

February 27

6TH GRADE 2026-27

Holmes Middle School

Course Selection Process, Descriptions and Deadlines

This IS NOT registration or Choice Enrollment – If Holmes is not your “Home School” you need to fill out an application on the D11 Website to be considered.

This is an exciting time of year for your child. Making informed decisions about next year is important for your child's educational journey. If you have any concerns or questions about classes or accessing the form, don't hesitate to reach out to your counselor: **Ally Hackett (Counselor) Email: allyson.hackett@d11.org Phone: 328-3809. Please complete the form as soon as possible so your requests can be considered.**

Course Selection Process

1. **Review Courses:** Guardians and students should review the available course listings together.
2. **Online Form:** Course selections must be made using the online form. Guardians will receive an email with a link to this form. **Alternate Access:** The form can also be found on the Holmes Counseling web page.
3. **Students will need their Student ID Number found on their powerschool page or Library card to complete the form.**

Important Scheduling Considerations

The course selection process is crucial in determining the classes offered in the upcoming academic year.

Students and parents should understand that while they may indicate interest in various courses, specific elective classes will only be scheduled based on sufficient student demand and available teaching staff.

This means that not all requested classes are guaranteed, and final course offerings will depend on overall enrollment and resource availability.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Language Arts

Advanced Language Arts

Math 6

Advanced Math: Math 7

Double Advanced Math: Math 8 – Pre-Algebra

All 6th Grade Students will automatically be enrolled in a Western History and Science.

You will need to select your Language Arts and Math Levels -typically math is one step up from what you are taking this year. All students will be enrolled in Science and History automatically.

Advanced class placement considers multiple factors such as student and parent input, test scores, and teacher recommendations. Advanced math allows students to work at a higher grade level, while advanced Language Arts provides a more challenging learning environment with more rigorous coursework and expectations.

6th Grade Exploratory Program Overview

6th Grade is designed to allow students to experience as many exploratories as possible, giving them a broad base of experiences to better identify their interests and potential passions.

Students will take most of the classes listed in the program, with one notable exception: those enrolled in a full-year music class may have a modified exploratory schedule.

FULL YEAR EXPLORATORY COURSES

Students who select a year-long course are expected to commit to the entire academic year. When selecting a music class, students will be asked to indicate their top two elective preferences, and the school will make every effort to accommodate at least one of their additional elective interests.

All music students are required to participate in scheduled performances as an integral part of their coursework. These performances may include school concerts, community events, and potentially state music contests or festivals.

Intermediate Band 1 (Full Year)

This band is a training group for students who have had at least one year of playing experience. Literature is geared to the members' abilities with emphasis placed on improvement of tone quality, technical proficiency, and rhythmic accuracy.

Preparatory Orchestra 1 (Full Year)

Preparatory Orchestra provides the opportunity to develop an understanding and appreciation of music through performance and is designed for students who have had 1 or more years of experience on a stringed instrument.

Beginning Choir 1 (Full Year) -

This class is not currently available, but we are collecting names to gauge interest and explore options. Students learn/reinforce fundamentals of good choral singing, as well as elements of theory, ear training, sight-reading, and musical terminology. Students will develop an appreciation for the art of excellence in vocal production, both in rehearsal and performance settings.

EXPLORATORY COURSES

Adventure Education

This is an active, hands-on outdoor learning experience that blends science, recreation, and teamwork. Students will explore the natural world through activities that may include geology investigations, environmental science, outdoor recreation, and guided exploration.

Physical Education 6 1(Full Semester class)

The purpose of our physical education program is to enhance each student's physical competence, health-related fitness, self-esteem, and enjoyment of physical activity, enabling them to be physically active for a lifetime. Students will participate in multiple team and individual activities. A uniform will need to be purchased.

Beginning Family & Consumer Science A -FCS (Home Ec.)

This course is an exploration of essential life skills. Topics covered include safety, food preparation and nutrition, basic sewing, childcare, relationships, and general home cleaning. Students will be asked to provide their own sewing supplies, with the 6th grade sewing project focusing on creating a pillow. The course will be delivered primarily through projects and hands-on activities.

Industry Basics (Wood Shop)

The primary focus of this class is to cultivate fundamental skills required in industry. Students will enhance their ability to read a ruler and will be introduced to basic shop safety. They will have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills using hand tools to build an accurately scaled project out of wood. The course follows a blended learning format, meaning that most instruction is personalized and follows an online curriculum that students can access and work through at their own pace.

Introduction to the Visual Arts

Introduction to the Visual Arts is a beginning art class offered to all 6th grade students at the middle school level. The elements and principles of design are introduced through various mediums, including drawing, painting, and sculpture. The cultural and appreciative aspects of art are incorporated into the course through various instructional resources and art production experiences.

GTT Intro to Comp Science 1

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of programming logic using a variety of languages. Introductory concepts in Python, JavaScript, JQuery, PHP, HTML, CSS, and Ruby will be explored. Everyday examples and clear explanations are provided to ensure that students with no prior programming experience can achieve success.

Drama Workshop

In our middle school Theatre Arts program, students will explore the exciting world of performance, creativity, and self-expression. Through a progressive three-year curriculum, students will develop essential theatrical skills, build confidence, and learn the fundamental aspects of drama and performance.