

2026-2027
Middle School Course of Study
Central School District
8316 Red Oak Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(909) 989-8541 Fax: (909) 941-1732

Ruth Musser Middle School
Grades 5th – 8th
10789 Terra Vista Pkwy.,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
909-980-1230

Steve Pierce, Principal
Christine Sabala, Assistant Principal
Sanita Shropshire, Assistant Principal
Beth Burright, Counselor
Delaney Clinton, Counselor
Angie Johnson, Counselor

Cucamonga Middle School
Grades 6th – 8th
7611 Hellman Ave.,
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
909-987-1788

Beth Leach, Principal
Ashley Garkow, Assistant Principal
Marco Rodriguez, Assistant Principal
Tiffani Greenlee, Counselor
Megan Robledo, Counselor

The Central School District middle school program is a major step in making the transition from middle school to high school curriculum. Skills in reading, writing, literature, mathematics, history/social science, science, and physical education are further developed in the required course sequence. Elective courses such as art, music, leadership, technology and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) provide students with a broad course of study. Both required and elective courses are described for each course in this document. If families have any questions, please contact your child's middle school or the Department of Educational Services at 909-987-7716.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM AND SERVICES

Each middle school is staffed with two full-time counselors committed to implementing a comprehensive guidance program. Counselors provide individual and small group educational planning and are available to assist students with personal situations requiring individualized attention. Middle school students and families will be offered the following services:

- Pre-enrollment orientation
- Registration and scheduling support
- Achievement testing and interpretation of testing results
- Counseling assistance for all students
- Additional academic and enrichment support opportunities

GENERAL INFORMATION

Scheduling and registration for middle school is completed in spring of the students' 4th or 5th grade, depending on their elementary school attendance. The following elementary schools serve students in Transitional Kindergarten through fifth grade: Bear Gulch, Central Elementary, Valle Vista. Coyote Canyon elementary school serves students in Transitional Kindergarten through fourth grade. Dona Merced serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Ruth Musser middle school serves students in grades fifth through eighth and Cucamonga Middle school serves students in grades sixth through eighth. Incoming middle school students are registered in the spring of each year at their middle school. Families are encouraged to contact their school with questions on registration and middle school courses.

Daily School Attendance - The middle school student can take six separate courses during the regular school day. Students are expected to attend each of their scheduled classes on time and daily. Daily attendance is one of the greatest contributing factors to success in school. Absences should be avoided whenever possible. At some middle schools, extended learning opportunities may be offered.

Grade Reporting - Grades are reported each trimester at regular intervals during the school year. Parents should anticipate these reports and inquire about them from their child's teacher or school office if they have not been received within 10 school days following the end of each trimester. All students receive Progress Reports sent home mid-trimester indicating if a student is in danger of failing, so appropriate interventions may be implemented. Unsatisfactory citizenship and/or work habit marks are also reported. If your child is experiencing academic or social-emotional challenges, please contact your child's teacher or school counselor.

Student Handbook - Upon enrolling, students will be given a Student Handbook, an effective reference for information about school rules, expectations for student achievement and behavior, required compliance information, and student activity programs. Central School District's Board of Education Policy 5127 Graduation Ceremonies and Activities states "Students who participate in middle school promotion ceremonies shall meet promotion ceremony criteria". Please contact your child's school to learn more. A certificate of promotion will be granted to all 8th grade students recommended for promotion.

ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) PROGRAM

Federal and state laws require that English learners receive a comprehensive approach to learning academic language and content literacy. All teachers are authorized by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing to attend to the language learning needs of their English learners that promote the simultaneous development of content knowledge and advanced levels of academic English. The adopted materials for English Language Arts also contain the required materials to support our English learners. Language supports are provided through daily designated and integrated English Language Development (ELD) unless the family opts out of ELD program placement. However, the law mandates that while a parent may opt out of ELD placement, the district is responsible for a student receiving ELD regardless of placement. Designated ELD instruction takes place during the English Language Arts instruction whereas integrated ELD takes place throughout the day, across all content areas.

The goal of the program is to support the student to reclassify as Fluent English Proficient. The following district criteria must all be met for a student to be considered for reclassification: 1) Overall Score of 4 on the English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC) or Alternative ELPAC; and 2) Teacher Evaluation; and 3) Parent Consultation; and 4) Meet one of the Basic Skills Criteria: STAR Reading Percentile Rank 35% or higher or district benchmark score

Standard Met/Standard Exceeded, or CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) score Standard Met/Exceeded.

For more information, please contact:

Lizette Diaz, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Department of Educational Services

8316 Red Oak Street

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

(909) 987-7716

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Students in middle school identified in Special Education are ensured they receive their Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Please contact the school to learn more about the program that best meets your child's needs. Parents are invited to visit our Central School District website for more information on parent workshops focused on meeting the needs of their Special Education Student. The goal of the Special Education Program is to ensure each child progresses towards their full potential.

For more information, please contact:

Shermella Roquemore, Director of Special Education

Department of Educational Services

8316 Red Oak Street

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

(909) 980-3930

REQUIRED COURSES

The required program is made up of yearly courses in English Language Arts, Mathematics, History/Social-Science, Science and Physical Education. The courses meet the objectives of California state content standards and frameworks. Students access instructional materials selected according to the district's adoption policy. Students who need additional support in academic areas receive tiered intervention support according to their identified needs. Students are encouraged to apply literacy skills like speaking, listening, reading, and writing in all coursework to prepare for a successful high school experience.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The elective program is composed of trimesters and year-long classes. Elective courses are offered at each school and may differ at each school site based on student interest list, registration, facilities, and staffing. Every effort is made to honor individual student requests for elective classes; however, scheduling conflicts or limited enrollment may make it necessary to modify requests. If students are below grade level in reading or math, they may be enrolled in an intervention class to accelerate student learning in grade level content. The intervention classes may take the place of the student's elective. Please work with your school to ensure their schedule prepares them for high school readiness and success. Elective courses in this catalog represent all offerings in the Central School District, however each site may not offer all electives each year. We invite you to consult with each middle school counseling department for specific courses offered at each site.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS

The district is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in their educational journey. District programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including intimidation, harassment, or bullying against any student or group based immigration status or on actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, religion, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics (BP 0410 – Nondiscrimination In District Programs and Activities).

School site staff are trained in proper scheduling processes. The district works closely with each middle school administrative, counseling, and other staff, and takes action to ensure that during the master scheduling process and student rostering, any disproportionate number of students of one sex enrolled in a particular course is not the result of counseling or appraisal materials and will work to resolve issues immediately.

All courses offered to students are taught by teachers with the appropriate credentials, as determined by the Department of Human Resources. Counselors work to ensure access and equity of student placements. Questions, concerns, or those wishing to file a Title IX complaint should contact:

Amy Gaboury, Director Family and Student Engagement

Department of Human Resources
Title IX Compliance Officer for Students
8316 Red Oak Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(909) 980-3930

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY - SUMMARY LIST

Students attending Central School District middle schools are placed into appropriate classes by the school counselors. The following required courses and descriptions are provided to counselors and updated yearly.

English Language Arts/Language Intervention

Students are required to take a full year of English Language Arts at each grade level.

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level (s)
Language Arts 6	6100	9100	Year	6
Language Arts 6 Collab	6100	9100	Year	6
Language Arts 6 SAI	6100	9231	Year	6
Language Arts 7	7100	9100	Year	7
Language Arts 7 Collab	7100	9100	Year	7
Language Arts 7 SAI	7100	9231	Year	7
Language Arts 8	8100	9100	Year	8
Language Arts 8 Collab	8100	9100	Year	8
Language Arts 8 SAI	8100	9231	Year	8
Language Intervention	8709	9230	Year	6, 7, 8

Mathematics

Students must take a full year of Mathematics at each grade level.

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Math 6	6560	9240	Year	6
6th Advanced Math	6561	9240	Year	6
Math 6 Collab	6560	9240	Year	6
Math 6 SAI	6560	9231	Year	6
Math 7	7570	9240	Year	7
Math 7 Advanced	7571	9240	Year	7
Math 7 Collab	7570	9240	Year	7
Math 7 SAI	7570	9231	Year	7
Math 8	8580	9240	Year	8
Integrated Math 1	8581	9241	Year	8
Math 8 Collab	8580	9240	Year	8
Math 8 SAI	8580	9231	Year	8

History/Social-Studies

Students must take a full year of History/Social-Studies at each grade level.

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Social Studies 6	6300	9170	Year	6
Social Studies 6 SAI	6300	9231	Year	6
Social Studies 7	7300	9172	Year	7
Social Studies 7 SAI	7300	9231	Year	7
Social Studies 8	8300	9173	Year	8
Social Studies 8 SAI	8300	9231	Year	8

Science

Students are required to take a full year of science at each grade level.

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Science 6	6400	9327	Year	6
Science 6 SAI	6400	9231	Year	6
Science 7	7400	9328	Year	7
Science 7 SAI	7400	9231	Year	7
Science 8	8400	9329	Year	8
Science 8 SAI	8400	9231	Year	8

**** Special Education placement is a prerequisite for this course***

Physical Education

All students are enrolled in physical education for a year at each grade level, including lessons in Health and Fitness.

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
PE 6	6600	9311	Year	6
PE 7	7600	9311	Year	7
PE 8	8600	9311	Year	8
PE 7/8	7686	9311	Year	7, 8
PRIDE PE	8620	9312	Year	6, 7, 8
PRIDE Tutor	8610	9312	Year	6, 7, 8

ELECTIVES

Students may take electives based on counselor, teacher, and site administrator recommendation.

Academic

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Academic Support	9230	9230	Year	6, 7, 8
AVID 6	6633	9211	Year	6
AVID 7	7733	9211	Year	7
AVID 8	8833	9211	Year	8
AVID Awareness	9733	9211	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Creative Writing	7739	9100	Trimester	7,8
Speech	9706	9100	Year	6, 7, 8
Mathematics of Design	9722	9240	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Math Lab	9701	9245	Year	6, 7, 8
Psychology	8799	9177	Trimester	7, 8
Reading Lab	9702	9101	Year	6, 7, 8
Intro to Sci Expo	7704	9327	Trimester	6, 7, 8

Art

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Art	9704	9000	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Art Advanced	9705	9000	Year	7, 8

Performing Arts

Concert Band/Band 7	7701	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Beginning Band	6701	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Intermediate Band	6702	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Adv Band/Band 8	8739	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Wind Ensemble	8704	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Orchestra	9801	9291	Year	6, 7, 8
Music Appreciation	8721	9295	Year	6, 7, 8
Chorus	8722	9293	Year	6, 7, 8
Drama 6, 7, 8	6720	9090	Year	6, 7, 8

Leadership

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
ASB (Associated Student Body)	8776	9219	Year	6, 7, 8
Leadership	8703	9219	Year	6, 7, 8
Leadership ASB	8742	9219	Year	6, 7, 8
Leadership ROAR	8743	9219	Year	6, 7, 8

General Education

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Study Hall	8708	9217	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Study Skills	8726	9218	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Study Skills SAI	8726	9218	Year	6, 7, 8
Fit-for-Life	9804	9228	Year	6, 7, 8
Character Counts	6712	9228	Trimester	6
Pathway to Careers 6	6715	9236	Trimester	6
Pathway to Careers	8713	9236	Trimester	7, 8
Teen Cuisine	6719	9228	Trimester	6, 7, 8

Technology

Course Title	CSD Course Code	CALPADS Code	Duration	Grade Level(s)
Computers	6-8: 6718 6: 6704 7: 7703 8: 8715	9060	Tri. /Year	6, 7, 8
Applied Computers	1234	9061	Year	7,8
Yearbook	8705	9224	Year	6, 7, 8
Intro to Digital Video	9721	9381	Trimester	6, 7, 8
Digital Video	6721	9381	Year	6, 7, 8
Multi-Media	8701	9380	Year	6, 7, 8

Content Area Course Descriptions

English Language Arts and English Language Development*

English Language Arts – Grade 6: 6100, Grade 7: 7100, Grade 8: 8100

Year course / Grades 6 - 8/ Required

This course sequence covers the California State English Language Arts standards for each respective grade that build upon the students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. English language arts courses present students the opportunity to make inferences of informational and literary texts. Students write persuasive and creative multi-paragraph thematic essays and compositions and develop literary analysis skills. English courses introduce students to various genres of literature through writing exercises often linked to the reading selections. Students author essays and learn the techniques of writing

research papers. English language arts courses also include daily designated English Language Development for English learners, to meet their identified language as determined from the summative English Language Proficiency Assessment for California (ELPAC).

By the end of grade 6, students make meaning of text by analyzing how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of ideas. Effective expression of language by students interpreting figures of speech (e.g., personification) in context.

By the end of grade 7, students analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas. Students interpret figures of speech (e.g., literary, biblical, and mythological allusions) in context.

By the end of grade 8, students analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of sentences in developing and refining a key concept. Students interpret figures of speech (e.g., verbal irony, puns) in context.

Language Intervention - 8709

Year course / Grade 6 – 8

This Language Intervention class focuses on supporting students with additional language intervention in developing discourse practices, grammatical structures, and vocabulary necessary for successful participation in academic tasks in all content areas. Students who are not current English learners who need reading intervention and language supports may also benefit from this course.

English Language Arts/Collab – Grade 6: 6100, Grade 7: 7100, Grade 8: 8100

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required

This course sequence covers the California State English Language Arts standards for each respective grade that build upon the students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing. The English Language Arts/Collab courses present targeted students the opportunity to write persuasive and creative multi-paragraph thematic essays and compositions and develop literary analysis skills. Strategies are used to introduce students to various genres of literature through writing exercises often linked to the reading selections. This course supports both general education and special education students with identified needs in English language arts. Students with IEPs (Individualized Education Programs) work towards their individualized goals. Daily designated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language goals.

According to the California English Language Arts/English Language Development Framework, in grade 6, students analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas. Effective expression of language by students interpreting figures of speech. By the end of grade 7, students work towards analyzing the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas. By the end of grade 8, students work towards analyzing in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

Mathematics

Math/Math Collab/Math SAI – Grade 6: 6560, Grade 7: 7570, Grade 8: 8580

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required

This course sequence covers the California State Math standards for each respective grade and addresses topics such as arithmetic using rational numbers, the numeration systems, simple data analysis, and place value. The course sequence may include basic algebra, basic geometry, and basic statistics, concepts of rate and ratio. Math courses give students the opportunity to reinforce concepts and skills in mathematics and apply these skills to real-world problems and situations. Each year, students daily integrated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language needs. Students with IEPs work towards their individualized goals. Students with IEPs also identified as English learner receive integrated English Language Development according to their language needs.

In grades 6 through 8, students move from arithmetic to algebra. Learning focuses on ratio and proportional reasoning applied to real-world problems and quantitative relationships, leading to the notion of functions by grade eight. By the end of grade 6, students are expected to be fluent with multi-digit division and calculations with multi-digit decimals. By the end of grade 7, students are expected to be fluent with ratios and proportional relationships and arithmetic of rational numbers. By the end of grade eight, students are expected to be fluent in linear algebra, calculations with positive and negative fractions and decimal numbers.

Math 6 Advanced – Grade 6: 6561

Year course / Grade 6 / Required/ Placement criteria must be met

This Advanced course includes 7th grade California State Math standards in one year. Topics such as using rational numbers, the numeration systems, simple data analysis, and place value. In higher grades the course may include basic algebra, basic geometry, and basic statistics, concepts of rate and ratio are taught. Math courses give students the opportunity to reinforce concepts and skills in mathematics and apply these skills to real-world problems and situations. Daily integrated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language needs.

Math 7 Advanced – Grade 7: 7571

Year course / Grade 7 / Required/ Placement criteria must be met

This Math course includes 8th grade California State Math standards using rational numbers, numeration systems, simple data analysis, and place value. In higher grades the course may include basic algebra, basic geometry, and basic statistics, concepts of rate and ratio. Math courses give students the opportunity to reinforce concepts and skills in mathematics and apply these skills to real-world problems and situations. This course includes 8th grade math standards. Daily integrated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language needs.

Math 8 Advanced – Integrated Mathematics I – Grade 8: 8581

*Year course / Grade 8 / Required *Placement criteria must be met*

The Integrated Mathematics course covers the California State Math standards and topics that combine the basic principles of algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability. Integrated Mathematics I courses present students with the opportunity to extend their understanding of numerical manipulation to algebraic manipulation; synthesize understanding of function; deepen and extend understanding of linear and exponential relationships; solving problems involving systems of equations and inequalities; apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend; establish criteria for congruence based on rigid motions; and apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane. Daily integrated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language needs.

History/Social-Studies

Social Studies /SAI – 6th-6300), (7th – 7300), (8th-8300)

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required

This Social Studies course covers the California History/Social-Science standards and framework for each respective grade. Students learn through exposure to primary source documents, studying history through the words of the people who lived it. In the middle grades, students study a wide range of history from ancient civilizations to the early history of the United States. Students are called to conduct research, evaluate primary and secondary sources, develop arguments, and make presentations. The focus is on understanding larger geographical, historical, economic, and civic patterns that develop over time. Students with IEPs work towards their individualized goals. Students with IEPs also identified as English learner receive integrated English Language Development according to their language needs.

In grade 6, students use a wide diversity of sources, such as the writings of Greek historians and playwrights, the writings on Roman law and citizenship, and works of art and literature from around the world. In grade 7, students focus on medieval and early modern world history. The chapter provides students with opportunities to study the rise and fall of empires, the diffusion of beliefs and languages, and significant movements of people, ideas, and products. In grade 8, focuses on U.S. history from the founding of the America through the end of the nineteenth century. This course will also explore the geography of place, movement, and region, starting with the Atlantic Seaboard and then exploring American westward expansion and economic development, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and finally, industrialization.

Science

Science/SAI - Grade 6: 6400, Grade 7: 7400, Grade 8: 8400

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required

This Integrated Science course covers the California Next Generation Science Standards for each respective grade and covers topics that draw from the principles of several scientific disciplines – earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics – and organizes the materials around thematic units anchored in scientific phenomena. Integrated Science courses give students the opportunity to study scientific concepts such as systems, models, energy, patterns, stability, and change. This course also investigates principles of engineering design and California’s Environmental Principles and Concepts. Each yearly course builds on the content learned previously at a more advanced level. Daily integrated English Language Development is provided to English learners according to their language needs. Students with IEPs work towards their individualized goals. Students with IEPs also identified as English learner receive integrated English Language Development according to their language needs.

By the end of grade 6, students learn about molecules and organisms, their structures, and processes. They also learn about heredity, inheritance and variation of traits, Earth’s systems, Earth, and energy. By the end of grade 7, students build upon their knowledge of molecules to organisms, the interactions and dynamics of ecosystems, Earth’s systems, and matter. By the end of grade 8, students continue to build upon their knowledge of heredity, biological development, Earth and the universe, motion and stability, energy, and the application of waves in technologies.

Physical Education

PE Grade 6: 6600, Grade 7: 7600, Grade 8: 8600

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required

This Physical education course covers the California Physical Education Standards for each respective grade level and typically cover topics that allow students to develop and expand their motor skills and movement, by applying strategies, biomechanics, motor skills and learning, and fitness principles to their participation in a variety of physical activities. Physical education courses

provide students with the opportunity to improve their personal fitness by goal setting and participation in specific activities that lead to improved health.

PE Grades 7/8: 7686

Year course / Grade 7 - 8 / Required

This Physical education course covers the California Physical Education Standards for each respective grade level and typically cover topics that allow students to develop and expand their motor skills and movement, by applying strategies, biomechanics, motor learning, and fitness principles to their participation in a variety of physical activities. Physical education courses provide students with the opportunity to improve their personal fitness by goal setting and participation in specific activities that lead to improved health.

PRIDE PE - 8620

*Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required *Placement criteria must be met*

This Physical education course covers the California Physical Education Standards for each respective grade level typically cover topics that allow students to develop and expand their motor skills and movement, by applying strategies, biomechanics, motor learning, and fitness principles to their participation in a variety of physical activities. PRIDE PE provides students with extra support and strategies to develop knowledge and skills necessary to gain confidence in Physical Education skills.

PRIDE Tutor - 8610

*Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Required *Placement criteria must be met*

This Physical education course covers the California Physical Education Standards for each respective grade level and typically cover topics that allow students to develop and expand their motor skills and movement, by applying strategies, biomechanics, motor learning, and fitness principles to their participation in a variety of physical activities. PRIDE PE supports students with additional strategies to develop knowledge and skills necessary to gain confidence in Physical Education skills. This class includes tutors appointed to identified tutees to support in all aspects of PE including motivation, skill, reinforcement, encouragement, and locker room assistance when necessary.

ELECTIVES (offerings may differ each year and per school)

Academic

AVID Grade 6: 6633, Grade 7: 7733, Grade 8: 8833

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and 2.5 GPA

The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) courses are designed to give necessary support to students so they can prepare to attend a four-year university. The AVID program teaches and reinforces collaboration, inquiry skills, study and organizational skills and time-management. AVID students have skilled tutors, often college students or peers, to help them with their studies.

AVID Awareness - 9733

Trimester course/ Grade 6 - 8/ Elective

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Awareness is designed to introduce the topics taught in the year-long AVID class. These topics include notetaking, organization, inquiry, writing and time-management.

Creative Writing – 7739

Trimester course/ Grade 7 - 8 / Elective

Creative Writing is an exploratory, pathway course that explores different genres of writing, through both reading, discourse, and writing, as well as the other necessary elements needed to improve writing and composition skills. This course is designed with the goal of inspiring students to explore original pieces and ideas. This course explores careers in communication.

Debate - 9706

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

This pathway course will explore public speaking, argumentative, and critical thinking skills in communication settings and career pathways. As such, the fundamentals of physical and vocal delivery skills, language use and gesture, and listening skills will be learned. Students will engage in debates, philosophical chairs, Socratic Seminars, and mock trials based on various issues. The skills utilized are reading comprehension, developing claims and evidence, analyzing sources, writing (summarizing, annotated bibliography), conducting scholarly research and speaking. This course explores careers in business and law.

English Language Arts Universal Access - 5800

Year course/ Grade 5 / Placement upon teacher recommendation

This course is designed to meet the academic needs of students by offering multiple levels of differentiated flexible classes. Assignments on this course are made through teacher recommendation and changes may occur throughout the year as student levels of performance are realigned with the class that provides the best support.

Elective Wheel – 8700

Trimester course/ Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Exploratory Wheel is an elective option open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students who would like to experience a variety of elective options during the school year. Options range from Computers, Art, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), Leadership and Career Exploration. Options and offers may vary year to year and there are no guarantees of which class your student may have during the school year.

Mathematics of Design - 9722

Trimester course/ Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

This exploratory course uses skills such as science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking. Students explore future careers by engaging in collaborative, real-world problem solving through hands-on design projects. This elective provides a pathway for students to use creativity and innovation to help prepare them for careers of the future.

Math Lab - 9701

Trimester course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Student selection based on need

Foundational Math support courses typically occur in parallel to the core math course. These courses typically cover foundational topics like basic skills with whole and rational numbers, algebraic reasoning, and other topics foundational to the core course. Math support also provides scaffolding for students presented with new concepts in their core math course. Math support courses present opportunities for students struggling in math to obtain targeted small group instruction and assistance to meet grade level expectations.

Psychology - 8799

Trimester course / Grade 7, 8 / Elective

This course explores the science of human behavior and mental processes. This includes the study of the mind, the brain, and human and animal social interactions. The topics may include different areas of human psychology like social, cognitive, abnormal, personality and development.

Reading Lab - 9702

Year course / Grade 6 – 8 / Elective

The reading Intervention course is designed to improve the reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills of students who are reading below grade level. The course promotes essential literacy, discourse and thinking skills required for students to acquire added information independently as lifelong learners.

Pathway to Science Expo – 7704

Trimester course / Grade 7 - 8 / Elective

The engineering design process emphasizes open-ended problem solving and encourages students to learn from failure. This exploratory course helps students' nurtures and create innovative solutions to challenges to real world problems. Engineering, Technology and Design is a middle school level exploration course appropriate for 7th to 8th grade students interested in careers in design and engineering. This elective gives students the opportunity to develop skills, explore STEM careers and concepts through activity, project, and problem-based learning.

Art

Art - 9704

Trimester course / Grades 6 - 8 / Elective

Visual arts courses typically cover design elements and principles, language, materials, and creative processes used to produce various kinds of visual arts. Visual arts courses provide students with knowledge and opportunities to explore a variety of art forms and to create individual works of art. Students address the artistic processes of creating, presenting, responding, and connecting and become artistically literate within the art form. The use of skills such as communication, creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving are part of every course, 21st Century Skills, which contribute to student success in a global economy and in culturally diverse environments. Visual arts courses include the traditional fine arts such as, but not limited to drawing, painting, ceramics, metals, printmaking, fiber arts, photography, sculpture, works in wood, and mixed media; architectural, environmental, and industrial arts such as urban interior, product, and landscape design as well as the folk arts.

Art Advanced - 9705

Year course / Grade 7 - 8 / Elective

This class is for students who want to take their art to the next level! This is a journey through the elements of art and the principles of design while honing artistic skills and a creative thought process. Students will use different media such as pencil, charcoal, pastel, watercolor, and acrylic paint, and others. Students will learn to collaborate in an "art studio" and critique their own work as well as others.

Performing Arts

Beginning Band - 6701

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Music-Instrumental performance-based courses typically cover topics such as the proper technique for posture, holding and playing an instrument (piano keyboard), reading sheet music, scales, and arpeggios. Music-Instrumental courses present students with an opportunity to demonstrate their

learning through performances. It may include guitar band, garage band, symphonic band, marching band, Mariachi, jazz band, swing bands, or stage bands. This is a beginning level course.

Intermediate Band - 6702

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Teacher approval required

Music-Instrumental performance-based courses typically cover topics such as the proper technique for posture, holding and playing an instrument (piano keyboard), reading sheet music, scales, and arpeggios. Music-Instrumental courses present students with an opportunity to demonstrate their learning through performances. It may include guitar band, garage band, symphonic band, marching band, Mariachi, jazz band, swing bands, or stage bands. This is an intermediate level course.

Concert Band - 7701

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Teacher approval required

Music-Instrumental performance-based courses typically cover topics such as the proper technique for posture, holding and playing an instrument (piano keyboard), reading sheet music, scales, and arpeggios. Music-Instrumental courses present students with an opportunity to demonstrate their learning through performances. It may include guitar band, garage band, symphonic band, marching band, Mariachi, jazz band, swing bands, or stage bands.

Advanced Band - 8739

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Teacher approval required

Music-Instrumental performance-based courses typically cover topics such as the proper technique for posture, holding and playing an instrument (piano keyboard), reading sheet music, scales, and arpeggios. Music-Instrumental courses present students with an opportunity to demonstrate their learning through performances. It may include guitar band, garage band, symphonic band, marching band, Mariachi, jazz band, swing bands, or stage bands.

Wind Ensemble - 8704

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Teacher approval required

Music-Instrumental performance-based courses typically cover topics such as the proper technique for posture, holding and playing an instrument (piano keyboard), reading sheet music, scales, and arpeggios. Music-Instrumental courses present students with an opportunity to demonstrate their learning through performances. It may include guitar band, garage band, symphonic band, marching band, Mariachi, jazz band, swing bands, or stage bands.

Orchestra - 9801

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Orchestra is a performance-oriented class that gives students the opportunity to create excellent music together using stringed instruments. Students will develop and enhance technical skills and natural abilities while gaining knowledge and understanding of musical concepts. As they hone their musicianship skills by applying techniques that have been previously presented in lessons, students will continue to progress on their instrument- all while building friendships with their peers in a musical setting.

Music Appreciation - 8721

Year course / Grade 6- 8 / Elective

Music appreciation courses typically include topics such as guided listening, analysis, discussion, and hands-on experimentation – including informal performance, improvisation, or composition- focused on how assorted styles of music apply musical elements to create expressive or aesthetic impact. Music appreciation courses present students with opportunities to develop an understanding of music and its importance in the music experience and/or their lives. Classes may

include Music Survey, Music Appreciation, Music History, World Music, Music Literature, and music courses that focus on specific styles or genres of music (ex. Rock and Roll music). This class does not normally perform as a group other than an end-of-course learning demonstration.

Chorus - 8722

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Music-Vocal performance-based courses typically cover topics such as proper vocal choral, choir, and ensemble techniques, the elements of music, and choral music of assorted styles, cultures, and periods; it may include principles of musical theatre and appropriate acting within the musical theatre arena. Music-Vocal performance-based courses give students the opportunity to demonstrate their learning through performances. There may be several choral or ensemble groups at the same time, within the course of instruction.

Drama – 6720

Year course / Grade 6- 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

This course will cover theatre in a multi-cultural, social, and historical context, emphasizing the practical aspect of theatre arts. Students will analyze theatrical design, acting and theory, dramatic literature and develop individual performance skills.

Leadership

ASB - 8776

Year course/ Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

Student government courses typically cover topics that allow students to practice small group government in a school setting. Student government courses present students with the opportunity to represent the entire student body by sponsoring and organizing activities that range from service projects to semi-formal dances.

Leadership - 8703

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

Student government courses typically cover topics that allow students to practice small group government in a school setting. Student government courses present students with the opportunity to represent the entire student body by sponsoring and organizing activities that range from service projects to semi-formal dances.

Leadership ASB - 8742

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

Student government courses typically cover topics that allow students to practice small group government in a school setting. Student government courses present students with the opportunity to represent the entire student body by sponsoring and organizing activities that range from service projects to semi-formal dances.

Leadership ROAR - 8743

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

Student government courses typically cover topics that allow students to practice small group government in a school setting. Student government courses present students with the opportunity to represent the entire student body by sponsoring and organizing activities that range from service projects to semi-formal dances.

General Education

Study Hall - 8708

Trimester course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

In Study Hall, students work on organizational skills, learn how to calculate their grade point average (GPA), and citizenship and interpersonal skills. This course provides skills for success in secondary school.

Study Skills - 8726

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Study Skills is a class designed to help students in their content classes. Students will work on individual assignments given to them in other classes with the opportunity to ask questions and clarify information in a smaller group setting.

Study Skills SAI - 8726

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Study Skills is a class designed to help students through their mainstream classes. Students will work on individual assignments given to them in other classes with the opportunity to ask questions and clarify information in a smaller group setting.

Fit-for-Life - 9804

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Fit for Life is a specialized physical education course designed to promote deeper learning and understanding of the importance of daily physical activity over a lifetime. In this comprehensive approach to physical education, students will understand the effects of regular physical activity in relation to emotional well-being and social responsibility. Students participate in various activities, including varied workout platforms, traditional and non-traditional sports, teambuilding activities, and social-emotional learning activities. This course aligns itself with both California State Standards and National Physical Education Standards. This course is geared to challenge those students who have a deep interest in physical education.

Character Counts - 6712

Trimester course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

CHARACTER COUNTS! uses its Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship as a foundational strategy while using the TEAM approach and incorporating other character education best-practices.

Pathway to Careers 6 - 6715

Trimester course / Grade 6 / Elective

In Middle School Career 6, students explore careers in different career areas. Students explore what careers are available and what they need to do to prepare. Students examine how to choose the best career based on unique interests and develop leadership skills.

Pathway to Careers – 8713

Trimester course/Grades 7, 8 /Elective

Students explore careers in different career areas. Students explore what careers are available and what they need to do to prepare. Students examine how to choose the best career based on unique interests and develop leadership skills.

Teen Cuisine – 6719

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Teen Cuisine focuses on nutrition, food safety, food preparation and meal planning to instill good practices in teenagers. Students will learn about cooking, healthy eating choices, nutritious foods, and how food supports a healthy lifestyle by providing the body with essential vitamins and minerals. Students will develop skills by using the appropriate kitchen utensils, portion size, and

measuring techniques to effectively prepare food by reading and following recipes. Not only will it help students become better cooks, but it will also give them a deeper appreciation for food as a culture, food as art, their health, and more.

Technology

Computers - 9703

Year course or Trimester course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

Computer literacy courses typically cover, through hands-on operation, the use of programmable devices. Students develop skills needed to operate computing devices that perform various tasks based on needs and preferences.

Pathway to Applied Computers/1234

Year course / Grade 7, 8 / Elective

This course explores pathways to careers. Computer science-related careers are an essential component of a broad and comprehensive technological world. Students will explore related foundational concepts and corresponding real-life practices that ensure opportunities for success in our increasingly competitive, globally connected economy. Computing systems are more than tools, as they have the power to facilitate personal and creative expression. Students explore careers and skills necessary to operate computing devices that perform a variety of tasks.

Yearbook - 8705

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective / Prerequisite: Application and teacher approval

Yearbook courses typically cover topics that assist students in understanding design elements, planning coverage of annual events, developing a theme, journalistic features, and photography in school yearbooks. Yearbook courses present students with an opportunity to produce a book that captures the moments of the year's events at their school sites.

Intro to Digital Video - 9721

Trimester course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

This course introduces students to the art of visual storytelling through film and digital media. Students learn the fundamentals of camera angles, shot composition, and basic film language, as well as how story structure shapes engaging scenes. Through viewing and analyzing age-appropriate film examples, students explore a variety of genres and identify common tropes and storytelling techniques used in each. Students apply their understanding by collaborating in production teams to plan, film, and edit an original scene inspired by a specific genre. Emphasis is placed on creativity, teamwork, visual communication, and purposeful decision-making behind the camera. By the end of the course, students will have a foundational understanding of how films are constructed and how visual choices impact storytelling.

Pathway to Digital Video - 6721

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective Prerequisite: Intro to Digital Video or teacher approval

This course reviews the knowledge acquired during 'Intro to Digital Video.' It covers Media/film/video/television careers, history, conventions, and technology used to create and capture performance on digital media, including exploration of camera operation, framing and composition, use of time, space, lighting, and sound. Students explore theatrical performance or production and investigate presentations through digital media format.

Pathway to Multi-Media - 8701

Year course / Grade 6 - 8 / Elective

This course engages students by exploring multimedia formats. Students explore various presentation formats, which may be carried into other classes while learning future career

pathways. Emphasis is placed on exploring project-based learning experiences to understand foundational technology skills. Classroom activities include creative exploration, problem solving, research, and classroom presentations.

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