

5th Grade Scheduling Presentation

SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT
MEADE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Topics to Cover

Class Schedules

Encore Classes

General Information

Transition to Middle School

Q & A



SCHEDULE BASICS

Course Selection Forms

Counselors go to each elementary school during the month of February. Middle school counselors speak with 5th grade classes and guide students through encore course selection.

Teacher placement recommendations are determined by a collaborative team that reviewed assessments and grades.

Encore (A/B Day)

The encore block runs on a semesterized A/B day rotation. Students take Physical Education, Health, a World and Classical Language and at least one Fine Arts class.

Please select a World and Classical Language and number the courses in the order of your preference. We make every effort to give you your first choices. *Denotes Fine Arts

Course	Offering	# Choice	World and Classical Language	Offering	# Choice
Fitness & Health 6	Full Year	Required	French 1A	Full Year	
			Spanish 1A	Full Year	
Course	Offering	# Choice	Course	Offering	# Choice
Band 1*	Full Year		Music Goes Global 6*	Semester	
Chorus 1*	Full Year		True Colors 6*	Semester	
Dance 6*	Full Year		Digital Palette 1—Introduction*	Semester	
Orchestra 1*	Full Year		Exploring Technology 6	Semester	
Instru. Ensem.: Percussion 6*	Full Year		Exploring FACS 6	Semester	
Dance for Athletes 6*	Full Year				

Schedule Distribution

Students will receive their middle school schedule from their homeroom teacher on their first day of 6th grade.

How many daily classes?

6 classes daily + advisory + lunch

- ▶ 4 core courses
- ▶ 2 encore courses



Core Courses

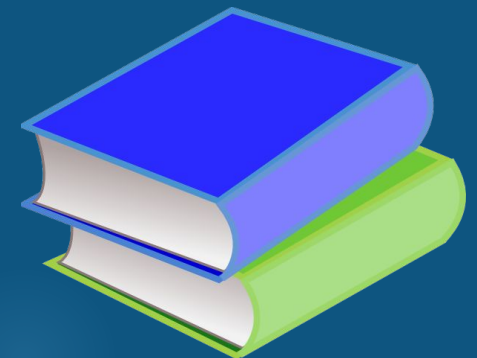
What's a core class?

- ▶ Language Arts, Math, Science, & Social Studies are the core classes.
- ▶ Students have core classes everyday, all year, with the same teacher, at the same time.

English/Language Arts

English/Language Arts 6

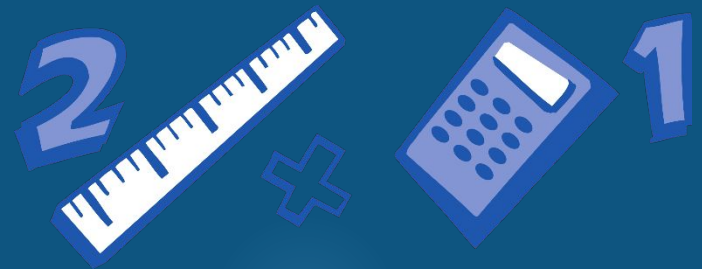
- ▶ Course includes blocks of time devoted to teacher-directed lessons on reading and writing, monitored reading, vocabulary development, grammar and usage, and speaking.
- ▶ Students enrolled in Advanced English/Language Arts extend their learning with greater depth at an accelerated pace.



Mathematics

Mathematics 6

On grade level course exposing students to the following mathematical concepts and their application: integers, proportional reasoning, algebraic reasoning, properties of two and three-dimensional figures, and probability and statistics.

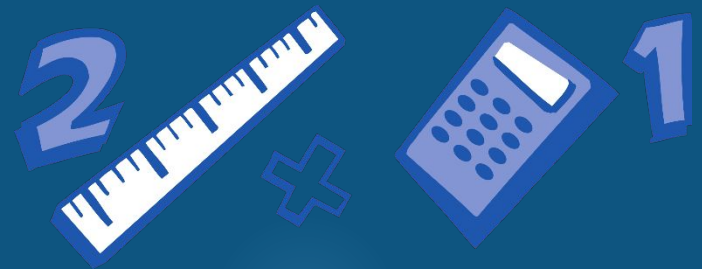


Mathematics

Mathematics 6/7

Accelerated course exposing students to the concepts in Mathematics 6 and integrating Mathematics 7 concepts where applicable. This course moves at an accelerated pace.

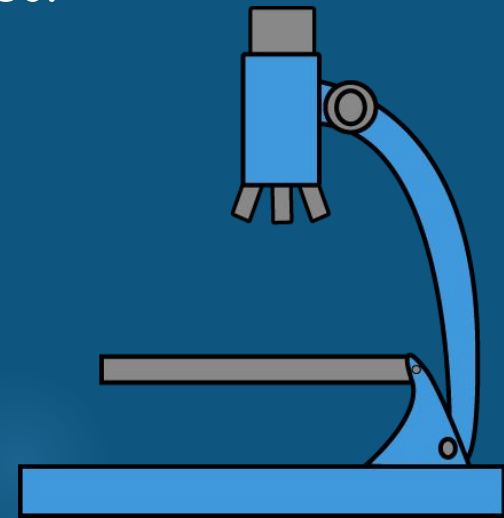
Students with a final grade of C or better are able to enroll in Mathematics 7/8



Science

Science 6 (all students)

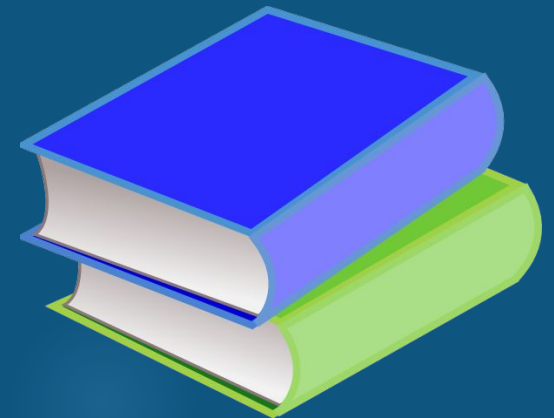
The curriculum answers the question, “what is it?” Students engage in scientific practices and engineering design to study matter and atoms, biogeochemical cycles, molecules of life, ecosystems, astronomy and environmental issues.



Social Studies

Social Studies 6 (all students)

Students examine the rise of civilizations in the River Valleys, the European classical past (Greece and Rome), and the geography, history, and selected current events of various regions of Africa and the Americas.





Encore Courses

What are Encore Classes?

- ▶ Physical Education, every other day.

Other Encore classes include:

- ▶ Art
- ▶ World Language
- ▶ Music
- ▶ AVID
- ▶ Family and Consumer Science (FAC)
- ▶ Dance

Music: Band

Emphasizes good tone production, musical accuracy in performance skills, balance, and interpretation of music. Public musical performances are expected.



Before and after school activities and rehearsals are integral to the course, and grades may reflect participation.

Music: Orchestra

Emphasizes good tone production, musical accuracy in performance skills, balance, and interpretation of music. Public musical performances are expected.



Before & after school activities and rehearsals are integral to the course, and grades may reflect participation.

Music: Percussion 6

Students will learn basic rhythms and drumming techniques using body percussion and word percussion. Students will be introduced to basic skills of traditional percussions: snare drum, mallets, & bass drum.

Public performances may be required.



Chorus

Study vocal production and choral techniques. Students perform, create, and analyze choral music.

Before & after school activities and rehearsals are integral to the course, and grades may reflect participation.



Dance

Study explore creative movement through the study of ballet, modern, jazz, and tap. Public performances are expected.



Before & after school activities and rehearsals are integral to the course, and grades may reflect participation.

Dance for Athletes

This course focuses primarily on the development of footwork coordination, core strength, and agility. Students learn how dance training techniques improve athletic performance.



World Language

- ▶ Students explore the language, history, and heritages of cultures around the world.
- ▶ Students may choose to study French or Spanish.



bonjour

Physical Education & Health

- ▶ Students participate in team sports in order to foster team building and anaerobic health. Students utilize the PACER test to gauge their own age appropriate physical well-being. Students also explore topics of maintaining a disease free life.



AVID

- ▶ The AVID elective provides strong, relevant writing and reading curriculum, study skills, organization, and time management, college research and the tutorial process.

AVID Family Night: 2/11
5:00 PM-7:00 PM



Exploring FACS

This course is designed to empower students to recognize and adopt a healthy lifestyle. Study financial responsibility and life skills for household management.



True Colors

- ▶ Students replicate objects in drawings and paintings. A wide variety of media is used to communicate ideas based on specific artistic techniques.



Digital Palette-Intro

- ▶ Students replicate objects in drawings and paintings. A wide variety of media is used to communicate ideas based on specific artistic techniques.



Music Goes Global

Learn the role of music, history and culture in the countries of Zimbabwe, Lebanon, India, China, Australia, Scotland, and Mexico



Exploring Technology

Hands-on course teaches students how to use an engineering design process to design, build, and test real-life problems. An air car is an example project that a student could make as a result of participating in a transportation design challenge.



Support Classes

- ▶ Take the place of Encore classes
- ▶ Support classes help students build skills to be successful in their classes.
 - ▶ Reading Intervention
 - ▶ Math Intervention
 - ▶ ESOL

**Any questions about
scheduling?**



General Info

Policies & Procedures

- ▶ We are a uniform school. Stay tuned for updates!
- ▶ Students will need 2 locks starting next year.
- ▶ Bell schedule will also be changing but number of classes will stay the same!

Navigating Middle School

- ▶ A key indicator of a successful middle school experience is a positive transition from elementary school by:
 - ▶ Helping students form a realistic expectation of what middle school will be like
 - ▶ Providing a positive and successful first impression
 - ▶ Insuring a successful introduction to the middle school experience

Navigating Middle School

- ▶ Middle school is a much more complex environment than elementary school.
 - ▶ larger campus
 - ▶ more students
 - ▶ multiple classrooms and teachers
- ▶ Middle Schoolers are also experiencing changes in their cognitive, psychological, moral and social/emotional functioning.

Social Emotional Development

- ▶ strong need for approval and peer acceptance
- ▶ may overreact to small incidences of ridicule, embarrassment, or rejection
- ▶ benefit from positive relationships with adults**
- ▶ enjoy fads, especially those shunned by adults
- ▶ experience mood swings
- ▶ immature behavior due to developing social skills and inability to regulate emotions
- ▶ socially vulnerable because their ideals and values may be at odds with what they see in the media

How families can help

- ▶ Review school's website with your child. Search for announcements, schedules, and events.
- ▶ Make sure your **Parent Portal** account is active
- ▶ Take advantage of summer programs — academic or recreational — offered at the new school for incoming students. Your child will get the feel for the campus in a much more relaxed atmosphere.

Keys to Success!

- ▶ Stay positive!
- ▶ Have high expectations - when you expect a lot, it shows your child that you believe he/she can succeed.
- ▶ Stay organized!
 - ▶ Most schools utilize an agenda planner to keep track of homework, projects, and tests.
 - ▶ Encourage your child to keep his/her locker neat.
 - ▶ Find out how the school wants the binder(s) organized

Planning Ahead: Stay Informed TALK with Your Child!

- ▶ Ask your child what he/she learned today.
- ▶ Ask your child what went well at school each day, as well as what did not go well.
- ▶ Review your child's agenda daily.
- ▶ Talk with your child about peer pressure and how to stand up to people who encourage your child to:
 - ▶ Cheat on tests or homework
 - ▶ Skip school
 - ▶ Experiment with alcohol or other drugs
 - ▶ Fight, bully, or carry weapons, etc.

Getting Involved in School!

- ▶ Meet your child's teachers.
- ▶ Communicate with your child's teachers via phone, e-mail, or parent/teacher conferences.
- ▶ Attend Back-to-School Night and other activities.
- ▶ Join the PTSA
- ▶ Attend conferences
- ▶ If something doesn't feel right or if you have concerns, reach out to your child's teachers, school counselor, or assistant principal early.

Encourage Student Involvement

- ▶ Encourage your child to get involved in before and after school clubs and activities
 - ▶ Help your child feel more positive about education, make new friends, and stay out of trouble
 - ▶ Help your child find an activity that interests him/her
 - ▶ Encourage your child not to give up and to give the activities a chance

Strategies for Supporting your Student

- ▶ Create a sense of belonging
- ▶ Promote resiliency
- ▶ Develop competencies
- ▶ Ensure a positive safe environment at home and at school
- ▶ Teach and reinforce positive behaviors and decision making
- ▶ Encourage helping others and good health

Social and Character Building Skills

- ▶ Talk about the importance of
 - ▶ listening
 - ▶ cooperation
 - ▶ compromise
 - ▶ being polite
 - ▶ respecting and appreciating differences
 - ▶ managing anger
 - ▶ apologizing when appropriate
 - ▶ friendships are about mutual respect



Any Questions?

Time for tours!