



2025-2026

OLENTANGY MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE PLANNING GUIDE

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS

2025-2026

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE PLANNING GUIDE

Berkshire Middle School

2869 S. Three B's & K Road

Galena, OH 43021

T: 740-657-5200 F: 740-657-5299

Berlin Middle School

2500 Piatt Road

Delaware, OH 43015

T: 740-657-5850 F: 740-657-5899

Hyatts Middle School

6885 Sawmill Parkway

Powell, OH 43065

T: 740-657-5400 F: 740-657-5499

Liberty Middle School

7940 Liberty Road

Powell, OH 43065

T: 740-657-4400 F: 740-657-4499

Orange Middle School

2680 E. Orange Road

Lewis Center, OH 43035

T: 740-657-5300 F: 740-657-5399

Shanahan Middle School

814 Shanahan Road

Lewis Center, OH 43035

T: 740-657-4300 F: 740-657-4398

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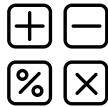
OLENTANGY COURSE OF STUDY FOR 6TH GRADE

CORE COURSES

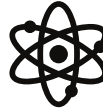
Year-long required courses



Integrated English



Mathematics



Science



Social Studies

UNIFIED ARTS COURSES

Six week courses



Physical Education



Physical Education
(repeat 2nd 6 weeks)



Health



Visual Art



Academic Lab



Technology

MUSIC COURSES

Optional: If selected, choose up to two.



Choir



Strings



Band

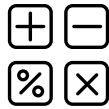
OLENTANGY COURSE OF STUDY FOR 7TH GRADE

CORE COURSES

Year-long required courses



Integrated English



Mathematics



Science



Social Studies

UNIFIED ARTS COURSES

Six week courses



Physical Education



Family and Consumer
Science



Technology



Exploring French



Exploring German



Exploring Spanish

ELECTIVES

Six week courses must total 36 weeks



Visual Art



Physical Education



Health

Year-long optional electives



Choir



Strings



Band

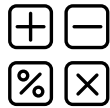
OLENTANGY COURSE OF STUDY FOR 8TH GRADE

CORE COURSES

Year-long required courses



Integrated English



Mathematics



Science



Social Studies

UNIFIED ARTS COURSES

Six week course electives must total 72 total weeks



Physical Education



Family and Consumer
Science



Technology



World Languages



Visual Art



Health

Year-long optional electives



Choir



Strings



Band

INTEGRATED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



The Integrated English curriculum, grades 6-8, is largely related to the Ohio Department of Education’s Learning Standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Taken together, the K-12 ELA learning standards describe the fundamental capacities of college and career-ready students in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Broadly speaking, students in grades 6-8 are becoming adept at the comprehension and critique of text, using technology and media in written communication, identifying and evaluating the quality of evidence, knowing and appreciating multiple perspectives on an issue or topic, and independently reading, writing, and comprehending a range of complex texts.


Integrated English 6

Description: This class emphasizes the skills of reading a range of texts (e.g., non-fiction, fiction, multi-media) and explores strategies to produce high-quality interpretations. Students strengthen skills of effective communication, such as, using a process approach to writing and employing effective oral communication skills.

 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)


Integrated English 7

Description: This class deepens the knowledge and skills of interpreting text, with an emphasis on author’s craft, language, point of views, and structure. Students learn the skills of effective communication, including the role of researching, using, and evaluating quality evidence to write non-fiction texts and to support claims on a topic or issue.

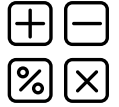
 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

Integrated English 8

Description: This class emphasizes the analysis of evidence in order to evaluate the quality and validity of a text. Students conduct research with multiple sources and deepen their skills of synthesis and writing for specific purposes. The skills of argument writing are explored and practiced.

 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

MATHEMATICS



The Mathematics curriculum, grades 6-8, is related to the Ohio Department of Education's Learning Standards for Mathematics. The K-12 Mathematics Learning Standards describe the fundamental capacities of college and career-ready students in mathematical understanding. Broadly speaking, students in grades 6-8 are becoming adept at the processes and proficiencies of mathematical learning, which include but are not limited to the skills of problem-solving, reasoning, and procedural fluency and the knowledge of mathematical concepts, operations, and relations. Students also gain ground in developing productive beliefs and dispositions about mathematics (e.g., mathematics as a useful tool and a belief in one's own efficacy).

Mathematics 6

Description: This class emphasizes the skills of solving equations and simplifying expressions. Students strengthen skills of and knowledge related to: data analysis, real world mathematical problems, ratios, and the relationship between operations, and geometric problem solving.

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Mathematics 7 OR 7/8

Math 7: This class deepens the knowledge and skills of solving equations and simplifying expressions, with an emphasis on the ways operations and relationships vary. Students learn the skills of data collection and analysis and explore data displays, representations, and predictive qualities.

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Math 7 and 8: This class is an accelerated class that includes both math 7 and math 8 content. Students take the Math 7 Ohio State Test. Each middle school building communicates the requirements for the accelerated class.

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Mathematics 8/Algebra I

Mathematics 8: This class explores: how functional relationships can be expressed in real contexts, graphs, algebraic equations, tables, and word,s. There's also a focus on different sets of data and multi-step equations.

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Algebra I: Topics such as functions and solving equations are prominent in Algebra I. This course generates high school credit. Please NOTE: Algebra I is a prerequisite to Geometry.

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OLETANGY SCHOOLS MATHEMATICS PATHWAYS

This flowchart provides sample pathways for students to progress in mathematics through their senior year. It is not comprehensive, and an individualized conversation with a counselor or math teacher is essential to determine the best course sequence for each student.

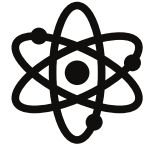
4	4th Grade Mathematics	4th Grade Mathematics	5th Grade Mathematics (Formal Acceleration in Grades 1-4*)
5	5th Grade Mathematics	5th Grade Mathematics	6th Grade Mathematics (Formal Acceleration*)
6	6th Grade Mathematics	6th Grade Mathematics	Mathematics 7/8
7	7th Grade Mathematics	Mathematics 7/8	Algebra 1
8	8th Grade Mathematics	Algebra 1	Geometry
9	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra II OR equivalent**
10	Geometry	Algebra II OR equivalent**	Pre-Calculus OR AP Pre-Calculus
11	Algebra II OR equivalent**	Pre-Calculus OR AP Pre-Calculus	Calculus OR AP Calculus AB
12	Pre-Calculus OR fourth math credit not previously taken***	Calculus OR AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC OR AP Statistics OR AP Computer Science

*Formal acceleration requires assessment, demonstrated above-grade-level aptitude, and approval by the school acceleration committee.

**Algebra II OR Mathematics Modeling and Reasoning OR Discrete Math OR Data Science Foundations

***Ohio requires students to earn four math credits, including Algebra II or its equivalent, to meet graduation requirements.

SCIENCE



The Science curriculum, grades 6-8, reflects the Ohio Department of Education's Learning Standards for Science. Taken together, the K-12 Science learning standards describe the fundamental capacities of college and career-ready students in scientific inquiry and scientific ways of knowing. Broadly speaking, students in grades 6-8 are becoming adept at asking questions as part of an inquiry process, collecting and analyzing data, and carrying out investigations, and composing scientific explanations. *The Olentangy MS Science Skill Framework* builds upon the state standards as students utilize science-specific communication, explore inquiry, work in collaboration with each other and the scientific community, strengthen skills in evidence gathering and data literacy, as well as equitable scientific practices.

Science 6

Description: This class emphasizes the skills of inquiry and the processes behind thinking like a scientist. Cell biology, matter and motion, and minerals, rocks, and soils are some topics of the course. communication skills.

 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

Science 7

Description: This class has a focus on energy in physical science and as it relates to and helps to define earth and space science. Some topics include: the hydrologic cycle, atmospheric conditions, global climate patterns, and the solar system.

 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

Science 8

Description: This class emphasizes earth science and the study of how the processes that shape earth today also shaped earth in the past. The class also prepares students in physical and life science concepts, such as genetics and forces. The inquiry process and thinking like a scientist are also emphasized.

 [Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)



SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies curriculum, grades 6-8, is related to the Ohio Department of Education's Learning Standards for Social Studies. The K-12 Social Studies learning standards describe the fundamental capacities of college and career-ready students in four, broad areas: economics, history, geography, and government. Broadly speaking, students in grades 6-8 are becoming adept at spatial, historical literacy, and civic participation skills, economic decision-making, and the knowledge of governments, rules, laws, and the transitions, migrations, and expansions that define historical knowledge. *The Olentangy MS Social Studies Skill Framework* builds upon the state standards as students explore opportunities for civic engagement, build cultural awareness, strengthen academic literacy, pursue inquiry, and develop geography and spatial reasoning skills.

Social Studies 6

Description: A major theme of this class is: Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere (Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe). The geographic focus includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products and ideas, and cultural diversity. Students develop their understanding of the role of consumers and the interaction of markets, resources and competition.

[!\[\]\(cbe2492b119e39e02a1dab2af4a4b296_img.jpg\) Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

Social Studies 7

Description: A major theme of this course is: World Studies from 750 B.C. to 1600 A.D.: Ancient Greece to the First Global Age. The class explores how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic and political factors. Students develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today.

[!\[\]\(5361750c22c4e047a52f4eac1ec2d4cc_img.jpg\) Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

American History 8

Description: A major theme of this course is: U.S. Studies from 1492 to 1877: Exploration through Reconstruction. The class explores the chronologic view of the development of the United States. Students examine how historic events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic and political factors.

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MUSIC



The middle school music program includes choice and overlap in experiencing and exploring different performing arts, including choir, band, and/or strings. The premise of the music program is to give students opportunities to explore an area or areas of the performing arts that may be of interest and to guide that exploration in deeper, focused ways than previous music experiences, fostering the capacity for continued success in the performing arts at the high school level. For detailed program information for each of the middle schools, please [click here](#).



Choir, 6-8

Description: Through the context of singing and voice, students express themselves through music, apply artistic and reasoning skills to refine choral works, work in groups to create and perform music, and evaluate and understand choral works of art.



Strings, 6-8

Description: Within the context of orchestral performance, students express themselves through music, apply artistic and reasoning skills to refine musical works, work in groups to create and perform music and evaluate and understand artworks.



Band, 6-8

Description: Through the context of playing in a band and learning to play an instrument, students express themselves through music, apply artistic and reasoning skills to refine musical works, work in groups to create and perform music and evaluate and understand artworks.

[Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

[Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

[Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

TECHNOLOGY



The middle school technology curriculum emphasizes project-based learning and offers a variety of courses designed to equip students with fundamental digital literacy and technology skills. These courses cover topics such as digital citizenship, research and information fluency, design thinking, problem-solving, programming, physical computing, and digital storytelling. The middle school technology pathway seamlessly aligns with the high school industrial technology courses by introducing core concepts that will be further developed in areas such as computer-aided design (CAD), engineering, prototyping, computer science, and digital arts.

6th Grade

Digital Exploration

This course empowers students to effectively and responsibly navigate the digital world while developing essential skills in digital citizenship, research, problem-solving, and communication.

7th Grade

Digital Creation

Students will explore the intersection of hardware and software by learning basic programming concepts and developing creative solutions to real-world problems through interactive prototypes.

8th Grade

Digital Innovation

Students engage in authentic design challenges to develop innovative solutions to real-world problems, incorporating measurement, scaling, technical sketching, and 3D modeling.

Digital Storytelling

Students explore the power of digital storytelling by creating various media forms, including, graphic design, podcasts, and infographics, while learning about design principles, ethical considerations, and copyright.

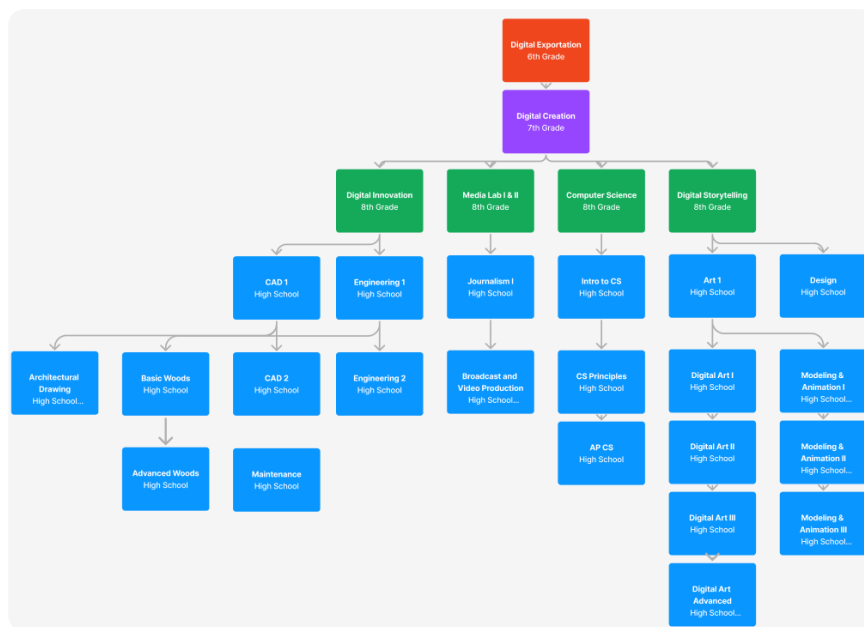
Computer Science

This course provides a foundation in Python programming, enabling students to develop computational thinking skills, problem-solving strategies, and coding design principles.

Media Lab I & II

Media Lab I & II equips students with digital media production skills. Students develop video production, audio editing, graphic design, and journalistic ethics while creating news, documentaries, podcasts, and multimedia stories.

**Media Lab I is a prerequisite for Media Lab II.*



This flowchart demonstrates how our middle school digital technology courses (grades 6-8) provide the foundation for more specialized high school courses in engineering, computer science, digital arts, and media production.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Physical education courses in grades 6-8 focus on fostering lifelong fitness, personal wellness, and effective collaboration. Students learn the value of teamwork in achieving common goals, the joy of physical activity for a healthy, fulfilling life, and explore certain sports and activities, encouraging fitness as a lifelong pursuit. They explore the lessons of competition, embracing failure as an opportunity for growth, and practice setting specific, measurable goals to track progress and achieve personal success.

[Link to the Physical Education Blueprint 6-8.](#)

Physical Education 6

Description: Individual fitness skill development and concepts of team sports are emphasized in the class. Enjoying physical activity as a means to wellness and a healthy life is a disposition that's encouraged.

Physical Education 7

Description: Sportsmanship in team sports is a focus of this class. In addition, skills of individual fitness and understanding team sports are explored and developed.

Physical Education 8

Description: This class builds on the exploration of the previous Physical Education curriculum, deepening the concepts and developing stronger skill sets in individual fitness and team sports. Tournament play is a new concept and skill that's emphasized.

HEALTH



Health classes in grades 6-8 equip students to make informed choices that promote long-term wellness for themselves, their families, and their communities. Students explore how practicing healthy behaviors and reducing risks positively impact physical, mental, and emotional health. They develop skills in assertive communication, evaluating health information, and accessing resources to enhance decision-making and quality of life. By recognizing risk factors and setting achievable goals, students learn to prevent health consequences and build a foundation for lifelong well-being.

[*🔗* Link to the Health Blueprint 6-8.](#)

Health 6

Description: This class explores a range of personal safety and wellness, including reducing health risks, mental and emotional healthy, communication skills, and decision-making skills.

NOTE: State-required topics now dictate some of the Health 6 curriculum.

Health 7

Description: This class explores a range of personal safety and wellness, including reducing health risks, mental and emotional healthy, communication skills, and decision-making skills.

NOTE: State-required topics now determine some of the Health 7 curriculum.

Health 8

Description: This class builds on the exploration of the 6th-grade curriculum, deepening the concepts and developing stronger skill sets in personal decision-making, evaluating health and safety risks, and the development of action plans to engage in healthy living.

NOTE: State-required topics now determine some of the Health 8 curriculum.

VISUAL ART



Visual art classes in grades 6-8 encourage students to explore techniques, skills, and technology to create authentic works of personal expression. Through the creative process, students develop decision-making and problem-solving abilities while reflecting on their identities and the world around them. They engage in art criticism to respond to, appreciate, and evaluate art, understanding its role as a reflection of society and a tool for communication and connection.

[!\[\]\(6605b201d6f14d9b3bcb8ab5f274d107_img.jpg\) Link to the Visual Art Blueprint 6-8.](#)

Visual Art 6

Description: Students will focus on the exploration of process, techniques and tools to create 2-D and 3-D works of art.

Visual Art 7 (options)

[7th grade 2D Art](#)

Students will have the opportunity to work with various artistic materials to develop two-dimensional skills.

[7th grade 3D Art](#)

Students will have the opportunity to work with various artistic materials to develop three-dimensional skills.

Visual Art 8 (Options)

[8th grade Drawing](#)

Students will demonstrate their understanding through a variety of 2D art techniques. Students will learn shading and drawing skills with various drawing materials.

[8th grade Ceramics](#)

Students will demonstrate their understanding of a variety of hand-building techniques.

[8th grade Sculpture](#)

Students will demonstrate their understanding of a variety of art techniques to manipulate 3-D materials.

[8th grade Painting](#)

Students will demonstrate their understanding of a variety of painting techniques.

WORLD LANGUAGE



The World Languages program is an introduction to the three languages taught at the district - Spanish, French, and German. In grade 7, students explore all three during a 6-week elective course for each language (18 weeks total); and, in grade 8, students choose one to study more deeply. The selection at grade 8 allows students to take a high school level 1 language class for high school credit.

World Language 7

Description: Language experiences in

- French (6 Weeks)
- Spanish (6 Weeks)
- German (6 Weeks)

The goal is to explore different languages before choosing one for more significant focus and study in grade 8 and beyond. Communication, culture, and connections are emphasized in the class.

World Language 8

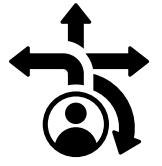
Description: An introductory course to either Spanish, French, or German. This is a high school level 1 language class that explores interpersonal language skills and the analysis of cultures. Vocabulary development is emphasized in the class.

Note: Successful completion earns 1 high school credit.

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[!\[\]\(4b7a79268f6ba26c1471d4232fffa85a_img.jpg\) Link to OLSD Blueprint](#)

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE



Family and Consumer Science classes in grades 6-8 empower students to build skills for personal wellness, effective decision-making, and resource management. Students explore career paths, develop self-awareness and self-regulation, and cultivate character through reflection and intentional action. They learn to manage finances, evaluate information for sound decision-making, and strengthen relationships. By applying critical thinking, students prepare for meaningful careers and adaptable life paths in an ever-changing global society.

[!\[\]\(0f848bbd71cef6b345273b16f905912a_img.jpg\) Link to the Family & Consumer Science Blueprint 6-8.](#)

Family Consumer Science 6 Academic Lab

Description: The 6th-grade Academic Lab course helps students develop essential academic skills and executive functioning strategies to support their learning. Through goal-setting, organization, time management, and study techniques, students build a strong foundation for academic success and personal growth.

Family and Consumer Science 7 Life Skills

Description: This class explores career exploration and employment, nutrition and wellness, consumer savviness and financial literacy.

Family and Consumer Science 8

Options include:

[!\[\]\(6a9b39b98eb945faa14c645ec99e4eaa_img.jpg\) Global Gourmet I](#)

[!\[\]\(9c2e8d1b5bd77cb5c9f83b7a9cff79fd_img.jpg\) Global Gourmet II](#)

[!\[\]\(e3275251d0893157c3584e20c81dc3ba_img.jpg\) Managing your Future](#)