East Avenue Middle School
6th GRADE COURSES

COURSE	DESCRIPTION
English - Required	The sixth grade core students remain with the same teacher for three periods for English, Reading, and Social Studies. All of these subjects are integrated which allows flexibility to cover all of the required standards in each subject area. English includes spelling, writing techniques, styles of writing, mechanics, grammar, listening and speaking skills.
Social Science - Required	This course is aligned with the California Common Core Standards for sixth grade social science. The course covers history and geography of ancient civilizations including prehistoric people and the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Rome.
Reading - Required	Reading focuses on comprehension, responding to literature, vocabulary development, learning to make inferences, and working with the schemata in the various genres of literature.
Mathematics - Required	This course is aligned with the California Common Core Standards for sixth grade mathematics. The standards' areas of emphasis include number sense; algebra and functions; measurement and geometry; statistics, data analysis, and probability; and mathematical reasoning.
Science – Required unless student is in the RSP program. If a student in the RSP program wants to take Science, they can take zero period PE upon request.	This year-long course will survey the following areas of science: weather and climate, heat, human impact, cells and organisms and science and engineering practices. This course is aligned with NGSS Standards for 6th grade science.
Physical Education – Required 5 days per week for student with 6 period day, 2days per week for music students.	This course follows the California Standards for sixth grade physical education. Students will participate in a program emphasizing active participation, fitness, and motor development. Dressing out is required. A recommended uniform is for sale at orientation.
Beginning Band – optional course (Students will be required to take a "zero period" PE class two days per week.)	Enrollment is open to all 6th grade students interested in learning how to play a band instrument – no experience is necessary. Students will receive instruction on flute, clarinet, trumpet, baritone, trombone, and tuba, with the opportunity to switch to bass clarinet, saxophone, French horn, oboe, and drums later in the year depending on class size, progress, and instrumentation. The school will have a limited number of instruments available for those students willing to learn trombone, baritone, or tuba. **Attendance at all performances is mandatory.**
Beginning Orchestra – optional course (students will be required to take a "zero period" PE class two days per week.)	Enrollment is open to all 6th graders interested in learning how to play stringed orchestral instrument. Students will receive instruction on violin, viola, and cello, with the opportunity to switch to string bass later in the year depending on class size, progress, and instrumentation. The school will have a limited number of instruments available for students willing to learn viola, cello, or bass. **Attendance at all performances is mandatory**.
Vocal Music – optional course (students will be required to take a "zero period" PE class two days per week.)	This is an elective course designed to introduce students to the musical concepts of tone, pitch, rhythm, and music reading. This course will offer students the opportunity to learn the basics of vocal production. As members of a choral ensemble students will be exposed to a variety of music styles. **Attendance at all performances is required**.