

# STUDENT REGISTRATION HANDBOOK



2026-2027

205 Northwest Lane  
Kalispell, MT  
59901  
406-751-3800  
[www.sd5.k12.mt.us](http://www.sd5.k12.mt.us)

Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the faculty of Kalispell Middle School, I welcome you to the registration process for the 2026-2027 school year. This process reflects our school's interest in a partnership among the school, staff, parents, and students in selecting the best learning opportunities to help students reach their full potential.

The Kalispell Middle School Online Registration Catalog gives you important information about our curriculum. The goal of our instructional program is to promote learning and to help students prepare for future challenges. This goal is accomplished through a series of core (required) and an elaborate array of applicable encore (elective) courses throughout a student's three-year experience in middle school.

The curriculum described in this catalog is designed to meet district and state standards for middle school students. In addition, it is designed to provide challenges for all students to further develop in their academic and citizenship skills. Teachers are organized into teams and work together to develop units of instruction that help students understand how the various subjects relate to each other. This helps middle school students see the connections to real world applications. Additionally, we emphasize field trips and other off-campus experiences as a way of exposing students to careers related to various subjects.

After course registrations are completed, we begin the process of scheduling students into classes, with this process culminating at the end of the summer when we will email class schedules to each student prior to the KMS Tour Days. If you have any questions at any time during the process, please contact us. Our Counselors are available if there are questions about the registration process, the courses taught, or special needs that your student may have.

Kalispell Middle School is committed to providing a high-quality educational experience for all students. We are excited that you are part of our school family and invite you to review this catalog carefully as you begin the process of planning your educational program for next year.

Sincerely,  
Dallas Stuker  
Principal  
Kalispell Middle School

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## **FORWARD**

This registration booklet has been prepared to provide students and parents with information about course registration during the next school year at Kalispell Middle School. Guidelines are presented to give assistance in arriving at a class schedule that is in line with the student's abilities and interests.

## **REGISTRATION FORM DIRECTIONS**

- Consult with your parents and teachers before making your final decision.
- Carefully follow the directions that are in this handbook. Once a course is chosen, there will be NO changes unless there has been a mechanical error or omission in your schedule.
- Math and Reading Enrichment classes require teacher signatures.
- Parent signature is required on the completed registration form.
- All students must fill out the alternate section of the registration sheet. We will do our best to grant student requests. However, if an Encore course is full, students will be placed in any alternate selection with openings.

## **TEAMING**

KMS is organized by teaming for all three grade levels, 6th, 7th and 8th. Teaming consists of a core group of teachers who share the same group of students. This allows for flexibility and variety in creating cross curricular instruction, student supports, community building, and will provide a smaller learning environment within KMS. In all grade levels, the core team of teachers will instruct students in Mathematics, Science, English Language Arts, and Science. In addition, the 6th grade core teams will also provide Reading instruction. The 6th grade teams will be housed in "pods," with their own physical space to ensure a smooth transition from the elementary setting

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

Kalispell Middle School offers a variety of Special Education classes for those students identified and qualified with an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Services for students with an IEP are available in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. The continuum of services includes enrollment in life skills, social-emotional and behavioral programming, resource, and collaborative classes. Students with an IEP may also qualify for and receive related services such as speech, occupational, and physical therapies as directed in the IEP. An Adaptive PE class is offered for students who qualify for this service.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Sixth grade English Language Arts builds on skills taught in earlier grades. Following the Montana Content Standards, areas of emphasis include reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. Students will work on strengthening narrative, explanatory and argumentative writing through planning, revising, and editing. In addition, grammar and sentence structure will be emphasized. Students will use the print and electronic resources of the library and writing center to develop their research skills. Students will also develop and present demonstrative and persuasive speeches.

- **READING**

All students receive differentiated reading instruction in literature and informational text. Several instructional components are used to teach skills, strategies and standards including small group, whole group, and individual instruction. Students utilize textbooks, instructional magazines, classroom, and individually selected novels throughout the year.

- **READING DECODING**

Using reading decoding strategies, students learn to break long words into manageable parts, improving fluency through repeated practice and monitoring.

- **THE READING LAB: DISCOVERING MEANING**

Students focus on comprehension strategies, such as identifying key ideas, using context clues, and understanding word meanings to build a foundation for reading comprehension.

## **HEALTH ENHANCEMENT**

**The Health Enhancement Department** is dedicated to providing the opportunity for students to establish healthy lifestyle patterns. The goal of the Health Enhancement course is to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge needed to make healthy decisions for their physical, social, and emotional health. Health Enhancement is a combination of academic and physical education that takes place in the classroom and a physical activity environment.

Students will need appropriate clothing for physical education. This includes gym shoes, socks and the KMS PE uniform (shorts and shirt) which is purchased at the school for \$25.00. We also may have gently used PE uniforms for sale at a reduced price (\$5.00).

**Note:** KMS Health Enhancement classes provide instruction on human sexuality based on the Montana Health Enhancement Content Standards. A parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible for the care of a child may opt out of their child's participation in human sexuality instruction. This includes instruction delivered by district staff or guests invited at the request of the district during class, at an assembly, or at an organized school function. Please contact your student's Health Enhancement teacher if you would like to opt out of human sexuality education.

## **SCIENCE**

Sixth grade science is the study of Earth Science. The focus is on the ability to conduct, evaluate and communicate scientific investigations. These skills will be practiced while studying the following scientific concepts: Earth's internal structure, Earth's constructive and destructive processes, rocks and minerals, weather, and astronomy.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Sixth grade Social Studies focuses on the study of ancient civilizations, including Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, Rome, and Greece. Students will gain an understanding of how early humans developed the first civilizations through an investigation of their geography, history, economy, culture, government, and technology.

## **MATHEMATICS**

**Placement in 6th grade math will be based on:** District Test Scores and Teacher Recommendation. Students will be given a placement exam at KMS in the first week of school, and class placement may be changed based upon student level of achievement on this test and District tests.

Each course follows the Common Core State Standards for mathematics that consist of two types of standards – Mathematical Practice and Mathematical Content. The Standards for Mathematical Content in grades 6-8 are organized under domains: The Number System, Ratios and Proportional Relationships, Functions, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. All courses focus on problem solving and real-world application.

- **6 MATH ACCELERATED**

This course differs from the standard 6th grade course in that it contains content from 7th grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the 5th grade, the additional content demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The accelerated program is designed for those students who can and have shown an ability to dig deeper into mathematics and problem solving at a faster pace. These students have proficient, if not advanced work ethic, and need not be prompted to complete work, or show more work in order to demonstrate a deeper understanding. Student placement is based on standardized assessment data, classroom assessment data, attendance, and daily work ethic.

- **6 MATH**

In Grade 6, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.

## **W.I.N – WHAT I NEED**

**What I Need (W.I.N.)** W.I.N. is designed to give students time and support to work on what they need most. WIN empowers students to make decisions about their learning by choosing from activities that help them strengthen skills, catch up on coursework, explore interests, or build community connections. During W.I.N., complete missing work, get extra time on assignments, and/or work independently at their own pace. Some students may also use this time for extension or enrichment activities. Staff supervise this time by maintaining a safe and supportive environment, providing assistance as students work toward their goals. Through this flexible structure, WIN helps students take ownership of their learning and growth while fostering the independence and decision-making skills essential for success.

# 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE YEAR LONG ENCORE MUSIC COURSES

## **6th GRADE MUSIC COURSES**

Kalispell Middle School offers three options for performance music: Band, Choir, and Orchestra. These courses explore the fundamentals and technical skills involved in playing a musical instrument or singing in a group. Students wishing to be a part of the middle school music program are strongly encouraged to begin in 6th grade.

- **BAND 6**

Students are taught the basic skills of playing brass, woodwind or percussion instruments and music reading. No previous experience is necessary for entry into this band. Students and parents will be interviewed by music teachers the prior spring and placed on instruments that provide the best opportunity for individual success, and to balance the instrumentation of the band program. Every effort will be made to honor the instrument request of the student. A very limited number of school instruments are available, such as French Horn, Baritone, and Tuba. Other instruments must be provided by the student and can be rented or purchased through reputable local dealers. **To ensure your child's success, please wait to obtain an instrument until our KMS rental night in early September. Many parents who buy or rent an instrument early are stuck with equipment that is of inferior quality. If you have questions, please email Mr. Handford at [hank.handford@sd5.k12.mt.us](mailto:hank.handford@sd5.k12.mt.us).**

- **CHOIR 6**

Choir is for students who want a positive experience learning basic music reading skills and enjoying a sense of belonging to a singing group. Its unique structure is designed to serve the motivated student who has little or no music experience or background. The 6th grade choir students will perform in four evening performances and take at least one field trip to perform in the community.

- **ORCHESTRA 6**

Sixth grade Orchestra provides the opportunity for students to develop their musical potential through the study of the Violin, Viola, Cello, or String Bass. No prior experience is necessary but experienced students are welcome! Students will build technical, interpersonal, and rehearsal skills while beginning to develop a beautiful tone and learning to read musical notation. Sixth grade Orchestra students will perform in at least three evening concerts during the year.

Necessary equipment for Orchestra: instrument with bow and case, rosin, name tag for case, cleaning cloth, pencil, Essential Elements for Strings – Book 1, Kun brand shoulder rest (Violins and Violas), Xeros Rockstop (Cellos and Bases), and a music stand for practice (kept at home). A limited number of instruments will be available for rental from the school district, based primarily on financial need. **To ensure your child's success in Orchestra, please wait to obtain an instrument until our KMS rental night in early September. Many parents who buy or rent an instrument early are stuck with equipment that is the wrong size or is of inferior quality. If you have questions, please email Eileen Beckett at [eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us](mailto:eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us).**

## 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE QUARTERLY ENCORE WHEEL

\*Students choosing the Encore Wheel will be scheduled into all four encore options, one each quarter

### **ART**

Expand your horizons with new ways to make art! 6<sup>th</sup> grade Art will introduce students to drawing, painting, sculpture, and design, with a variety of techniques and materials. Students will also learn about other cultures and ways different people make art around the world in this hands-on class.

### **FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE (FACS)**

Learn survival skills to make it through 6<sup>th</sup> grade and life. Learning what kinds of foods make you feel better. Create healthy snacks. Learn to care for yourself and others. Make a small sewing project.

### **KEYS FOR SUCCESS**

This course will consist of fundamental keyboarding skills. Students will learn to type the basic alphabet keyboard by touch. Students will work on speed building, basic formatting and file management. This is a required 6<sup>th</sup> grade course for all non-music students. Upon completion, students will type 20 wpm and have a sound understanding of basic word processing and file management.

### **INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION**

The 6th grade Industrial Education Encore is designed as an exploratory class that is a mixture of woods, Automation & Robotics, and Design & Modeling. It will give each student the opportunity to participate and have working knowledge in three different areas of Technology Education at KMS.

At the end of the 6th grade Industrial Education Encore students will be able to:

- Accurately measure with yardsticks, meter sticks, measuring tapes, during numerous measuring games.
- Demonstrate an understanding and the skill level required to identify and safely use the hand and power tools needed to build the birdhouse.
- Explore the coding program RobotC and use the Vex kits used in Robotics.
- Become familiar with Autodesk Inventor and be able to create a model to be printed out on the 3D printer.

# 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

The seventh grade English Language Arts class offers students a solid basis for developing their literacy skills. Following the Montana Content Standards, areas of emphasis include reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. Building on the skills from Grade 6, students will practice narrative, informative and argumentative writing, continuing to use research and the writing process.

Students will be exposed to integrated units involving such elements as a variety of texts, writing of different types, and speaking and listening tasks. Student-selected reading is encouraged and required. Vocabulary and language skills are also integrated. Students will be instructed in and expected to use the library and its print and electronic resources to enhance their research skills.

## **READING ENRICHMENT**

Reading Enrichment classes aim to enhance reading skills and develop effective reading strategies, empowering students to become confident, independent, and proficient readers

- **THE READING LAB: CRITICAL CONNECTIONS**

Students expand their comprehension skills by making connections between ideas within texts, recognizing text structures, and using critical thinking strategies to deepen their understanding.

- **DECODING IN ACTION: SOCIAL STUDIES SKILLS**

Students apply reading decoding strategies to academic vocabulary in social studies texts, using context clues and fluency techniques to understand complex historical passages

## **SCIENCE**

Seventh grade science is the study of living things in their surroundings. Units of study include ecology, genetics, organization of living things, and the diversity of life. In addition to studying biological science, students will learn science and engineering practices and engage in labs and projects in support of SD5 literary standards.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Seventh grade Social Studies covers United States History from pre-European exploration through the U.S. Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will learn important research strategies as well as various study techniques. There will also be an emphasis on American Indian studies, geography, government, culture, and economics of the time period.

## **W.I.N – WHAT I NEED**

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## **MATHEMATICS**

**\*Teacher sign off is required for all math classes**

Each course follows the Common Core State Standards for mathematics that consist of two types of standards- Mathematical Practice and Mathematical Content. The Standards for Mathematical Content in grades 6-8 are organized under domains: The Number System, Ratios and Proportional Relationships, Functions, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. All courses focus on problem solving and real-world application.

- **7 MATH ACCELERATED**

This course differs from the non-accelerated 7th grade course in that it contains content from 8th grade and is dependent upon a student having shown proficiency on the 7th grade standards that are taught in the 6th grade Accelerated Math class. The additional content demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The accelerated program is designed for those students who can and have shown an ability to dig deeper into mathematics and problem solving at a faster pace. These students have proficient, if not advanced work ethics, and need not be prompted to complete work, or show more work in order to demonstrate a deeper understanding. Student placement is based on standardized assessment data, classroom assessment data, attendance, and daily work ethic.

- **7 MATH**

In Grade 7, instructional time will focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

## **HEALTH ENHANCEMENT**

**The Health Enhancement Department** is dedicated to providing the opportunity for students to establish healthy lifestyle patterns. The goal of the Health Enhancement course is to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge needed to make healthy decisions for their physical, social, and emotional health. Health Enhancement is a combination of academic and physical education that takes place in the classroom and a physical activity environment.

Students will need appropriate clothing for physical education. This includes gym shoes, socks and the KMS PE uniform (shorts and shirt) which is purchased at the school for \$25.00. We also may have gently used PE uniforms for sale at a reduced price (\$5.00).

**Note:** KMS Health Enhancement classes provide instruction on human sexuality based on the Montana Health Enhancement Content Standards. A parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible for the care of a child may opt out of their child's participation in human sexuality instruction. This includes instruction delivered by district staff or guests invited at the request of the district during class, at an assembly, or at an organized school function. Please contact your student's Health Enhancement teacher if you would like to opt out of human sexuality education.

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Students in 8th grade English Language Arts will follow a course outline that meets state and district standards in reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, speaking and listening. Students will write using a variety of formats with emphasis on the Montana Content Standards.

Teachers will stress independent reading as well as formal instruction in different genres of literature that may include biography, autobiography, short stories, novels, dramatic literature, and poetry. Instruction in Greek and Latin roots will facilitate spelling and vocabulary acquisition. In addition, students will use a variety of research tools including the library and Internet.

## **READING ENRICHMENT**

Reading Enrichment classes aim to enhance reading skills and develop effective reading strategies, empowering students to become confident, independent, and proficient readers

- **COMPREHENSION ESSENTIALS**

Using reading comprehension skills students enhance vocabulary, fluency, critical thinking, and deductive reasoning to deepen their understanding of complex texts.

- **THE READING LAB: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS**

Students refine their comprehension abilities by applying advanced strategies, including inference, analysis of complex texts, and synthesizing information across various genres to improve overall reading comprehension.

## **SCIENCE**

Eighth grade physical science is a study of chemistry and physics. Science concepts are presented in a variety of ways including labs, discussions, demonstrations, and direct instruction. The class prepares students for further study in the field of science and helps students explain the world around them. Science and engineering practices and safety are emphasized.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies will focus mainly on Montana history. Important topics include American Indian tribal history, European exploration, the fur trade, mining, livestock and ranching, homesteading, the railroad industry, territory and statehood, and major 20<sup>th</sup> century people and events. Throughout the year global studies topics will also be addressed to help students learn basic world geography as well as think critically about major current events that are shaping today's world.

## **W.I.N – WHAT I NEED**

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## **MATHEMATICS**

**\*Teacher sign off is required for all math classes**

Each course follows the Common Core State Standards for mathematics that consist of two types of standards – Mathematical Practice and Mathematical Content. The Standards for Mathematical Content in grades 6-8 are organized under domains: The Number System, Functions, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. All courses focus on problem solving and real-world application.

- **8 ALGEBRA 1 (ACCELERATED)**

This course differs from High School Algebra I in that it contains content from 8th grade. While coherence is retained, in that it logically builds from the Accelerated 7th Grade, the additional content when compared to the high school course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The critical areas deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. In addition, the units introduce methods for analyzing and using quadratic functions, including manipulating expressions for them, and solving quadratic equations. Students understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem and use quadratic functions to model and solve problems.

- **8 MATH**

In Grade 8, instructional time will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

## **HEALTH ENHANCEMENT**

**The Health Enhancement Department** is dedicated to providing the opportunity for students to establish healthy lifestyle patterns. The goal of the Health Enhancement course is to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge needed to make healthy decisions for their physical, social, and emotional health. Health Enhancement is a combination of academic and physical education that takes place in the classroom and a physical activity environment.

Students will need appropriate clothing for physical education. This includes gym shoes, socks and the KMS PE uniform (shorts and shirt) which is purchased at the school for \$25.00. We also may have gently used PE uniforms for sale at a reduced price (\$5.00).

**Note:** KMS Health Enhancement classes provide instruction on human sexuality based on the Montana Health Enhancement Content Standards. A parent, guardian, or other person who is responsible for the care of a child may opt out of their child's participation in human sexuality instruction. This includes instruction delivered by district staff or guests invited at the request of the district during class, at an assembly, or at an organized school function. Please contact your student's Health Enhancement teacher if you would like to opt out of human sexuality education.

## 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ENCORE COURSES

**\*Encores are Quarter(Q) or Semester(S) length courses**

### **STEM**

Middle school is the perfect time for students to explore and learn that there is more than one way to reach a solution. **STEM** provides engineering, biomedical science and computer science curriculum for middle school students that challenges, inspires, and offers schools variety and flexibility. Students get rigorous and relevant experiences through activity, project, and problem-based learning. They use industry-leading technology to solve problems while gaining skills in communication, collaboration, critical-thinking, and creativity. Through topics like robotics, DNA and crime scene analysis, middle school students engage their natural curiosity and imagination in creative problem solving. Middle School STEM is a strong foundation for further STEM learning in high school and beyond, challenging students to solve real-world challenges, such as cleaning oil spills and designing sustainable housing solutions. Using the same advanced software and tools as those used by the world's leading companies, students learn how to apply math, science, technology, and engineering to their everyday lives.

- **AUTOMATION & ROBOTICS (Q)**

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

- **ENGINEERING & MORE (Q)**

Engineering and More is a middle school-level course that is appropriate for students who are interested in engineering and design. Students will be introduced to the Autodesk Inventor, a CAD (Computer-Aided Design) program. Students will also work in Whitebox learning. This program lets students test their theories, develop and refine their designs. Using innovative virtual 3D modeling and analysis, students can see their design in action and can improve it through unlimited iterations. Activities in Whitebox will include CO2 dragsters, Gliders, and Windmills.

### **INDUSTRIAL TECH**

- **WOODWORKING (Q)**

#### **7th Grade Woodshop**

This course introduces students to the basics of woodworking through hands-on projects. Students learn shop safety, accurate measuring, tool use, and basic construction techniques while working with wood. Emphasis is placed on craftsmanship, problem-solving, and responsible work habits. You don't need any prior experience.

#### **8th Grade Woodshop**

This course introduces students to the basics of woodworking through hands-on projects. Students learn shop safety, accurate measuring, tool use, and basic construction techniques while working with wood. Emphasis is placed on craftsmanship, problem-solving, and responsible work habits. This course can be taken even if you have previously taken woodshop. All projects are different than 7th Grade Woodshop.

## **ART**

- **DARE TO DRAW (Q)**

Warning! Your drawings will improve! Don't be scared, people were drawing before the written word. Dare to draw in new and exciting ways! This drawing class will teach students how to create realistic and abstract drawings from real life and from their imaginations. Students get to experiment with a variety of drawing materials including graphite, charcoal, ink, watercolor, digital tools, and many more!

- **3-D CREATE! (Q)**

Do you like to get your hands dirty? You are natural; put those Lego skills to work! Explore sculpture and S.T.E.A.M. through the world around you. In this hands-on, three-dimensional class students will be diving into different sculpture ideas. This class will teach students how to sculpt and draw in both realistic and abstract ways to create objects from real life and their imaginations. Students will also learn basic metalsmithing techniques including soldering, ring, and chain making. Other materials will include paper mâché, wood, wire, and plaster. Find out how science, technology, engineering, art, and math (S.T.E.A.M.) intertwine into the world of 3D CREATE!

- **MODERN ART AND DESIGN (Q)**

Glass fusing, Illusions and More! Where do artists get their ideas? Discover design in all its incredible forms! This design class will teach students how to break down both realistic and abstract compositions to create their own ideas. Students will get to experiment with a variety of design techniques including optical illusions, printmaking, glass fusing, collage, digital drawing, and many more!

- **8TH DRAW & DESIGN II (S)**

Drawing & Design II students will learn how to advance their drawing and design skills by building on their understanding of art concepts gained from previous KMS art courses. It is strongly encouraged that students have taken at least one art course and have a strong interest in the visual arts prior to enrolling. We will create realistic and abstract drawings and designs from everyday objects and from our imaginations. Students will work with a variety of different drawing mediums. Sample art challenges include Surrealism pen drawings, digital animation, doodle designs, glass fusing, printmaking, landscape painting and others.

**\*Prerequisite for 8th Draw & Design II:** Drawing, Modern Art & Design or 3D Create/STEAM

## **INFORMATION TECH – 7th GRADE**

- **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (Q)**

The course provides real world skills for every student including the review of fundamental keyboarding skills. This course will cover a variety of widely used software applications. The class will cover word processing tips and tricks, basic spreadsheet functions, and dos and don'ts for authoring digital presentations. The themes of Digital Citizenship will be emphasized throughout the course.

- **DIGITAL ART AND DESIGN (Q)**

Students will learn to use various graphic editing programs and web publishing software. Proper layout and photo editing will be the underlying themes of this course. Digital Citizenship will be emphasized throughout the course. Learn / Practice / Explore some of the most popular software tools to increase your school success!

## **INFORMATION TECH - 8th GRADE**

- **DIGITAL ART AND DESIGN (Q)**

Students will learn to use various graphic editing programs and web publishing software. Proper layout and photo editing will be the underlying themes of this course. Digital Citizenship will be emphasized throughout the course. Learn / Practice / Explore some of the most popular software tools to increase your school success!

- **MULTIMEDIA AND MORE (Q)**

This course provides students with hands-on experience with current technology in the marketplace. A wide range of software will be explored. Students will use their creativity and skills to create and edit interactive multimedia presentations, digital images, sound, movies, and animations. The themes of Digital Citizenship will be emphasized throughout the course.

- **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (Q)**

The course provides real world skills for every student including the review of fundamental keyboarding skills. This course will cover a variety of widely used software applications. The class will cover word processing tips and tricks, basic spreadsheet functions, and dos and don'ts for authoring digital presentations. The themes of Digital Citizenship will be emphasized throughout the course.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

- **7TH SPANISH (S)**

This introductory/exploratory Spanish class teaches students to comprehend novice-friendly speech and texts. Students will be prepared to engage in “small talk” conversations with native Spanish speakers, specifically in regard to the following topics:

- The weather, date, season, day & time
- Greetings, introductions, commands, “About me” where I live, how old I am, birthdate, etc.
- Family members, physical & personality descriptions
- Expressing likes & dislikes of objects & activities, feelings and emotions
- Clothes, accessories, shopping

While learning to use vocabulary relating to the topics above, students will also explore the geography of the Spanish-speaking world and cultural topics such as Day of the Dead in Mexico, Latin American music, and highly important Hispanic people.

### **7TH FRENCH (S)**

This introductory/exploratory French class teaches students to comprehend novice-friendly speech and texts. Students will be prepared to engage in “small talk” conversations with native French speakers, specifically in regard to the following topics:

- The weather, date, season, day & time
- Greetings, introductions, commands, “About me” where I live, how old I am, birthdate, etc.
- Family members, physical & personality descriptions
- Expressing likes & dislikes of objects & activities, feelings and emotions
- Clothes, accessories, shopping

While learning to use vocabulary relating to the topics above, students will also explore the geography of the French-speaking world and cultural topics such as Mardi Gras in Louisiana, the Eiffel Tower, and famous Francophone people.

- **8TH SPANISH (S)**

This introductory/exploratory Spanish class teaches students to comprehend novice-friendly speech and texts. Students will be prepared to engage in “small talk” conversations with native Spanish speakers, specifically in regard to the following topics:

- Routines, hobbies, and making plans
- Modes of transportation, travel
- Asking and giving directions
- Describing food
- Buying food at farmer’s markets, supermarkets
- Ordering food at a restaurant; being polite

While learning to use vocabulary relating to the topics above, students will also explore Picasso’s art during the Spanish Civil War, Spanish cuisine and traditions, and sports popular in Spain and Latin America.

- **8TH FRENCH (S)**

This introductory/exploratory French class teaches students to comprehend novice-friendly speech and texts. Students will be prepared to engage in “small talk” conversations with native French speakers, specifically in regard to the following topics:

- Routines, hobbies, and making plans
- Modes of transportation, travel
- Asking and giving directions
- Describing food
- Buying food at farmer’s markets, supermarkets
- Ordering food at a restaurant; being polite

While learning to use vocabulary relating to the topics above, students will also explore the geography of the Francophone world and cultural topics such as French cuisine, several types of restaurants in France, and the flora, fauna, and geographical features of French-speaking regions.

- **FRENCH HISTORY, TOURISM & SURVIVAL 7TH & 8TH (Q)**

You know all those tourists in Glacier National Park that think it’s okay to pet the fluffy bison? Or people from outside of our country assuming people from California and Montana are exactly the same? Don’t be “that” tourist when you travel to beautiful and exciting places around the world. In this class, you will compare cultural practices in Spain and Latin America while exploring the most important events that occurred in these regions throughout history. While learning about these exciting topics, you will also develop basic Spanish skills to help you survive in everyday situations in another country. Emphasis will be placed on basic conversational skills, asking for help, what to say in an emergency, and talking to medical professionals.

- **SPANISH: HISTORY, TOURISM & SURVIVAL 7TH & 8TH (Q)**

You know all those tourists in Glacier National Park that think it's okay to pet the fluffy bison? Or people from outside of our country assuming people from California and Montana are exactly the same? Don't be "that" tourist when you travel to beautiful and exciting places around the world. In this class, you will compare cultural practices in Spain and Latin America while exploring the most important events that occurred in these regions throughout history. While learning about these exciting topics, you will also develop basic Spanish skills to help you survive in everyday situations in another country. Emphasis will be placed on basic conversational skills, asking for help, what to say in an emergency, and talking to medical professionals.

### **OFFICE AIDE (Q) Available to non-music students**

Office Assistants will be chosen based on grades, attendance, class placement options and Encore selections. Student Assistants must demonstrate responsibility, respect, and confidentiality. Duties will include delivering messages, passes and general office work. Counselors will determine which Encore class will be dropped when a student is given the opportunity to be a Student Assistant.

### **FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE (FACS)**

- **CULINARY ARTS (Q)**

Do you have what it takes to be a chef? Come experience the whole process of planning, prepping, practicing skills, and various techniques. Take this class and gain the ability to prepare beautiful, healthy food within a budget.

- **PATCHWORK STUDIO (Q)**

Learn sewing skills and inspire yourself to think creatively, take responsibility, set goals, solve problems, dream big to create and operate a business in this class. This class will help students discover they have the power to use their sewing and entrepreneurial skills to do whatever they want in life. We will also explore the fashion industry, and you will try your hand at design and apparel care.

- **MIXED MEDIA and FIBER CREATION (Q)**

Embark on a creative journey that blends the worlds of fiber art and mixed media in our immersive Mixed Media and Fabric Art class. This hands-on course is designed for artists of all skill levels who wish to explore innovative techniques and expressive possibilities within the realms of fabric, textiles, and multimedia art. Whether you're looking to enhance your artistic skill set or simply want to express your creativity in a new and engaging way, this course will provide a supportive and inspiring environment to help you realize your artistic vision.

- **TEXTILES, EXPLORATION AND DESIGN (Q)**

Let your creativity and design skills shine. In this class you will use sewing skills and create original innovative projects while exploring mixed media fiber art. This course integrates knowledge, skills, and practices required for careers in textiles, scientific research, and fashion and marketing.

- **FASHION DESIGN (S)**

Unleash your inner designer in our Creative Couture fashion class! This engaging and hands-on course is perfect for middle school students who are passionate about style, creativity, and personal expression. Throughout the semester, you'll explore the evolution of fashion, learn about different materials and techniques, and develop your unique fashion aesthetic. Join us in a fun and supportive environment where you can express your creativity, collaborate with peers, and turn your fashion dreams into reality! No prior experience is necessary, just a passion for fashion and a willingness to learn. Whether you're looking to design the next big trend or explore your unique style, this class is the perfect place to start!

- **FARM TO TABLE (Q)**

Follow the journey of your food. In this class, you will learn all about local seasonal foods and different ways to prepare and cook them. We will focus on a multitude of ways to cook and prepare food we can grow right here in Montana to make delicious meals and treats. You will have the chance to be outside working in the school garden, planting, harvesting, and caring for plants as well as cooking with the foods we grow! You will also learn about Montana's food culture and the many world cultures that have influenced it. You will have the opportunity to cook and eat foods that are purely Montanan!

- **CONNECTING CUISINE AND CULTURE (Q)**

Unlock the delicious world of food and explore how it intertwines with culture in our engaging culinary class, "Connecting Cuisine and Culture"! In this hands-on course, students will embark on a flavorful journey that highlights the rich tapestry of global cuisine and the traditions, histories, and stories behind them. Join us in "Connecting Cuisine and Culture," where we'll cook, taste, learn, and celebrate the beautiful ways food brings people together! Whether you're a budding chef or just curious about global flavors, this class is a recipe for fun and discovery!

- **THE CHEF'S JOURNEY: COOKING, CREATIVITY AND COLLABORATION (S)**

**This course is for 8<sup>th</sup> grade only**

This semester-long course is designed to provide middle school students with advanced culinary skills, knowledge of food safety, an appreciation for diverse cuisines, and the ability to prepare and present meals with confidence. Students will learn kitchen techniques, understand the science of cooking, and develop creativity in food preparation. They will also explore nutrition, sustainable cooking practices, and cultural influences on food. Throughout the course, students will engage in catering events, where they will take on roles such as chefs, servers, and event planners. This course will teach them how to work as a team to prepare, present, and serve food professionally while understanding the importance of hospitality and customer service. Students will learn how to create a menu, manage a catering event, and interact with guests, providing them with both culinary and organizational skills needed for success in the food service industry.

## **ELECTIVES**

- **CAREER EXPLORATION AND PERSONAL FINANCE (Q)**

This quarter-long course will give students the tools and skills to manage their money now and in the future. Students will learn what to do with their money by exploring financial options and responsibilities, as well as understanding the consequences of mismanaged finances. They will examine wants vs. needs as they create a budget and make informed decisions about buying and/or renting automobiles and homes.

In addition to personal finance skills, students will engage in career exploration to understand how career choices impact financial stability and lifestyle. They will research potential careers, analyze salaries, and consider education or training costs while developing long-term financial plans. Through simulations, projects, and games, students will gain hands-on experience in making real-world financial decisions that align with their career aspirations and life goals.

- **THEATER (Q)**

This course is designed for middle school students who are interested in exploring the exciting world of theater. Through a variety of engaging activities, students will develop their acting skills, enhance their creativity, and gain confidence in expressing themselves on stage. We will also include a basic understanding of theater production, including set design, costumes, and lighting.

- **YEARBOOK (S)**

In this exciting yearbook class, students will become designers, photographers, and storytellers as they create a memorable keepsake for the school year. They will learn the basics of layout design, simple graphic design principles, and photo selection to craft eye-catching pages. Working as a team, students will gain hands-on experience in organizing content, choosing themes, and using digital tools to bring their vision to life. Creativity, collaboration, and attention to detail will be key as they document the moments that make the school year special!

- **DISCOVER OUR OWN BACKYARD: LOCAL TOURISM (Q)**

Unleash your curiosity about the world around you in our middle school Local Tourism class! This engaging quarter-long course encourages students to explore their local community and region, fostering an appreciation for nearby attractions, history, and culture while developing essential travel and planning skills. Engage Through Creativity: Participate in hands-on projects, including travel brochures, field trips, multimedia presentations, and local guides, allowing students to express their newfound knowledge and creativity about local tourism.

- **TEAM SPORTS/GAMES/FITNESS (Q)**

This course emphasizes activities that encourage maintaining an active lifestyle through team sports, lifelong activities and games, and fitness development.

Students will need appropriate clothing for this encore course. The same requirements apply as in their required Health Enhancement class. This includes gym shoes, socks, and the KMS PE uniform (shorts and shirt), which can be purchased at the school for \$25.00. Additionally, we may have gently used PE uniforms available for sale at a reduced price of \$5.00.

**Team Sports**

Team sports include, but are not limited to, basketball, frisbee, lacrosse, volleyball, speedminton, touch rugby, and hockey.

**Lifelong Activities and Games**

Lifelong sports and games focus on enjoying physical movement and valuing fitness in a student's life. Students will explore the community for additional ways to stay active. Examples include, but are not limited to, archery, fly fishing, pickleball, tennis, golf, and recreational games.

**Fitness Development**

Fitness activities aim to help students experience and create fitness programs tailored to their individual needs. This segment focuses on improving fitness levels, enjoyment, and appreciation of physical activity in a student's life. Examples include, but are not limited to, weight training, cardio training, and high-intensity training to enhance fitness and performance levels.

# 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE YEAR LONG PERFORMANCE MUSIC

## **BAND**

- **BAND 7**

The focus of this band is the continued development and refinement of skills begun in the Beginning Band. Emphasis is on individual fundamentals and ensemble performance. Home practice is expected, and private lessons are encouraged at this level. The Intermediate Band will perform at least three public concerts during the school year. Students will also have opportunities for solos, small groups, and may participate in the Jazz Band.

- **BAND 8**

Further development of personal musicianship and ensemble experience are the foundation of the Advanced Band. More difficult music and some advanced performance techniques are explored. Additionally, some music theory, composition, and ear training will be introduced. This group performs at least four concerts during the school year, and occasionally participates in some off-campus activities, such as festivals and trips. There are increased opportunities for individual musical growth such as small ensembles, solos, and Jazz Band.

## **CHOIR**

- **CHOIR 7**

This course is designed to meet the needs of 7th grade boys and girls who want positive experience, including learning basic music reading skills, becoming proficient in two- and four-part singing, becoming acquainted with various musical styles, and enjoying a sense of belonging to a singing group. It is expected that these students will make a strong commitment to the choir. Other topics covered in class include basic music literacy, basic tone production, choral literature, and performance discipline. Students will perform in four evening concerts and take at least one field trip to sing in the community. Students are placed in this choir based on their desire to sing and their willingness to learn and build upon the skills they bring to the group. Its unique structure is designed to serve the motivated student who has little or no music experience or background.

- **CHOIR 8**

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who want a positive experience, including learning basic music reading skills, becoming proficient in two-, three-, and four-part singing, becoming acquainted with various musical styles, and enjoying a sense of belonging to a singing group. It is expected that these students will make a strong commitment to the choir. Other topics covered in the class include basic music literacy, basic tone production, choral literature, and performance discipline. Students are in choir based on their desire to sing and their willingness to learn and build upon the skills they bring to the group. Its unique structure is designed to serve the motivated student who has little or no music experience or background. Students will perform in four evening concerts and take at least one field trip to sing somewhere in the community.

## **ORCHESTRA**

- **ORCHESTRA 7**

Seventh Grade Orchestra is an intermediate class that provides students with the opportunity to learn about and perform music through the study of the Violin, Viola, Cello, or String bass. Emphasis is placed upon the reinforcement and extension of basic skills learned in beginning Orchestra in sixth grade. Topics covered will include tuning, rehearsal skills, tone development, rhythmic development, music reading and sight reading, scales, ear-training, basic music theory, and an introduction to shifting and vibrato. Private lessons are encouraged but not required. Seventh grade Orchestra students will perform at least three evening concerts and one daytime performance during the year.

Necessary equipment for Orchestra: instrument with bow and case, rosin, name tag for case, cleaning cloth, pencil, Kun brand shoulder rest (Violins and Violas), Xeros rockstop (Cellos and Bases), Essential Elements Books 1 and 2, and a music stand for practice (kept at home). A limited number of Cellos and Bases will be available for rental from the school district, based primarily on financial need. Violinists and violists should rent their own instruments from a reputable music store. Instruments of sub-par quality and/or setup will not be allowed in orchestra class or in performances. **Please contact Eileen Beckett at [eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us](mailto:eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us) or Flathead Woodwind and brass at (406) 755 9201 for assistance in finding an instrument of the appropriate quality to improve your child's experience in Orchestra.**

- **ORCHESTRA 8**

Eighth Grade Orchestra is the Middle School's most advanced performing ensemble for string players. Prior playing experience is required. The primary focus is on the continued refinement and extension of intermediate skills learned in seventh grade orchestra with an increasing emphasis on ensemble performance skills. Students will expand their knowledge of music theory and begin to analyze and evaluate music, using critical thinking skills to enhance their performance. Other topics covered will include tone development, two-octave scales, shifting, vibrato, ear-training, rhythmic development, and sight-reading. Private lessons are encouraged. Eighth grade orchestra students will perform in at least four evening concerts during the year, along with other special trips and activities.

Necessary equipment for Orchestra: instrument with bow and case, rosin, name tag for case, cleaning cloth, Kun brand shoulder rest (Violins and Violas), Xeros rockstop (Cellos and Bases), Essential Elements Book 2, music stand for practice (kept at home), a pencil, and an electronic chromatic tuner. A very **limited number** of Cellos and Bases will be available for rental from the school district, based primarily on financial need. Violinists and violists should rent their own instruments from a reputable music store. Instruments of sub-par quality and/or setup will not be allowed in Orchestra class or in performances. **Please contact Eileen Beckett at [eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us](mailto:eileen.beckett@sd5.k12.mt.us) or Flathead Woodwind and brass at (406) 755 9201 for assistance in finding an instrument of the appropriate quality to improve your child's experience in Orchestra.**

