



# 6th Grade Course Descriptions

The Required courses for 6<sup>th</sup> graders are: English 6, Life Science 6, U.S. History 6, Math, Health & PE 6, one semester each of Technology Education 6 and Family & Consumer Science 6, and 45 minutes of Resource or Spectrum (if applicable). Teachers of core classes have determined if a placement of academic or honors is most appropriate for your child.

Required Electives	Course Descriptions
<b>Art 6 (One Semester)</b>	Art 6 infuses art production, art history, art criticism, and aesthetic critiques. The 6th grade program is designed to provide students with the opportunity to continue to develop a foundation of varied skills, techniques, concepts, and ideas. Students engage in the process of creating, presenting, responding, and connecting with their art and the work of others.
<b>Introduction to Computer Applications (One Semester)</b>	This course is designed to introduce middle school students to the basics of computers, keyboarding skills, and potential careers. Students will develop and enhance touch skills for entering information using a keyboard to compose and produce personal, educational, and professional documents. This course is infused with Entrepreneurship competencies and Computer Science objectives.

Fine Art Elective (Choose 1)	Course Descriptions
<b>Chorus 6</b>	This course is for students who like to sing and want to develop their singing skills. Emphasis is placed on developing appropriate vocal techniques and skills necessary for singing in an ensemble. Essential music theory skills will be stressed, including reading notation, ear training and sight singing. Students will develop choral literacy by singing a variety of literature that is sacred and secular. Participation in performance activities, such as winter and spring concerts is required.
<b>Strings 6</b>	This is a full-year elective which provides students with beginning instruction for violin, viola, cello, or bass. Students will learn the basic elements of music while developing the techniques and skills appropriate to an orchestral string instrument. Students will provide their own instruments. Students need to attend Instrumental Clinic Registration Night to select an instrument. Participation in performance activities, such as winter and spring concerts is required
<b>Music Lab</b>	This class is designed to enable students to enjoy life-long involvement with music as an educated consumer and participant. Active learning is the theme of this hands on course. Students will explore music and develop musical literacy through activities such as world music drumming, introduction to guitar and creating their own music.
<b>Band 6</b>	This class is open to students who have an interest in learning to play the flute, clarinet, oboe, alto saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba, or percussion (snare drum/mallet instruments). Students provide their own instruments through rental or purchase. 5th grade students wishing to join band must attend an evening band clinic held at middle schools in the spring. During this clinic, students will meet with band directors and be evaluated individually on each of the band instruments. This is to ensure they are matched up with an instrument that best suits their natural physical embouchure characteristics and best guarantees their success. Students are required to practice daily outside school time and to participate in concerts and rehearsals after

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