

2020-2021 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR 6th GRADE

*=**prerequisite required before taking course**

Course Name	Grade	Course Description
Art Electives		
Art 3D	6-8	Students in 3D will explore the principles of design while creating three-dimensional artwork using a variety of art media.
Art Drawing and Design*	6-8	Drawing and Design is a perfect choice for those students who have an interest in improving their drawing and design skills through a variety of drawing techniques. Students will also learn how to create more interesting compositions through the use of design. *Prerequisite: Art FUNdamentals
Art FUNdamentals	6-8	Art FUNdamentals is designed for students who have an interest in exploring art. This class will focus on learning about how to use the elements and principles of art and design while exploring a variety of art media.
Art Hobbies	6-8	Art Hobbies is designed for students who want to explore a variety of art forms, many of which could lead to a lifelong hobby or even a business venture. Possible projects could include weaving, jewelry making, stamp making, paper making, and soft sculpture.
Art Painting and Mixed Media*	6-8	Painting and Mixed Media is designed for students who have an interest in playing with color and a wide range of art materials with the goal of improving their painting skills through a variety of painting styles. Students will also learn how to use other materials in their projects to create interesting works of art. *Prerequisite: Art FUNdamentals
Art Mud to Masterpiece*	6-8	Mud to Masterpiece students will be introduced to the magic that is clay. Throughout the class we will explore many ceramic construction techniques from handbuilding, to wheel throwing, and various surface decoration options. Students will also finish a variety of functional and decorative ceramic objects using glazes. If you like getting creative AND messy, this is the class for you. *Prerequisite: Art FUNdamentals
Computer Science Electives <i>*video for all CS classes</i>		
CS Advanced Computing*	6-8	Advanced Computing takes coding to the next level. Students will create phone apps as well as programming light displays. In addition, students will learn code to control smart devices. *Prerequisite: Web design or Animations & Games
CS Animations and Games	6-8	Gamers rejoice! In Animations and Games , students will program animations, interactive art, and games using the block coding method. The course starts off with simple shapes and builds up to more sophisticated sprite-based games, using the same programming concepts and the design process computer scientists use daily. In the final project, students will develop a personalized, interactive program.
CS Elements of Design	6-8	Let your creativity shine! Elements of Design course allows students to dig into the concepts of graphic design. Students will understand design concepts and use a variety of programs to draw and create. Students will draw animations, work with painting tools, use CAD-type of programs to draw houses, create small movies and more.
CS Coding Fun*	6-8	9 weeks of coding fun! Students will use a variety of coding sites to make fun stories, animations, games and apps. Based and using code.org's Hour of Code, students will advance their coding skills in a fun and creative way. *Prerequisite: Web design or Animations & Games
CS Web Design	6-8	Looking for a way to express yourself? In Web Design students will learn how to create and share content on their own web pages. Using the rules of digital citizenship, students will learn how to structure and style their webpages using HTML and CSS. They will also practice valuable programming skills such as debugging and commenting. By the end of the course, students will have a personal website that they can publish to the Internet.

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<i>English Language Arts Electives</i>		
ELA Challenge: Literacy League	6-8	Do you love to read and write? Do you wish you had time to work on independent projects with positive feedback? This course includes a fun workshop setting with authentic projects and pieces to inspire and encourage students who enjoy ELA. Activities may include: blackout poetry, writing contests, short story interpretation, reader's theater, word play, etc.
Presentation and Public Speaking	6-8	Presentation and Public Speaking will help students become more comfortable speaking in front of small and large groups. Activities will include learning about the different types of communication, practicing public speaking in a variety of situations, reflecting on famous speeches, and exploring/creating TED talks. Students will also write and present up to four different types of speeches.
Theatre/Performance	6-8	Theatre/Performance is an introduction to fundamental acting skills. Students learn movement, vocal control and characterization skills while participating in various activities that may include plays, improvisation, reader's theatre, impromptu, pantomime, and short scenes. Through these activities, students will learn physical and vocal presentation skills and develop basic knowledge of theatre arts. Evaluation will be based primarily on in-class performances.
ELA Foundations: Literacy Lab	6-8	Do you wish you had more strategies to comprehend the reading assigned to you in class, including those long and sometimes hard-to-read informational texts in science and social studies? Do you need just a little more time to "fix and fancy" that piece of writing you're working on? Do you desire quiet time and space to read the things you enjoy, like magazines and graphic novels, without the scrutiny of your peers? Literacy Lab is designed for students like you, who could use extra time to linger in literacy, complete assignments, and get an extra boost to master grade-level content expectations.
GENERAL ELECTIVES		
Genius Hour	6-8	Genius Hour is a time for students to learn about a topic of their interest. They research a topic, set goals and deadlines, and decide how they would like to present their findings. Topics can range from a specific area that he/she would like to learn more about, to an active project involving our community. Students will help each other think through problems regarding their project, and brainstorm solutions.
MATH ELECTIVES		
Math Challenge: Mathletes	6-8	Are you an individual who excels in mathematics to the point where you would enjoy a chance to solve 'bigger' math problems? If so, Mathletes is for you. Like all serious athletes, Mathletes flex their mathematical muscles through daily problem solving and real-world challenge problems in preparation for the big game. Through daily stretches, class competitions, warm ups and workouts, students get in tip top math shape and prepare to perform at the next level when it comes to problem solving and future math experiences.
Math Support: Math Matters	6	Have you ever been in a math class that you wish would slow down or do a few more examples? Math Matters is designed to help students understand their homework (providing extra examples and help), work on basic facts (become quicker at mental math), and provide opportunities to practice and apply the math concepts they are learning in their core math class.

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Music Electives		
Band 6	6	Band 6 is a year-long beginning band course where students develop basic skills in groups and the application of these skills in a full band setting. Students will perform in at least three concerts during the school year, and all performances are mandatory.
Choir 6	6	Choir 6 is a year-long beginning choral group where students develop basic vocal techniques and sight reading skills, as well as study music theory. Students will sing and perform a variety of styles of music. Required performances include the fall, winter, 6th Grade Showcase, and spring Concerts in addition to one community event.
Orchestra 6	6	Orchestra 6 is a year-long beginning orchestra where students develop basic skills and the application of these skills in a string orchestra setting. The orchestra will be scheduled to perform four times during the school year. These performances are required.
Physical Education Electives		
PE Maize/PE Blue	6/7	<p>PE MAIZE: Examples of activities which may be part of the course: tennis, golf, flag football, ultimate frisbee, biking, soccer, softball, gymnastics, weekly running and daily games. Students will receive instruction in rules, skills and strategies associated with different sports, as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong physical activities. The course promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play and friendly competition.</p> <p>PE BLUE: Examples of activities which may be part of the course: floor hockey, pickleball, volleyball, team handball, basketball, weight training, weekly running and daily games. Students will receive instruction in rules, skills and strategies associated with different sports, as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong physical activities. The course promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play and friendly competition.</p>

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Science Electives		
Science Challenge: Science Olympiad	6-8	Do you excel in science? Are you a highly motivated student looking to be challenged beyond what your core science classes can offer? Are you a current member or considering joining the Science Olympiad team this year? If so, Science Olympiad is the challenge you are looking for. The Science Olympiad Elective is an extension of the Science Olympiad program and provides rigorous, standards-based challenges related to various scientific disciplines, including earth science, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. Through this course you will gain advanced scientific knowledge through individual research and advanced design challenges. https://www.soinc.org/
Discovery Science	6-8	Discovery Science is a series of week-long projects that are designed with one thought in mind: allowing students to think. Students are pushed to be critical, analyze different solutions to problems, and create. Responsibility, communication, and teamwork are key elements that have a main focus throughout this 9-week class. Students use hands-on, problem solving situations to gain a better understanding of what engineers and scientists do on a daily basis. If you are looking to learn in a different way and use your brain to think, this class is for you. It might even knock your socks off.

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SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES		
Current Events 6	6	Are you interested in investigating the “fake news” created by bias in the media? Then Current Events 6 is the elective for you! In this project-based class, students use technology, competition, and collaboration to study current issues across the globe while considering both ELA and social studies curriculum. From politics to sports to popular culture, this class has something for everyone! Example projects include video newscasts, debate tournaments, podcasts, and much more!
Teen Leadership 6	6	Teen Leadership 6 is a course in which students develop leadership, personal, and business skills. Students learn to develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility. They will also develop an understanding of Emotional Intelligence and the skills it measures, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. Teen Leadership will also promote the need for goal-setting, both personally and professionally.
INDUSTRIAL ARTS ELECTIVES		
Woodworking FUNdamentals	6-8	Woodworking FUNdamentals is a course that allows you to build projects using tools, machines and skills you acquire during the class. Class begins with learning about basic hand tools, machines, safety in the shop, and reading a ruler to the 16th of an inch. After successfully passing a proficiency test on the power tools, students will have the opportunity to use them to build projects. Basic operations, measurements, and construction techniques will be used to create several projects. This is a hands-on class, allowing you to be proud of the projects you build and take home.
Woodworking Applications*	6-8	Woodworking Applications is a more advanced course that builds on the foundational skills of woodworking FUNdamentals. Basic and advanced operations and construction techniques will be used to make projects. *Prerequisite: Woodworking FUNdamentals

BMS OFFERING ONLY		
LINKS Explo	6-8	LINKS provides an experiential opportunity for general education students to develop connections with a diverse group of students with special needs. LINKS will attend exploratory classes with an identified peer and provide ongoing support for this student through modeling and guiding, as well as develop a supportive and friendly relationship. The goal for LINKS students is to ensure all students are acknowledged for what makes them different from others, as well as what makes them the same. This course will challenge LINKS to develop a tolerance and acceptance of others. <i>LINKS will have higher expectations for positive behaviors and will have course objectives based on supporting their partner with special needs.</i>