A ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2024-25 ENROLLMENT GUIDE





Middle School Course Offerings - Sixth Grade

Homebase (Year Long)

The HomeBASE class is designed to orient students to a blended and online learning format, guide students through self-advocacy strategies and skills, and foster positive attitudes, behaviors and values while improving the relationship between families, students and teachers. The year-long course will introduce and equip students with grade level appropriate life skills in the areas of Academics, Personal/Social, and Career Development. A single teacher will serve as a contact point for students and parents as they navigate diverse blended learning expectations throughout their middle school years.

Language Arts 6 (Year Long)

In this virtual-blended course, students will read and analyze a variety of literature, including short stories, poetry, and novels. Students will learn to write in various styles including, but not limited to, descriptive, compare/contrast, and narrative. In addition, students will gain a better understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and note taking skills. The STAR formative reading assessment will be given three times throughout the school year to monitor growth in reading fluency and comprehension.

Math 6 (Year Long)

This course will provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge of number manipulation by applying them to real world scenarios. Student objectives include working with decimals, integers, fractions, ratios, and percents. Students will also work with variables, expressions, equations, and inequalities, as well as geometry and measurement.

Science 6 (Year Long)

This course provides an introduction to science skills including calculating in the metric system. Students will focus on Life Science topics including plants, body systems, ecology, and environmental issues.

Social Studies 6 (Year Long)

From ancient Mesopotamia to China and its ancient dynasties, different civilizations left their mark on history. They also left their mark on how we live today. In this course, students will take a deeper look into ancient world civilizations and have an opportunity to use 21st century skills to teach their own lessons.

Middle School Course Offerings - Seventh Grade

Homebase (Year Long)

The HomeBASE class is designed to orient students to a blended and online learning format, guide students through self-advocacy strategies and skills, and foster positive attitudes, behaviors and values while improving the relationship between families, students and teachers. The year-long course will introduce and equip students with grade level appropriate life skills in the areas of Academics, Personal/Social, and Career Development. A single teacher will serve as a contact point for students and parents as they navigate diverse blended learning expectations throughout their middle school years.

Language Arts 7 (Year Long)

In this virtual-blended course, students will read and analyze a variety of literature, including short stories, poetry, and novels. Students will learn to write in various styles including, but not limited to, descriptive, comparison/contrast, and narrative. In addition, students will gain a better understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and note-taking skills. The STAR formative reading assessment will be given three times throughout the school year to monitor growth in reading fluency and comprehension.

Math 7 (Year Long)

This course gives students opportunities to create, investigate, and demonstrate knowledge of math. Students will become proficient in operations with integers, decimals, fractions, ratios and percents. Math 7 delves deep into equations, inequalities, and graphing on the coordinate plane. Students will also work with geometry, probability and data analysis.

Science 7 (Year Long)

This course provides an introduction to science skills including calculating in the metric system. Students will focus on Physical Science topics including chemistry, forces, energy, sound, and light.

Social Studies 7 (Year Long)

First semester students will study the history and geography of Kansas in a 9-week research and project-based curriculum. The second part of the semester, students will study the cultural and natural landscapes of different regions around the world. Second semester students will continue their study of different regions around the world, ending with a project-based activity where they create their own country using a multicultural understanding of the world's diverse people and places.

Middle School Course Offerings - Eighth Grade

Homebase (Year Long)

The HomeBASE class is designed to orient students to a blended and online learning format, guide students through self-advocacy strategies and skills, and foster positive attitudes, behaviors and values while improving the relationship between families, students and teachers. The year-long course will introduce and equip students with grade level appropriate life skills in the areas of Academics, Personal/Social, and Career Development. A single teacher will serve as a contact point for students and parents as they navigate diverse blended learning expectations throughout their middle school years.

English 8 (Year Long)

In this virtual-blended course, students will read and analyze a variety of literature, including short stories, poetry, and novels. Students will learn to write in various styles including, but not limited to, expository, persuasive, and research. In addition, students will gain a better understanding of grammar, vocabulary, and note-taking skills. The STAR formative reading assessment will be given three times throughout the school year to monitor growth in reading fluency and comprehension.

Math 8 (Year Long)

This course provides students with a firm foundation to enter Algebra 1 in high school. Students spend the first semester perfecting skills with rational numbers, equations, inequalities, functions, and systems of linear equations. The second semester focuses on data analysis, geometry, and measurement.

Algebra I (Year Long)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation. This course contains the basic knowledge students need for all high school math courses. Students will understand the practical use of algebra with multiple real-world examples.

Science 8 (Year Long)

This course provides an introduction to science skills including calculating in the metric system. Students will focus on Earth Science topics including the solar system, earth's structure, earth's surface, water, and weather.

Social Studies 8 (Year Long)

In this course, students will discover that history is full of adventure, colorful characters, and complex plots. Each complex plot will be different, and will highlight an important story from our nation's past. First semester, students will have the opportunity to create their own government for the United States as a blossoming nation. Students will analyze different aspects of the government and how the people can interact within it. Second semester students will use their 21st century skills to create a website detailing the events leading up to the Civil War.

Middle School Course Offerings - Electives

Adventures in Computers

Grades: 6-8

Fall or Spring Semester

Adventures in computers is an introductory course on computers and how they are integrated in the world. The course will allow students to investigate topics such as: graphic design, web design, coding, windows basics, robotics, crowd sourcing/funding, Google applications, and web tools for education. Students will also investigate and discuss current computer issues such as cyber- bullying, social media etiquette, internet safety and responsibility as well as digital and cyber careers.

Web and Graphic Design

Grades 6-8

Spring Semester Only

Students will learn to plan and design effective web pages, multimedia presentations and documents. Students will develop an understanding of the elements and principles of design, as well as the design process from idea development through the execution of a final product.

Computer Basics/Keyboarding

Grade 6

Fall or Spring Semester

Students will use Google applications to learn good computer file organization, basic documents, spreadsheets and presentation software as well as creating and submitting files for assignments. Students will also practice good keyboarding skills using an online keyboarding app.

Medical Detectives

Grade 8

Spring Only

In this course students will play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene". They will solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

Intro to 2-D Art

Grades 6-8

Fall Only

Students will experience the creative processes used by all artists. They will learn how to analyze, interpret and evaluate art. At the end of this course, they will have a portfolio of work that demonstrates their own skill and creativity as an artist.

Introduction to Photography

Grades 6-8

Fall Semester Only

Welcome to Photography! Photographic opportunities are all around us. In this course, you will learn the basics of using a camera, lighting, and choosing a great subject. We will take a look at how photography can tell a story and you will get to create a portfolio to showcase your skills. For this course you will need some type of digital camera. This could include any digital photo-taking device (Camera or phone).

Art Exploration

Grades 6-8

Spring Semester Only

Students will explore various three-dimensional media with some two-dimensional media by creating artworks to express personal experiences and observations of the world. Students will have the opportunity to investigate sculpture, ceramics, fiber arts and printmaking to construct and form functional and decorative artworks. The study of art history, diverse cultures, journaling and vocabulary will help students gain an understanding of the artistic process.

Cover to Cover

Grades 6-8

Fall Semester Only

Love to read? Wish you could have more choice in the books you read for school? This class is your chance to explore a wide variety of genres. You will be required to read three books over the course of the semester. While reading these you will complete projects based on areas that interest you and ideas you would like to explore in more detail. Don't worry, you will not be completing standard book reports for this class. This is a class for those who love to read and interact with the text.

Introduction to Foreign Language

Grades 6-8

Spring Semester Only

This course is geared toward students who are interested in taking a foreign language course, but are not sure in which language they would like to begin their studies. This course provides an introduction to German, Spanish, and French languages, allowing students to explore the culture and other important dynamics associated with each language. Students learn the basic vocabulary and structures of the languages in ways that are fun and educational.

Middle School Spanish 1

7th and 8th Grade Only

Fall or Spring Semester

Students will be introduced to basic Spanish phrases, vocabulary and grammar through interactive lessons that will include images, recordings and videos. In this course students are introduced to Spanish speaking countries, their cultures and traditions. Students will learn how to greet people, introduce themselves, speak about their family, home, food, sports, etc. Students will participate in interactive activities, reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises.

Middle School Spanish 2

Fall or Spring Semester

Prerequisite: Middle School Spanish 1

In this course, students will journey with our student traveler, Cristina, to Spain, Puerto Rico, Columbia, and Argentina. Cristina will share her experiences as students learn how to speak Spanish in many useful situations. New words and phrases will be introduced with pictures, audio clips, and videos. Students will expand their knowledge of how to greet people, describe themselves, their family, home, food, sports, etc., through interactive activities, reading, writing, listening, and speaking exercises. This course is a great introductory course to High School Spanish.

Current Events

Grades 6-8

Fall or Spring Semester

Using all up to date events, this class will focus on issues that affect students' lives. This course will use newspapers, online media, and newscasts in different formats to explore media bias, demographics, conflict and the real world issues that occur on a daily basis. Students can expect to keep up to date with major events happening nationally and worldwide, and will work with primary sources and opinion pieces to evaluate the world around us.

Intro to Cooking

Grades 6-8

Spring Semester Only

Students will be introduced to basic cooking skills. Students will need to have access to a kitchen and ingredients. With support from the learning coach, students will create and document part of a meal each week of the course.

Intro to Sports Medicine

Grades 6-8

Spring Semester Only

What do you think of when you hear the phrase "sports medicine professional"? Believe it or not, the term encompasses a much larger range of career options than jobs typically associated with this field. Explore some of the most popular career pathways, day to day responsibilities, emergency care for athletes, and legal obligations. Discover what nutrition, healthy lifestyle and fitness truly mean, and dive into anatomy, human biomechanics, and exercise modalities. Learn how to get started in this exciting field.

Middle School Study Skills

Grades 6-8

Fall or Spring Semester

Students will be provided extra support to succeed with the virtual learning environment by attending a required weekly virtual meeting with their teacher to set goals and recap on the previous week. Students will be required to keep a log of their activity to see how new study skills impact the overall performance of a student. By the end of the course, students should have the skills to continue setting a schedule, setting goals, and achieving success in the virtual environment.

Middle School Course Enrollment

Grade 6

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
| English 6 | English 6 |
| Math-Teacher Recommendation | Math-Teacher Recommendation |
| Science 6 | Science 6 |
| Social Studies 6 | Social Studies 6 |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |

Grade 7

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| English 7 | English 7 |
| Math-Teacher Recommendation | Math-Teacher Recommendation |
| Science 7 | Science 7 |
| Social Studies 7 | Social Studies 7 |
| Elective: | Elective: |
| Elective: | Elective: |

Grade 8

| Semester 1 | Semester 2 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| English 8 | English 8 |
| Math-Teacher Recommendation | Math-Teacher Recommendation |
| Science 8 | Science 8 |
| Social Studies 8 | Social Studies 8 |
| Health | Health |
| Elective: | Elective: |