

Emporia Middle School



Course Guide Book
2026-2027

Dear Parents, Guardians, and students,

Welcome to Emporia Middle School! We are excited to have you here as a part of our school community. The purpose of this course description book is to assist students and parents to better understand the opportunities for curriculum and courses of Emporia Middle School. We believe our school mission of Challenge, Empower, Belong and Grow starts right in our vast course offerings. The mission, curriculum and culture of teaming are aligned with our goals designed to best meet the needs of our students.

It is our goal to provide a student-centered curriculum that ensures opportunities for all students while also providing them with a rigorous educational experience. Additionally, we seek to provide resources and opportunities to help guide them through the middle school years and ultimately help them develop into well rounded individuals. As you will see below, we offer a variety of exploratory courses for students, as well as team-sponsored activities. We hope that this Course Guide is of assistance to you as you navigate the middle years here at Emporia Middle School. Most of all, welcome to the start of our 2026-2027 school year. It's always a great day to be a Junior Spartan.

Sincerely,

Brent Burns
Principal

Course Guide Experience

Welcome to Emporia Middle School. This course planning guide has been developed to provide information to students and parents as they explore required classes and elective opportunities that are available at EMS. Middle school is a time to explore new areas of study, participate in a wide variety of student activities, and meet new friends. We encourage students to talk about their interests and goals for middle school with parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators. Students are provided a variety of classes depending on individual needs and levels, intensive support or advanced levels of coursework. Students can also take part in a wide range of elective enrichments. Offerings may vary due to student interest. We look forward to helping students reach their personal learning potential.

Emporia Middle School Schedule of Classes

Emporia Middle School is on block scheduling. Students will have 7 blocks per day during the semester plus Advisory.

Selecting Elective Courses

- ❑ This document will help the student know what content is included in the elective. All students including incoming 6th graders will enroll at a later time.
- ❑ We encourage the students to use this document to find 12 to 15 electives they will later prioritize when they complete the process.

Schedule Changes

Academic Team will be assigned randomly and requests for Team changes will not be allowed. Schedule request changes to electives for the first semester will be allowed during the first week of school and will require parent signature. Schedule changes requests for the following semester will be allowed during the last week of the current semester, before semester two classes start. Once classes start, schedule change requests may not be granted.

Career Pathway Classes

Students have the opportunity to take classes at the middle school that align with the career pathways offered at Emporia High School. These courses meet the required competencies for the introductory level of the specified pathway. If students complete required courses to a specific pathway at the middle school, students will earn credit at Emporia High School.

EMS Courses that earn EHS Credit	Introductory Courses for the following Pathway(s)
Introduction to Agriculture	*Plant Systems *Animal Science
Business Essentials	*Business Finance *Business Management and Entrepreneurship *Digital Media *Marketing *Restaurant & Event Management
Introduction to Family & Consumer Science	*Early Childhood Development and Services *Restaurant and Event Management *Teaching/Training
Introduction to Skilled Trades	*Construction & Design *Manufacturing
Computer Applications	*Biochemistry *Biomedical *Digital Media

Course Descriptions and Layout

Below is a comprehensive listing of all courses offered at EMS. Courses listed in the course catalog may not be offered every semester due to our enrollment interest in the elective. Courses are organized in this order:

- **Elective Courses**
 - Page 4 - 6th elective courses
 - Page 6 - 7th & 8th elective courses
 - Page 15 - 7th & 8th required PE courses
- **Required Courses (No choices necessary)**
 - Page 16 - 6th required courses
 - Page 18 - 7th required courses
 - Page 19 - 8th required courses

6th Grade Electives

Choice	6 th Grade Chorus 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is for students who enjoy singing. Students will learn the basics of two part singing and develop healthy singing technique. Students will perform in required evening concerts throughout the year

Choice	Ancient Mythology 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This class would further explore what students are introduced to in the 6th Grade Social Studies course in regards to mythologies of ancient civilizations. Students would learn about the various Gods and myths of Greek, Roman, Mayan, and other empires. These mythologies will be compared and contrasted.

Choice	Beginning Band (year long) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course allows students to rehearse and perform a variety of music (jazz, concert, marching, and pep). Students will learn how to play a band instrument or continue to develop their playing abilities. Please be aware that the rental or purchase of an instrument might be necessary for this performance-based class. Some school instruments are available for a small rental fee on a first-come, first-served basis. Upkeep of the instruments also will be necessary including maintenance and supplies. Students will perform in required evening concerts throughout the year.

Choice	Forensics Science 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is an introduction to Forensics the study of a past event and to piece together what happened from what was left behind.

Choice	Explorations in Art 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is an introductory class explaining the various art media. Units will include a general exploration of drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and collage.

Choice	Explorations in Spanish 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Sixth grade students will be exposed to basic speaking, reading, writing, and listening in Spanish in order to determine if Spanish is a language they would like to continue learning in the seventh and eighth grades.

Choice	Explorations in Technology 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course will explore the six Areas of Technology through hands-on activities in each area (Manufacturing, Construction, Communication, Energy, Transportation, and Biotech/Agriculture). These activities include: Water Bottle Rockets, Spaghetti Towers, "Sweet Tooth" Manufacturing, Telegraph Circuitry, and Popcorn Chemistry.</p>

Choice	Explorations in Theatre Arts 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course is an introduction to theater knowledge and basic performance skills. Topics include parts of a theater, stage directions, theater jobs, movement, character and play analysis.</p>

Choice	Introduction to Celluloid Animation 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Science is an adventure of understanding how the world works. This course is an introduction to cel animation. Students will explore the history of this original form of 2D animation and compare and contrast American and Japanese Animation. Cel animation (short for celluloid) is the technique where images are hand-drawn on celluloid sheets in order to create a moving picture. Science, technology, engineering, art, and math are all involved in this creative process. Students will create a work of animation through the use of scripts, storyboards, visual arts, and computer technology.</p>

Choice	FACS Sewing 1 - 6th 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This is an exploratory course for students who are not familiar with Family and Consumer Science. Students will be introduced to topics and units that include character and manner development, hand sewing, machine sewing and laundry.</p>

Choice	Leadworthy 6th Grade Leadworthy 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course is a program for students to develop leadership, personal, and business skills. They learn to develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility. They will develop an understanding of emotional intelligence and the skills it measures, which include persistence, optimism, self-awareness, self control, empathy, social skills, and self-motivation. Leadworthy helps students acquire the skills they need to succeed and teaches them what leadership truly is, while also developing effective public speaking skills.</p>

Choice	Myth-Busters 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Science is an adventure of understanding how the world works. With a slight connection to the television show "Myth-Busters," students enrolled in this class will investigate common misconceptions in science. During this course students</p>

	will research facts about a particular 'myth' in science, recording their information and sources as they research and enhance their presentation skills. Students will test the facts of the myth through experimentation.
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Choice	Orchestra 6 (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is offered to students who have had no experience playing the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Numerous public performances may include fall, winter, and spring concerts and school assemblies. Orchestra gives students the opportunity to perform symphonic literature of the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic Periods, as well as modern and popular music. Students are required to provide their own concert uniforms as specified by the instructor. Students will perform in required evening concerts throughout the year.

Choice	Student Aide
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Students will be an assistant to staff such as: librarian, office, designated teachers or school operations. This class is based on student requests and teacher input. There is an application to be submitted to be accepted into this position.

7th and 8th Grade Electives

*These italicized Courses are open to all **8th grade students** and will earn high school credit for a passing student:*

- *Business Essentials (½ credit)*
- *Computer Applications (1 credit)*
- *Introduction to Agriculture (1 credit)*
- *Introduction to Family & Consumer Science (1 credit)*
- *Introduction to Skilled Trades (½ credit)*

Art

Choice	2-Dimensional Art 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will provide experience with various media and processes in the area of drawing, painting and collage. The course can be repeated and will be differentiated according to student experience and skill level.

Choice	3-Dimensional Art 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will provide experience in working with ceramics and sculpture. The course can be repeated and will be differentiated according to student experience and skill level.

Business

Choice	Business Essentials (½ high school credit, 1 semester) 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<i>This course introduces students to the skills needed to be employable and successful in the workplace. The course also allows students to explore different career areas. Students examine current events to determine their impact on business and industry and legal and ethical behavior, acquire knowledge of safe and secure environmental controls to enhance productivity, and determine how resources should be managed to achieve company goals. As students learn about the different types of business ownership, they interpret industry laws and regulations to ensure compliance, identify principles of business management, and analyze business practices to determine ethics and social responsibilities.</i>

Choice	Personal Finance 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will explore the ideas of personal finance. Students will learn about concepts related to banking, budgeting, credit and taxes. Students will also learn about making significant purchases (like a vehicle or home), reading a paycheck stub, and other employment related topics.

Computers:

Choice	Computer Applications (1 Semester, 1 high school credit, open to all 8th grade) 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<i>Students will acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of software packages. This CTE introductory level course explores a wide range of applications, including (but not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheet, graphics, and database programs, and may also cover the use of electronic mail, Internet ethics and safety, and desktop publishing.</i>

Choice	Spartan Media (1 Semester) 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Prerequisite: Must have completed and passed Digital Media and/or Graphic Designs. This course provides students with the opportunity to apply fundamental techniques to the production of multimedia projects (specifically the school yearbook, podcast, and news channel) for public presentation. Topics include developing a production schedule, working as a team, utilizing composition principles and embedding audio, video or other content in digital formats.

Choice	Computer Graphic Design 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course has students gain knowledge in graphic design using Adobe Photoshop Elements. Students will become acquainted with many different techniques to apply to photographs and posters to produce high-quality digital projects. Students will use a variety of technology to obtain, create,

	and incorporate digital images into their projects.
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Choice	Digital Media 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course teaches students to use advanced techniques to create videos, music, and basic programming skills. Students may also use software to create a 3D object. Programs that may be used include Soundation, Adobe Premiere Elements, SketchUp, Animoto and WeVideo.

Family and Consumer Science

Choice	Introduction to Family & Consumer Science (1 high school credit, 1 Semester, open to all 8th grade) 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<i>This introductory level course introduces students to the concepts of child development, family dynamics, the importance of relationships, nutrition and wellness, basic culinary skills, personal financial planning, and many service provider occupations in the Consumer Science field such as nutrition educator, child care provider, social worker, foster parent, credit counselor, geriatric care provider, senior citizen care director, food service provider, restaurant manager, culinary artists, interior/textile designer, event planner, and teacher.</i>

Choice	FACS Sewing 1 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This is an exploratory course for students who are not familiar with Family and Consumer Science. Students will be introduced to topics and units that include character and manner development, hand sewing, machine sewing and laundry.

Choice	FACS Sewing 2 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Prerequisite: FACS Sewing 1. Building on skills learned in FACS 1, students will read and lay out a pattern, practice making measurements, sew an advanced project, and develop various inter- and intrapersonal relationship skills.

Choice	FACS Culinary 1 22 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Students will be introduced to cooking, kitchen safety and sanitation, cooking tools and utensils, reading a recipe, recipe math, nutrition basics, and physical, mental and social wellness.

Choice	FACS Culinary 2 22 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Prerequisite: FACS Culinary 1. Building on skills learned in FACS 2, students will learn advanced cooking skills, nutrition labels, nutrition math, food additives, meal planning, and concepts related to child development.

Fine Arts

Choice	Advanced Theatre Arts 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Prerequisite: Explorations in Theatre Arts or Theatre Arts and Teacher Recommendation</p> <p>This course is for students that have a high interest in theater. Students will engage in a full production and rehearsal process, take on various roles in technical design and/or perform a one-act play. Prospective students must get approval to enroll in this course from the theater teacher.</p>

Choice	Theatre Arts 25 Max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course is an introduction to the basic drama elements. Students explore various areas of technical theater, performance, theater from other cultures and playwriting.</p>

Foreign Language

Choice	Spanish I 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course focuses on vocabulary, conjugation of regular present-tense verbs through themed units that incorporate speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills.</p>

Choice	Spanish II 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Prerequisite: Spanish I</p> <p>This course focuses on learning an extended vocabulary as well as conjugating irregular and future tense verbs. Students will practice their speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills through themed units, Spanish literature, computer communications, and independent studies.</p>

Choice	Spanish for Heritage Speakers 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course for Heritage Spanish speakers is intended to examine the language and cultures of the Spanish speaking countries. Most of the class time and coursework will be entirely in Spanish. A special emphasis will be given to vocabulary, grammar, and spelling. The class is similar to the high school heritage course.</p>

Guidance

Choice	AVID 7/AVID 8 (year long) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course has students learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and asking probing questions, get academic assistance from peers and college tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. The AVID curriculum is focused on rigorous standards that were developed by middle and senior high school teachers in collaboration with college professors. It is driven by the <u>WICOR</u> method (writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading). Students apply and are chosen for this course at each grade level.</p>

Choice	Leadworthy 7 Grade Leadworthy, 8th Grade (1 Semester) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>This course is a program for students to develop leadership, personal, and business skills. They learn to develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility. They will develop an understanding of emotional intelligence and the skills it measures, which include persistence, optimism, self-awareness, self control, empathy, social skills, and self-motivation. Leadworthy helps students acquire the skills they need to succeed and teaches them what leadership truly is, while also developing effective public speaking skills.</p>

Choice	Student Aide
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Students will be an assistant to staff such as: librarian, office, designated teachers or school operations. This class is based on student requests and teacher input. There is an application to be submitted to be accepted into this position. Administration approval is required to be a student aide.</p>

Language Arts

Choice	Creative Writing 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	<p>Students will implement the writing process to explore and create effective writing. Students will analyze various writing genres through reading, writing, and critiquing techniques tied to writing. Students will strengthen their knowledge and application of various writing strategies to enable them to create more sophisticated and polished written products.</p>

Choice	Debate and Forensics 1 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	<p>This course will focus on the persuasive elements of public speaking, research skills, and argument development. Students will be introduced to the elements</p>

☐ Alternate	of effective debate techniques and persuasive methods. Students will practice oral interpretations of literature and dramatic interpretations of published works. Students interested in participating in debate/forensics at Emporia High School should consider taking this course.
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Choice	Debate and Forensics 2 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Debate and Forensics 1 Students will use their prior understanding of argument development and research skills to begin using the persuasive speaking methods previously examined. This project-based class gives students the opportunity to develop full debate speeches and present them in a competitive manner. Students will stretch their skills in oral interpretation of literature and dramatic interpretation of published works. Students interested in participating in debate/forensics at Emporia High School should consider taking this course.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	From Page to Screen 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This class teaches students about the history and evolution of how both books and movies became popular pastimes. Students will also learn about the art of storytelling, character development, and plot. Students will be able to compare and contrast elements of the movie with the corresponding book.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Outstanding Authors Science Fiction & Fantasy 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Students will interact with various genres of literature. This course will provide reading and discussion time for students interested in reading well-known books and short stories by outstanding writers. Students will explore selections from various genres. Literature discussions will emphasize reasoning, inferential thinking, critical reaction, and opinions as comprehension skills.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Public Speaking 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This course focuses on the basics of interpersonal and public communication. Students are given multiple opportunities to practice speaking methods in a variety of formats. Students discover the foundations of effective verbal communication. Differences in presentation techniques will be examined and evaluated.
☐ Alternate	

Music

Choice	Chorale (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Chorus or 6 th Grade Chorus and spring audition This is a mixed chorus of men and women who must audition to be enrolled. Auditions are in the spring for the following year. Students will learn three and four part harmony. Students will perform in required evening concerts
☐ Alternate	

	throughout the year.
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Choice	Chorus 1 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This is a mixed chorus of men and women who enjoy singing. Students will learn the basics of singing and develop healthy singing techniques. Students will perform in required evening concerts throughout the year.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	7th & 8th Grade Band (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Beginning Band and spring audition Members are selected by audition. This course allows students to rehearse and perform a variety of music (jazz, concert, marching, and pep). Students must be able to play a band instrument. Please be aware that the rental or purchase of an instrument might be necessary for this performance-based class. Some school instruments are available for a small rental fee on a first-come, first-served basis. Upkeep of instruments will also be necessary, including maintenance and supplies. Students will perform in required evening and/or weekend performances throughout the year.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	7th and 8th Grade Orchestra (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Orchestra 6 and spring audition This course is offered to students who have had experience playing the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Numerous public performances include fall, winter and spring concerts, school assemblies, and the Seasonal Celebration. Orchestra gives students the opportunity to perform symphonic literature of the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic Periods, as well as modern and popular music. Students are required to provide their own concert uniforms as specified by the instructor. Students will perform in required evening performances throughout the year.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	The Evolution of American Music 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This course will study the cultural impact of music in America throughout our history. Learning begins with understanding the influence of songs like the Star Spangled Banner and Yankee Doodle Dandy. Learning continues through the progression of American history up through the 20th and 21st Century influential music such as the Roaring 20's, the WWII era, Counterculture 60's and beyond. This is not a performance-based music course but rather a study in the significant impact of music on our American Culture.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Symphonic Band (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Beginning Band and spring audition Members are selected by audition. Auditions are in the spring for the following year. This course allows students to rehearse and perform a variety
☐ Alternate	

	of music (jazz, concert, marching, and pep). Students must be able to play a band instrument. Please be aware that the rental or purchase of an instrument might be necessary for this performance-based class. Some school instruments are available for a small rental fee on a first-come, first-served basis. Upkeep of instruments will also be necessary, including maintenance and supplies. Students will perform in required evening and/or weekend performances throughout the year.
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Choice	Symphonic Orchestra (year long) 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Prerequisite: Orchestra 6 and spring audition Members are selected by audition. Auditions are in the spring for the following year. This course is offered to students who have had experience playing the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Numerous public performances include fall, winter and spring concerts, school assemblies, and the Seasonal Celebration. Orchestra gives students the opportunity to perform symphonic literature of the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic Periods, as well as modern and popular music. Students are required to provide their own concert uniforms as specified by the instructor. Students will perform in required evening performances throughout the year.

Health

Choice	Advanced Health 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will focus on content related to health science and services. The students will learn about sports injuries, CPR, basic first aid, and the body systems.

Science

Choice	Animal Science 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course is designed to be a hands-on, practical study of animals related to the agricultural industry. We will explore care required for keeping animals healthy, various animal breeds, and concepts related to the food-chain. This class will help students start to decide if they might be interested in a career in Agriculture or Veterinary Medicine.

Choice	Introduction to Agriculture (1 high school credit, 1 semester open to all 8th grade) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	Prerequisite: Animal Science <i>This course serves as a survey of the various aspects of agriculture. A number of basic topics, such as the role of agri-science in our world, opportunities in agriculture education, food production, and basic agribusiness will be</i>

	<i>covered. Additionally, skills such as public speaking and leadership will be emphasized.</i>
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Choice	Natural Disasters Atmosphere 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will be a cross-curricular class blending history with science from the point of view of natural disasters. The goal of the class will be for students to understand the science of how natural disasters occur and connect that to significant historic events. This class focuses on the atmospheric natural disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, and droughts.

Choice	Space Science 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course concentrates on Space Science topics. Students will explore the field of astronomy, including how astronomers make observations and utilize constellations. They will also investigate the structure of our solar system and how it formed and will analyze models to better understand its structure. In addition, students will explore the properties of stars, how they evolve over their existence, and how they are organized into galaxies. Finally, students will investigate how humans explore space and obtain information from celestial objects, such as comets and asteroids.

Social Studies

Choice	Reel to Real World War II and the Holocaust (8 th grade only) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course compares and contrasts Hollywood's perspective of the events of both WWII and the Holocaust with that of historical reality. Students will analyze a variety of media portrayals of the events and people involved and then compare those with first person accounts. Students will also explore the lasting impact of these events on world history. Due to the movie ratings and content, written parental permission is required to take this course.

Choice	Second World War 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course will examine the details of the beginning, start, events, conclusion, and fallout from the Second World War. This will focus on events, from the Pacific War, European Theater of Operations, the American Homefront, and our Greatest Generation.

Technology

Choice	Advanced Technology Projects (8 th grade only) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Technology Productions II, Introduction to Industrial Technology

☐ Alternate	and Instructor Permission This course takes a deeper look into the areas of Manufacturing, Construction, and Transportation technologies through individual projects. Students learn more about the capabilities and uses of our lab power tools. Students will participate in activities that include small furniture building and basic construction in addition to individually developed projects.
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Choice	Introduction to Skilled Trades (½ high school credit, 1 Semester, open to all 8th grade) 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	<i>An introductory level course designed to expose students to the basic skills necessary for all occupations in the Construction and Manufacturing profession. Students will learn basic tool and machine safety required on a construction site and may prepare them for their OSHA-10 and NCCER Core certifications.</i>
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Technology Productions I 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This course explores the Six Areas of Technology (Manufacturing, Construction, Communication, Energy, Transportation, and Biotech/Agriculture) with modules primarily through computer-based projects and simulations as well as various hands-on activities. The modules include: Rocketry/Flight, Engineering Structures (Balsa Bridge Building), Electronic Circuit Building, Graphic Design, and Plastics Manufacturing.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Technology Productions II 25 max enrollment
☐ Primary	Prerequisite: Technology Productions I This course continues students' explorations into the Six Areas of Technology primarily with hands-on projects in Construction, Transportation, and Manufacturing. Techniques in this class focus on Basic Woodworking, Sheet Metal Bending and Spot Welding, Research and Design (CO ₂ Cars), and Craft Working.
☐ Alternate	

Required 7th and 8th PE Courses

7th and 8th grade students will be required to take physical education. Students should dress in appropriate PE attire each class period. Weightlifting is only available for 8th grade students. Students may choose from the following Physical Education offerings:

Choice	Lifetime Fitness 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary	This class will include physical activities students can use throughout life. Students will set goals, create an individualized workout program that relates to the 5 fitness components and the FITT Principle. We will identify resources in the community for lifelong health and fitness. This offering will report to the classroom and not the gym for most of its activities.
☐ Alternate	

Choice	Physical Education 40 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	These courses will introduce students to team and individual games incorporating cardiovascular and muscular endurance, muscular strength, body composition, motor skills, overall physical fitness, affective behavior, and appreciation of physical fitness. Units include activities relevant to the current season of Fall, Winter, and Spring.

Choice	Weight Lifting (8th grade only) 20 max enrollment
☐ Primary ☐ Alternate	This course involves strength and power training techniques, and instruction is oriented to the student athlete. Students work in a comprehensive free-weight training program. Plyometrics, speed, and Olympic lifting drills are used to develop strength, power, and speed. Students are subject to vigorous physical training and testing.

6th Grade Required Courses

6th grade students will enroll in:

- **Language Arts 6, Math 6 or Advanced Math 6, Science 6, Social Studies 6, PE 6, and Health 6.**
- Fine Arts: A minimum of one elective of (Band, Orchestra, Theatre Arts, or Choir)
 - o Note (Band and Orchestra are a year long course)

Language Arts 6 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course includes the study of literature, reading comprehension skills, composition, the writing process, vocabulary, grammar, and other communication skills. The overall goal in this class is to develop better readers and writers.

Math 6 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course is designed to help 6th grade students engage in and master math skills necessary for success in future math courses. The pace and difficulty of Math 6 is tailored to meet the needs of the students. The major content strands are the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, ratio and proportional relationships, and statistics and probability.

Advanced Math 6 (year long) 25 max enrollment

Students in Advanced Math 6 complete the same coursework as Math 6 and the first half of Math 7. This course is designed for advanced 6th grade students who have mastered the basic abstract concepts within variables and variable expressions. The course stresses basic equation solving. Advanced Math 6 prepares students for Advanced Math 7. This course is for selected sixth grade students.

To be considered for this course, or with with administrator approval:

WHO: 5th grade students being considered for advanced math placement

WHEN: End of 5th grade year

CRITERIA:

- 5th grade aMath scale score:
 - a. Winter 228 or greater
 - b. Spring 232 or greater
- Low risk on CBMmath Automaticity
- Standard Score of 318.75 or greater on state assessment.

WHO: 6th grade students being considered for advanced math

WHEN: After semester 1 of their 6th grade year

CRITERIA:

- Winter Fastbridge Score of 232 or greater
- Low risk on CBM Automaticity
- Must have at least a 90% in their regular math class.

Science 6 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course is driven by the content standards to include activities to help students understand concepts, to participate in scientific investigations and allow for the integration of technology. Students will explore current topics and ongoing research related to the content. The sixth grade curriculum is divided into four topics of study to provide students with a solid foundation of concepts as they begin their journey through secondary science classes. These topics include 1) Cells, 2) Sun, Moon, and Earth Systems, 3) Earth Science, and 4) Physics.

Social Studies 6 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course explores the cultures of ancient civilizations and their impact on the world. Units of study will include the time period from the birth of the river civilizations of Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent to the study of Egypt, India, China, and the early Americas and continue through the study of empires of Greece and Rome. Students will also study the Middle Ages of Europe and learn about the geography, religion, government, social classes, achievements, and the economic system of each civilization.

Health 6

Students will be introduced to the concept of Health vs. Wellness. Students will also examine the three aspects of the Health Triangle; physical, mental/emotional, and social health and learn various strategies and skills that will help them strive to live a healthy lifestyle including making good decisions, healthy relationships, puberty, and personal health.

Physical Education 6

This coed course provides opportunities for students to explore several different activities that align with the district, state, and national standards for physical education. This course offers students the opportunity to learn through a developmentally appropriate, sequentially planned program. This course emphasizes working together cooperatively to achieve a common goal and enrich the health and wellness of all students, not just the athletically gifted. We will focus on development of motor skills, physical fitness concepts, and principles and strategies associated

with each activity. Other key areas include self responsibility, positive peer interactions, and developing the knowledge and ability to be active for a lifetime.

7th Grade Required Courses

7th grade students will enroll in:

- **Language Arts 7, Math 7 or Advanced Math 7, Science 7, Social Studies 7, and at least one PE course.**

Language Arts 7 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course includes the study of literature, reading comprehension skills, composition, the writing process, vocabulary, grammar, and other communication skills. The overall goal in this class is to develop better readers and writers.

Math 7 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course uses the 8 Mathematical Practices to formulate and reason about proportional relationships, expressions, and equations, working with two and three dimensional shapes, and drawing inferences about populations. The purpose of this class is to prepare students for eighth grade mathematics.

Advanced Math 7 (year long) 25 max enrollment

Prerequisite: Advanced Math 6

Students in Advanced Math 7 complete the second half of Math 7 and all of Math 8. The course is designed for advanced seventh grade students who are ready to master the basic abstract concepts within variables and variable expressions. The course stresses basic equation solving. Advanced math prepares students for Algebra I. This course is for selected seventh grade students.

To be considered for this course you must have the following or administrator approval:

WHO: Students being considered for 7th grade advanced math

WHEN: End of 6th grade year or after semester 1 of their 7th grade year

CRITERIA:

End of 6th grade year requirements

- Must have had a 90% in 6th grade math
- Spring score of 234 or greater on Fastbridge
- Low risk on CBMmath AUTomaticity
- Score of 321 or greater on state assessment.

End of semester 1 of their 7th grade year

- 90% or higher in class
- Winter score of 236 or great on fastbridge
- Low risk on CBMmath automaticity

Science 7 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course involves studying science using a systematic approach. The course content is driven by state science standards and includes many activities and labs

designed to reinforce these concepts. Topics include a study of scientific inquiry, metric measurements, an introduction to chemistry, life science and basic geology.

Social Studies 7 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course has been designed to meet the curricular goals within the state standards. In general, students learn the basic tools of geography. Students learn about the geographic impact of humans regionally, demographically, and environmentally. Students also learn the fundamentals of the market system. Nine-weeks of this course will focus on the curricular goals within the state standards for Kansas History. This begins with the prehistoric beginnings of the state, including the geographic, flora and fauna, and human impact of prehistoric Kansas on modern day Kansas. The remainder of the course is devoted to the recorded history of the state from exploration of Europeans and Americans to the most recent happenings in the state

8th Grade Required Courses

8th grade students will enroll in:

- **Language Arts 8, Math 8 or Algebra 1, Science 8, Social Studies 8, and at least one PE course.**

Language Arts 8 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course includes the study of literature, reading comprehension skills, composition, the writing process, vocabulary, grammar, and other communication skills. The overall goal in this class is to develop better readers and writers.

Math 8 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course is designed to help 8th grade students engage in and master math skills necessary for success in future math courses. The pace and difficulty of Math 8 is tailored to meet the needs of the students. The major content strands are the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability.

Algebra 1 (year long) 25 max enrollment

Prerequisite: Advanced Math 7

This course meets the Kansas College and Career Ready standards. The course provides a basic understanding of the skills needed to solve linear equations and inequalities, systems of equations, quadratic equations, and radical equations; to simplify algebraic expressions consisting of monomials, polynomials and radicals; to graph linear equations; and to compute and analyze statistical data.

To be considered for this course the student must meet the following or be approved by an administrator:

WHO: Students being considered for Algebra 1

WHEN: End of 7th grade year

CRITERIA:

- Winter 236 or greater
- Spring 236 or greater
- Level 4 on state assessments
- 90% or higher in math

To stay on the advanced math course, currently enrolled advanced math students must maintain a C grade or higher in advanced math and cannot be in the 'at risk' range on FastBridge testing.

Students who take Algebra 1 in middle school will still be required to take three credits of math in high school. The Algebra 1 credit in middle school will be credited to the student once they have completed their three math credits in high school.

Science 8 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course guides students through six units based on the Next Generation Science Standards. The course includes units on Experimental Design, Evidence of Earth's History, Biological Evolution, Balance in Ecosystems, Climate Change/Forecasting Disasters, and Energy Changes. Students will develop the abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry and develop an understanding of the inquiry process. Throughout the course, students develop an understanding that science is a human endeavor that uses peer review, replication of methods, and norms of honesty.

Social Studies 8 (year long) 25 max enrollment

This course begins with the foundation of the modern United States government and the U.S. Constitution. The course then concentrates on the opening of the American West and the impact of this movement on the Native American population. From there, the focus moves to the events leading to the Civil War with an emphasis on the events taking place in Kansas. Then, the course concentrates on the happenings, technologies, people, and economics of the Civil War. The reconstruction period, the rise of personal freedoms, reform movements of minorities, immigration and industrialization are also explored.