

Urbana Middle School Curriculum Guide 2023-2024

Mission

The mission of UMS is to foster academic excellence and social-emotional intelligence built on high expectations and accountability for all.

Vision

The vision of UMS is to be a leading middle school that closes the equity gap by providing an equitable, engaging, and collaborative community of learning that prepares students for success in a global society.



"Building Community, Fostering Success"

Urbana Middle School Curriculum Guide

Dear UMS Families and Students,

This guide provides an overview of Urbana Middle School's curriculum and courses for grades six through eight. This curriculum guide is a brief description of the classes provided at UMS. This blueprint for learning has been aligned with the common core standards in a format that meaningfully engages students in the learning process.

In this guide you will find sections on the four core subject areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. You will also find information about our Dual Language Program, English Language Learning Program, Elective and Physical Education courses, Special Education Program, as well as information on other yearlong course programs.

If you have any questions about the curriculum please contact any of the following staff members.

Sincerely,

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English Language Arts

****English Language Arts is currently in a curriculum revision process; course information is subject to change.**

English Language Arts—Grade 6	
Course Title	English Language Arts
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “First Twenty Days”/Short Story Preparatory Unit • Reading Workshop: “A Deep Study of Character” • Writing Workshop: “Personal Narrative” • Writing Workshop: “The Literary Essay” • Writing Workshop: “Research Based Informational Writing” • Reading Workshop: “Tapping the Power of Nonfiction” • Poetry
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Writing and Reading • Various adolescent texts designed and/or researched to meet student and curricular needs

English Language Arts—Grade 7	
Course Title	English Language Arts
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “First 20 Days”/“Maintaining an Independent Reading Life” • Reading Workshop: “Investigating Characterization” • Writing Workshop: “Writing Realistic Fiction” • Reading Workshop: “Social Issues Book Clubs” • Writing Workshop: “The Art of Argument” • Reading Workshop: “Historical Fiction Book Clubs” • Writing Workshop: “Writing about Reading”
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Writing and Reading • Various adolescent texts designed and/or researched to meet student and curricular needs

English Language Arts—Grade 8	
Course Title	English Language Arts
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators.
Description	Units of Study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Workshop: “Writing Realistic Fiction” • Author Study: “Edgar Allen Poe” • Novel Study: <i>Of Mice and Men</i> • Writing Workshop: “The Art of Argument” • Reading Workshop: “Literary Nonfiction” • Reading Workshop: “Dystopian Book Clubs” • Writing Workshop: “Writing about Reading” • Author Study: “Shakespeare”
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elements of Literature</i> published by Holt Rhinehart Winston • <i>Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck • Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Writing and Reading • Various adolescent texts designed and/or researched to meet student and curricular needs

Mathematics

Mathematics—Grade 6	
Course Title	Math 6
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will be able to problem solve, reason, and communicate in the context of mathematics in the real world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratios and Proportional Relationships • The Number System • Expressions and Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability
Texts & Materials	<i>Illustrative Mathematics Course 1 - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i>

Mathematics—Grade 7	
Course Title	Math 7
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will be able to problem solve, reason, and communicate to apply the skills in the context of mathematics in the real world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Number System • Ratios and Proportional Relationships • Expressions and Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability
Texts & Materials	<i>Illustrative Mathematics Course 2 - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i>

Mathematics—Grade 7	
Course Title	PreAlgebra 7
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will be able to problem solve, reason, and communicate to apply the skills in the context of mathematics in the real world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exponents and The Number System • Functions • Linear Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability
Texts & Materials	<i>Illustrative Mathematics Course 3 - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i>

Mathematics—Grade 8	
Course Title	PreAlgebra 8
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will be able to problem solve, reason, and communicate in the context of mathematics in the real world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exponents and The Number System • Functions • Linear Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability
Texts & Materials	<i>Illustrative Mathematics Course 3 - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i>

Mathematics—Grade 8	
Course Title	(AP Prep) Algebra 1
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will be able to problem solve, reason, and communicate in the context of mathematics in the real world.
Description	<p>Units of study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions • Linear Functions • Systems of Linear Functions • Exponents and Exponential Functions • Polynomials and Quadratic Equations • Solving Quadratics • Pythagorean Theorem • Other Functions • Descriptive Statistics
Texts & Materials	<i>Illustrative Mathematics Algebra 1 - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i>

Social Studies

****Social Studies is currently in a curriculum revision process; course information is subject to change.**

Social Studies—Grade 6	
Course Title	Ancient Civilizations
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will learn about the influence of ancient civilizations on the modern world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography • Early Humans • Ancient Mesopotamia • Ancient Egypt • Ancient China • Ancient India • Ancient Greece and Rome • African Civilizations • Pre-Columbian Civilizations and First Americans
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>History Alive! The Ancient World</i>

Social Studies—Grade 7	
Course Title	United States History
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will know and understand the world around them so that they can participate as democratic citizens.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Exploration • Colonial America • American Revolution • Civics
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>History of Us</i> published by Oxford University Press • <i>Young People's History</i> published by Seven Stories Press • <i>History Alive</i> published by Teachers' Curriculum Institute • <i>America's Past and Promise</i> published by McDougal Littell

Social Studies—Grade 8	
Course Title	United States History
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will know and understand the world around them so that they can participate as democratic citizens.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrialization, Immigration, and Progressivism • Imperialism and World War I • 1920s and the Great Depression • World War II and the Holocaust • Cold War • Civil Rights Movement • Contemporary U.S. Issues
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>History Alive</i> published by Oxford University Press • <i>Young People's History</i> published by Seven Stories Press • <i>History of an American Empire</i> published by Macmillian • <i>Freedom: A History of Us</i> published by Oxford University Press

Science

Science—Grade 6

Course Title	General Science
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will engage in a variety of hands-on activities and labs that will help build their interest in science. Sixth grade students will focus on detecting cycles and patterns. They will engage in a variety of hands-on activities and labs that will help them challenge their thinking about regular and predictable patterns in the natural and material worlds.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Scientific Method • Structures and Properties of Matter • Forces and Motion • Earth's Movement and the Solar System • Earth's Major Systems: Rocks and Water
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Science Explorer</i> published by Prentice Hall • <i>Inside the Restless Earth</i> published by Holt • <i>Science World</i> magazine

Science—Grade 7

Course Title	General Science
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become scientific thinkers and doers while engaging in activities in a laboratory setting. Seventh grade students will explore how science knowledge is based upon logical and conceptual connections between evidence and explanations, and how science findings are frequently revised and/or reinterpreted based on new evidence. They will begin to develop patterns of thought about why and how things work—on both large and small scales—as they consider the structure and function of cells, genetics, wave characteristics and motion, and large-scale interactions.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization of Life: Cells • Genetics • Electricity and Magnetism • Waves: Sound and Light • Large Scale Interactions and Plate Tectonics
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Science Explorer</i> series published by Prentice Hall • <i>Science World</i> magazine

Science—Grade 8

Course Title	General Science
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Eighth grade students will focus on understanding how humans affect and are affected by the natural world. They will consider the interconnectedness of systems as they inquire into Earth and Space, Physical, and Life Science topics around human impact on their environment. Students will build upon the skills obtained in earlier grades as preparation for the rigorous high school science classes.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab Safety • Ecosystems • Natural Selection and Adaptations • Matter • Force and Energy • Global Climate Change
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Physical Science</i> published by Holt • <i>Environmental Science</i> published by Prentice Hall • <i>Science World</i> magazine

Physical Education / Health

Physical Education—Grade 6	
Course Title	Physical Education
Course Length	Three-quarters
Course Goal	Students will be taught team and individual sports with a focus on fitness benefits, team building and sportsmanship.
Description	Possible units of study include football, soccer, fitness, tennis, swimming, volleyball, badminton, floor hockey, Ping-Pong, tumbling, softball, ultimate Frisbee, and track and field. Both rules and procedures will be taught for each unit of study covered.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.E. Uniform • Various equipment • FitnessGram

Health—Grade 6	
Course Title	Health
Course Length	One-quarter
Course Goal	Students will learn to lead a healthy life style by learning to recognize unsafe behaviors.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental & Emotional Health • Social & Emotional Learning • Too Good For Drugs
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teen Health Course 3</i> published by Glencoe McGraw-Hill • CUPHD

Physical Education—Grade 7	
Course Title	Physical Education
Course Length	Three-quarters
Course Goal	Students will be taught team and individual sports with a focus on fitness benefits, team building, sportsmanship, and game strategy.
Description	Possible units of study include football, soccer, fitness, tennis, swimming, volleyball, badminton, floor hockey, Ping-Pong, tumbling, softball, ultimate Frisbee, and track and field. Both rules and procedures will be taught for each unit of study covered.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.E. Uniform • Various equipment • FitnessGram

Health—Grade 7	
Course Title	Health
Course Length	One-quarter
Course Goal	Students will learn to lead a healthy life style by learning to recognize unsafe behaviors and use refusal skills.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition • Body Systems • Growth & Development • Too Good For Drugs
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teen Health Course 3</i> published by Glencoe McGraw-Hill • CUPHD

Physical Education—Grade 8	
Course Title	Physical Education
Course Length	Three-quarters
Course Goal	Students will be taught team and individual sports with a focus on improving skills for higher competition through the use of strategies and team building.
Description	Possible units of study include football, soccer, fitness, tennis, swimming, volleyball, badminton, floor hockey, Ping-Pong, tumbling, softball, ultimate Frisbee, and track and field. Both rules and procedures will be taught for each unit of study covered.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.E. Uniform • Various equipment • FitnessGram

Health—Grade 8	
Course Title	Health
Course Length	One-quarter
Course Goal	Students will learn to lead a healthy life style by learning to recognize unsafe behaviors and use refusal skills.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicable Diseases • Noncommunicable Diseases • Comprehensive Sexual Education • Too Good For Drugs
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Teen Health Course 3</i> published by Glencoe McGraw-Hill • CUPHD

World Languages

French

French—Grade 6

Course Title	French Exploratory
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will be introduced to the French language and to the contributions and cultures of French-speakers. Regular review and practice is necessary to reinforce new vocabulary. Some homework will be required.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alphabet and pronunciation • Numbers and money • Dates, times, and holidays • Greetings • Classroom commands and objects • Ordering at a café • Geography of francophone countries • Artistic and scientific contributions of francophone people
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A teacher created workbook and dictionary

French—Grade 7

Course Title	French 1
Course Length	Year 1 of 2
Course Goal	Students will be able to use French to read, write, listen, and speak about a few everyday topics. They will understand basic grammar terms. They will know more about French-speakers' cultures, customs, and histories. They will acquire the habit of reviewing and practicing daily outside of class to strengthen their new knowledge and skills.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School • Family • Activities • Dates and times • Food • Housing • Clothing • Regions of France
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bon Voyage!</i> published by Glencoe • Teacher made workbooks

French—Grade 8

Course Title	French 2
Course Length	Year 2 of 2
Course Goal	Students will expand on their 7th grade learning to read, write, listen, and speak in French about more everyday topics. They will understand more grammar terms. They will know more about French-speakers' cultures, customs, and histories. They will continue the habit of reviewing and practicing daily outside of class to strengthen their new knowledge and skills.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Vacations • Sports • Daily routines • Health • Art • Past tense • French-speaking countries
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bon Voyage!</i> published by Glencoe • Teacher made workbooks

German

German—Grade 6

Course Title	German Exploratory
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will be introduced to the language and cultures of German-speaking countries.
Description	The sixth grade German exploratory course introduces students to the language, culture and geography of German-speaking countries. Students learn basic communicative phrases as well as names for classroom objects, colors, family members, numbers, body parts, months, days, seasons, etc. Students learn about German contributions to the United States and participate in dialogues and games, view videos of German-speaking countries and sample some ethnic foods. Some homework is required.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher created materials

German—Grade 7

Course Title	German 1
Course Length	Year 1 of 2
Course Goal	Students will learn about German culture and customs, geography of the German-speaking countries and basic vocabulary and grammar.
Description	Units of study include free time activities, family, school, weather, foods, telling time, rules of pronunciation and grammar. Students learn rules of pronunciation and grammar through games, dialogues, skits and daily practice and use authentic materials, resources, and technology as tools to develop basic language skills. This course is filled with a variety of reading, writing, listening, and speaking activities that promote both learning and application of the German language. Students are expected to actively participate in class activities, complete homework assignments, and review material covered in class at home daily.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Deutsch Aktuell: Fifth Edition</i>

German—Grade 8

Course Title	German 2
Course Length	Year 2 of 2
Course Goal	Students will expand upon the skills and knowledge gained in seventh grade.
Description	Units of study include clothing and shopping, celebrating birthdays, music and movies, traveling and important places in cities, rooms and furniture, dative, accusative and nominative case, possessives, pronouns, separable prefix verbs, past tense, etc. Vocabulary and grammar are learned through the use of games, dialogues, the Internet and daily practice. Skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking are refined. Students are expected to actively participate in class activities, complete homework assignments, and review material covered in class at home daily.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Deutsch Aktuell: Fifth Edition</i>

Spanish

Spanish—Grade 6

Course Title	Spanish Exploratory
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will be introduced to the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries.
Description	Units of study include basic communicative phrases as well as names for classroom objects, colors, numbers, body parts as well as Spanish-speaking peoples' contributions to the United States, Spanish and Latin American culture and geography. Students participate in dialogues and games in addition to viewing videos of Spanish-speaking countries. Some homework is required.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher created materials

Spanish—Grade 7	
Course Title	Spanish 1
Course Length	Year 1 of 2
Course Goal	Students will develop cross-cultural understanding and language proficiency through the use of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
Description	This course teaches about Spanish speaking cultures, countries and famous individuals as well as other Latino/Hispanic related history and tradition. It focuses around learning grammar, pronunciation, and fluency through daily activities, music, co-creative storytelling, short films, current news and games. Each unit has a different topic to discuss that is relevant to students' current lives and interests such as friendship, hangouts, social media, and school. All topics are introduced and practiced through reading, writing, listening and speaking.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>SOMOS</i>

Spanish—Grade 8	
Course Title	Spanish 2
Course Length	Year 2 of 2
Course Goal	Students will develop language proficiency through the use of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students will also develop cross-cultural understanding and appreciation.
Description	This course teaches about Spanish speaking cultures, countries and famous individuals as well as other Latino/Hispanic related history and tradition. Further units will include a revision of topics, grammar, and vocab from Spanish I as a foundation to build upon with topics that allow the student to think beyond basic conversational themes. Units include novels, travel, current events, and social issues that will be discussed through familiar activities from Spanish I. Reading, writing, listening and speaking practices will be used to target fluency and confidence to use Spanish beyond the classroom.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>SOMOS</i>

Electives

AVID

AVID - Grade 6, 7 and 8

Course Title	AVID Elective
Course Length	One Year
Description	AVID, Advancement Via Individual Determination, is an elective class offered to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who would like to prepare for success in college and beyond. The curriculum features writing, inquiry, collaboration, reading, note-taking and study skills, and college/career/motivational activities. College students are in the classroom as tutors twice a week, and field trips are taken to universities in the area. Students must commit to taking notes in subject area classes on a daily basis. <i>You must apply and interview to be accepted into the AVID program. By selecting this elective we will follow-up with you about the next steps to apply for this course.</i>
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All materials and supplies provided

Art

Art—Grade 6

Course Title	Art Exploratory
Course Length	One Semester
Description	Sixth graders are introduced to the middle school Visual Arts Program through this course. This class focuses on basic drawing skills and is an introduction to art materials and techniques. Students will learn about the elements of art necessary to create and appreciate fine works of art. Units of study include drawing, painting, collage, and sculpture.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Introducing Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Understanding Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Exploring Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Materials: Water based paints, various drawing materials, glue, tape, wire, and papier-mâché paste.

Art—Grade 7

Course Title	Art
Course Length	One semester
Description	Students will explore the elements of Art. Projects include: a mandalas, observational oil pastel project, abstract tempera painting, watercolor painting, sculpture and tessellations. Art movements, artists, and art history are also explored. Two-dimensional units of study include: drawing, collage, painting, graphic design and architectural design. Three-dimensional units of study include: sculpture.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Introducing Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Understanding Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Exploring Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Materials: Colored pencils, markers, drawing pencils, pastels, various art paper products, water based paints, and papier-mâché paste.

Art—Grade 8

Course Title	Art
Course Length	One semester
Description	Students will have the opportunity to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art. Projects include self-portraits, still life drawing, figure drawing, block prints, optical illusions, and a sculpture. Art movements, artists, and art history are also explored. Two-dimensional units of study include: drawing, painting, printmaking, and graphic design. Three-dimensional units of study include: sculpture, and assemblage.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Introducing Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Understanding Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill <i>Exploring Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill Materials: Various drawing media, water based paints, a variety of papers, clay, found objects, and water based paints.

Art - 3D Art-7th Grade

Course Title	3D Arts and Crafts
Course Length	One semester
Description	In this advanced art class, students will have the opportunity to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art. Projects include painting, drawing, weaving, kinetic sculptures, ceramic construction, and assemblage.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introducing Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • <i>Understanding Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • <i>Exploring Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • Materials: Various drawing media, yarn, tempera paints, cardboard, papier-mâché paste, found objects, fun foam, wire, clay and various adhesives.

Art - 2D Art - 7th grade

Course Title	2D Art
Course Length	One semester
Description	This class will focus on beginning to develop a style for characters, scenery, and storyboarding. Students will learn about drawing the basics of the human figure, begin to place multiple characters/people in a single scene, incorporate writing techniques to create a script, and storyboard their own story.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introducing Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • <i>Understanding Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • <i>Exploring Art</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • Materials: Various drawing media, water based paints a variety of papers, cardboard, papier-mâché paste, found objects, and water based paints.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Family and Consumer Sciences—Grade 6

Course Title	Introduction to Family and Consumer Sciences
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will explore the following family and consumer sciences content areas: personal best and healthy relationships, basic time management & organizational skills, basic career & resource management, personal safety, wellness & hygiene, & basic child development
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore strategies to promote personal best self & healthy relationships. • Review ways to enhance leadership and personal qualities • Explore basic careers and resource management • Identify personal characteristics and personality traits to build healthy relationships
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Applying Life Skills</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hills • Videos • Various student & group projects • Guest Speakers

Family and Consumer Sciences —Grade 7

Course Title	Life Skills
Course Length	One semester
Course Goal	Students will develop basic skills to prepare them for a well-rounded, successful life.
Description	Units of study include time management, child development and care, budgeting, laundry, fashion, interior design, and reduce-reuse-recycle.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Applying Life Skills</i> published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill • Various educational videos, magazines, and other resources.

Family and Consumer Sciences —Grade 7	
Course Title	Nutrition
Course Length	One semester
Course Goal	Students will learn about nutrition and food preparation.
Description	<p>Units of study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate nutritional needs and identify ways to make meals healthier • Explore the six basic nutrients • Explore consumer buyer habits and trends • Suggest ways to eat & shop healthier • Identify basic kitchen terminology and equipment • Demonstrate proper use of small and large kitchen appliances • Explore and practice food safety & kitchen sanitation procedures • Review recipes and work with lab groups to prepare healthy snacks • Evaluate foods from different cultures
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Discovering Food and Nutrition</i> • Numerous other resources (videos, guest speakers, cookbooks, etc.)

Family and Consumer Sciences —Grade 8	
Course Title	Human Development
Course Length	One semester
Course Goal	Students will explore the functions of families and identify ways to enhance healthy family relationships.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore multiple family structures • Identify roles and responsibilities of family members • Explore school and community resources to determine strategies that can be used to overcome family challenges • Build time management skills to maintain balance between school, work, and family • Identify personal characteristics that will encourage interpersonal, decision-making, and critical thinking skills to enhance healthy relationships
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Families Today</i> • <i>Families Today Student Workbook</i> • <i>Applying Life Skills</i> • Various resources

Family and Consumer Sciences —Grade 8	
Course Title	Career Connections
Course Length	One semester
Course Goal	Students will be exposed to a variety of careers and learn how to behave professionally in the work environment.
Description	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore a wide variety of careers to determine skills and education needed • Write a business letter, complete job applications, and prepare a résumé • Develop interviewing skills • Research a specific career that matches their skills and interests • Create and present a multimedia project about the career
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Exploring Careers</i> • <i>Teenagers Preparing for the Real World</i> • Guest Speakers, Magazines and Newspapers, Videos

Film Studies

Film Studies Grade 6

Film Studies Grade 6	
Course Title	A Brief History of Film
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	This class will provide a history of cinema as it has developed over the last 120 years and examine how the medium has changed, as well as how the media affects the message. Films will be shown from various eras that reflect what social issues were being grappled with at the time and how these issues were reflected in the movies.
Description	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about cinematic tools such as editing, lighting, sound, music, camera movement, tone/mood and how they convey meaning. • Be able to recognize these elements while watching a movie. • Write a film review in which they recognize how these tools are employed.
Texts & Materials	<p><i>Babe</i> <i>The Black Stallion</i> <i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i> <i>Hidden Figures</i> <i>Into the Woods</i> <i>A League of Their Own</i> <i>Paddington</i> <i>Pinocchio</i> <i>Rango</i> <i>Star Wars</i> <i>Up</i> Only films rated G and PG would be used in this class.</p>

Film Studies Grade 7

Film Studies Grade 7	
Course Title	How to Read a Movie - Theme & Meaning
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	This semester-long class will look at groups of film that have similar messages and examine how they connect thematically. In addition to the examination of the narratives, emphasis will be placed on how basic film tools are used to underscore the story's themes and meaning.
Description	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn how to make narrative and thematic connections between films. • Will recognize how film elements (editing, lighting, etc.) underscore and emphasize meaning and theme. • Learn how to write comparative analysis citing narrative and thematic similarities between films.
Texts & Materials	<p><i>Black or White</i> <i>Close Encounters of the Third Kind</i> <i>Cloverfield</i> <i>The Dark Knight</i> <i>Edge of Tomorrow</i> <i>The Fugitive</i> <i>Gifted</i> <i>Hidden Figures</i> <i>The Iron Giant</i> <i>Pinocchio</i> <i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i> <i>Return to Oz</i> <i>Star Wars</i> <i>The Way, Way Back</i> <i>The Wizard of Oz</i></p>

Film Studies Grade 8	
Course Title	Film Genre Studies
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	This semester-long class would look at the history of three film genres – comedy – documentary – thrillers. The history of film genres is a reflection of our history as a society. Because they are a populist art form and as things in society change, the genre changes as well.
Description	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn how to recognize how an era’s history and society are reflected in films. • Will be able to cite how certain historical events are portrayed in film. • Will be able to chart how and why genres change over time.
Texts & Materials	<i>Batkid Begins</i> <i>The Bride of Frankenstein</i> <i>Clueless</i> <i>Dan in Real Life</i> <i>Duck Soup</i> <i>Free Solo</i> <i>March of the Penguins</i> <i>Pee Wee’s Big Adventure</i> <i>The Sixth Sense</i> <i>Spellbound</i> <i>The Visit</i> <i>Warm Bodies</i>

Technology

Technology—Grade 6	
Course Title	Google Apps
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will learn fundamental uses for Google Applications.
Description	Students learn proper typing form as well as how, when, and why to use fundamental Google Applications such as Gmail, Google Docs, Google Slides, and Google Sheets. Students also learn how to save and organize files.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ear bud-style headphones • Google Apps

Technology—Grade 7	
Course Title	Creative Media
Course Length	One semester
Course Goal	Students will learn fundamental skills in photography and editing.
Description	Students will work collaboratively with others in the class to learn how to take quality photographs with professional quality cameras as well as cropping, editing, and displaying their favorite photos. Students will also research, write, record, and edit podcasts based on their own interests using GarageBand.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ear bud-style headphones • Garage Band

Technology—Grade 8	
Course Title	What’s Up UMS? Video Production
Course Length	Year Long
Course Goal	Students will learn fundamental skills in video production.
Description	Students will brainstorm, select, investigate, report, and produce short video segments pertaining to school, local, state, and national news stories and/or pop-culture trends. Students will work in groups to plan, film, edit, and share monthly videos composed of multiple segments that spotlight things happening in and around UMS.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ear bud-style headphones

Technology—Grade 8	
Course Title	Video Production
Course Length	One Semester
Course Goal	Students will learn fundamental skills in filmmaking.
Description	Over the course of a semester students will learn all facets of filmmaking from pre-production (brainstorming an idea, writing a script, creating storyboards) to production (shooting video and recording audio on a set) to post-production (editing, adding music, creating graphics and other special effects).
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ear bud-style headphones

Music

Band

Band—Grade 6

Course Title	Beginning Band
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will gain the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	Units of study include performing songs appropriate for beginners on their instruments with obvious progress throughout the year. They will learn to perform alone and as a member of a large and small ensemble. Students will gain an appreciation for a variety of musical styles. Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 7th grade band. Attendance and participation at concerts is required. No prior music experience required for enrollment
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Traditions of Excellence</i> published by Kjos Music • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Band—Grade 6

Course Title	Intermediate Band
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve their music reading skills while performing alone and in large and small ensemble groups.
Description	Units of study include various ensemble music increasing in difficulty. Instrument ranges and technique will be increased as will learning to perform with the essential listening skills required of advancing students. Students may have the opportunity to participate in solo-ensemble contest and organizational contest. Attendance and participation at concerts is required.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Traditions of Excellence: Book I</i> Published by Kjos Music • <i>Traditions of Excellence: Book II</i> Published by Kjos Music • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Band—Grade 6

Course Title	Sixth Grade Percussion
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will become proficient percussionists who can play confidently and independently at the 6th grade level.
Description	6th grade percussionists meet separately from 6th grade band and must apply to participate in class (prior music experience is mandatory). Students will learn basic skills on snare and bell kits, in addition to the other instruments of the percussion section. Students will perform with the 6th grade band, and will have required performances outside the school day. Attendance and participation at concerts is required. Must be dual enrolled in 6th grade continuing band class as well. No prior music experience required for enrollment.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percussion Method Book • Bell Kit (includes bells, practice pad, sticks and mallets), can be rented or purchased

Band—Grade 7

Course Title	Beginning Band
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will have the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	Units of study include performing songs appropriate for beginners on their instruments with obvious progress throughout the year. They will learn to perform alone and as a member of a large and small ensemble. Students will gain an appreciation for a variety of musical styles. Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 8th grade band. Attendance and participation at concerts is required No prior music experience required for enrollment
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditions of Excellence Book 1 & 2 published by Kjos • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Band—Grade 7

Course Title	Intermediate Band
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 6th grade band.
Description	7th grade band class is offered for students with previous experience in band or permission of the director. Units of study include progress in tonal, rhythmic, and technical skills. Students will perform scales, rhythmic patterns, and band music designed to achieve more advanced technical musical skills and ensemble skill concepts. Students will continue to develop independence fostering a lifelong appreciation of music. Attendance and participation at concerts is required.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Warm ups and Beyond</i> by Timothy Loest (provided) • <i>Technique and Musicianship</i> by Bruce Pearson (provided) • Instrument (often rented) and accessories • Smart music can be utilized to strengthen learning

Band—Grade 8

Course Title	Eighth Grade Band
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 7th grade band.
Description	8th grade band class is offered for students with previous experience in band. New students to the UMS program may enroll after playing for the director. Emphasis is placed on achieving more advanced technical musical skills and group musical concepts. Students will continue to work toward independence on their instruments and developing a lifelong appreciation of music. Attendance and participation at concerts is required.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories • Reeds for clarinet, saxophone, oboe, or bassoon players

Chorus

Chorus—Grade 6

Course Title	Beginning Choir
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will have the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	If you are interested in learning the basics of singing in an ensemble, then 6th grade Beginning Choir is for you. In this course, students will learn basic vocal techniques and the beginning components of music literacy. Choral literature includes songs appropriate for beginning singers with gradual progress throughout the year. Students will gain an appreciation for a variety of musical styles. Attendance and participation at concerts and festivals are required. No prior music experience is required for enrollment. Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 7th grade Intermediate Choir.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choral literature (provided) • Solo literature (provided) • <i>Essential Musicianship: A Comprehensive Choral Method</i>, Book 1

Chorus—Grade 6	
Course Title	Intermediate Choir
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve their music reading skills while performing alone and in large and small ensemble groups.
Description	<p>6th grade Intermediate Choir is for continuing choir students who are ready to learn new skills that will enable them to become stronger singers. More advanced vocal techniques, rhythms, and sight-reading are introduced as well as essential listening skills required of advancing students.</p> <p>Choral literature will include various ensemble music increasing in difficulty and including songs in different languages. Students may have the opportunity to participate in solo-ensemble contests and organizational contests.</p> <p>Attendance and participation at concerts and festivals are required.</p> <p>Enrollment is contingent upon an audition and/or an invitation from the director.</p> <p>Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 7th grade Intermediate Choir.</p>
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choral literature (provided) • Solo literature (provided) • <i>Essential Musicianship: A Comprehensive Choral Method</i>, Book 1

Chorus—Grade 7	
Course Title	Beginning Choir
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will have the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	<p>If you are interested in learning the basics of singing in an ensemble, then 7th grade Beginning Choir is for you. In this course, students will learn basic vocal techniques and the beginning components of music literacy. Choral literature includes songs appropriate for beginning singers with gradual progress throughout the year. Students will gain an appreciation for a variety of musical styles.</p> <p>Attendance and participation at concerts and festivals are required.</p> <p>No prior music experience is required for enrollment.</p> <p>Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 8th grade Advanced Choir.</p>
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choral literature (provided) • Solo literature (provided) • <i>Essential Musicianship: A Comprehensive Choral Method</i>, Book 1 & 2

Chorus—Grade 7	
Course Title	Intermediate Choir
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 6th grade Choir.
Description	<p>7th grade Intermediate Choir is offered for students with previous experience in choir and/or permission of the director. New students to the UMS program may enroll after an audition with the director. Units of study include advanced vocal techniques, rhythms, sight-reading, key signatures, and time signatures as well as the introduction of a cappella singing. Students will perform choral literature designed to achieve more advanced technical musical skills and ensemble skill concepts. Students will have the opportunity to participate in solo-ensemble contests and organizational contests.</p> <p>Attendance and participation at concerts and festivals are required.</p> <p>Enrollment is contingent upon an audition and/or an invitation from the director.</p> <p>Successful students will have the ability to continue the following year in 8th grade Advanced Choir.</p>
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choral literature (provided) • Solo literature (provided) • <i>Warm-Up Book</i> (Teacher created) • <i>Essential Musicianship: A Comprehensive Choral Method</i>, Book 2

Chorus—Grade 8

Course Title	Advanced Choir
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 7th grade Choir.
Description	8th grade Advanced Choir is offered for students with previous experience in choir and/or permission of the director. New students to the UMS program may enroll after an audition with the director. Emphasis is placed on achieving more advanced technical musical skills and group musical concepts. Students will continue to work toward independence on their instruments and developing a lifelong appreciation of music. Students will have the opportunity to participate in solo-ensemble contests and organizational contests. Attendance and participation at concerts and festivals are required. Enrollment is contingent upon an audition and/or an invitation from the director.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choral literature (provided) • Solo literature (provided) • <i>Warm-Up Book</i> (Teacher created) • <i>Essential Musicianship: A Comprehensive Choral Method</i>, Book 3

Strings

Strings—Grade 6

Course Title	Beginning Strings
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will have the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	If you would like to learn to play a string instrument, or if you would like to build on skills learned in 5th grade strings, Beginning Strings is for you! In this course students will learn proper instrument position, tone production, and basic music literacy as it relates to playing a string instrument. We offer instruction in: violin, viola, cello, and bass. Attendance and participation required for all scheduled concerts and festivals. No prior music experience required for enrollment.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Essential Elements for Strings, Book 1</i> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Strings—Grade 6

Course Title	Sixth Grade Strings
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve their music reading skills while performing alone and in large and small ensemble groups.
Description	Sixth Grade Strings class is for continuing students who are ready to learn new skills that will enable them to become phenomenal string players at UMS. More advanced rhythms, instrument techniques and key signatures are introduced. Attendance and participation required for all scheduled concerts and festivals.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Essential Elements for Strings, Book 1</i> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Strings—Grade 7

Course Title	Beginning Strings
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will have the ability to read music notation, rhythmic notation, and gain knowledge of musical terminology.
Description	If you would like to learn to play a string instrument, Beginning Strings is for you! In this course students will learn proper instrument position, tone production, and basic music literacy as it relates to playing a string instrument. We offer instruction in: violin, viola, cello, and bass. Attendance and participation required for all scheduled concerts and festivals. No prior music experience required for enrollment.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Essential Elements for Strings, Book 1</i> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Strings—Grade 7

Course Title	Seventh Grade Strings
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 6th Grade Strings.
Description	Advanced skills are introduced in the 7th grade and refined in the 8th grade. Advanced scale study, shifting/higher positions, vibrato, and exciting rhythms challenge and reward students at this level. Seventh and Eighth Grade String Orchestra classes combine to perform exciting and challenging literature written for string orchestra. Attendance and participation required for all scheduled concerts and festivals
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Essential Elements for Strings, Book 2</i> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Strings—Grade 8

Course Title	Eighth Grade Strings
Course Length	One Year
Course Goal	Students will continue to improve and augment the skills attained in 7 th grade strings.
Description	Advanced skills introduced in the 7th grade are refined in the 8th eighth grade. Advanced scale study, shifting/higher positions, vibrato, and exciting rhythms challenge and reward students at this level. Seventh and Eighth Grade String Orchestra classes combine to perform exciting and challenging literature written for string orchestra. Attendance and participation required for all scheduled concerts and festivals.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Essential Elements for Strings, Book 3</i> • Instrument (often rented) and accessories

Academic Support

Homework

Academic Support—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	Homework Intervention
Course Length	Progress-based
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators.
Description	This course is designed to provide students with an environment and opportunity to organize their materials and complete assignments. Smaller class sizes, a certified teacher, and access to each student's online Skyward grade book are provided to assist students with the completion of their assignments and development of organization and time management strategies.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varied based on individual student needs • Access to teachers' Google Classrooms • Access to the online Skyward grade book • Student Planner

Reading

Reading Academic Support—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	Reading Intervention
Course Length	Progress-based on a variety of literacy assessments (MAP Reading, Dibels Oral Reading Fluency Benchmark, Really Great Reading Decoding Survey, Classroom assessments)
Course Goal	Students will improve in reading fluency, accuracy, and comprehension to meet grade level standards.
Description	This course provides small group instruction focusing on comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary.
Texts & Materials	Materials Individualized to meet student needs, but might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>HD Word</i> • <i>SPIRE</i> • <i>Edmentum Exact Path</i> • <i>Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention</i> • <i>Soar to Success</i> • <i>Bridges to Literature</i> • <i>Rewards</i> • <i>Bluford High Series</i> • <i>Other individualized, teacher developed resources</i>

Math

Math Academic Support—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	Math Intervention
Course Length	Progress-based
Course Goal	Students performing below state standards will build their math computation and application skills through intensive interventions.
Description	Math Intervention provides a small group setting focusing on mathematical fluency through targeted support and instruction. Math Intervention utilizes hands-on, real world activities that build students' understanding of essential math content. Math Intervention aims to build math confidence and independence, as well as improve students' problem-solving abilities and overall math proficiency.
Texts & Materials	Materials are individualized to meet student needs.

Math Academic Support—Grade 7	
Course Title	PreAlgebra Intervention
Course Length	Progress-based
Course Goal	Students will build foundational PreAlgebra skills in an effort to build math confidence and skill sets key to success in our advanced placement math courses.
Description	<p>PreAlgebra Intervention is a course designed to provide targeted supports in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Computation and Application • Problem Solving Skills • Test Taking Skills • Individualized Goal Setting • Pre-teaching and Re-teaching foundations to PreAlgebra
Texts & Materials	Materials are individualized to meet student needs.

Math Academic Support—Grade 8	
Course Title	Algebra Intervention
Course Length	Progress-based
Course Goal	Students will build foundational Algebra skills in an effort to build math confidence and skill sets key to success in our advanced placement math courses.
Description	<p>Algebra Intervention is a course designed to provide targeted supports in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math Computation and Application • Problem Solving Skills • Test Taking Skills • Individualized Goal Setting • Pre-teaching and Re-teaching foundations to Algebra
Texts & Materials	Materials are individualized to meet student needs.

Multilingual

Spanish Language Arts

*****Spanish Language Arts is currently in a curriculum revision process; course information is subject to change.***

Spanish Language Arts- Grade 6	
Course Title	Spanish Language Arts 6
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators in Spanish.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Non-Fiction and Informative writing (text features, text structure) • Reading Literature Circles: Characterization • Literary Essay • Reading Fables, Legends, Myths and Narrative writing • Spanish grammatical structures
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Language Arts- Grade 7	
Course Title	Spanish Language Arts 7
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators in Spanish.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Literature Circles: Coming of Age/Bicultural identity • Fairy Tales and Folklore: Reading and writing • Reading Nonfiction: Article, Biography, Autobiography • Writing Compare and Contrast Essays • Spanish grammatical structures
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Language Arts- Grade 8	
Course Title	Spanish Language Arts 8
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become competent and motivated readers, writers, thinkers and communicators in Spanish.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Short Stories • Literary Analysis • Reading and Writing Non-fiction: Feature articles • Reading and Writing Poetry • Reading Realistic Fiction • Spanish grammatical structures
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Social Studies

Spanish Social Studies- Grade 6	
Course Title	Spanish Social Studies 6
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will learn about the influence of ancient civilizations on the modern world.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography • Early Humans • Ancient Mesopotamia • Ancient Egypt • Ancient China • Ancient Greece and Rome • African Civilizations • Pre-Columbian Civilizations and First Americans
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Social Studies- Grade 7	
Course Title	Spanish Social Studies 7
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will know and understand the world around them so that they can participate as democratic citizens.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Exploration • Colonial America • American Revolution • US Constitution • Antebellum Era • Civil War and Reconstruction
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Social Studies- Grade 8	
Course Title	Spanish Social Studies 8
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will know and understand the world around them so that they can participate as democratic citizens.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrialization, Immigration, and Progressivism • Imperialism and World War I • 1920s and the Great Depression • World War II and the Holocaust • Cold War • Civil Rights Movement • Contemporary U.S. Issues
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Science

Spanish Science- Grade 6

Course Title	Spanish Science 6
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will engage in a variety of hands-on activities and labs that will help build their interest in science. Sixth grade students will focus on detecting cycles and patterns. They will engage in a variety of hands-on activities and labs that will help them challenge their thinking about regular and predictable patterns in the natural and material worlds.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Scientific Method and Scientific Thinking • Physics: Forces and Motion • Astronomy: Earth's Movement and the Solar System • Chemistry: Structures and Properties of Matter • Earth's Major Systems: Rocks and Water
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Spanish Science- Grade 7

Course Title	Spanish Science 7
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Students will become scientific thinkers and doers while engaging in activities in a laboratory setting. Seventh grade students will explore how science knowledge is based upon logical and conceptual connections between evidence and explanations, and how science findings are frequently revised and/or reinterpreted based on new evidence. They will begin to develop patterns of thought about why and how things work—on both large and small scales—as they consider the structure and function of cells, genetics, wave characteristics and motion, and large-scale interactions.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization of Life: Cells • Genetics • Electricity and Magnetism • Waves: Sound and Light • Large Scale Interactions and Plate Tectonics
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

Science—Grade 8

Course Title	General Science
Course Length	One year
Course Goal	Eighth grade students will focus on understanding how humans affect and are affected by the natural world. They will consider the interconnectedness of systems as they inquire into Earth and Space, Physical, and Life Science topics around human impact on their environment. Students will build upon the skills obtained in earlier grades as preparation for the rigorous high school science classes.
Description	Units of study include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lab Safety • Ecosystems • Natural Selection and Adaptations • Matter • Force and Energy • Global Climate Change
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student ability level.

English as a New Language

ENL 1 - Grades 6/7/8

Course Title	English as a New Language 1
Course Length	Progress-Based
Course Goal	The goal of this course is to develop linguistic skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) in English.
Description	Students in the course are newcomer ELLs and/or have a composite English Proficiency score under a 2.0 (based on the WIDA scale). Overall, the three major forms of reading and writing, Argument, Informative, and Narrative, guide thematic units of instruction. Themes include: Body parts and senses, Descriptions, Weather, Food, Fruits and Vegetables, Animals, Ocean Animals, Insects, Transportation, Money/Occupations, Sports and Activities, Places, Home, Family, Routines, Clothing, Toys and Hobbies.
Texts & Materials	Materials are varied based on units of study and student interest.

ENL 2 - Grades 6/7/8

Course Title	English as a New Language 2
Course Length	Progress-Based
Course Goal	The goal of this course is to develop linguistic skills (listening, reading, writing, and speaking) in English.
Description	Students who have a composite English Proficiency score between a 2.0-3.0 (based on the WIDA scale). Overall, the three major forms of reading and writing, Argument, Informative, and Narrative, guide thematic units of instruction. Reading and writing structures are covered in more depth. Rotating themes include: What defines home, How do we depend on Earth's resources, How should people deal with the forces of nature, How can a powerful character inspire a range of reactions, How do discoveries change us and the world, How far should people go for the sake of freedom, What can we learn from the stars, and What do we learn about people from their artful expressions. (Only four covered per year).
Texts & Materials	National Geographic Learning Inside: Language Literacy Content

Special Education

Special Education Programs—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Titles	Co-taught Classes
Course Length	One year, as determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	General education class with specialized support from a special education teacher
Texts & Materials	Students will use all general education materials with individualized accommodations based on their IEPs.

Special Education Programs—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Titles	Flex Classes
Course Length	One year, as determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	General education curriculum taught in a small group setting with individualized accommodations
Text & Materials	Students will use all general education materials with individualized accommodations based on their IEPs.

Special Education Programs—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	ELA Resource
Course Length	One year, as determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	ELA Resource offers research based interventions in reading and writing based on students' individual needs.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention</i> • <i>Corrective Reading</i> • <i>Structured Literacy Interventions</i>

Special Education Programs—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Titles	Math Resource
Course Length	One year, as determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	Math Resource offers intensive math instruction based on students' individual needs.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Illustrative Mathematics - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i> • Varied based on individual student needs

Special Education Programs—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Titles	SEL Resource
Course Length	One year, as determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	SEL Resource offers intensive social and emotional support and instruction based on students' individual needs.
Texts & Materials	Varied based on individual student needs

Special Education—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	Instructional English Language Arts
Course Length	As determined by students' needs on IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	Instructional ELA is an intervention course designed to increase the reading levels of students by utilizing specific strategies based on reading fluency, vocabulary, reading tactics and reading comprehension. Students are placed in a course according to their specific needs based on their individualized education plan. Students are progress monitored weekly and benchmarked three times per year to determine if an intervention need still exists.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrective Reading • Read Naturally • Unique Learning System

Special Education—Grades 6, 7, 8	
Course Title	Instructional Math
Course Length	As determined by students' needs on their IEP
Course Goal	The goal of all special education classes is to provide individualized education based on a student's IEP.
Description	Instructional math provides small group instruction focusing on math computation and math application. The program involves explicit instruction that builds students' understanding of essential math content. Student progress in computation and applications are monitored monthly using Aimsweb assessments.
Texts & Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Illustrative Mathematics - by McGraw Hill & Kendall Hunt</i> • Unique Learning System • Individualized materials to meet students' needs