

Grade 6 Middle School Course Offerings

2024-2025 Middle School Course Offerings

Grade 6

1. English 6
2. Math 6
3. Earth Science
4. Minnesota Studies
5. Physical Education (A/B)
6. *Music Elective (A/B)
7. Visual Art 6 (.5 year)
8. Computer Literacy (A/B)
9. *New Skills for Success (A/B)
10. *New Exploratory (.5 year)

*Music Elective

Grade 6

Beginning Band
Beginning Choir
Beginning Orchestra

Skills for Success:

- Designed to set all students up for success in middle school by learning study skills, literacy skills, exploring careers and personal interests, etc. This will be on an A/B rotation with Computer Literacy.

*New Exploratory (Choose 1)

Exploring Robotics and Coding 6

- Entry level course in Computer Science

Exploring Outdoor Education 6

- Taught outdoors and will cover many seasonal activities that will inspire students to get outdoors!

Media Arts 6

- Explore animation and cartooning through a variety of Media Arts techniques.

Course Descriptions - Grade 6

Required 6

Course Name	Term Length	Course Description
M042100 English 6	Year long	<p>This course will provide opportunities for all students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategies for comprehension and analysis of literary and informational texts • Improve reading fluency • Use the writing process to develop writing that uses evidence to support ideas • Access, analyze, evaluate, and create media • Present information • Improve language skills including vocabulary, spelling, and conventions
M071000 Math 6	Year long	<p>Students will solve real-world and mathematical problems by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the concept of ratio and its relationship to fractions and whole number multiplication and division • Understanding and performing calculations with positive rational numbers • Representing relationships between varying quantities with tables, graphs, and rules and translating between them • Using properties of arithmetic to generate equivalent numerical expressions and evaluating expressions involving positive rational numbers • Using equations and inequalities to represent problems involving positive rational numbers • Calculating measurements (perimeter, area, surface area and volume) of two and three-dimensional shapes
M104000 Earth Science Grade 6	Year long	<p>In this Earth Science course, also known as Geology, science and engineering practices are used to explore the world and our solar system's structures and processes through a variety of hands-on investigations. The course will examine the core ideas in Geology, Meteorology (weather and climate), Solar System Astronomy, movement of Earth's crust, human involvement in the environment, cycling patterns of water, energy and minerals, and the contribution to the world by Minnesota American Indian Tribes and other cultures relating these core ideas to student life of today. Students will be asked to complete a series of units that focus on the unit's core ideas, practices that engineers and scientists do, and cross cutting concepts that drive higher level thinking. The course will examine natural processes through the use of student built models, student driven experimentation, and student led discussions that focus on natural events impacting our lives. The course is fully aligned to the 2019 Minnesota State Science Standards.</p>
M111000 Minnesota Studies Grade 6	Year long	<p>Students will apply and evaluate concepts of Minnesota government, economy, geography, and history. An integrated approach to Minnesota will provide students with an understanding of the Minnesota Constitution, elected offices, and laws as well as state and personal economics. Students will also gain an understanding of the influence of Minnesota's geography on the population and cultures of the state. Study of Minnesota history will allow students to investigate the history of the state from before European contact to the present as well as the geography, culture, economy, and history of Duluth.</p>
M091000	A/B rotation all	This course fulfills the MN 6th grade state requirement for Physical Education.

Physical Education Grade 6	year with music (one semester equivalent)	It is meant to introduce aspects of MN state standards. The curriculum addresses these standards through aquatics, physical fitness and individual/team indoor and outdoor activities. An emphasis is placed on positive social behaviors within class settings.
M250000 Skills for Success	A/B rotation all year with Computer Literacy (one semester equivalent)	This course sets students up for future success by learning study skills, literacy skills, personal interests, and career exploration.
M011000 Visual Arts 6	One semester	Students will build skills in Visual Arts 6 through the exploration of a variety of materials and techniques, such as drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic arts, fibers, and ceramics. Visual Arts 6 builds visual literacy by engaging students in the meaning and use of art images across cultures and times. Students have the opportunity to analyze why and how people make art and its connections to other areas of learning and human experiences.
M021000 Computer Literacy	A/B rotation all year with Skills for Success (one semester equivalent)	This course provides an in-depth and dynamic program that develops broad-based internet and computing skills. The purpose of the course is to provide students with the educational foundation to succeed in their middle and high school courses requiring the use of technology. This course will introduce students to computational thinking and problem solving, digital citizenship, coding, AI, animations, web design, and data analytics.

Required Music 6 (Select One)

Course Name	Term Length	Course Description
M081000 Beginning Band	A/B rotation all year with Phy Ed (One Semester Equivalent)	This course is open to all interested 6th-grade students. Students will study performance skills on an assigned instrument and learn how to work effectively in a group. Basic music theory will be studied which includes the knowledge of music fundamentals, scales, and rhythms. A prescribed amount of daily practice is recommended outside of school. Weekly group lessons are provided. Concert participation is expected.
M083000 Beginning Orchestra	A/B rotation all year with Phy Ed (One Semester Equivalent)	This course is open to all interested 6 th grade students. Students will study technical playing skills on a given instrument and learn how to work effectively in a group. Basic music theory will be studied which includes the knowledge of music fundamentals, scales, and rhythms. A prescribed amount of daily practice is recommended outside of school. Weekly group lessons are provided. Concert participation is expected.
M082000 Beginning Choir	A/B rotation all year with Phy Ed (One Semester Equivalent)	This course is open to all interested students in Grade 6. Students will study performance skills related to their voice and learn how to work effectively in a group. Basic music theory will be studied which includes treble note recognition, simple rhythms, and basic music terminology. One and two-part music reading, choral rehearsal techniques, and sight-singing skills will be studied and assessed. Individual practice is recommended and concert participation is expected.

Exploratory Courses 6

(Choose one - Every attempt will be made to schedule your first choice.)

Course Name	Term Length	Course Description
M011500 Media Arts 6	One semester	Students will explore the worlds of animation, cartooning, and stop-motion animation using drawing, sculpture, object manipulation, and photography. Character development and storyline will pair with background and sound as students explore visual culture through a variety of Media Arts techniques.
M021500 Exploring Robotics and Coding 6	One semester	This course provides an opportunity for students to explore Lego robotics, coding, and other engineering activities.
M106000 Exploring Outdoor Education 6	One semester	We live in a city that provides a wide variety of outdoor activities. This class will not only teach the basic skills but will also inspire you to get out and enjoy the fun, exciting and healthy activities our city and state have to offer. Students will have the opportunity to participate in several outdoor activities. This course is designed for any student wanting to learn skills or better their skills needed to enjoy these activities. Outdoor education will also make you contemplate the balance of human interaction and the environment. A lot of this class is taught outdoors so you will need to be prepared to enjoy the outdoors and dress appropriately.