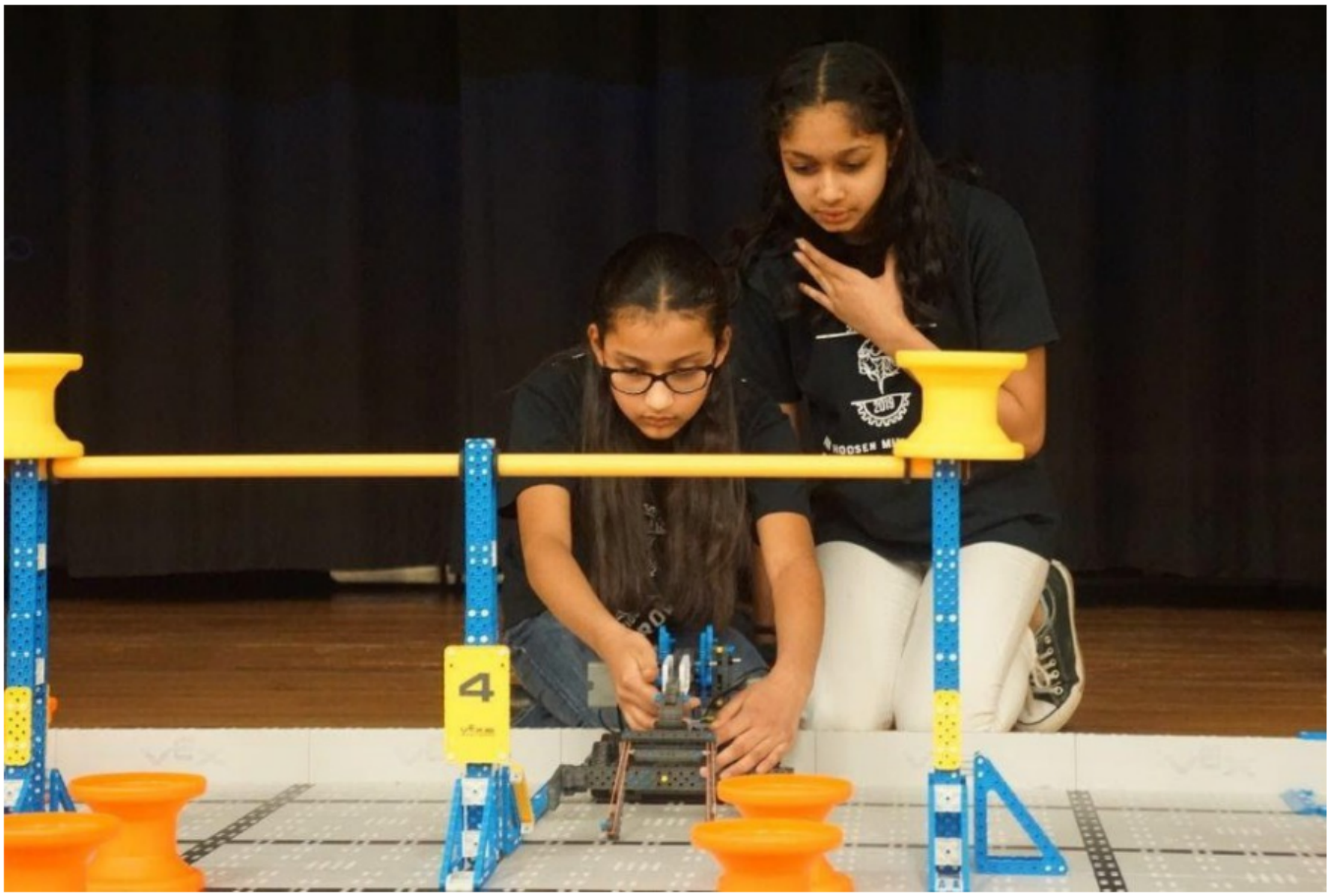
ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

6TH GRADE VIRTUAL CAMPUS COURSE CATALOG



2022-2023

OUR MISSION

To provide a quality education in a caring atmosphere for students to attain the necessary skills and knowledge to become lifelong learners and contribute to a diverse, interdependent and changing world.

The teaching and learning at Rochester Community Schools is designed to develop innovative, self-directed learners who think critically, communicate effectively and persevere to positively impact the world.

We challenge our learners through dynamic cultural experiences, to be empowered global stewards, and inspire them to take what they learn and have a positive impact on their community, country, and world.

All sixth grade students are scheduled to take the following classes:

- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Music and electives

English Language Arts

Language Arts 6 - #VC1006

Language Arts 6 is based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for sixth grade. This course integrates listening, speaking, writing and reading with an emphasis on literary analysis. Students read narrative and informational text and analyze their structure, elements, and style. Vocabulary strategies are taught and reinforced through a variety of literature. Using the writing process and the six traits of writing, students write narrative and expository pieces, such as a personal narrative and the argumentative essay. The mechanics of writing, including sentence structure, spelling and grammar, are taught and reinforced through student writing. Students develop speaking and listening skills by participating in group discussions and oral presentations.

Mathematics

Mathematics 6 - #VC4006

Mathematics 6 is based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for sixth grade mathematics. Students continue to develop algebraic reasoning, computer basic operations with integers, decimals, fractions and percent. Students expand on their understanding of ratios, statistics and probability. In their study of geometry, students create and interpret graphs and tables and find patterns in number sequences. Students find volume and surface area of shapes.

Accelerated Mathematics 6 - #VC4016

Students may be recommended for Accelerated Mathematics 6, based on mathematics scores, common assessment scores and a mathematics abilities test. From the sixth grade curriculum, students develop algebraic reasoning including equations and inequalities, compute basic operations with integers, decimals, fractions and percent and apply it to percent of increase and decrease. Students expand on their understanding of ratios, by exploring rates, similarity and proportions. In their study of geometry, students create and interpret graphs and tables and find patterns in number sequences and functions. Students identify patterns in geometry and identify congruence, transformations and symmetry. Students find perimeter, volume, area and surface area of shapes. Students collect and display data in a variety of ways.
(This class will be offered on an as-needed basis.)

Science

Science 6 - #VC6006

The RCS middle school science curriculum utilizes Mi-STAR and Modeling Instruction Pedagogy. This science curriculum is motivated by a vision for the future in which science is taught and learned as an integrated body of knowledge that can be applied to address societal issues. The dimensions of NGSS are sequenced across each year and between years to create a coherent progression that builds on students' prior knowledge and skills. Each bundle in the sequence is connected to a 21st-century theme that will serve as the basis for a Unit Challenge— a problem or issue that the students attempt to solve or address throughout the course of a unit. As students' progress through the curriculum, they repeatedly use the disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts of the middle school grade-band. The units build on one another in a coherent fashion, assuming prior knowledge from previous units. Units include solving problems pertaining to infectious disease, metabolizing energy from food, environmental conditions affecting plant growth/reproduction, and invasive species in our Michigan ecosystems.

Social Studies

World Studies 6 - #VC7006

The sixth grade social studies curriculum introduces students to various regions of the world outside of the United States. Using the five themes of geography, students explore cultural and natural features that characterize each region; trace the movement of people, ideas and products and how they interact. Differences in governments and economies are examined as well as the role each plays in a global society. Units of study will be guided by essential questions that will lead to a better understanding of today's world.

Required Elective Courses

Music

Students will choose one music class for the year, Band Orchestra, or Choir

Band - #VC5006

Length: Full year

Music is a connection between people, building bridges in diverse populations and is essential to the human experience. In 6th grade band, students will learn the proper assembly, care, and maintenance of their instruments while applying proper posture and embouchure in order to produce a quality sound. Critical thinking skills are engaged through the exploration of music theory concepts such as note reading and rhythm analysis and students participate in the creative process through the performance of concert band and popular music. Ensemble skills are explored and collaboration, a 21st century skill, is highly valued. Students display the high quality work they have created in performances that take place both in and out of the classroom.

Orchestra (String Instruments) - #VC5226

Length: Full year

Music is a connection between people, building bridges in diverse populations and is essential to the human experience. In 6th grade orchestra, students will learn the proper assembly, care, and maintenance of their string instrument while applying proper posture to produce a quality sound. Critical thinking skills are engaged through the exploration of music theory concepts such as note reading and rhythm analysis and students participate in the creative process through the performance of instrumental music. Ensemble skills are explored and collaboration, a 21st century skill, is highly valued. Students display the high quality work they have created in performances that take place both in and out of the classroom.

Choir - #VC5106

Length: Full Year Music challenges students to cultivate self-expression and grow in intelligence. Sixth Grade Vocal Music provides a dynamic learning environment where students engage in various experiences that develop 21st Century Skills. Group and individual activities foster creativity through problem solving and critical thinking. Students will learn appropriate vocal techniques (voice placement, vocal register, body-alignment, tone, pitch, and projection) and strategies to maintain appropriate vocal health. Students collaborate to explore many styles of music through performance, creating, listening, describing and reading music while learning to recognize the value of music and its relationship to other fields of study.

Elective Courses

Physical Education - #VC3006

Length: Semester

In Physical Education 6, students participate in a variety of activities to meet Michigan's Content Expectations for Sixth Grade Physical Education. Students learn motor skills and movement patterns used in such sports as basketball, soccer and rugby. Students learn the rules and scoring for team and individual sports, such as tennis and volleyball. Students analyze their own fitness levels to determine fitness goals. To better understand sportsmanship, students explore personal and social behaviors that enhance participating in a sport.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) - #VC8306

Length: Semester

In this course, students will be challenged to design and create innovative solutions to solve contemporary problems by developing their creativity and critical thinking skills. Students explore and collaborate through highly interactive projects incorporating concepts of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Projects produced using engaging activities like robotics, coding, and building structures will be presented to an authentic audience throughout the course. Through these activities, students grow in confidence and curiosity while gaining the necessary skills for Twenty-first Century Careers.

Art - #VC5506

Length: Semester

Through the introduction of the design process, students will conceive or fashion in their mind a concept, leading to the construction of a tangible, portfolio-ready product. Students will be introduced to basic art foundations through experimentation in drawing, design, painting, and sculpture. Along with this introduction, students begin to recognize the value of seeing the connection of art to designing, crafting, engineering, etc. With this exposure to the design process, students will learn to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on their lives and the lives of others.

Multimedia - #08808

Length: Semester

Students will identify various media formats and the importance of targeting an audience and delivering an intended message. Proper rules of online etiquette, ethics, and copyright law will be embedded into the curriculum. Students will utilize applications such as Google Apps for Education and the Microsoft Office Suite to work collaboratively to design and create a variety of multimedia presentations based on research topics of choice. Students will broaden their research strategies and skills while acquiring video, audio and photography editing skills to enhance presentations. Students will be exposed to current presentation formats as they become available. Presentation formats may include slides, video, websites, 8th Grade Course Catalog 6 podcasts or blogs with the option to utilize technology resources such as stop motion animation, interactive video and audio, and green screen technology in addition to the creation of printed materials