



## **Sixth Grade Middle School Course Descriptions Sheboygan Area School District**

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### **English Language Arts 6 (Required)**

This class integrates the language arts of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students use reading strategies while reading various types of literature including short stories, novels, and non-fiction pieces. Students write for a variety of purposes through paragraphs, short essays, and short stories, etc. Formal instruction in grammar and spelling is applied in various situations.

### **Math 6 (Required)**

Course 1 focuses on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.

### **Science 6 (Required)**

The middle school science program places an emphasis on teaching science standards in the areas of earth, life and physical science. Students have an opportunity to better understand the concepts and scientific knowledge through laboratory experiences, reading and writing.

### **Social Studies 6 (Required)**

This course introduces the five themes of geography and the elements of culture. Students will learn how people live through the study of geography, economics, political science, anthropology and sociology. The 2018 Wisconsin State Standards are the foundation in which the curriculum is built with an emphasis on the Inquiry process. Current event topics are embedded in the units of study.

### **Physical Education 6 (Required)**

Students participate in a wide variety of activities while also promoting physical fitness. Students review and practice skills introduced at the elementary level and are also introduced to team concepts, rules and safety. Emphasis on participation for all students regardless of ability is a priority. Our curriculum includes aerobic activities, badminton, basketball, bowling, fitness, floor hockey, football, low-organized games, speedball, softball, volleyball and weight-training.

### **Health 6 (Required)**

Health is a course designed to help students address Personal Self-Management Skills, General Social Skills, Drug Resistance Skills and Anti-Bullying. Students develop skills that help them enhance self-esteem, develop problem-solving abilities, reduce stress and anxiety, and manage anger. Students gain skills to meet personal challenges such as overcoming shyness, communicating clearly, building relationships, anti-bullying, and avoiding violence. Students build effective defenses against pressures to use tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Human Growth & Development is also introduced during 6<sup>th</sup> grade health.

### **STEM 6 (Required)**

Students are introduced to the tools and materials that have shaped the world in which they live. The importance of safety, the ability to problem-solve, and an appreciation for a quality product are emphasized through the design and construction process. As part of the PLTW curriculum, students will investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the environment. As part of this class, students will design and model alternative energy sources and participate in an energy expo to demonstrate energy concepts and innovative ideas. Students will also explore the world of automation, robotics and coding through different projects and challenges. PLTW is a nationally based curriculum that focuses on engineering and problem-solving.



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### **FACE 6 (Required)**

Students will explore through hands-on activities the skills needed for family and work functions. We will work in the kitchens learning basic safety, sanitation, equipment use and processes to follow a recipe. Connections with healthy, nutritional food choices and lifestyles are explained. Students will explore childcare skills related to babysitting and personal care when home alone. We will also explore the concepts of financial responsibility with the Take Charge Today curriculum helping students understand the concepts related to money. Within the course students will develop real-life connections to reading in performing family work as well as connections to technological opportunities for family support.

### **Art 6 (Required)**

This required course introduces students to basic design concepts. Our curriculum is divided into four design units: drawing, color theory/painting, sculpture and design. Throughout the semester students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art materials.

### **Life Readiness 6 (Required)**

This class provides a structure for students to have multiple opportunities to practice and rehearse life skills in an authentic setting with a peer group that supports each other, grows together, and learns from one another. As middle school students, this course, will also look toward the future for each child exploring transition skills that will help aid all 6<sup>th</sup> graders with their first year in middle school. Academic and career planning is a process that will begin in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and span all three years of your middle school journey.

### **General Music 6 (Required unless taking Choir 6)**

This course continues the instruction for the basic elements of reading, singing, listening to, and writing music begun in elementary school. The student will explore music history and culture as part of their class activities. In this class, students will begin instruction in correct use of the voice when performing unison and harmony in two-part music. The students in this class will be expected to participate in one performance-based opportunity.

### **Choir 6 (One Semester - Elective taken in place of General Music)**

Choir 6 is for the student who truly enjoys singing and wants to be part of a performing group. This class continues the singing practices of the elementary school program and begins instruction in correct use of the voice when performing unison to three-part music. The student in this class will be expected to participate in all performance opportunities, including one evening concert during the semester.

### **WIN 6 (Required)**

WIN (What I Need) is a non-graded class designed to develop specific skills in students that may need additional instruction in core academic subjects. In addition, students that need intervention, general support, and other skill-building during this time. For those students in need of enrichment, this time will be used to challenge these students.

### **Band 6 (All Year - Elective)**

Band 6 is open to all students interested in learning to play brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. Students work on their individual and group performance skills while learning rhythms, notes and musical terms. Students also learn about music from other cultures, different historical periods, and learn to play a variety of musical styles. Students will use improvisation, composition, musical analysis, and critiquing to learn about music. Students involved in this course will have the opportunity to perform in the jazz ensemble and Middle School Music Festival. Students will participate in class and in small group lessons. Additionally, students will perform in evening concerts 2-3 times a year.



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**Orchestra 6 (All Year – Elective)**

Orchestra 6 is open to all students interested in learning to play violin, viola, cello or string bass. Using a variety of music, students work on their individual and ensemble performance skills, while learning rhythms, notes and musical terms. Students will experiment with improvisation and composition. They will also use critique and musical analysis to think about the music they hear. Students are expected to attend class rehearsals, and small group lessons as well as perform at 2-3 evening concerts. Middle School Music Festival participation is encouraged but not required.

