing, budgeting and decision making will be the key points covered in this course.

# LANGUAGE ARTS

## 6TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

6th grade students will be taught the literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, comprehending, and reflecting. Students gain practice in grammar, punctuation, and writing skills. Assignments include all writing modes identified by the State of Oregon: persuasive, narrative, expository, descriptive and imaginative. The writing process includes ideas and content, organization, sentence fluency and voice. In literature we read classic and contemporary literature, including short stories, dramas, and nonfiction. Personal connections, interpretations and responses to literature are made to show understanding of the text. Vocabulary instruction and growth is emphasized throughout the year.

## 7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

**Grade 7**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Seventh grade students will grow in areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussions, and reflection work. Fiction and nonfiction selections enhance student understanding of quality writing. Poetry, drama, short stories, and novels engage students to learn and become better writers, readers, and communicators. Accelerated Reader and IRLA programs embedded in the classroom encourage student growth. Students will focus on creating and revising short responses, paragraphs, essays, and speeches, using the Common Core as requirements.

## 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

**Grade 8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Eighth grade Language Arts will continue students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection and work to prepare the students for high school success. The study of literature explores all genres including short story, poetry, novels, nonfiction, and drama. The novels selected serve as a focus for discussion, writing assignments, reading strategies, critical thinking skills, and vocabulary building. The Accelerated Reader/IRLA program also assist in implementing reading instruction. The focus for writing instruction will be response to literature, narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on Common Core standards. The overall goal of the class is to increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

## **COMMUNICATIONS 1**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

The course is designed to prepare students for academic and social success by improving their comfort and public speaking, their ability to build and maintain healthy relationships, and their awareness of media and mass communication in their culture. The course is divided into three main categories:

1. Public Speaking- Researching, writing, notating, and delivering speeches in a variety of modes.
2. Media Literacy- Gaining awareness and understanding of the many media messages we all receive on a constant basis. Becoming an informed and discerning consumer of goods as well as Information. Identifying the purpose, source, and potential bias in media and commercial messages.
3. Non-Verbal Communication- Students will learn the basic principles of nonverbal communication and how understanding non-verbal interaction can help you improve relationships and impact your success in life.

## **COMMUNICATIONS 2**

**Grade 7**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

This class builds on the concepts of Communications I, but with advanced/extended subjects or ideas.

## **COMMUNICATIONS 3**

**Grade 8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will discuss, defend, argue and persuade in small and large groups to practice the art of communication. Topics of research and discussion will be oriented more toward current events and/or local topics important to the community or environment. Students will learn to brainstorm, discuss a problem, and seek solutions with a group. Students will then practice presenting the solutions to outside groups such as school staff, community, business, school board, or city council.

## **ELECTIVES**

### **AMERICAN CULTURE**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will explore American Culture through music, literature, film, art, language, religion and food. How did Rock and Roll begin, who created the Big Mac and who or what is responsible for creating movie theaters and video games? Explore these questions and more while learning about American Culture!

### **ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS AND INNOVATIONS**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will explore ancient civilizations and how their innovations changed the world. Explore and research ancient innovations and learn how society uses those inventions in current society. Learn to work with and replicate those inventions and innovations and apply your own personal twist!

### **CREATIVE NON-FICTION/MEMOIRS**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Explore the style of writing of other authors in this genre. Students will begin by mimicking published authors' manners when writing, eventually developing a style of their own. Students will then write their life stories and create their own book.

## **CULTURES AROUND THE WORLD**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will explore cultures around the world through art, literature, innovations, religion, music, film and food. The world is a diverse place full of interesting people, places and differences. Explore the world and all it contains with a focus on culture. Build cultural literacy through study and exploration.

## **GREEK MYTHOLOGY**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Come dive into the world of Medusa, Poseidon, Athena, and many more. Learn basic Greek mythology, how it relates to words and stories today, and then read The Lightning Thief, by Rick Riordan. Students will also cover basics of Roman Mythology.

## **HISTORICAL STUDIES**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Come dive into the world of history and time by reading novels and learning about human interaction and major historical events.

## **JOURNALISM/YEARBOOK**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students will be responsible for putting together the school newspaper and yearbook. Students will be taking on leadership roles in writing, editing, photographing, and marketing of both publications.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS PLUS**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

This class is intended to support students in their writing skills.

## **POETRY ANALYSIS AND BOOK CREATION**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Read, analyze, and write different types of poetry. Look at author's purpose and word choice. Find new meaning and create your own choice poetry.

## **READING LAB B**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

This class is for students with significant reading needs- specifically in basic decoding and sight word vocabulary. Focus is placed on helping students to recognize patterns in ½ syllable words, to increase the volume of reading practice, and to help students gain basic comprehension skills.

## **READING LAB R**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

This class is for students that are working on increasing decoding skills in reading to include multisyllabic words and to learn vocabulary in context. Focus is on the ability to break down unknown words by recognizing syllable chunks, prefixes, suffixes, and roots; to increase the volume of reading practice; and to increase skills in comprehension and writing in response to text.



### **READING LAB: SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

Readings will focus on current issues in our social culture: bullying, social media, cultural differences, and making appropriate life choices. This class is designed for those students needing extra support in improving academic vocabulary and writing structure in response to text. The focus is on the ability to respond to nonfiction and fiction texts with well-structured paragraphs that utilize multiple pieces of text evidence to support a claim.

### **READING LAB: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

Readings will focus on intriguing historical characters, significant historical events and inventions, and their impact on society. This class is designed for those students needing extra support in improving academic vocabulary and writing structure in response to text. The focus is on the ability to respond to nonfiction and fiction texts with well-structured paragraphs that utilize multiple pieces of text evidence to support a claim.

### **READING LAB: X-FILES EDITION**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

Readings will focus on the study of all things spooky, mysterious, and unexplained: mummies, zombies, UFO sightings, ghosts, unsolved mysteries, and a host of other interesting phenomenon. This class is designed for those students needing extra support in improving academic vocabulary and writing structure in response to text. The focus is on the ability to respond to nonfiction and fiction texts with well-structured paragraphs that utilize multiple pieces of text evidence to support a claim.

### **SCI-FI/FANTASY WRITING**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Want to publish all those ideas floating in your head? Want to battle an Orc? Create a fantasy world? We will be looking at classic examples of science fiction or fantasy stories, learning how they are designed, then creating our own short story and see what it takes to publish them into an actual anthology you will get at the end of the year.

### **THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT - DYSTOPIAN**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Wallow in the awfulness that might come. Hunger Games and Divergent, The Giver and Among the Hidden. What makes this future world so dangerous?

### **XTREME LITERATURE**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will dive into a theme, reading and writing and learning all they can about it. Topics could include: Life's Great Adventures, World Disasters, Real Life Heroes & Villains.

# MATHEMATICS

## 6TH GRADE ADVANCED MATH

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

The goal of this course will be to complete 6th grade math and begin the 7th grade math curriculum. In 6th grade math the focus will be on factors and multiples, ratios, rational numbers and equivalence, operations with fractions, computing with decimals and percents, two dimensional measurements, variables and patterns, and statistic and data analysis. The 7th grade focus will be operations with integers.

## 6TH GRADE MATH

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

The goal of the course is to cover factors and multiples, ratios, rational numbers and equivalence, operations with fractions, computing with decimals and percents, two dimensional measurements, variables and patterns, and statistic and data analysis.

## 7TH GRADE ADVANCED MATH

**Grade 7**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

The goal of this course is to prepare students for success in Algebra 1 in 8th grade, as well as future courses such as Geometry, Algebra II, and beyond. Topics covered will include rational numbers, proportional relationships, operations with integers (continued from 6th grade advanced math), writing expressions, writing and solving equations, 2 and 3 dimensional geometry, and more.

## 7TH GRADE MATH

**Grade 7**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Topics covered will include rational numbers, proportional relationships, operations with integers, writing expressions, writing and solving equations, 2 and 3 dimensional geometry, and if time allows, probability and statistics.

## ALGEBRA 1

**Grade 8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: No**

The primary goal in Algebra 1 is to help students transfer their concrete mathematical knowledge to more abstract algebraic generalizations. Topics include the Real Number System, Expressions, Equations and Inequalities, Exponential Functions, Quadratic Functions, etc. Successful completion of this course will result in the acquisition of High School credit for Algebra 1.

## 8TH GRADE MATH

**Grade 8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

The primary goal of this course is to help students prepare for success in Algebra 1, Geometry, and beyond by emphasizing topics critical to a strong foundation in mathematical thinking. Topics include the Pythagorean Theorem, Expressions and Equations, Slope, Functions, Exponent Operations, Function Relationships, Systems of Equations, and Lines and Angles.

## ELECTIVES

### The Ultimate MATH Warrior

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Instructor Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

This is a fall math elective designed for students that like a challenged coupled with competition. The course will include weekly math battles, math projects and problem solving that takes true grit. This class will also be used to sharpen our student's skills for the state math competition.

### MATH LAB

**Grade 6**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

The goal of this course is to help students begin to use logic and mathematical thinking to demystify math. While fluency with algorithms will be addressed, the primary focus is paid to problem solving and the application of the 8 Mathematical practices (make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reason abstractly, etc.) which proficient math students employ.

## PERFORMING ARTS

### ELECTIVES

#### BEGINNING BAND

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Beginning Band is the entry level class of the band program. Students are taught to have a fundamental knowledge of their instrument and to read music. Students will be performing on instruments alone and with others. Students will be exposed to music of various genres. Students will need to provide their own band instrument (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, baritone, trombone, bells) or rent one from the school district. This class has graded activities that take place during non-school hours.

#### CONCERT BAND

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Concert Band is the intermediate level class of the band program. It is appropriate for students that are in their 2nd and 3rd year of playing. Students are expected to have a fundamental knowledge of their instrument and be able to read music. Students will be performing on instruments, alone and with others. Students will be exposed to music of various genres and cultures. Students will need to provide their own band instrument or rent one from the school district. This class has graded activities that take place during non-school hours.

#### CHOIR

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Choir is a vocal course that explores various genres of choral music, as well as singing in languages such Latin, South African, and of course, English. Learning to read music is like learning any other foreign language, so included in the course are units on topics such as musical intervals, note and rest values, and the names of notes. Students will learn to sing accompanied music, as well as acapella forms of music, and they will put on **mandatory evening performances** during both the holiday season and the spring, which WILL require an outfit, which will be outlined in the class syllabus.

## **DRAMA**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Are you the next Johnny Depp? The next Shailene Woodley? Here's your chance to show off your acting skills! We will be working as a team on a production of a play or musical that will be performed for a live audience. There will also be opportunities for prop, costume, and set design. **Evening performance required.**

## **LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will learn to recognize and analyze persuasive techniques through writings and advertising- then apply that knowledge in a group project to design and produce a radio and/or television commercial for a favorite product utilizing Garageband and iMovie.

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

## **6TH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will complete 9 weeks of Physical Education and 3 weeks of Health per trimester. During PE students are required to dress down every day, participate in required activities, and complete a one mile run 3-4 times per trimester. During health class students are in the classroom learning about wellness/health promotion, social/emotional learning, safety/first aid, nutrition/physical activity, comprehensive sexual health, and substance use/abuse. These topics will be discussed over the course of 3 years (6th-8th grade).

## **7/8TH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

**Grade 7/8**

**Length- 2 trimesters, additional 1 trimester available for elective**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students will complete 9 weeks of Physical Education and 3 weeks of Health per trimester. During PE students are required to dress down every day, participate in required activities, and complete a one mile run 3-4 times per trimester. During health class students are in the classroom learning about wellness/health promotion, social/emotional learning, safety/first aid, nutrition/physical activity, comprehensive sexual health, and substance use/abuse. These topics will be discussed over the course of 3 years (6th-8th grade).

## **RECREATIONAL SPORTS**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: PE**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students will complete a full 12 weeks of Recreational Sports. During this class students are required to dress down every day and participate in required activities. Students will be involved in daily warm-ups, conditioning, and recreational sports games. The sports games will change throughout the trimester. There will be no mile or fitness center for this class.

# **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

## **6TH GRADE SCIENCE**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will use a digital curriculum to learn essential concepts about energy, engineering design, cells, body systems, adaptations, the five senses, weather, climate, and global climate change.

## **7TH GRADE SCIENCE**

**Grade 7**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will learn essential concepts about states of matter, chemical reactions, atomic models, photosynthesis, food webs, interactions between organisms, interactions of populations in ecosystems, rock cycle and plate tectonics.

## **8TH GRADE SCIENCE**

**Grade 8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will learn essential concepts about natural selection, DNA, mutations, embryo development, structural anatomy of modern versus fossilized organisms, fossil record, earth's geological history, human population affecting earth's systems, earth, sun, moon system, gravity, properties of planets, Newton's laws, potential and kinetic energy, electric and magnetic fields and waves.

## **ELECTIVES**

### **AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS (Project Lead The Way)**

**Grade 8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: S.T.E.M Machines**

**Repeatable: No**

Students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.

### **S.T.E.M. MACHINES**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes**

A teamwork focused class that includes all aspects of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Students will get a basic understanding of electric motors, batteries, and RC design to build DIY RC (remote control) cars as a group. The class will focus on design and implementation of available parts to make a small remote controlled vehicle that they will compete against other teams in the class on an obstacle course (also designed by the class).

### **TYPE LIKE A PRO**

**Grade 6**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will become proficient in typing using prominent word processing programs, learning how to navigate the system to produce formal writing ready for both the educational and business worlds.

### **USING TECHNOLOGY TO INFLUENCE OTHERS**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Students will become proficient in using Google Suite (Google Drive, Google Documents, Google Sheets, and Google Slides) as well as the presentation platform, prezi. Students will also learn how to successfully research a topic.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## 6TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

**Grade 6**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Social Studies provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of society and what is taking place in the world around them. 6th Grade Social Studies focuses on general geography skills, as well as looking at the history and cultures of the ancient world.

## 7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

**Grade 7**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Social Studies provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of society and what is taking place in the world around them. 7th Grade Social Studies focuses on economic topics, such as supply and demand, as well as a study of monotheistic religions. In addition to that, seventh graders will study the history and cultures of the people of Middle Ages Africa and Europe, as well as the pre-Columbian societies of the Americas, and Europe during the Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment.

## 8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

**Grade 8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Required Course**

**Repeatable: No**

Social Studies provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge and understanding of society, and what is taking place in the world around them. 8th Grade Social Studies focuses on the history and cultures that make up America. The historical focus is from early colonialism through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will also learn about the structure and function of the different parts of the U.S. government.

# WORLD LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

## ELECTIVES

### SIGN LANGUAGE 1

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Learn the second most common 'foreign' language in America and be able to communicate clear across the cafeteria! Try beginning sign language, basic interpersonal conversation and translation. Includes research of deaf issues in a wildly changing culture, as well as web sites to help you continue learning and practice.

### SIGN LANGUAGE 2

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: Sign Language**

**Repeatable: No**

A continuation of Sign Language 1 which includes a brief overview of words from the previous course and then increasing vocabulary in house, jobs, sports, hobbies and other experiences. Students will be responsible for teaching one set of signs to the class which requires research and meeting communication standards.

### SPANISH

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: No**

Get a taste of Spanish language and culture! Spanish is an asset in all career fields, and it's the official language of 21 countries in the world! Beginning Spanish will offer basic vocabulary and conversational skills.

## **BEGINNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Qualify for ELD Program**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students are placed after taking the Woodcock-Munoz Language Survey with a score of negligible (1), or the ELPA21 with a score of emerging (1). The focuses of English Language Development are Listening/Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Grammar. This course focuses more closely on letter and word recognition, phonics, and pronunciation. The class focuses on forming complete sentences in speaking and writing, as well as building the vocabulary to read, write, and speak.

## **INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Qualify for ELD Program**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students are placed after taking the Woodcock-Munoz Language Survey with a score of very limited (2), or the ELPA21 with a score of progressing (2). The focuses of English Language Development are Listening/Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Grammar. This course focuses more closely on students engaging in longer conversations and discussions, reading comprehension, and how to write a paragraph.

## **ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1-3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Qualify for ELD Program**

**Repeatable: Yes**

Students are placed after taking the Woodcock-Munoz Language Survey with a score of limited (3), or the ELPA21 with a score of progressing (2). The focuses of English Language Development are Listening/Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Grammar. This course focuses on developing more in-depth reading skills, such as story analysis and higher order reasoning skills. It also focuses on more complex writing, with varying sentence structures, and writing different types of short essays.

# **GENERAL ELECTIVES**

## **LEADERSHIP**

**Grade 7-8**

**Length- 3 trimesters**

**Prerequisite: Application Required**

**Repeatable: Yes**

The class will consist of planning for school and community events, group and individual goals/projects/activities, and practicing and learning skills/qualities to become a strong leader. **Students who hold an office are required to be in the class for the full year.**

## **STUDY LIKE A PRO**

**Grade 6-8**

**Length- 1 trimester**

**Prerequisite: None**

**Repeatable: Yes, however only one trimester per year**

This enrichment is meant for students who need extra time or support in completing their assignments, as well as learning valuable study skills. Maybe you are heavily booked with sports or after school activities the second trimester and need more time to complete your assignments, or perhaps you are needing some time to get organized and work on your study skills. Students will have the opportunity to get to work in a quiet, supportive setting. Students may only take this class one time per year (so please think about your extracurricular activities before choosing a trimester!).