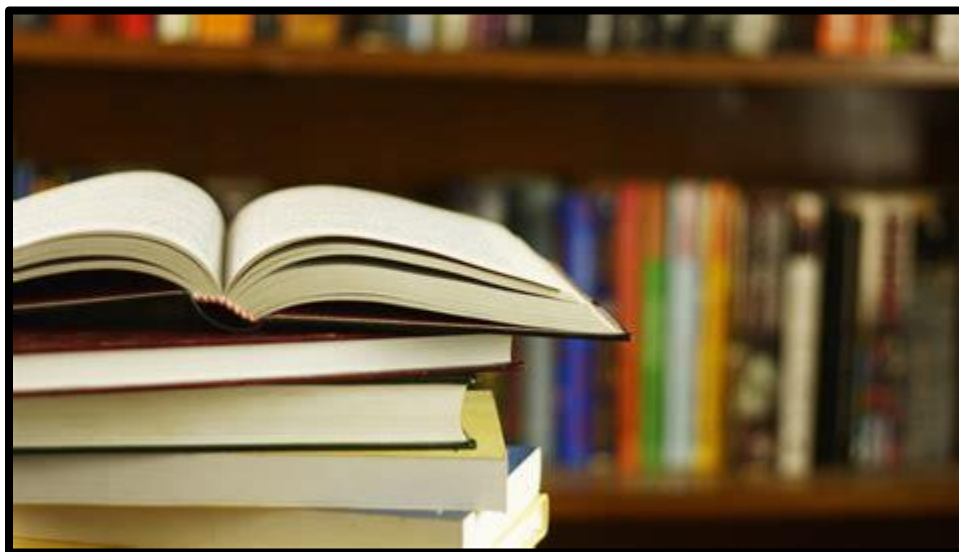




FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Middle School Course Catalog

Grades 6 – 8



2026 – 2027

2026 – 27 DISTRICT CALENDAR



2026-27 Academic Calendar

WWW.K12NORTHSTAR.ORG • DISTRICT OFFICE: (907) 452-2000 • 520 FIFTH AVE

JULY

2-3 Schools & District Offices Closed

AUGUST

11 Teacher Work Day (No School)
12-14 Professional Development (No School)
17 Teacher Work Day (No School)
18 First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

7 Schools & District Offices Closed
17-18 Professional Development (No School)

OCTOBER

8-9 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)
16 End of 1st Quarter (Early Dismissal)
1st Quarter: 46 Days

NOVEMBER

25 Early Dismissal
26-27 Schools & District Offices Closed

DECEMBER

16-18 Early Dismissal
18 End of 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester
2nd Quarter: 43 Days
1st Semester: 89 Days
21-31 Winter Break (Schools Closed)
24-25 District Offices Closed

SYMBOL KEY

- District Offices Closed
- Early Dismissal
- No School
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)
- Professional Development (No School)
- Teacher Work Day (No School)
- Testing Window

The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.

JULY 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JANUARY

1 Schools & District Offices Closed
4 Teacher Work Day (No School)
5 Professional Development (No School)
18 Schools & District Offices Closed

FEBRUARY

11-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences (No School)

MARCH

5 End of 3rd Quarter (Early Dismissal)
3rd Quarter: 43 Days
8-12 Spring Break (No School)
11-12 District Offices Closed

29 Statewide Testing Window Begins

APRIL

23 Schools Closed
30 Early Dismissal
Statewide Testing Window Ends

MAY

18-20 Early Dismissal
20 Last Day of School
End of 4th Quarter / 2nd Semester
4th Quarter: 48 Days
2nd Semester: 91 Days
21 Teacher Work Day (No School), Tentative Make-Up Day for Inclement Weather
24-27 Tentative Make-Up Days for Inclement Weather
31 Schools and District Offices Closed

NUTRITION SERVICES

(907) 451-1004

(free & reduced meal application, menus, nutrition, and allergy info)
k12northstar.org/food

TRANSPORTATION

Durham Dispatch - (907) 206-7789
(drop off/pick up issues, late bus, missed stops, lost items, etc.)

FNSBSD - (907) 452-2000 ext. 4
(bus stop, route info)

k12northstar.org/bus

Adopted by School Board: June 3, 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2026 – 27 DISTRICT CALENDAR.....	2
INTRODUCTION	4
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOLS	5
REQUIRED SUBJECTS	6
ART.....	7
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION.....	9
ENGLISH	13
HEALTH.....	18
MATHEMATICS	20
RECOMMENDED MATH PATHWAYS	21
MISCELLANEOUS	24
MUSIC.....	28
PHYSICAL EDUCATION.....	32
SCIENCE.....	35
SOCIAL STUDIES.....	37
WORLD LANGUAGE.....	40
APPENDIX.....	42
JUNIOR HIGH/ MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE FEES.....	43
NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE.....	44

INTRODUCTION

Driven by a desire to better prepare graduates for college and careers, the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, with the support of Alaska educators and stakeholders, created English/Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science Standards. The more rigorous academic standards clearly outline what students should know and be able to do at each grade level to be globally competitive. The ELA and math standards were adopted by the State Board of Education in 2012 and the science standards in 2019. These standards indicate how well students at a particular age are expected to perform in reading, writing, mathematics, and science. The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (FNSBSD) has made a formal commitment to the standards, and this commitment is reflected in the district's adopted curricula.

The school district's curriculum goal is to provide all students with an excellent educational program that not only meets basic academic needs, but also sets high expectations and provides opportunities for each student to excel and develop individual talents.

This *Middle School Course Catalog* lists all courses adopted by the FNSBSD Board of Education. **Not all courses may be offered at a specific school, and students should contact their counselor for a list of courses available at their school.** Those interested in more detailed information may also refer to the comprehensive subject area curriculum guides posted on the [district's website](#). Curriculum questions that cannot be answered at the school building level should be referred to the Department of Teaching & Learning at (907) 452-2000 ext. 11422.

Curriculum development and revision in the FNSBSD is an ongoing process that involves community, educators, students, parents, the Board Curriculum Committee, and the School Board.

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
Department of Teaching & Learning

Chane Beam
Executive Director of Teaching & Learning

Tara DeV Vaughn
Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

April Reischke
Program Specialist

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOLS

This course catalog includes all courses that are currently adopted by the school district. **Each school's schedule may vary on which courses are offered due to budget constraints, teacher availability, student enrollment, and/or student interests.**

For more information on what your school may offer, please contact your school counselor directly.

North Pole Middle School
300 East 8th Avenue
North Pole, AK 99705
Phone: 488-2271 Fax: 488-9213
Grades: 6-8

Randy Smith Middle School
1401 Bainbridge
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: 458-7600 Fax: 458-7676
Grades: 6-8

Ryan Middle School
1450 Cowles Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: 452-4751 Fax: 451-8834
Grades 6-8

Tanana Middle School
600 Trainor Gate Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: 452-8145 Fax: 456-2780
Grades: 6-8

REQUIRED SUBJECTS

6th Grade

All students must take the following courses:

English/ Language Arts (two semesters)	Science (two semesters)
Health*	Social Studies (two semesters)
Math (two semesters)	Electives
Physical Education*	

*Students must complete three quarters of PE and one quarter of Health.

7th Grade

All students must take the following courses:

English/ Language Arts (two semesters)	Science (two semesters)
Health*	Social Studies (two semesters)
Math (two semesters)	Electives
Physical Education*	

*Students must complete three quarters of PE and one quarter of Health.

8th Grade

All students must take the following courses:

English/ Language Arts (two semesters)	Science (two semesters)
Health*	Social Studies (two semesters)
Math (two semesters)	Electives
Physical Education*	

*Students must complete three quarters of PE and one quarter of Health.

ART



Adopted: April 1, 2025

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

ART CONCEPTS Course #: Quarter = ART60 Semester = ART61 Grade: 6 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Art Concepts</i> is a survey of art experiences designed for sixth graders. Students experiment with a variety of techniques and materials that may include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, weaving, pottery, digital photography, videography, and portfolio development. They also study artists and their work, learn to make judgments about art, and consider different theories and purposes of art. Sixth Grade students will be expected to apply art concepts and use vocabulary, while working with a broad range of both 2D and 3D art materials and techniques. Sixth graders are developing lasting skills in handling materials and applying developed ideas to their work, and will be expected to build on these abilities. Many students at this age 'fear failure' and lean toward their strengths. In order to encourage growth, lessons will be diverse, exciting, challenging and draw on personal input. Verbal fluency will be encouraged when discussing or writing about art.
EXPLORING ART Course #: Quarter = ART40 Semester = ART41 Grade: 7 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Exploring Art</i> is a survey of art experiences designed for seventh graders. Students experiment with a variety of techniques and materials that may include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, weaving, pottery, digital photography, videography, and portfolio development. They also study artists and their work, learn to make judgments about art, and consider different theories and purposes of art.
FUNDAMENTALS OF ART Course #: Quarter = ART51 Semester = ART50 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester or Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Fundamentals of Art</i> is an in-depth study of the elements and principles of art learned through experience in a variety of methods and media. These may include drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, pottery, digital photography, videography, and portfolio development. Collaborative media components may be explored and artists may be required to move images between different online platforms. Students also study artists and their work, learn to make judgments about art, and consider different theories and purposes of art.
STUDIO ART/ SPECIAL TOPICS Course #: Quarter = ART85 Semester = ART86 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester or Two Semesters Prerequisite: <i>Exploring Art</i> or <i>Fundamentals of Art</i> Fee: See Appendix	<i>Studio Art/Special Topics</i> is a continuation of <i>Fundamentals of Art</i>, wherein the elements and principles of art are applied and emphasized. Topics and media may vary by semester according to the school and the instructor. Special topics may include guest artists, community service projects, installations, special themes, and field trips. Students may also study artists and their work, learn to make aesthetic judgments about art, and consider different theories and purposes of art. Media components may be explored and utilized.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION



<u>Cluster Topic</u>	<u>Adoption Dates</u>
Agriculture	April 15, 2025
Architecture & Construction	June 4, 2024
Arts, A-V Technology, & Communications	May 7, 2013 & May 13, 2014
Education & Training	April 15, 2025
Information Technology	June 7, 2022
Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics	June 4, 2024

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

APP CREATORS 1A/1B (Information Technology cluster) Course #: Semester 1 = CTE98 Semester 1 = CTE99 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: None	In <i>App Creators</i> students learn and apply computational thinking and technical knowledge and skills to create mobile apps. They also acquire and apply skills pertaining to the design process, problem solving, persistence, collaboration, and communication.
CAREER, COLLEGE, & LIFE READINES (Education & Training) Course #: Semester = CTEED100 Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: None	What do you want to do when you “grow up?” How are you going to get there? Once you are there, how are you going to be successful and happy? This course will help you discover your interests and strengths, and how those relate to possible career and life goals. You will learn about the educational paths you can take to achieve those goals as well as critical life skills to help you on your journey.
CAREER EXPLORATIONS (All CTE clusters) Course #: Quarter = CTE88P Semester = CTE89P Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Career Exploration</i> provides opportunity to explore careers, pathways, education/training, self-assessments, and develop employability and communication skills, including interviewing, resume/portfolio building, job search, effective workplace skills, and financial literacy. Students will gain knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary for succeeding in the world of work. The student explores real life work through observation and/or active participation. Students will learn the relationship between education and becoming gainfully employed through self-discovery, goal setting, and career planning.
COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR INNOVATOR & MAKERS 1A/1B (Information Technology cluster) Course #: Semester 1 = CTE90 Semester 1 = CTE95 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: None	Have you ever wondered how code can be used in wearable technology, art exhibits, or mechanical devices? In <i>Computer Science for Innovator and Makers</i>, students learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. Using microcontrollers with inputs and outputs, they develop code that brings their physical designs to life. It's time to become an innovator and maker using physical computing!
EXPLORING STEM 1 (STEM cluster) Course #: Quarter = CTE701 Semester = CTE70 Grade: 7 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Exploring Stem 1</i> provides students with a broad understanding of STEM and associated careers. The course introduces students to various aspects of science, technology, engineering, and math through designing and problem solving activities. Instructors choose from approved topics depending on student interest and school resources. The course will vary from 9 to 18 weeks. A 9-week course will be introductory. An 18-week course will explore content in greater depth. This gateway course is intended to provide students with a broad understanding of career technology and will feed into and support CTE offerings at the secondary level.

EXPLORING STEM 2 (STEM cluster) Course #: Quarter = CTE831 Semester = CTE83 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Exploring STEM 2</i> builds on student understanding of STEM and associated careers. Students develop understanding of science, technology, engineering, and math through designing and problems solving activities. Instructors choose from approved topics depending on student interest and school resources. Course will vary from 9 to 18 weeks. A 9-week course will be introductory. An 18- week course will explore content in greater depth. This gateway course is intended to provide students with a broad understanding of career technology and will feed into and support CTE offerings at the secondary level.
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES I Course #: CTE73 Grade: 7 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	In <i>Family & Consumer Sciences I</i> , students will explore and practice basic life skills in the areas of personal health, safety, nutrition, basic food preparation techniques, and sewing. Depending on the school resources, needs and schedule, this course may vary as to topics taught and in length from 9 weeks (one quarter) to 18 weeks (one semester). A 9-week offering will be introductory with limited topics. An 18-week course offering will explore chosen topics in greater depth.
FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES II Course #: CTE86 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	In <i>Family & Consumer Sciences II</i> , students will explore and practice life skills needed for the varied roles in adult life, such as wage earner, consumer of resources, family/group member, community member, and care-giving/parenting, while using current technology and resources. Depending on the school resources, needs, and schedule, this course may vary as to topics taught and in length from 9-weeks (one quarter) to 18 weeks (one semester). A 9-week offering will be introductory with limited topics. An 18-week course offering will explore chosen topics in greater depth.
INTRODUCTION TO SAFETY (Pilot: Districtwide) Course #: CTE50P Grade: 7-8 Length: One Quarter Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	The <i>Introduction to Safety</i> course is designed to increase student awareness of personal safety, risk management, and accident prevention across multiple practical environments, including workshops, labs, agricultural settings, and kitchens. Students will learn the fundamental principles of maintaining a safe working environment, identifying potential hazards, and responding effectively to workplace emergencies. The curriculum introduces critical protocols such as general fire safety (including fire extinguisher mechanics, kitchen fires, and chemical/combustible material management), proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and safe tool and equipment handling. Through practical applications, students will develop the situational awareness and safety habits necessary for success in hands-on technical and career pathways.

INTRODUCTION TO VIDEO PRODUCTION (Arts, A-V Technology, & Communications cluster) Course #: CTE82 Grade: 8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Introduction to Video Production</i> is a semester-long course, which students will work both independently and in groups to learn the skills involved with producing informational videos. Students will learn preproduction skills including topic selection, interviewing, research, using still cameras, video cameras, microphones, and tripods. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the components of video production including set, lighting and sound. Students will use video editing software to create original productions. Students will develop writing and public speaking skills as they produce videos for a variety of audiences. Self-motivation and a willingness to work outside of class are critical skills for students in the class.
Plants and Animals (Agriculture) Course #: CTEAG100 Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	This introductory course is designed to give students a foundational understanding of plants and animals, particularly in the context of agriculture, farming, and natural sciences. Students will explore how plants grow, the importance of agriculture in daily life, and the role of animals in farming and ecosystems. The course will also connect to the National FFA Organization, highlighting leadership, service, and career development in the agricultural field. This course aims to foster a comprehensive understanding of agriculture plants, animals, and their essential core subjects and emphasizes Alaska's unique agricultural context, while promoting sustainable practices and community involvement.
Woodshop 1 (Architecture & Construction cluster) Course #: CTE100 Grade: 6-8 Length: One semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Woodshop 1</i> is an introduction to modern day woodworking. Project plans and sketching, characteristics of wood, safe use and care of hand tools and basic power tools, basic fasteners/joinery and wood finishing are included in the course. Students complete a required project that is instructor approved, and it builds upon the lessons and previous projects built during the semester.
Woodshop 2 (Architecture & Construction cluster) Course #: CTE101 Grade: 6-8 Length: One semester Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Woodshop 2</i> builds upon the skills and techniques taught in <i>Woodshop 1</i>. Project plans and sketching, characteristics of wood, safe use and care of hand tools and basic power tools, basic fasteners/joinery, and wood finishing are included in the course. Students complete a required project that is instructor approved, and it builds upon the lessons and previous projects built during the semester.

ENGLISH



Adopted: April 21, 2020

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

ADVANCED ENGLISH 7 (Meets <i>English 7</i> requirement) Course #: Yearlong = ENG715 Semester 1 = ENG713 Semester 2 = ENG714 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation	<i>Advanced English 7</i> emphasizes literature, writing, and critical thinking skills through a combination of essays, literature, and speaking experiences, such as formal presentations and inquiry-based discussions. This course provides a study of genres of literature and literary terms, and a variety of writing experiences, including an emphasis on the writing process and research methods. The depth and pacing will differ from <i>English 7</i> in that learners will be expected to routinely work independently on self-guided assignments and explore more complex, advanced texts. Vocabulary study is derived from seventh grade foundational vocabulary, including SAT vocabulary enrichment. Instructors are encouraged to utilize 6+1 Traits®, graphic organizers, and personalized learning strategies.
ADVANCED ENGLISH 8 (Meets <i>English 8</i> requirement) Course #: ENG18 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation	<i>Advanced English 8</i> emphasizes literature, writing, and critical thinking skills through a combination of essays, literature, and speaking experiences, such as formal presentations and inquiry-based discussions. This course provides an in-depth study of the genres of literature and complex literary terms, and a variety of writing experiences, including an emphasis on the writing process and advanced research methods culminating in a research paper. The depth and pacing will differ from <i>English 8</i> in that learners will be expected to routinely work independently, both in and out of school, on self-guided assignments and explore more complex, advanced texts; learners will be expected to take initiative with critical analysis of these texts to form their own conclusions. Vocabulary study is derived from various works of literature, including SAT vocabulary enrichment. Instructors are encouraged to utilize 6+1 Traits®, graphic organizers, and personalized learning strategies.
Connections to Language and Literacy (Pilot: Districtwide) Course #: ENG17P Repeatable up to four times. Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: Placement determined by teacher recommendation and assessment data.	<i>Connections to Language and Literacy</i> is designed to provide instructional support to students who need additional practice and instruction in foundational reading skills. Students will engage in explicit, systematic direct instruction in decoding, word recognition, fluency, comprehension, writing/spelling, and text structures. Students may repeat this course as needed, up to four times. Placement is determined by teacher recommendation and assessment data: • Score below the 20th percentile on the most recent MAP reading/language assessment. • Score three or more grade levels below their current grade level on iReady Reading. • One-on-one assessments (contact Teaching and Learning for assessments). (R) This course may replace the student's social studies class.
ENGLISH 6 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = ENG61 Semester 1 = ENG60 Semester 2 = ENG63 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>English 6</i> is part of a developmental continuum that provides connected literacy experiences as an integral part of learning to communicate in a variety of ways. Students will experience a literate environment by engaging in daily speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities spanning all genres.

ENGLISH 7 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: Yearlong = ENG71 Semester 1 = ENG711 Semester 2 = ENG712 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>English 7</i> emphasizes both the critical exploration of literature and the foundations of the writing process. Learners read a variety of genres and utilize basic literary terms and forms as a basis for discussion, writing topics, and models. As readers respond to literature, they measure their own experiences against those of others, connecting literature to real life, other texts, and media. Learners write for a variety of purposes and audiences, and conventions of good writing are studied and applied, such as grammar, vocabulary, spelling, and sentence and paragraph structures. Instructors are encouraged to utilize 6+1 Traits®, graphic organizers, and personalized learning strategies.
ENGLISH 8 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: Yearlong = ENG81 Semester 1 = ENG811 Semester 2 = ENG812 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>English 8</i> emphasizes both the continued development of the writing process and the critical exploration of literature. Learners read a variety of genres and utilize complex literary terms and forms as a basis for discussion, writing topics, and models. As readers respond to literature, they will continue to measure their own experiences against those of others, connecting literature to real life, other texts, and media. Learners write for a variety of purposes and authentic audiences, and conventions of good writing (such as grammar, vocabulary, spelling, sentence, and paragraph structures) are studied and applied. Instructors are encouraged to utilize strategies, such as 6+1 Trait® writing, graphic organizers, and other personalized learning strategies.
FOUNDATIONS OF READING (Pilot at Ryan MS) Course #: Semester = ENG98P Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester (Repeatable) Prerequisite: None	<i>Foundations of Reading</i> is designed for students who may have difficulty reading and comprehending middle school content area assignments. The course emphasizes reinforcement of basic reading skills, including phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary knowledge, comprehension, and study-reading skills. Students are provided with opportunities to meet their individual needs through engaging reading experiences. (R)
JOURNALISM & PUBLICATION Course #: Quarter = ENG11 Semester = ENG12 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None	<i>Journalism and Publication</i> teaches the steps involved in publishing. Production of publications includes article writing, page layout and design, scheduling of projects, meeting deadlines, revising, and editing. Learners will explore publishing in various media.
MIDDLE SCHOOL LITERATURE Course # ENG010 Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None	<i>Middle School Literature</i> focuses on the reading of various types of literature with an emphasis on reading as a process. The course will include an introduction to elements of literature, enhancement of comprehension skills, application of literature to real-life situations, and integration of reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities. It will also integrate interdisciplinary materials and nonfiction from a variety of media.
NON-FICTION FORUM Course #: ENG97 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One Semester May be taken up to four times, as needed. Prerequisite: None	<i>Non-Fiction Forum</i> focuses on the reading of course texts and informational resources. Composition, speech, research, and aligned literature will be incorporated as components, as well as study and test-taking skills. <i>Nonfiction Forum</i> can support content from other core courses, such as Social Studies or Science.

SPEECH & DEBATE Course # ENG012 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None	In <i>Speech and Debate</i> , students will learn to prepare debate cases, in addition to learning the speech skills taught in the required English courses. Emphasis will be on argumentative skills and logical organization.
SPEECH / DRAMA Course #: Quarter = ENG15 Semester = ENG 14 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None	<i>Speech and Drama</i> is a semester course in which students prepare and deliver speeches, explore the history of theater, study parts of the physical theater, and experience the various jobs in producing and performing a play. It adds flexibility for various school schedules.
U.S. CULTURE & EXPRESSIONS A/B Course #: Semester 1 = ENG013 Semester 2 = ENG014 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One – Two Semester Prerequisite: ELL-Program eligible, Entering or Emerging (WIDA levels 1-2), and instructor recommendation	<i>U.S. Culture and Expressions</i> is designed to be taken concurrently with <i>U.S. English I</i> in order to provide WIDA level 1 & 2 learners with an intensive initial environment for English language acquisition. It introduces newcomer learners to cultural values, traditions, and lifestyles in the United States, including the arenas of home, family, school, community, and the work place. ELL Program certified staff recommendation is required, and teaching assignments must be approved through the ELL program.
U.S. English 1A/1B Course #: Semester 1 = ENG41 Semester 2 = ENG42 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: ELL-Program eligible, Entering or Emerging (WIDA levels 1-2), and instructor recommendation	<i>U.S. English 1</i> uses research-based strategies to address and meet the second-language acquisition needs of Entering and Emerging (WIDA levels 1 & 2) English learners who have little to no prior knowledge of the English language. The course supports learners as they begin developing English language proficiency, with an emphasis on the phonetic sounds present in the English language, basic vocabulary needed in a school context, and the development of basic interpersonal communicative skills and life-skills. Also introduced are basic grammar skills (including parts of speech), the use of high frequency vocabulary, orientation to United States high school culture and procedures, as well as intentional and discrete focus on the four domains: writing at the sentence level; reading and comprehending simple text in English (both literary as well as expository); listening in context-rich situations and for specific information; and speaking for everyday communication. Delivery of instruction is multi-media, multi-modal, and culturally-appropriate. EL Program certified staff recommendation is required, and teaching assignments must be approved through the ELL program. This course may fulfill 1-2 semesters of required English credits for Entering to Emerging learners, as determined by the appropriate WIDA English Language Proficiency Assessment.

U.S. English 2A/2B Course #: Semester 1 = ENG43 Semester 2 = ENG44 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: One – Two Semesters Prerequisite: ELL-Program eligible, Entering to Emerging (WIDA levels 1-2), and instructor recommendation	This differentiated course uses research-based strategies that support language acquisition to address and meet the needs of Entering and Emerging (WIDA levels 1 & 2) English learners who continue to need instruction at the Emerging level of English Language Development. The goal of this class is to build on foundational language skills to enable learners to use English in accessing increasing amounts of grade level content. Learners will explore literature and informational text to further develop reading, writing, speaking, listening, research, technological, and media literacy skills. These skills include basic grammar skills (including parts of speech), the use of high frequency vocabulary, use of tools to create increasing competency in conventions of standard English, and orientation to United States high school culture and procedures, as well as intentional and discrete focus on the four domains incorporating grade level skills/competencies and content area vocabulary: writing at the sentence and paragraph level; reading and comprehending simple text in English (both literary as well as expository); listening in context-rich situations and for specific information; and speaking for everyday communication. Learners will also participate in class discussions, oral presentations, and group projects. Delivery of instruction is multi-media, multi-modal, and culturally-appropriate. ELL Program certified staff recommendation is required, and teaching assignments must be approved through the ELL program. This course may fulfill 1-2 semesters of required English credits for Entering to Emerging learners, as determined by the appropriate WIDA English Language Proficiency Assessment.
---	---

HEALTH



Adopted: April 15, 2025

Grade	Course Options
6	Health 6 or Integrated Health & Physical Education 6
7	Health 7 or Integrated Health & Physical Education 7
8	Health 8 or Integrated Health & Physical Education 8

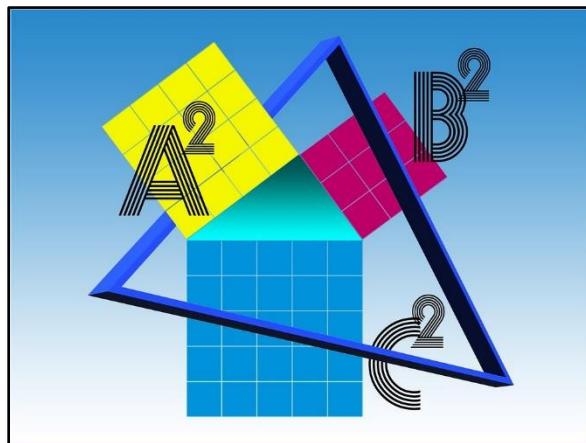
Students must complete three quarters of PE and one quarter of Health.

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

HEALTH 6 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: HEA60 Grade: 6 Length: One Quarter Prerequisite: None	This course provides students an introduction to Health topics for middle schoolers. Topics include: personal health and wellness, health resources, goal setting and decision making, nutrition, mental and emotional health, safety and first aid, healthy relationships and communication, physical activity and healthy lifestyles, and other age-appropriate topics relevant to sixth graders.
INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6 Course #: HEA66 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	The 6th grade Integrated Health & Physical Education course effectively merges health and physical education to underscore the essential link between physical/health literacy. This course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. The primary focus is on acquiring fundamental health and physical education information while simultaneously fostering the development of healthy, active individuals through engaging in a diverse range of physical activities.
HEALTH 7 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: HEA75 Grade: 7 Length: One Quarter Prerequisite: None	This course provides Health topics for middle schoolers. Units consist of age-appropriate, standards-based topics relevant to seventh graders. Topics include: personal health and wellness, addictive substances, addictive substances continued, goal setting and decision making, mental and emotional health, healthy relationships and communication, safety and first aid, sexual health, and physical activity and healthy lifestyles.
INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 Course #: HEA76 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Integrated Health & Physical Education 7</i> integrates the 7th grade health and physical education objectives to emphasize the essential relationship between physical, intellectual, social, and emotional health. This course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. It focuses on the acquisition of accurate health information and the ability to make healthy decisions while learning how to become healthy, active individuals through participation in a variety of physical activities.
HEALTH 8 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: HEA85 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter Prerequisite: None	This course develops Health topics for middle schoolers. Units consist of age-appropriate, standards-based topics relevant to eighth graders. Topics include: personal health and wellness, addictive substances, nutrition, mental and emotional health, healthy relationships and communication, sexual health, and safety.
INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 Course #: HEA86 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Integrated Health & Physical Education 8</i> is essential for students to learn in tandem resulting in maximum efficiency and effectiveness in supporting life-long concepts of health and well-being. This course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. The core concepts of Integrated Health/P.E. have a natural evolution in which the physical experience of P.E. builds on and supports the integration and internalization of health concepts and knowledge within students. To embrace the unique challenges of Alaska's geographic location, cultural diversity, climate and local school structure, indoor and outdoor facilities will be used.

MATHEMATICS



Adopted: June 7, 2022

References Key

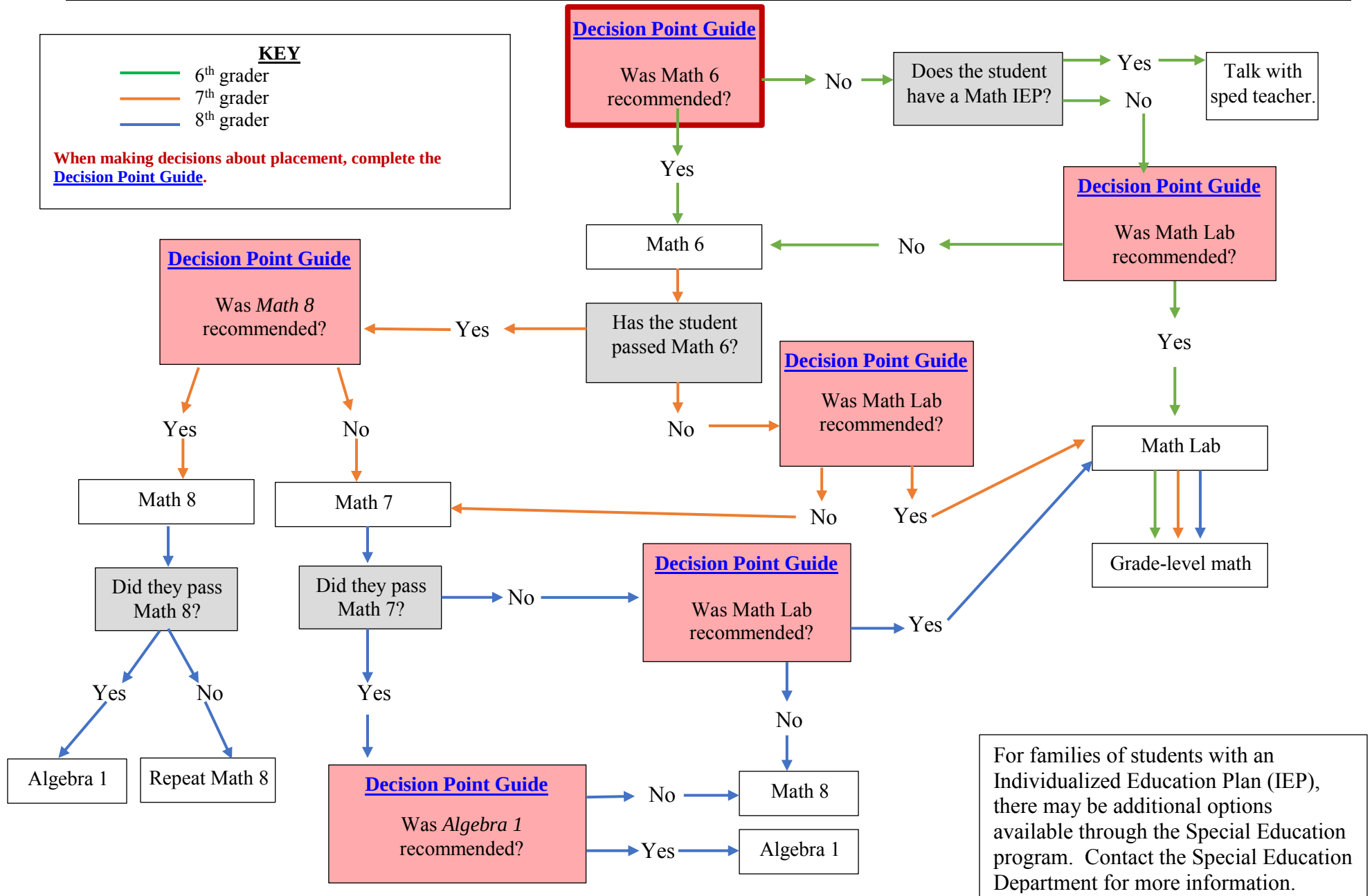
R = Repeatable Courses

RECOMMENDED MATH PATHWAYS

KEY

- 6th grader
- 7th grader
- 8th grader

When making decisions about placement, complete the [Decision Point Guide](#).



For families of students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), there may be additional options available through the Special Education program. Contact the Special Education Department for more information.

ALGEBRA I (High School Level) Course #: Semester 1 = MA102 Semester 2 = MA103 Grade: 7 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and qualifying readiness data Placement recommendation: When making decisions about placement, always consider student reflection, assessment data, teacher recommendation, and parent input. (See the Recommended Math Pathways and Decision Point Guide on page 21.)	<i>Algebra 1</i> formalizes and extends the mathematics that students learned in middle school. At the heart of Algebra 1 is the study of functions. Throughout the study of specific functions (notably linear, exponential, and quadratic functions), students will be able to see the structures of functions, to make generalizations about all functions, and to describe the uniqueness of specific functions. Within the study of functions, students will apply properties of numbers and equality to carry out operations within different functions, all with the goal of seeing the applicability of mathematics to describe and model a wide range of natural or man-made events.
MATHEMATICS 6 Course #: Yearlong = MAT63 Semester 1 = MAT67 Semester 2 = MAT68 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Math 5	In <i>Math 6</i>, instructional time should 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.
MATHEMATICS 7 Course #: Yearlong = MAT73 Semester 1 = MAT71 Semester 2 = MAT72 Grade: 7-8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Math 6	<i>Math 7</i> is for students to extend and apply many of the concepts they have learned in the previous year, to discover new types of relationships, new and efficient ways to solve problems, and new ways to analyze and look at data and associations. Students will investigate proportional relationships and use this understanding to solve real-world problems involving discounts, interest, taxes, and scale drawings. Building off their understanding of integers, students will apply the properties of operations to all rational numbers in order to efficiently and thoughtfully work with the number system, including how it applies to expressions and equations.
MATHEMATICS 8 Course #: Yearlong = MAT83 Semester 1 = MAT81 Semester 2 = MAT82 Grade: 7-8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: • Math 7 or • Math 6 and teacher recommendation Placement recommendation: When making decisions about placement, always consider student reflection, assessment data, teacher recommendation, and parent input. (See the Recommended Math Pathways and Decision Point Guide on page 21.)	In <i>Math 8</i>, students make several advances in their algebraic reasoning, particularly as it relates to linear equations. Students extend their understanding of proportional relationships to include all linear equations, and they consider what a “solution” looks like when it applies to a linear equation. They learn that linear equations can be a useful representation to model bivariate data and to make predictions. Lastly, students study figures, lines, and angles in two-dimensional and three-dimensional space, investigating how these figures move, and how they are measured. This course prepares students to take <i>Algebra 1</i>.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH LAB

Course #:

Yearlong = MAT09

Semester 1 = MAT12

Semester 2 = MAT13

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: teacher

recommendation

Placement recommendation:

Student scored below the 20th percentile on the most recent MAP test and more than one grade level below their current grade level on iReady. (See the Recommended Math Pathways on page 22 and complete the Decision Point Guide.)

Middle School Math Lab is for any middle school student struggling to achieve math success. The goal of this course is to help students be successful with minimum intervention. Math Lab provides students with individualized instruction designed to support success in completing mathematics content. It will relate and reinforce mathematic skills students have learned previously, fill in gaps and misconceptions of previous content, and present the current content in concrete and hands-on methods. Completion of this course will place the student in current grade-level math or higher.

MISCELLANEOUS

Other
Misc.
Etc...

Adopted: Varying Dates

References Key

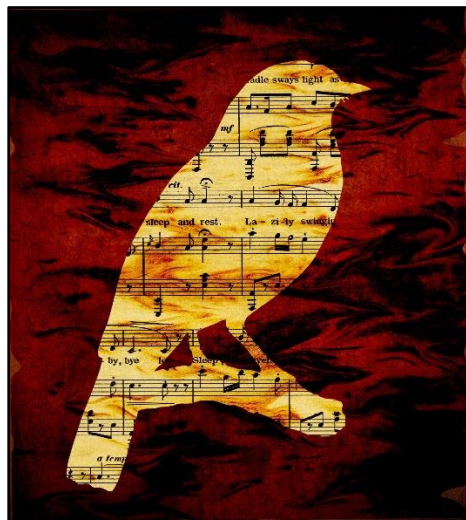
R = Repeatable Courses

ADVISORY Course #: MIS78 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Quarter-based (Repeatable) Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Advisory</i> 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. (R)
CONNECTIONS Course #: Quarter 1 = MIS411 Quarter 2 = MIS422 Quarter 3 = MIS433 Quarter 4 = MIS444 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Quarter-based (Repeatable) Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Connections</i> is an extensive program of intervention, enrichment, and interest classes. Enrichment and service learning projects will be provided to students through special interest topics. Students will either select or be assigned to their <i>Connections</i> class. Those students who would benefit from additional assistance in reading, writing, or math will be assigned a class. These students are identified through multiple assessments and teacher recommendations. (R)
MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP (Pilot Districtwide) Course #: MIS54P Grades: 6-8 Length: Quarter/Semester/Year (Repeatable) Prerequisite: Instructor approval Fee: None	This course is for students interested in becoming leaders within the school, as well as in their community. The course emphasizes the following: team building, public speaking skill development, Robert's Rules, parliamentary procedures, time and people management (event planning), working collaboratively with fellow students and staff/faculty, problem solving, goal setting, multiple decision-making processes, team interactions, developing positive cultural change by engaging others, and voting and the democratic process. (R)
PERSONAL FINANCE (Pilot at Tanana Middle) Course #: MIS89P Grades: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Personal Finance</i> introduces students to basic financial literacy skills in order to help them make responsible financial decisions. This course will cover such topics as budgeting, savings, credit, debit, education, careers, entrepreneurship, investing, insurance, identity theft, global economics, marketing, and consumerism.

REACH Course #: Yearlong = MIS83 Semester = MIS82 Quarterly = MIS81 Quarter 1 = MIS84 Quarter 2 = MIS85 Quarter 3 = MIS86 Quarter 4=MIS87 Grade: 6-8 Length: Quarter/Semester/Year Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Reach</i> is designed to ensure that all students develop skills to survive and thrive in middle school and in later life. The class uses the Second Step Program and is comprised of information on sexual harassment awareness, organizational skills, study skills, and violence prevention. Students will also learn and demonstrate an understanding of the rules and expectations of the school and the district. This course is aligned with specific State standards in the following categories: Skills for a Healthy Life, Government and Citizenship, Cultural Standards, Career Awareness, and Reading and Writing Content Performance Standards and Grade Level Expectations. (R)
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING Course #: SOC33P Grade: 7-8 Length: One semester Prerequisite: None	<i>Social Emotional Learning</i> focuses on Casel's 5 core competencies of SEL, including self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, and relationship skills. (R)
STUDENT ASSISTANTS Office Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE92 Semester = CTE91 Class Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE94 Semester = CTE93 Library Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE97 Semester = CTE96 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester (repeatable) Prerequisite: Application, Interview Process, and Teacher Recommendation Fee: None	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. <u>Classroom</u>: Student growth and understanding of the teaching profession and paraprofessional occupations will be emphasized. <u>Counseling</u>: Student growth and understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized. <u>Library</u> : Students 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. <u>Office</u> : Student growth, people skills, and an understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized. (R)

STUDENT ASSISTANTS Office Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE92 Semester = CTE91 Class Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE94 Semester = CTE93 Library Assistant: Course #: Quarter = CTE97 Semester = CTE96 Grade: 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester (repeatable) Prerequisite: Application, Interview Process, and Teacher Recommendation Fee: None	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. <u>Classroom</u>: Student growth and understanding of the teaching profession and paraprofessional occupations will be emphasized. <u>Counseling</u>: Student growth and understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized. <u>Library</u> : Students 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. <u>Office</u> : Student growth, people skills, and an understanding of office occupation skills will be emphasized. (R)
STUDY SKILLS Course #: Quarter = MIS51 Semester = MIS52 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: One Quarter or One Semester (Repeatable) Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Study Skills</i> is designed to help students learn organizational strategies and how to prioritize tasks, develop timelines, and use resources in order to achieve success in academic courses. Strategies can be taught using students' existing course work or as distinct assignments. Instruction is individualized and students are expected to integrate skills learned into their core academic classes. (R)
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	The Special Education services emphasize meeting each student's individual needs in the least restrictive environment. Please contact the student's case manager or school counselor with questions about special education services or specific course schedules.

MUSIC



Adopted: April 15, 2025

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

BAND

BEGINNING BAND Course #: Yearlong = MUS62 Semester = MUS60/61 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Beginning Band</i> is open to any student without previous music experience, or to those with less than one year of experience. The instruments taught are those normally found in band class. This is a progressive skills class which may be repeated for credit. Recommended minimum contact time is 90 minutes per week during the school day.
INTERMEDIATE BAND Course #: Semester 1 = MUS0521 Yearlong = MUS052 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: Audition or teacher recommendation Fee: See Appendix	<i>Intermediate Band</i> is designed for those students who are not ready for the advanced class, but are past the beginning stage. The class will spend time on technical exercises as well as appropriate level literature to prepare students for the next level of instruction. This is a progressive skills class which may be repeated for credit. Recommended minimum contact time is 90 minutes per week during the school day.
ADVANCED BAND Course #: Yearlong = MUS69 Semester = MUS67/68 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: Audition or teacher recommendation Fee: See Appendix	<i>Advanced Band</i> is designed for the more advanced band student who has successfully completed <i>Beginning Band</i> and/or <i>Intermediate Band</i>. The class will spend time on technical exercises and appropriate level literature to prepare students for the next level of instruction. This group is a performance ensemble and represents the school at public functions, athletic events, and evening performances. This is a progressive skills class which may be repeated for credit. Recommended minimum contact time is 90 minutes per week during the school day.
JAZZ BAND Course #: Yearlong = MUS42 Semester = MUS40/41 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Audition or Teacher Recommendation Fee: See Appendix	<i>Jazz Band</i> will give students an opportunity to experience different styles of music literature and the creative process unique to jazz. Students will be required to be in another band or orchestra, unless they play instruments not commonly found in these ensembles, or with the permission of the instructor. This is a progressive skills class which may be repeated for credit. Recommended contact time for middle school jazz band is 60 minutes per week.

MODERN BAND Course #: Grade: 6-8 Length: One quarter, one semester, or one year Quarter/Semester/Year Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Modern Band</i> gives students the opportunity and resources to explore popular musical styles in an authentic, real-world learning environment through faculty facilitators, peer mentors, and self-teaching. Students who take modern band learn the basics of rock band instruments such as drums, bass, guitar, keyboard, as well as new instruments and programs which fall under music technology and production. Performance opportunities for modern band students happen frequently throughout the duration of the class and are comprised of cover songs as well as originals written in class.
CHOIR	
BEGINNING CHOIR Course #: Yearlong = MUS03 Semester 1 = MUS01 Semester 2 = MUS02 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Students with less than 1 year experience. Fee: None	Choir offers instruction in vocal technique and is open to all students. The development of correct posture and technique is stressed, and there are opportunities for ensemble singing as students become ready. Performance opportunities may be made available for various audiences as described in the course syllabus.
INTERMEDIATE CHOIR Course #: Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: Students with a minimum of 1 year experience or teacher recommendation. Fee: None	Choir is open to all students to sing, experience 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, and form. Choir students will receive instruction in music reading fundamentals, singing skills, performance skills, and various choral literature styles. The choir will have several concerts throughout the year.
ADVANCED CHOIR Course #: Grade: 6-8 Length: two semesters Prerequisite: Students with minimum 1 year experience or teacher recommendation. Fee: None	Choir is open to all students to sing, experience 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, and form. Choir students will receive instruction in music reading fundamentals, singing skills, performance skills, and various choral literature styles. The choir will have several concerts throughout the year.

ORCHESTRA

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA Course #: MUS46 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Beginning Orchestra</i> offers instruction in violin, viola, cello, and string bass technique, and is open to any student with no previous training on these instruments. The development of correct posture and technique will be stressed, and there will be opportunities for ensemble playing as students become ready. Performance opportunities may be made available for various audiences as described in the grading criteria. <i>Beginning Orchestra</i> should meet at least four 55-minute periods each week during the school day.
INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA Course #: MUS47 Grade: 6 - 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: Audition, teacher recommendation, and/or at least one year of experience playing the requested instrument. Fee: See Appendix	<i>Intermediate Orchestra</i> offers instruction in violin, viola, cello, and string bass technique and is open to any student with at least one year of experience playing the requested instrument. The development of correct posture and technique will be stressed and there will be opportunities for ensemble playing as students become ready. Performance opportunities may be made available for various audiences as described in the grading criteria. <i>Intermediate Orchestra</i> should meet at least four 55-minute periods each week during the school day.
ADVANCED ORCHESTRA Course #: MUS48 Grade: 6-8 Length: Two semesters Prerequisite: Audition, teacher recommendation, and/or at least one year of experience playing the requested instrument. Fee: See Appendix	<i>Advanced Orchestra</i> is the performing group of string players and represents the school at public functions and concerts. Concert participation will be required as outlined in the grading criteria. A limited amount of time is spent on study material. <i>Advanced Orchestra</i> should meet at least four 55-minute periods each week during the school day.
MIDDLE SCHOOL ENSEMBLE Grade: 6-8 Length: One semester (Repeatable) Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation Fee: See Appendix	<i>Middle School Ensemble</i> is designed to offer ensemble opportunities that do not fit in the category of band, orchestra, or choir. This could include, but is not limited to: guitar ensemble, hand bell choir, recorder ensemble, ukulele ensemble, new music ensemble, percussion ensemble, symphonic orchestra, honor band, honor choir, honor orchestra, etc. Students will perform music with emphasis on notation reading or rote learning, according to what is most appropriate for the ensemble. This is a progressive skills class which may be repeated for credit. (R) *Contact the Teaching & Learning Department or your school's SIS technician for additional course codes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Adopted: April, 2025

Students must complete three quarters of PE and one quarter of Health.

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6 Course #: HEA66 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Grade 6 PE</i> is designed to be an introduction to middle school physical education. This course is designed for students to learn foundational skills, as well as game rules, while engaging in fitness, individual, team, and outdoor pursuits. This PE course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. Students also learn to make knowledgeable personal choices toward becoming healthy, active individuals. <i>Integrated Health and Physical Education 6 is a yearlong course and combines the following two courses: Health 6 (one quarter) and Physical Education 6 (three quarters).</i>
INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 Course # HEA76 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Integrated Health & Physical Education 7</i> integrates the 7th grade health and physical education objectives to emphasize the essential relationship between physical, intellectual, social, and emotional health. This course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. It focuses on the acquisition of accurate health information and the ability to make healthy decisions while learning how to become healthy, active individuals through participation in a variety of physical activities. <i>Integrated Health and Physical Education 7 is a yearlong course and combines the following two courses: Health 7 (one quarter) and Physical Education 7 (three quarters).</i>
INTEGRATED HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 Course # HEA86 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Integrated Health & Physical Education 8</i> is essential for students to learn in tandem resulting in maximum efficiency and effectiveness in supporting life-long concepts of health and well-being. This course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. The core concepts of Integrated Health/P.E. have a natural evolution in which the physical experience of P.E. builds on and supports the integration and internalization of health concepts and knowledge within students. To embrace the unique challenges of Alaska's geographic location, cultural diversity, climate and local school structure, indoor and outdoor facilities will be used. <i>Integrated Health and Physical Education 8 is a yearlong course and combines the following two courses: Health 8 (one quarter) and Physical Education 8 (three quarters).</i>
MIDDLE SCHOOL PE Course #: Yearlong = PED62 Semester = PED61 Quarter = PED60 Grade: 6-8 Length: Three quarters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	The middle school PE curriculum is designed for multiple grade levels, offering diverse activities to develop fine and gross motor skills. Students engage in various games in a positive environment that promotes teamwork and sportsmanship. The program builds physical literacy through skill development, safety practices, game rules, and equipment care, encouraging both individual growth and a lasting appreciation for physical activity.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: Yearlong = PED62 Semester = PED61 Quarter = PED60 Grade: 6 Length: Three quarters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Grade 6 PE</i> is designed to be an introduction to middle school physical education. This course is designed for students to learn foundational skills, as well as game rules, while engaging in fitness, individual, team, and outdoor pursuits. This PE course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. Students also learn to make knowledgeable personal choices toward becoming healthy, active individuals.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: Quarter = PED70 Semester = PED71 Grade: 7 Length: Three quarters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Grade 7 PE</i> is where students will learn to apply skills to game situations involving rules, strategies, and competition dynamics. This PE course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. Students also learn to become active individuals through participation in a variety of physical activities while engaging in fitness, individual, team, and outdoor pursuits categories.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8 <i>(Required)</i> Course #: Semester = PED81 Quarter = PED80 Grade: 8 Length: Three quarters Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Grade 8 PE</i> is where students will learn to apply skills to game situations involving rules, strategies, and competition dynamics. This PE course will emphasize a positive environment with focus on students developing and exhibiting teamwork and sportsmanship during games and activities. Students also learn to make knowledgeable personal choices toward becoming healthy, active individuals.
AQUATICS <i>(Available: NPM/RYN)</i> Course #: 6 th Grade = PED00 7 th Grade = PED07 8 th Grade = PED08 Grade: 6-8 Length: One Quarter Prerequisite: None Fee: See Appendix	<i>Aquatics</i> covers a wide variety of aquatic activities. All students will have the opportunity to learn multiple swim strokes. Enrichment activities may include water polo, cold-water safety/ rescue, canoe/ kayak skills, basic diving skills, snorkeling, advanced diving skills, water slides, and recreational swim time. Swimsuit, towel, and waterproof bag are required; goggles are strongly recommended.

SCIENCE



Adopted: June 4, 2024

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

SCIENCE 6 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SCI62 Semester 1 = SCI60 Semester 2 = SCI61 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Science 6</i> focuses on Earth's systems, astronomy, and gravity. In Earth's systems, students will explore the history of our changing planet through impacts of water, rock, and soil cycles on Earth's surface processes, and construct weather and climate observations to explain influences on Earth's surface. In astronomy, the students will model the solar system to observe, describe, and predict the motion of various bodies in our solar system. In gravity, students will investigate Newton's Third Law of Motion in relation to planetary motion. Throughout the year, interwoven into the curriculum content, students will design and conduct repeatable scientific investigations to continue to develop an awareness that different ways of thinking, curiosity, and the exploration of multiple paths are involved in scientific inquiry.
SCIENCE 7 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SCI72 Semester 1 = SCI70 Semester 2 = SCI71 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Science 7</i> is an introductory course designed to expand seventh grade students' understanding of the natural world by focusing on the characteristics of living things, cellular organization, the diversity of life, and how organisms and populations change over time in terms of biological adaptation, heredity and genetics, evolution, natural selection, and changes over time in Earth's history.
SCIENCE 8 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SCI82 Semester = SCI80/81 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Science 8</i> is designed to expand student investigation of physics and chemistry. Aspects of physics are studied through laboratory investigations including sound, light, electricity, mechanics, motion, and energy. Aspects of chemistry are studied based on the Periodic Table of the Elements and through basic chemical laboratory investigations. Laboratory work, laboratory reporting, and engineering design will be included and is an integral part of the learning process.

SOCIAL STUDIES



Adopted: May 5, 2026

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

Connections to Language and Literacy (Pilot: Districtwide) Course #: ENG17P Repeatable up to four times. Grade: 6-8 Length: One Semester Prerequisite: Placement determined by teacher recommendation and assessment data.	<i>Connections to Language and Literacy</i> is designed to provide instructional support to students who need additional practice and instruction in foundational reading skills. Students will engage in explicit, systematic direct instruction in decoding, word recognition, fluency and comprehension, writing/spelling, and text structures. Students may repeat this course as needed, up to four times. Placement is determined by teacher recommendation and assessment data: • Score below the 20th percentile on the most recent MAP reading/language assessment. • Score three or more grade levels below their current grade level on iReady Reading. • One-on-one assessments (contact Teaching and Learning for assessments). (R) This English Language Arts course may replace the student's social studies class.
SOCIAL STUDIES 6 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SOC62 Semester 1 = SOC60 Semester 2 = SOC61 Grade: 6 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Sixth Grade Social Studies: Physical and Cultural Geography of Ancient Societies</i> – This year-long course emphasizes ancient societies in a geographical, historical, political, and cultural context. Students examine geographical influences on regional development; use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report information; and discuss current events from around the world and study the history of civilization from ancient times to approximately 500 A.D. Students will come to understand what people need to evolve into a civilization, how new civilizations began as the needs and beliefs of the people changed, explain the contributions of different civilizations to humankind, and examine the origins and spread of major world religions and languages.
SOCIAL STUDIES 7 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SOC72 Semester 1 = SOC70 Semester 2 = SOC71 Grade: 7 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Seventh Grade Social Studies: World Geography & Cultures</i> – In this yearlong course, students will study how geography, culture, and human innovation have influenced civilizations thorough history. It starts with the development of geography skills and expires early migrations, leading to an examination of the rise and fall of civilizations in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and the Americas. Students analyze the impacts of religion, governance, trade, and environmental factors on social structures and global interactions. Students will also incorporate Alaska's geography and Native cultures, prompting comparisons between global trends and local experiences regarding adaption, resource usage, and cultural resilience. Through inquiry based learning, map analysis, and the evaluation of primary and secondary sources, students enhance their critical thinking and civic literacy, linking ancient and regional histories to contemporary global challenges and interdependence.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (Required) Course #: Yearlong = SOC82 Semester 1 = SOC80 Semester 2 = SOC81 Grade: 8 Length: Two Semesters Prerequisite: None	<i>Eighth Grade Social Studies: Early United States History</i> – This yearlong will focus on foundations of United States history - from pre-colonization to settlement, into the revolution and creation of our nation, westward expansion/reform, and ultimately leading through the Civil War, including conflict with American Indians in their homelands and the enslavement of Africans. Learners will critically think as historians by developing research skills, including the use of questions, evaluating primary and secondary sources, and using evidence. The learner will create a research project using both primary and secondary sources. The learner also will apply and demonstrate knowledge of major eras, enduring themes, turning points, and historical influences to analyze the forces of change in the community, the state, the United States, and the world.
---	--

WORLD LANGUAGE



Adopted: April 1, 2025

World Language courses may be offered in middle schools based on such factors as student interest and available staffing. In regards to high school courses taken in junior high/middle school, see School Board Policy 973.11 for grading and credit purposes.

References Key

R = Repeatable Courses

Courses	Middle School Grades 6-8
World Language Exploration	✓
American Sign Language I	*
American Sign Language II-III	*
Chinese I	*
Chinese II-IV	*
French I	*
French II-III	*
AP French	
Gwich'in I	*
Gwich'in II-IV	*
Iñupiaq I	*
Iñupiaq II	*
Japanese I	*
Japanese II-IV	*
AP Japanese	
Koyukon I	*
Russian I	*
Spanish I	*
Spanish II-IV	*
AP Spanish	

* Courses may be available, dependent on school course options and staffing. See [Policy 973.11](#) for grading and credit information

WORLD LANGUAGE EXPLORATION Course #: Yearlong=FLG53 Semester=FLG51/52 Quarter=FLG50 Grade: 6-8 Length: quarter, semester, or year Prerequisite: None Fee: None	<i>Introductory World Language Course</i> , student will explore a minimum of two foreign languages . They are introduced to language learning through basic vocabulary and phrases, with minimum exposure to grammatical concepts. It also includes an introduction to the geography and cultures of the languages studied.
---	---

APPENDIX



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)
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.

NON-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE



Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Board is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, disabled veterans, or other eligible veterans, or any other basis of discrimination prohibited by local, state, or federal law, except where a bona fide requirement may lawfully disqualify an individual. This policy will prevail in all matters concerning staff, students, contractors, the public, educational facilities, programs, services and activities, and individuals with whom the district does business.

It is the policy of the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District to maintain a learning and work environment that is free of harassment. The school district prohibits all forms of harassment.

Harassment includes but is not limited to any verbal, nonverbal, written, or physical conduct, or electronic communication relating to race, ethnicity, color, religion, creed, sex, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, genetic information, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, disabled veterans, or other eligible veterans, that is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent that it substantially interferes with or limits an individual's work, academic, athletic or activity performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or academic environment.

Allegations of harassment must be reported immediately to the building principal, a supervisor, Student EEO Specialist, or Employee Relations Specialist. Allegations of harassment will be promptly, fairly, and thoroughly investigated. Violations of this policy will be subject to appropriate action, including discipline up to, and including expulsion from school or termination of employment.

Some forms of sexual harassment will warrant an investigation under Title IX. Such forms are outlined in School Board Policy 131.2.

Retaliation against a person alleging harassment or participating in an investigation of alleged harassment is prohibited. The school district shall promptly, fairly, and thoroughly investigate all reported allegations of retaliation and take appropriate action.

Reference: www.k12northstar.org

August 2024



The Fairbanks North Star Borough School District is an equal employment and educational opportunity institution, as well as a tobacco and nicotine-free learning and work environment.

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
520 Fifth Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99701