

**LAUDERDALE
LAKES
MIDDLE SCHOOL**



**COURSE DIRECTORY
2026-2027**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families, Students, and LLMS Community,

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your proud principal for the 2025-2026 school year. For the first time in 15 years, we earned a “B” rating from the Florida Department of Education. This isn’t just a letter — it’s a symbol of resilience, belief, alignment with one vision and refusal to give up on our students! This year, we will continue pushing, with urgency and intentionality, to earn 43 more points to reach an “A”!

I’d like to highlight a few of our biggest WINS:

- High School Acceleration is at 86% — proving our students can meet the demands of rigorous coursework.
- Civics proficiency jumped 25%.
- Math proficiency is up 20% (over 2 years).
- English Language Arts proficiency increased 11%.
- Science proficiency improved 5%.

As we continue to establish a culture of high expectations, I’d like to introduce this year’s theme: All we do is WIN!

W – Work with Purpose

I – Inspire Growth

N – Never Settle

WIN is not about competition... it’s about culture! It’s a mindset we will model, teach, and embed in everything we do... because All We Do is WIN!

Sincerely,

Linda Lopez
Principal

LAUDERDALE LAKES COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All students will take Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and four electives*.

*Students with a FAST Reading Achievement Levels of 1 or 2 or district/curriculum-based assessments indicating areas of concern will be placed in the appropriate reading course as needed. Teacher recommendation will also be used to determine appropriate placement. Students will be placed in an Intensive Reading course as recommended by Broward's Middle School Placement guidelines.

ADVANCED ACADEMIC PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS for MATH

6th Grade

- Level 3 or above on the FAST Math.
- Level 3 or above on the FAST Reading.
- GEM - Level 4 or 5 on the FAST Math.
- Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 5TH grade mathematics program
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time)

7th Grade

- Level 3 or above on the FAST Math.
- Level 3 or above on the FAST Reading.
- Algebra 1 - Level 4 or 5 on the FAST Math.
- Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 6TH grade Adv. mathematics program
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time)

8th Grade / Algebra I Honors & Geometry Honors

- Level 3 or above on the FAST Math
- Level 3 or higher on the FAST Reading
- Academic quarter grades of at least 80% in advanced 7TH grade mathematics
- Teacher Recommendation: (Mathematical maturity and confidence, ability to show work mathematically, self-motivated and completes all homework on time.)
- Additionally, it is suggested that students have a strong work ethic and can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, give 100% effort, participate in class discussions, and enjoy the challenge of an extremely rigorous curriculum.

LAUDERDALE LAKES ACADEMIC COURSE OFFERINGS

6th Grade Language Arts

LA 6 Traditional
LA 6 Advanced
LA 6 Access

7th Grade Language Arts

LA 7 Traditional
LA 7 Advanced
LA 7 Access

8th Grade Language Arts

LA 8 Traditional
LA 8 Advanced
LA 8 Access

Mathematics

Math 6
Math 6 Advanced
Math 6 Access
GEM 6

Mathematics

Math 7
Math 7 Advanced
Math 7 Access
GEM 7

Mathematics

Pre-Algebra
Algebra 1 Honors
Geometry Honors (GEM)
Math 8 Access

Science (Earth)

Science 6
Science 6 Advanced
Comprehensive Science Gears I
Science 6 Access

Science (Life)

Science 7
Science 7 Advanced
Comprehensive Science Gears II
Science 7 Access

Science (Physical)

Science 8
Science 8 Advanced
Biology Honors
Science 8 Access

Social Studies (World History)

SS 6
SS 6 Advanced
SS 6 Access

Social Studies (Civics)

SS 7
SS 7 Advanced
SS 7 Access

Social Studies (US History)

SS 8
SS 8 Advanced
SS 8 Access

Reading

Intensive Reading 6

Reading

Intensive Reading 7

Reading

Intensive Reading 8

NOTE:

All ELL students that have an A1 or A2 status will automatically be placed into the ELL reading block.
B1 students are subject to the ELL Coordinator's discretion, based on test scores and academic performance.

SIXTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County Middle Schools Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.

*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

READING INTENSIVE

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

LANGUAGE ARTS

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging, complex texts.

LANGUAGE ARTS ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

MATHEMATICS

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to establish grade level proficiency with the standards established for 6th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to multiplication and division of decimals and fractions, data analysis, ratios, rates, fraction, decimal and percent equivalencies and their applications, algebraic expressions and equations, functions and inequalities and using formulas in geometry. Many of these concepts will be taught through word problem

MATHEMATICS ADVANCED

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to establish proficiency with the standards established for 6th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to multiplication and division of decimals and fractions, data analysis, ratios, rates, fractions, decimals, and percent equivalencies and their applications, algebraic expressions and equations, functions and inequalities and using formulas in geometry. Many of these concepts will be taught through word problems. Additionally, students will explore integers, operations with rational numbers and measurement specifically volume and surface area. This course involves independent work, follows chapter sequence of the text which builds on previously taught concepts and requires students to apply the skills that they have learned. The pace is accelerated and requires at least 15 minutes of homework daily. Advanced Math Placement Recommendation: Level 4 or above on FAST Mathematics, Level 3 or above on FAST Reading, Academic grades of A's and B's in the 5th grade mathematics program. It is suggested that students have a strong work ethic, can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, and enjoy the challenge of a rigorous curriculum.

Math 6 ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

EARTH-SPACE SCIENCE

The Earth Science curriculum builds on the natural curiosity of students. By connecting them to the beauty of geological history, the amazing landforms around the globe, the nature of the sea and air, and the newest discoveries about our universe, the curriculum gives students an opportunity to relate to their everyday world. Students will explore topics such as the fundamentals of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy; Earth's minerals and rocks; Earth's interior; plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and the movements of continents; geology and the fossil record; the oceans and the atmosphere; and the solar system and the universe. Lesson assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the science of our planet. Additional Requirements: At the advanced and Gifted level in each grade critical thinking and application skills are emphasized. Additional course requirements will include a more in-depth exploration of topics of interest to the student and will require that each student demonstrate proficiency in the practice of science by completing an independent, experimentally based research project suitable for competition in the district required science fair.

SCIENCE – GEARS (COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE ACCELERATED) 6

This is the first part of a series of a two courses progression designed to accelerate high ability students through the science content of the middle school curriculum. This course focuses on the Next Generation Sunshine Standard (NGSSS) from the Nature of Science, Physical Science, and the Earth Space Science bodies of knowledge. Laboratory investigations to develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work and that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus, technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. Learners will understand measurement error and acquire the skills necessary to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations and to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data. The Florida Core Standards for literacy are infused through instructional practices that ensure reading from a wide range of informational texts and those that provide research and writing opportunities, while the mathematical focus on critical thinking skill development and logical reasoning.

WORLD HISTORY

The objective of this course is to understand that the world is comprised of many diverse cultural groups who have made significant contributions to both the past and present. Students will explore the development of civilizations in historical and geographical settings, as well as the individuals and events that have significantly influenced culture and history. They will examine the major political, economic, social, and religious beliefs and institutions of selected Eastern and Western cultures. The content will include, but not be limited to, the study of ancient societies such as Egypt, Greece, and Rome.

WORLD HISTORY ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

SEVENTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County's Middle School Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.

*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

READING INTENSIVE

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

LANGUAGE ARTS

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging, complex texts.

LANGUAGE ARTS ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

MATHEMATICS

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to enable proficiency with the standards established for 7th grade by the Florida Department of Education.

Students will continue to develop mathematical content fundamentals for grade level proficiency. Emphasis is placed on computational proficiency. The content may include, but not be limited to, computational and applicational work with integers, rational numbers, percent, linear equations and functions, proportions and similarity, data analysis and probability, surface area and volume, measurement and proportional reasoning.

MATHEMATICS ADVANCED

The objective of this course is to provide additional practice and to enable proficiency with the standards established for 7th grade by the Florida Department of Education.

Students will continue to develop mathematical content fundamentals for higher level coursework. Emphasis is placed on computational proficiency. The content may include, but not be limited to, computational and applicational work with integers, rational numbers, percent, linear equations and functions, proportions and similarity, data analysis and probability, surface area and volume, measurement and proportional reasoning. Additionally, students will explore geometry and spatial reasoning, statistics and inequalities. This is a Pre-Algebra course and students who successfully complete this course may meet the requirements for Algebra 1 Honors as 8th graders.

Seventh Grade Advanced Math Placement Recommendation: Level 4 or above on FAST Mathematics, Level 4 or above on the FAST Reading, Academic quarter grades of A's and B's in the 6th grade advanced mathematics program. It is suggested that students have a strong work ethic, can independently complete homework and study for tests, are self-motivated, and enjoy the challenge of a rigorous curriculum

MATHEMATICS 7 ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards.

Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

ALGEBRA I HONORS

This is a high school course for high school credit. The objective of this course is to provide a rigorous and in-depth study of algebra, emphasizing deductive reasoning skills as a foundation for more advanced mathematics courses and developing the skills needed to solve mathematical problems. The content may include, but not be limited to, operations and properties used within the real number system, algebraic and graphical solutions to first degree equations and inequalities in one and two variables, relations and functions, direct and inverse variations, operations with polynomials, including all forms of factoring, rational and irrational algebraic expressions, quadratic equations, quadratic inequalities, quadratic functions, and use of the graphing calculator. Students who successfully complete the course requirements will receive one high school credit. It is strongly recommended that students have completed the 7th Grade Advanced Textbook in their seventh-grade year. Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, and a State End of Course Exam, which counts as 30% of their overall grade, and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA. There will also be approximately 30-60 minutes of homework daily. **There will be a summer assignment which will cover 8th grade skills which will be necessary for success in this 9th grade high school class.**

COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE 2 ACCELERATED ADVANCED (GEARS 2)

This is the second part of a 2 series course progression designed to accelerate high ability students through the science content of the middle school curriculum. This course focuses on the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) from the Nature of Science, Life Science, and Physical Science bodies of knowledge. Laboratory investigations to develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work and that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus, technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. Learners will understand measurement error and acquire the skills necessary to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations and to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data. The Florida Core Standards for literacy are infused through instructional practices that ensure reading from a wide range of informational texts and those that provide research and writing opportunities, while the mathematical focus on critical thinking skill development and logical reasoning.

LIFE SCIENCE

The Life Science program invites students to investigate the world of living things—at levels both large and small—by reading, observing, and experimenting with aspects of life on Earth. Students explore an amazing variety of organisms, the complex workings of the cell and cell biology, the relationship between living things and their environments, and discoveries in the world of modern genetics. Students tackle such topics as ecology, microorganisms, animals, plants, cells, animals, species, adaptation, heredity, genetics, and the history of life on Earth. Lesson activities and assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the living world.

LIFE SCIENCE ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

CIVICS AND CIVICS ADV

Civics is an empowering course that provides students with the critical skills to analyze and study the duties and rights of citizens. Using guided questioning, students will learn the importance of knowing the rights and responsibilities that are guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. Students will examine the different forms and functions of government and assess their knowledge of the American colonies and their early doctrines and government. The influence that England and the Age of Enlightenment had on the foundations of democracy will be studied. Students will use research and higher thinking skills to create collaborative projects to extend their knowledge of the Constitution and its principles. An in-depth study of the Bill of Rights will reinforce an understanding of the purpose and goals of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Branches of government. Units on voting, political parties and public opinion about national, state and local governments will enable students to better understand society and the challenges people face.

CIVICS ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

EIGHTH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

Students will be placed into a reading course based on Broward County's Middle School Placement Criteria Chart and the K-12 Reading Plan.

*Reading programs subject to change according to district guidelines.

READING INTENSIVE

This course provides strategic reading intervention focusing on scaffolding the Language Arts Florida Standards with support across texts of increasing complexity. Reading Intervention programs adopted by the district will be used to target instruction at the student's instructional level.

DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE ARTS FOR ELL STUDENTS

This course provides intensive ESOL instruction for the development of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and language skills for English language learners.

LANGUAGE ARTS

This course provides educational experiences addressing the English Language Arts Florida Standards. The content may include the study of literature, use of the writing process, application of reading, listening, spelling, grammar, speaking, critical thinking, and applications of language arts skills to daily life and the environment.

LANGUAGE ARTS ADVANCED

At the advanced level, content and curriculum addressed in Language Arts may be accelerated and covered in greater depth utilizing more challenging and complex text.

LANGUAGE ARTS ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards.

Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

MATHEMATICS

PRE-ALGEBRA

The objective of this course is to strengthen and build upon arithmetic skills while preparing for Algebra I in high school as well as to provide additional practice and to establish proficiency with the standards established for 8th grade by the Florida Department of Education. The content may include, but not be limited to real numbers, exponents, scientific notation, proportional and non-proportional relationships and functions, solving equations and systems of equations, transformational and measurement geometry, and statistics.

ALGEBRA I HONORS

This is a high school course for high school credit. The objective of this course is to provide a rigorous and in-depth study of algebra, emphasizing deductive reasoning skills as a foundation for more advanced mathematics courses and developing the skills needed to solve mathematical problems. The content may include, but not be limited to, operations and properties used within the real number system, algebraic and graphical solutions to first degree equations and inequalities in one and two variables, relations and functions, direct and inverse variations, operations with polynomials, including all forms of factoring, rational and irrational algebraic expressions, quadratic equations, quadratic inequalities, quadratic functions, and use of the graphing calculator. Students who successfully complete the course requirements will receive one high school credit. It is strongly recommended that students have completed the 7th Grade Advanced Textbook in their seventh-grade year. Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, and a State End of Course Exam, which counts as 30% of their overall grade, and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA. There will also be approximately 30-60 minutes of homework daily. **There will be a summer assignment which will cover 8th grade skills which will be necessary for success in this 9th grade high school class.**

GEOMETRY HONORS

This is a high school course for credit. Students who enroll in this course should be A/B Algebra I Honors students who have demonstrated mastery of algebra skills as evidenced by their grades and exam scores. This course is a rigorous and in-depth high school course which helps lay the foundation for higher level math work such as AICE, AP coursework, and college entrance exams. The emphasis is on methods of proof, the formal language of mathematics, the fundamental properties of geometry, the understanding of deductive and inductive reasoning, solving real-world problems by applying the geometric properties and algebraic skills, and using transformational and coordinate geometry. This course has a fast pace requiring 45-60 minutes of homework daily and involves a good deal of independent work since the approach of the course is the discovery method. Students should be highly motivated, responsible, self-directed, and committed to spending the time required to gain proficiency with the content skills. It is highly recommended (and necessary for success) that students have a strong working knowledge of algebra for this class. Tests involve questions requiring the application and proof (both formal and informal) of skills learned. Additionally, there will be a midterm exam, and a State End of Course Exam and the letter grade will count towards their high school GPA.

MATHEMATICS 8 ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards.

Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

The Physical Science program introduces students to many aspects of the physical world, focusing first on chemistry and then on physics. The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, and other aspects of chemistry and physics. Among other subjects, students study the structure of atoms; the elements and the Periodic Table; chemical reactions; forces, including gravitational, motion, acceleration, and mass; and energy, including light, thermal, electricity, and magnetism.

Additional Requirements:

At the advanced and gifted level in each grade, critical thinking and application skills are emphasized. Additional course requirements will include a more in depth exploration of topics of interest to the student and will require that each student demonstrate proficiency in the practice of science by completing an independent, experimentally based research project suitable for competition in the district required science fair.

BIOLOGY HONORS

Biology I Honors will provide opportunities to students for general exploratory experiences and activities in the fundamental concepts of life. Topics will include but not be limited to: the scientific method, laboratory apparatus usage and safety, biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, botany, zoology, human anatomy and physiology, and ecological relationships. Laboratory activities that include the use of the scientific method, measurement, laboratory apparatus, and safety are an integral part of this course. A state written End of Course (EOC) exam will count as 30% of the student's final course grade.

SCIENCE 8 ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards.

Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of American history from the Exploration and Colonization Period to the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events, which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting, impact on world history. This course offers scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, and participating in an extended research-based paper/project. Students will also participate in Junior Achievement, which teaches the key concepts of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 ACCESS

Access courses are for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Access courses are designed to provide students access to grade-level general curriculum. Access points are alternate academic achievement standards included in access courses that target the salient content of Florida's standards. Access points are intentionally designed to academically challenge students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING SUPPORT (ESLS)

Placement in these classes is determined by the student's (IEP), Individualized Education Plan as decided annually by the IEP committee. Reading placement will be based on State/Broward District's k-12 Reading Plan.

ESE SUPPORT

Students in these classrooms are attempting to earn an academic diploma in General Education to acquire Common Core Standards without modifications only accommodations. Exceptional Education Students participate in the general education classroom with support. Support Facilitators, along with classroom teachers, collaborate or consult on student success by providing a variety of services and strategies. Support Facilitation is designed to provide assistance within the general education setting. The degree of services is determined by student need and committee recommendation

SPECIALIZED VARYING EXCEPTIONALITIES – SPECIAL DIPLOMA STUDENTS TAKING FLORIDA ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT.

Courses are offered in a Specialized Varying Exceptionalities classroom for the following subject areas: language arts, math, science and social studies. Curriculum in the Specialized Varying Exceptionalities classrooms is based on individualized student academic and behavioral needs. Instruction is presented through an intensive curriculum using a variety of modalities such as very small group instruction, continuous hands-on learning activities, infused sensory activities and social training.

VARYING EXCEPTIONALITIES (VE) PROGRAM

An ESE class for students with varying exceptionalities where they are receiving direct instruction from a dually certified teacher (if not certified they may be out of field for 1 year while getting certified). It is intended to serve our students with more complex learning needs who require maximum support and services delivered within a smaller, specialized learning environment.

****This is a first year program that will begin for incoming 6th graders for the 26-27 school year.**

LAUDERDALE LAKES ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will choose from the following elective courses. Every effort will be made to give students their first choice. However, scheduling conflicts may preclude the first choice. Due to enrollment fluctuations and the number of students requesting a course, some elective courses may not be available. It is important, therefore, to carefully consider alternative elective choices.

6th Grade Electives

1. ART
2. BAND I
3. BEGINNER'S SPANISH
4. CHORUS
5. CRITICAL THINKING
6. EMERGING LEADERS
7. FUNDAMENTAL OF CULINARY CAREERS
8. FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS 6-8 (MATH)
9. GLOBAL LEADERS UNITED
10. LIBRARY SKILLS
11. ORIENTATION TO CAREER CLUSTERS
12. PEER COUNSELING
13. PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)
14. SPANISH I
15. SPEECH AND DEBATE I
16. STEM/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

7th Grade Electives

1. ART
2. BAND II
3. CHESS
4. CHORUS
5. CODING FUNDAMENTALS
6. CRITICAL THINKING
7. CULINARY CAREERS AND CAREER PLANNING
8. DIGITAL DISCOVERIES
9. EMERGING LEADERS
10. EXPLORATION OF ROBOTICS TECHNOLOGY
11. FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS 6-8 (MATH)
12. GLOBAL LEADERS UNITED
13. INTRO TO BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION AND CAREER PLANNING
14. LIBRARY SKILLS
15. PEER COUNSELING
16. PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)
17. SPANISH I
18. SPEECH AND DEBATE II
19. STEM/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

8th Grade Electives

1. ART
2. BAND III
3. BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS
4. CHESS
5. CHORUS
6. CODING FUNDAMENTALS
7. CRITICAL THINKING
8. CULINARY I
9. DIGITAL DISCOVERIES
10. EMERGING LEADERS
11. EXPLORATION OF AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY
12. EXPLORATION OF ROBOTICS TECHNOLOGY
13. FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS 6-8 (MATH)
14. GLOBAL LEADERS UNITED
15. HS SPANISH II
16. INTRO TO BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION AND CAREER PLANNING
17. INTRO TO ENGINEERING
18. LAW STUDIES
19. LIBRARY SKILLS
20. PEER COUNSELING
21. PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)
22. STEM/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

ELECTIVES

ART *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This is a discipline-based art education course. The four disciplines include aesthetics, art history, art criticism, and art production. This course will provide experiences necessary to understand, appreciate and produce two-dimensional artwork. The content should include, but not be limited to, the elements of art and the principles of design. This will assist students with the perception of and the response to basic concepts. The student will also learn seeing techniques combined with internationally known drawing techniques. They will be using a variety of art mediums such as watercolor, colored pencils, pastels and others necessary to produce two-dimensional artwork.

BAND I *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to introduce students with limited or non-musical backgrounds to the fundamentals of band. Students will develop a basic understanding of music notation and perform 12 major scales. Students are expected to practice 30 minutes per day. Optional activities are Solo Ensemble and Band Festivals.

BAND II INTERMEDIATE *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to continue the development of skills gained from the beginning band level. The band will perform medium to difficult music. Students will perform 12 memorized major scales. Selected students must attend all rehearsals, concerts and perfect music. A minimum of 30 minutes per day of practice is expected. All students must attend the Solo Ensemble, Band Festival, and All County Band Audition.

BAND III ADVANCED *Available to Grade 8*

The objective of this course will be to perfect musical skills accomplished in prior classes. Students will perform 12 memorized major scales. Selected students must attend all scheduled rehearsals and concerts, as well as perfect all music assigned. Practice is a minimum of 40 minutes per day. As a requirement for this course, all students will attend All County Band, All County Jazz Band, Area Honors Band, and All State Auditions.

BEGINNER'S SPANISH *Available to Grade 6*

M/J Spanish Beginning introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this one-year course.

BUSINESS & LEADERSHIP SKILLS *Available to Grade 8*

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Business Management and Administration career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to accounting, administrative support, digital publishing, entrepreneurship, international business, management and software applications.

CHESS I *Available to Grades 7/8*

Knowing the rules of chess and how the pieces move does not mean one has become a chess player. This is a beginner's chess course designed to introduce the game and hopefully create lifelong chess players. This full year course will start with the history, rules, and different periods of the game. It will then go into game strategy and tactics. Students will play chess at least 60 minutes on average during class and will be part of a class ranking system. Student seats are based on their class rank number; as their ranking stature changes,

CHORUS *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

CODING FUNDAMENTALS *Available to Grades 7/ 8*

In this course students are introduced to the basics of computer science and technology. Students will learn the core concepts of computer programming while learning to code in Python. Students will have the chance to earn the Python Coding Apprentice Certification. This course is for beginners and all levels of experience in coding.

CRITICAL THINKING *Available to Grades 6/7/ 8*

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop learning strategies, critical-thinking skills, and problem-solving skills to enhance their performance in academic and nonacademic endeavors.

CULINARY I *Available to Grade 8*

This course covers the history of the food service industry and careers in that industry. Also covered are safety in the workplace; employability skills; leadership/teamwork skills; care and use of commercial culinary equipment; basic food science; basic nutrition; and following recipes in food preparation labs.

DIGITAL DISCOVERIES *Available to Grades 7/8*

Digital Discoveries in Society is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing. The first six units in the course encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. Units seven and eight encourage the students to look outward and explore the impact of computer science on society.

EMERGING LEADERS *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course provides an introduction to service-learning and civic responsibility. Academic, personal, and career skills needed for effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school or community needs. Students will actively participate in meaningful service-learning

EXPLORATION OF AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY *Available to Grade 8*

The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of aerospace technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of aerospace technology on our everyday lives.

EXPLORATION OF ROBOTICS TECHNOLOGY *Available to Grades 7/8*

The purpose of this program is to provide students with a foundation of knowledge and technically oriented experiences in the study of the applications of technology and its effect upon our lives and the choosing of an occupation. The content and activities will also include the study of safety, and leadership skills. This program focuses on transferable skills and stresses understanding and demonstration of the technological tools, machines, instruments, materials, processes and systems in business and industry.

FUNDAMENTALS OF CULINARY CAREERS *Available to Grade 6*

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Hospitality & Tourism career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to the development of leadership skills, communication skills, and employability skills; resource management; exploration of careers in the culinary field; the importance of health and safety in the culinary environment; and the use of technology in culinary-related careers.

FUNDAMENTALS OF CULINARY AND CAREER PLANNING *Available to Grade 7*

This course includes but is not limited to the development of leadership skills, communication skills, and employability skills; resource management; exploration of careers in the culinary; food safety and sanitation; safe, proper use of culinary tools/equipment; interpreting recipes and developing menus; basic food preparation skills; front-of-the-house and back-of-the-house responsibilities; artistic presentation of food; and the use of technology in the culinary field.

FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS 6-8 (MATH) *Available to Grades 6/7/8*

This course supports students who need additional instruction in foundational mathematics skills as it relates to core instruction. Instruction will use explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to mathematics instruction addressing all strands including number sense & operations, algebraic reasoning, functions, geometric reasoning and data analysis & probability. Teachers will use the listed benchmarks that correspond to each students' needs.

GLOBAL LEADERS UNITED *Available to Grade 6*

More details regarding this course is forthcoming.

INTRO TO BUSINESS MANAGEMENT *Available to Grades 7/8*

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Business Management and Administration career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to fundamental knowledge and skills related to business functions in the Business Management and Administration cluster. Reinforcement of academic skills occurs through classroom instruction and applied laboratory procedures.

INTRO TO ENGINEERING *Available to Grade 8*

This course exposes students to the design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. In addition, they will learn to use 3D solid modeling design software to design solutions to problems. Students will develop problem solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions, document the process, and communicate the results.

LAW STUDIES *Available to Grade 8*

The social studies curriculum for this course consists of the following content area strands: Geography, Civics and Government. The primary content for this course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of the American legal system. The content should include, but not be limited to, the purpose of law, the role of citizens, the impact of laws on the lives of citizens, civil and criminal laws, fundamental civil and criminal justice procedures, causes and effects of crime, consumer and family law, comparison of adult and juvenile justice systems, and career opportunities in the legal system. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents.

LIBRARY SKILLS *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course covers the basics of information literacy utilizing the Florida FINDS (Focus, Investigate, Note, Develop, Score) research model. Search strategies, database and website evaluation, note taking and organization, citation formats in MLA (Modern Language Association) and APA (American Psychological Association), creation of presentation products (including the utilization of various software programs for the production of multimedia), and an understanding of the meta-cognitive reflection process are an integral part of this course.

PEER COUNSELING *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

The objective of this course is to provide knowledge and opportunities for students to assist their peers. This is accomplished through enhancing interpersonal skills; role- playing, team-building and skill building activities are used. The content will include, but not be limited to, peers as tutors, counselors, mentors, mediators and helpers. Various teen and social issues are discussed. Guest speakers are invited to share their expertise with students.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION *Available to Grades 6/ 7/ 8*

This course is designed to help students develop healthy lifestyles during their time in middle school and to develop positive lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity. The sports and physical fitness curriculum are based upon the belief that 1. Lifelong learning and skill development are on-going and progressive, 2. Lifetime activity attitudes are best internalized by continued practice, 3. Students need to incorporate principals of fitness into their daily lives.

SPANISH I (High School Credit) *Available to Grade 7*

Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

SPANISH II (High School Credit) *Available to Grade 8*

Spanish 2 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **Prerequisite: Spanish I credit**

SPEECH & DEBATE 1 & 2 *Available to Grades 6/7*

The purpose of these courses is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Additionally, students will learn a variety of competition speech events where they may choose to participate in the after school and Saturday Speech tournaments (optional attendance).

STEM/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE *Available to Grades 6/7/8*

This course is an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course for middle school students. M/J STEM Environmental Science includes an integration of standards from science, mathematics, and English Language Arts (ELA) through the application to STEM problem solving using environmental sciences knowledge and science and engineering practices. Environmental sciences through applications such as ecosystem management, human-environmental impact, ecology and agriculture, land and resource management, and civil and environmental engineering, are emphasized in this course. Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course.