

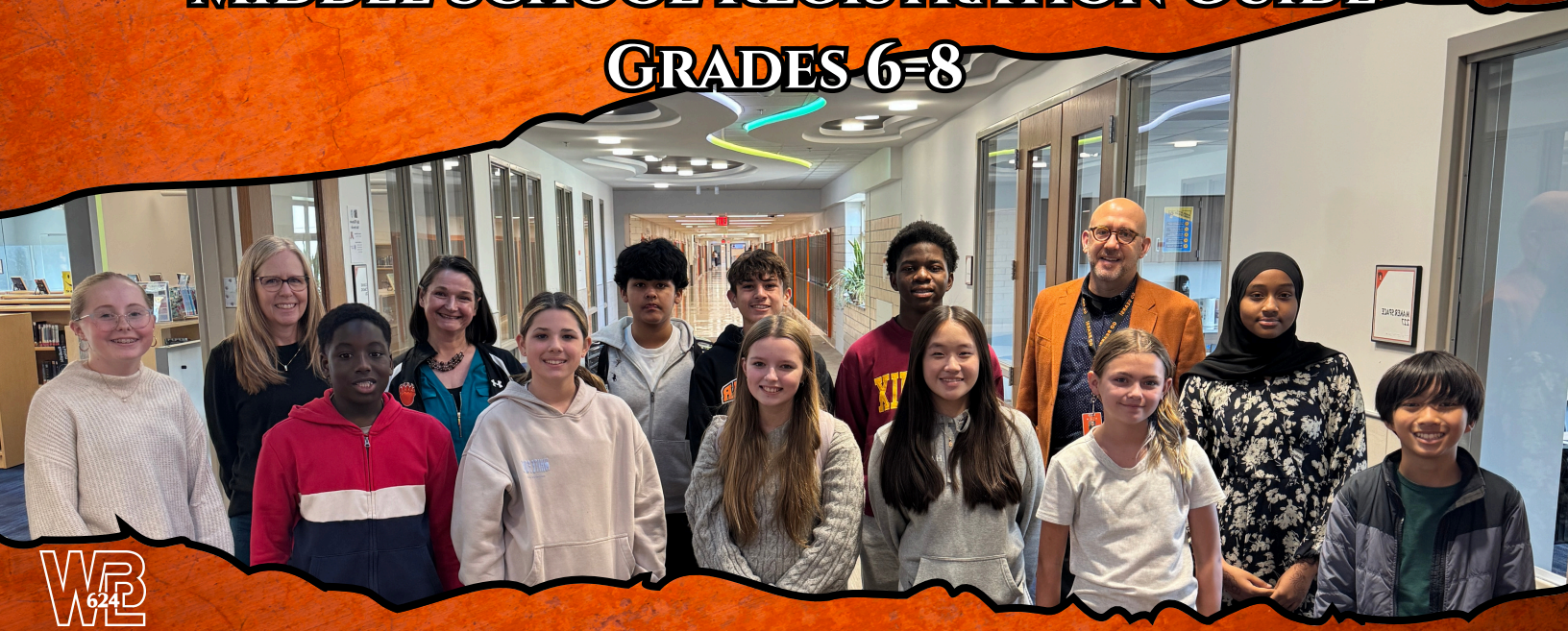
White Bear Lake Area Schools



2026-2027

Middle School Registration Guide

Grades 6-8



Dear White Bear Lake Area Middle School families,

Middle school is an exciting time in White Bear Lake. We offer students the opportunity to explore a variety of classes such as choir, band, orchestra, art, health, FACS, physical education, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and world language. Students also take core classes including math, language arts, science and social studies. Our goal is for all students to have an enriching and inspiring experience during their years with us. Both Central and Mariner Middle School staff members dedicate themselves to challenging students with engaging curriculum, encouraging them to take pride in their work and stressing the importance of getting involved in the middle school community.

Our most successful students get involved in both academic and extra-curricular programs. These experiences are invaluable. We encourage parents and students to read this registration guide, talk with teachers and use our counselors as resources. Making informed decisions now will help ensure success in the future. We look forward to seeing you in the upcoming school year.



Christina Pierre Ed. D.
Principal
Mariner Middle School



Cathryn Peterson
Principal
Central Middle School

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Our Mission

The mission of Central Middle School, a diverse and inclusive community of engaged learners, is to ensure an innovative environment that inspires growth through a vital system distinguished by:

- a culture of open-mindedness, integrity, and respect
- exceptional support for the physical, social-emotional, and mental well-being of each individual
- creative spaces that spark collaboration and communication
- a fierce commitment to individual aspirations and inspirations
- investment in strong partnerships with families and community members

Our Mission

At Mariner Middle School, we:

- Love our diversity - it is an important part of who we are
- Want our community to feel like a family that is nurturing, respectful and fun
- Value our students' unique strengths and abilities, in and out of school
- Embrace each student's growth and changing identity
- Strive to create quality, caring people who are lifelong learners
- Commit to the success of every student



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LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tau daim ntawv no txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau (651) 407-7623.

ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625.

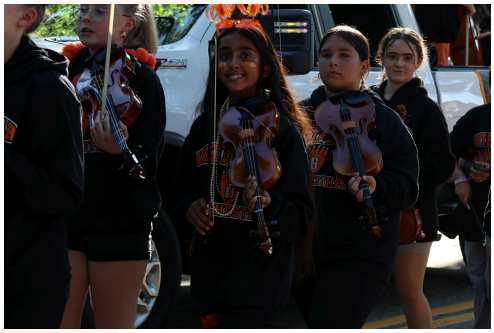
Welcome to Middle School!

Middle school is a time of great excitement, growth, and discovery. Students look forward to middle school because it means they are growing up and gaining independence. At the same time, the transition to middle school can be daunting. Students may be apprehensive about meeting new people, getting lost in a larger school building, or having a hard time with locker combinations. We work hard to make sure that your child feels at home in a safe, comfortable learning environment when they join our schools.

KEEPING PARENTS INFORMED

- Parents are an integral part of the formula for student success. In order to work as a team, every effort is made to provide parents with timely, accurate information.
- Each school has a website that provides updates on important information including calendars of upcoming events and activities.
- Principals and teachers utilize the “SchoolMessenger” system for automated phone calls to parents about major school issues, upcoming events, and unique opportunities for parents and students.
- Secondary schools use a web-based Synergy “Parent VUE” program to provide students and parents with up to the minute information about upcoming homework, grades, attendance, and discipline.
- Google Classroom is an organization tool for teachers and students. Teachers may use Google Classroom to assign and distribute online assignments that use Google Docs. Parents are invited to sign up for guardian summaries.









Explore Your Options

CURRICULUM

The middle school curriculum is designed to meet the interests and abilities of students. It is a rigorous curriculum with high standards designed to meet the unique needs of each individual student.

Students will take classes in a variety of subject areas that could include: Math, Social Studies, Science, and Language Arts, Art, Health, FACS (Family and Consumer Science), Technology Education, Band, Orchestra, Choir, Physical Education, World Language, Literacy, and AVID.

Six levels of math are available, including Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II.

Students who need more help in basic skills may be assigned an additional math or reading course.

Advanced classes are available in Math for grades 6, 7, and 8. Students will automatically be placed in the appropriate level math course.

PLTW (Project Lead the Way) Gateway To Technology (GTT) is a middle school program designed to help students explore math, science, and technology. PLTW is an activities, project, and problem-based learning program designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity of middle school students. Students who continue on with PLTW at the high school are able to earn college credit.

HELPING ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED

- Multilingual (ML) programs are available for students who are learning English.
- Special Education services are available for students with special needs.
- Before school support is available by appointment for students who need help with homework or with understanding their coursework.
- Support groups are available to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of students.
- Classroom lessons are provided by the student support staff team that focus on the academic, personal/social, and career & college development for all students.

Planning Information

ACTIVITIES

- Middle school students are encouraged to get involved in activities outside the school day. This is a great time to try out a new sport, club, or hobby.
- Students can work on volunteering and leadership by participating in student council, service club, or the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) mentoring program.
- A variety of athletic programs are offered through the District's community education program including cross country, tennis, volleyball, football, wrestling, and track and field.
- White Bear Lake Area Schools have a strong archery club program that has been successful at the state and national level.
- Students are invited to participate in extra-curricular activities such as jazz band, art club, or the musical.
- Future journalists and photographers can work with the yearbook or newspaper.**
- Students compete with other middle schools through the math team and various class-related competitions such as geography bee and history day.
- Throughout the year, after-school groups are created based on student-driven interest and are available for students to join.





Advisory/BEAR Time

- Students meet daily with a teacher who is their advisor. A variety of activities are planned during this period.
- Teachers monitor students' academic progress.
- Students have time for reading, math, games, academic enrichment activities and career exploration.
- Students experience lessons focused on social and emotional learning.

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT (MTSS)

White Bear Lake middle schools strive to recognize and support each student in all areas of learning.

As part of our Building Assets, Reducing Risk (BARR) and Response to Intervention (RtI) frameworks, staff focus on the whole child. Educators provide student- specific support in the areas of math, literacy, social-emotional, and behavior for students in sixth through eighth grade to strengthen academic and/or social skills. This may be done one-on-one, in a small group, or in a classroom setting.

**Central Middle School only

Can I change my music, world language, or electives during the year?
Students are expected to stay with their choices for the entire school year.

Why do we have to make selections beyond our top requests?
We have students rank their requests in case there are conflicts with their individual schedules. In the majority of cases, students do receive their top choices. Sometimes we may need to use alternate choices when
specific demands on a student's schedule are made. In some cases, a course may not be offered if enrollment is low, and an alternate request will take its place on a student's schedule.

I did not take band or orchestra in 6th or 7th grade, may I take it for the following year?
Anyone is welcome to sign-up for 6th grade band and orchestra, even if you have no prior experience! 7th and 8th grade band and orchestra require prior experience of 1-2 years on an instrument or permission from the band or orchestra director.

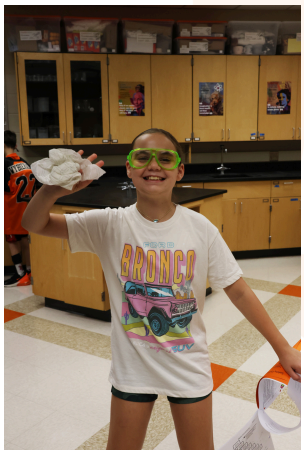
How are students placed in advanced math?
Students are placed into advanced math classes using a variety of data, including test scores, grades, and teacher recommendations.

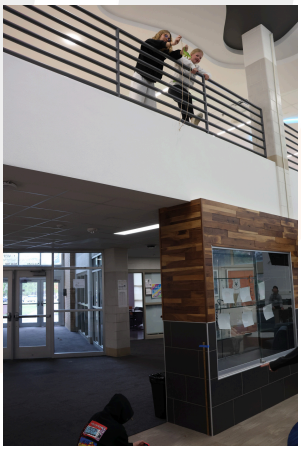
Why do 6th and 7th graders take both Language Arts and Literacy?
We know that advanced reading and writing skills will be critical to our students' success throughout high school and beyond. For this reason, all of our sixth and seventh graders are required to take both Language Arts (every day, all year) and Literacy (every-other- day, all year). Both courses focus on advancing students' skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Secondary Planning

Programs Available in White Bear Lake Area High School

PROGRAM	EXPLANATION	ADVANTAGES	CONSIDERATIONS
AP (Advanced Placement)	• College curriculum • Rigorous • Nationally recognized	• May receive college credit • Develops higher-level thinking skills • Weighted GPA	• Must take AP exam to receive college credit • Above average ability in reading, writing and math
CIS (College in the Schools)	• U of M college curriculum • Challenging • Grades 11-12	• May receive college credit at the U of M • Weighted GPA	• Top 20 percent of class recommended • Must receive C or higher to get college credit
H (Honors)	• Faster paced • More in-depth • Grades 9 through 12	• Good preparation for college/ university study	• Rigorous • Requires more work
CLEP (College Level Examination Program)	• Take tests at university CLEP Centers • Earn college credit by passing test	• Saves time when you get to college • Allows student to skip general level courses • Saves money at college	• Test fee is approximately $70 • Not all universities accept the credit
PLTW (Project Lead The Way)	• Rigorous • Nationally recognized	• College credits • Good preparation for college • Weighted GPA	• Requires more work • Rigorous
Vo-Tech (NE Metro Vo-Tech)	• Vocational programming at Century College through Intermediate District 916 • Offers Vo-Tech programs not offered at most high schools • Available to juniors and seniors	• Explore career options • Courses offered on college campus	• Bus transportation required from WBLAHS - South Campus • Takes two periods of school day







Course Selection Index

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LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 6 (Year)
Literacy 6 (year - every other day)

In this course writing, speaking, and listening skills are developed over the course of this class. The content of the course focuses on fiction and nonfiction reading skills and strategies, as well as vocabulary building and comprehension skills. Students are required to read independently on a daily basis. Writing requirements for sixth grade include narrative writing, an argumentative essay, an informative essay, and a short story. Students also work on spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation skills.

MATHEMATICS

Math 6

(year)

During the year students will investigate and explore the following topics: number theory, data analysis, two- and three-dimensional geometry, ratios, proportions, integers, rational numbers (including fractions, decimals and percentages), and probability. Emphasis will be placed on communicating mathematically using graphs, tables, formulas, calculations, and written explanations. Students who complete Math 6 will take Math 7 in 7th grade.

Advanced Math 6

(year - invitation only)

Students will investigate and explore fraction operation, two- and three- dimensional measurement, rational numbers, similarity, proportional reasoning, rate, ratio and percentages, integers, exponents, variables, equations, linear relationships, and probability. Emphasis will be placed on learning algebra and geometry topics using graphs, tables, equations, and written explanations. Students who complete Advanced Math 6 will take Algebra I in 7th grade.

Algebra I (Advanced Math)

Grade 6 (year - invitation only)

This course will focus on high-level algebraic concepts while working with real data, real-life situations and real-world applications. Topics include statistics, proportional reasoning, linear relationships, systems of equations and inequalities, exponential relationships, functions, and quadratic relationships. Students who complete Algebra I will take Geometry in 7th grade.

SCIENCE

Science 6: Earth Science (year)

In this course, students will be introduced to the scientific method, science laboratory equipment, and metric measurement. Students will learn about the Earth's surface, rocks and minerals, weather and climate, astronomy and space, Earth's atmosphere, and Earth's water.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Minnesota History 6 (year)

In this year-long required course, students will study Minnesota History using the Northern Lights textbook and a variety of other primary and secondary sources. This course covers Minnesota history from its earliest inhabitants to present-day Minnesota. This course has been designed to capture the interests of middle school students by relating the stories of Minnesotans from past and present. Embedded in this course are the other disciplines in social studies, including civics, economics and geography. Students taking this course will learn that history is the process of uncovering and interpreting evidence. They will examine historical documents of all types and learn to compare and analyze data from maps, images, and text.



MULTILINGUAL (ML) PROGRAM
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ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

AVID 6 (year)

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective course for students in the academic middle who have the desire and determination to learn college and career skills. The elective class provides students with academic support to succeed in rigorous courses. The AVID curriculum teaches higher-level writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading skills. The course also includes career presentations by guest speakers.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

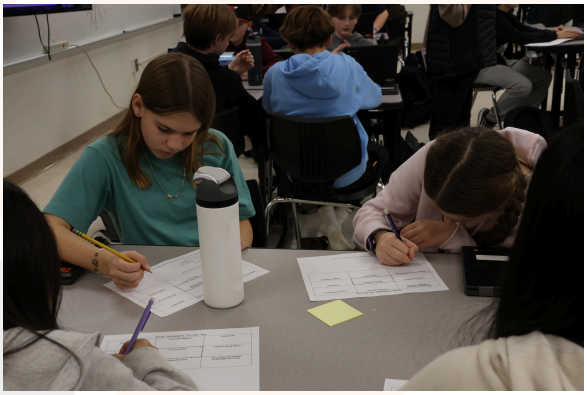
Physical Education 6
(year - every other day)

Physical education for sixth grade students consists of individual/dual activities, group/ team activities, and outdoor educational activities. The focus of 6th grade Physical Education is to demonstrate the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness. Health-related physical fitness and wellness activities are promoted and supported throughout the curriculum.



TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The Gateway To Technology® (GTT) cutting-edge program is part of the nationally adopted Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum. This program addresses the interest and energy of middle school students, while incorporating national standards in mathematics, science, and technology. GTT is “activity oriented” to show students how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems in units of study. There are currently five instructional units that excite and motivate students to use their imaginations and teach them to be creative and innovative, while gaining the skills they need to develop, produce, and use products and services. White Bear Lake schools were recognized as a PLTW school of excellence by the State of Minnesota.



Design Art - Design & Modeling
(year - every other day)

In both Art and Design and Modeling, you'll work on projects that grow your creativity and problem solving skills! We'll teach you about using computer software programs such as AutoDesk and CAD, to creating works with ceramics, paint and more! These rigorous project based classes will help you develop your planning, execution, and reflection on the design process. You'll challenge yourself to make: sailboats, dragsters, magnetic levitation vehicles, contour drawings, pinch pots, perspective drawings and much more!

ARTS

Choir 6
(year - every other day - elective)

Choir students learn and practice healthy vocal techniques, including proper use of breath and care of the voice. Members of the choir also practice good musicianship including self-discipline, reading music, development of sight-singing skills and correct concert behavior as performer and listener. Students apply these skills while learning and preparing a variety of musical styles from many cultures. Participation in choir requires two or three evening performances throughout the school year. No prior experience necessary!

Orchestra 6
(year - every other day - elective)

Learn to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass! Being a part of the WBL orchestra program can be a fun and rewarding experience that has many long-term benefits. This is a beginning orchestra, and no instrumental music experience is necessary or required. After selecting an orchestra instrument with teacher guidance, students learn the basics about their specific instrument technique and reading music. Families of students who register for orchestra will receive more information about instrument selection after registration. Scholarship instruments are available at no cost for families who qualify for free/reduced lunch.
No prior experience is necessary!



General Music 6
(year - every other day - elective)

This course will focus on studying the elements of music (melody, harmony, dynamics, tone color, tempo, pitch, rhythm, texture, duration and form). These elements will be applied in analyzing music, composers, and cultural backgrounds. This course will also include the study of various musical styles and music history.



Band 6
(year - every other day - elective)

Learn to play the flute, oboe, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion (marimba and snare drum)! Being a part of the WBL band program can be a fun and rewarding experience that has many long-term benefits. This is a beginning band, and no instrumental music experience is necessary or required. After selecting a band instrument with teacher guidance, students learn the basics about their specific instrument technique and reading music. Families of students who register for band will receive more information about instrument selection after registration. Scholarship instruments are available at no cost for families who qualify for free/reduced lunch. No prior experience is necessary!

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 7 (year)
Literacy 7 (year - every other day)

In this course, students further develop reading, writing, and speaking skills by engaging with grade-level texts representing diverse perspectives. Students build upon previous years' reading strategies by annotating, making predictions, and recalling the purpose for reading. They will read critically to comprehend, interpret, and analyze themes and central ideas in literary and informational texts. These skills will support students in their writing development, as they write informative essays, an argumentative essay, a short story, and a research report. Students will take numerous pieces of writing through the process of planning, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

SCIENCE

Life Science 7 (year)

In this course, students will continue to use the scientific process, the engineering process, metric measurement, and science laboratory equipment. Students will continue their exploration of matter and will learn about cells, animals, human anatomy, genetics, disease, and ecology. Students will have additional projects and be given additional opportunities for furthering their science knowledge in conjunction with the science curriculum.

SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. History 7 (year)

This course explores topics from 1800 through the early 2000s. Students will explore a wide range of historical documents, images, maps, and text. A key component of this course is critical thinking and analysis. Students will expand their knowledge base, build critical thinking and processing skills, internalize beliefs/values, and build awareness of social participation while living in a democratic republic.

MULTILINGUAL (ML) PROGRAM
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MATHEMATICS

Math 7 (year)

During the year, students will investigate and explore rational numbers, similarity, proportional reasoning, rates, ratios, percentages, integers, exponents, variables, surface area and volume, linear relationships, and probability. Emphasis will be placed on communicating mathematically using graphs, tables, formulas, and written explanations. Students that complete Math 7 will take Math 8/Algebra in 8th grade.

Algebra I (Advanced Math)

Prerequisite Advanced math 6
Grade 7 (year)

This course will focus on high-level algebraic concepts while working with real data, real-life situations and real-world applications. Topics include statistics, proportional reasoning, linear relationships, systems of equations and inequalities, exponential relationships, functions, and quadratic relationships. Students that complete Algebra I will take Geometry in 8th grade.

Geometry (Advanced Math)

Grade 7 (year)
Prerequisite: Algebra I

Emphasis in this course is on developing a strong understanding of geometry through hands on exploration and the use of technology. Topics include reasoning in geometry, using tools of geometry, triangle properties, polygon properties, circle properties, transformations and tessellations, area, volume, Pythagorean Theorem, right triangle trigonometry, similarity, congruence, and proof. Students that complete Geometry will take Algebra II in 8th grade.



PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

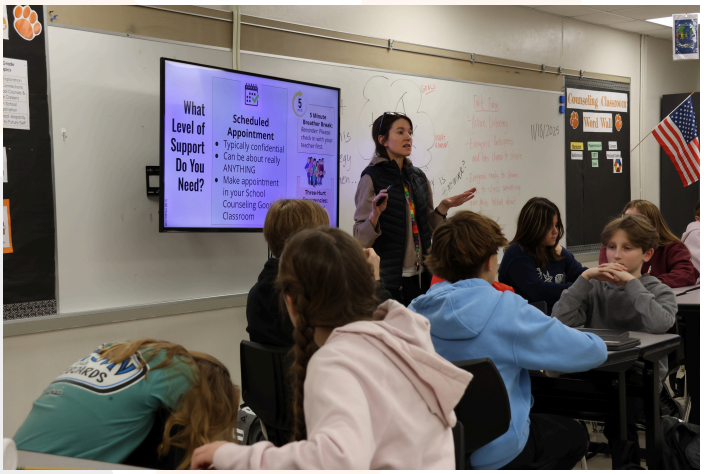
Personal Health 7
(year - every other day)

Health education teaches about physical, mental, emotional, and social health. This course motivates students to improve and maintain their health, prevent disease, and reduce risky behaviors. Students will examine the influence of family, peers, and media on health decisions and behaviors. Students will set goals to enhance health, utilize resources to access valid health information, learn strategies to communicate effectively to manage stress and conflict. In addition, students will learn how to advocate for personal health and the health of others.

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

AVID 7 *(year)*

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective course for students in the academic middle who have the desire and determination to learn college and career skills. The elective class provides students with academic support to succeed in rigorous courses. The AVID curriculum teaches higher-level writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading skills. The course also includes career presentations by guest speakers.





Physical Education 7

(year - every other day)

Physical education for seventh grade consists of individual/dual activities, rhythms/dance, group/team activities, and outdoor educational activities. Health-related physical fitness and wellness are promoted and supported throughout the curriculum.

ARTS
Art 7 (year - every other day - elective)

What is the truth behind Vincent Van Gogh's ear? Did Frida Kahlo really have a unibrow? What impact does art have on the world around us? In this class you will learn how to express yourself while exploring many different types and styles of art. You will grow your creativity while learning how to think like an artist. Some projects we may do in 7th grade include paper mache masks, printmaking, realistic drawing and abstract painting. In addition to creating a variety of artwork you will study the artwork of well-known artists, learn about art topics, and participate in engaging activities.



Orchestra 7
(year - every other day - elective)

Participation in seventh grade orchestra involves a full group rehearsal every other day, a small group lesson once every six to eight school days, consistent practice time at home each week and participation in two or three evening concerts throughout the school year. Requirement: successful completion of 6th grade orchestra, one year of private lessons, or permission from the orchestra director.

Choir 7
(year - every other day - elective)

Choir students learn and practice healthy vocal techniques including proper use of breath and care of the voice. Members of the choir also practice good musicianship including self- discipline, reading music, development of sight-singing skills and correct concert behavior as performer and listener. Students apply these skills while learning and preparing a variety of musical styles from many cultures. Participation in choir requires two or three evening performances throughout the school year. Prior experience is recommended since most students start in 6th grade, but if you are willing to work hard to catch up, you are welcome to join without experience!

Band 7
(year - every other day - elective)

Participation in seventh grade band involves a full group rehearsal every other day, a small group lesson once every six to eight school days, consistent practice time at home each week and participation in two or three evening concerts throughout the school year. Requirement: successful completion of 6th grade band, one year of private lessons, or permission from the band director.



LANGUAGE ARTS
Language Arts 8 (year)

8th grade Language Arts is a class that focuses mainly on reading and writing skills, as well as oral communication skills. Throughout the course, you will be challenged to read both fiction and non-fiction. Students will write an argumentative essay, a literary analysis, a short story, a research report, and a personal narrative. The course will challenge you to increase your reading, writing, and speaking abilities through individual choice books.

SOCIAL STUDIES
World Geography 8 (year)

This course presents the interdisciplinary approach, relating physical geography to the economic, political, social, historical, and cultural aspects of human activity. Every cultural region of the world is studied with an emphasis on global awareness, interdependence, change, and the need for cooperation among people of all nations. Students will develop skills in map reading, map making, and the collection and analysis of factual information. Global current events are introduced which will enlarge the students' knowledge and awareness as well as set the foundation for future reading, study, and investigation.

SCIENCE
Physical Science 8 (year)

Students will continue to use the scientific process, the engineering process, metric measurement and science laboratory equipment. Students will continue their exploration of matter and learn about rocks, minerals, landforms, erosion, plate tectonics, weather, environmental concerns, and space. Students will have additional projects and be given additional opportunities for furthering their science knowledge in conjunction with the science curriculum.

MULTILINGUAL (ML) PROGRAM
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MATHEMATICS
Math/Algebra 8 (year)

Students will investigate and explore an introduction to functions, scientific notation, Pythagorean Theorem, irrational numbers, linear relationships, exponential relationships, quadratic relationships, systems of equations, solving equations, and algebraic properties. Emphasis will be placed on communicating mathematically using algebra through graphs, tables, equations, and written explanations.

Geometry (Advanced Math) Grade 8 (year)
Prerequisite: Algebra I
Grade 8 (year)

Emphasis in this course is on developing a strong understanding of geometry through hands on exploration and the use of technology. Topics include reasoning in geometry, using tools of geometry, triangle properties, polygon properties, circle properties, transformations and tessellations, area, volume, Pythagorean Theorem, right triangle trigonometry, similarity, congruence, and proof.

Algebra II (Advanced Math) Grade 8 (year)
Prerequisite: Geometry
Grade 8 (year)

This course will focus on high- level algebraic concepts while working with real-life situations and real-world applications. Topics include: describing data, linear models and systems, functions and transformation, exponential functions, powerfunctions, logarithmic functions, matrices, quadratic functions, rational functions, applications of probability and statistics.



TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The Gateway To Technology® (GTT) cutting-edge program is part of the nationally adopted Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum. This program addresses the interest and energy of middle school students while incorporating national standards in mathematics, science, and technology. GTT is "activity oriented" to show students how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems in units of study. There are currently five instructional units that excite and motivate students to use their imaginations and teach them to be creative and innovative, while gaining the skills they need to develop, produce, and use products and services. White Bear Lake schools were recognized as a PLTW school of excellence by the State of Minnesota.

Automation and Robotics 8

(year - every other day - elective)

In this exciting curriculum, students trace the history and development of automation and robotics. Today's robotics increase factory and manufacturing capabilities, assist in public safety and surveillance, plus play a vital role in the military and medical fields. Each student will study a specific area of interest and develop a presentation to share with others. They also learn about structures, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Beginning programming using an icon based system will be introduced with each student required to write and produce a working automated program of their own creation. Students acquire knowledge and skills in engineering problem solving and explore requirements for careers in engineering. This Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum can be continued at the high school with the Introduction to Engineering and Design course.



Manufacturing Education 8

(year - every other day - elective)

The curriculum will provide each student with the opportunity to experience and explore the manufacturing processes that surround us in our everyday lives. This is a "hands on" class that will look at the processes used in the woods, metals, and plastics industries. Concepts in the material sciences, such as chemical bonding and thermoforming will be explored making this more than a "hobby class". Project work will allow students to study measuring, use both hand and power tools, look at natural resources and study the growing area of synthetics. Applied mathematics, machine safety, and career occupations will be explored. Newer technologies like 3D printing, CNC (Computer Numeric Control) machining, and laser engraving are being implemented in the course work to meet the state and national standards concerning Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education 8
(year - every other day)

Physical education for eighth grade consists of individual/dual activities, rhythms/dance, group/team activities, and outdoor educational activities. Health-related physical fitness and wellness are promoted and supported throughout the curriculum.

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

AVID 8 (year)

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective course for students in the academic middle who have the desire and determination to learn college and career skills. The elective class provides students with academic support to succeed in rigorous courses. The AVID curriculum teaches higher-level writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading skills. The course also includes career presentations by guest speakers.

ARTS

Art 8
(year - every other day - elective)

From beginner to advanced, expand your art skills with this class! You will continue to grow as an artist with even more opportunity to express yourself. Study how the masters represented their identity, self-expression and creativity; then apply what you learned using advanced art materials. You will improve your realistic drawing skills, collaborate with younger students while learning the art of cartooning, create sculptures from real life, and show your expressive side. Learn how the materials you use and the subject of your artwork work together to make incredible art and leave this class with vibrant paintings, drawings, and so much more.

Visual Media Art and Design 8
(year - every other day)

Is it a great photo... or was it edited? If you are ready to combine your interest in art with technology, move into the 21st century with this class! You will be plugged into digital media technology using various programs to create digital artwork including graphic design, web design, digital photo editing, movie making, and more. Interested in a career in the arts? This class is for you!

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE (FACS)
(year - every other day - elective)

This course gives students the opportunity to explore all things FACS! Students will learn basic culinary skills, cooking techniques, and nutrition through a variety of food labs and food science experiments. Students will explore the world of design by creating aesthetically pleasing sewing projects that use the principles and elements of design. 8th Grade FACS will also teach students how to be career ready by covering resume writing, filling out job applications, and practicing the interview process. If you're looking for a project-based class that can prepare you for future success - 8th Grade FACS is for you!

Band 8
(year - every other day - elective)

Participation in eighth grade band involves a full group rehearsal every other day, a small group lesson every six to eight school days, consistent practice time at home each week and participation in two or three evening concerts throughout the year. Requirement: successful completion of 7th grade band, two years of private lessons, or permission from the band director.



Orchestra 8
(year - every other day - elective)

Participation in eighth grade orchestra involves a full group rehearsal every other day, a small group lesson once every six to eight school days, consistent practice time at home each week and participation in two or three evening concerts throughout the school year. Requirement: successful completion of 7th grade orchestra, two years of private lessons, or permission from the orchestra director.

Choir 8
(year - every other day - elective)

Choir students learn and practice healthy vocal techniques, including proper use of breath and care of the voice. Members of the choir also practice good musicianship including self-discipline, reading music, development of sight-singing skills and correct concert behavior as performer and listener. Students apply these skills while learning and preparing a variety of musical styles from many cultures. Participation in choir requires two or three evening performances throughout the school year. Prior experience is recommended since most students start in 6th grade, but if you are willing to work hard to catch up, you are welcome to join without experience!

WORLD LANGUAGE

(year - elective)

At the middle school level, the World Language Department offers courses in American Sign Language (ASL), German, French, and Spanish for a high school credit. These courses will help students develop and practice the skills needed to sign/speak, understand, read/receive and write/express in another language. The completion of these courses will enhance students' chances of fulfilling college language requirements and provide a solid basis for advanced language study.

Spanish 8:
Prerequisite: None

This course is for students with limited or no experience in Spanish. Students will begin to understand and speak Spanish, as well as read and write in the language. Students will also become acquainted with the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.







French 8:
Prerequisite: None

This course is for students with limited or no experience in French. Students will begin to understand and speak French, as well as read and write in the language. Students will also become acquainted with the cultures of French- speaking countries.

American Sign Language (ASL) 8:
Prerequisite: None

This course is for students with limited or no experience in ASL. Students will begin to understand and sign ASL. Students will become acquainted with the American Deaf Culture.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

A continuum of special education services is available for students who have a disability as defined by criteria established by the Minnesota Department of Education and who demonstrate the need for special education and related services.

A special education case manager will team with parents, general education teachers and an administrative representative in developing an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The IEP will address the student's progress in the general education curriculum. Progress toward IEP goals will be reviewed and revised annually by the IEP team. The plan will describe the student's participation in the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) testing and other district-wide testing as well as the special education and related services the student needs.

During or before ninth grade, students will participate in an evaluation of skills necessary for transition to adult life. The student's IEP will begin to focus on the transition needs of the student. Transition IEPs begin to focus on such things as employment, post-secondary education, and independent living.

For more information, please call:

- Lisa Ouren, Director of Special Services, 651-407-7553
- Dave Thomas, Student Support Services Coordinator - Central 651-407-7593, david.thomas@isd624.org
- Katy Domschot, Student Support Services Coordinator - Mariner 651-407-7513, kathleen.domschot@isd624.org

SECTION 504 ACCOMMODATION

A student may be eligible for a Section 504 Accommodation Plan if a multidisciplinary team has determined the student has "a substantial limitation in a major life activity". The 504 Accommodation Plan will describe accommodations which the team, inclusive of parents, has determined to be necessary to allow the student to access instruction. The 504 Accommodations may include, but are not limited to, adapted assignments, untimed tests, adaptive equipment, assigned seating or an adjusted schedule.

Students who are placed on a 504 Accommodation Plan will participate in the state and local assessment of academic standards.

For more information, please call Lisa Ouren, Director of Special Services (651-407-7553).

MULTILINGUAL (ML) PROGRAM

Grades 6–8

Students whose primary language is not standard American English and who are found to be in need of support will receive Multilingual Program services to assist with the organization and acquisition of academic English in their content classes. The level of service will be determined by the proficiency level of the student.

Go Bears!

Notes