



Let's get ready for
**CLAYTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL!**

2026 - 2027



What's different from intermediate to middle school?



Each student has 8 classes, made up of the four core subjects (English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies), physical education, health, and other electives.



All core subjects are full-year classes. Some electives are full-year classes, but others are semester classes, so those classes will change to another halfway through the year.



CMS will run on an alternating odd/even day calendar. Students will see their period 1, 3, 5, and 7 classes on "odd" days, and period 2, 4, 6, and 8 classes on "even days". Each class period lasts for about 90 minutes.



Each student has a different schedule, so you will see different students in each class!

New Freedoms & New Responsibilities

- Walking in the hallway & getting to class on time by yourself
- Choosing where to sit in the cafeteria
- Choosing elective classes



Elective Course Offerings - Grade 6

Clayton Middle School offers many opportunities for students to explore new interests, gain new skills, and meet new friends! Elective courses held during the school day include opportunities to practice creative expression, engage in hands-on activities, and develop valuable career skills for future success.

Full-Year Elective Opportunities



Band (Woodwinds, Brass, or Percussion) - This class explores different types of music and teaches more complex music. Students will become more familiar with the concepts that they have learned in the past. We will have at least two concerts (one in the winter as well as one in the spring) to show off some of the hard work the students have been putting in. Students will need to practice their instrument on their own to be able to keep up with the pace of the class.



Chorus - In this performing arts class, we'll dive into different styles of music, tackle more challenging pieces, and build on any previous musical knowledge students may have. You'll have two opportunities to shine on stage at our concerts, as well as a spring evaluation and an additional performance at I Love Smyrna Day, showing off all your hard work. If you love to sing and want to take your skills to the next level, this is the perfect elective for you. Come and make music with us!

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Art Extensions 6 - Explore a variety of art materials, develop art techniques, and use creative thinking skills to express ideas and viewpoints about personal experiences and the world. Produce meaningful and unique drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures, ceramics, and crafts in a studio setting. Study artists and their works to gain understanding of the artistic process and make interdisciplinary connections.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Elective Course Offerings - Grades 6

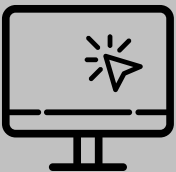
Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Art Foundations 6 - Students will be introduced to the rigor and routine of the art production process including planning, producing and reflecting on art. With an emphasis on studio arts, students will explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery and sculpture. Students will develop technical skills, foster their expressive abilities and employ the use of the elements of art throughout the production process.



Creative Writing 6 - Students will explore the art of creative writing through imaginative and engaging activities designed to strengthen their writing skills and self-expression. Students will develop original stories, poems, personal narratives, and other forms of creative writing while learning the writing process, including brainstorming, drafting, revising, and editing. Topics covered include plot development, character creation, dialogue, descriptive language, figurative language, and storytelling techniques. Students will build confidence as writers while expanding creativity, communication skills, and critical thinking.



Digital Communications 6 - Students will learn the fundamentals of computer science, coding, and digital literacy through hands-on, project-based learning. They will deepen their understanding of computer science principles, while expanding their knowledge of HTML as they learn how to build basic elements of a website. They will also develop real-world technology skills and build confidence using digital tools responsibly and effectively within the Google Workspace suite through collaboration and creative problem-solving.



Drama & Theater 6 - Students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of theatre arts through creative and interactive experiences. Using a variety of drama techniques, students will build confidence, develop trust and collaboration skills, stimulate imagination, and explore movement and role play. Topics of study include drama and theatre vocabulary, the history of theatre, improvisation, acting skills, stage presence, and performance techniques.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Elective Course Offerings - Grades 6

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Family Consumer Science 6 - This course is an introduction to basic kitchen skills and safety, with a foundation on basic life skills. Students will learn to meal plan, budget, and create simple recipes.



Introduction to Agricultural Science 6 - This course is an introduction to agricultural systems and technologies.



Introduction to Business 6 - This course introduces students to the basics of marketing, digital communication, computer science, finance, and accounting.



Introduction to Education Careers 6 - This course is designed to introduce students to the role of an educator. Students will focus on ethics, collaboration, advocacy, reflection and self-efficacy.



Introduction to Spanish 6 - This course designed with the intention of students developing fluency in the Spanish language. Students acquire skills in speaking, listening, writing and reading in Spanish. The course objectives will focus on learning the vocabulary and grammar that allow students to communicate with others on a basic level in Spanish.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Elective Course Offerings - Grades 6

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Novel Studies 6 - Students will engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Students will reshape and add onto their understanding of literature as they construct meaning with other readers.



Public Speaking 6 - This course builds confidence and communication skills by teaching students how to organize ideas and speak effectively in front of an audience. Through engaging activities and presentations, students practice clear delivery, active listening, and constructive feedback.



Puzzle Masters 6 - Students will strengthen problem-solving, critical thinking, and math logic through teamwork, puzzles, riddles, strategy games, Suduko, escape room challenges, mysteries, and brain teasers. Students will learn how to analyze clues, think creatively, and design their own puzzles and games.



Sports History 6 - Students will explore the history and impact of sports throughout different time periods and cultures. Through discussions, projects, and multimedia activities, students will examine how sports have influenced society, culture, politics, and entertainment. Topics covered include the origins of major sports, legendary athletes and teams, significant moments in sports history, the evolution of rules and equipment, the Olympics, and the role of sports in promoting teamwork, leadership, and perseverance.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Elective Course Offerings - Grade 7

Clayton Middle School offers many opportunities for students to explore new interests, gain new skills, and meet new friends! Elective courses held during the school day include opportunities to practice creative expression, engage in hands-on activities, and develop valuable career skills for future success.

Full-Year Elective Opportunities



Band (Woodwinds, Brass, or Percussion) - This class explores different types of music and teaches more complex music. Students will become more familiar with the concepts that they have learned in the past. We will have at least two concerts (one in the winter as well as one in the spring) to show off some of the hard work the students have been putting in. Students will need to practice their instrument on their own to be able to keep up with the pace of the class.



Chorus - In this performing arts class, we'll dive into different styles of music, tackle more challenging pieces, and build on any previous musical knowledge students may have. Students will have multiple opportunities to shine on stage, including at school concerts and I Love Smyrna Day! If you love to sing and want to take your skills to the next level, this is the perfect elective for you!



Spanish 1A 7 - This is a full-year course designed with the intention of students developing fluency in the Spanish language. Students acquire skills in speaking, listening, writing and reading in Spanish. The course objectives will focus on learning the vocabulary and grammar that allow students to communicate with others on a basic level in Spanish. ***This course is a prerequisite to Middle School Spanish 1B for 8th Grade.*

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



3D Art 7 - Students learn basic techniques and develop skills to become proficient in the technical aspects of three-dimensional design, with an emphasis on ceramics and sculpture. Students will learn about and work with a wide variety of materials and techniques, emphasizing design skills and quality craftsmanship as well as the planning process.

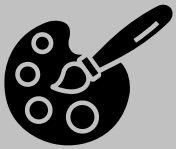
****Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.***

Elective Course Offerings - Grade 7

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Agricultural Science 7 - Students will be extensively involved with all phases of the Smyrna Agricultural Science Department, including FFA, Environmental Resources, Wildlife Management, Agribusiness Management and Agricultural Mechanics and Technology.



Art Foundations 7 - Students will be introduced to the rigor and routine of the art production process including planning, producing and reflecting on art. With an emphasis on studio arts, students will explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery and sculpture. Students will develop technical skills, foster their expressive abilities and employ the use of the elements of art throughout the production process.



Business Education 7 - This class covers the topics of marketing, digital communication, computer science, finance, and accounting. Students will practice skills in professional communication, creating slideshow presentations, using graphic design software, and managing spreadsheets in the context of business ownership and entrepreneurship. In this course, students will develop soft skills such as time management, problem solving, and leadership.



Creative Writing 7 - Students will explore the art of creative writing through imaginative and engaging activities designed to strengthen their writing skills and self-expression. Students will develop original stories, poems, personal narratives, and other forms of creative writing while learning the writing process, including brainstorming, drafting, revising, and editing. Topics covered include plot development, character creation, dialogue, descriptive language, figurative language, and storytelling techniques. Students will build confidence as writers while expanding creativity, communication skills, and critical thinking.



Culinary Arts 7 - This course focuses on food safety, sanitation, culinary arts, and hospitality. Students will learn the differences between front of house and back of house responsibilities.

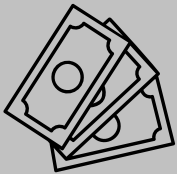
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Elective Course Offerings - Grade 7

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



Film & Literature 7 - This course explores the connection between books and films. Students read engaging texts and compare them with their film adaptations, analyzing characters, themes, and storytelling techniques. Through discussion and creative projects, students build critical thinking, media literacy, and communication skills.



Financial Literacy 7 - This course focuses on the important skills of managing and budgeting money, while exploring concepts like credit cards, debit cards, banking, and saving for long-term and short term goals.



Introduction to Legal Studies 7 - Students will learn the basics of law and the history affiliated with our local, state, and national legal system. Students will investigate the different career opportunities within the legal field and learn about current cases through guest speakers, field trips, and case studies.



Introduction to Spanish 7 - This is a one-semester course which offers basic Spanish language skills. Students will be introduced to the Spanish language with basic conversational topics such as greetings, numbers, colors, clothing, and weather. Students will also learn about the culture, food, music and daily life in Latin America.

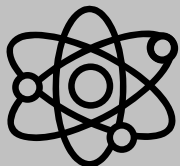


Novel Studies 7 - Students will engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Students will reshape and add onto their understanding of literature as they construct meaning with other readers.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Elective Course Offerings - Grade 7

Semester (Half-Year) Elective Opportunities



STEM 7 - This course introduces students to the interconnected fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through hands-on, project-based learning. Students will explore real-world problems, design solutions, and build critical thinking and collaboration skills. Emphasis is placed on creativity, problem-solving, and applying STEM concepts to everyday life.



STEM - Medical Detectives 7 - Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.



Teacher Academy 7 - This course is designed to be an introduction to careers in education. Students will investigate various educational career pathways, including early childhood, elementary, secondary, and special education, as well as roles like counselors and administrators. Through interactive activities, students will develop essential communication skills for working with students, parents, and colleagues, and gain hands-on experience through classroom observations, fostering an understanding of teaching styles and student engagement.

**Course offerings are subject to change based on school needs.*

Get Involved

In addition to elective courses, CMS offers other activities, often held after school, such as sports and extracurriculars. These opportunities allow students to compete against other schools, collaborate with others, and showcase their talents.

We encourage all students to make the most of their time in middle school by trying new things, even if it means breaking out of their comfort zone!

Sports



Fall Sports

Football
Cheerleading
Cross Country
Field Hockey
Boys' Soccer
Volleyball



Winter Sports

Boys' Basketball
Girls' Basketball
Cheerleading
Wrestling



Spring Sports

Baseball
Softball
Boys' Lacrosse
Girls' Lacrosse
Track & Field
Girls' Soccer

Important: Any student interested in playing a sport at CMS must have a completed DIAA physical form **dated 4/1/26** or later, prior to tryouts.

The DIAA physical form and other information related to sports at CMS can be found on our sports website, www.smyrnamiddlesports.com.

Extracurricular Clubs and Organizations



Book Club
Business Professionals of America (BPA)
Drama Club
Educators Rising
FFA



Junior Black Student Union
National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)
Speech and Debate Club
Student Government Association (SGA)
Technology Student Association (TSA)

