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Planning Your Education

Your school provides this course curriculum guide as a means of assisting students and parents in understanding and planning their course of study. Students are encouraged to carefully select related arts courses during the registration process. Your school's guidance counselors and teachers stand ready to assist them. Parents are invited and encouraged to actively participate by assisting their student.

Related arts classes are scheduled based upon student requests. However, due to schedule conflicts and changes in course offerings, the staff cannot guarantee that students will be scheduled for all courses they request. In addition, be aware that the school builds a master schedule and employs teachers based on students' requests; therefore, schedule changes will only be considered on a very limited basis.

Online Registration

Online Registration was implemented in 2004. It allows parents and students to request related arts courses for the next school year from home via the Internet. Families who do not have access to the Internet will be given opportunities to use school computers to register online. Parents and students should understand that requesting a related arts course through online registration does not guarantee that the student is placed in the course the next school year. Final placement in a course is dependent upon enrollment, scheduling feasibility, and teacher allocation. Schools will post the courses that they will be offering the next school year in a course curriculum guide which will be located on the school's website. Parents without Internet access at home will receive a printed copy of the course curriculum guide by request. The window for students to select related arts courses online is posted by the school on the school's website and in parent newsletters. Schools will provide instructions on accessing the online registration tool.

Promotion Criteria for Grades Six through Eight (GCS IHE / Rule 9/11/2006)

Criterion 1: Students in grades six through eight are expected to learn, at a minimum, curriculum standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and meet attendance requirements.

Criterion 2: The student earned a minimum average grade of 70% in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies (if language arts is taught as a separate subject in grades 6-8, the English language arts grade will be determined by the mean of the yearly average of reading and language arts.)

End of Year Promotion Status

The following are summary designation and descriptors for end-of-year promotion status of students in grades six-eight.

Promoted – The student met all promotion criteria. The one exception is that students who fail a high school credit bearing course in middle school are promoted but must retake the course. Enrollment in these credit bearing courses will be determined by the district criteria as stated in the Master Catalog of Middle School Courses which is located in the Important Items section of the Infoweb.

Promoted - Summer School Required - The student failed to meet the criteria for one or two core academic areas, but successful performance in summer school for any deficient area was met.



Northwest Middle



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SIXTH GRADE COURSE CATALOG



ADMINISTRATION

Principal	Mr. Lee Givins
Assitant Principal	Mrs. Julie Carlson
Administrative Assistant	Mr. Terrence Harris

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Noreen O'Connor	Counselor
Ms. Phyllis Barber	Counselor
Mr. Furman Jackson	Career Facilitator
Mrs. Vivian Laws	Clerk

The Northwest Middle School Community Unites to Give 100% Effort, 100% of the Time to Achieve Academic and Personal Success.

The sixth grade at Northwest Middle School is comprised of three four-teacher teams. Each team consists of an English/language arts teacher, math teacher, science teacher, and social studies teacher. Our teams work collaboratively to plan instructional units which address IBMYP, state, and national standards. The team concept allows us to get to know each student well. In addition to the four academic classes, students will have two related arts classes each day. The related arts classes for 6th graders are 3rd and 4th periods.

Here is the 6th graders daily schedule:

8:30-8:35	Homeroom
8:35-9:25	First Period
9:30-10:20	Second Period
10:25-11:10	Third Period
11:15-12:00	Fourth Period (RA)
12:05-1:00	Fifth Period- Lunch/OA
1:05-1:55	Sixth Period
2:00-2:15	TULE Time
2:15-3:15	Seventh Period

HR - Take attendance, no students should be in the hall for bathrooms or lockers.

OA - Organization Assistance - Students use OA time to review assignments/homework. If they have questions they have a teacher to ask, may want to work in collaborative pairs.

TULE Time - Tie Up Loose Ends- Lockers, check assignment books, make sure students have what they need.

Academic Assistance:

We have continued a program from last year called **ZAP**; Zeros Aren't Permissible. Students who did not complete class or homework assignments do so during lunch.

We have recently added **Second Chance Tuesdays**. Students who need to make up a test can stay after school from 3:30 to 4:30 under the principal's supervision. Students will need to make arrangements ahead of time for a ride home.

We want each student's middle school experience to be a positive one. We are here to help make the transition from elementary to middle school a smooth one.

Students should experience success if they:

- Come to school each day prepared and ready to learn.
- Accept responsibility for their learning and behavior.
- Use appropriate organizational skills including recording assignments.
- Complete all assignments on time.
- Reflect on their learning each day.
- Communicate with their parents about school.
- Are willing to ask questions and ask for help.

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RELATED ARTS INFORMATION

There are eight quarters for students to take related arts. Our related arts classes are Spanish, PE, Band, Chorus, Music, Art, Computer Tech, and Family Living. Classes are set up as nine weeks (quarterly), semester, or year long classes. The length of the class will determine how many related arts classes the student has during the year.

PE/Health & Spanish are required semester classes. Students do not need to register for these classes since we will mass assign these courses.

Band and chorus are year long classes. If a student registers for band or chorus his schedule is complete because he must take PE and Spanish.

If a student does not register for band or chorus, he may register for the four quarterly classes. Quarterly related arts classes are art, computer tech, family & consumer(home living), and music.

The tutorial class is a year long class taken during one of the related arts periods. This class will be assigned by the teacher/counselor. The student will also take PE. He may choose two quarterly related arts classes.

Students who enroll in Christian release time will participate in this activity once a week in place of one of their related arts classes.



**We are looking forward
to getting to see you at
Northwest!**

Course Descriptions

English

Title: English Strategies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet one or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation ; PASS score of Not Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of <213

This course is designed to meet the needs of students transitioning from elementary to middle school instruction in reading and language arts. Instruction will continue to reinforce foundational skills in reading and provide ample scaffolding for those students whose reading skills are still developing. Writing instruction, vocabulary development, and research skills will be taught in conjunction with the literature studied.

Course Number: 10013000

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: English Studies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet two or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation; PASS score of Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of 213 - 236

This course is designed to meet the needs of those students whose reading and language arts skills are sufficient to allow them to read more difficult texts, analyze what they have read more deeply, and respond without difficulty to the text in writing. The students in this course do not require foundational instruction in reading strategies; however, they will continue to receive instruction in more sophisticated reading practices that prepare the student for literary analysis. All writing instruction, vocabulary development, and research opportunities will be in response to a text read. Students can expect instruction to move at an accelerated pace.

Course Number: 10013100

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: English GT 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Identified as GTA (Gifted and Talented Academic)with a MAP RIT score >236

This course is designed to meet the needs of academically gifted and talented students who were identified through the standard measures implemented by The School District of Greenville County. The curriculum designed specifically for this course meets the guidelines set forth by the South Carolina State Department of Education as criteria for Gifted and Talented instruction. Students should expect to find the curriculum challenging in a number of ways: text complexity, analytical writing, problem solving, creative endeavors, and accelerated pace.

Course Number: 10013200

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Reading Assistance 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Guidance Placement

This course offers students remediation and additional assistance in reading skills in support of on grade level instruction in the regular Language Arts and/or Literature classroom.

Course Number: 10240000

Duration:

Short Title:

Math

Title: Math 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This standards-based sixth-grade course is designed to help students begin the transition from arithmetic to algebraic thinking. It includes concepts, operations, and problems solving with decimals, fractions, and percents in addition to an introduction to integers and ratios. Students will develop algebraic thinking through the investigation of patterns, the use of simple equations and inequalities to represent relationships, and the use of tables and graphs to solve problems. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections.

Course Number: 11100600

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Math 7 for 6th Graders

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Must meet district criteria including Teacher recommendation

The emphasis in this standards-based seventh-grade course is on algebraic thinking and on extending the understanding of the real number system to include integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers. Students will investigate applications of number theory and will acquire skills in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers. Students will solve applied problems by using one-step equations and inequalities, percents, and proportional reasoning. Students will develop algebraic thinking by analyzing patterns to discover relationships, by representing information through symbolic, graphical, and tabular methods, and by identifying relationships that are linear. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections.

Course Number: 21100900

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Math Assistance 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Guidance Placement

This course offers students remediation and additional assistance in math skills in support of on grade level instruction in the regular math classroom.

Course Number: 11010000

Duration:

Short Title:

Science

Title: Science 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 12010000
Duration:
Short Title:

The focus for science in sixth grade is to provide students with inquiry based experiences that develop science concepts in the following areas: Structures, Processes and Response of Plants-structure and function of plants; Structures, Processes and Responses of Animals-structure and function of animals; Earths Atmosphere and Weather-atmospheric properties and processes; and, Conservation of Energy-properties of energy, work, and conservation of energy.

Social Studies

Title: Social Studies 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 13010000
Duration:
Short Title:

Sixth grade social studies expands students' understanding of history through the study of people, places, and events to the era of European exploration and settlement. Students focus not only on facts about various cultures but also on the significance of geography in history, their everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of people, and their roles in developing the social, economic, and political structures of major civilizations. Instruction should emphasize the elements of social studies literacy—the tools, strategies, and perspectives necessary for understanding how history, geography, economics and government are interwoven.

Arts

Title: Art 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15010000
Duration:
Short Title:

The purpose of this course is to enable students to communicate ideas and concepts through a variety of artwork, including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, arts, and crafts. A study of artists and their work will help students understand the techniques, skills, and diverse intentions of artists from many cultures and times. Students will focus on developing creative problem-solving skills, visual literacy, and personal expression.

Title: Band 6 Brass
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15311600
Duration:
Short Title:

This course provides beginning-level instruction for trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium and tuba. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.

Title: Band 6 Woodwinds
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15311700
Duration:
Short Title:

This course is a beginning-level course for Woodwind instruments. Middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.

Title: Chorus 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15410000
Duration:
Short Title:

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental vocal musicianship, technical skills, and aesthetic awareness through the study and performance of varied middle school choral literature. The curriculum for Chorus 6 includes vocal technique, part singing, music fundamentals, and singing music of various historical and world styles through large and small group participation. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of the musical concepts.

Title: Music 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15610000
Duration:
Short Title:

This is a course providing students with the opportunity to explore musical concepts and further their understanding of music through listening, singing, playing instruments, and engaging in creative activities.

Foreign Language

Title: Spanish 6 Beginner Level

Course Number: 16500000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

Aligned with the district's vision, philosophy, and goals for world language education, this beginner course introduces students to the second language through high-quality learning experiences. Not only do students gain an understanding of what it means to learn a new language, they also experience progress over time and are likely to be motivated to continue language study. Students learn enough language to ensure that they will not be total beginners when they take another course in the same language. The goal of this course is to develop some language competence.

Physical Education

Title: PE / Health 6

Course Number: 14401200

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

Enrollment in this course fulfills the regulation that all students will complete one quarter of physical education each year in grades 6 – 8 and all students will complete one quarter of health each year in grades 6 - 8. The content of the course will consist of both health and PE standards-based instruction.

Career and Tech

Title: Family&Consumer6

Course Number: 18580000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

Family and Consumer Sciences introduces students to relationship development skills, resources, home safety and security, childcare responsibilities, personal image strategies, basic food preparation techniques, and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Miscellaneous

Title: Computer Tech 6

Course Number: 17010000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: Keyboarding skills

This course provides the student an opportunity to work with word processing, spreadsheets, and PowerPoint presentations.