

Ryan Middle School

Course Offerings

2026-2027



Welcome to Ryan Middle School!

Welcome Wolverine Families,

Next year 2025-2026, we will be providing students with more choice in the electives they want to take. All students will be required to take the following courses: English, Math, Science, Social Studies and one quarter of Health and Physical Education. Other classes are considered electives and students will get to choose these classes.

We are hopeful that we will be able to bring back a swimming program to Ryan- this is dependent on us being able to hire a lifeguard. Ms. Beavers, one of our PE teachers, is a swim instructor and would be willing to teach this class.

During Advisory class students will be choosing which elective classes they are interested in taking for next year. Please review the course descriptions in this document with your child so that they are ready to make their selections. Students will not be able to choose which period they have their classes, but we will do our best to make sure students are placed in classes they are interested in taking.

Go Wolverines!

Sincerely,

Neather Stewart



REQUIRED COURSES

Advisory (6th, 7th & 8th)

Advisory is designed to support the success of middle school students and provide an opportunity to connect with caring adults. Key academic and social competencies will be taught, to include such topics as: • Organization • Study skills • Test taking skills • Citizenship • Community engagement. The development of a Personal Learning and Career Plan to explore and guide students' future academic and career goals will be integrated throughout this course

Walk to Intervention (6th, 7th, 8th)

Students are placed in reading and math intervention classes based on their MAP scores. These classes are designed to meet students at their current skill level, address learning gaps, and support progress toward grade-level proficiency.

6th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

English 6

Math 6

Health

Health 6 (Life Skills) focuses on the acquisition of accurate health information and the development of healthy attitudes and behavior patterns. Students will learn content and practice skills at developmentally appropriate levels through the study of the following strands: Nutrition and Fitness, Disease Prevention/Control, Relationships, Mental Health, Personal and Consumer Health, Substance Use and Abuse, Human Physiology and Development, and Safety and First Aid.

Science 6

Social Studies 6

7th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

English 7

Math 7

Health

Health 7 addresses the concepts of physical, mental, and social health through the content strands: Relationships, Mental Health, Substance Use and Abuse, and Human Physiology and Development. Topics include conflict resolution, peer pressure, decision-making skills, human sexuality, and the impact of drug abuse. Resources for finding help and support will be introduced and the development of healthy attitudes and behaviors are emphasized.

Science 7

Social Studies 7

8th GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

English 8

Math 8

Algebra 1 (Teacher Recommendation)

Health

This course addresses the concepts of physical, mental, and social health through the content strands: Community Health, Physical Health, Disease Prevention and Control, Personal and Consumer Health, and Safety and First Aid. Topics include the role of public health services, personal nutrition, fitness, hygiene, reduction of STDs and HIV risk factors, and lifestyle choices. Resources for finding help and support and the development of healthy attitudes and behaviors are emphasized.

Science 8

Social Studies 8

SERVICES

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Resource English 6, 7, 8

Resource Math 6, 7, 8

Ryan's special education services are designed to meet each student's individual needs in the least restrictive environment. If you have questions about services or your student's course schedule, please contact their case manager or counselor.

MULTI-LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Multi-language Learners (ML)

Classes are available for those students who qualify for and require help with the English language. The type of assistance needed is determined by the language needs of the students.

ALASKA NATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (ANE)

Alaska Native Education (ANE)

Students of American Indian or Alaska Native descent qualify for this program. The ANE program provides students with academic and personal support and also acts as a liaison between students, parents, school and community resource or support services.

ELECTIVE COURSES

ART

Fee \$10.00 Each Quarter

Drawing: (quarter)

Students will refine their skills in pencil, colored pencil, pen and ink. Each session explores key techniques like shading (value), line work, color, texture, and perspective, helping young artists build confidence and creativity.

History of Art: (quarter)

Students will explore multiple influential artists and movements throughout history. Through analysis and hands-on projects, young artists will create their own interpretations inspired by masterworks, deepening their understanding of technique and creativity. Perfect for all skill levels.

Painting: (quarter)

Students will explore watercolor and acrylic techniques in a fun, skill-building environment also building up their knowledge in terms of the 7 elements of art. Each session focuses on different painting fundamentals—color mixing, layering, texture, and composition—helping students develop confidence and creativity. Perfect for beginners and experienced painters alike.

Sculpting: (quarter):

Students will bring their ideas to life with papier-mâché and mixed media. Students will explore the seven elements of art—line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space—while building unique 3D creations. Perfect for all skill levels.

COMPUTERS/CTE

Fee \$7.50 Each Quarter

Animation:

A comprehensive introduction to the art and science of animation. Students will dive into the foundational principles that bring characters and objects to life. The class will also provide hands-on experience with industry-standard software, focusing on Adobe Animate to learn essential skills by creating fluid motion using tweens. The course is project-based, culminating in the creation of your own animated short film, where you'll apply the 12 principles of animation to tell a story frame by frame.

Photoshop:

Learn how to use Adobe Photoshop. We'll start with the fundamentals, exploring the interface, tools, and essential functions to create your own incredible images. The course is project-based, and by the end of the quarter, you'll have created a portfolio of photoshopped art that showcases your creativity and technical skills.

Video Effects:

Want to be a movie star or a director? This is the class for you. Learn how to make movie magic as we learn to edit and produce our own films. Challenge the boundaries of reality with green screen, and tell stories through film in this hands-on performative class.

Intro to Coding:

Learn valuable skills for the future! In this beginner-friendly coding course, you'll develop logical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. We'll cover basic programming concepts and give you hands-on experience building your own digital creations. This course also covers computer basics such as typing, shortcuts and using Google Suite.

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

(7th & 8th Grade Only)

Fee \$20.00 Each Quarter

Cooking (quarter)

Students will learn the importance of kitchen and food safety and sanitation, and apply that knowledge to identify common food safety hazards like food contamination and foodborne illnesses and understand their prevention. They will also demonstrate proper food temperature and handling techniques. Students will learn how to create homemade meals including; pasta, dough, sauces, seasonings, soups and stocks, breakfast dishes and cultural meals. Students will be introduced to sewing, personal finance and the flour baby project.

Baking

Students will learn the importance of kitchen and food safety and sanitation, and apply that knowledge to identify common food safety hazards like food contamination and foodborne illnesses and understand their prevention. They will also demonstrate proper food temperature and handling techniques. Students will learn the chemistry of baking and making quick breads, artisan breads and how to present and decorate desserts.

Beginning Baking (6th grade only)

Beginning baking is an introductory course for 6th grade students. Students will learn beginning baking skills and techniques, kitchen safety and food preparation and safety. Students will learn common foodborne illnesses and understand how to prevent them.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Dance:

Get ready to move, have fun, and explore dances from around the world! In this dance class, students will learn cool dance styles from different countries, including hip-hop, cultural dances, fitness dance, and fun group routines. We will play movement games, learn simple choreography, and even create our own dances. This class is all about staying active, working together, and trying new things. No dance experience needed, just bring your energy, a positive attitude, and be ready to have fun!

Flexibility and Movement:

This elective will be almost entirely devoted to helping students improve their flexibility and balance by teaching proper yoga techniques, small-weight mat workouts, and bodyweight movements.

Swimming:

Instead of focusing on racing or perfect swim strokes, this elective emphasizes essential water safety and survival skills. Students will learn practical, real-life skills important in Alaska, where lakes, rivers, and coastal waters are part of everyday life. The course builds confidence, awareness, and the ability to stay safe around water year-round. To celebrate progress, students will also enjoy a dedicated Open Swim Day - a fun, supervised session where they can build comfort in the water, play safely, and spend time with classmates. 🏊 💧

Team Sports:

The focus of this class is on team sports skills and development. Units will include: basketball, volleyball, racquetball, badminton, soccer, softball, floor hockey, ultimate Frisbee, and Football.

Traditional PE:

Students will learn to apply skills to game situations involving rules, strategies, and competition dynamics. Students also learn to make knowledgeable personal choices toward becoming healthy, active individuals.

Weightlifting:

This strength and conditioning class is designed to help each student improve their fitness and muscular strength. We will learn how to safely perform different lifts and how to choose scaling options appropriate to our own fitness levels. Students who take this class are expected to have a drive to improve their fitness and a healthy growth mindset. We will be exercising 4x a week, make sure you dress appropriately and are ready to crush your workout.

MUSIC

Fee \$25.00 for Instrument Rental Year

(\$12.50 per semester)

Band and orchestra students should have some experience playing an instrument and/or have instructor permission.

Choir: (Semester Long):

The choir is open to all students who like to sing, play instruments, do choreography, have fun and work hard. Students will reinforce and expand their knowledge of the following music concepts: dynamics, melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, tempo, timbre (tone color) and form. Students receive instruction in music reading fundamentals, singing skills, performance skills and various choral literature styles.

Beginning Band: (Year Long)

Come play awesome music, learn a cool instrument, and be part of something BIG. You will pick an instrument from flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, and more! No experience? No problem! We start with the basics and build each skill step by step. Soon, you'll be playing real songs, performing at concerts, and impressing your friends and family. Band isn't just about music—it's about teamwork, creativity, and having fun. You get to be a part of great performances, special events, and maybe even trips! If you like music, want to try something new, or just be part of a fun group, join Band!

Beginning Orchestra: (Year Long)

If you've ever wanted to play music that sounds like it belongs in a movie, video game, or on a big stage, Beginning Orchestra is for you!

You will pick your instrument from violin, viola, cello, or bass. Then, whether it's your first time or if you have some experience, you'll learn all about your instrument and how to make it play songs from epic and dramatic, to fast and fun. Orchestra isn't just about playing the notes, it's about creating something amazing as a team. You're in a group where every instrument matters and you're part of building a beautiful sound for the stage. Plus, we get to show off at concerts and special events. If you like music, want to try something new, or just be part of a fun group, join Orchestra!

Concert Band: (Year Long)

Just like Band, but bigger, stronger, faster! Concert Band is for musicians already at a high level; you need AT LEAST one year playing on your instrument in middle school and recommendation from your last band director. Here, you will push your skills, play more exciting music, and be part of a team that really gets people's attention. As you take on challenging tunes and improve your skills, Concert Band is your chance to level up and be in a band that really rocks.

Concert Orchestra: (Year Long)

Just like Orchestra, but bigger, better, and more impressive. This is for string players already playing at a high level; you need AT LEAST one year playing on your instrument in middle school and a recommendation from your last orchestra director. In Concert Orchestra, you'll go from being a musician to being an amazing performer. Tackle more exciting music, sharpen your skills, and be part of orchestra that sounds seriously impressive

Advanced Symphony: (Year Long)

For band and orchestra players who are performing at a highly advanced level. We combine the winds and percussion from the band, with the strings from the orchestra into a group just like a professional orchestra. You must have completed AT LEAST one year in Band or Orchestra and have permission from the instructor. We'll combine with other schools for some epic concerts, and have trips that take our tunes on tour.

STEM/CTE

Fee \$7.50 Each Quarter

3D Printing (Exploring STEM): (quarter)

This course provides an in-depth exploration of 3D printing, covering essential topics such as different printing technologies (e.g., FDM, SLA, SLS), material selection, design for 3D printing, and post-processing techniques. Students will gain practical knowledge through hands-on experience in using 3D printers to create functional prototypes, custom parts, and artistic designs.

Engineering (Exploring STEM): (quarter)

This course offers an introduction to the core principles of engineering, exploring the fundamental concepts that underpin the design, analysis, and implementation of engineering solutions. Students will gain a foundational understanding of physics, materials science, mathematics, and problem-solving techniques, preparing them for more advanced studies in specialized engineering fields.

Architecture (Exploring STEM): (quarter)

This course provides an in-depth introduction to the field of architecture, focusing on the principles of design, architectural history, and the technical aspects of building construction. Students will explore the creative process behind architectural design, from conceptualization and drafting to the use of advanced software tools. The course will also cover key topics such as structural systems, materials, environmental sustainability, and urban planning.

CTE/STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Student Assistants (8th Grade)- Pick up an application in the office

Students will learn practical and significant employment skills. A strong work ethic, self-motivation, maturity, the ability to protect confidential information, and a demonstrated ability to work without constant supervision are needed for these positions.

- **Classroom:** Student growth and understanding of the teaching profession and paraprofessional occupations will be emphasized.
- **Counseling:** Student growth and understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized.
- **Library:** Student growth and understanding of the library and its functions will be emphasized. Students will learn through hands-on experience in processing and shelving materials as well as assisting both students and library staff in reference and research.
- **Office:** Student growth, people skills, and an understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized.

JUNIOR HIGH/ MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE FEES

All course fees are standard throughout the FNSBSD. If a fee is to be charged, it will be listed below as the maximum allowed each **quarter**, * Schools may charge up to double quarter fees per semester. Some classes may require a deposit (e.g. for a camera) or require specific pieces of equipment (e.g. calculator).

AREA	COURSE	FEE
Art	Art Concepts	\$20
	Exploring Art	\$20
	Fundamentals of Art	\$20
	Studio Art/Special Topics	\$20
CTE	Exploring STEM I	\$15
	Exploring STEM II	\$15
	Family and Consumer Science I	\$20
	Family and Consumer Science II	\$20
	Introduction to Safety	\$10
	Woodshop 1 & 2 (new)	\$15
Health	Integrated Health	\$24 (uniform)
	Integrated Health & Physical Education 7	\$24 (uniform)
	Integrated Health & Physical Education 8	\$24 (uniform)
Misc.	Extended Learning	\$10
Music	Instrument Rental	\$25
	Band Course Fee	\$20
	Choir Course Fee	\$20
	Orchestra Course Fee	\$20
	Middle School Ensemble	\$20
PE	Integrated Health/PE	\$24 (uniform)
	Integrated Health & Physical Education 7	\$24 (uniform)
	Integrated Health & Physical Education 8	\$24 (uniform)
	Physical Education 6 (NPMS only)	\$24 (uniform)
	Physical Education 7	\$24 (uniform)
	Physical Education 8	\$24 (uniform)
	Pool (NPMS/RYN only)	\$24 (uniform)
World Language	Chinese I	\$20 + Dictionary
	French I	\$20 + Dictionary
	Gwich'in I	\$20 + Dictionary
	Iñupiaq	\$20 + Dictionary
	Japanese I	\$20 + Dictionary
	Koyukon I	\$20 + Dictionary
	Spanish I	\$20 + Dictionary

*Note: FNSBSD AR1025-G: Student Fees - Family Limit

Regardless of financial or economic status, a family whose gross school district receipts exceeds \$100 per child or \$250 per family in a school year can have further fees waived upon request and presentation of receipts to the building principal. A provision should also be in place for those students with financial hardships. Contact your school principal for additional information.

**This fee only applies to students using a school district instrument.