# CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Inspiring each student every day

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

## 2021 - 2022

**i-*Learn*@EP**

*Individualized and Engaging Digital Learning*

**CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL**
**Independent School District No. 272**

**8025 School Road**
**Eden Prairie, MN 55344**
**(952) 975-7300**
**edenpr.org/cms**

Principal
Mr. Nathan Swenson

Associate Principal
Mr. Richard Larson

Administrative Deans
Ms. Amal Younis
Ms. Quyen Phan
Mr. Gilbert Hale

Counselors
Ms. Jennifer Hanson
Mr. Foster Killen Ms.
Kristine Myers Ms.
Roxanna Reyes Ms.
Gretchen Schuett

Social Worker
Ms. Linda Yelland

Superintendent
Dr. Josh Swanson

Associate Superintendent
Dr. Carlondrea Hines

School Board
Mr. Aaron Casper
Mr. Debjyoti "DD" Dwivedy
Ms. Beth Fletcher
Ms. Kim Ross
Mr. Adam Seidel
Ms. Karla Bratrud
Mr. CJ Strehl

School Psychologist
Ms. Georgi Speliopoulous

The curriculum guide provides descriptions of required and exploratory courses offered at CMS. Register for courses that are suitable for your ability level. One of the keys to success at CMS is selecting courses that interest, challenge and inspire you to achieve more. If you or your parents have any questions regarding the best course for you, please contact us at CMS so a staff member can assist in the decision making process.

## PHILOSOPHY

We believe that education is important, teachers are professionals and that the school is a valid institution of learning. Education will provide for physical, emotional, social and intellectual growth and individuality. Middle school students are unique. They are in varied stages of physical change. They experience emotional uncertainties, including an increasing sense of isolation as well as a need to belong. Intellectually, they are eager to test new skills and knowledge while also seeking security and encouragement.

Our school will respond with a positive learning environment which provides for these individual differences. In addition, middle school is a transition between the elementary and high school. We must provide a nurturing learning environment which encourages growing independence and exploration while students develop habits, attitudes, skills, appreciations and ideas essential for a lifetime of learning. This environment will be caring, exciting, challenging and comforting. We strive to provide a model for responsible adult behavior while allowing for the activity of youthful enthusiasm. CMS is a vital part of the total community. We encourage a partnership among school, home and the greater community by encouraging involvement, cooperation, responsibility and communication. We believe the staff at CMS is empowered to have a substantial impact on the system of learning and we encourage cooperation, collaboration, innovation and support among staff members.

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# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS


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# STUDENT SERVICES

## COUNSELING

Our counselors provide academic and social/emotional support to students and families. Each student is assigned a counselor alphabetically according to last name. Parents, students and teachers can request meetings with their student's counselor if they have a concern. Our counselors have experience with a variety of issues which can impact students and families at this age. Some of these issues include anxiety, depression, conflict, family changes, grief, anger, healthy relationships, communication, personal safety and academic struggles. If you or your child need more information about our counseling services, please call 952-975-7330.

## SUCCESS CENTER

Success Center is a quiet place to go after school to do homework, work on a project, study for a test or read quietly. Teachers may make referrals to the Success Center for students by indicating what work needs to be completed. Open to all CMS students, Success Center is available Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:25 – 3:50 p.m. Supervisor: Mr. Jensen, Room 107.

## HEALTH SERVICES

The Health Services department includes a Licensed School Nurse (RN) and Health Services Assistants who work together to meet the health needs of all students at CMS. Health Services works with the Minnesota Department of Health to maintain and report compliance with the Minnesota School Immunization State Law. They monitor and update health files on each student at CMS, conduct annual vision and hearing

screenings for 7th Graders and monitor & provide information regarding communicable diseases. The School Nurse plans for the ongoing direct services for chronically ill or medically fragile students requiring medical procedures. In addition, the School Nurse serves as a resource, consultant and team member with staff and community. The Health Services Assistant is certified in CPR and first aid. The Health Services Assistant provides immediate first aid and comfort to injured students, care for students who become ill or have health concerns and administers medications according to physician orders and parent requests.

# SPECIAL SERVICES

We strive to meet the needs of all students in each classroom, however, there are some who are better accommodated through Special Services. Please review some of the services below and note some are only available through referral process and/or testing. If you would like more information, please call CMS at 952-975-7300.

### PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Our Psychologist is available to provide assessments for learning disabilities and emotional/behavioral or developmental disorders. Teachers and parents can request consultations with the Psychologist when education concerns arise. Program development and staff/parent in-services on psychological topics are also provided.

### SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

The CMS Social Worker supports the emotional/social growth of adolescents through work with families to address concerns and facilitate connections to needed social and mental health services in the community.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students who meet state criteria in 13 disability areas are provided Special Education services. This includes: specific learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, developmental cognitive disability, physically impaired, traumatic brain injury, speech/language impairment, vision/hearing impairment and emotional/behavior disorder. A team consisting of parents, teachers and the student is built to collaborate and develop an Individual Education Program (IEP) which provides guidance for meeting the student's needs.

CMS provides a continuum of services based upon individual student needs. Students may receive special education service in the general education classroom or in a small class setting depending upon where their educational needs are best met. Services in these settings may be provided by special education staff in a variety of ways:

- Collaborating with a team of classroom teachers and paraprofessionals to plan instruction for students with disabilities.

- Partnering with general education instructors in various subject areas to provide access to the general education curriculum.

- Working directly with students on specific skill development and promotion of self-advocacy skills.

- Monitoring and accommodating for student progress in the general curriculum.

## ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAM (ALP)

Alternative Learning Program (ALP) classes are designed to engage and support learners in a targeted format to meet individual student needs in a smaller group setting.

ALP Math
Math Workshop
ALP English
Academic Seminar

All courses are taught by teachers certified in their subject matter and offer smaller class sizes to allow for a more individualized & interactive learning experience.

ALP Courses are not appropriate for every student and there is a process to enroll. Contact Allison Poss at (952) 975-7374 or allison_poss@edenpr.k12.mn.us with any questions.

## AVID

The CMS AVID Elective course is designed to prepare students for success when they begin more demanding courses offered through CMS, at the high school and throughout college. These students seek to challenge themselves with rigorous coursework in the future.

AVID is not appropriate for every student and there is an application process to enroll. Contact Lisa Senne at 952-975-6867 or lisa_senne@edenpr.k12.mn.us with any questions.

## HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

Homebound instruction is available for individual students confined to their homes or a hospital for an extended period. This service may begin after 15 days of absenteeism with approval of a physician. To begin this service, contact the Special Services Department at 952-975-7043.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ELD)

ELD (English language development) courses are offered to students who are in need of additional support for English acquisition, as determined by the Minnesota Department of Education's ACCESS test, which determines students' English proficiency levels. CMS offers two types of ELD courses: ELD Content and ELD 7/8.

**ELD Content** is a course designed to support mainstream classes by strengthening academic vocabulary skills and background content.

**ELD 7/8** focuses on reading, writing, speaking and listening and is available to students who test at a proficiency level of 1 or 2.

Classes are tailored to students' needs and ensure that they will have the academic skills necessary to fully participate in their mainstream classes when they exit from the ELD program. Focus is on reading, writing, speaking and listening. Classes are tailored to students' needs and ensure that they will have the academic skills necessary to fully participate in the mainstream classroom curriculum and discussions when they exit from the program.

# GIFTED & TALENTED PROGRAM

### CORE CURRICULUM

Advanced Core Courses are designed for MOSAIC and students who have met qualifying criteria. These courses provide grade-level standards that are personalized through inquiry-based learning. Authentic learning and real-world connections are the foundation of these rigorous courses with advanced discussions and research projects that incorporate more abstract and interdisciplinary thinking. MOSAIC students may register for any Advanced courses. Additional students may qualify for Advanced Courses based on exemplary performance on achievement measures.

## 6th GRADE

Advanced Core Courses in Science, Social Studies, Reading and English are offered for 6th grade students.

### CLUSTER GROUPING

Cluster grouping is a level III service which places groups of four to eight gifted-identified students in mixed ability classrooms which helps teachers plan for and deliver appropriately challenging learning. Teachers are trained to differentiate curriculum and instruction for gifted students. Classes will have students with a range of learning abilities and levels. Learning opportunities are open to all students in the class, and teachers use students' readiness to determine levels and pace of curriculum.

### KEY *iMPACT!*

This course will continue the elementary KEY program experience by featuring a compacted version of the *iMPACT!* curriculum that has been adapted for gifted learners.

# 7th & 8th GRADE

Advanced Core Courses in Science, Social Studies and English are offered for 7th & 8th students.

**ENRICHED COURSES**

Enriched courses deliver grade-level standards with rigorous coursework and high-level discussions, with an emphasis on independent learning. Highly motivated students who are willing to persevere may self-select these courses.

# ACCELERATED MATH

Accelerated or Above-grade level math courses are available for qualified students who have completed prerequisite classes or have shown mastery of standards.

| IF YOU MASTERED... | | REGISTER FOR... |
|---|---|---|
| 6th GRADE MATH STANDARDS | ✔ | HONORS PRE-ALGEBRA 6 |
| PRE-ALGEBRA | ✔ | HONORS ALGEBRA 7 |
| HONORS ALGEBRA (LINEAR & QUADRATIC) | ✔ | HONORS GEOMETRY 8 |
| HONORS GEOMETRY 8 | ✔ | EPHS MATH |

**Honors Algebra 8** differs in content from **Algebra 8** with the addition of Quadratic algebra and is taught at a faster pace. This course is designed as preparation for Honors math courses at the high school. Successful students typically have a solid foundation in PreAlgebra concepts, understand mathematical concepts quickly,and have the motivation with the ability to persevere.

## MASTERY OF STANDARDS

If course placement cannot be determined by previous coursework, students may be assessed on their mastery of standards to determine the appropriate class. All assessments must be completed by August 15 In order to create an optimal schedule for the following school year. Due to scheduling factors such as class size, availability and overall scheduling limitations, students are not guaranteed enrollment in a given course.

## ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Some students may choose online course options, at their expense, for remediation or acceleration purposes. CMS will accept completion under certain guidelines.

**University of Minnesota Talented Youth Mathematics Program (UMTYMP)** provides a tuition-based accelerated math program in the evening for exceptional math students. Students in this program will have a study period instead of a math class at CMS. Testing is in the spring. Find more information at http://www.mathcep.umn.edu/umtymp

Any questions on the Gifted & Talented programming at CMS may be directed to Alison Miller.

Alison Miller, CMS Gifted and Talented Coordinator
(952) 975-7342 or Alison_Miller@edenpr.k12.mn.us

# FLEX

Flex is a period in each student's day that is not permanently assigned. Students may choose which class they attend during Flex depending on their need at the time. All staff members create offerings for students to choose from within the following categories:

**Support**: This is for students who need support with current or past learning targets and/or skill development. Support could come through direct instruction, collaboration with others, or supported independent work time. Examples might be: additional practice, re-teaching, project work, study/work time, retakes.

**Extension**: This is for students who would like to dive deeper into the learning targets. "Going beyond" what was covered in class. Extension could come through direct instruction, collaboration with others, or independent work time.

**Discovery**: Experiences are offered based on student passions, interests and/or curiosities not directly linked to standards. Discovery could be delivered through direct instruction collaboration with others, or independent work time.

# 6th GRADE SPANISH IMMERSION

Students joining CMS from Eagle Heights Spanish Immersion will continue their immersive experience in 6th grade. During their first year at CMS, Spanish Immersion students will take the following courses in Spanish: Math, Social Studies, Reading (Spanish Language Arts), Science and Spanish Language Literature and Culture. The remaining courses will be delivered in English.

# COURSE OF STUDIES

CMS offers a required core curriculum that follows standards set by the state of Minnesota. Students may select elective courses such as World Language and Music options, as well as new options under our Pathways electives. Your academic career at CMS will allow you to increase your knowledge, explore your independence and experience tremendous growth as a middle school student.

| 6th Grade | | 7th & 8th Grade | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FULL YEAR | English<br>Science<br>Math<br>Reading<br>Social Studies | FULL YEAR | English<br>Science<br>Math<br>Social Studies |
| SEMESTER | PE/Health<br>Music | SEMESTER | PE<br>Music<br>Pathway Electives<br>World Language |
| QUARTER | *iMPACT!*<br>World Language<br>Art<br>Pathway Elective | QUARTER | Health<br>Art |

Please consider your choices carefully. Due to factors such as class size, availability and overall scheduling limitations, students are not guaranteed enrollment in a given course.

# ENRICHED COURSES

Enriched core courses deliver grade-level standards with rigorous coursework and high-level discussions, with an emphasis on independent learning. Highly motivated 7th and 8th grade students, who are willing to persevere, may self-select these courses.

# DAILY SCHEDULE

## 8-Period Modified Block

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st Period | 1st Period | 1st Period | 2nd Period | 1st Period |
| 2nd Period | 2nd Period | | | 2nd Period |
| 3rd Period | 3rd Period | 3rd Period | 4th Period | 3rd Period |
| 4th Period | 4th Period | | | 4th Period |
| 5th Period | 5th Period | 5th Period | 6th Period | 5th Period |
| 6th Period | 6th Period | | | 6th Period |
| 7th Period | 7th Period | 7th Period | 8th Period | 7th Period |
| 8th Period | 8th Period | | | 8th Period |

# ENGLISH 6

English 6 coursework implements a variety of processes and activities to guide students in developing their composition skills within a collaborative classroom writing community. Students will study professional writing examples within the genres of personal narrative, fiction, poetry, expository nonfiction, argumentative writing, and functional writing and will then compose their own original work within each genre by engaging in the writing process of brainstorming, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing.

# ADVANCED ENGLISH 6

Students utilize written voice and choice throughout this course. This literature based program allows students to see first-hand professionally written pieces. Each day, students utilize motivation and creativity through guided practice and 1:1 conferencing to produce work in the areas of personal narrative, fiction, expository nonfiction, functional, argumentative, and poetry.

**6th Grade English ELT**

# READING 6

Reading 6 coursework implements a variety of processes and activities to guide students in developing their reading skills within a collaborative classroom reading community. Students will study the skills of questioning, using text features, making inferences, analyzing text structure, determining important ideas, and synthesizing as they read fiction, poetry, drama, narrative nonfiction, and expository nonfiction texts. Independent reading is required and encouraged both within and outside of the classroom.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

# ADVANCED READING 6

Offers advanced students the opportunity to select, adapt and use multiple instructional strategies to show proof of learning through personal exploration, development and research to reach common educational goals found within Minnesota State Standards. Inquiry based, creative differentiation for advanced students, will be the focus of this rigorous literature based course. Reading inside/ outside of the classroom, strong vocabulary development as well as the understanding of the mechanics of genres lends to the comprehensive meaning of the written word.

**6th Grade Reading ELT**

# ENGLISH 7

English 7 coursework implements a variety of processes and activities to guide students in developing their communication skills. This includes: clear writing, critical reading, thoughtful listening and speaking fluently. Literary elements are studied through novels, dramas, short stories and poetry. Independent reading is required and encouraged both in and outside of the classroom.

# ADVANCED ENGLISH 7

Advanced English 7 is for students working well above grade level, generally incoming Mosaic students. Students in this course must have a firm grasp of writing conventions and require little help in the structure and organization of writing. Advanced English includes an emphasis on individualized education and concluding capstone projects that incorporate research and oral presentations. Student work is centered around clear writing, critical reading and thinking skills, thoughtful listening and fluent speaking. Literary elements are studied in the context of various novels, dramas, short stories and poetry. Independent reading is required and encouraged both inside and outside of the classroom setting.

**7th Grade English ELT**

# ENGLISH 8

English 8 coursework implements a variety of processes and activities to guide students in developing their communication skills. This includes: clear writing, critical reading, thoughtful listening and speaking fluently. Literary elements are studied through novels, dramas, short stories and poetry. Independent reading is required and encouraged both in and outside of the classroom.

# ADVANCED ENGLISH 8

Advanced English 8 is for students working well above grade level. Students in this course must have a firm grasp of writing conventions and require little help in the structure and organization of writing. Advanced English includes an emphasis on individualized education and concluding capstone projects that incorporate research and oral presentations. Student work is centered around clear writing, critical reading and thinking skills, thoughtful listening and fluent speaking. Literary elements are studied in the context of various novels, dramas, short stories and poetry. Independent reading is required and encouraged both inside and outside of the classroom setting.

**8th Grade English ELT**

# MATH 6

Math 6 integrates strategies that foster conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and contextual application of mathematics. The curriculum used, Big Ideas Math, provides a balanced approach of student-led discovery and direct instruction. This approach opens doors to abstract thought, reasoning and inquiry as students persevere to answer the essential questions that drive instruction.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

**Math 6 ELT**

# HONORS PRE-ALGEBRA 6

Honors Pre-Algebra 6 integrates strategies that focus on conceptual and procedural learning with a goal of concept retention. The curriculum used, Big Ideas Math, provides a balanced approach of student led discovery and direct instruction. This approach opens doors to abstract thought, reasoning and inquiry as students persevere to answer the essential questions that drive instruction. Students are given step-by-step examples to complete the lessons. Students are provided the precise language and structure necessary to build mathematical understanding and proficiency. This is an accelerated grade level math for students who have mastered $6^{th}$ grade math standards. A placement process will determine whether non-MOSAIC students are eligible for these courses; they are not self-select courses. Successful completion of this course is preparation for Honors Algebra 7.

**Honors Pre-Algebra 6 ELT**

# PRE-ALGEBRA 7

Pre-Algebra 7 integrates strategies that focus on conceptual and procedural learning with a goal of concept retention. The curriculum used, Big Ideas Math, provides a balanced approach of student led discovery and direct instruction. This approach opens doors to abstract thought, reasoning and inquiry as students persevere to answer the essential questions that drive instruction. Students are provided the precise language and structure necessary to build mathematical understanding and proficiency. Successful completion of this course is preparation for 8th grade Algebra.

**Pre-Algebra 7 ELT**

# HONORS ALGEBRA 7

Honors Algebra 7 is accelerated grade level math for students who have mastered Pre-Algebra. Two sections of Honors Algebra are offered that cover all state standards through Linear and Quadratic Algebra. A placement process will determine whether students are eligible for these courses; they are not self-select courses.

**Section 1** – Designed for students who tend to process information more deliberately. Greater emphasis is given to conceptual understanding through activities and more examples are covered in class. Daily homework will have fewer problems as deliberate processors may need more time per problem.

**Section 2** – Designed for students who tend to process information very quickly based on their strong conceptual understanding. These students tend to see few examples and are confidently ready to continue.

**Honors Algebra 7 ELT**

# ALGEBRA 8

Algebra 8 is supported by Big Ideas Math (Algebra) curriculum. Big Ideas Math integrates strategies that focus on conceptual and procedural learning with a goal of concept retention. Big Ideas Math delivers a unique and revolutionary curriculum providing a balanced instructional approach of discovery and direct instruction. This approach opens doors to abstract thought, reasoning and inquiry as students persevere to answer the Essential Questions that drive instruction. Clearly stepped-out examples complete the lesson and provide students with the precise language and structure necessary to build mathematical understanding and proficiency.

**Algebra 8 ELT**

# HONORS ALGEBRA 8

Honors Algebra 8 differs from Algebra 8 with additional concepts taught at a faster pace. Students must be able to persevere and be self-driven to engage in deep mathematical content. Successful students typically have a solid foundation in Pre-Algebra concepts, understand mathematical concepts quickly,and have the motivation with the ability to persevere. Students are encouraged to consult with their 7th grade math teacher.

**Honors Algebra 8 ELT**

# HONORS GEOMETRY 8

Honors Geometry 8 is available for grade-level accelerated students who have successfully completed Honors Algebra. We will study the language, logic and applications of Euclidean, transformational, coordinate and solid geometry. Students will analyze patterns used to measure the world around them in terms of space, shape, and size. Honors Geometry is a high school course. Students' grades for this course will be recorded on their high school transcript, however their grades will not be used in their cumulative GPA. **Entrance Criteria: Completion of Honors Algebra (Linear and Quadratic Algebra) or have shown mastery of standards.**

**Section 1**— Designed for students who tend to process information more deliberately and who might benefit from Algebraic review. Emphasis is given to conceptual understanding through activities and creating connections to develop a core understanding of material and move away from memorizing rules and procedures.

**Section 2**—Designed for students who tend to process information very quickly and have a strong Algebraic understanding. These students tend to see few examples and are confidently ready to continue. There is a strong conceptual understanding so students are able to generalize concepts and apply variations in new problems.

**Honors Geometry ELT**

# SCIENCE 6

Science 6 (Earth & Space) students will learn how to make sense of the natural world through a hands-on, inquiry-based approach to instruction. Students will study concepts and career pathways related to Earth's place in the universe, Earth's systems and processes, weather and climate, and human impacts and sustainability. At the same time, they will work collaboratively with peers to develop the scientific practices of asking questions, carrying out investigations, analyzing data, engaging in argument from evidence, and more. As students become scientists themselves, they will study real-world phenomena and engage in ethical decision-making based on diverse perspectives and divergent thinking required of global citizens in the 21st century.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

# ADVANCED SCIENCE 6

Utilizing STEM/STEAM students will incorporate Minnesota State standards through a rigorous inquiry based program. This program incorporates Earth and Space science. Students will work in a project based environment to personalize learning and achieve common curricular goals. Students will also be able to participates in competitions throughout the Twin Cities.  i.e. 3M Young Scientist Challenge.

**6th Grade Science ELT**

# SCIENCE 7

Science 7 curriculum emphasizes hands-on, sequential experiences through which students discover important science concepts and develop laboratory and thinking skills. Science 7 concepts for study include investigations into the practice of science, planning and conducting controlled experiments, structure, function and classification of living things, cells, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, human body systems, ecology, genetics, evolution and introductory chemistry.

# ADVANCED SCIENCE 7

Advanced Science 7 includes units on the practice of science, planning and conducting controlled experiments, structure, function and classification of living things, cells, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, human body systems, ecology, genetics, evolution and introductory chemistry. In addition to this foundational study, Advanced Science students will read, analyze and write summaries from several sources outside the normal science textbook. Collaboration is key as some group projects will require a high degree of coordination and cooperation. Successful Advanced Science Students are highly motivated, thrive on independent work and embrace challenges.

**7th Grade Science ELT**

# SCIENCE 8

Science 8 is an exploration of select topics from Earth Science, Physical Science and Experimental Design. Each of these units will include a variety of hands-on labs, multimedia simulations, animations and videos, along with more traditional textbook and print materials. Specific areas covered this year include geology, astronomy, meteorology, acids and bases, properties of matter, pressure, states of matter and experimental design. We emphasize hands-on sequential experiences through which students discover important science concepts and develop laboratory and critical thinking skills. During the year, students will be learning about these concepts as well as how science helps in understanding the world around them.

# ADVANCED SCIENCE 8

Advanced Science 8 includes units on Astronomy, Geology, Meteorology, Experimental Design and Physical Science. In addition to this foundational study, Advanced Science students will read, analyze and write summaries from several sources outside the normal science textbook. Advanced science is also very mathematically rigorous. Collaboration is  key as some group projects will require a high degree of coordination and cooperation. Successful Advanced Science Students are highly motivated, thrive on independent work and embrace challenges.

**8th Grade Science ELT**

# SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Social Studies 6 is a course in Minnesota Studies, where students learn about the history, government, geography, and economy of our state and Minnesota's role within the larger context of the country. The course is organized and taught in a chronological fashion, beginning with a study of the indigenous people of the upper Mississippi River region and continuing through the present day. In addition to state Social Studies standards, the course also helps to orient students to general academic expectations of middle school and works to develop college and career readiness ("AVID") strategies of writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

# ADVANCED SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Students will utilize the Northern Lights. It's all about the great state of Minnesota! Students will utilize research skills to produce living maps, participate in mock social justice trials as well as researching some of the most interesting historical events in Minnesota history! This course requires creativity and divergent thinking.

**6th Grade Social Studies ELT**

# SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Social Studies 7 is a United States History course that follows Minnesota state standards. This course follows a chronology of US History from the 19th and 20th centuries.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

# ADVANCED SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Advanced Social Studies 7 is designed for students who have been in the Mosaic program. It follows a chronology of US History from the 19th and 20th centuries. Students will participate in History Day and will complete an in-depth research project. Students should also exhibit an intellectual curiosity about American History and be motivated to work hard to exceed expectations.

**7th Grade Social Studies ELT**

# SOCIAL STUDIES 8

In Social Studies 8, we engage students in an exploratory and discovery learning process to integrate personal culture and background with historical and present day contexts. Students utilize mapping, physical and human geography skills to apply knowledge of self, diverse cultures and a range of communities to process information, research various topics and make informed decisions regarding citizenship, cultural spaces, equity, justice and human rights.

**This course is taught entirely in Spanish for students in the Spanish Immersion program.**

# ADVANCED SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Advanced Social Studies 8 is designed for students who have been excelling in advanced coursework. Advanced Social Studies 8 is a global geography curriculum that follows Minnesota State Standards. This curriculum includes mapping skills, geo-technologies, physical geography and human geography. The course is predominately organized around thematic issues. In addition, students will participate in History Day and will complete an in-depth research project. A successful student in Advanced Social Studies exhibits an intellectual curiosity about geopolitical events and is comfortable taking a position.

**8th Grade Social Studies ELT**

# INTRO TO WORLD LANGUAGE 6

This quarter-long course will provide an introduction to the four major languages that students will be able to select for extended study as 7th and 8th graders: Spanish, French, German, and Chinese. Students will learn some of the basic tenets of each language and explore the countries and cultures where each language is used to help them make an informed decision for future world language study course selection.

# WORLD LANGUAGE 7 & 8

World Language is our connection to our community and our world. The learning of a second language and its culture is an integral part of the student's total learning experience. The ability to communicate in a second language increases opportunities to interact with other people and to gain insight into other cultures. The world language philosophy emphasizes a communicative approach through listening, speaking, reading and writing. The focus is on what the students can do with the language and how well they can communicate in given situations.

**The language selected in 7th grade will continue for a semester in 8th grade. Languages offered are listed below and include ELT links.**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Chinese 7** | **French 7** | **German 7** | **Spanish 7** |
| **Chinese 8** | **French 8** | **German 8** | **Spanish 8** |

# SPANISH LANGUAGE LIT & CULTURE 6

This course is designed for 6th grade Spanish Immersion students. It is focused on grammar and cultural components of the Spanish language. This course will be interdisciplinary in nature and taught entirely in Spanish. The course prepares students for Spanish Literature and Culture 7.

# SPANISH LANGUAGE LIT & CULTURE 7 & 8

Spanish Literature and Culture is a continuation course designed for students who have attended the Spanish Immersion program and/or are advanced speakers of the Spanish language. Students will be transitioned from content-based instruction to sequential World Language study. This course will help students focus on how the language works. Students will begin more in-depth studies of the language itself, literature, cultural practices and idioms. Grammar accuracy and literacy will become more emphasized in this phase of their language learning. This course will be interdisciplinary in nature and will be taught entirely in Spanish.

**Spanish Language & Culture 7 ELT**
**Spanish Language & Culture 8 ELT**

# EXPLORING MUSIC 6, 7 & 8

Exploring Music emphasizes music knowledge for students who do not wish to work in a performance area, including opportunities to reinforce basic music concepts and cultivate a broader understanding of music. Students will develop an understanding of many different music genres, study the cultural and historical impact of music and develop critical thinking skills in relation to music. Units may include popular music of today, movie music, and music composition.

**The student's music choice continues in the following grades throughout CMS.**

**6th Grade**
Exploring Music alternates every other day with Physical Education and Health

**7th & 8th Grade**
Exploring Music alternates every other day with Physical Education.

**Exploring Music 6 ELT**
**Exploring Music 7 ELT**
**Exploring Music 8 ELT**

# BAND 6, 7 & 8

Band rehearsals are geared to provide enjoyment of a variety of music. Emphasis is placed on developing correct playing habits, perfecting music for performances and developing self confidence in a positive environment. Placement is determined by instrumentation needs, school class schedule and observed student achievement. There is a user fee for percussionists and students who use school bass clarinets, tenor saxophones, horns, baritones and tubas required to cover the cost of repair/replacement on equipment. Scholarships may be available upon request. Students will participate in three scheduled concerts during the school year. Concerts take place outside of the school day.

**The students music choice continues in the following grades throughout CMS.**

**6th Grade**
Band alternates every other day with Physical Education and Health

**7th & 8th Grade**
Band alternates every other day with Physical Education.

**Band ELT**

# ORCHESTRA 6, 7 & 8

Orchestra provides the opportunity for students to develop self-confidence, explore creative expression and increase musical proficiency through continued study of a stringed instrument along with the study of basic theory, ear training, solo and ensemble playing and instrument turning. Emphasis is placed on developing correct playing habits and achieving graduation standards. Students will participate in three scheduled concerts during the school year. Concerts take place outside of the school day.

**The student's music choice continues in the following grades throughout CMS.**

**6th Grade**
Orchestra alternates every other day with Physical Education and Health

**7th & 8th Grade**
Orchestra alternates every other day with Physical Education.

**Orchestra ELT**

# CHOIR 6, 7 & 8

Choir emphasizes vocal music and performance within the framework of the basic music curriculum. This course is for students who enjoy singing, have a desire to improve their vocal music skills independently as well as in a group and are interested in active participation and performance. Students will have the opportunity to develop self-confidence, explore creative expression and interpretation and enhance their musical proficiency through rehearsals, class participation, performance, listening experiences, written activities and journaling. Students enrolled in Choir participate in at least two concerts per year. Concerts are outside of the regular school day.

**The student's music choice continues in the following grades throughout CMS.**

**6th Grade**
Choir alternates every other day with Physical Education and Health

**7th & 8th Grade**
Choir alternates every other day with Physical Education.

**Choir ELT**

# iMPACT! 6

In *iMPACT!* students engage in a journey to discover their cultural identities while learning about other perspectives and cultures represented in the community. Students investigate their natural strengths, areas of potential growth, and interests in order to set goals and advocate for themselves and others. Students discover and align their unique preferences, skills and values to be better prepared to make choices regarding career and education pathways with an understanding of the personal economic implications of these choices. With this knowledge, students will formulate a plan utilizing ethical decision making for how they might personally impact the local and global community immediately as well as through a vocational career.

***iMPACT! 6 ELT***

# PE / HEALTH 6

Students in this course will examine personal, cultural, and historical perspectives on physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction. They will develop decision-making, goal-setting, and communication skills to enhance their overall health. Students will evaluate health-related career pathways in order to establish personal goals and exercise financial literacy in lifestyle choices. Students will demonstrate the ability to critically analyze information, products, and services as well as the influence of outside sources, and collaborate to exhibit problem-solving personal and social behaviors that advocate for the human right to health.

**Course Requirement**
Students are required to wear a uniform. The uniform consists of a red shirt/sweatshirt, black shorts/sweatpants and tennis shoes.

6th Grade: Alternates PE/Health with Music daily

# HEALTH 7 & 8

Health focuses on promoting healthy choices and examining consequences. Throughout the curriculum you will learn about physical, mental, emotional and social health.

Themed units include: interpreting media messages, drugs, alcohol and tobacco prevention, mental health, human growth and development, reproduction, violence and anger management, online safety, bullying and other current topics related to the overall health and wellness of our students. Also covered are resources available for support with substance abuse, or other areas affecting students well-being.

7th & 8th Grade: Health is a quarter long required course.

**Health 7 ELT**
**Health 8 ELT**

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7 & 8

Physical Education at CMS is designed to promote interest and enjoyment in an active lifestyle for all students. Our program guides students to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to adopt an active lifestyle. We introduce students to a variety of activities, sure to spark interests in all students. The overall goal is for students to incorporate physical activity on a consistent basis so it becomes a lifelong habit. Throughout the quarter students may play: team handball, soccer, volleyball, badminton, basketball, football, track and field, lacrosse, ultimate Frisbee and/or tennis. Students will also participate in fitness testing and cooperative games.

**Course Requirement**
Students are required to wear a uniform. The uniform consists of a red shirt/sweatshirt, black shorts/sweatpants and tennis shoes.

7th & 8th Grade: Alternates Physical Education with Music daily

**Physical Education 7 ELT**
**Physical Education 8 ELT**

# PATHWAY ELECTIVE 6

## PATHWAY TO ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY 6

What is technology? In this class students will explore the history and present impacts of technological fields and trades through cross-cultural investigation using STEM to provide solutions to human and social problems related to rights and equity. Students will engage in introspection into their own values around technology and engineering in order to inspire questions, ideas, and define engineering and technology pathways. Students will leverage a range of skills to gain literacy including those intellectual, technological and financial. Class learning experiences include using hand tools, basic machines, robotics, basic coding, engineering, electricity and transportation systems to apply the design process. Students will utilize law and ethics to problem solve through activities incorporating collaboration, communicating ideas, and computers in hands-on learning.

## PATHWAY TO BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT 6

Students will exercise social emotional awareness and intellectual curiosity across personal and social contexts in order to explore business career pathways and develop personal financial literacy. Students will develop skills such as problem solving, communication, and collaboration, in order to manage information and build customer relationships in ever-changing digital and cultural environments. Students will apply ethical and legal considerations to their personal contributions to global systems through effective decision making.

# ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY 7

## DESIGNERS & MAKERS 7

Do you like to design and make things? This class will critically explore how the world is designed and produced by hand and machines. Students will utilize the engineering design process to tap into their creativity, inspire questions, ideas and paths they may choose in the field. Class experiences will include critical inquiry, decision-making in the application of processes and concepts for the integration of a variety of technological tools such as basic machines, hand tools, computer graphic design, laser engraving, vinyl cutters, and how these technologies can be used to design solutions to human and societal problems. Communication, problem solving, and relationship-building skills will be learned through a variety of collaborative activities that incorporate computers and hands-on learning.

## GReENGINEERING 7

In the STEM fields of architecture, electricity, and engineering, elements and processes in design and production are constantly solving problems. This class will critically explore and increase consciousness of what it means to be “green” in these STEM fields, and the positive impact these innovations have on society and the natural world. Students will practice engaging globally and collaboratively as we find inclusive solutions to sustainability problems. Class experiences will include using computers to design architecture, explore energy & electricity, build renewable energy projects and green engineering solutions. Problem solving skills will be developed through analyzing data, applying knowledge, and designing with technological and engineering practices in hands-on learning.

# BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT 7

## PERSONAL & BUSINESS CAREER LITERACY 7

Students will develop personal traits, collaborative behaviors, and a critical self-understanding to analyze similarities, differences and impact in relationships in ever-changing digital and cultural spaces. Students utilize job seeking skills and career advancement activities to exercise decision making that achieves personal and career goals. Integrate understanding of personal & historical contexts and academic & career options to envision and act upon ethical lifestyle choices and endeavors.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP 7

In this course students will explore, develop and apply strategies for ensuring a successful business career. To do so, students will understand the importance of professional ethics and legal responsibilities as well as the importance of health, safety, and environmental management systems in organizations. Using these skills, along with information technology tools specific to business careers, students will explore issues of human rights in business pathways. Students will think critically about barriers, risks, and opportunities in entrepreneurship based on historical inequities and personal and social contexts.

# ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY 8

## DESIGN, MODEL & MAKE 8

Take your designs and ideas to the next level in Design, Model & Make. This class will critically explore how the world is designed and produced by hand and machines. Design your ideas on the computer and bring them to life using 3D design, laser cutter/engraver, computer controlled machines, and power tools. Students reflect upon their own values and identity to examine problems they are passionate about solving through an ethical design process. Class experiences will include learning to use basic machines, hand tools, computer graphic design, CNC routers, 3D printers, vinyl cutters, and how technologies can be applied to individual ideas. Problem solving skills will be learned through a variety of collaborative activities that incorporate computers and hands-on learning.

## CODING & ROBOTICS 8

Take your mechanical and computer knowledge to the next level in this hands-on class. Learn the basics of assembling mechanical components to create and program a robot to creatively solve problems. Students will analyze the influence and impact of automated systems and how they apply to culture and society to make ethical engineering decisions. This class is a balance of designing, building and applying an autonomous robot to a given problem. Students will utilize the engineering design process to think critically through a problem, integrate knowledge of diverse perspectives, apply mechanical skills, and learn computer programming. This is a great place to start for those looking to start learning computer science.

# BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT 8

## PERSONAL & BUSINESS FINANCIAL LITERACY 8

What is money all about and how do I interact with it in my daily life? In this course, students will synthesize interests, career pathways, income, expenses, savings and investment to establish personal goals and exercise financial literacy in professional and lifestyle choices. We will critically analyze multiple perspectives on the history of money and how it has led to socio-economic inequities by empowering and disempowering diverse populations in lending and spending practices. We will learn to navigate economic systems and engage in ethical decision making to solve personal and social problems in a financially responsible way.

## BUSINESS LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT 8

In this course students will explore, develop and apply strategies for ensuring a successful business career. To do so, students will understand the importance of professional ethics and legal responsibilities as well as the importance of health, safety, and environmental management systems in organizations. Using these skills, along with technological systems skills specific to business careers, students will explore issues of human rights in business pathways. Students will think critically about inequities across personal, social, and historical contexts in order to be a leader in empowering communities to achieve justice-oriented goals. Students will execute leadership skills to perform roles on diverse collaborative teams in inclusive environments.

# FINE ARTS 6

## DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS EXPERIENCE 6

In this course, 6th grade students will develop techniques to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences in a digital environment. They will relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works while expanding their computer technology skills with mediums such as DSLR camera photography & photo editing, digital drawing, painting and collage, and graphic design. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their digital media literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity to define artistic pathways and make lifestyle choices which leverage a range of skills for personal success including financial literacy. Personalized and collaborative projects will include the use of Adobe Photoshop and Procreate.

## VISUAL ARTS EXPERIENCE 6

In this course, 6th grade students will develop techniques to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences. They will relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their visual literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity to define artistic pathways and make lifestyle choices which leverage a range of skills for personal success including financial literacy. Personalized and collaborative projects will include painting, drawing, sculpture, clay work, and digital arts.

# FINE ARTS 7

## ART, MEDIA & CULTURE 7

In this course students will critically think about the role of art and imagery in the modern world. Students will develop techniques to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences. They will relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works and solve problems through the exploration of human rights issues. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their visual literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity. Students will learn how to use a combination of digital and physical artmaking tools in order to create animations, animated gifs, illustrations, and graphic design artwork.

## DRAWING & PAINTING 7

In this course students will critically reflect on and increase sophistication in their drawing and painting skills. Students will learn basic techniques for creating both realistic and abstract artwork while trying out a variety of media in order to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences. They will relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works and solve problems through the exploration of human rights issues. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their visual literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity through acrylic paint, watercolor, pen & ink, graphite, charcoal, oil pastels and collage.

**Art 7 ELT**

# FINE ARTS 8

## VISUAL ARTS & IDENTITY 8

In this course students will critically think about the role of art and imagery in the modern world in both 2D and 3D media. Students will discover human commonalities and analyze differences in how artists from around the world have used their work to tell stories about human experiences and identity. Students will develop techniques to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences and share their own human experience and story. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their visual literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity. Students will learn how to use physical artmaking tools in order to relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works and solve problems to eliminate human rights inequities through painting, drawing, clay work, architecture, weaving, hand sewing, and bookmaking.

## 3D VISUAL ARTS 8

In this course students will critically reflect on and increase sophistication in their spatial thinking skills as they focus on designing and crafting 3D artwork. Students will learn basic techniques for creating both realistic and abstract artwork while trying out a variety of media in order to communicate artistic ideas to diverse audiences. They will relate knowledge, personal experiences, culture and historical context to understand and evaluate artistic works and solve problems through the exploration of human rights issues. Students will apply their learning in order to use and improve their visual literacy, social awareness, and intellectual curiosity through clay, plaster, cardboard, paint and more.

**Art 8 ELT**

# THEATER ARTS

## THEATER ARTS 6

Theater Arts 6 explores the dramatic elements of acting and technical theater to discover different ways to communicate meaning to diverse audiences and make strong choices for social, cultural, and historic impact. Students will analyze how their own perspective can influence artistic choices on stage and use that knowledge to evaluate artistic techniques and works. This study will help students to engage in critical inquiry, creative design, and process analysis to improve their own performance and define theater arts pathways to make lifestyle choices which leverage a range of skills for personal success including financial literacy.

## THEATER ARTS 7

Theater Arts 7 explores the dramatic elements of acting and technical theater to discover different ways to communicate meaning to diverse audiences and make strong choices for social, cultural, and historic impact. Students will analyze how their own perspective can influence artistic choices on stage and use that knowledge to evaluate artistic techniques and works around the world. This study will help students to engage in critical inquiry, creative design, and process analysis as they ready their own artistic creation for direction and staging in order to explore issues of human rights.

# THEATER ARTS

## THEATER ARTS 8

Theater Arts 8 explores the dramatic elements of acting and technical theater to discover different ways to communicate meaning to diverse audiences and make strong choices for social, cultural, and historic impact. Students will critically analyze multiple perspectives and ideas in career-focused theater pathways. This study will help students to engage in critical inquiry, creative design, and process analysis as they ready their own artistic creation for acting, direction and staging, in order to leverage personal and social knowledge to eliminate a significant inequity of choice.

# ESSENTIAL LEARNING TARGETS

## CORE CURRICULUM

English 6
Reading 6
Math 6
Honors Pre-Algebra 6
Science 6
Social Studies 6
English 7
Pre-Algebra 7
Honors Algebra 7
Science 7
Social Studies 7
English 8
Algebra 8
Honors Algebra 8
Honors Geometry
Science 8
Social Studies 8

## ELECTIVES

Business Bootcamp 6
Pathway to Technology & Engineering 6
***iMPACT! 6***
Art 6
Art 7
Art 8
Money Matters 7
Owning Your Digital Future 7
Business Communication & Leadership 8
Entrepreneurship 8
Designers and Makers 7
GreEngineering 7
Design, Model & Make 8
Coding & Robotics 8

**The digital version of the curriculum guide includes links to each essential learning target. If you are viewing a paper copy, please find the digital version on the CMS website*

# ESSENTIAL LEARNING TARGETS

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

Physical Education 6
Physical Education 7
Physical Education 8

Health 6
Health 7
Health 8

## WORLD LANGUAGE

Intro to World Language 6
Spanish Language & Culture 6

Chinese 7
French 7
German 7
Spanish 7

Chinese 8
French 8
German 8
Spanish 8

Spanish Language & Culture 7
Spanish Language & Culture 8

## MUSIC

Band
Choir
Exploring Music 6
Exploring Music 7
Exploring Music 8
Orchestra

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