








Choice Sheet Due
Friday,
March 1st, 2024

Mr. Robinson, Lead Principal.
Dr. Ramirez, 6th Grade Assistant Principal
Mrs. Ganucheau, 6th Grade Counselor
OTMS Phone Number: 601-898-8730

Old Town Middle School 5th Grade Information Packet

-  Choice Sheet/Student Information Form
-  Administrators, Office Staff, and Counselors
-  Block Scheduling Explained with Sample Schedule
-  What I need to know about 6th grade Course Selections
-  Old Town Middle School Frequently Asked Questions
-  Tips on Transitioning to 6th Grade
-  Real Advice From OTMS 6th Graders

WELCOME TITAN CLASS OF 2031

For step by step video instructions on how to complete
6th grade choice sheet, use this link:
<https://www.madison-schools.com/domain/5613>
or scan QR code.

SCAN
ME! >>>



**MADISON COUNTY SCHOOLS
SIXTH GRADE COURSE SELECTION FORM
2024-2025**

Student's Name _____
Last
First
Middle

Madison County Schools operates middle school on an A/B Block Schedule. Sixth grade students are required to take Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Cyber Foundations I. In addition to the required courses, a student must select one elective class to meet the state-mandated physical education (PE) requirement.

6th Grade Required Courses			
Students will be placed in advanced courses based on student achievement and individual student data.			
Course #	Course Name	X	Prerequisites
459901	6 th Grade World History	X	No prerequisite
409908	Integrated Science/Health *	X	No prerequisite
000284	Cyber Foundations I	X	No prerequisite
239901	Language Arts	X	No prerequisite
	Advanced Language Arts		Level 5 on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program and 1 of the below listed criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 Average or higher in 5th grade Language Arts • 85th Percentile on Measure of Academic Progress Reading Assessment
279901	Mathematics	X	No prerequisite
	Advanced Mathematics		Level 5 on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program and 1 of the below listed criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 Average or higher in 5th grade Mathematics • 85th Percentile on Measure of Academic Progress Mathematics Assessment

6th Grade Electives (Choose 2 elective courses following the steps below.)

Please place an "X" in the appropriate boxes below to indicate your course selections.
Please place an "A" in the appropriate boxes below for alternate course selection.

Step 1. You MUST choose ONE of the elective courses listed below to meet the state mandated PE requirement.

Course #	Course Name	X	Prerequisites
349902	Physical Education		No prerequisite – A variety of physical activities will be offered in a normal PE setting.
500903	Band		Requires a successful audition and the purchase or lease of an instrument chosen by the band director. Instrument assigned by band director is a _____.
500935	Choir		Requires a successful audition and a fee for uniforms.

Step 2. Choose another elective course from the list above OR choose one of the courses listed below.

Course #	Course Name	X	Prerequisites
500101	Art		No prerequisite
500901	General Music		No prerequisite
500510	Drama		No prerequisite
662001	Gifted		Must meet eligibility requirements including testing.
230181	Learning Strategies		Students will be enrolled based on student achievement and individual student data.
801002	Study Hall		No prerequisite

**Per state-mandated requirements, Health is included in the Science Frameworks*

Parents – your signature indicates that you have reviewed and approved your child's course selection for the 2024-2025 school year.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Home Phone Number _____ Work Phone Number _____

Primary Contact Number _____ Email Address _____

Old Town Middle School

Madison County Schools

Ridgeland, MS

601-898-8730

Administration

Principal: Levi Robinson

6th Grade Assistant Principal: Dr. Blanca Ramirez

7th Grade Assistant Principal: Carie Lyall

8th Grade Assistant Principal: Jamison Stokes

Office Staff

Secretary: Jessica Scowcroft

Book Keeper: LaTonya Buchanan

Data Entry and Records Clerk: Cherrie Kelly

Attendance Clerk: Jennifer Lockett

Counselors

6th Grade Counselor: Lauren Ganucheau

7th Grade Counselor: Shamara Love

8th Grade Counselor: Brittany Ellis



Block Scheduling – What is it?

- 4 Blocks/Classes meet each day
- Classes are 94 minutes in length
- 1st, 2nd (21/22), 3rd, & 4th Blocks meet on A Day
- 5th, 6th (61/62), 7th, & 8th Blocks meet on B Day
- 2nd (21/22) Block and 6th (61/62) Blocks are split between English and Math. Split blocks are 47 minutes for English and 47 minutes for Math.

Old Town Middle School Sample Schedule

Name: Jane Doe

A DAY

Time	Block	Class	Teacher	Room #
8:17-9:53	1	English	Mrs. Evans	109
9:57-10:44	21	History	Mrs. Coleman	115
10:44-11:31	22	History	Mrs. Coleman	115
11:35-1:42	3	Math	Mrs. Thompson	113
1:46-3:20	4	Beginner Band	Mr. Culpepper	Band Hall

B DAY

Time	Block	Class	Teacher	Room #
8:17-9:53	5	Cyber Foundations	Mrs. King	106
9:57-10:44	61	English	Mrs. Evans	109
10:44-11:31	62	Math	Mrs. Thompson	113
11:35-1:42	7	Art 6	Mrs. Lea	101
1:46-3:20	8	Science	Ms. Vanover	107

It's a great day to be a TITAN!

#BeBLUE

Bell Schedule

Regular Schedule

8:17 Tardy Bell

8:17-9:53 1st/5th

9:57-11:31 21/22 / 61/62

11:35-1:42 3rd/7th

***1st Lunch 11:40-12:05**

2nd Lunch 12:05-12:30

3rd Lunch 12:35-1:00

4th lunch 1:05-1:30

1:46-3:20 4th/8th

3:20 car rider dismissal

3:23 bus rider dismissal


***Most 6th Grade students eat 1st lunch**

What do I need to know about 6th grade Course Selections?

- Students will select a total of two (2) elective courses.
- Students are **required** to choose **one (1)** **Physical Education (P.E.) elective**. P.E. electives include: P.E., Band, or Choir.
- Students **may choose one (1) more elective in addition to the P.E. elective**. They may choose from Art, General Music, Gifted, or Learning Strategies.
- Students that require ELL or Resource Tutorial will be scheduled by Counselor. ***ELL and/or Resource Tutorial will count as one elective.**
- Required 6th Grade Courses are Language Arts (English and Reading), Math, Science, World History, and Cyber Foundations 1.
- Placement in Advanced Math and Advanced Language Arts is based on district eligibility requirements. See choice sheet for more information.



Old Town Middle School Frequently Asked Questions

- **What time does school start?** The tardy bell rings at 8:17
- **How early can my child arrive at school if s/he is a car rider?** 7:35
- **Where do I drop my child off in the morning?** Car rider drop off is behind the school. **No drop offs at the front office.**
- **What time does school dismiss?** 3:20 for car riders; 3:23 for bus riders
- **What are the first day procedures?** Sixth grade students report to the gym to pick up a schedule and have a seat with their homeroom teacher. Parents are not permitted in the gym and are not permitted to escort students to classrooms. The first day of school is an A day.
- **Should my student have an A day backpack and a B day backpack?** Yes, if the weight of the backpack is a concern. Otherwise, one backpack is sufficient. Most classes have classroom sets of books. Any books assigned for home use need to stay at home and not in the backpack.
- **What fees will I be expected to pay?** \$25.00 classroom fee due at registration; \$5.00 art fee; \$10.00 science lab fee. All fees can be paid online through "My School Bucks." The link is located on the OTMS home webpage.
 - Band fees can only be paid with cash or check, and cannot be paid using "My School Bucks"
 - Fees paid using cash or check will be collected by your child's teacher in their classroom.
- **How do I communicate with my child's teachers?** Email is recommended. Find teacher email addresses on the OTMS website.
- **How do I know what is going on in my student's classes?** Check teacher websites and attend Parent Night.
- **How do I know what my child has for homework?** Students are responsible for writing homework down in their planner. Check teacher websites.
- **How will I know my child's grades?** Printed progress reports go home with the student mid quarter and printed report cards go home with the student at the end of each quarter. Enroll in Active Parent for access to student grades 24/7.
- **What is Active Parent?** Online access to student's grades, discipline, attendance and school news.
 - Enroll for a new account at registration. If you already have an Active Parent account, it is not necessary to re-enroll.
 - Access to Active Parent and additional OTMS resources is located on the OTMS home webpage as well as the Madison County Schools District app. 
- **What can I find on the OTMS website?** Lunch menus, A/B Day calendar, PTO information, links to Active Parent, and more.
- **How do I set up a conference with one OR all of my child's teachers?** Call Ms. Phillips, 6th Grade Counselor (601) 898-8730.
- **Can my child play school sports in 6th grade?** Students must be in 7th grade to play school sports.
- **What if my child is absent from school?** Turn in a written excuse to the front office stating the reason your child was absent. A doctor's note is not required. Check teacher websites for assignments or ask a friend.
- **What if my child gets sick at school or needs medication administered?** Students who become ill will be allowed to see the nurse. All medication is administered by the school nurse and must be provided by the parent with a physician's order and a signed consent form.

Crossing the BRIDGE from Elementary School to Middle School

Tips on Transitioning to 6th Grade

Tips for Students:

1. Use your Planner
2. Get familiar with Teacher Websites and Canvas.
3. Check your grades weekly via Active Student
4. Get Organized! (I recommend having just ONE bookbag. Also, organize your bookbag each night. It only takes 5 minutes and you'll feel more prepared for the next school day.)
5. Absences COUNT- It's so hard to miss even one day on a block schedule. But if you do have to miss, make sure you talk with your teachers to get your missed assignments.
6. Develop good study habits
 - a. Find the way you like to study best- notecards, study apps, making your own test questions, re-copying notes, reading the notes aloud to yourself.
 - b. Study your notes each night... even if you don't have a test! Maybe just 15 minutes.
 - c. Complete A-Day homework on A-Day and same for B-Day. It helps to review the skills you learned that day by completing homework.

Tips for Parents:

1. Check Active Parent to keep track of your child's progress
2. Email teachers if you have any questions about grades or assignments.
3. Check Teacher Blogs and Canvas for homework, assignments and test dates.
4. Sign up for any teacher Remind notifications.
5. LASTLY: It's your child's responsibility to write important due dates, assignments, and test dates in his or her planner. Having 7 different teachers/classes, it will be very hard for you (parents) to manage their (students) assignments; therefore, it's best for the student to use their planners daily. Parents should set the expectation that planners will be checked each night for homework or dates. This will reinforce a great habit and important life skill.

Real Advice from REAL OTMS 6th Graders

Enjoy the rest of elementary school and live in the moment. Then, once you get to 6th grade, continue to enjoy your time, and go beyond teacher's expectations. - Sarah H.

Push yourself and exceed your expectations, so that you can be the best you can be!

-Kaija B.

Do your homework and do not play while in class. Be BLUE!!

-Andy H.

Have a goal for your studies and keep moving to the next level.

- Tanya R.

My advice is to ask questions if you do not understand something, try new things, and try your best!

-Gurkiran K.

Do not fall for peer pressure. Just be yourself!

-Morgan W.

Don't stress over the little things. Just do one thing at a time, don't rush.

-Hannah O.

Don't worry, you will make friends. Even if you don't right away, they'll come. Just be nice.

-Lauren Z.

Just be YOURSELF!

-Kaleb B.

Turn in your assignments on time because you have a lot more assignments in middle school than in elementary school.

-Matthew G.

I would tell 5th graders going into 6th grade not to be nervous, but to be confident! This advice helps me every day.

-Prince K.

If you are unsure where to go, do not be afraid to ask for help.

-Amaurie G.

Be respectful to teachers, students, and pretty much everybody!

-Jakodi D.

6th grade is really fun, and you won't have any problems if you listen to your teacher. Just do your best.

-Freddy M.

Just be KIND!

-Jackson H.

Stay focused on your schoolwork and use your time wisely!

-Patches W.