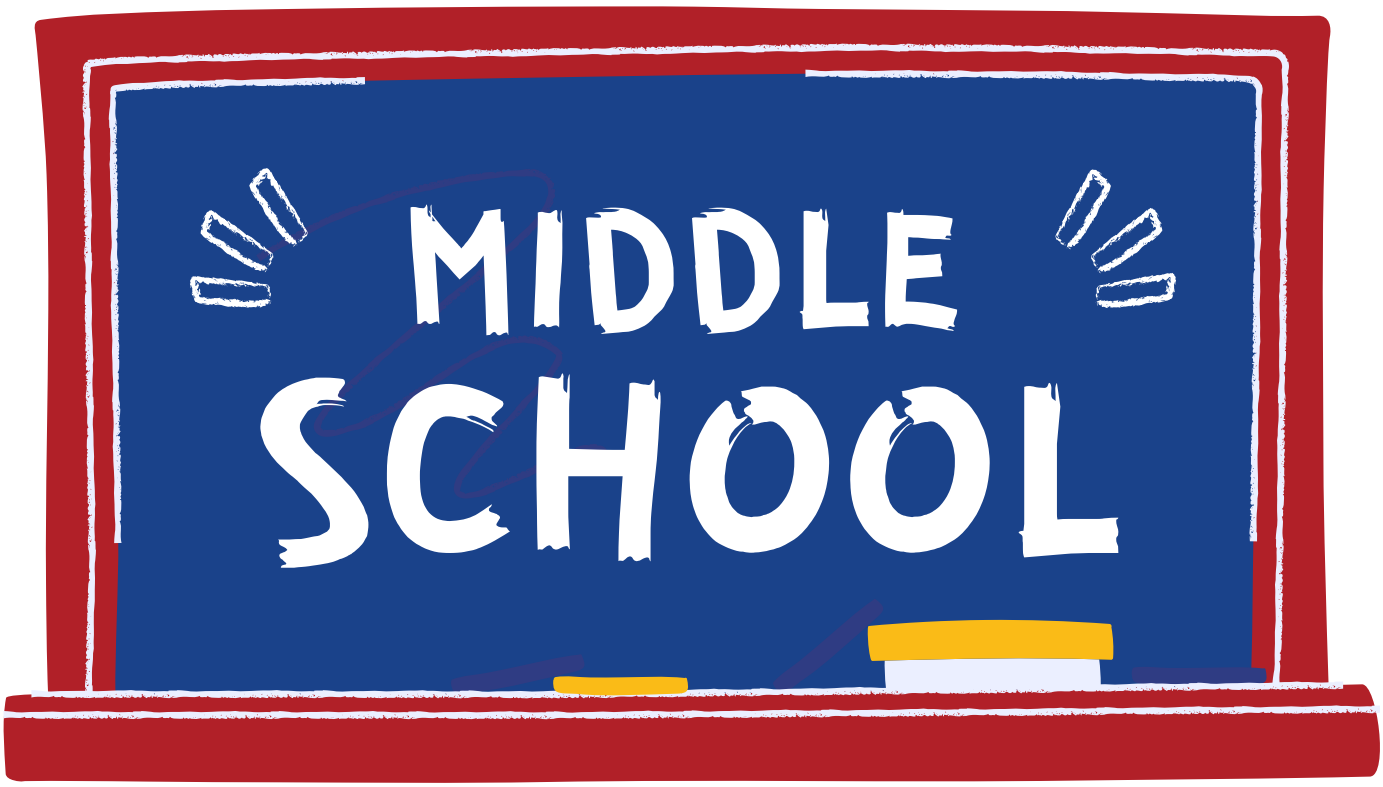
Kalamazoo Public Schools

Every child. Every opportunity. Every time.



BULLETIN OF COURSES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS • MATHEMATICS • SCIENCE
SOCIAL STUDIES • PHYSICAL EDUCATION
VISUAL, PERFORMING AND APPLIED ARTS • HEALTH
WORLD LANGUAGES • COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

2025-2026

HILLSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL

LINDEN GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MAPLE STREET MAGNET SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOL

KPS VIRTUAL

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR . . .

BUILDING A SCHEDULE THAT'S RIGHT FOR **YOU**

The first step in the scheduling process is for parents and students to review this bulletin together and choose elective courses to complete a schedule. Course offerings and descriptions are listed in sections by grade level. Please read the appropriate grade-level section and complete the course selection sheet that the counselor gave you. Returning the course selection sheet to school as soon as possible will reasonably ensure that you get the elective courses of your choosing.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The KPS middle schools operate on a semester schedule. On the semester schedule, the school year is divided into two, 18-week sections. Marking period grades are issued every nine weeks; twice per semester.

Sample School Year on the Semester Schedule	
Semester 1: September - January	Semester 2: January - June

All middle school students are scheduled into seven, 50-minute class periods per day. During each of the three middle school years, students are required to take a full year of English Language Arts, math, science, and social studies. In addition, students are also required to take one semester (18 weeks) of physical education during each of their middle school years.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS	
Two Semesters (full year per grade level)	One Semester (18 weeks per grade level)
• English Language Arts • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies	• Physical Education

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in reading or math (as indicated by state and local assessments) will have an additional period to build core academic skills in the area of need. Opportunity for elective courses (such as art, music, life skills/physical education, Chinese, or Spanish) will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Students performing at or above grade level will have the opportunity to choose elective courses of interest such as art, music, life skills, physical education, Chinese, or Spanish. Students may choose to take most elective courses for either one or two semesters.

TEST RESULTS - HOW THEY INFLUENCE SCHEDULING	IMPORTANT!
It is important that you understand the relevance of district and state-wide testing (such as the NWEA measurement of academic progress) that is used to determine placement into academic courses. Students who exceed expectations may be recommended for advanced English and/or math courses. Advanced math could put you on track to earn high school credits while still in middle school. Likewise, low test results will help to identify students in need of additional support in the area of mathematics and reading.	

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ARE LISTED BY GRADE LEVEL

Grade 6 . . . . . Page 2
Grade 7 . . . . . Page 11
Grade 8 . . . . . Page 22

Welcome to 6th Grade!

Dear Incoming 6th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

Before you know it, you will be walking through the doors of middle school! And because it will be here faster than you think, we have already begun to plan for your sixth-grade year. An important first step in planning is to determine which courses are appropriate for you. We will be evaluating your performance on district and state tests to determine which English Language Arts and mathematics courses will serve you best. That is one reason why it is important that you always do your best; not only on classroom tests, but also on district-wide tests such as MAP and M-STEP.

While most of the courses you take in sixth grade are required, you will be able to choose some courses of interest such as art, music, Chinese, and Spanish. These are called "electives." However, if your test results indicate that you need some support with your reading and math skills, then you will be required to take extended learning courses. Your opportunity to take elective courses will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

This booklet describes the various courses that are available. We ask that you and your parent/ guardian review this booklet together and choose elective courses to complete your schedule.

Please indicate your choices on the course selection sheet that your counselor provided. Make sure your parent/guardian signs the bottom of the form and return it to school tomorrow. Once we receive your course selection sheet, we will begin to develop a sixth-grade schedule that is right for you.

Best wishes for an exciting and rewarding middle school experience!

SAMPLE SEMESTER SCHEDULE GRADE 6								
		1st Period	2nd Period	3rd Period	4th Period	5th Period	6th Period	7th Period
SEMESTER 1	AUGUST - JANUARY	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS
SEMESTER 2	JANUARY - JUNE	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS		

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)
- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 6
- Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics 6
- Science 6
- Social Studies 6

One-Semester (18 weeks)
- Physical Education 6

ELECTIVES

ELA or math extended learning courses are required for students performing below grade level as indicated by the results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses will be limited.

Students who are not required to take extended ELA or math courses will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

GRADE 6: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All sixth-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts 6
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30610
This course provides a balanced literacy program to guide students to become proficient readers and writers and help them learn to speak and listen effectively. Students will demonstrate understanding of figurative language and nuances in word meanings, analyze central ideas and themes, and make logical inferences to understand both informational and narrative text. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR

Advanced English Language Arts 6
ENGLISH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30612
This course moves at a faster pace and delves deeper into literature and writing skills. The advanced study highlights elements of persuasion. Opportunities are presented for impromptu, informative, and persuasive speeches, debate, small and large group discussion, and critical reasoning. Persuasive writing, reasoning, research, and language study are included throughout the study.

English Language Learners – See page 6 for course options.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics 6
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50610
Sixth grade math offers a well-developed integrated mathematics foundation (all strands of math). Topics of study include number theory, rational numbers, two-dimensional geometry and measurement, probability, an introduction to algebra, positive and negative numbers, scientific notation, and spatial visualization. Graphing calculator technology will be used in the later units of study to help visualize mathematical relationships and to better allow students to tackle real life problems.

OR

Advanced Mathematics 6
MATH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50612
Students may enroll in this advanced mathematics course which is designed to prepare students for 7th Grade Advanced Math and Algebra I in 8th Grade. The course will move at a faster pace and delve deeper into mathematical concepts.

GRADE 6: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All sixth-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

6th Grade Physical Education

REQUIRED • 1 Semester (18 Weeks)
Course # 65610
Scheduling Note: This course is the required PE class for 6th grade.
This course provides students with an opportunity to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness. Students will increase their knowledge of health-related fitness, motor skills, and individual and team sports. Activities and sports covered may vary based on semester taken.

SCIENCE

Science 6

REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 70610
This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to physical, earth, life, and health sciences and develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include the rock cycle, Michigan's geologic history, energy transformations, ecosystems, and the engineering design process. Students will begin to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6

REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 80610
This course provides students with an understanding of the regions of the world in the Eastern and Western hemispheres and the people who live there. Students are challenged to use the tools of geography to view, analyze, and understand the world around them. The course will integrate informational reading and writing including visual literacy with the study of charts, graphs, and maps.

GRADE 6: ACADEMIC SERVICES

EXTENDED LEARNING

Students performing below grade level in language arts or math, as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, will have an additional period to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education, Chinese, or Spanish will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Algebra Readiness

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 506782
This course is designed to build on students' current mathematical understanding to progress toward mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students successful experiences in mathematics. Successful completion of this course helps students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

Reading Strategies and Success Skills 6

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 30651
Reading Strategies and Success Skills 6 is designed to help students improve their reading and writing skills and strategies with narrative and informational text, word identification, and fluency. Successful completion of this course helps students succeed in cross-curricular classes.

GRADE 6: ACADEMIC SERVICES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

AVAILABLE AT LINDEN GROVE, MAPLE STREET, AND MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOLS

ELD 1: Entering
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35110
This course focuses on foundational English language skills for students at the Entering proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on building listening and speaking skills, including basic vocabulary and simple sentence structures. Students will learn to respond to greetings, follow simple instructions, and engage in basic conversations. Foundational literacy skills, such as decoding and recognizing sight words, are also introduced.

ELD 2: Emerging
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35210
In this course, students progress to the Emerging proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on expanding communication skills, including asking and answering questions, engaging in simple conversations, and understanding short written texts. Writing instruction focuses on constructing complete sentences and short paragraphs using familiar vocabulary and phrases. The course integrates content from other subjects to help students develop academic language.

ELD 3: Developing
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35310
Designed for students at the Developing proficiency level, this course emphasizes the use of English in academic and social contexts. Students will engage in longer conversations, read and comprehend multi-paragraph texts, and write organized paragraphs. The curriculum includes academic vocabulary development, critical reading strategies, and collaborative discussions to prepare students for mainstream classes.

ELD Literacy
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350430
This standalone course is designed for students needing additional support in foundational literacy skills. Emphasis is placed on reading fluency, phonics, academic language, comprehension strategies, and writing basics. The curriculum includes phonics, vocabulary development, and guided reading activities tailored to students' individual needs. Through targeted instruction, adaptive technology, and interactive activities, students will develop a deeper understanding of texts, enhance their ability to analyze and interpret information, and strengthen their overall literacy skills. This course may be taken alongside ELD 1 or ELD 2.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT INTEGRATED

ELD Numeracy
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350450
This course focuses on foundational math skills tailored for English Learner (EL) students, emphasizing both numeracy and academic language development. Students will explore key math concepts such as basic operations, fractions, decimals, and problem-solving strategies. Instruction integrates math vocabulary and language support to help students build confidence and prepare for mainstream math classes.

ELD Science
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350470
This course introduces foundational science concepts while supporting English language development. Students will engage in topics such as life sciences, earth sciences, and basic physical sciences through hands-on activities, experiments, and visuals. Emphasis is placed on building academic vocabulary and language structures needed to explain observations, analyze data, and discuss scientific phenomena.

ELD Social Studies
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350480
This course provides an introduction to key concepts in history, geography, and civics with a focus on building academic English skills. Students will explore topics such as cultural diversity, community, and basic world history through interactive activities and simplified texts. The course emphasizes vocabulary acquisition, reading comprehension, and critical thinking, preparing students for success in mainstream social studies classes.

GRADE 6: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

ART ELECTIVES

6th Grade Art Studio
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 10625
This project-based exploratory art course provides 6th graders with an introduction to creative problem-solving while using a variety of mediums. Students will learn how to use materials and tools appropriately to create personal works of art. Students' work may be selected for exhibitions at the building, district level, and throughout the community.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

6th Grade Band
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60635
Prerequisite: None
This class provides the first opportunities for students to learn how to play traditional band instruments, including: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba. Percussion (drums) will be placed after the first 9 weeks of this class. In addition to performing on instruments, this class will focus on music-reading skills and ensemble skills such as blend, balance, intonation, and technique. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to 7th Grade Band Class, 8th Grade Band Class, and High School Band Classes. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

6th Grade Orchestra
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60645
Prerequisite: Audition and/or 5th Grand Band or Director Permission
This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed elementary orchestra. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to 7th Grade Orchestra, 8th Grade Orchestra, and High School Orchestra. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

VOCAL MUSIC

6th Grade Choir
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60625
Participation in choir includes using skills of part-singing, group-singing, sight-reading, and vocal production. In addition, the curriculum will include instruction in music history, criticism, evaluation, and listening skills. The relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts will be explored. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

SPANISH ELECTIVES

Spanish for Beginners
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 90645
This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

GRADE 6: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

6th Grade Life Skills

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20635
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove Middle School
This course is based on skills that will encourage healthful and productive consumer living. Exploratory units include food and nutrition, hand sewing, family and peer relationships, communication, and consumer skills.

Automation and Robotics

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15620
Offered at all KPS middle schools
Students will explore 21st century skills related to technology, online communication, and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics® to invent and innovate solutions to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development, and influence of engineering and robotics.

Current Events 6

Elective ● 1 Semester
Course # 80653
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove
Students will use inquiry based learning on current event topics affecting local, state, national and global communities. Units will start by identifying a specific event or topic, researching the context, investigating the effects, class discussions, and developing solutions or a plan of action. Students will be assessed on all of these phases of the process. Small and whole group collaboration will be vital for students to interpret diverse perspectives. Having a diverse range of current event topics will naturally lead to cross curriculum connections.

School Newspaper/Journalism 6

ELECTIVE ● 1 Semester
Course # 30620
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove Middle School
Students in this class will collaboratively create a digital School Newspaper. Students will be assigned different aspects of the newspaper based on their strengths and interests. Contents of the newspaper will range from coverage to global events to school community events. Participating in journalism will support students in being global citizens and positively participating in the digital space. This course will support involvement and participation in creating a strong and united school community.

Tech SMART: Skills, Media, Applications, Research, Thinking

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15810
Offered at all KPS middle schools
This course provides students with essential digital literacy skills including computer fundamentals, digital citizenship, computation thinking, knowledge construction, communication, and innovative design. With reinforcement of foundational technology concepts using a number of web-based programs and tools, students are prepared to leverage technology and thrive in the digital age.

GRADE 6: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Additional 18-week elective course offerings are available at our theme-based magnet schools.

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple St. Magnet School:

6th Grade Drama
Elective • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 30645
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.
Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student-written material.

6th Grade General Music
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60665
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.
This is a non-performance class where students will learn about music of different cultures around the world. They will also utilize technology (GarageBand) and learn basic piano skills.

Music Studio
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60678751
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once per school year.
Students will have access to a practice space where they can work in small groups or independently on musical objectives of their choice. This course seeks to give students a space during the school day to practice independently, recognizing that there are countless roadblocks for students to practice their music after school hours and with a trained music teacher. This course will teach students how to set and work towards short-term and long-term goals, establishing practice techniques and routines, self-assessment strategies, as well as musical literacy and musical analysis skills, all while offering students the flexibility to work on the music and music literacy objectives that they are most interested in studying. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills through studio recitals and individual growth plans.

Musical Theater 6-8
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 6067877
This course is for the student that is interested in musical theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

Spanish Language Literature I
Elective • 2 Semesters (full year)
Prerequisite: Participation in dual immersion program at the elementary level or substantial prior Spanish-speaking experience
Course # 90865
This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Columbian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar. (Students must complete Spanish Literature I, II, and III to receive 2.0 high school credits.)

GRADE 6: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School

The following electives are available at Maple Street Magnet School only:

Arabic Culture

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 8067831
This is an introduction to Arabic culture in America and worldwide, to broaden the student's worldview. Included are basic Arabic alphabet and numbers, countries, customs, music, art, clothing, weather, lifestyle, the Arabic lunar calendar, holidays, Arabic industry, celebrities and noteworthy individuals, and an historic overview.

Arabic for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 908678
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 6 and 7
This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Milwood Magnet School

The following electives are available at Milwood Magnet School only:

6th Grade Graphic Design

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15655
This 6th Grade Graphic Design course will provide students with the opportunity to explore a broad range of state-of-the-art image editing software. This course has been designed to introduce visual problem-solving through contemporary graphic design for the twenty-first century.

6th Grade Video Production

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20665
This course introduces the care and use of digital video cameras, tripods, audio equipment, and video production software. Camera shots are explored as well as editing video. Pre-production paperwork is introduced. Students will create multiple film productions

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:

Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks) • 0.5 Credit; Course can be repeated
Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only
15 hours of service learning required
Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

Welcome to 7th Grade!

Dear Incoming 7th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

Before you know it, your sixth-grade year will come to an end, summer vacation will come and go, and you will be back to school as a seventh grader. And because it will be here faster than you think, we have already begun to plan for your seventh-grade year. An important first step in planning is to determine which courses are appropriate for you.

We will be evaluating your performance on district and state tests to determine which English language arts and mathematics courses will serve you best. That is one reason why it is important that you always do your best; not only on classroom tests, but also on district and state tests such as the M-STEP.

This booklet describes the various courses that are available. We ask that you and your parent/ guardian review this booklet together and choose elective courses to complete your schedule.

Please indicate your choices on the course selection sheet that your counselor gave you to bring home. Make sure your parent/guardian signs the bottom of the form and return it to school tomorrow. Once we receive your course selection sheet, we will begin to develop a seventh-grade schedule that is right for you.

SAMPLE SEMESTER SCHEDULE GRADE 7								
		1st Period	**2nd Period**	**3rd Period**	**4th Period**	**5th Period**	***6th Period***	**7th Period**
SEMESTER 1	AUGUST - JANUARY	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS
SEMESTER 2	JANUARY - JUNE	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS		

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)

- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 7
- Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics 7
- Science 7
- Social Studies 7

One-Semester (18 weeks)

- Physical Education 7

Electives

ELA or math extended learning courses are required for students performing below grade level as indicated by results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses may be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Students who are not required to take extended courses will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

GRADE 7: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All seventh-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts 7
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30710
This course provides a balanced literacy program to guide students to become proficient readers and writers and help them learn to speak and listen effectively. Students will demonstrate understanding of figurative and connotative meaning of words and analyze central ideas and themes in informational and narrative text while providing textual evidence to support the analysis. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR

Advanced English Language Arts 7
ENGLISH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30712
This course moves at a faster pace and delves deeper into literature and writing skills. Advanced students look at historical events and social issues of the 1940s through literature of the decade focusing on the concept of change. Numerous opportunities for reading, writing, listening, and speaking are incorporated into the study. Students make both a written and an oral presentation of their research.

English Language Learners – See page 15 for course options.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics 7
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50710
Seventh-grade mathematics offers a well-developed integrated mathematics foundation (all strands of mathematics). Topics of study include similarity, ratios, proportions, percents, linear relationships, three-dimensional measurement, probability, and data analysis.

OR

Advanced Mathematics 7
MATH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50712
Students may enroll in this advanced mathematics course which is designed to prepare students for Algebra I in 8th Grade. The course will move at a faster pace and delve deeper into mathematical concepts.
(Successful completion of Algebra I meets high school graduation requirements).

GRADE 7: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All seventh-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

7th Grade Physical Education

REQUIRED • 1 Semester (18 Weeks)
Course # 65710
Scheduling Note: This course is the required PE class for 7th grade.
This course emphasizes a personal commitment to lifetime activities and fitness for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and competitive learning. Students will have opportunities to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness which includes fitness testing, individual and team sports. Activities and sports covered may vary based on semester taken. ***The course will also include a three-week session focused on reproductive health.***

SCIENCE

Science 7

REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 70710
This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to physical, earth, life, and health sciences and further develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include renewable energy resources, weather and climate, physical and chemical changes, cells, and heredity. Students will continue to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 7

REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 80710
This course provides students with an understanding of the first three eras of ancient world history including the early civilizations of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Students will examine the time periods through the lenses of historians and social scientists. The course will integrate informational reading and writing including visual literacy with the study of charts, graphs, and maps.

EXTENDED LEARNING

Students performing below grade level in language arts or math, as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, will have an additional period to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education, Chinese, or Spanish will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Algebra Readiness

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 506782
This course is designed to build on students' current mathematical understanding to progress towards mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students with a successful experience in mathematics. Successful completion of this course helps students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

Reading Strategies and Success Skills 7

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 30651
Reading Strategies and Success Skills 7 is designed to help students improve their reading and writing skills and strategies with narrative and informational text, word identification, and fluency. Successful completion of this course helps students succeed in cross-curricular classes.

GRADE 7: ACADEMIC SERVICES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

AVAILABLE AT LINDEN GROVE, MAPLE STREET, AND MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOLS

ELD 1: Entering
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course #35110
This course focuses on foundational English language skills for students at the Entering proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on building listening and speaking skills, including basic vocabulary and simple sentence structures. Students will learn to respond to greetings, follow simple instructions, and engage in basic conversations. Foundational literacy skills, such as decoding and recognizing sight words, are also introduced..

ELD 2: Emerging
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35210
In this course, students progress to the Emerging proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on expanding communication skills, including asking and answering questions, engaging in simple conversations, and understanding short written texts. Writing instruction focuses on constructing complete sentences and short paragraphs using familiar vocabulary and phrases. The course integrates content from other subjects to help students develop academic language.

ELD 3: Developing
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 3510
Designed for students at the Developing proficiency level, this course emphasizes the use of English in academic and social contexts. Students will engage in longer conversations, read and comprehend multi-paragraph texts, and write organized paragraphs. The curriculum includes academic vocabulary development, critical reading strategies, and collaborative discussions to prepare students for mainstream classes.

ELD Literacy
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350430
This standalone course is designed for students needing additional support in foundational literacy skills. Emphasis is placed on reading fluency, phonics, academic language, comprehension strategies, and writing basics. The curriculum includes phonics, vocabulary development, and guided reading activities tailored to students' individual needs. Through targeted instruction, adaptive technology, and interactive activities, students will develop a deeper understanding of texts, enhance their ability to analyze and interpret information, and strengthen their overall literacy skills. This course may be taken alongside ELD 1 or ELD 2.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT INTEGRATED

ELD Numeracy

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350450
This course focuses on foundational math skills tailored for English Learner (EL) students, emphasizing both numeracy and academic language development. Students will explore key math concepts such as basic operations, fractions, decimals, and problem-solving strategies. Instruction integrates math vocabulary and language support to help students build confidence and prepare for mainstream math classes.

ELD Science

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350470

This course introduces foundational science concepts while supporting English language development. Students will engage in topics such as life sciences, earth sciences, and basic physical sciences through hands-on activities, experiments, and visuals. Emphasis is placed on building academic vocabulary and language structures needed to explain observations, analyze data, and discuss scientific phenomena.

ELD Social Studies

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350480
This course provides an introduction to key concepts in history, geography, and civics with a focus on building academic English skills. Students will explore topics such as cultural diversity, community, and basic world history through interactive activities and simplified texts. The course emphasizes vocabulary acquisition, reading comprehension, and critical thinking, preparing students for success in mainstream social studies classes.

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

ART ELECTIVES

7th Grade Art Studio

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 10725
This project-based 7th grade art course provides an exploratory experience in creative problem-solving while using a variety of mediums. Students will learn how to use materials and tools appropriately to create personal works of art. Students' work may be selected for exhibitions at the building and district level and throughout the community.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

7th Grade Band

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60735
Prerequisite: Audition and/or 6th Grand Band or Director Permission
This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed a full year of 6th Grade Band. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to 8th Grade Band and High School Band Classes. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

7th Grade Orchestra

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60745
Prerequisite: Audition and/or 6th Grand Band or Director Permission
This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed 6th Grade Orchestra. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to 8th Grade Orchestra and High School Orchestra. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade

VOCAL MUSIC

7th Grade Choir

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60725
Participation in choir includes using skills of part-singing, group-singing, sight-reading, and vocal production. In addition, the curriculum will include instruction in music history, criticism, evaluation, and listening skills. The relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts will be explored. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one or two semesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

7th Grade Life Skills
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20735
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove
This course is based on skills that will encourage healthful and productive consumer living. Exploratory units include food and nutrition, sewing, health, babysitting, communication, and consumer skills.

Automation and Robotics
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15720
Offered at all KPS middle schools
Students will explore 21st century skills related to technology, online communication, and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics® to invent and innovate solutions to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development, and influence of engineering and robotics.

Current Events 7
ELECTIVE ● 1 Semester
Course # 80753
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove Middle School
Students will use inquiry based learning on current event topics affecting local, state, national and global communities. Units will start by identifying a specific event or topic, researching the context, investigating the effects, class discussions, and developing solutions or a plan of action. Students will be assessed on all of these phases of the process. Small and whole group collaboration will be vital for students to interpret diverse perspectives. Having a diverse range of current event topics will naturally lead to cross curriculum connections.

Future Michigan Educator Course I
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 556710
Offered at all KPS middle schools – Grade 7
This course encourages students to explore the teaching profession through guided instruction and participation in experiences related to education. Students will learn about the qualities of a healthy learning environment, how culture and identity can influence learning, and how to create equitable learning environments for all students. Students can apply the skills they have learned to lead short lessons in the classroom or with elementary students.

School Newspaper/Journalism 7
ELECTIVE ● 1 Semester
Course # 30720
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove Middle School
Students in this class will collaboratively create a digital School Newspaper. Students will be assigned different aspects of the newspaper based on their strengths and interests. Contents of the newspaper will range from coverage to global events to school community events. Participating in journalism will support students in being global citizens and positively participating in the digital space. This course will support involvement and participation in creating a strong and united school community.

Tech SMART: Skills, Media, Applications, Research, Thinking
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15810
Offered at all KPS middle schools
This course provides students with essential digital literacy skills including computer fundamentals, digital citizenship, computation thinking, knowledge construction, communication, and innovative design. With reinforcement of foundational technology concepts using a number of web-based programs and tools, students are prepared to leverage technology and thrive in the digital age.

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one or two semesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

7th Grade Personal Wellness

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 47525
Offered at Hillside
This course provides students in Grade 7 with knowledge and decision-making skills for a healthy lifestyle. Instruction includes goal-setting, reproductive health, personal development, and self-awareness.

Elective Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 65725
Offered at Linden Grove, Maple Street, and Milwood Magnet Schools
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required PE course.
This course promotes lifetime sports, recreational, and wellness activities that provide an opportunity to refine skills and attitudes that encourage lifelong fitness. Activities will include health-related fitness testing, dynamic stretching, team sports, and individual and dual sports.

Fit 4 Life

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 65765
Offered at Linden Grove, Maple Street and Milwood Magnet only
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required PE course.
This course is designed to promote cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength with emphasis on the combination of strength training, speed and agility training, and cardiovascular health. Students will learn about heart rates, BMI, muscle groups and fitness equipment utilization.

Healthy Lifestyles

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 45735
Offered at Maple Street, Milwood, and Linden Grove
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required PE course.
Students will combine physical fitness, nutrition education, and positive communicative skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle and promote lifelong wellness. They will assess the effect of food choices on individual health, and learn how to plan nutritious meals.

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one or two semesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

Spanish for Beginners
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 90645
This course introduces the basic elements of language. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Spanish Intermediate
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 90745
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 7 and 8
This course will enhance Spanish communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple Street Magnet School:

7th Grade General Music
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60765
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.
This is a non-performance class where students will learn about music of different cultures around the world. They will also utilize technology and learn basic piano skills.

Music Studio
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60678751
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once per year.
Students will have access to a practice space where they can work in small groups or independently on musical objectives of their choice. This course seeks to give students a space during the school day to practice independently, recognizing that there are countless roadblocks for students to practice their music after school hours and with a trained music teacher. This course will teach students how to set and work towards short-term and long-term goals, establishing practice techniques and routines, self-assessment strategies, as well as musical literacy and musical analysis skills, all while offering students the flexibility to work on the music and music literacy objectives that they are most interested in studying. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills through studio recitals and individual growth plans.

Musical Theater 6-8
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 6067877
This course is for the student that is interested in musical theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

7th Grade Drama
Elective • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course #30745
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once
Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student-written material.

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one or two semesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple Street Magnet School:

Arabic Culture

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 8067831
This is an introduction to Arabic culture in America and worldwide, to broaden the student's worldview. Included are basic Arabic alphabet and numbers, countries, customs, music, art, clothing, weather, lifestyle, the Arabic lunar calendar, holidays, Arabic industry, celebrities and noteworthy individuals, and a historic overview.

Arabic for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 9080067
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 6 and 7
This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Arabic Intermediate

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 9080078
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 7 and 8
This course will enhance Arabic communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

Spanish Language Literature II

Elective • 2 Semesters (full year)
Prerequisite: Spanish Language Literature I
Course # 90875
This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Columbian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar. (Students must complete Spanish Literature I, II, & III to receive 2.0 high school credits.)

GRADE 7: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one or two semesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science, and Technology

The following elective courses are only offered at Milwood Magnet:

7th Grade Graphic Design

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15755
This 7th Grade Graphic Design course will provide students with the opportunity to explore a broad range of state-of-the-art image editing software. This course has been designed for students to explore visual problem-solving skills through contemporary graphic design for the twenty-first century.

7th Grade Video Production

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20775
Prerequisite: Video A
Students will be focusing on Chroma Key, manipulation of lighting, saturation, cutting on action, camera shots, and points of view. Throughout the course, students will create three films*: Around the World/Social Justice, Inside Out,* and *All in One*.

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:

Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)

ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks) • 0.5 Credit; Course can be repeated
Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only
15 hours of service learning required
Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

Welcome to 8th Grade!

Dear Incoming 8th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

It's hard to believe, but before you know it, your seventh-grade year will come to an end, summer vacation will come and go, and you will be back to school as an eighth grader. An important first step in planning for next year is for students and parents to review this bulletin and to choose elective courses to complete a middle school schedule. Descriptions of the courses we offer to eighth-grade students are found on the following pages.

As an eighth grader, you will have the opportunity to earn high school credits that will count towards graduation. Courses like Algebra I, Spanish I, Chinese I, and Art Foundations are the same courses as offered to students in high school. By successfully passing these courses while still in middle school, you will open up your high school schedule for even more electives.

It is especially important that you strive to do your very best as the Kalamazoo Public Schools has implemented a retention procedure for eighth-grade students. Students who are not successfully passing their core academic courses (English, math, science, and social studies) will be evaluated and possibly recommended for retention in the eighth grade. So be sure to put your best foot forward, study hard, take advantage of the academic support courses available to you, and ask for help if you find yourself falling behind.

After reviewing this bulletin with your parent/guardian, you will need to **complete the requested information on the course selection sheet that your counselor gave you to bring home. Make sure that your parent/guardian signs your course selection sheet and return it to school tomorrow.** Once we receive your course selection sheet, we will begin to develop a schedule that's right for you.

SAMPLE SEMESTER SCHEDULE GRADE 8								
		1st Period	**2nd Period**	**3rd Period**	**4th Period**	**5th Period**	***6th Period***	**7th Period**
SEMESTER 1	AUGUST - JANUARY	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS
SEMESTER 2	JANUARY-JUNE	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	ELECTIVE ***OR*** READING STRATEGIES AND SUCCESS SKILLS ***OR*** ALGEBRA READINESS		

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)

- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 8
- Mathematics 8 or Algebra I
- Science 8
- Social Studies 8

One-Semester (18 weeks)

- Physical Education 8

ELECTIVES

Essential Academic Success Skills is required for students performing below grade level as indicated by the results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses will be limited.

Students who are not required to take this course will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

GRADE 8: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All eighth-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts 8
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30810
This course provides students with a balanced literacy program. Students will analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning (literature) and how the author uses and refines meaning of key terms over the course of a text (informational text). Students will compare and contrast two or more texts determining the central ideas and themes, citing textual evidence to support analysis, and write objective summaries of texts. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR

Advanced English Language Arts 8
ENGLISH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 30812
This course features many of the topics of English Language Arts 8 at a faster and deeper pace. Advanced English provides an overview of utopia and gives students an opportunity to examine why ideas about utopia undergo change. Through the study of literature, art, and music, students learn about the search through the ages for utopia and the struggles to grasp and maintain it on both personal and societal levels.

English Language Learners – See page 26 for course options.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics 8
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50810
This course offers a well-developed integrated (all strands of math) math foundation. Topics of study include modeling, Pythagorean Theorem, exponential relationships, quadratic relationships, and algebraic reasoning.

OR

Algebra I
MATH OPTION • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 50812
Prerequisite:
Eligible for 1.0 High School Credit
This course provides students with the fundamental skills and concepts of algebra including proportions, linear functions, exponential functions, and quadratic functions. This course integrates the use of multiple representations including graphs, tables, and equations and uses manipulatives and technology to further students' algebraic thinking. Students learn to model real-life situations with connections to geometry, statistics, and probability.

KPS students who pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school math credit towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

GRADE 8: REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

All eighth-grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8th Grade Physical Education
REQUIRED • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 65810
Scheduling Note: This is the required PE course for 8th grade students.
This course emphasizes health-related fitness and development of the skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity. Students will participate in multiple individual sports, team sports, recreational games, and fitness activities. Advanced-level skills and strategies will be taught to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness. Activities and sports covered may vary based on semester taken.

SCIENCE

Science 8
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 70810
This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to physical, earth, life, and health sciences and further develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include forces and motion, plate tectonics, atomic structure, cell division, genetics, and an introduction to medical investigation. Students will continue to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 8
REQUIRED • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 80810
Students will continue their study of United States history from the writing of the Constitution through Reconstruction. Geographic, civics/government, and economics content is integrated within the historical context. Students analyze an issue and propose a plan for civic action using significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry. Where appropriate, they make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

EXTENDED LEARNING

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in English Language Arts or mathematics as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, may have an additional period to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education, Chinese, or Spanish will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Algebra Readiness 8
REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 506782
This course is designed to build on students' current mathematical understanding to progress towards mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students successful experiences in mathematics. Successful completion of this course helps students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

Reading Strategies and Success Skills 8
REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA
Course # 30851
Reading Strategies and Success Skills 8 is designed to help students improve their reading and writing skills and strategies with narrative and informational text, word identification, and fluency. Successful completion of this course helps students succeed in cross-curricular classes.

GRADE 8: ACADEMIC SERVICES

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

AVAILABLE AT LINDEN GROVE, MAPLE STREET, AND MILWOOD MAGNET

ELD 1: ENTERING
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35110
This course focuses on foundational English language skills for students at the Entering proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on building listening and speaking skills, including basic vocabulary and simple sentence structures. Students will learn to respond to greetings, follow simple instructions, and engage in basic conversations. Foundational literacy skills, such as decoding and recognizing sight words, are also introduced.

ELD 2: EMERGING
ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35210
In this course, students progress to the Emerging proficiency level. Emphasis is placed on expanding communication skills, including asking and answering questions, engaging in simple conversations, and understanding short written texts. Writing instruction focuses on constructing complete sentences and short paragraphs using familiar vocabulary and phrases. The course integrates content from other subjects to help students develop academic language.

ELD 3: DEVELOPING
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 35310
Designed for students at the Developing proficiency level, this course emphasizes the use of English in academic and social contexts. Students will engage in longer conversations, read and comprehend multi-paragraph texts, and write organized paragraphs. The curriculum includes academic vocabulary development, critical reading strategies, and collaborative discussions to prepare students for mainstream classes.

ELD Literacy
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350430
This standalone course is designed for students needing additional support in foundational literacy skills. Emphasis is placed on reading fluency, phonics, academic language, comprehension strategies, and writing basics. The curriculum includes phonics, vocabulary development, and guided reading activities tailored to students' individual needs. Through targeted instruction, adaptive technology, and interactive activities, students will develop a deeper understanding of texts, enhance their ability to analyze and interpret information, and strengthen their overall literacy skills. This course may be taken alongside ELD 1 or ELD 2.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT INTEGRATED

ELD Numeracy

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350450
This course focuses on foundational math skills tailored for English Learner (EL) students, emphasizing both numeracy and academic language development. Students will explore key math concepts such as basic operations, fractions, decimals, and problem-solving strategies. Instruction integrates math vocabulary and language support to help students build confidence and prepare for mainstream math classes.

ELD Science

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350470

This course introduces foundational science concepts while supporting English language development. Students will engage in topics such as life sciences, earth sciences, and basic physical sciences through hands-on activities, experiments, and visuals. Emphasis is placed on building academic vocabulary and language structures needed to explain observations, analyze data, and discuss scientific phenomena.

ELD Social Studies

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 350480
This course provides an introduction to key concepts in history, geography, and civics with a focus on building academic English skills. Students will explore topics such as cultural diversity, community, and basic world history through interactive activities and simplified texts. The course emphasizes vocabulary acquisition, reading comprehension, and critical thinking, preparing students for success in mainstream social studies classes.

GRADE 8: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Automation and Robotics
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15820
Offered at all KPS middle schools
Students will explore 21st century skills related to technology, online communication and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics® to invent and innovate solutions to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development, and influence of engineering and robotics.

Current Events 8
ELECTIVE ● 1 Semester
Course # 80853
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove
Students will use inquiry based learning on current event topics affecting local, state, national and global communities. Units will start by identifying a specific event or topic, researching the context, investigating the effects, class discussions, and developing solutions or a plan of action. Students will be assessed on all of these phases of the process. Small and whole group collaboration will be vital for students to interpret diverse perspectives. Having a diverse range of current event topics will naturally lead to cross curriculum connections.

Future Michigan Educator Course 2
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 55810
Offered at all KPS middle schools – Grades 7 and 8
This course is designed to provide students who are interested in a career in education with the skills to become a peer educator within their building and become eligible for employment as a peer tutor during summer school. Students will learn strategies for inclusive teaching and how the education system is designed to prepare students for success as an adult. Students will have the opportunities to lead tutor students in small groups and one-on-one tutoring in a supervised setting.

School Newspaper/Journalism 8
ELECTIVE ● 1 Semester
Course # 30820
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove
Students in this class will collaboratively create a digital School Newspaper. Students will be assigned different aspects of the newspaper based on their strengths and interests. Contents of the newspaper will range from coverage to global events to school community events. Participating in journalism will support students in being global citizens and positively participating in the digital space. This course will support involvement and participation in creating a strong and united school community.

ART ELECTIVES

8th Grade Art Studio
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 10825
This course will provide students with the opportunity to work with a wide variety of subject matter. Students will demonstrate higher levels of understanding and create increasingly complex works of art. They will also be introduced to career pathways in the visual arts. Students will develop the skills necessary for success in high school art programs.

8th Grade Art Foundations
Elective • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 10835
Eligible for 0.5 High School Credit
Prerequisite: Passed 6th or 7th grade art AND teacher approval based on artistic behaviors.
This 8th grade art course will provide students with the opportunity to work with a wide variety of 2D and 3D media. Students will demonstrate higher levels of understanding and create increasingly complex works of art. Students will develop the skills necessary for success in high school art programs. *KPS students who pass this course will receive one-half high school credit.*

GRADE 8: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

8th Grade Band
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60835
Prerequisite: Audition and/or 6th Grand Band or Director Permission
This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed a full year of 7th Grade Band. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to High School Band Classes. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

8th Grade Orchestra
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60845
Prerequisite: Audition and/or 7th Grand Band or Director Permission
This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed 7th Grade Orchestra. Students who complete this class are eligible to advance to High School Orchestra. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

VOCAL MUSIC

8th Grade Choir
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 60825
Participation in choir includes using skills of part-singing, group-singing, sight-reading, and vocal production. In addition, the curriculum will include instruction in music history, criticism, evaluation, and listening skills. The relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts will be explored. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVES

8th Grade Life Skills
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20835
Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove
This course provides students with a greater depth in the area of consumer living. Instruction includes career and employability skills, self-awareness, food and nutrition, and basic sewing skills.

Elective Physical Education
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 65825
Offered at Linden Grove, Maple St., and Milwood Magnet School only
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course
This course promotes lifetime sports, recreational, and wellness activities that provide an opportunity to refine skills and attitudes that encourage lifelong fitness. Activities will include health-related fitness testing, dynamic stretching, team sports, and individual and dual sports.

Fit 4 Life
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 65865
Offered at Linden Grove, Maple Street, and Milwood Magnet School only
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course
This course is designed to promote cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength with emphasis on the combination of strength training, speed and agility training, and cardiovascular health. Students will learn about heart rates, BMI, muscle groups and fitness equipment utilization.

Healthy Lifestyles
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 45825
Scheduling Note: This course may be elected for one semester only
Offered at Linden Grove
Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required PE course.
Students will combine physical fitness, nutrition education, and positive communicative skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle and promote lifelong wellness. They will assess the effect of food choices on individual health, and learn how to plan nutritious meals.

GRADE 8: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

Chinese I

ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (full year)
Course # 90851
Eligible for 1.0 High School Credit
Offered at Hillside Middle School Only
This course focuses on the basic elements of Chinese and the cultures of the Chinese-speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately, while written communication skills are developed gradually. Students are introduced to a rich variety of activities that develop communicative skills. Technology is used to reinforce learning.

Spanish Intermediate

Elective • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 90745
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 7 and 8
This course will enhance Spanish communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

Spanish I

Elective • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 90885
Eligible for 1.0 High School Credits
This course focuses on the basic elements of Spanish and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately while written communication skills are developed gradually. Technology is used to reinforce classroom learning.

KPS students who successfully pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school World Language credit (Spanish) towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

GRADE 8: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple St. Magnet School:

8th Grade General Music
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60865
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.
This is a non-performance class where students will learn about music of different cultures around the world. They will also utilize technology and learn basic piano skills.

Music Studio
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 60678751
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once per year.
Students will have access to a practice space to work in small groups or independently on musical objectives of their choice. This course seeks to give students a space during the school day to practice independently, recognizing that there are countless roadblocks for students to practice their music after school hours and with a trained music teacher. This course will teach students how to set and work towards short-term and long-term goals, establishing practice techniques and routines, self-assessment strategies, as well as musical literacy and musical analysis skills, all while offering students the flexibility to work on the music and music literacy objectives that they are most interested in studying. Students will demonstrate knowledge and skills through studio recitals and individual growth plans.

Musical Theater 6-8
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 6067877
This course is for the student that is interested in musical theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Please note: participation in performances during and outside of the school day, possibly occurring in the evening or on the weekend, is a required expectation of this course and part of the overall grade.

Drama/Forensics 8
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course #3 0845
Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once
Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student-written material.

Spanish Language Literature III
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full Year)
Course # 90885
Eligible for 2.0 High School Credits
This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Colombian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar.

Arabic Intermediate
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 9080078
Scheduling Note: Available to students in Grades 7 and 8
This course will enhance Arabic communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

GRADE 8: ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses. Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one or two semesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts (continued from previous page)

Arabic I A, B, & C
ELECTIVE • 2 Semesters (Full year)
Course # 908017, 908018, 908019
Eligible for 1.0 High School Credit
This course focuses on the basic elements of Arabic and the cultures of the Arabic-speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately, while written communication skills are developed gradually. Students are introduced to a rich variety of activities that develop communicative skills. Technology is used to reinforce learning. *KPS students who successfully pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school world language credit (Arabic) towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.*

Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology

The following elective courses are only offered at Milwood Magnet School:

8th Grade Graphic Design
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 15855
This 8th Grade Graphic Design course will provide students with the opportunity to explore a broad range of state-of-the-art image editing software. This course has been designed for students to demonstrate visual problem-solving skills through contemporary graphic design for the twenty-first century.

8th Grade Video Production
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks)
Course # 20885
Throughout this course, students will create three films. Students will focus on manipulating speed/direction, keyframes, composition, intended messaging, and copyright.

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:
Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)
ELECTIVE • 1 Semester (18 weeks) • 0.5 Credit; Course can be repeated
Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only
15 hours of service learning required
Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

EARN HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT EVEN BEFORE YOU ENTER HIGH SCHOOL

Eighth-grade students have several opportunities to earn high school credit which will count towards graduation, even before entering high school.

Students are eligible to receive high school credit by passing the following courses while still in middle school (8th grade):

- 8th Grade Art Foundations 0.5 credit
- Algebra I 1.0 credit
- Arabic I 1.0 credit
- Chinese I 1.0 credit
- Spanish I 1.0 credit
- Spanish Language Literature 2.0 credits

TESTING FOR CREDIT

Testing out of a high school course can provide a student the opportunity to earn credit in required courses and move into more challenging advanced courses or electives of interest. Students considering testing out should be self-directed learners capable of demonstrating an understanding of the subject area content expectations in the course for which they wish to test out.

The student must score at least 70% or better on the district designated test in order to test out and receive credit. The testing out credit will appear on the transcript and will count towards the total number of credits needed for graduation. However, the score does not translate into a grade and is not part of the GPA calculation for any purpose. When considering the test out option, students need to consider the following:

1) the effect on their GPA calculation (this may mean NOT including a potentially high grade in the GPA);
2) NCAA requirements; and
3) other college admission considerations.

The following test out exams are available to 8th grade students:

- Algebra I
- English 9
- Environmental Science
- Spanish
- World History

For more information, including the testing schedule, talk with your school counselor or call Secondary Education at 269-337-0168.

SUMMER SPANISH COURSE: LEARN AND EARN

For students unable to fit Spanish into their schedule during the eighth grade, or just interested in an exciting summer learning experience, we are offering Spanish I during the summer. Students desiring to learn Spanish can enroll in the six-week Summer Spanish: Learn and Earn program offered to eighth- and ninth-grade students in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. Students will be awarded one high school world language credit (Spanish I) for successfully passing the course.

Details will be made available in early May.

LOOKING AHEAD TO HIGH SCHOOL . . .

Like the middle schools, the high schools operate on a semester schedule. We believe the semester schedule will help students meet the graduation requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum and provide flexibility in meeting students needs. Grades are issued at the end of each semester.

Sample School Year on the Semester Schedule	
Fall Semester: August - January (18 weeks)	Spring Semester: January - June (18 weeks)

One-half (0.5) credit will be awarded for each semester (18-week) course that is passed successfully. Students shall be scheduled into seven courses per semester. Students can earn 3.5 credits per semester for two semesters per year (7.0) credits total per year. Students need a minimum of 24 credits to graduate.

Sample Four-Year Plan on the Semester Schedule			
		Fall Semester (18 weeks) August - January	**Spring Semester (18 weeks) January - June**
9th Grade earn 7.0 credits	1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Algebra I 9 A English 9 A World Language I A Environmental Science World History A Elective Seminar	Algebra I 9 B English 9 B World Language I B Elective World History B Physical Education Seminar
10th Grade earn 7.0 credits 14 credits cumulative	1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Geometry A English 10A World Language II A Biology A US History A Elective Seminar	Geometry B English 10B World Language II B Biology B US History B Elective Seminar
11th Grade 21 credits cumulative	1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Algebra II A English 11 A Government & Politics A Science or Science Related A Economics Elective Seminar	Algebra II B English 11B Government & Politics B Science or Science Related B Personal Finance Elective Seminar
12 Grade 28 credits cumulative	1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th	Final year math experience College English A Social Studies Elective Elective Elective Elective Seminar	College English B Elective Elective Elective Elective Elective Seminar

ENROLLMENT/GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Ninth Grade: Students who enter high school from one of our middle schools are expected to have passed all eighth grade courses.

Minimum number of credits needed for classification as:		
Sophomore	Grade 10	5.0
Junior	Grade 11	11.0
Senior	Grade 12	17.0
Minimum number of credits required to graduate:		**24.0**

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following graduation requirements were adopted by the Kalamazoo Public Schools' Board of Education and meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). The requirements are subject to review and may change at the discretion of the Board. Any such changes would follow a phase-in process.

Required Credits/Subjects	# of Credits
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Social Studies	4
Physical Education	.5
Health	.5
Visual, Performing and Applied Arts	1
World Language	2
Personal Finance	.5
College & Career Readiness	.5
Electives	5.5-6.0
MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS TO GRADUATE	24

Additional Requirements for Graduation:

- **MME – Grade 11**

Within the minimum number of credits required in subject areas are specific course requirements as listed below:

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES	
English 1.0 English 9 or Honors English 9 1.0 English 10 or Honors English 10 1.0 English 11 or Honors English 11 1.0 English or English-related course (final year experience)	**Math** 1.0 Algebra I 1.0 Geometry 1.0 Algebra II 1.0 Final year math experience
Science Students must take at least one semester in each of the following areas of science: Physical Science, Life Science, and Earth Science.	**Social Studies** 1.0 World History 1.0 U.S. History 1.0 Government .5 Economics .5 Social Studies Elective

STUDENT-ATHLETES

It isn't too early to acquaint yourself with the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association).

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Center. The Eligibility Center ensures consistent application of NCAA initial-eligibility requirements for all prospective student-athletes to all member institutions.

Your Responsibility as a Prospective Student-Athlete:
It is your responsibility to make sure the Eligibility Center has the documents it needs to certify you.

These documents are:
- completed and signed Student Release Form and registration form
- completed transcript mailed directly from every high school you have attended
- ACT and/or SAT scores
- Foreign Student Application (if applicable)

To be certified by the Eligibility Center you must:

Graduate from High School

You should apply for certification if you are sure you wish to participate in athletics as a freshman in the college to which you will be admitted. The Eligibility Center will issue a preliminary certification report when you have had all your materials submitted. After you graduate, if your eligibility information is requested by a member institution, the Eligibility Center will review your final transcript to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards.

Have a GPA of at least 2.3

Earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale of at least 2.3 in a core curriculum of at least 16 (or 14 for Division II) academic courses which were successfully completed during grades 9 through 12. Only courses that satisfy the NCAA definition of a core course can be used to calculate your NCAA GPA. No special values are allowed for "+" or "-"grades.

The standards maintain 16 core courses passed, **but 10 of those 16 courses must be completed by the START of the student-athlete's senior year of high school.** Additionally, the new sliding scale for the SAT/ACT will soon be approved with higher test scores required.

For more information about the National Collegiate Athletic Association eligibility requirements, visit www.ncaa.org or contact your high school counselor.

Kalamazoo Public Schools

Every child. Every opportunity. Every time.

2025-2026

Hillside Middle School
1941 Alamo Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269.337.0570
Atiba McKissack, Principal
Melinda Long, Counselor
Kevin Moore, Counselor

Linden Grove Middle School
4241 Arboretum Pkwy.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269.337.1740
Michael Hughes, Principal
Stephen Spybrook, Counselor
Nora Sneed, Counselor

Maple Street Magnet School
922 W. Maple St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269.337.0730
Jeffrey Boggan, Principal
Dawn Couch, Counselor
Drew Farrell, Counselor

Milwood Magnet School
2916 Konkle St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269.337.0670
William Hawkins, Principal
Joshua Kruger, Counselor
Roshonda Wiggins, Counselor

Notice of Nondiscrimination
Kalamazoo Public Schools will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person based on religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities or other legally protected factors in any of its activities, programs or services.

This notice complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Michigan Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977. Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Kalamazoo Public Schools, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. All other inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Kalamazoo Public Schools, 1220 Howard Street (337-0100) or to the Director of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C. 20201.