CMS

2026-2027

Campus Middle School

Registration Guide



Campus Middle School

4785 South Dayton Street
Greenwood Village, CO 80111
720-554-2888
FAX: 720-554-2795

Principal	Kellie Carroll
Assistant Principal	Kyle Murray
Assistant Principal	Emily Webering
Assistant Principal	Matt Borsheim
Dean	Jeff Neises
Dean	Lynese Zukowski

Cherry Creek Schools
Dedicated to Excellence

Table of Contents

	Page
Questions and Answers	3
Welcome	4
CMS Philosophy	5
Special Programs	7
6th Grade Curriculum	10
7th Grade Curriculum	17
8th Grade Curriculum	24
Curriculum Overview	33
ICAP Information	39
High School/College Information	40



Questions and Answers

If you have specific questions, please refer to the following list of places and resources available to assist you in supporting your child's middle school success:

CMS Main Office and Attendance	720-554-2888
CMS FAX (Main Office)	720-554-2795
(West Office)	720-554-2799
CMS Registrar	720-554-2709
Principal's Office	720-554-2710
Assistant Principal's Office	720-554-2704
Counseling Office	720-554-2705
Deans' Office	720-554-2780
Bookkeeper	720-554-2747
Cafeteria	720-554-2741
Clinic	720-554-2712
Security	720-554-2800
Gifted and Talented	720-554-2797
Athletics	720-554-2780
Activities	720-554-2780
Special Education	720-554-2751
National Junior Honor Society	720-554-2823

CMS Website: http://www.campus.cherrycreekschools.org

Cherry Creek School District Main Number:	303-773-1184
Cherry Creek Transportation	720-554-4664
Storm Schedule Hotline	720-554-4701

Welcome to Campus Middle School!

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I want to welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year! We are very excited to start thinking about what lies ahead for our Campus Mustangs! It is hard to believe that we are already making plans for the next school year but I know that considering future options is all part of the fun middle school experience.

At CMS, our mission is *to empower all students to obtain a rigorous education that inspires a love for lifelong learning in a safe and caring environment.* We take our mission seriously and we are committed to meeting every student's academic, social and emotional needs. As academics are a top priority, we take pride in the fact that we consistently evaluate and reinvigorate our offerings to meet the evolving needs of our students. You will find that we have thoughtfully developed a full range of courses in the core content areas of Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and Math.

In addition, because we believe in nurturing the whole child and providing our students with new and exciting learning experiences, we offer a wide variety of Electives courses. Our dynamic Electives teachers round out a student's day and provide our students with an opportunity to learn more about themselves and their interests. Our hands-on electives range from Beginning Band to AVID to STEM classes. Like we do in our core content classes, we consistently evaluate our Electives offerings to ensure that student interest remains enthusiastic.

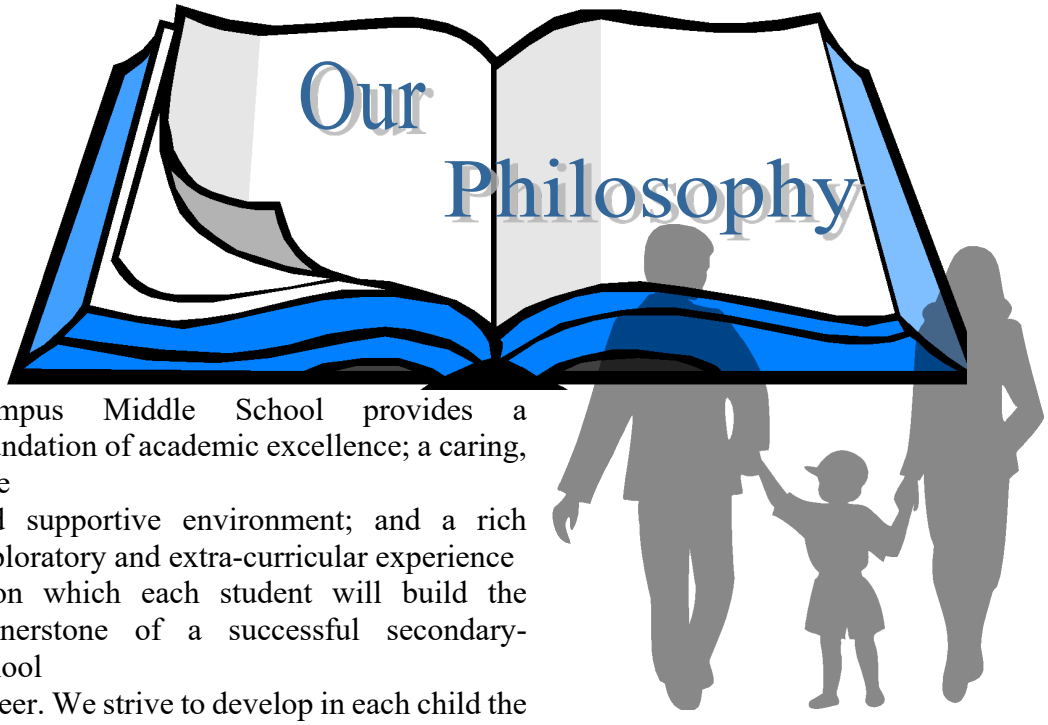
When the school day comes to an end, students have the opportunity to participate in various extracurricular activities including athletics, artistic performance, community service, and high interest clubs. There is something for everyone and I highly encourage students to broaden their middle school experience by taking advantage of our extracurricular activities.

I know this registration guide offers a lot of information and you might have some questions. Please know that we are here to support you and your student. Feel free to call your student's counselor at 720.554.2705 with any questions or concerns. We look forward to working as a team to ensure that your child has an empowering, challenging, and FUN middle school experience!

Sincerely,



Lissa Staal
Principal
Campus Middle School



Campus Middle School provides a foundation of academic excellence; a caring, safe and supportive environment; and a rich exploratory and extra-curricular experience upon which each student will build the cornerstone of a successful secondary-school career. We strive to develop in each child the love of learning, a sense of community, and the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in a changing society.

Campus Middle School has identified the following goals to support our mission:

- To provide high expectations of achievement for all students
- To focus instruction on the mastery of the Colorado Content standards in the core and enhanced core curriculum
- To provide a wide variety of instructional opportunities and experiences that capitalize on students' diverse learning styles
- To develop each student's academic and creative potential
- To provide multiple opportunities for exploration
- To develop critical-thinking, decision-making, problem-solving, and communication skills
- To foster independence, responsibility, and a strong work ethic
- To help develop a positive self-concept, concern for others, appreciation of diversity, and a sense of belonging

Through adherence to our mission and goals, students and educators alike will continue to confidently meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Parents can help by...

Making it clear that you value education.
Modeling that education is important will help instill this value in your child.

Making good work habits the rule.
Provide time and space for your child to work. Help your child learn to organize and prioritize work.

Being an education partner.
Work with the school and with your child's teachers. Do not hesitate to call or to make an appointment to see a teacher, a counselor or an administrator. Discussing a problem as soon as it occurs can save a lot of grief later.

Limiting your child's access to technology and social media.
Students are exposed to content on technology and social media that they don't have the developmental maturity to appropriately comprehend. It is a good idea to monitor and limit cell phone, texting and social media use.

Modeling playing by the rules.
Students need to respect school rules, each other and adults. They benefit from knowing how to work within the system to create change.

Helping your child be responsible.
"Trial and Error" is an excellent teacher! Be involved, yet believe that struggle is necessary for growth.

Staying involved in your child's life.
Middle school students make many new friends. Take some time to get to know your child's friends.

Being a good listener - a patient and non-judgmental one.
Middle school students tend to communicate less. You may need to ask leading questions to find out anything at all! By helping students analyze and understand their own thinking, parents can support their children as they become independent thinkers.



Special Programs at CMS

Advisory
The Advisory class takes place during one class period each day. As a year-long class, Advisory is designed to support the academic, social, emotional, and moral growth of all our students. At the beginning of each quarter, Student Success Days promote achievement through needs-based lessons (organization, study skills, growth mindset, etc.). Typical Advisory weeks are made up of progress monitoring, sustained silent reading, and *Second Step* curriculum.

Through the Advisory class, teachers build meaningful relationships with students to create a sense of belonging and connectedness within our community. Students will receive a grade of S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory) for Advisory.

Placement in the following classes is based on a body of evidence *and* teacher recommendation.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)
Students who are interested in AVID will participate in an application and interview process.



AVID is an academic elective offered to 7th and 8th graders. This class is designed for students who have a desire and determination to challenge themselves to grow and find more academic success. It teaches students the necessary strategies to be successful in both middle school and high school, with the ultimate focus of students being college-ready. The course helps students develop tools to engage in cooperative learning, goal setting, questioning and study skills, writing, note-taking, time management, as well as character development. Students are supported through rigorous coursework to adequately prepare them to take Advanced Placement courses in high school. AVID students take ownership of their learning, ask questions to deepen their understanding, and are willing to work hard. AVID students are required to maintain their assignment notebooks, take notes in Core Classes, participate in student-led tutorials, and monitor their academic progress throughout the year. They must also maintain an overall GPA of 2.5. Students who have determination and motivation to work hard toward their goals in order to succeed are good candidates for AVID. Students who are interested in AVID need to complete an application and turn it in to the CMS Counseling Office.

AVID ACCESS (6th grade only)
Enrollment in AVID ACCESS requires a recommendation from a 5th grade teacher, an application and an interview by the AVID site team.
AVID ACCESS is an academic semester-long elective offered to 6th graders and gives a preview of the AVID strategies used in 7th and 8th grade. This class is designed for students who have a desire and determination

to challenge themselves to grow and find more academic success. This is a place where 6th graders learn how to take notes in class, ask higher-level questions, maintain a binder, use their agendas and will help them prepare for 7th and 8th grade classes as well as high school. AVID ACCESS students are responsible for filling in their agendas daily, cleaning out their binders weekly, writing tutorial request forms and taking notes in their core classes. AVID ACCESS students must maintain the goal GPA of 2.5 to stay in the program.

ELS (English Language Support)
We provide culturally and linguistically diverse learners with equitable access to cohesive learning opportunities that accelerate their social and academic English, provide meaningful access to grade level content, and increase their overall achievement through collaboration and co-teaching.

Gifted and Talented and Advanced Learners
Campus Middle School has adopted an array of best practices to meet the needs of our diverse gifted population. Gifted students enter our school with different strengths, talents, and experiences, and our programming continually evolves to meet our students' needs.

Our gifted and talented teachers work to create an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) for all students identified as gifted and talented. ALP programming may include advanced course placement in Language Arts or Mathematics. Programming in Science and Social Studies may include curriculum compacting (allowing students to advance to the next learning level when appropriate), placement in a GT cluster, differentiated curriculum and assessments, and elective opportunities. Students identified as GT at Campus also benefit from programming options available at the district level.

Student Achievement Services
Student Achievement Services at Campus Middle School provides Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) for students with disabilities (as mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), and delivers quality, specialized instruction and related services to students with disabilities.

The ILC (Integrated Learning Center) and the Autism program are comprehensive programs for students with significant cognitive delays and autism.

We also offer other classes to support students with learning disabilities, speech-language impairments and emotional disabilities, as well as visual and hearing impairments. Our services include co-taught classes for Language Arts and Math, providing grade level common core instruction with a highly qualified content teacher as well as a learning specialist.

Small pullout classes designed to support both emotional needs and academic needs are available as indicated by the IEP process.

CMS Core Classes and Elective Classes:

Providing the Educational Balance



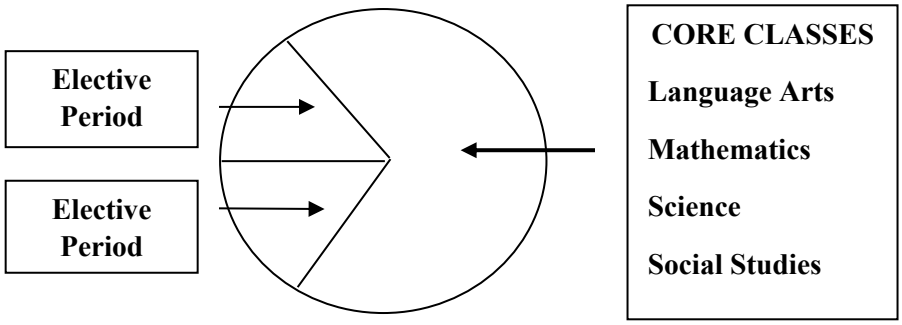






6th Grade

Sixth Grade has two components: the core program and electives. The core program is composed of four courses: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. All the core programs at CMS follow the Cherry Creek School District Middle School Curriculum, which is aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards for each discipline. In addition to our core curriculum, students access elective classes such as P.E., Music (both are required), and Health (required in either 6th or 7th grade), as well as Art, World Language, Technology Education, and Theatre.



The Core Program

Language Arts 6
In the 6th grade language arts curriculum students will learn strategies to improve comprehension by studying increasingly complex literary and nonfiction works. Students will focus on the writing process and compose informational, argumentative, and narrative pieces. Students analyze Greek and Latin roots to enhance their reading and writing skills and improve their vocabularies. Research, speaking, and listening skills are also developed throughout the year.

Language Arts 6: Advanced
Placement is based on a body of evidence including grades and standardized test scores that indicate above grade level reading and writing skills.
The advanced curriculum includes all components of the grade-level language arts program at an accelerated pace with increased independence. The texts for Advanced Language Arts class are appropriate for students reading above grade level. The compacted nature of this course requires students to demonstrate through class work their ability, readiness, and motivation to work at an advanced level.

Language Arts 6: Honors
Placement is based on data indicating performance in the 98th percentile or above in multiple nationally normed literacy assessments.
The honors language arts class is designed for students performing significantly above grade level standards. Literary analysis and written expression are integrated in much the same way as in advanced curricula; analytical and critical-thinking activities complement written assignments that invoke students' abilities to express their abstract thinking in written form. Students must be avid readers and writers. They must be committed to working independently and willing to follow a rigorous assignment schedule. Students must be

skilled in both academic and creative writing. Students who experience difficulty with the pace or rigor of the course may be reevaluated for the proper academic placement for student success.

Math 6

The course begins with a study of area and surface area concepts. This work sets the tone for later units that use area models for arithmetic using rational numbers. Students will be introduced to *discrete diagrams* and *double-number line diagrams* to support representational thinking about equivalent ratios before moving into tables of equivalent ratios. Next, they expand their fractional reasoning with the ability to describe and represent situations involving rate, ratio, and rates per 1. Drawing on their multiplicative reasoning, students consider how the relative sizes of the numerator and denominator affect the size of their quotient, moving into computing quotients of fractions, interpretations of division in situations that involve fractions, and efficient algorithms. They work with linear equations that have single occurrences of one variable, building towards writing expressions with whole-number exponents and whole-number fractions to representing collections of equivalent ratios as equations. They learn signed numbers and plot points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane, including the representation of situations that involve inequalities, symbolically and with the number line. A brief data and statistics study concludes the course's new concepts. The last unit offers students an optional opportunity to synthesize their learning from the year using a number of different applications.

Accelerated Math 6

Placement is based on an appropriate body of evidence that supports the student's capacity to master both procedural and conceptual math concepts at an accelerated pace.

The course begins with a study of area and surface area concepts. This work sets the tone for later units that use area models for arithmetic using rational numbers. Next, students begin the study of ratios, rates, and percentages with an introduction using representations such as number line diagrams, tape diagrams, and tables. Student understanding of these concepts expands by exploring fraction and decimal representations of rational numbers. They explore sums, differences, products, and quotients using intuitive methods and efficient algorithms. Next, students are introduced to equations and expressions, including finding solutions for linear equations in one variable and basic equations involving exponents. Student understanding of ratios and rates combined with a basic understanding of equations leads students to study proportional relationships with a special emphasis on circumference and area of a circle as an example and nonexample of proportional relationships. This is followed by looking at percentage concepts and applications such as sales tax, tipping, and markup. They learn rational numbers less than zero, expanding their understanding of arithmetic to negative numbers. A brief data and statistics study concludes the course's new concepts. The last unit offers students an optional opportunity to synthesize their learning from the year using several different applications.

Science 6

The CMS science program is designed to provide students with the opportunity for hands-on, investigative, problem-solving experiences with a variety of science topics, while integrating 21st century skills and focusing on the nature of science. In addition to developing laboratory skills, students will be given a foundation of basic science concepts, terminology, graphing, data analysis, measurement and math application. Teachers provide the instructional framework that breaks down the practice of scientific explanation into manageable components – claim, evidence, and reasoning. This framework enhances students' conceptual understanding and ability to think and communicate scientifically.

Social Studies 6: Western Hemisphere

The sixth-grade social studies program at Campus Middle School focuses on the Western Hemisphere and is aligned with the Colorado Content Standards for History, Geography, Economics, and Civics. This course emphasizes the region of Latin America, and includes that region's physical geography, culture, and history. Resources used in this course include the Teachers' Curriculum Institute Geography Alive materials, textbooks, and variety of teacher created materials—both digital and paper. Curriculum is designed to help students better understand the global community, learn more about their place in the world, and the impact of geography on the destiny of civilization and culture. Furthermore, our students will explore the variety of economic and political systems around the world. Finally, students will analyze the importance of personal economic decisions and multiple economic perspectives, and develop a civic mindset.

The 6th Grade Elective Program

At Campus Middle School, we believe that the middle school student should be exposed to a variety of course offerings. Students are encouraged to make elective choices *carefully.* The number of available classes is built based on pre-registration selections. After school starts, schedule changes are seldom feasible.

Some electives have associated fees. This should not deter a student from signing up for an elective. Please check with your counselor for scholarships that may be available to help alleviate electives fees.

Every student has two elective periods. In sixth grade, all students will take Music and PE. All students will take Health in either sixth or seventh grade. Students have the opportunity to indicate their preferences for the other courses they would like to take during these two periods.

Semester Electives

AVID ACCESS (6th grade only) (semester-long/daily)
Enrollment in AVID ACCESS requires a recommendation from a 5th grade teacher, an application and an interview by the AVID site team.
AVID ACCESS is an academic elective offered to 6th graders and gives a preview of the AVID strategies used in 7th and 8th grade. This class is designed for students who have a desire and determination to challenge themselves to grow and find more academic success. This is a place where 6th graders learn how to take notes in class, ask higher-level questions, maintain a binder, use their agendas and prepare for 7th and 8th grade classes as well as high school. AVID ACCESS students are responsible for filling in their agendas daily, cleaning out their binders weekly, writing tutorial request forms and taking notes in their core classes. AVID ACCESS students must maintain the goal GPA of 2.5 to stay in the program.

Music Electives

Music is required for all 6th graders. Each class is a semester long. Please choose one.

Band: Beginning (semester-long class)
This class is for beginners with little or no playing experience who would like to study a band instrument. Students will choose an instrument at the beginning of the semester and perform one concert. Band instruments include the Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, and Percussion (percussionists must audition to be selected). Students must purchase a music book ($10) and obtain an instrument to participate in the class (rent/buy). Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Band: Mustang (semester-long class)
This class is for students who have played a band instrument for at least one year. Percussionists must be equally skilled and experienced on the mallet instruments in addition to the snare drum. This class will perform concerts during the semester and students must purchase a music book ($10) and obtain an instrument to participate (rent/buy). Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Choir 6 (semester-long class)
This class is open and encouraged for all sixth graders. Our main activity in this class will be choral singing (singing as a whole choir) and learning to work together to produce the most beautiful sound

possible. We will work on the skills necessary to accomplish this goal: We will become musically literate (knowing how to read and understand music), learn basic music theory and history, develop sight reading skills, and learn vocal technique. The 6th grade choir performs concerts during the semester.

Orchestra: Beginning (semester-long class)
This class is for beginners with little or no playing experience who would like to study the Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass. Students will choose an instrument at the beginning of the semester and perform in a concert at the end of the semester. Students can secure an instrument through area music stores or may rent one through the Campus Orchestra program. Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.



Mustang Orchestra (semester-long class)
This class is for students who have played an orchestra instrument for at least one year and are proficient in first position on all four strings. Instruction focuses on technique development, ensemble awareness, intonation, advanced articulations, and students will develop these skills through the study of a variety of music. This group will perform concerts during the semester and all students must purchase a book ($10) and obtain an instrument to participate (rent/buy). Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Quarter-Long Elective Courses

Art 6 3D
Students taking this class will be exposed to multiple 3D art mediums and processes, building their creative skills through the lens of the Elements and Principles of Design. Projects may include ceramics, multimedia creations, carving, large scale installations, and repurposed and recycled art.

Art 6 Studio Art
Art Studio 6 is a quarter-long exploratory class designed to introduce, improve, and expand upon the basic art skills. Students will experiment with a variety of media and techniques, develop creativity and self-expression, and recognize and use the art elements (line, shape, color, value, form, texture, and space), and design principles (rhythm, balance, proportion, variety, emphasis, harmony, and unity). This is a great class for students of all skill levels. Be prepared to create some awesome pieces of artwork!

Art Ceramics 6
Students taking this class will be introduced to various hand building techniques with clay. Focus will be on the hand building techniques: pinch, coil, and slabs. Functional as well as sculptural projects will be explored. Students will also be introduced to various glaze and surface decoration techniques for finishing their projects.

Art Drawing and Painting
This quarter-long course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of drawing and painting. Students will learn a variety of techniques and approaches to developing an artwork from start to finish. This is a great class for students of all skill levels.

CMS 101
CMS 101 is designed to help sixth grade students make a successful transition from elementary school to Campus Middle School. The course focuses on study skills, organizational and time management, self-advocacy, computer literacy, social/emotional awareness, and communication skills. This course is offered Semester 1 only.

Contemporary Issues
In this class we examine issues facing our country and world today. Students explore economics, human rights, world health, environmental issues, and the role of the United States in a changing world, to name a few. This class allows students to engage with complex issues in order to form their own opinions on matters that impact their world. Students will become critical consumers of information to propose and advocate solutions.

Design and Build: Engineering Basics
Step into the world of Engineering Basics, where innovation, design, and scientific exploration take center stage! This course is your gateway to the dynamic processes of engineering and scientific inquiry, offering students hands-on experience in problem-solving. Through a mix of activities, projects, and problem-based learning, students not only develop crucial skills but also gain a deep understanding of course concepts.

But here's the twist – we're not stopping at the conventional. In addition to tackling environmental issues, and engaging in physical science challenges, This class introduces a unique component. Brace yourself for the Rubik's Cube Challenge, where students apply the engineering design process to conquer the intricacies of solving Rubik's Cubes. It's a thrilling fusion of problem-solving, critical thinking, and hands-on engineering, making Design and Build: Engineering Basics an exhilarating journey into the realms of innovation, all while sharpening math and science prowess. Get ready for a semester packed with exciting projects that go beyond the ordinary!

Film Studies: Philosophy and Film
In this advanced class, join us to wrestle with some of life's messy and enduring questions. Life is full of unknowns. Using film, we'll seek answers to questions that students confront in middle school and beyond. For example: What is a good friend? When is it right to do wrong? Philosophy can be practical, yet we are not always good at thinking our way through. If you'd like to use film to work through questions that have no simple answer, this is the class for you!

Get a Clue 6
Ten seconds are left and you put in your last code to open the lock! It opens and you BROKE THE CODE! If you have done escape rooms in the past and enjoyed them, then this class may be for you. Not only will you complete breakouts and digital breakouts, but you will be creating your own breakout story for your classmates to try. Using the innovation and design cycle, students will create elaborate stories, where classmates will have to find clues and solve riddles to break into the treasured lockbox.

GT Exploratory 6
Requires GT or Talent Pool Identification
This discussion-based course is designed to engage GT students in self-knowledge.
GT students! This course is designed to bring gifted students together to think, learn, wonder, and explore. We build community together and discuss navigating life as a gifted student with topics including: Gifted identity, communication, stress, mindset, perfectionism, and school success. We have fun playing around with problem solving using different types of thinking to encourage flexible, creative, and critical thinking.

Health 6

Health Education is required in either 6th or 7th grade, based on last name. Students with last names beginning A – L should register for Health in 6th grade. Students with last names beginning M – Z will take Health in 7th grade.

The Cherry Creek Content Standards on Health state, "the student literate in health issues will gather and use health information to promote attitudes and behavior patterns that will enhance optimal health." Students will develop skills necessary to become more responsible, self-reliant adolescents. They will learn the power and responsibility of making good choices. Class content centers on healthy decision-making, nutrition, communication skills, conflict resolution, refusal skills, and smoking prevention.



Physical Education 6

PE is required for all 6th graders and will be automatically scheduled.

In PE, you'll get to try lots of fun activities that help you build skills, stay active, and work together as a team! We'll play team sports, individual games, and do fitness challenges. You'll learn the rules, skills, and strategies for many different sports. PE is all about trying your best, showing good sportsmanship, being a leader, and having fun while staying active!

Robotics

Embark on an exciting journey into the realm of Robotics! This course is your gateway to the thrilling fusion of coding, circuitry, and robotics through a series of captivating problem-based projects. Dive into age-appropriate content, immersing yourself in hands-on projects that utilize the cutting-edge Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy alongside the powerful Lego EV3 robots. As a Robotics enthusiast, you'll take on a myriad of tasks, honing your programming skills to command your robots through an array of exciting challenges. Get ready to code, create, and conquer in the dynamic world of Robotics!

Spanish Introduction

Through a variety of hands-on activities and games, students will learn the beginning basics of the language. Topics will include greetings and leave-takings, numbers, colors, basic sentence structures, how to conjugate verbs, and basic conversational phrases. This class is for all students who want to expand their horizons, become global thinkers, and have FUN while learning a new language!

Stop Motion Animation

Want to bring any object to life, fly through the air, or make things appear or disappear in a split second? Welcome to Stop Motion Animation! In this class you will explore a variety of hands-on techniques for creating short videos using stop motion, including animating clay, Legos and various objects, dry erase board and markers, puppets, and so much more! You will also learn how to set up proper lighting for sets, rig objects for controlled movement, and make it all look flawless in post-production. This class is for all experience levels, so come ready to learn and to have fun, no matter your current knowledge!

Tech Multimedia 6

Do you enjoy using your imagination, being creative, collaborating with others, and making fun videos? This class is for you! You will learn about the elements of digital storytelling to organize, write, produce and create various video projects including an autobiography and advertisement. You will also be hired to build a video based on a client's needs after learning all of the fun editing skills on iMovie, WeVideo, and Google Apps throughout the quarter. No prior experience is necessary - just get ready to have fun and learn the magic of making purposeful videos!

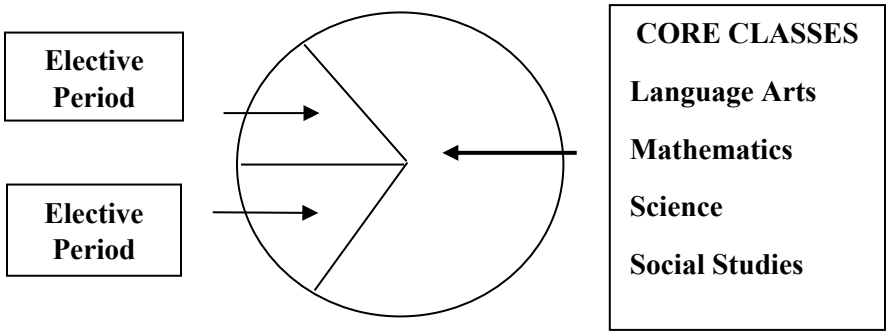
Theatre 6 Introduction
Gaming, acting, lip sync battles, puppetry, improv! Do you love playing characters? Lip syncing? Creating music videos? Using puppets? Performing in scenes? This class is for you! In this class, students will have fun in group projects and will learn how to perform! They will get to play various improvisation games and create original scenes and characters. Students will get to learn about musical theatre and will team up with the film class to create awesome lip sync battles! Students will also perform in scenes and play a bunch of theatre games!

World Cultures
¿A ti te gusta la paella? Est-ce que tu sais d'où sont tes grands-parents? Was magst du gern? Are you fascinated with world cultures? Do your ears perk up when you hear a language other than English? Do you see beauty in diversity? Then, this class is for you! In this class, you will define culture and explore your own cultural identity and history. You will connect with your family members through interviews and conversations about what makes your family culture unique. As the course progresses, you will also have a delightful taste of the language and culture of the Spanish, French, and German-speaking countries. First, you will dabble a bit with some of the basics of the language, including greetings, simple conversations, counting, and saying the alphabet. Then, you will examine and share the music, art, food, film, literature, and traditions of these countries. Finally, you will test out some research-based techniques for learning language as a 21st century student.

Writers Workshop
This class is intended for advanced and gifted writers who wish to polish their craft. Do you love expressing yourself in writing? This class will ignite your passion! In this writers workshop you will explore your own writer's voice and experiment with different styles and genres of creative writing. You will discover the power and freedom of your own voice and explore what matters to you.

7th Grade

Seventh Grade includes a core of four courses – Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies – and two periods of electives to complete the school day. All of the core programs at CMS follow the Cherry Creek School District Middle School Curriculum, which is aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards for each discipline. Students may choose to fill elective periods with year-long Music or World Language, or a variety of semester- and quarter-long electives.



The Core Program

Language Arts 7
This course incorporates the study of all areas of grade-level literature. Students will learn strategies to improve comprehension by studying a challenging range of both literary and nonfiction works. Students will focus on the writing process and compose argument, informational, and narrative writing. Grammar and vocabulary enrichment are integral to the language arts curriculum. Speaking and listening skills are developed throughout the year.

Language Arts 7: Advanced
Placement is based on a body of evidence including grades and standardized test scores that indicate above grade level reading and writing skills.
The advanced curriculum includes all components of the grade-level language arts program at an accelerated pace with more complex texts. The compacted nature of this course requires students to be comfortable and capable of mastering concepts at an accelerated pace, as well as demonstrate their ability, readiness, and motivation to work at an advanced level with increased independence.

Language Arts 7: Honors
Placement is based on data indicating performance in the 98th percentile or above in multiple nationally normed literacy assessments.
The honors language arts class offers a rigorous curriculum. Using higher-level reading selections, students will examine literary style, author's use of imagery, and connections between such elements as symbolism and theme. Literary analysis and written expression are integrated in much the same way as in advanced placement curricula. Analytical and critical-thinking activities complement written assignments that invoke students' abilities to express their abstract thinking in written form. An integration of grammar and vocabulary development are a focus, including an in-depth study of parts of a sentence, a focus on phrases and clauses and how they influence writing, as well as a deeper understanding of Greek and Latin roots.

Students must be committed to working independently at times and be willing to follow a rigorous assignment schedule. A body of evidence will be evaluated to determine students' placement in this class. Students who experience difficulty with the pace or rigor of the course may be reevaluated for the proper academic placement for student success.

Math 7

As in grade 6, students start grade 7 by studying scale drawings, an engaging geometric topic that supports the subsequent work on proportional relationships in the second and fourth units. It also uses grade 6 arithmetic understanding and skill, without arithmetic becoming the primary focus of attention. Geometry and proportional relationships are also interwoven in the third unit on circles, where the proportional relationship between a circle's circumference and diameter is studied. By the time students reach the fifth unit on operations with rational numbers, both positive and negative, students have had time to brush up on and solidify their understanding and skill in grade 6 arithmetic. The work on operations using rational numbers, emphasizing the role of the properties of operations in determining the rules for operating with negative numbers, is a natural lead-in to the work on expressions and equations in the next unit. Students then put their arithmetical and algebraic skills to work in the last two units on angles, triangles, prisms, probability, and sampling.

Accelerated Math 7

Placement is based on Mastery of Accelerated Math 6 content and an appropriate body of evidence that supports the student's capacity to master both procedural and conceptual math concepts at an accelerated pace.

Students begin the course with transformational geometry. They study rigid transformations and congruence, then scale drawings, dilations, and similarity (this provides background for understanding the slope of a line in the coordinate plane). Next, they expand their ability to work with linear equations in one and two variables and deepen their understanding of equivalent expressions. They then build on their understanding of proportional relationships from the previous course to study linear relationships. They express linear relationships using equations, tables, and graphs and make connections across these representations. Building on their understanding of a solution to an equation in one or two variables, they understand what is meant by a solution to a system of equations in two variables. They apply their understanding of linear relationships to contexts involving data with variability. They learn that linear relationships are an example of a special relationship called a function. They extend the definition of exponents to include all integers and, in the process, codify the properties of exponents. They learn about orders of magnitude and scientific notation to represent and compute with very large and very small quantities. They encounter irrational numbers for the first time and informally extend the rational number system to the real number system, motivated by their work with the Pythagorean Theorem. The last unit offers students an optional opportunity to synthesize their learning from the year using several different applications.

Science 7

The CMS science program is designed to provide students with the opportunity for hands-on, investigative, problem-solving experiences with a variety of science topics, while integrating 21st century skills and focusing on the nature of science. In addition to developing laboratory skills, students will be given a foundation of basic science concepts, terminology, graphing, data analysis, measurement and math application. Teachers provide the instructional framework that breaks down the practice of scientific explanation into manageable components – claim, evidence, and reasoning. This framework enhances students' conceptual understanding and ability to think and communicate scientifically.

Social Studies 7: Eastern Hemisphere

In 7th grade Social Studies, students explore the history, geography, and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere through the lenses of culture, progress, power, conflict, and cooperation. Students examine how cultural beliefs shape identity and perspective; how technology drives progress in health, economies, and history; and how governments and revolutions influence systems of power and rights. They also study major global conflicts, colonization and decolonization, and the role of international organizations in promoting peace

and human rights. Through inquiry and source analysis, students develop critical thinking skills and a deeper understanding of the interconnected world around them.

The Elective Program

Seventh Graders take elective classes for two periods each day. Students have several options for choosing electives:

1. Two Year Long Electives – e.g., World Language **and** Music
2. One Year Long Elective, e.g., World Language **or** Music + One Semester Elective and Two Quarter-long Electives
3. One Year Long Elective, e.g., World Language **or** Music + Four Quarter-long Electives
4. Eight Quarter-long Electives

At Campus Middle School, we believe that middle school students should be exposed to a variety of elective course offerings. Though there are a few year-long elective courses, we believe that students taking a variety of shorter elective courses helps develop a well-rounded experience on which to build as the student moves on to high school. Some electives have associated fees. This should not deter a student from signing up for an elective; please check with your counselor for scholarships that may be available to help defer electives fees.

Students are encouraged to make elective choices *carefully and wisely*. The number of available classes is built based on pre-registration selections. After school starts, schedule changes are seldom feasible.

Year-Long Elective Courses

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Enrollment in AVID requires an application process and the approval of the AVID site team.

This class is designed for students who have a desire and determination to challenge themselves to grow and find more academic success. It teaches students the necessary strategies to be successful in both middle school and high school, with the ultimate focus of students being college-ready. The course helps students develop tools to engage in cooperative learning, goal setting, questioning and study skills, writing, note taking, time management, as well as character development. Students are supported through rigorous coursework to adequately prepare them to take Advanced Placement courses in high school. AVID students are expected to take ownership of their learning, ask questions to deepen their understanding, and be willing to work hard. AVID students are required to maintain their assignment notebooks, take notes in core classes, participate in student-led tutorials, and monitor their academic progress throughout the year. They must also maintain an overall GPA of 2.5. Students who have determination and motivation to work hard toward their goals in order to succeed are good candidates for AVID. Students who are interested in AVID need to complete an application, available online. The application may be accessed through Schoology, or check with your student's counselor.

Music

Students choose one music elective, which meets all year. All bands, orchestras, and choirs rehearse during class time and perform at least two major concerts during the school year.



Band Concert

The 7th grade Concert Band is a continuation of the 6th grade band program. The band is made up of students from both our beginning classes and the advanced 6th grade Mustang Band. This group meets every day for the entire year. Students become much more skilled at technical aspects of their instruments as well as working together to produce

a more mature full-band sound. The Concert Band will perform three concerts during the school year. Home practice is a very important part of being a 7th grade musician. Students must purchase a concert uniform, a music book, and obtain an instrument to participate (rent/buy). Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Choir 7

This class is offered as both a year-long or a semester-long class.

This class is open and encouraged for all seventh graders. There is no fee for this class. Everyone is welcome! While this is a continuation of Choir 6, NO Previous experience is required. Choir 7 is offered as either a semester-long or a year-long class. Our main activity in this class will be choral ensemble singing (singing as a whole choir). Students will have fun, but work hard, as they develop their music notation reading skills, develop their musical ear, and work together to produce the most beautiful sound possible through vocal technique. Students will have the opportunity to sing songs from various genres and cultures. Seventh graders perform in at least 1-2 concerts each semester.

Orchestra 7



The Seventh Grade String Orchestra is a continuation of the 6th grade orchestra program, where students apply techniques they learned as sixth graders to larger works of music. The orchestra includes students from both our beginning classes and the advanced Mustang Orchestra. Seventh graders in orchestra use the technique book, but the majority of rehearsals focus on learning sheet music from a variety of cultures, time periods, and styles. Through the course, students become much more skilled in technique and work collaboratively to produce a more mature orchestral sound. This class performs three concerts during the year and attends one festival/competition. Students must purchase a technique book, and obtain an instrument to participate (rent/buy). Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Spanish 1

Prerequisite: All students must apply for entry into this class. Applications are available on the 7th Grade Schoology page.

This course is equivalent to *one full year* of high school Spanish. We will follow the structure and pacing of our feeder high schools and the curriculum will meet the learning objectives that have been implemented district wide. It is open to all beginning language students that are up for the challenge of this fast-paced class. Learning is reinforced through a variety of activities with an emphasis on listening, reading, speaking, writing, and culture and homework is assigned daily. Students successfully completing this course, with teacher approval, may advance to Spanish 2 in 8th grade. Students will need to purchase a workbook.

Spanish 1A

This course is equivalent to *one semester* of high school Spanish and is open to all beginning language students. Emphasis is on listening, reading, speaking, writing, and culture, with homework practice assigned daily. Learning is reinforced through a variety of activities such as playing games, singing, projects, puzzles, and cultural exploration. Spanish classes are formatted in order for the student to immediately utilize the language, whether here or abroad. Students who successfully complete this course, with teacher approval, may advance to Spanish 1B in 8th grade. Students will need to purchase a workbook. This workbook will be used again in 8th Grade Spanish 1B.

Semester-Long Elective Course

Design Lab: Tools, Tech, and Tinkering

Welcome to Design Lab—a semester-long adventure in the dynamic world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics! Immerse yourself in a journey of creativity and innovation as we delve into Onshape, the 3D CAD software favored by top-notch engineers. Brace yourself for the excitement of working with Accelerometers, unraveling the mysteries of motion-sensing technology. But that's not all—get ready to ignite your curiosity with hands-on experiences in circuitry and soldering techniques, mastering the art of electronic wizardry. And the grand finale? Bring your digital and electronic creations to life using our cutting-edge laser cutter. Join us for a semester of Design Lab: Tools, Tech, and Tinkering—where innovation knows no bounds!

Quarter-Long Elective Courses

Art - Mixed Media

This course will offer an exploration of techniques and new ways to see, use, and interpret found objects. Students will create compositions with a variety of materials, paint, images, found objects, and ink painting. Techniques will include collage, monotype printing, drawing, painting, mixing, assemblage, cutting, and pasting, etc. This course is designed to give students a wide variety of art making experiences and allows students to continue to explore various visual art forms and techniques through the elements and principles of art and design.



Art 7 3D

Students taking this class will be exposed to multiple 3D art mediums and processes, building their creative skills through the lens of the Elements and Principles of Design. Projects may include: Ceramics, multimedia creations, carving, large scale installations, and repurposed and recycled art.

Art Ceramics

Students taking this class will be introduced to various hand building techniques with clay. Focus will be on the hand building techniques: pinch, coil, and slabs. Functional as well as sculptural projects will be explored. Students will also be introduced to various glaze and surface decoration techniques for finishing their projects.

Art Drawing and Painting

Art Drawing and Painting is a quarter-long exploratory class designed to introduce, improve and expand upon the basic art skills of drawing and painting. Students will experiment with a variety of media and techniques, develop creativity and self-expression, and recognize and use the art elements (line, shape, color, value, form, texture, and space), and design principles (rhythm, balance, proportion, variety, emphasis, harmony, and unity). This class is great for students of all skill levels. Be prepared to create some awesome pieces of artwork!

Drama Improvisation

Do you like making things up on the spot? Playing different characters? Playing fun guessing and group games? Do you love Freeze, Space Jump, Dating Game, Late for Work? This class is for you! You will become an expert improviser and will walk away having learned how to embody a character both physically and vocally.

Drama Movie Making
And the Oscar goes to . . . In this amazing combined class of Theatre Arts and Video Production, you get to learn about: Film Editing, Film, Black Light Theatre, Shakespeare, Murder Mysteries, Horror Makeup, Superhero Films, Voice Acting, Acting for the Screen, and Radio Dramas. By the end of this course, we will have you walk the red carpet for our very own **CMS FILM FESTIVAL** and you will get to compete for awards such as Best Actors, Best Director, Best Editor and many more! No prior experience needed!

Health 7
Health Education is required for one quarter in 6th *or* 7th grade. Students who did not take Health in 6th Grade should sign up for Health in 7th Grade.
The Cherry Creek Content Standard on Health states, "the student literate in health issues will gather and use health information to promote attitudes and behavior patterns that will enhance optimal health." Students will develop skills necessary to become more responsible, self-reliant adolescents. They will learn the power and responsibility of making good choices. Class content centers around healthy decision-making, adolescence, nutrition, sun safety, stress management, anger management, violence prevention, conflict resolution, decision-making skills, refusal skills, drug prevention, and a sexuality unit.

Invent, Design, Create!
Welcome to Invent, Design, Create! In this exciting quarter-long class, you'll dive into the world of Onshape, a cutting-edge 3D CAD software used by professional engineers. Get ready to unravel the secrets of solid modeling as we embark on the journey of designing, creating, and prototyping 3D projects using the Engineering Design Process. But here's the real kicker: We're not just stopping at the screen. With hands-on experience, you'll bring your creations to life using the class laser cutter to make your designs tangible. Get ready for a quarter filled with innovation, hands-on learning, and the thrill of turning your digital designs into real-world wonders!

PE 7
In this class, you'll take part in lots of different activities to build your skills, fitness, and teamwork! We'll play team sports, individual games, and do fitness exercises that help you stay strong and confident. You'll learn game rules, strategies, and how to be a good teammate. PE encourages cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition!

PE – Unified PE 7
A rewarding class for students who enjoy being active and who want to get to know our students with special needs. Students will assist peers in our ILC and Autism programs by participating in developmentally appropriate activities including lifetime activities, physical fitness, and sports. Through ongoing leadership opportunities, members of this course will be empowered to help create a more inclusive and accepting school environment for all students.

PE Strength and Fitness
This class takes place mostly in the fitness room! You'll learn how to build your strength, endurance, and overall fitness through activities like circuit training, cardio workouts, and weight training. You'll even get to create your own fitness plan to reach your personal goals. This class helps you learn how to stay healthy and strong for life!

Recreational PE 7
Get ready for a fun and active PE class that focuses on having fun, participation, teamwork, and staying positive! We'll play a mix of recreational games and sports while learning basic skills and rules while practicing good sportsmanship. You'll have fun, make friends, and grow stronger—both physically and as a teammate. This class is all about enjoying being active in a supportive and inclusive environment!

Strategy Games 7

This class is intended for advanced and gifted learners.

Are you a pro at using logic and strategy to figure things out? Want to further develop your strategic thinking to play card games, board games, logic games, and work on number puzzles? We will learn and play a variety of strategy games while building our deductive thinking, game theory, and collaborative communication skills.

Tech Video Production 7

Lights! Camera! Action! Do you enjoy creating videos for your YouTube channel or social media platform? If so, this is the class for you! This course will focus on the skills needed to produce effective and meaningful media artworks using interactive software and hardware tools. You will learn about the different camera shots and angles many professional TV shows and movies use and apply them within your own video projects. You will use applications like Pixelmator Pro, iMovie, and Google Apps to help you create fun and purposeful videos. This class is for all experience levels so come ready to learn and to have fun no matter your current knowledge!

Unified Technology

This class is an inclusive, hands-on course designed to bring together students of all abilities to explore technology through collaboration, creativity, and problem-solving. Students work in mixed-ability teams to build digital skills such as basic coding, multimedia creation, digital citizenship, and assistive technology use. The class emphasizes teamwork, communication, and mutual respect while allowing every student to contribute their strengths. Unified Technology promotes inclusion, confidence, and real-world skills, creating a supportive learning environment where all students can learn, grow, and succeed together.

Theatre Arts 7

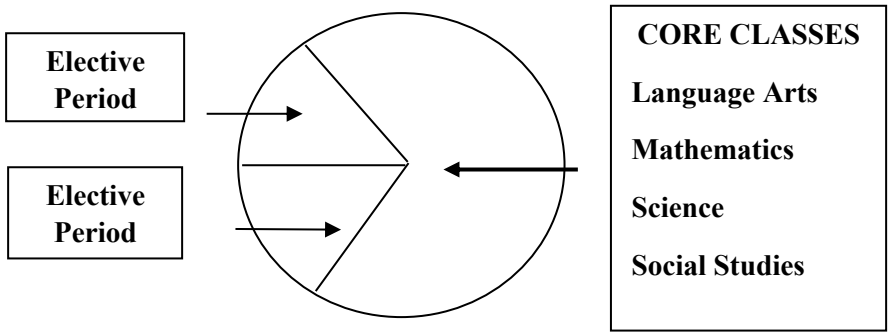
Theatre Arts 6 is not a prerequisite.

To be or not to be. . . That is THE question! In this class, you get to play with many different units: Shakespeare, Black Light Theatre (glow in the dark storytelling), Radio Drama (Podcast and sound design), and Improvisation! What other class allows you to paint yourself with black light, play with props, and reenact Shakespeare plays?!

8th Grade

The Eighth Grade includes four core classes - Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies – in addition to two periods of elective classes. All of the core programs at CMS follow the Cherry Creek School District Middle School Curriculum, which is aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards for each discipline.

The Core Program



Language Arts 8
This course incorporates the study of all areas of grade-level literature. Students will learn strategies to improve comprehension by studying a challenging range of both literary and nonfiction works. Students will focus on the writing process and compose argument, informational, and narrative writing. Students will develop their speaking and listening skills, as well as focus on grammar and vocabulary enrichment. Students broaden their analytical skills to include rhetorical, literary craft, and comparative textual analysis. In order to prepare for academic challenges at Cherry Creek High School, students are challenged to increase their independence, self-advocacy, and homework demands.

Language Arts 8: Advanced
Placement is based on a body of evidence including grades and standardized test scores that indicate above grade level reading and writing skills.
The advanced curriculum includes all components of the grade-level language arts program at an accelerated pace with more complex texts. The compacted nature of this course requires students to be comfortable and capable of mastering concepts at an accelerated pace, as well as demonstrate their ability, readiness, and motivation to work at an advanced level with increased independence.

Language Arts 8: Honors
Placement is based on data indicating performance in the 98th percentile or above in multiple nationally normed literacy assessments.
The honors language arts class is designed for students with demonstrated performance in the 98th percentile or above in multiple nationally normed literacy assessments. Using higher-level reading selections and analytical approaches, students will examine elements such as literary style, author's use of imagery, and connections between symbolism and theme. Literary analysis and written expression are integrated in much the same way as in advanced curricula. Analytical and critical-thinking activities complement written

assignments that invoke students' abilities to express their abstract thinking in written form. Vocabulary and grammar are integrated in order to analyze the impact of writing decisions made by authors and student writers. Students must be committed to working independently at times and be willing to follow a rigorous assignment schedule. A body of evidence will be evaluated to determine students' placement in this class. Students who experience difficulty with the pace or rigor of the course may be reevaluated for the proper academic placement for student success.

Math 8

Students begin grade 8 with transformational geometry. They study rigid transformations and congruence, then dilations and similarity (this provides background for understanding the slope of a line in the coordinate plane). Next, they build on their understanding of proportional relationships from grade 7 to study linear relationships. They express linear relationships using equations, tables, and graphs and make connections across these representations. They expand their ability to work with linear equations in one and two variables. Building on their understanding of a solution to an equation in one or two variables, they understand what is meant by a solution of a system of equations in two variables. They learn that linear relationships are an example of function to contexts involving data with variability. They extend the definition of linear relationships to include all integers and, in the process, codify the properties of exponents. They learn about orders of magnitude and scientific notation to represent and compute with very large and very small quantities. They encounter irrational numbers for the first time and informally extend the rational number system to the real number system, motivated by their work with the Pythagorean Theorem.

Algebra 1

Prerequisite: Mastery of Math 6, Math 7, and Math 8 content and an appropriate body of evidence that supports the student's capacity to master both procedural and conceptual math concepts at an accelerated pace.

** A TI 84+ or TI 84 CE is strongly recommended for this course. It is a required purchase for high school, so your student will get more use in the coming years of mathematics instruction.*

Students in Algebra 1 will solidify and extend their understanding of functions, solving equations, and data analysis. The first three units of the course focus on functions and how they are used to model relationships between two quantities. Unit 4 expands students' algebraic skills, focusing on solving equations and inequalities. In this course, students will build on their previous knowledge of solving equations to be able to solve multistep and literal equations. This course adds to students' prior understanding as they learn to solve systems using various methods. Following their work with systems, students will work with quadratic functions. Students consider similarities and differences between quadratic functions and the linear and exponential functions they focused on during the first part of this course. In the course's final unit, students focus on data and create different representations as models to assist with interpreting the data. These lessons provide students with real-world data-modeling opportunities. The work in this course establishes a base of reasoning and understanding about relationships that help students be sensible in decision-making and predicting outcomes. Additionally, students connect with rates of change and develop both a conceptual understanding and procedural fluency for linear, exponential, and quadratic functions. The work with functions in this course is foundational for future math courses up through calculus and beyond.

Geometry

Prerequisite: Mastery of Colorado Academic Standards-based Algebra 1 and an appropriate body of evidence that supports the student's capacity to master both procedural and conceptual math concepts at an accelerated pace.

* A TI 84+ or TI 84 CE is strongly recommended for this course. It is a required purchase for high school, so your student will get more use in the coming years of mathematics instruction.

Geometry covers a wide range of topics that demand advanced algebraic skills previously mastered for geometric problem-solving and proof. The course is structured to integrate the practice of proving geometric theorems and statements across all units. Beginning with an initial focus on logical reasoning

and problem-solving, students will investigate congruence criteria and applications related to congruent triangles. Throughout the course, there is an exploration of geometric transformations, translations, reflections, rotations, and dilations to deepen the understanding of congruence and similarity principles. Students will then examine lines, angles, and the properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, including transversals and related angle theorems. This is followed by examining the properties of parallel lines and quadrilaterals. As the curriculum progresses, students will extend their understanding of geometric concepts into three-dimensional space. They will also study relationships among chords, arcs, and angles within circles, along with exploring the properties and theorems associated with circles. Geometry also introduces the unique properties of special right triangles and applies trigonometric functions to solve non-right triangles, thereby establishing the groundwork for Algebra 2/Trigonometry. The curriculum encompasses fundamental and advanced geometric principles, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of geometry and its practical applications.

Science 8
The CMS science program is designed to provide students with the opportunity for hands-on, investigative, problem-solving experiences with a variety of science topics, while integrating 21st century skills and focusing on the nature of science. In addition to developing laboratory skills, students will be given a foundation of basic science concepts, terminology, graphing, data analysis, measurement and math application. Teachers provide the instructional framework that breaks down the practice of scientific explanation into manageable components – claim, evidence, and reasoning. This framework enhances students' conceptual understanding and ability to think and communicate scientifically.

Social Studies 8: American History
The 8th grade social studies course prepares students for their high school American History class. The curriculum covers people and events from the American Revolution through the Civil War, focusing on the democratic ideals upon which our country was founded. The class focuses on how our government, Constitution and individual rights evolved during that ever-changing time period. In addition to the textbooks, students will analyze primary documents, simulate historic events, and discuss how current events are reflections of our early history. Personal Financial Literacy standards include credit and debt, as well as international trade and tariffs. Reading, writing, and speaking skills are emphasized as essential for active citizenship.

The Elective Program

Eighth Graders take elective classes for two periods each day. Students have several options for choosing electives:

1. Two Year Long Electives
2. One Year Long Elective + One Semester Elective + Two Quarter Electives
3. Eight Quarter Electives

Students are encouraged to make elective choices *carefully and wisely*. The number of available classes is built based on pre-registration selections. After school starts, schedule changes are seldom feasible. Some electives have associated fees. This should not deter a student from signing up for an elective; please check with your counselor for scholarships that may be available to help defer electives fees.

Year-Long Elective Courses

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

Enrollment in AVID requires an application process and the approval of the AVID site team.

This class is designed for students who have a desire and determination to challenge themselves to grow and find more academic success. It teaches students the necessary strategies to be successful in both middle school and high school, with the ultimate focus of students being college ready. The course helps students develop tools to engage in cooperative learning, goal setting, questioning and study skills, writing, note taking, time management, as well as character development. The course also teaches students test taking strategies, how to manage stress, and how to work toward their goals. Students are supported through rigorous coursework to adequately prepare them to take Advanced Placement courses in high school. AVID students are expected to take ownership of their learning, ask questions to deepen their understanding, and be willing to work hard. AVID students are required to maintain their assignment notebooks, participate in student-led tutorials, and monitor their academic progress throughout the year. They must also maintain an overall GPA of 2.5. Students who have determination and motivation to work hard toward their goals in order to succeed are good candidates for AVID. Students who are interested in AVID need to complete an application, available online. The application may be accessed through Schoology, or check with your student's counselor.

Music

All bands, orchestras, and choirs rehearse during class time and perform at least two major concerts during the school year. There are fees associated with music classes.

Band: Symphonic 1

The Symphonic Band is an advanced level class that includes several concerts and events throughout the year. Typically, the Symphonic Band is made up of players who have been learning their instruments for the past 2-4 years. The students in this band are expected to perform at the highest level possible, and are rewarded with the opportunity to play fun, challenging, and rewarding band literature. The Symphonic Band will perform several concerts throughout the year in addition to concerts at CCHS, and two band festivals in the Spring. Many of these accomplished 8th graders will continue on to perform in the high school bands next year! Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Choir 8

This class is open and encouraged for any eighth grader interested in singing. Our main activity in this class will be choral singing—learning to work together to produce the most beautiful sound possible, including musical expression and nuance. We will work on the skills necessary to accomplish these goals: we will become musically literate (knowing how to read and understand music) by learning basic music theory and history, we will develop sight reading skills, and we will learn vocal technique. The eighth grade choirs perform at least six concerts a year including possible outside-of-school opportunities. The class meets daily, and no audition is necessary. Everybody is welcome. Seventh grade choir is NOT a prerequisite.

Orchestra 8

The Campus Eighth Grade Orchestra is an advanced level class that performs at several concerts and field trips throughout the year. Typically, this class is made up of players who have been learning their instruments for the past 3-5 years. The students in this orchestra are expected to perform advanced levels of music and are rewarded with the opportunity to play fun and challenging literature, such as movie scores, Latin styles, popular music, and rich classical repertoire. The Eighth Grade Orchestra performs several concerts during the year, including a concert with Cherry Creek High School and a festival/competition in the Spring. Many of these accomplished 8th graders will continue on to perform in the high school orchestras next year! Scholarships are available to any student who needs help securing an instrument or a technique book.

Spanish 1B

Prerequisite: Spanish 1A and teacher recommendation.

Spanish 1B is a continuation of the first-year course (Spanish 1A). Students will become more fluent in reading, writing, and speaking in Spanish. Students will also improve their listening skills and will learn more about Hispanic culture. Students will enjoy creating dialogues, skits, presentations, and projects in Spanish, and will learn by interacting with their classmates and their teacher. The students should be highly motivated to participate in all class discussions and activities. Successful completion of Spanish 1A in 7th grade and 1B in 8th grade will allow the students to enter Spanish 2 at the high school.

Spanish 2

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 and teacher recommendation.

This course is equivalent to *one full year* of high school Spanish. We will follow the structure and pacing of our feeder high schools and the curriculum will meet the learning objectives that have been implemented district wide. The prerequisites include successful completion of Spanish I in 7th grade and teacher approval. It is open to language students that have fulfilled the prerequisites and are up for the challenge of this fast-paced class. Learning is reinforced through a variety of activities with an emphasis on listening, reading, speaking, writing, and culture. Homework is assigned daily. Students successfully completing this course, with teacher approval, may advance to Spanish 3 in high school. Students will need to purchase a workbook.

Yearbook

***Enrollment requires the completion of an application and approval from the Yearbook class instructor.**

By enrolling in this course, students become staff members of the Campus Middle School Yearbook. Students will be responsible for every aspect of production of the Yearbook, including interviewing, reporting, editing, planning and designing layouts, writing copy, photo captions, and headlines, as well as photography of all school events and activities.

Semester Elective Courses



Journalism and Broadcasting 8

***Enrollment requires the completion of an application and approval from the instructor.**

This semester-long class will provide students with an introduction to producing a weekly news-type video broadcast. Throughout this course, students will learn basic journalism, video production, and technical skills, such as lighting and sound. Students will learn the skills necessary to be in front of and behind the camera.

Quarter Elective Courses

Art - Mixed Media

This course will offer an exploration of techniques and new ways to see, use, and interpret found objects. Students will create compositions with a variety of materials, paint, images, found objects, and ink painting. Techniques will include collage, monotype printing, drawing, painting, mixing, assemblage, cutting, and pasting, etc. This course is designed to give students a wide variety of art making experiences and allows students to continue to explore various visual art forms and techniques through the elements and principles of art and design.

Art 8 3D
Students taking this class will be exposed to multiple 3D art mediums and processes, building their creative skills through the lens of the Elements and Principles of Design. Projects may include: Ceramics, multimedia creations, carving, large scale installations, and repurposed and recycled art.

Art Ceramics
Students taking this class will explore advanced hand building and glazing techniques and be introduced to the pottery wheel. Projects will be both sculptural and functional and are designed to develop and challenge each student's individual experiences and abilities.

Art Drawing & Painting
This course is designed to develop the fundamentals of drawing and painting. Students will learn a variety of techniques and approaches to developing an artwork from start to finish. Emphasis is placed on introducing students to a variety of techniques and approaches to drawing and painting. This is a great class for students of all skill levels.

Consumer and Family Studies 1: **Skills for Becoming a Global Citizen**
Consumer and Family Studies will focus on the science and art of living and working in the 21st century by exploring the challenges of everyday life. In this project-based course, students will learn skills to help them become independent and successful adults. Units of study will focus on:

- Consumerism; including marketing and advertising.
- Interior design; including housing and furnishings.
- Fashion, textiles, and apparel.
- Hospitality
- Cooking and nutrition
- Money management
- Wellness
- Career exploration

Drama Improvisational Comedy
Do you like making things up on the spot? Playing different characters? Playing fun guessing and group games? Do you love Freeze, Space Jump, Dating Game, Late for Work, etc.? This class is for you! Spend an entire quarter learning Improv! You will become an expert improviser and will walk away having learned how to embody a character both physically and vocally.

Forensic Science and CSI
Who dunnit? Was it Colonel Mustard in the library with the book or Professor Plum in the Kitchen with the bread pudding? Do you like a good mystery and solving puzzles? If so, forensic science is for you! Forensic science will introduce students to the science of solving crimes. Students will learn about cutting-edge forensic science practices and procedures, such as DNA profiling, fingerprinting, digital imaging, and crime scene investigation and reconstruction. With relevant content, engaging explorations and hands-on-activities, students will learn the science behind solving crimes.

Gearing up for STEM: Exploring Bike and Ski Maintenance
Calling all middle school thrill-seekers! Get ready to embark on the ultimate journey of adventure and skill-building with "Gear Up for STEM! Exploring Bike and Ski Maintenance." In this high-energy class, you'll become a master of two incredible worlds: the sleek, speedy universe of bicycles and the snowy, heart-pounding domain of skiing and snowboarding. Learn how to care for and fine-tune your bike's performance, from tire maintenance to chain care, and then dive into the snow sports scene, mastering ski and snowboard upkeep, including waxing, edge sharpening, and binding adjustments. It's hands-on excitement, from the slopes to the trails! With safety as our top priority, you'll be equipped with knowledge to venture out safely. Plus, these aren't just skills for today; they're skills for life. So, whether

you're cruising on two wheels or shredding down the slopes, this class promises unforgettable adventures, new friends, and lifelong skills that will keep you rolling and gliding with confidence!

Get a Clue 8
Ten seconds are left and you put in your last code to open the lock! It opens and you BROKE THE CODE! If you have done escape rooms in the past and enjoyed them, then this class may be for you. Not only will you complete breakouts and digital breakouts, but you will be creating your own breakout story for your classmates to try. Using the innovation and design cycle, students will create elaborate stories, where classmates will have to find clues and solve riddles to break into the treasured lockbox.

Guitar 8
This class is open to all eighth graders and focuses on beginning guitar skills such as chords, strumming patterns, and finger-style playing, as well as learning a variety of songs to apply these skills. Students will learn to read box chords, tablature, and traditional musical notation. Classroom guitars are assigned to every student, and personal guitars are welcome as well!

Introduction to Design: Theatre Makeup, Costumes, Sets, and Lights
This class does not involve performance and is a Theatre Design class.
Costumes, makeup, lighting, set, sound design! If you are an artist, or love putting your vision to life, this class is for you! You will learn about the elements of design for theatre and putting your designs to life onstage! You will play with horror and age makeup, interesting lighting design, building original costumes and creating visions for a set onstage! This class is great for artists or actors trying to expand their theatrical skills.

PE 8
In this class, you'll take part in lots of different activities to build your skills, fitness, and teamwork! We'll play team sports, individual games, and do fitness exercises that help you stay strong and confident. You'll learn game rules, strategies, and how to be a good teammate. PE encourages cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition!

Recreational PE 8
Get ready for a fun and active PE class that focuses on having fun, participation, teamwork, and staying positive! We'll play a mix of recreational games and sports while learning basic skills and rules and practicing good sportsmanship. You'll have fun, make friends, and grow stronger—both physically and as a teammate. This class is all about enjoying being active in a supportive and inclusive environment!



Ropes Challenge Course
This class has a course fee of $50.
Students enrolled in the Ropes Challenge Course class will progress through team building exercises that emphasize interpersonal relationships and individual growth. During the first portion of the quarter, students will receive instruction in the technical skills of top rope climbing, belaying, and knot tying, so they can safely participate on an indoor climbing wall and the challenge course. During the last two weeks of the quarter, students will spend time on the climbing wall, and will wrap up the course with one full day on the challenge course. This class encourages students to develop greater self-confidence and at the same time acquire a sense of trust and commitment in their classmates.

Strategy Games 8
This class is intended for advanced and gifted learners.

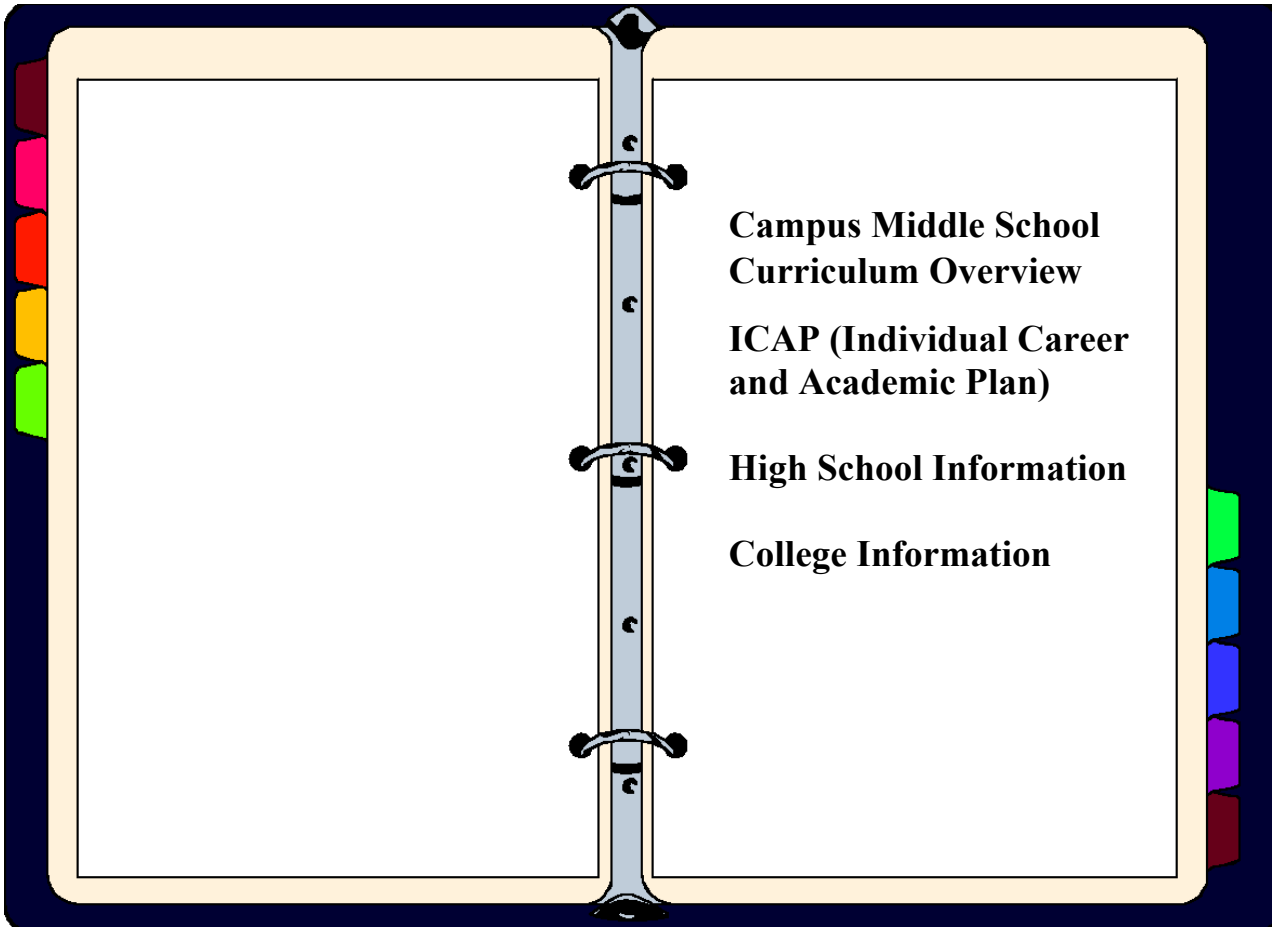
Are you a pro at using logic and strategy to figure things out? Want to further develop your strategic thinking to play card games, board games, logic games, and work on number puzzles? We will learn and play a variety of strategy games while building our deductive thinking, game theory, and collaborative communication skills.

PE Strength and Fitness
This class takes place mostly in the fitness room! You'll learn how to build your strength, endurance, and overall fitness through activities like circuit training, cardio workouts, and weight training. You'll even get to create your own fitness plan to reach your personal goals. This class helps you learn how to stay healthy and strong for life!

Tech Video Production (Reel Time)
Let's get "reel!" Making videos is not only fun but is a skill that we all need in today's work force. If you enjoy creating stories, filming, or editing footage - this class is for you! This course focuses on empowering you to create with purpose. Self-expression, ideation, collaboration, flexibility and persistence - just a few of the life skills you will learn and practice through creative media making. You will also learn the phases of video production, effective recording strategies, and video editing techniques all while using Davinci Resolve, iMovie, and Google Apps. This class is for all experience levels so come ready to learn and have fun no matter your current knowledge!

Tech Wood Working
Welcome to Tech Wood Working! Get ready to dive into the exciting world of manufacturing processes and fabrication. In this introductory course, you'll master the art of working safely with hand tools and power equipment, from the drill press to the laser cutter, becoming a pro at handling tools like a true engineer. But it's not just about tools—it's about understanding materials too. Explore the physical characteristics of different wood types, discovering how these properties influence your project designs. Measurement, layout, and safety will be your guiding principles on this hands-on journey. Showcase your tool proficiency by creating a functional pen, laser-engraved with precision. The best part? All projects you create are yours to keep, tangible reminders of the skills you've developed. So, buckle up for a semester of creativity, precision, and a whole lot of fun in the world of Tech Wood Working!

Theatre Production
Do you want to perform in scenes and plays and improve your acting technique? Do you want to be able to add to your theatrical resume? Maybe you don't have time for the after school play, but want a production experience. OR maybe you want to be a part of more than one theatre production! In this class, you will be cast in a play and rehearse throughout the quarter, resulting in a full play performance! You will strengthen your action, auditioning, and performance skills with an amazing community.


Campus Middle School Curriculum Overview
ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan)
High School Information
College Information

Language Arts at Campus MS

The following grade level expectations are the skills and concepts that the Cherry Creek School District has determined are essential for each of the four state standards for Reading and Writing. The CMS Language Arts curricula have been developed to ensure that content, instruction, and assessment targets all of the expectations at each grade level.

1. Oral Expression and Listening

6th Grade Expectations

- Successful group discussions require planning and participation by all

7th Grade Expectations

- Formal presentations require preparation and effective delivery
- Small and large group discussions rely on active listening and the effective contributions of all participants

8th Grade Expectations

- Communication skills and interviewing techniques are required to gather information and to develop and deliver oral presentations
- A variety of response strategies clarifies meaning or messages

2. Reading for All Purposes

6th Grade Expectations

- Understanding the meaning within different types of literature depends on properly analyzing literary components
- Organizing structure to understand and analyze factual information
- Word meanings are determined by how they are designed and how they are used in context

7th Grade Expectations

- Literary elements, characteristics and ideas are interrelated and guide the comprehension of literary and fictional texts
- Informational and persuasive texts are summarized and evaluated
- Purpose, tone, and meaning in word choices influence literary, persuasive, and informational texts

8th Grade Expectations

- Quality comprehension and interpretation of literary texts demand self-monitoring and self-assessment
- Quality comprehension and interpretation of informational and persuasive texts demand monitoring and self-assessment
- Context, grammar, and word choice influence the understanding of literary, persuasive, and informational texts

3. Writing and Composition

6th Grade Expectations

- Writing literary genres for intended audiences and purposes requires ideas, organization, and voice
- Writing informational and persuasive genres for intended audiences and purposes require ideas, organization, and voice development
- Specific editing for grammar, usage, mechanics, and clarity gives writing its precision and legitimacy

7th Grade Expectations

- Composing literary and narrative texts that incorporate a range of stylistic devices demonstrates knowledge of genre features
- Organization is used when composing informational and persuasive texts
- Editing writing for proper grammar, usage, mechanics, and clarity improves written work

8th Grade Expectations

- Stylistic devices and descriptive details in literary and narrative texts are organized for a variety of audiences and purposes and evaluated for quality
- Ideas and supporting details in informational and persuasive texts are organized for a variety of audiences and purposes and evaluated for quality
- Editing writing for grammar, usage, mechanics, and clarity is an essential trait of a well-written document

4. Research and Reasoning

6th Grade Expectations

- Individual and group research projects require obtaining information on a topic from a variety of sources and organizing it for presentation
- Assumptions can be concealed, and require identification and evaluation
- Monitoring the thinking of self and others is a disciplined way to maintain awareness

7th Grade Expectations

- Answering a research question logically begins with obtaining and analyzing information from a variety of sources
- Logical information requires documented sources
- Reasoned material is evaluated for its quality using both its logic and its use of media

8th Grade Expectations

- Individual research projects begin with information obtained from a variety of sources, and is organized, documented, and presented using logical procedures
- Common fallacies and errors occur in reasoning
- Quality reasoning relies on supporting evidence in media

Social Studies At Campus MS

The Social Studies curriculum at Campus Middle School focuses on learning experiences that provide students with the skills and content knowledge necessary to better understand the world and the United States. Instructional methods include the use of text materials, historical and cultural literature, simulations, Socratic seminars, performance assessments, and computer technology. Emphasis is placed on skills and knowledge related to historical investigation and research, chronology, the analysis of current events, use of

6th Grade

Western Hemisphere

- Maps and Globes
- South America
- Central America
- Caribbean
- Mexico
- Current Events
- Financial Literacy

7th Grade

Eastern Hemisphere

- Africa
- Asia
- Non-fiction materials
- European Influences
- Current Events
- Financial Literacy

8th Grade

American Government

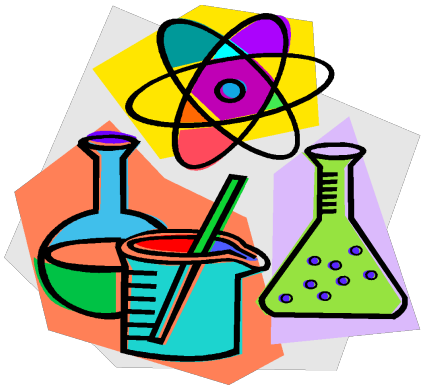
- Founding of our Nation
- Historical Foundations of American Government
- American History 1763-1865
- Current Events
- Financial Literacy



Science

At

Campus MS



21st Century Skills in Science
Colorado's Description of 21st Century Skills

Colorado's description of 21st century skills is a synthesis of the essential abilities students must apply in our rapidly changing world. Today's students need a repertoire of knowledge and skills that are more diverse, complex, and integrated than any previous generation. These skills do not stand alone in the standards, but are woven into the evidence outcomes, inquiry questions, and application and are within the nature of science. Science inherently demonstrates each of Colorado's 21st century skills, as follows:

Critical Thinking and Reasoning
Science requires students to analyze evidence and draw conclusions based on that evidence. Scientific investigation involves defining problems and designing studies to test hypotheses related to those problems. In science, students must justify and defend scientific explanations and distinguish between correlation and causation.

Information Literacy
Understanding science requires students to research current ideas about the natural world. Students must be able to distinguish fact from opinion and truth from fantasy. Science requires a degree of skepticism because the ideas of science are subject to change. Science students must be able to understand what constitutes reliable sources of information and how to validate those sources. One key to science is understanding that converging different lines of evidence from multiple sources strengthens a scientific conclusion.

Collaboration
Science students must be able to listen to others' ideas, and engage in scientific dialogs that are based on evidence – not opinion. These types of conversations allow them to compare and evaluate the merit of different ideas. The peer review process helps to ensure the validity of scientific explanations.

Self-Direction
Students in science must have persistence and perseverance when exploring scientific concepts. Students must generate their own questions, and design investigations to find the answers. Students must be open to revising and redefining their thinking based on evidence.

Invention
Designing investigations and engineering new products involves a large degree of invention. Scientists and engineers often have to think "outside the box" as they push the limits of our current knowledge. They must learn from their failures to take the next steps in understanding. Science students also must integrate ideas from multiple disciplines to formulate an understanding of the natural world. In addition to using invention to design investigations, scientists also use findings from investigations to help them to invent new products. The CMS science program is designed to provide students with the opportunity for hands-on, investigative, problem-solving experiences with a variety of science topics, while integrating 21st century skills and focusing on the nature of science. In addition to developing laboratory skills, students will be given a foundation of basic science concepts, terminology, graphing, data analysis, measurement and math application. Teachers provide the instructional framework that breaks down the practice of scientific

explanation into manageable components – claim, evidence, and reasoning. This framework enhances students' conceptual understanding and ability to think and communicate scientifically. The CMS science program follows the Cherry Creek School District Middle School Curriculum, which is aligned with the Colorado Academic Standards for Science.

Science Units by Grade Level

6th Grade

- Light and Matter
- Thermal Energy
- Weather, Climate and Water Cycling
- Plate Tectonics and Rock Cycling
- Natural Hazards
- Cells and Development

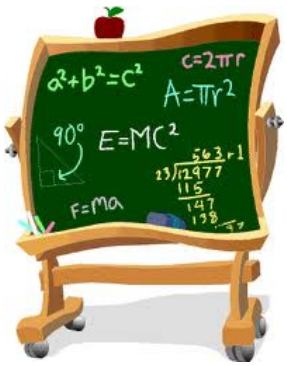
7th Grade

- Chemical Reactions and Matter Transformations
- Energy in Chemical Reactions
- Metabolic Reactions
- Matter Cycling and Photosynthesis
- Ecosystem Dynamics and Biodiversity
- Natural Resources and Human Impact

8th Grade

- Contact Forces
- Sound Waves
- Forces and Distance
- Earth in Space
- Genetics
- Natural Selection and Common Ancestry

Mathematics at Campus MS



The Standards for Mathematical Practice describe the processes, practices, and dispositions of Mathematicians. The eight standards of Mathematical Practices are:

1. Makes sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

6th Grade Curriculum

Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- Understanding ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems.

The Number System
- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions.
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples.
- Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations
- Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions.
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables.

Geometry
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

Statistics and Probability
- Develop understanding of statistical variability.
- Summarize and describe distributions.

7th Grade Curriculum

Ratios and Proportional Relationships
- Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

The Number System
- Apply and extend previous understanding of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations
- Use properties to generate equivalent expressions.

Geometry
- Draw, construct and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationship between them.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume.

Statistics and Probability
- Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population.
- Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations.
- Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.

8th Grade Curriculum

The Number System
- Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.

Expressions and Equations
- Work with radicals and integer exponents.
- Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.

Functions
- Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
- Use functions to model relationships between quantities.

Geometry
- Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
- Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Statistics and Probability
- Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

ICAP
Individual Career and Academic Plan



ICAP is a multi-year process that the Colorado Department of Education requires every district in the state to complete with their students, to intentionally guide students and families in the exploration of career, academic and postsecondary opportunities. It is the foundation to graduation requirements and college and career success.

With the support of adults, students develop the awareness, knowledge, attitudes, and skills to create their own meaningful and powerful pathways to be career and college ready. For more information visit: http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/icap-background.

In meeting the state requirements for ICAP, CCSD has laid out middle school requirements that we will complete and document at Campus. To begin creating an Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) in Naviance each student will perform the following at some point throughout the year:

- Goal Setting - Set a S.M.A.R.T. goal for each year and/or for your future (6th, 7th, and 8th)
- Career Exploration – Take Career Key and Explore Career Clusters that are best suited for you (7th and 8th)
- Academic Planning – Get ready for high school ! (8th)

What is Naviance?

Naviance is the platform used by CCSD to explore and track College and Career Readiness through middle and high school. Parents and students can access Naviance via the tile in my.cherrycreekschools.org.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

2021 CHERRY CREEK

In 2016 new graduation requirements for the class of 2021 were modified across the State of Colorado, in every school district, to include the Cherry Creek Schools.

1 Course Requirements for Graduation in Cherry Creek School District

Board Policy IKF

A minimum of 22 units of credit shall be necessary for high school graduation.

- English: 4.0 units
- Mathematics 3.0 units
- Science 3.0 units
- Social Studies 3.0 units
- Physical Education 2.0 units
- Fine Arts or CTE 1.5 units
- Elective Offerings 5.5 units

3 Skills Necessary for Success in College and Career

The following skills are critical to success in College and Career.

- Innovation
- Critical thinking skills
- Real world experiences
- Problem solving
- Curiosity / Inquiry
- Relevancy
- Working in teams
- Communication skills
- Project based learning
- Flexibility / Adaptability

2 College and Career Ready Demonstration Requirement for Graduation in Cherry Creek and all Other Colorado Schools.

Regulation IKF-E

In addition to required coursework, all students must demonstrate Competency in Mathematics and English through one area below.

	English/Lang. Arts	Mathematics
Next Generation Accuplacer	241 on Reading OR 236 on Writing	255 on Arithmetic (AR) OR 230 on Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra and Statistics (QAS)
Classic Accuplacer	62 Reading Comprehension OR 70 Sentence Skills	61 on Elementary Algebra
ACT	18	19
ACT WorkKeys	Bronze or higher	Bronze or higher
Advanced Placement	2	2
ASVAB (AFQT score)	31st percentile	31st percentile
Concurrent Enrollment	Passing Grade	Passing Grade
International Baccalaureate	4	4
SAT	470	500
District Capstone	Secondary Literacy Assessment	Portfolio of Skills Exams
Industry Certificate	District Determined	District Determined

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

The Cherry Creek School District high schools participate in the College Board's national Advanced Placement Program. AP courses offered at Cherry Creek High School include:

- English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- United States History, European History, World History, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Human Geography, Comparative Government and Politics, United States Government and Politics
- Statistics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science, Computer Science Principles
- Biology, Chemistry, Physics C, Environmental Science
- French Language, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, German, Latin, Chinese
- Music Theory, Studio Art, 3-D Studio Art, Art History
- AP Capstone Program (Seminar, Research)

AP courses are the equivalent of introductory college courses. Motivated, high-achieving students may be able to complete certain college requirements while still in high school. Each course culminates in a national examination. Students who take an AP course are expected to take the exams. Students are required to take the national exams if they wish to be considered for credit at the college level. Each college or university has it's own criteria for when and if to award AP credit; students should check these criteria with the individual institution.

The Cherry Creek School District offers students and parents the opportunity for an official transcript that reflects a weighted grade point average. Weighted grades are given in those courses designated as either Honors or AP. These courses are weighted on a five-point scale.

REPEATABLE COURSES

The following courses can be repeated for credit

*Advanced Debate Honors	Broadcast Media
*Cross-Ex Debate Honors	Orchestras
CP Journalism	Advanced Acting
CP Journalism Leadership Workshop	Intermediate Acting
Reading Essentials 1,2,3,4	Technical Theatre 2
Yearbook	All P.E. classes (*exc, Weight Training 1, Adv. Leader Training, Yoga)*
Advanced Ceramics	EPIC courses
Artisans Workshop (4 semesters only)	Academic Support Lab
Choirs	Teacher & Office Assists
Bands	ILC & Practical Courses
Broadcast Journalism/TV Prod 1 & 2	Life Skills-REACH (2 semesters only)

NOTE: *Courses designated with *asterisk receive a weighted grade.*

College Admissions

Preparing for college starts as early as the ninth grade, if not earlier. Parents and students often ask counselors, "What does it take for me to be accepted to (Fill in the Blank) College?" That is a difficult question to answer, as competition has intensified for a spot at certain colleges, and it is hard to ascertain what factors colleges will emphasize in a particular year. We do know that colleges, especially those which are most competitive in admissions, seek students who are academically prepared for the rigors of college-level courses, who can contribute to their campus community, and who have a clear sense of why they are a good match for that college.

Top Factors Influencing Admissions Decisions

Each year, the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) surveys colleges and universities to determine the top factors influencing admission decisions. Grades in college preparatory courses and strength of curriculum were considered by colleges to be the top factors in the admission decision, followed closely by admission test scores and grades in all courses.

Nearly 80 percent of all colleges and universities rated grades in college prep courses as "considerably important," followed by 60 percent for strength of curriculum, 60 percent for grades in all courses, and 55 percent for admission test scores. According to the 2016 "State of College Admissions Report," the following factors, in order of importance, were:

1.Grades in college prep courses (CP)
2. Strength of curriculum
3. Grades in all courses
4. Admission test scores (ACT, SAT)
5. Essay or writing sample
6. Counselor recommendation
7. Student's demonstrated interest
8. Teacher Recommendation
9. Extracurricular Activities
10. Subject test scores (AP, IB)
11. Interview

SOURCE: NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2017

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (HEAR)

In 2003, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education adopted the Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR), which are entry requirements for students planning to attend any of Colorado's public four-year colleges or universities. Private colleges and universities set their own admission standards, so students should contact those institutions directly for information regarding their enrollment policies. Additionally, public two-year colleges have open enrollment policies, meaning that students applying to these schools do not need to meet the following admissions requirements.

Students planning to attend a four-year college or university in Colorado will need to complete the following classes in order to fulfill the HEAR. HEAR is one factor of many that public four-year institutions consider in the admission decision process.

Academic Area*	**Graduates**
English*	4 years
Mathematics (must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalents)***	4 years
Natural/Physical Sciences (two credits must be lab-based)***	3 years
Social Sciences (at least one unit of U.S. or World History)	3 years
Foreign Language	1 year

Academic Electives***	2 years

*Two credits of ELA English may count for HEAR requirements when combined with two credits of successfully completed college preparatory English.

**College-preparatory (CP) ELA mathematics/science courses that include content and academic rigor/level comparable to other acceptable courses may satisfy HEAR requirements.

***American Sign Language (ASL) courses can count toward the World/Foreign Language recommendation.

****Acceptable Academic Electives include additional courses in English, mathematics, natural/physical sciences and social studies, foreign languages, art, music, journalism, drama, computer science, honors, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate courses, and appropriate CTE courses.

Four-Year Academic Plans and Recommended High School Programs of Study

Each year, Creek counselors meet with students to develop and evaluate their Four-Year Academic Plans, keeping in mind each student's interests, goals, and dreams as they prepare for their post-graduate experience. To best prepare for the college admission process, we encourage students to pursue the same academic programs below; however, be aware that completion of a sample program like these does not guarantee admission, especially at highly and most selective schools.

Highly Selective Institutions		
Recommended Minimum Program of Study	**English**	4 years at the Honors/AP Level encouraged
	Math	3-4 years with Honors/AP Level encouraged
	Social Studies	3-4 years with Honors/AP Level encouraged
	Science	3-4 years with Honors/AP Level encouraged
	Foreign Language	3-4 with Honors/AP Level encouraged

Most Selective Institutions		
Recommended Minimum Program of Study	**English**	4 years at the Honors/AP Level
	Math	4 years at the Honors/AP Level
	Social Studies	3-4 years, with AP when possible
	Science	3-4 years at the Honors/AP Level
	Foreign Language	3-4 at the Honors/AP Level
Very Selective Institutions		
Recommended Minimum Program of Study	**English**	4 years
	Math	4 years
	Social Studies	3-4 years
	Science	2-4 years depending on major
	Foreign Language	2 years minimum

Note: for these types of schools, Creek counselors recommend that students complete the minimum academic standards, which should match our CCHS graduation requirements, but also challenge themselves further with additional and/or honors coursework when appropriate. Many applicants to Very Selective colleges/universities complete 1 – 3 AP classes at a minimum.

Note: CCHS counselors recommend that students interested in less selective institutions plan to complete our minimum graduation requirements, and take two years of a foreign language, if possible. Community and junior colleges, vocational schools, and military induction require that all graduation requirements are met.

Less Selective Institutions		
Recommended Minimum Program of Study	**English**	4 years
	Math	4 years
	Social Studies	3 years
	Science	3 years
	Foreign Language	1 year, per HEAR requirements