Laurel Middle School
6th Grade Scheduling Information

- **In addition to being scheduled into appropriate core classes sixth grade students are required to take either band or choir**. The only exception to this are students who are scheduled into a Study Skills class, or have an altered schedule.
- Sixth graders will be scheduled into one semester of PE/Health and one semester of Introduction to Computers.
- 6th graders will also be scheduled into 4 quarter length exploratory classes: Exploring Art, Exploring FACS, Exploring Industrial Arts, and Exploring Spanish.

6th Grade Music:

Beginning Band

Students will begin learning band instruments as well as fundamental concepts of reading music. Concepts include note and rhythm recognition, key signature and time signature identification, instrument care, and group work skills. Students are required to purchase a band book. This is a full year course.

Requirements outside of class:

- 30 minutes of weekly practice at home
- Mandatory attendance at all concerts (dates TBA)
- Bring necessary material on a daily basis (instrument, book, sheet music, folder, pencil, practice report)
- Full year class

Choir

6th grade choir is designed to introduce the middle school student to the elements of singing in an ensemble and performing in front of an audience. Students will learn basic skills of proper vocal technique, and also begin learning the fundamental concepts of reading music. Concepts include: sight singing, note and rhythm recognition, dynamic and tempo markings as well as literature appropriate for their age and singing ability.

Requirements:

- Attendance and participation in all concerts
- Full year class

6th Grade Exploratory Rotation:

Exploring Art

Projects are based upon various world cultures. Lessons build upon units of study in 6th grade world history class. Students get to experiment with more variety in art materials and techniques.

Exploring FACS

This course is a stepping stone towards independence for our students. The goals of this class are to help students learn self-responsibility, safe ways of babysitting, safety while staying home alone, methods to being a smart consumer, and basic survival skills.

Exploring Industrial Arts

This is a beginning class that explores the subject areas of agriculture production and woodworking. Throughout the quarter students will learn general shop safety, safe and proper use of hand tools, completing a wood project and production agriculture. This class is designed to help students better understand the different skills involved with woodworking and how the agriculture industry impacts their daily lives. Students will have a better idea of the CTA classes offered and be able to make informed decisions next year.

Exploring Spanish

The beginning level establishes a basis for communicating in Spanish. Skills are developed in comprehension, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Success in second language acquisition is closely related to good attendance and study habits.