

Millbrook Central School District
Millbrook, New York 12545



Middle School Course & Curriculum Guide

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Program Requirements for Grades 6 – 8

All students shall receive instruction that is designed to facilitate their attainment of the State intermediate learning standards in the seven general curriculum areas: mathematics, including arithmetic, science, and technology; English language arts, including reading, writing, listening, and speaking; social studies, including geography and ancient history; Languages other than English (pursuant to section 100.2(d) of Commissioner’s Regulations); the arts, including visual arts, music, dance, and theater; career development and occupational studies; where student need is established, bilingual education and/or English as a second language; health education, physical education and family and consumer sciences with health education pursuant to section 135.3(b) of Commissioner’s Regulations and physical education pursuant to section 134.4(c)(2)(i) of Commissioner’s Regulations.

All students shall be provided instruction designed to enable them to achieve, by the end of grade eight, State intermediate learning standards through:

- English language arts, two units of study;
- Social studies, two units of study;
- Science, two units of study;
- Mathematics, two units of study;
- Technology education, one unit of study;
- Home and career skills, three-quarters of a unit of study;
- Physical education as required by section 135.4(c)(ii) of Commissioner’s Regulations;
- Health education, one half unit of study as required by section 135.3(c) of Commissioner’s Regulations;
- The arts, including one half unit of study in the visual arts, and one half unit of study in music;
- Library and information skills, the equivalent of one period per week in grade seven and eight;
- Languages other than English pursuant to section 100.2(d) of Commissioner’s Regulations;
- Career development and occupational studies.

Grade 8 acceleration for diploma credit.

Public school students in grade 8 shall have the opportunity to take high school courses in mathematics and in at least one of the following areas: English, social studies, languages other than English, art, music, career and technical education subjects or science courses.

6th Grade Course Selection

Art 6 **Required**

In 6th grade art students will be expanding upon topics learned in previous art classes, as well as learning new concepts, mediums, and techniques. The projects will incorporate art history and the art of different world cultures, building upon themes learned in the student's other subject areas.

This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Computer Application **Required (Not active)**

Computer Applications meets in the Mac lab and is designed to provide an understanding of computer programs, how to use technology to help students learn, and the graphic arts.

Students will be introduced to various programs in word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphic design, music and video production. These programs will give students the knowledge and hands-on experience they need in order to create meaningful, well designed projects for use in all subject areas. This is a pass/fail 10 week course.

Digital Literacy **Required**

Digital Literacy provides students with the ability to find, evaluate, utilize, create, and share content responsibly using information technologies and the Internet. Students complete mini-projects based on digital technology & responsibilities. They are guided through the research process:

- Selecting a topic (brainstorm interests)
- Note taking from a variety of authoritative resources (library webpage)
- Evaluating websites
- Web 2.0 tools (AdobeSpark, ThingLink)
- Citing sources using MLA format
- Completing and presenting a final project

Students also complete an online Digital Citizenship course called EverFi Ignition, which is a self-paced course consisting of 7 modules that teach online etiquette, safety, and what it means to have a digital footprint.

This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

English Language Arts 6 **Required**

ELA 6 is designed to increase students' literacy skills through reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. The primary focus in ELA is mastery of reading and writing, demonstration of the rules of grammar, and the ability to express oneself effectively through various mediums of communication in direct correspondence to the Common Core State Standards.

Units of study include, but are not limited to:

- Narrative writing
- Expository writing (descriptive, explanation, comparison and contrast, problem/solution)

- Technical writing (friendly letters, thank-you notes, instructions, web pages)
- Argumentative
- Poetry
- Short stories
- Mythology/Folklore
- Vocabulary
- Standard grammar and

mechanics Homework:

- Read
- NewsELA
- Vocabulary
- Spelling Words with end of the month spelling test

This is a full year course that meets daily in an 80 minute block (two periods).

FACS 6 **Required**

Students explore topics that pertain to basic life skills. Specifically, assembling foods & reading recipes, basic cleaning skills and nutritional information. Much of this class will be technology based and hands on based. Students explore these topics over 10 weeks to develop their independent skills through authentic situations that create a student with 21st century skills. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Math 6 **Required**

In this class, students learn about ratios, percents, rational numbers, fractions, decimals, expressions, equations, inequalities, geometry and statistics. Students should expect homework every night. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Music 6 **Required**

Music 6 is an exploratory look at the elements of Music (Timbre, Rhythm, Melody, Harmony, Form/Structure). Students will create, compose, sing, play, perform, research, and otherwise demonstrate musical knowledge and growth through discussions, projects and performances. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Physical Education 6 **Required**

The purpose of the middle school physical education program is to introduce students to a broad range of physical activities and information, including team sports, individual and lifetime sports, rhythms, dance and adventure activities, with a concentration in personal fitness. Personal living skills are introduced to develop mental, social and emotional wellness through active participation in class activities. This is a full year course that meets every other day.

Science 6 **Required**

In science 6 students will experience a wide variety of inquiry based lab activities for 4 main units including:

- Investigating the Nature of Science, Engineering & Technology
- Investigating Energy, Electricity and Electromagnetism

- Investigating the Earth and Space
- Investigating the Environment

We use the NY MST and Next Generation Standards. Students will use a wide variety of scientific/ measurement tools for labs utilizing the scientific method. Students have daily homework averaging 20 minutes per night. The class will have one large independent research/ experiment project during the year and several smaller Earth Science related projects. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Social Studies 6 Required

Students study the ancient civilizations of the world. Students work through history exploring each civilization and their impact on the world we know today. Some of the civilizations we study are Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Rome, Greece, and the Middle Ages. Social Studies lessons are every other day. Please review notes daily.

Units of study include but are not limited to:

- Unit 1: The Neolithic Revolution
- Unit 2: River Valley Civilizations
- Unit 3: Classical Civilizations
- Unit 4: Comparative World Religions
- Unit 5: The Mediterranean World
- Unit 6: Contemporary

Issues Homework:

- Read and answer questions with T.T.Q.A. (turn the question around)
- Presentations
- Unit Projects

This is a full year course that meets every other day.

6th Grade Enrichment Program

6 Plus Enrichment Elective (Not active)

6+ Enrichment is a semester-long course designed to develop stronger technology & literacy skills through a variety of self-paced independent and small-group activities. The largest project focuses on preparations for our Arts in Education “Visiting Author” program. These activities are differentiated and allow for student independent choice and expression through guided activity selections. This is a pass/fail half year course that meets every other day.

6 Plus STEM Elective (Not Active)

Students will use the Engineering Design Process to investigate, test, and solve various problems and challenges. The course is non graded with no homework. This class is project based and may require general and/or recycled materials to be brought from home for projects. This is a pass/fail half year course that meets every other day.

Band 6**Elective**

Students will perform in both group rehearsals and sectional lessons on their primary instrument. Students will perform NYSSMA levels I & II materials. Students are expected to practice daily and be in attendance for group performances (such as concerts). Students who elect to take this course are expected to remain in the course for the duration of the school year.

This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

Prerequisite: Prior experience equivalent to a NYSSMA level I on their primary instrument.

Chorus 6**Elective**

Chorus is a performing ensemble. Other opportunities for select singers also exist on an individual basis. Students study, learn, and perform many different types of vocal literature, as well as rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. Attendance at all concerts is mandatory unless an excuse is provided to the instructor in advance. Each student is also required to attend vocal lessons which are set in a rotating class period schedule. Students are evaluated through rehearsal participation, written class work, tests/quizzes, concert/lessons attendance, homework, and group/individual vocal tests. Students in the choral program are expected to demonstrate commitment and dedication to vocal/choral music through outstanding attitude, effort, and achievement. Students who elect to take this course are expected to remain in the course for the duration of the school year. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

Enriched History 6**Elective**

Students will explore the people and events of New York State through a historical lens using a hands-on approach to learning. They will analyze and interpret historical documentation and material culture to gain a better understanding of the rich history in our own backyard. This includes projects, simulating the life and times of a Continental Soldier during the American Revolution, playing and making games of the time period, candle making, tin smithing, quill writing, marching and drilling, encampment simulation and more!

This is either a half year, pass/fail course that meets every other day, or a full year, pass/fail course that meets every other day.

Seminar 6**Elective**

In Seminar 6 students will be exposed to a social emotional learning curriculum created to assist students in transitioning to middle school. This course covers topics such as goal setting, personal values, creating and maintaining friendships, decision making, emotion regulation, stress management, internet safety and career exploration. Students will also experience STEM curriculum with the Library Media Specialist. They will use the Engineering Design Process to investigate, test, and solve various problems and challenges. The course is non graded with no homework. This is a full year, pass/fail course that meets every other day.

7th Grade Course Selection

Art 7 **Required**

In 7th grade art students will be expanding upon topics learned in previous art classes, as well as learning new concepts, mediums, and techniques. The projects will incorporate technology, art history, and other hands-on experiences that will build upon themes learned in the student's other subject areas. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

ELA 7 **Required**

ELA 7 uses reading and writing fiction and nonfiction to expand students' ability to articulate abstract and concrete thought. Fiction and nonfiction texts are leveled to students' abilities and interests. Writing units are project based. Weekly homework focuses on reading comprehension. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Exploring Computer Science

Required

Exploring Computer Science was developed around a framework of both computer science content and computational practices. The Exploring Computer Science course material is aligned to NYS Computer Science standards. Assignments and instruction are contextualized to be socially relevant and meaningful for a diverse student population. Student participation and feedback will help drive choices of the types of projects we engage in. This is a pass/fail course.

FACS 7 **Required (Not Active)**

Students explore topics that pertain to basic life skills. Specifically, baking skills, financial planning applications and consumerism. Much of this class will be technology based and hands on based. Students explore these topics over 10 weeks to develop their independent skills through authentic situations that create a student with 21st century skills. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

French IA **Required**

This is year one of a two year sequence required for HS graduation. French 1A covers the topics of Personal Identification, Family, Community and Leisure. Students will develop the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Culture will be an integral part of the course, as well. Students should expect homework 2-3 times a week, including assigned videos. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Health 7 **Required**

This course is designed to help students develop sensible and lasting attitudes, behaviors and skills regarding many areas of life impacting personal wellness. The three major components of health are physical, social and mental/emotional health. The units of study under these components include: drugs, alcohol, tobacco, nutrition, fitness, stress management, reproduction, families and relationships and diseases and disorders. Some of the skills acquired through these units are goal setting, decision making, and communication and refusal skills.

This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Math 7 **Required**

Topics covered include rational numbers, expressions and equations, proportional relationships, probability and statistics and geometry. These are topics prescribed by the Common Core and prepare the students for the NY State exam. Students are given homework from Monday through Thursday. Assessments consist of homework evaluation, quizzes and tests. This is a full year course that meets every day

Math 7A **Accelerated Course**

This course is a combination of Math 7 and Math 8 to prepare students for the Grade 9 level Common Core Algebra Regents exam. In addition to completing the Math 7 curriculum, students will also study 8th grade topics of exponents, advanced equation solving, three dimensional figures, probability and statistics and systems of equations in two variables. Assessments consist of homework evaluation, quizzes and tests. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of math 6, recommendation of 6th grade math teacher, qualifying score on entrance rubric

Music 7 **Required**

Music 7 is an exploratory look at music from Western culture and around the world. Students will create, compose, play, sing, perform, research, present, and otherwise demonstrate musical knowledge and growth through in class discussions, performances, and journaling opportunities. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Physical Education 7/8 **Required**

The purpose of the middle school physical education program is to introduce students to a broad range of physical activities and information, including team sports, individual and lifetime sports, rhythms, dance and adventure activities, with a concentration in personal fitness. Personal living skills are introduced to develop mental, social and emotional wellness through active participation in class activities. This is a full year course that meets every other day.

Science 7 (Physical Setting) **Required**

Students will study chemistry and physics. This class includes hands-on, inquiry based labs and projects along with STEM based engineering challenges. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Social Studies 7 **Required**

Social Studies 7 is based on the first half of United States history, beginning with human settlement in North America and continuing through the American Civil War. Through engagement with historical content, students seek to inform larger Essential Questions that can be applied to broader understandings of human society. Students will participate in historical investigations through examination of primary and secondary historical sources and will be expected to articulate their understandings through writing. Course workload will be comprised of classwork, homework, current events, assessments, and other assignments. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Spanish IA **Required**

In this class, students learn about the unit topics of Personal Identification, Education, Family and Leisure Time Activities. Students will be immersed in the Spanish language and culture with speaking, listening, reading, writing activities and requirements. Students should expect homework or an activity every night. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Technology 7 **Required**

The goal of the Gateway to Technology curriculum is to provide the students with an introduction to the various fields of Engineering through the use of instructional lessons and authentic learning experiences. The curriculum will provide the students with the necessary foundation to develop an interest and understanding of the engineering and technological worlds. This is a full year course that meets every other day.

8th Grade Course Selections

Art 8 **Required**

In 8th grade art students will be expanding upon topics learned in previous art classes, as well as learning new concepts, mediums, and techniques. The projects will incorporate technology, art history, and other hands- on experiences that will build upon themes learned in the student's other subject areas. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

ELA 8 **Required**

ELA is a survey course in reading, writing, speaking and listening. A workshop approach is used to improve student ability to comprehend both fiction and nonfiction texts as well as to prepare students to write for a variety of purposes and audiences. Special emphasis is given to those ELA skills necessary for college and career readiness. This is a full year course that meets every day.

FACS 8 **Required**

Students explore topics that pertain to basic life skills. Specifically, interest inventory assessments, career planning and individualized goal setting, Much of this class will be technology based and hands on based. Students explore these topics over 10 weeks to develop their independent skills through authentic situations that create a student with 21st century skills. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

French IB **Required**

This is year two of the two year sequence required for HS graduation. French 1B meets every day and covers the topics of House and Home, Shopping, Food, Professions, Health and Welfare, and Travel. Students will be immersed in the French language and culture as they continue to develop the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing, as well as more advanced grammar and structure. With the addition of the IB Program at the High School,

students should expect a challenging curriculum that will require effort and motivation, both in and outside the classroom. This includes daily homework or practice, including assigned videos and projects.

This is a full year course that meets every day.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French IA

Health 8 **Required**

This course is designed to help students develop sensible and lasting attitudes, behaviors and skills regarding many areas of life impacting personal wellness. The three major components of health are physical, social and mental/emotional health. The units of study under these components include: drugs, alcohol, tobacco, nutrition, fitness, stress management, reproduction, families and relationships and diseases and disorders. Some of the skills acquired through these units are goal setting, decision making, and communication and refusal skills. This is a pass/fail 10 week course that meets every day.

Science 8 (Living Environment) **Required**

Life Science 8 focuses on the study of biological processes including cells, the human body and the environment. Students are expected to successfully complete daily homework, weekly labs and quizzes, unit projects and tests. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Math 8 **Required**

NYS Grade 8 common core math (pre-Algebra) with 10 -15 minutes of homework each night. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Music 8 **Required**

Music 8 is an exploratory, historical look at music of America, including blues, jazz, musical theater, and popular music of the twentieth century. Students will create, compose, play, sing, perform, research, present, and otherwise demonstrate musical knowledge and growth through in class discussions, performances, and journaling opportunities. This is a 10 week course that meets every day.

Physical Education 7/8 **Required**

The purpose of the middle school physical education program is to introduce students to a broad range of physical activities and information, including team sports, individual and lifetime sports, rhythms, dance and adventure activities, with a concentration in personal fitness. Personal living skills are introduced to develop mental, social and emotional wellness through active participation in class activities. This is a full year course that meets every other day.

Social Studies 8 **Required**

Social Studies 8 builds on the work students completed in Social Studies 7, using the post-Civil War history of the United States to answer major historical questions such as “how did the meaning of liberty change?” and “why is the 20th century often called the ‘American Century’?” Students will use a variety of approaches to engage with the paradoxical history of this fascinating nation, including projects, regular quizzes, short writing assignments, primary source analysis, and debates. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Spanish IB **Required**

Students are required to take Spanish IB every day. Once both the class and end of year exam are completed successfully students earn their required High School credit for High School graduation. In this class, students learn about the unit topics of Community, House and Home, Shopping, Food, Community and Professions, Health and Welfare and Travel.

Students will be immersed in the Spanish language and culture with speaking, listening, reading, writing activities and requirements. Also, with the newest addition of the IB Program in the High School, students should expect a challenging curriculum that will require effort and outside the classroom motivation for full benefit. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IA

Technology 8 **Required**

The goal of the Gateway to Technology curriculum is to provide the students with an introduction to the various fields of Engineering through the use of instructional lessons and authentic learning experiences. The curriculum will provide the students with the necessary foundation to develop an interest and understanding of the engineering and technological world. This is a full year course that meets every other day.

7th & 8th Grade Enrichment Program

All 7th & 8th graders have the opportunity to participate in our enrichment program. An enriched course is a course taught at a deeper level so students can learn more about a subject in which they have some talent and/or a high level of interest. Some of these courses replace a required 7th or 8th grade course and some of them are electives that a student chooses to enhance their learning. Enrichment courses are for all 8th grade students and have no prerequisites other than a desire to learn.

7 Plus Enrichment **Elective (Not active)**

7 Plus is a chance for students to pursue their interests through an academic lens. Students will research topics of interest and present their findings through a variety of digital media to their peers. Peers in turn will evaluate the presentations and give feedback. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

American History Plus (Enrichment) **Required (Not Active)**

Social Studies 8 Enriched involves the same basic content as Social Studies 8, but engages with it at a deeper level. Students joining the Enriched class should have a genuine enthusiasm for Social Studies, and a desire to discuss and evaluate our nation's history. Readings and assignments will be more challenging, so that students apply the concepts they have learned across different eras, and in different contexts, including the present. Social Studies 8 Enriched students go on two field trips during the year including a "Rags to Riches" trip to New York City in June. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Band 7/8 **Elective**

Students will perform in both group rehearsals and sectional lessons on their primary instrument. Students will perform at NYSSMA levels II & III materials. Students are expected to practice daily and be in attendance for group performances (such as concerts).

Students who elect to take this course are expected to remain in the course for the duration of the school year. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

Prerequisite: Prior experience equivalent to a NYSSMA level 2 on their primary instrument

Chorus 7/8

Elective

Chorus is a performing ensemble, other opportunities for select singers may be available. Students study, learn, and perform many different types of vocal literature, as well as rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. Attendance at all concerts is mandatory unless an excuse is provided to the instructor in advance. Each student is also required to attend vocal lessons which are set in a rotating class period schedule. Students are evaluated through rehearsal participation, written class work, tests/quizzes, concert/lessons attendance, homework, and group/individual vocal tests. Students in the choral program are expected to demonstrate commitment and dedication to vocal/choral music through outstanding attitude, effort, and achievement. Students who elect to take this course are expected to remain in the course for the duration of the school year.

This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

Enriched Studio in Art/Graphic Design

Elective Enriched Art meets utilizes both the art room and the Mac lab. Students will be held to a higher standard than previous years in art, and will be expected to give 100% at all times in this class.

Students will be learning not only new skills, but how to be an all-around artist and work like a professional in the field. The students are given more freedom in choosing their methods of creating and have more time to reach new depths and understandings of art through a full year course. They will be completing projects and using traditional studio materials as well as the computer to create graphics and digital art using the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite. Students will create an online digital portfolio that is worked on and updated throughout the year. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

History Through Film

Elective

History Through Film is an elective course that follows the rich narrative of the American experience as presented through the medium of American motion pictures. Some of the themes we will explore as part of History through Film include: Is film a legitimate source of historical knowledge? Is film evidence ever better than traditional historical sources? Should films be used to teach history? How are films themselves historical documents of the times in which they were created? This is a full year, pass/fail course that meets every other day.

Intro to Culinary Arts

Elective

Students explore topics that pertain to culinary arts. Specifically, food sustainability, knife skills, culinary career paths, level two cooking skills and technological applications in culinary.

Students explore these topics over 40 weeks to develop their independent skills through authentic situations that create a student with 21st century skills. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

Physical Education Wellness Plus (Enrichment) **Elective**

Students will enhance their skills in team and individual sports as in the regular level PE class. In addition, they will have the opportunity to study and research all aspects of wellness, including fitness levels. Additional activities will be developed by the instructor with input from students, e.g., outdoor adventure courses. Strong athletic talent is not a requirement; however, the ideal student has a real interest in wellness and is committed to full participation and engagement in the learning experiences that will be provided. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Press Room **Elective**

Press Room is a student driven writing elective, meeting every other day. Students will create, write, edit, and publish a finished product that will take the form of either a newspaper or magazine, with issues published every 4-6 weeks. Students will largely choose what they would like to report on but should consider the timeliness, proximity, and magnitude of topics. Students electing to participate in Press Room should be self-motivated and willing to work towards a collaborative and common goal. This is a pass/fail full year course that meets every other day.

STEM 7/8 **Elective**

Students will use the Engineering Design Process to investigate, test, and solve various problems and challenges. The course is non graded with no homework. This class is project based and may require general and/or recycled materials to be brought from home for projects. This is a pass/fail, half year course that meets every other day.

8th Grade Accelerated Courses

Accelerated courses are high school level courses offered to 8th graders who qualify. Students must be recommended to these courses by subject area teachers and must meet specific criteria for admission. The successful completion of an accelerated course and a passing grade on the associated Regents exam will result in one high school credit (Carnegie unit) per course. Both the final grade for the course and the Regents exam grade will be reflected on students' high school transcripts.

Algebra I CC **Accelerated Course**

This is an accelerated math course. NYS Algebra common core with 15-20 minutes of homework at night. This class includes a Regents exam in June, the grade of which goes on their high school transcript. .

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, 90+ average in 6th grade math, appropriate score on entrance rubric. This is a full year course that meets every day.

Regents Earth & Space Science **Accelerated Course**

Earth Science is a Regents course where students will study meteorology, astronomy,

oceanography, and the geology of the Earth. It is a demanding course that requires the student to study a minimum of 30 minutes each night. Students are also required to complete a minimum of 20 laboratory hours as required by the New York State Board of Regents. Students completing the necessary lab hours will sit for the Earth Science Regents exam in June. Lab periods are scheduled every other day for 1 period where students will conduct investigations that are hands-on; a written lab report will be required for each investigation. Amsco's Earth Science Review book is a required part of the course. This is a full year course that meets daily for 40 minutes in addition to every other day 40 minute lab period.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 7th grade science, recommendation of 7th grade Science teacher, appropriate score on entrance rubric.

Academic Intervention Services

Math Lab

Math Lab is part of the Middle School's Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS). Students may have a period of Math Lab scheduled into their day to receive remediation in specific mathematical areas based upon identified weaknesses. As part of this fluid model of interventions, a student may leave the Math Lab class when assessments indicate he/she has reached proficiency in the identified areas.

Prerequisite: Placement is based upon the recommendation of the building Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS) Committee which is data informed.

ELA Lab

ELA Lab is part of the Middle School's Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS). Students may have a period of ELA Lab scheduled into their day to receive remediation in specific reading and/or writing areas based upon identified weaknesses. As part of this fluid model of interventions, a student may leave the ELA Lab class when assessments indicate he/she has reached proficiency in the identified areas.

Prerequisite: Placement is based upon the recommendation of the building Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS) Committee which is data informed.

Reading Lab

Reading Lab is part of the Middle School's Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS). Students may have a period of Reading Lab scheduled into their day to receive remedial multi-sensory reading support. As part of this fluid model of interventions, a student may leave the Reading Lab class when assessments indicate he/she has reached proficiency in the identified areas.

Prerequisite: Placement is based upon the recommendation of the building Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS) Committee which is data informed.

Study Skills

Study Skills is part of the Middle School's Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS). Students may have a period of Study Skills scheduled into their day to receive assistance with preparing for their

classes, organizing materials, studying and completing assignments. As part of this fluid model of interventions, a student may leave the Study Skills class when assessments indicate he/she has reached proficiency in the identified areas.

Prerequisite: Placement is based upon the recommendation of the building Multi-Tiered Systems Of Support (MTSS) Committee which is data informed.

Special Education Programs

Resource Room

Placement in a Resource Room program is based on classification by the Committee on Special Education. Resource Room is a special education program for students who are in need of specialized supplementary instruction in a 5:1 small group setting. This is an ungraded, full year class that meets everyday.

Prerequisite: IEP

Special Class

Placement in a Special Class program is based on classification by the Committee on Special Education. Students work on content specific curriculum that is delivered through specially designed instruction.

Prerequisite: IEP

Integrated Co-Teaching

Placement in an Integrated Co-Teaching class is based on classification by the Committee on Special Education. Students will learn content specific curriculum delivered jointly by a general education and special education teacher, in the general education setting.

Prerequisite: IEP

Grading

Report cards are issued four times a year: mid-November, early February, mid-April, and late June. Parents should be aware of these dates for the purpose of reviewing academic progress, and should direct all questions concerning grades to the teacher responsible for issuing them. The passing mark is 65%. Courses with numeric grades are graded on a 50-100 scale. Courses with pass/fail grades are not factored into the student's cumulative GPA.

Alpha conversion of grades is as follows:

A+= 100-97	B+= 89-87	C+= 79-77	D+= 69-67	F= 64 and below
A = 96-93	B = 86-83	C = 76-73	D = 66-65	
A- = 92-90	B- = 82-80	C- = 72-70		

Computation of Final Grade

Full Year Course

MARKING PERIOD					Final Grade
	1	2	3	4	
Percent	25%	25%	25%	25%	100%
Example	80	90	70	90	83

High School Level Regents/Accelerated Courses:

French IB, Spanish IB, Algebra I CC, Earth Science Regents, and Living Environment Regents

MARKING PERIOD					Final Exam	Final Grade
	1	2	3	4		
Percent	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	100%
Example	80	90	70	90	80	82

Half Year Course

MARKING PERIODS			Final Grade
	1 (3)	2 (4)	
Percent	50%	50%	100%
Example	80	90	85

Students receiving grades of INC (Incomplete) are to complete all work within 15 school days. After this date, the teacher will post the new grade on the report card. Failure of a student to meet this deadline, without a legal excuse and special arrangements being made, will result in a grade of zero (0) for the incomplete work. The zero (0) will be incorporated into the grade to determine the reported grade for the marking period.

Progress reports are issued during the fifth week of each marking period. Their purpose is to communicate progress and achievement to parents/guardians at that juncture. The intent of the progress report is to offer specific suggestions for improvement if necessary. The maximum benefit from these reports comes when (1) parents contact the teacher to arrange a conference, and (2) students confer with the subject teacher for specific suggestions for work improvement. Both steps should be taken immediately. Parents may view students' grades through the Parent Portal System. Parents must first register in the Middle School office with an official ID for access.