



Middle School Program of Studies

Throughout this program there are clickable text links that connect you to an external website for more information or to a specific page within the program. These links are identified by color:

Blue text will direct you to a website or email.

Green text will take you to a specific page within the program.

If you have suggestions or corrections for the Program of Studies please contact Ann Morgester at morgester_ann@asdk12.org.

Please Note:

Not all courses in this catalog will be offered at all schools at any one time.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to Middle School! The Anchorage School District has ten comprehensive middle schools, alternative programs and charter schools that serve middle school students. Although each middle school is uniquely adapted to its community, there are many common characteristics that provide for an environment and structure especially adapted for the middle school student. They include:

- **Teams:** In order to provide a supportive student-centered environment, ASD middle schools are made up of teams of teachers and students. Students belong to a team whose teachers provide the core academic subjects. The team structure enables teachers to personally monitor the progress of the students on their team.
- **Blocked time:** middle school teams are able to make use of blocked team time to schedule longer instructional blocks for labs and projects or to allow for special events such as field trips.
- **Team planning:** middle school teachers have team planning time that allows them to jointly develop instructional units, plan team activities, and monitor student progress.
- **Elective programs:** middle schools offer a variety of standard elective subjects and some special alternative electives that depend upon student/parent interest and staff availability. These non-traditional courses are usually one quarter in length and are designed to catch the interest and imagination of the middle school student.

This Program of Studies is designed to assist parents and students with course selection by giving a brief description of the curriculum content of each course. School district-required courses in language arts, mathematics, physical education, health, science and social studies are offered at each school. The elective courses taught at your school are dependent upon the interests of the parents and students, and the availability of staff. Not all elective courses are taught at every school.

Please contact your school if you have any questions about the curriculum or about your student's progress. There are many opportunities for parent involvement at the middle school level. We hope you will become involved so we can work together in promoting the academic and emotional development of the young adults who attend our middle schools.

Leslie Vandergaw

Executive Director, Middle School Education

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Anchorage School District, P.O. Box 196614, Anchorage, AK 99519-6614, (907) 742-4000

www.asdk12.org

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Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the District's Equal Employment Opportunity Director, who also serves as the Title IX Coordinator, ASD Education Center, 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage, AK 99504-3135 (907) 742-4132 or to any of the following external agencies: Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services.

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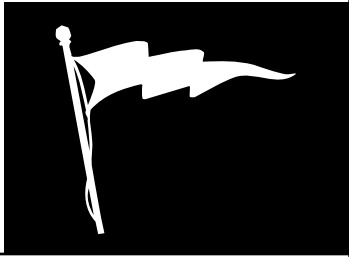
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Standard: These courses are approved curriculum in the specialty area. They have curriculums written and approved by the district. These courses are more "traditional" in nature and usually have instructors that are specialists in that particular elective area.	
Alternative: These courses are offered by individual schools. The curriculum is designed and implemented by the school and teaching staff at each school site. These courses meet student, parent and community needs. Their availability coincides with staffing. Due to the creativity and flexibility in design of these courses they will vary from year to year, program to program and school to school.	
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Middle Schools

The Anchorage School District Middle School Education Division is responsible for ten middle schools and Polaris K-12 School. The middle level schools serve grades 7 and 8, three sites, Begich, Clark, and Mirror Lake, also serve grade 6.

Middle school model characteristics are as follows: team teaching, interdisciplinary instruction, attention to issues affecting middle school students, a seven-period day, two electives available rather than one, block scheduling, and increased home-school contact. The middle school philosophy, properly implemented, leads to increased student success academically and socially, thus ensuring a more successful transition to high school.

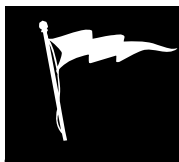
Begich Middle School is a middle school offering educational opportunities for students in grades six, seven, and eight. The school community is focused on academic excellence. We are dedicated to providing a supportive environment where students will learn and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, attitudes and ethics necessary to become successful members of society. Traditional instruction as well as Gifted, English Language Learners, and Special Education services are provided. In addition, Begich MS offers many electives, sports programs, academic competitions and community events. To personalize learning and help ensure academic success, students and staff are aligned into small learning communities or teams that work within the larger school to promote positive communication, relationships, and academic achievement.

Central Middle School of Science infuses science and technology throughout all curricular areas through interdisciplinary teams of teachers and students. It is Central's goal to provide an instructional program that is on the cutting edge of technology; to involve teachers in ongoing training in the most current educational and technological techniques; and to produce self-motivated students who will become responsible adults and lifelong learners. High academic expectations and high standards for students' behavior are characteristics of Central's program.

Clark Middle School is a dynamic and energetic learning environment that inspires our diverse community of learners. Clark is strongly supported by parents, educators, and community members who are committed to excellence in academics, attendance and attitude. We value individuality; foster a passion for learning and promote the enrichment of mind, body and character. We serve sixth, seventh and eighth grade students through our academically challenging curriculum. Students are provided instruction in the four core subject areas: math, language arts, social studies, and science as well as an abundant selection of electives. The core subjects embrace Socratic seminar methodologies. Socratic seminars enhance reading comprehension, writing, listening and speaking skills as well as aid in the development of critical thinking, which builds a stronger classroom community. Programs that foster exceptional academic excellence for all students include: migrant education, gifted, bilingual, and special education, multi media technology, applied technology, Title I specialist, 21st Century After School Program, lunch tutorial, and participation in the Appeal Grant which offers Advance Placement courses. Clark Middle School is an integral partner in the continued development of the Mt. View arts and cultural district.

Goldenview Middle School serves grades seven and eight. Goldenview's mission is to strive for academic excellence, to unleash creative expression, to nurture personal character, and to support a sense of community. The curricula at Goldenview include math, science, language arts, social studies, physical education and elective offerings—both traditional and middle school alternative—in scope. Services for gifted, learning-disabled, and intensive needs special education students are provided. Goldenview uses a middle school delivery model that is founded on the common middle school components of teaming, exploration, flexible scheduling, attention to the developmental needs of middle school students, and transitioning between divisional levels.

Gruening Middle School provides students instruction in core subjects and physical education. Options for involvement in remedial and enriched course work are provided in language arts, math and science. Exploratory opportunities in computers, music, technology, arts and crafts and world language are also provided. Development of basic skills in traditional academic areas is stressed. Students are provided opportunities to increase their awareness of career and leisure time activities. Computer assisted instruction will be incorporated into each curricular area. Development of positive student attitude, self-worth, and behavior are a major focus. Articulation with the feeder elementary schools and the high school is emphasized as will be increased communication with the parents and the community.



Middle Schools

Hanshew Middle School believes each student is a valued individual with unique physical, social, emotional and intellectual needs. The staff at Hanshew advocates high expectations and is dedicated to providing a supportive and challenging learning environment for all students. Opportunities for success will be provided through instruction and experience in core subjects, physical education, and electives as well as higher level thinking skills, problem solving, wellness, self-control and responsible behavior. Hanshew is a place where positive relations and mutual respect among students, staff, parents, and the community create and maintain a healthy nurturing and vital learning environment. Hanshew's goal is to prepare lifelong learners who will become literate, self-disciplined, independent and confident individuals who take pride in themselves, communicate effectively and who make positive contributions to society.

Mears Middle School students are enrolled in four required "core" courses, physical education, and two electives. Gifted, special education, bilingual, migrant, and language immersion opportunities are provided. Positive student behavior and daily attendance are stressed. Parent communication is also a priority of the school. Mears is dedicated to providing a positive environment which promotes individual achievement and academic excellence through the development of student responsibility, good work habits, and technological opportunity. Through an integrated, team-based curriculum and application of that knowledge to daily life, Mears students learn to become productive citizens and lifelong learners.

Mirror Lake Middle School provides instruction to sixth- through eighth-grade students in the Anchorage School District. Students are enrolled in four required "core" courses, physical education, and electives. Gifted, music, fine arts, special education, bilingual, migrant and language immersion opportunities are provided. Positive student behavior and daily attendance are stressed. Parent involvement is also a priority of the school. Mirror Lake is dedicated to providing a positive environment which promotes individual achievement and academic excellence through the development of student responsibility, good work habits, and technological opportunity. Through an integrated, team-based curriculum and application of that knowledge to daily life, Mirror Lake students learn to become productive citizens and lifelong learners.

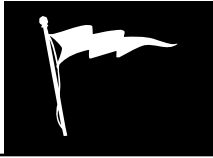
Romig Middle School offers the middle school model to students receiving traditional, gifted, ESL, special education, remedial and accelerated services to our students. Our mission is to provide an environment which allows students to develop to their highest potential and become productive citizens in an ever-changing, diverse society. We incorporate the use of a team approach in the four core area, language arts, mathematics, social studies and science. Students also take physical education and elective choices. Romig has a specialized program for all qualified highly gifted students and one of two Spanish Immersion programs in the Anchorage School District. Our state of the art science wing provides advanced study and exploration, three fully equipped computer labs and mobile labs provide technology opportunities for students. Romig is attached to West High School. This allows our students to take advanced classes as in math and world languages. Romig is dedicated to providing a safe, supportive and respectful learning environment for staff and students.

Wendler Middle School serves area seventh and eighth graders. The school has a seven-period day with a schedule that allows for extended blocks of instructional time. Wendler emphasizes interdisciplinary work and attention to affective issues facing middle school students. The school has strongly established school business partnerships. All district support services are provided.

Benson Secondary School is an individualized program designed for students (generally in grades 7,8, and 9) who are experiencing attendance and discipline problems. The program utilizes behavior modification techniques. Applications are available by contacting the school.

Girdwood K-8 provides educational services for seventh and eighth graders living in the Girdwood attendance area. As a K-8 school they are supervised by ASD Elementary Education, but offer a full middle school curriculum. More specific information can be obtained by contacting the school or Elementary Education, 742-4254.

Northern Lights ABC K-8 is highly structured and dedicated to academic excellence. ABC Schools seek to build a sense of responsibility, patriotism, citizenship, confidence, pride in accomplishment and a positive self-image within each child through academic achievement.



Middle Schools

Steller Secondary School is an open optional school providing educational services for seventh and eighth grade students, as well as being home to a 9-12 high school. More specific information can be provided by contacting the school or High School Education, 742-4256.

Polaris K-12 School is open to students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Polaris has an evolving program that creates an environment challenging its students, teachers and parents to personal excellence, lifelong learning and ethical responsibility to self, community and world. The school is for students, parents and teachers who want an emphasis on self-directed learning and active participation in education. Instruction methods focus on “doing,” the “experience” approach to learning. In practice, this means extensive use of manipulative teaching materials, forming and testing hypotheses, numerous field trips, and classroom visits by a variety of resource persons. Community involvement and parent participation are an integral part of the program.



Middle Schools

Anchorage School District Middle Schools

Begich Middle School 742-0500
7440 Creekside Center Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99504

Central Middle School
of Science 742-5100
1405 E Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-5098

Clark Middle School 742-4700
150 S. Bragaw Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-1398

Goldenview Middle School . . . 348-8626
15800 Goldenview Drive
Anchorage Alaska 99516-4924

Gruening Middle School. 742-3600
9601 Lee Street
Eagle River, Alaska 99577-8399

Hanshew Middle School. 349-1561
10121 Lake Otis Parkway
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-4298

Mears Middle School 349-3332
2700 West 100th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99515-2200

Mirror Lake Middle School . . . 742-3500
22901 Lake Hill Drive
Chugiak, Alaska 99567-5584

Romig Middle School 742-5200
2500 Minnesota Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2398

Wendler Middle School 742-7300
2905 Lake Otis Parkway
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4599

Alternative schools serving middle level students

Girdwood K-8 742-5300
P.O. Box 189
Girdwood, Alaska 99587-0189

Northern Lights ABC 563-2439
1705 W. 32nd Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99503-2002

Polaris K-12 School 742-8700
6200 Ashwood Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1911

Benson Secondary School . . . 742-2050
4515 Campbell Airstrip Road
Anchorage Alaska 99507-1267

Steller Secondary School 742-4950
2508 Blueberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2693

Charter schools serving middle level students

Family Partnership 742-3700

Highland Tech 742-1700

Frontier Charter School 742-1180



Core Requirements

Every 6th, 7th and 8th grade student attending Middle School will take a full year of language arts, math, science, social studies and their choice of electives. A minimum of a half-year of health is a two-quarter requirement to be fulfilled during the seventh and/or eighth grade, depending upon the site schedule. A minimum of a year and a half of physical education is required.

6th Grade Core Requirements

<p>Math</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Math 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Algebra <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Language Arts</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 6 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Social Studies</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Science</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Science 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Science 6 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Physical Education/Health</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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7th Grade Core Requirements

<p>Math</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Math 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Algebra <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Language Arts</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 7 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Social Studies</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Science</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 7 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Physical Education/Health</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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8th Grade Core Requirements

<p>Math</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Math 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Language Arts</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 8 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Social Studies</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Science</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 8 Gifted <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<p>Physical Education/Health</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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Electives: Every student may have a choice of electives. The electives are either a quarter, semester, or year in length depending upon the choice offerings at each middle school. The elective choices begin on page 26.



Core Requirements

6th Grade Planner

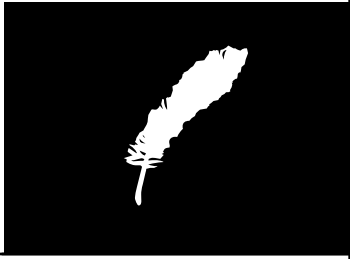
Fall	Spring
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____
7. _____	7. _____

7th Grade Planner

Fall	Spring
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____
7. _____	7. _____

8th Grade Planner

Fall	Spring
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____
7. _____	7. _____



Special Programs 7

The following are either local, state or federal programs designed to service the needs of particular students. Contact your school for specific qualifications, details or additional information. Not all courses or programs are offered at all schools at any one time.

English As a Second Language Tutorial

Grade level: 6,7,8

Prerequisites: *Eligibility with the English Language Learner Program*

A program designed for English language learners students to support specific areas of need as well as monitor the academic progress in the core classes. Emphasis is placed on study skills, writing and organization. The tutorial teacher collaborates with the core subject teachers to provide a cohesive learning environment for the ESL student. The ESL class replaces one elective for a semester or a full year.

Gifted Education

Grade level: 6,7,8

Prerequisites: *Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification*

Matrix

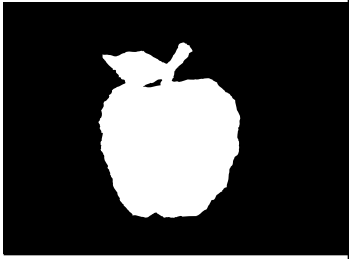
The gifted program strives to guarantee each identified student barrier-free full participation in learning. Students who need extension beyond the regular classroom are provided accelerated and enriched academic materials as well as the opportunity to discuss emotional needs. The middle school program currently offers sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes in language arts and science.

Special Education

Grade level: 6,7,8

Prerequisites: *Special Education Certification (IEP) in one or more subject areas*

Special Education offers a wide range of courses designed to provide individualized instruction for students with an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) who require additional support and service in a specific special education course. These courses include, but are not limited to, math, reading and English. The student's IEP must specify that a student should attend any of these courses outside the general education setting.



Core Subjects

These are district written, adopted and approved subjects. These are required by all students in the sixth, seventh and/or eighth grade. All school units will offer adequate sections of required courses to meet student enrollments prescribed in the district's Catalog of Course Descriptions.

Language Arts	9
Math	13
Physical Education/Health	16
Science	18
Social Studies	21



Language Arts

The mission of the Anchorage School District's Language Arts Program is to promote a lifelong appreciation and understanding of the Language Arts to foster superior student achievement in a complex, ever-changing society. The program seeks to develop literacy skills by providing multiple and varied opportunities for reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting and by encouraging the learning of language skills within meaningful contexts.

Language Arts 6

M0085

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This full-year Language Arts class offers a literature-based curriculum of four thematically organized units that build deeper understanding of an overall theme for the school year, Making Connections. Five areas of instructional focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) build students' literacy skills. Reading instruction is designed to build an appreciation for and understanding of literature and the use of effective reading strategies for a variety of genres and purposes, including fiction, historical fiction, poetry, and biography. Writing instruction focuses on expository and persuasive writing and the ability to draft, revise, edit and publish well-developed, organized essays that use standard English grammar and mechanics. This course, or its equivalent, is required of all sixth grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 6 Gifted

M0085G

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification

Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

This full-year Language Arts class extends the literature-based curriculum for sixth grade, adding depth and complexity to the four thematically organized units and the overall theme of Making Connections. The five areas of focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) are enriched through higher-level thinking and shared inquiry. Reading instruction includes more challenging selections, and strategies are incorporated for both understanding and analysis in a variety of genres, including historical fiction, poetry, and biography. Writing instruction focuses on expository and persuasive writing and the development of each student's individual voice through drafting, revising, peer editing, and publishing well-developed and organized essays that use standard English grammar and mechanics. This course fulfills the language arts requirement for sixth grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 7

M0120

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This full-year Language Arts class offers a literature-based curriculum of four thematically organized units that build deeper understanding of an overall theme for the school year, Exploring the World. Five areas of instructional focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) build students' literacy skills. Reading instruction is designed to build an appreciation for and understanding of literature and the use of effective reading strategies for a variety of genres and purposes, including poetry, mythology, personal narrative, and drama. Writing instruction focuses on expository and narrative writing and the ability to draft, revise, edit, and publish well-developed, organized essays that use standard English



Language Arts

grammar and mechanics. This course, or its equivalent, is required of all seventh grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 7 Gifted

M0120G

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

This full-year Language Arts class extends the literature-based curriculum for seventh grade, adding depth and complexity to four thematically organized units and the overall theme of Exploring the World. The five areas of instructional focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) are enriched through higher-level thinking and shared inquiry. Reading instruction includes more challenging selections and more in-depth analysis of the development of themes and ideas in a variety of genres, including poetry, mythology, personal narrative, and drama. Writing instruction focuses on expository and narrative writing and the ability to draft, revise, peer-edit, and publish well-developed, organized essays that reflect each student's individual voice and use standard English grammar and mechanics, advanced vocabulary, and carefully formulated ideas. This course fulfills the language arts requirement for seventh grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 8

M0125

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This full-year Language Arts class offers a literature-based curriculum of four thematically organized units that build deeper understanding of an overall theme for the school year, Finding My Place in the World. Five areas of instructional focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) build students' literacy skills. Reading instruction is designed to build an appreciation for and understanding of literature and the use of effective reading strategies for a variety of genres and purposes, including a focus on the elements of fiction and non-fiction. Writing instruction focuses on narrative, expository, and persuasive writing and the ability to draft, revise, edit, and publish well-developed, organized essays that use standard English grammar and mechanics. This course, or its equivalent, is required of all eighth grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 8 Gifted

M0125G

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

This full-year Language Arts class extends the literature-based curriculum for eighth grade, adding depth and complexity to four thematically organized units and the overall theme of Finding My Place in the World. The five areas of instructional focus (reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, and media literacy) are enriched through higher-level thinking and shared inquiry. Reading instruction includes more challenging selections and more in-depth analysis of the elements of fiction and non-fiction, literary and sound devices, the development of themes and ideas, and word origins. Other areas of emphases in reading include the comparison and contrast of different opinions, identification of audience and purpose,



Language Arts

and synthesis of ideas from multiple readings in order to formulate insights and connections. Writing instruction focuses on narrative, expository, and persuasive writing and the ability to draft, revise, peer-edit and publish well-developed, organized essays that reflect each student's individual voice and use standard English grammar and mechanics, a conscious selection of formal or informal voice, advanced vocabulary, and carefully formulated ideas. This course fulfills the language arts requirement for eighth grade students in the Anchorage School District.

Language Arts 6/7/8 ESL Beginning/ Newcomers' Center

M0085EL, M0120EL, M0125EL

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This is an English as a second language (ESL) course designed for beginning and low-intermediate speakers of English. The course content, activities and instruction in the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing are taught on a basic, yet scaffolded level. Grammar, vocabulary development, writing, word attack skills, study skills, reading comprehension and oral language are included in teaching the four skill areas. This course fulfills the Anchorage School District language arts requirements.

Language Arts 6/7/8 ESL Intermediate

M0085EL2, M0120EL2, M0125EL2

Grade level:-6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This is an intermediate English as a second language (ESL) course designed for low to high intermediate speakers of English. Course content expands upon that in Beginning ESL. Grammar, vocabulary development, word recognition and attack skills, reading comprehension, mechanics of writing and increased oral fluency are included in the instruction and provide activities in the four skill areas (listening, speaking, reading and writing). This course fulfills the Anchorage School District language arts requirement.

Language Arts 6/7/8 ESL Advanced

M0085EL3, M0120EL3, M0125EL3

Grade level:-6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This is an advanced English as a second language (ESL) course designed for high-intermediate to advanced speakers of English who need who need strengthening in reading, comprehension, writing and/ or literacy skills. Course content includes instruction and activities in all four skill areas and continues to elaborate upon the Intermediate ESL class. The Advanced ESL curriculum parallels that of the mainstream language arts, but is tailored to meet the needs of students with a non-English background. This course fulfills the Anchorage School District language arts requirement.



Language Arts

Language Arts 1 6–8

M0089SP*Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of reading and/or written expression.*

This language arts program places an emphasis on reading, vocabulary development, word recognition skills and reading comprehension skills. In addition, assistance with editing skills in written expression; use of proper grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling. Modified curriculum for reading and/or writing, as required by students' IEP.

Language Arts 2 6–8

M0090SP*Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of reading and/or written expression.*

This language arts program places an emphasis on reading, vocabulary development, word recognition skills and reading comprehension skills. In addition, assistance with editing skills in written expression; use of proper grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling. This class is only used if students are enrolled in a two period block Language Arts program. Modified curriculum for reading and/or writing, as required by students' IEP.

AC Language Arts 6–8

M0089LS*Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of reading and/or written expression.*

This language arts program places an emphasis on functional skills in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing moving toward independence. Alternate curriculum will be used for students enrolled in a Life Skills class as required by students' IEP.



Math

Mathematical literacy is essential for every individual in today's technological society. A working knowledge of mathematics is needed to deal with the qualitative, quantitative, and spatial relationships that are encountered in everyday life. Therefore the overall goal of the Mathematics Program for the Anchorage School District is to provide the opportunity for all students to learn, use, communicate, apply, appreciate, and enjoy the mathematics appropriate for their age, needs and ambitions.

Math 6

M1005**Grade Level: 6****Length of Course: Year****Prerequisites: None**

Students will practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills. They will review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by writing and solving number sentences that contain variables, identify and construct similar and congruent polygons using a ruler and protractor, identify and explain prime and composite numbers, use order of operations, including exponents and grouping symbols and read, write, and order rational positive and negative numbers. They will write and solve word problems involving multiple operations.

Math 7

M1007**Grade Level: 7****Length of Course: Year****Prerequisites: Placement**

Students will practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills. They will review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by working with fractions, decimals, percents, large and small numbers, and negative numbers, variables, expressions, equations, graphing, and other algebra topics. Students will extend their understanding of geometry, including transformations and two and three dimensional figures, and their knowledge of probability and statistics. They will investigate the uses of mathematics outside the classroom.

Math 8

M1010**Grade Level: 8****Length of Course: Year****Prerequisites: Placement**

Students will continue to practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills, review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by working with fractions, decimals, percents, large and small numbers, and negative numbers. Students will study variables, expressions, equations, multiple representations of data, and other algebra topics. Students will extend their understanding of geometry, including transformation and two and three dimensional figures, and their knowledge of probability and statistics. They will investigate the uses of mathematics outside the classroom. Successful completion of Math 7 and Math 8 will prepare a student to take Algebra.

Pre-Algebra

M1030**Grade level: 6,7,8****Length of course: Year****Prerequisites: Placement**

This course is designed to prepare students for success in Algebra I. The emphasis on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problem solving, and the use of technology. Students will extend their knowledge of probability and statistics and analyze data to make decisions and defend conclusions.



Math

Algebra I

M1014

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

Students will review and extend their knowledge of problem solving, data analysis, and the use of technology (i.e., scientific calculator, graphing calculator, computer). They will extend their knowledge of the theory, use and understanding of the fundamental operations to real numbers. Students will learn to express quantitative statements in the language of algebra, solve equations and inequalities, use rational expressions in equations, graph using the coordinate plane, perform operations with polynomials and irrational numbers, and solve quadratic equations. They will use their mathematical knowledge to solve problems. To receive high school credit for this course being taken in Middle School, the student must earn a grade of C or better.

Geometry

M1502

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Algebra I

This course covers the study of plane and three dimensional geometry. There is an emphasis on clarity and precision of language and the logical development of geometric principles in deductive reasoning and proof. This will include work with points, lines, planes, angles, congruent triangles, circles, polygons and transformations. To receive high school credit for this course being taken in Middle School, the student must earn a grade of C or better.

Math 6 ESL

M1005EL

Math 7 ESL

M1007EL

Math 8 ESL

M1010EL

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This course is designed for beginning to low-intermediate speakers of English who need targeted assistance in the content areas of math. The course provides assistance in accessing and comprehending the content and language of the mathematics curriculum. This course covers basic math skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division of whole numbers, fractions and decimals, estimation, percents, solution of word problems, calculator applications and mathematics content vocabulary. (ESL Pre-Algebra can be offered for eighth graders.)

Math 6–8

M1006SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of math.

Individualized instruction for students who have a significant deficit in the area of math. Topics may include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, calculator skills, and practical math skills.



Math

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AC Math 6–8

M1006LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of math.

Individualized instruction for students who have a significant deficit in the area of math. Topics may include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, calculator skills, and practical math skills that apply to everyday living skills. This is an alternate math curriculum for students enrolled in a Life Skills as required by students' IEP. Modified curriculum for Math, as required by students' IEP.



Physical Education/Health

The middle level physical education program is divided into five strands: fitness activities, rhythms and dance activities, outdoor winter activities, individual activities and team activities. Each strand is composed of a wide variety of instructional units. This gives students an opportunity to experience a vast array of activities to which they may or may not have had previous exposure. In an effort to promote lifelong activity, fitness/wellness concepts are presented in all strands.

The developmental needs of young adolescents make health instruction very important at this age. Hence, middle school health instruction emphasizes skills development in the areas of communications and decision making and promotes personal responsibility, critical thinking, and lifelong learning. Overall, the program is aimed at helping students maintain healthy behaviors while preventing risky ones.

Physical Education 6,7,8

M6062, M6064

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of Course: Semester/Year

Prerequisites: None

P.E. is a required course for all students. Only students who have a physician-documented limitation may be excused from P.E. The activities offered are introductory. The program offers a wide variety of individual, dual, and team activities. The units most often included are basketball, volleyball, tumbling, rhythms and dance, out door winter activities, and aerobic fitness.

Physical/Health Education 6–8

M6061SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Special education certification (IEP)

This course is designed to help students develop healthy habits and positive behavior, which may include team activities, individual/dual activity, aquatics and weight training. Topics covered may include nutrition, fitness, substance abuse, and sexuality education and stress management. Modified curriculum for Physical/Health, as required by students' IEP.

Health 6

M2076, M2076Q

Grade Level: 6

Length of Course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course provides information for the student in order that they will be able to make healthy choices by setting goals based on information they have learned in the areas of genetic health problems, environmental health issues, recognizing eating disorders, and understanding issues related to adolescent development. They will identify the effects of addiction and where to get help. Students will practice refusal, coping, and decision making skills.

Health 7,8

M2075

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course offers effective health instruction methods that are active and promote personal responsibility, lifelong learning, critical thinking, cooperation, and use interdisciplinary approaches. The major topic areas include personal health, nutrition, physical development, social development, substance abuse and use. Further studies will include human sexuality. Parents/community are invited to view the materials. These areas are interrelated and lead to total positive functioning of the individual in his/her environment. Health education aids the individual in making informed choices. Students will practice reflective, active observation and examination of their choices and the affect on personal, family and social well-being.



Physical Education/Health

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AC Health Skills 6–8

M6001LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Special education certification (IEP)

This course is designed to help students develop healthy habits and positive behavior patterns. Students are provided with the knowledge of skills that lead to responsible decision making for a safe and healthy lifestyle. Topics covered includes nutrition, fitness, substance abuse, sexuality education and independent living skills. Alternate curriculum will be used for students enrolled in a Life Skills class as required by their IEP.



Science

Middle school science instruction takes an integrated approach, exploring a variety of scientific areas. This approach better ensures “science for all learners,” and is more developmentally appropriate. The science curriculum provides a flexible program for the acquisition of knowledge and utilization of the scientific processes appropriate to the level of the student. The science curriculum and instruction presented to students in science classes is differentiated to provide appropriate rigor and challenge for all learners.

Science 6

M2012

Grade Level: 6

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisites: None

The focus of the sixth grade science class is "scale and structure". Through inquiry-based science, students discover the ecosystems, structures, and astronomy using process skills such as observation, building models, interpreting evidence and experimenting, collecting and analyzing data, and drawing conclusions.

Science 6 Gifted

M2012G

Grade level: 6

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification

Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

The class covers similar content to Science 6, allowing students to broaden their learning with more in depth studies and projects. Analysis of scientific data and higher order thinking skills are emphasized.

Spanish Immersion Science 6

M2012SI

Grade Level: 6

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This science course is for students who are in the Spanish Immersion Program or are native speakers of Spanish who are bilingual and biliterate. Through inquiry-based science in Spanish students discover the ecosystems, structures, and astronomy using process skills such as observation, building models, interpreting evidence and experimenting, collecting and analyzing data, and drawing conclusion.

Integrated Science 7

M2030

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This is an integrated thematic program that teaches natural sciences through which common principles operate in relationship to one another. Students explore areas of life science, chemistry, physics, earth and space science, as well as integrating mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry-based laboratory experiences.



Science

Integrated Science 7 Gifted

M2030G

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

The class covers similar content to Integrated Science 7, allowing students to broaden their learning with more in depth studies and projects. Analysis of scientific data and higher order thinking skills are emphasized.

Spanish Immersion Integrated Science 7

M2030SI

Grade Level: 7

Length of Course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This science course is for students who are in the Spanish Immersion Program or are native speakers of Spanish who are bilingual and biliterate. This is an integrated thematic program in Spanish that teaches natural sciences through which common principles operate in the relationship to one another. Students explore areas of life science, chemistry, physics, earth and space science as well as integrating mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry-based laboratory experiences.

Integrated Science 8

M2052

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This is an integrated, thematic program that teaches natural sciences through which common principles operate in relationship to one another. Students explore areas of life science, physical science, and earth and space science, as well as integrating mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry-based laboratory experiences.

Integrated Science 8 Gifted

M2052G

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Qualifying scores on the ASD Gifted Identification Matrix and placement in the Gifted Program with an IEP specifying this class.

The class covers similar content to Integrated Science 8, allowing students to broaden their learning with more in depth studies and projects. Analysis of scientific data and higher order thinking skills are emphasized.



Science

Spanish Immersion Integrated Science 8

M2052SI***Grade Level: 8******Length of Course: Year******Prerequisites: Placement***

This science course is for students who are in the Spanish Immersion Program or are native speakers of Spanish who are bilingual and biliterate. This is an integrated thematic program in Spanish that teaches natural sciences through which common principles operate in the relationship to one another. Students explore areas of life science, chemistry, physics, earth and space science as well as integrating mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry-based laboratory experiences.

AC Science 6–8

M2001LS***Grade level: 6,7,8******Length of course: Year******Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).***

This is an integrated, thematic program that teaches natural sciences through which common principles operate in relationship to one another. This is an alternate science curriculum for students enrolled in a Life Skills class as required by students' IEP.



Social Studies

The ASD social studies program supports the mission articulated by the National Council for the Social Studies: "The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.

...Civic competence rests on this commitment to democratic values, and requires that citizens have the ability to use their knowledge about their community, nation, and world; to apply inquiry processes; and to employ skills of data collection and analysis, collaboration, decision-making, and problem-solving."

ASD middle school students study history, geography, government, and economics in core courses (and social studies electives) in order to acquire skills and knowledge in support of those goals.

Social Studies 6

M3000

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

The sixth grade middle school social studies program focuses primarily on a standards based, thematic approach to United States history from Reconstruction to the contemporary era. The curriculum emphasizes historical thinking skills, geography and spatial thinking skills, civics, economics, and literacy skills.

Spanish Immersion Social Studies 6

M3000SI

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Spanish Immersion Program or teacher recommendation.

Students must also be enrolled in Spanish Immersion 6.

This social studies course and the immersion Spanish language course are the continuation of the district's Spanish immersion program at Chugiak Elementary. Students will continue their study of Spanish through content while increasing their Spanish language skills. The social studies content is representative of the district grade 6 social studies course in which students examine and review history, civics, and geography during the "Emergence of America" from 1900 to the present. Students will use maps, globes, historical information, graphing, and problem solving skills for research studies. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students who are native speakers of Spanish are invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.

Social Studies 7

M3001

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This course provides a survey of world physical and human geography, including a unit on Alaska geography. Spatial skills and various tools of geography are studied. Students are introduced to various cultures and explore the meaning of culture. Interrelationships and the interdependence of people in various physical settings will be stressed along with the geographic concepts of location, place, movement, and region. Students deepen their understanding of the development of civilization, and the relationship between history and geography, through a study of Mesopotamia.

Japanese Immersion Social Studies 7

M3001JI

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Japanese Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Japanese Immersion 7.

This social studies course and the immersion Japanese language course are the continuation of the Sand Lake Elementary School Japanese Language Immersion Program. Students will continue their study of Japanese through content while increasing their Japanese language



Social Studies

skills. The social studies content is representative of the district's 7th grade social studies course, a survey of world physical and political geography. This course introduces students to various cultures and focuses attention upon people and their relationship to their environment. It also includes the study of Alaska. This course is conducted exclusively in Japanese. Students who are native speakers of Japanese are invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Japanese immersion courses.

Russian Immersion Social Studies 7

M4608RI

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Russian Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Russian Immersion 7

This social studies course and the immersion Russian language course are the continuation of the Russian Immersion Program. Students will continue their study of Russian through content while increasing their Russian language skills. The social studies content is representative of the district's 7th grade social studies course, a survey of world physical and political geography. This course introduces students to various cultures and focuses attention upon people and their relationship to their environment. It also includes the study of Alaska and its historical and current relationship with Russia. This course is conducted exclusively in Russian. Students who are native speakers of Russian are invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Russian immersion courses.

Spanish Immersion Social Studies 7

M3001SI

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Spanish Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Spanish Immersion 7

This social studies course and the immersion Spanish language course are the continuation of the district's Spanish elementary immersion programs at Chugiak and Government Hill. Students will continue their study of Spanish through content while increasing their Spanish language skills. The social studies content is representative of the district grade 7 social studies course, a survey of world physical and political geography. This course introduces students to various cultures and focuses attention upon people and their relationship to their environment. It also includes the study of Alaska. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students who are native speakers of Spanish are invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.

Social Studies 8 United States History

M3003

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

Students build upon 5th grade studies of US history to examine more deeply American historical Era 1 - Three Worlds Meet (1400s) through Era 4 - Expansion and Reform (1860s). There is an emphasis on project-based civics to encourage active participation in our democratic society. Students are introduced to historiography, the use of chronological thinking in conjunction with historical comprehension, historical analysis, and interpretation. Geography, economics, government, and the humanities are used as a basis for examining the United States during these historical time periods.



Social Studies

Japanese Immersion Social Studies 8

M3003JI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7 Japanese Immersion or teacher recommendation.

Students must be also enrolled in Japanese Immersion 8

This Japanese social studies course and Japanese language course are the continuation of the Japanese Immersion Program. This course will focus on the major historical themes from the district's 8th grade U. S. history curriculum and compare and contrast these as they relate to Japan. These themes include exploration, revolution, creation of a national identity, and civic responsibilities for these two evolving nations. Through this historical context, students will gain an in-depth understanding and global perspective of the themes that shape our shared world.

Russian Immersion Social Studies 8

M4610RI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7 Russian Immersion or teacher recommendation.

Students must be also enrolled in Russian Immersion 8.

This Russian social studies course and Russian language course are the continuation of the Russian Immersion Program. This course will focus on the major historical themes from the district's 8th grade U. S. history curriculum and compare and contrast these as they relate to Russia. These themes include exploration, revolution, creation of a national identity, and civic responsibilities for these two evolving nations. Through this historical context, students will gain an in-depth understanding and global perspective of the themes that shape our shared world. This course is conducted exclusively in Russian. Students who are native speakers of Russian are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Russian immersion courses.

Spanish Immersion Social Studies 8

M3003SI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Social Studies 7 Spanish Immersion or teacher recommendation.

Students must be also enrolled in Spanish Immersion 8.

This social studies course and the immersion Spanish language course are the continuation of the Spanish Immersion Program. Social studies content will include an introduction to historiography and the analysis of historical issues. This course provides a foundation of American historical time periods: Era 1-Three Worlds Meet (1400s) through Era 4-Expansion and Reform (1860s) and civics. Geography, economics, government, and the humanities are used as a basis for examining the United States during these historical time periods. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students who are native speakers of Spanish are invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.



Social Studies

Social Studies 6 ESL

M3000EL*Grade level: 6**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Placement*

This course is designed for students who are identified and assessed as being non-or limited-English proficient according to state guidelines and district procedures. The curriculum parallels that of the mainstream social studies curriculum but is tailored to meet the needs of students with a non-English background. This course fulfills the Anchorage School District social studies requirement. It begins with an introduction to economics. Most of the year provides a thematic approach to United States history from Reconstruction to the contemporary era.

Social Studies 7 ESL

M3001EL*Grade level: 7**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Placement*

This course is designed for students who are identified and assessed as being non-or limited-English proficient according to state guidelines and district procedures. The curriculum parallels that of the mainstream social studies curriculum but is tailored to meet the needs of students with a non-English background. This course fulfills the Anchorage School District social studies requirement. The course provides a survey of world physical and human geography, including a unit on Alaska geography. Spatial skills and various tools of geography are studied. Students are introduced to various cultures and explore the meaning of culture. Interrelationships and the interdependence of people in various physical settings will be stressed along with the geographic concepts of location, place, movement, and region. Students deepen their understanding of the development of civilization, and the relationship between history and geography, through a study of Mesopotamia.

Social Studies 8 ESL

M3003EL*Grade level: 8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisites: Placement*

This course is designed for students who are identified and assessed as being non-or limited-English proficient according to state guidelines and district procedures. The curriculum parallels that of the mainstream social studies curriculum but is tailored to meet the needs of students with a non-English background. This course fulfills the Anchorage School District social studies requirement. Students build upon 5th grade studies of US history to examine more deeply American historical Era 1 - Three Worlds Meet (1400s) through Era 4 - Expansion and Reform (1860s). This includes project-based civics to encourage active participation in our democratic society. Students are introduced to historiography, the use of chronological thinking in conjunction with historical comprehension, historical analysis, and interpretation. Geography, economics, government, and the humanities are used as a basis for examining the United States during these historical time periods.



Social Studies

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AC Social Studies 6–8

M3005LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This is an integrated, thematic program that teaches social studies. Topics may include Alaska Studies, geography, history, multicultural studies, sociology, political science, and legal issues. This is an alternate social studies curriculum for students enrolled in a Life Skills class as required by students' IEP.



Electives

Electives are curriculum experiences designed to help students discover and/or examine learning related to their changing needs, aptitudes and interests. The elective program is divided into two categories: standard and alternative. The Standard Electives are based on curricula that have been written and approved by the district and are more “traditional” in nature. They usually have instructors that are specialists in that particular elective area. Alternative Electives are special interest electives that provide learning opportunities for students based on student interest, faculty expertise and community involvement. These are courses that are designed and implemented by the school and teaching staff at each school site to support and expand the regular curriculum.

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NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Art

Standard:**Art Exploratory****M5005***Grade level:**Length of course: Quarter**Prerequisites: None*

Students may elect to enroll in a nine-week concentration of units in drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery and sculpture. The seventh grade program encompasses the four components of visual arts education using the elements and principles of design as a point of departure. A variety of artists and cultures are introduced in relationship with the role visual art plays in history and cultures. Students learn to value their own art works with the same criteria used to analyze a master's art works. They will be able to identify and investigate art and art related careers in conjunction with introduced units of study.

Art Expanded**M5008***Grade level: commonly 8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: None*

Students may elect to enroll in a semester course designed to provide students with opportunities to expand and translate ideas, feelings and values into personal experiences. The design elements and principles will be expanded and reinforced within the four components of the "inquiry-based" (discipline-based art education) program philosophy. Students will acquire artistic skills to express and communicate responses to experiences, explore their creative abilities and heritage within the context of a global view, make informed aesthetic responses in relationship to their own art and works of professional artists, and, investigate the scope of visual arts related occupations.

Alternative:**Art, Fire & Ice****M9919***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: None*

This course will concentrate on pottery and jewelry. Students will be making hand built clay projects such as wind chimes, candle sticks, small sculptures, tiles, vases, and more. Students will also be making various types of jewelry with seed beads, macrame cord, Fimo clay, friendly plastic, ceramic clay, paper mache, and wire.

Advanced Art**M9071***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation*

Elements of line, shape, color, texture and space will be emphasized through drawing and painting skills. Students will learn about the cultural and historical nature of their projects and will develop skills in presentation methods as well.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Art

Alternative: Art & Craft M9070

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation

Students will be exposed to a variety of 2-D and 3-D crafts with an emphasis on hands-on experiences. They will also study the history of crafts and the various cultural backgrounds. Students will be expected to produce their own crafts and will develop skills in presentation methods as well.

Alaska Arts & Crafts M9069

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will study Native art, Russian art, and modern Alaskan artists. They will also explore Alaskan crafts. They will be expected to produce their own Alaskan arts and crafts and will develop skills in presentation methods as well.

Calligraphy M1901

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This is an elective in "beautiful writing" developing use of the broad nib pen in italic and old English lettering. Drawing will emphasize perspective and representational drawing in a variety of media.

Creative Art M9066

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students in this elective class will have an opportunity to emphasize creativity and art along with their reading and writing. Students will explore art through poetry and creative writing. Students will study published poetry, as well as write their own. Painting, illustrating, sculpting and other creative means will be utilized.

Cultural Art M9067

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisite: None

In this elective, students can expect a wide variety of hands-on projects along with reading and writing assignments. Students will learn to appreciate art diversity and cultural differences in art expression.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Art

Alternative: Graphic Arts

M9827

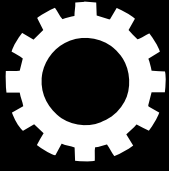
Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisite: none

This elective is for students who like to combine art with technology. The students will learn to use HyperCard, HyperStudio, and Power Point for presentations along with computer graphics, clip art, digital photography and quick time video.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Career Technology

Standard: **Applied Technology Exploratory 6** **M8204**

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Quarter

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to technology through problem solving activities. Students explore technology related applications and create, design, and build numerous “hands on” projects. This course offers introduction to Laser Technology, Magnetic Levitation Train Technology, understanding Flight and Aviation Technology and various other activities.

Applied Technology 7 **M8205,M8207**

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course provides a “hands-on” approach of learning with emphasis focused on problem solving scenarios and situations found in the vast range of today’s technologies.

Applied Technology 8 **M8206,M8208**

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course provides continued emphasis on problem solving scenarios and situations found in today’s technologies. Students may select from the following: Technology Systems, Computer Aided Design Technology, Robotic Technology, Laser Technology, Construction Technology, Communications Technology, Video & Multimedia Technology, Earthquake Technology, Transportation Technology, GPS Technology, Space Construction Technology, Aviation Technology, Materials Technology, or Hydroponics Technology.

Applied Technology & STEM 8 **M8209**

Length of Course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This is meant to be a sister course to Applied Tech 8; it is designed to give students further opportunities to design and build projects which may interest them in a variety of trades or engineering professions in the future.

Students will learn to use hand and basic power tool safely. Measuring systems used in construction and design will be taught and used extensively. Students will be taught hands-on problem solving skills that will involve teamwork and self-motivation. Students will design and build a variety of small projects, as they learn the basics of electric circuits, soldering, sheet metal and wood cutting and finishing, as well as techniques used for modeling and testing foam structures. The science involved with energy transformation and use as well as methods for reducing both parasitic and induced drag will be taught as it impacts the efficiency of the projects students design and build. Students will also learn about levers and gears in order to design vehicles for specific purposes. Information regarding different types of wood and plywood as well as mechanical fasteners and glue will also be covered.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Career Technology

Standard: **Business Technology 7** **M8490**

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

A course usually designed for seventh grade. Business Technology offers a technique of developing measurable keyboarding mastery and then provides the opportunity to experience and practice the many facets of computer applications used in the business world.

Business Technology 8 **M8500**

Grade Level: 8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Business Technology 7 or Placement

This course is usually designed for eighth grade and emphasizes advanced computer applications and electronic communications. Emphasis is also placed on the workplace environment and development of personal traits such as promptness, work habits, and individual responsibility.

Family and Consumer Science 6 **M8306**

Grade Level: 6

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course is usually designed for sixth grade. Students will work in small groups and individually to explore four areas: food and nutrition, care giving, textile creations and careers. They will complete activities that include research and a variety of hands-on activities.

Family and Consumer Science 7 **M8307**

Grade Level: 7

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course is usually designed for seventh grade. Students will work in small groups and individually to explore four areas: food and nutrition, care giving, textile creations and careers. They will complete activities that include research and a variety of hands-on and computer activities.

Family and Consumer Science 8 **M8308**

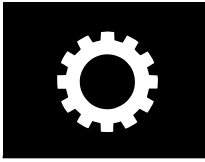
Grade level: 8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course is usually designed for eighth grade. Students work in small groups and individually to explore all areas of the family and consumer sciences: food preparation and nutrition, care giving, textile creations and clothing care, living environments, personal finances, strictly personal issues and careers. Technology in the home and organizational management will be integrated into the studies. Students will complete activities that include research and a variety of hands-on and computer activities.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Career Technology

Alternative:

Business Education

M8502, M8501

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective is usually designed for eighth grade and emphasized advanced computer applications and electronic communications. Emphasis is also placed on the workplace environment and development of personal traits such as promptness, work habits, and individual responsibility.

Careers Exploratory

M9917

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

The class is designed for eighth grade students. They will learn about various career opportunities, job clusters, fundamentals of work force economics, and various approaches to seeking employment. Students may be involved in projects through Junior Achievement or Service Learning.

Computer

M8257, M8256

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will learn basic word processing, spreadsheets, and databases in several software formats. The class will be individually paced with students advancing to multimedia, graphics, manipulation of data, e-mail, and web pages when ready.

Computer Graphics

M9057

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective allows students to explore the persuasiveness of lettering, color and design in promoting events, ideas or businesses. Students will learn some of the graphic capabilities of the computer in creating logos, flyers and other documents. Ability to draw is not a requirement.

Film and Video

M9056

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This class is an introduction to various types of writing for visual media. A significant portion of the class will involve learning about and gaining experience writing film and video scripts. Processes of pre-writing, story plotting, writing convincing dialogue, planning camera and stage direction, production planning, and learning the terminology of film and video direction will be stressed. Portions of a number of classic and modern films will be viewed and discussed in class.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Career Technology

Alternative:

Healthy Cooking

M9064, M9059

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will explore various recipes that are healthy and taste good. Snack foods that have nutritional value will be emphasized. The major food groups will be discussed. Modern kitchen technology will be used.

Keyboarding

M9063, M9052

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course is highly useful for both home and school. Students will master the keyboard by touch and be introduced to word processing. This will include an overview of computer fundamentals, use of peripherals, and an introduction to computer applications.

Multi-Media Technology

M9135, M9055

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will have fun creating their own multimedia computer project using video clips, photos, graphics, animations, morphs and more. The projects will increase their research skills in many content areas, as well as develop their computer/technological fluency using a variety of software and equipment which will include computer graphics, HyperStudio, digital encyclopedias, digital and video cameras, photos, scanners, laser disks, and CD's.

School Business Partnerships

M9128

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

In this class students develop career, business, service learning, and leadership skills while working with the school business partners for their schools. Students will interact with the community by planning and directing fund-raisers, service learning projects, running school-based business and board meetings. Resume and interview skills will be acquired as well as work ethics and on-the-job training.

Technology Masters

M9058

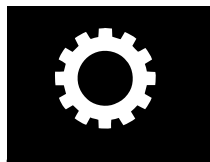
Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Placement

Students will be selected on the basis of their knowledge of computers and/or previously demonstrated expertise, and their ability to work independently. Students will be given various responsibilities related to computer/Internet operation in the building. They will respond to requests to troubleshoot and maintain computer hardware and software; create and maintain school and teacher web sites; and install computer

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Career Technology

Alternative:

and peripheral devices as needed. Students must be interviewed and approved by the tech-coordinator before applying to this class.

Video Production

M9136, M9054

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: Placement

In this class students will develop writing, speaking, editing, production and technology skills while exploring the aspects of video production. Students will plan, write, and produce media projects in a variety of forums. Students will gain experience with technology, teamwork and story development by producing movies, broadcasts, public service announcements and commercials. Speaking, writing and problem solving skills will be acquired as well as work ethics and on-the-job training.

Web Pages

M9053

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Explore different search engines, use Netscape and Internet Explorer, and examine many web sites. In this elective students will learn how to create a web page working with video, pictures, etc. Students will be doing multimedia "stuff" with the Internet. This course is limited to technology-minded students.



Language Arts

35

Standard:

ESL Reading Foundations

M9883EL

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This course is designed for students who have been identified and assessed as being beginning to low-intermediate English language speakers according to state guidelines and district procedures. Instruction supports the development of English proficiency in the five skill areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing and comprehension. Reading skills and vocabulary development are emphasized and are presented at students' English language proficiency and reading levels. The program supports students' culturally diverse backgrounds using culturally sensitive and relevant materials.

Reading 6–8

M0005SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of reading

Reading 6-8 provides intensive reading instruction designed to meet the needs of students on Individual Education Plans whose reading achievement is significantly below grade level. This course addresses individual needs through direct instruction, use of educational software, high-interest literature and instructional accommodations and modifications. Modified curriculum for Reading, as required by students' IEP.

AC Reading 6–8

M0005LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP) in the area of reading

This course provides instruction in functional reading skills to teach independence in the community. Alternate curriculum for students enrolled in a Life Skills class as required by their IEP.

Alternative:

Creative Writing

M9000, M9009

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective will provide instruction and opportunities for students to write in a variety of forms, such as: poems, essays, stories, letters, and magazine/newspaper articles.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Language Arts

Alternative:

Communications

M9087

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective will explore the world of speech. Students will read, evaluate, select, practice and interpret selections from all types of literature and genres. They will create, write, and deliver their speeches in multiple settings. Voice techniques for oral work will be included.

Drama

M9007

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective emphasizes the many techniques that humans use to communicate and interact, from the simple to the complex. Students study drama, acting and play production. They are expected to actively participate in small and large group activities.

Journalism

M9008

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students with well-developed writing skills can enhance and enrich their abilities as they write articles, learn layout strategies and study journalism career possibilities. A school or team newspaper may be published from this class.

Literature–Biography

M9101

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will immerse themselves in a study of biography as a genre as they read and discuss the biographies of people from all walks of life. Students may be asked to draft their own autobiographies.

Literature–Book Club

M9001, M9002

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students who have a passion for literature of all types should sign up for this elective, where they are surrounded by a variety of exciting books and can see what's new in the publishing world. Students will talk about good books with others who love to read, set personal reading goals, hear novels read aloud by an enthusiastic teacher, become a book buddy, participate in poetry readings, and keep reading journals.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Language Arts

37

Alternative:

Literature–Multicultural

M9003

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students explore world cultures through a variety of literature as they travel through the continents reading multicultural folk tales, myths, and novels. Students will use their reading experiences to build an understanding of and appreciation for the similarities and differences among the world's many cultures.

Literature–Recreational Reading 7

M9006

Literature–Recreational Reading 8

M9004

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course is designed to allow students to build a daily reading habit as they read independently from books, magazines, newspapers and other media. Students will keep reading logs and complete activities in response to their reading, thus strengthening their literacy skills and appreciation.

Reading Intervention

M9100, M9126, M9126Q

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Placement

This course is designed for students who desire to improve reading proficiency. Explicit, direct instruction in fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, phonemic awareness, and phonics will be provided. Students will read leveled, high interest literature for both academic and recreational purposes as they build a repertoire of reading strategies.

Reading Skills & Strategies

M9886

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Placement

Students will enroll in a leveled reading class based on individual ability. The focus will be on comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary development. A variety of materials will be used, including fiction and nonfiction texts.

Writing Workshop

M9887Q, M9887

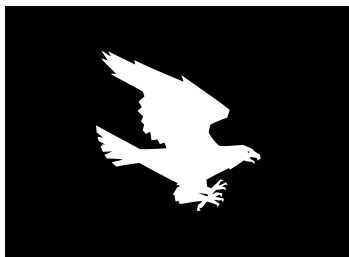
Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course provides students with an opportunity to develop their own voice and writing style in a supportive writer's workshop setting. Students will experience and experiment with various genres through a combination of reading, analysis, drafting, revising and publishing completed drafts. Composition skills will be taught through the use of the writing process (including narrative, expository, persuasive, and technical writing) to sustain and extend the writer's development.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Leadership

Alternative:

CADFY

M9920

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Application

This elective is dedicated to creating and supporting a healthy life style. The group addresses the issues of alcohol, drugs, smoking, racism, name-calling, eating disorders, suicide, pregnancy, dating violence and discrimination through skits. The students create the role-playing skits and the students lead the interactive events. Cross-age teaching is the most successful teaching tool we have—kids teaching kids is the answer.

Careers

M9075

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Career explorations is an elective designed for students to learn about various career opportunities, job clusters, fundamentals of work force, and various approaches to seeking employment.

Mentorship

M9074, M9124

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Placement

Students will learn to work with children, improving their communication skills, problem solving, organization, and facilitation skills. Students must be able to work independently and may work at an elementary school with younger children.

Conflict Resolution

M9072

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Conflict Resolution is a class that will explore new skills to manage and resolve interpersonal conflicts in positive ways. It will emphasize communication (both listening and speaking), cooperation, developing an understanding of self and others, learning assertive behaviors, and appreciating cultural similarities and differences. In this class, concepts such as power, injustice, prejudice and violence will be discussed.

Peer Mediation

M9073

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Application

Student leaders are selected to be taught mediation skills. Once these skills have been learned, a sense of community achieved, and mediators have signed their own nonviolence contracts, students may use the class period for mediating student conflicts.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Leadership

Alternative: **School Business Partnership** **M9133, M9076, M9128**
Grade level: 6,7,8
Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year
Prerequisites: None

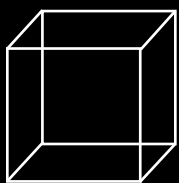
In this class students develop career, business, service learning, and leadership skills while working with the school business partners for their schools. Students will interact with the community by planning and directing fund-raisers, service learning projects, and board meetings. Resume and interview skills will be acquired. Selected students are also given the opportunity to sit on community boards and may be eligible to be nominated for various service awards.

Service Learning **M9077**
Grade level: 6,7,8
Length of course: Semester
Prerequisites: None

This is a community and school project oriented elective designed to integrate learning experiences from the general school curriculum. The purpose is to make learning and education experiences more immediately relevant and meaningful to learners as well as increase good citizenship for all students.

Student Government **M9078**
Grade level: 6,7,8
Length of course: Semester
Prerequisites: None

This elective provides students with the opportunity to identify and implement projects for the benefit of the school and community. These activities will be augmented by lessons in government (especially parliamentary procedure) to assist students in planning activities and to help them understand their role in a democratic society. Projects are implemented through committee work with teacher/advisor assistance and administrative approval.



Math

Alternative:

Algebra Support

M1018S, M1018

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Enrolled in Algebra

This elective is designed to help support students in their understanding of their core math curriculum in Algebra. Teachers will use a variety of strategies including direct instruction, cooperative learning, technology and individual tutoring.

Math Art

M9015, M9012

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Study of visual patterns in math through art. Topics: 3-D geometric solids with unit origami, string art, tessellation's (Escher style), fractals in 2-D and 3-D and topographical maps

Math Intervention

M9119, M9018, M9127

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisites: None

This elective is designed to help students increase their knowledge of prior grade level math content. It is an intervention course, which uses specific curriculum and materials designed to support students who have not met grade level proficiency standards. Teachers will use a variety of strategies including direct instruction, cooperative learning, technology and individual tutoring.

Pre-Algebra Support

M1032S, M1032

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester/Year

Prerequisites: Enrolled in Pre-Algebra

This elective is designed to help support students in their understanding of their core math curriculum in Pre-Algebra. Teachers will use a variety of strategies including direct instruction, cooperative learning, technology and individual tutoring.



Miscellaneous

41

Alternative:

AC Social Skills 6–8

M9909LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designed for students enrolled in the Life Skills class with an IEP and in learning a comprehensible approach to generalizing social skills, specifically: requesting, initiating and responding to peers, and/or adults, across various environments, both school and community based. Individual needs and concerns will be addressed on a student-by-student basis as required by students' IEP.

AC Career Awareness 6–8

M8960LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designated as a transitional skills class for students needing alternate curriculum enrolled in a Life Skills class. Students will participate in individual and group activities designed to develop and increase vocational skills at the middle school level. Emphasis will be on the vocational areas identified on the IEP.

Pre-Vocational Education 6–8

M8960SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designed as a transitional skills class for students with an IEP to teach skills that will help introduce students to the skills for successfully getting and keeping a job. Students will learn about the job market, how to look for a job, interviewing skills, career decision making, self-determination skills and more. Students will be able to match their interests and aptitude with potential career paths. Emphasis will be on the vocational areas identified on the IEP.

Affective Skills 6–8

M9911SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designed for students with an IEP to assist with problem solving, anger management, conflict resolution, alternative coping skills and goal setting techniques. Individual needs and concerns are addressed on a student-by-student basis as determined by students' IEP.

Library Aide

M9051

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Application

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Miscellaneous

Alternative:

This elective provides meaningful work experience in the field of education. The student may select only one aide program in any given semester. Applications are available in the office.

Office Aide

M9916

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: Application

This elective provides meaningful work experience in the field of education. The student may select only one aide program in any given semester. Applications are available in the office.

Photography

M9089

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective will focus on technical aspects of film-based photography, including manual camera operation, film processing and darkroom work. Students will use manual 35mm cameras and examine the effects of different lenses, diaphragm settings and shutter speeds.

Publication

M9091

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will experience design, preparation, production and finance with emphasis on photographic management, copywriting, and layout in this elective. Students will learn responsibility for deadlines and study career possibilities. The school or team memory book may be published in this class.

Sign Language

M9918

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students will be introduced to Signed English and/or American Sign Language. Students will learn the sign language alphabet, numbers, and a basic sign vocabulary. There will be awareness discussions regarding hearing impaired culture in America.

Strategies of Success

M9122, M9090, M9086

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisites: None

This elective presents and practices very specific study skills, as well as more complex group skills that can help establish positive ways of interacting at school, at home, in a job, and in our community. This class is enjoyable and productive for all students.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Miscellaneous

Alternative: Student Technology Leader M9511

Grade Level: 6-8

Length of Course: Semester

Repeatable 4 times for credit

Prerequisites: None

Based on the GenYES program which is an innovative program that creates 21st century leaders and learners. GenYES students help teachers use technology in classrooms, supporting effective technology integration school-wide.

Study Skills M9134, M9926, M9927

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisites: None

This elective is designed to supplement and enrich all areas of the student's regular program. Time is provided to focus on needed skills with individual and small group assistance.

Study Skills 6-8 M9926SP

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designated for students with an IEP. Students receive direct instruction in study skill strategies and assignments to reinforce the correct implementation of these skills. Students will also be offered time each day to work on their content area class work. Individual needs and concerns will be addressed on a student-by-student basis as required by students' IEP.

Teacher Aide M9105, M9103

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: Application

This elective provides meaningful work experience in the field of education. The student may select only one aide program in any given semester. Applications are available in the office.

Transition Strategies M9117, M9092, M9125

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisites: None

This elective is designed to address the transitional needs of students as they enter middle school and as they prepare to enter high school. The course will focus on building Developmental Assets for success, team building activities, learning to learn strategies, career exploration, various performance-based assessments, conflict resolution/mediation skills, etc. At the eighth grade level, special attention will be given to preparation for high school.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Music

Standard: Beginning Choir M5502

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

This course is for students with little or no music experience. Fundamentals of choral music will be stressed, including note reading, part-singing, interpretation, individual and group response to direction and basics of vocal technique. There may be limited performance opportunities throughout the year.

Intermediate Choir M5503

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Beginning Choir or director approval

As a sequel to Beginning Chorus, this course is for students with previous choral training. An emphasis will be placed on vocal technique and a variety of choral literature. Several required performances include school concerts and district festivals.

Advanced Choir M5504

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Audition or director approval

This course is for students with previous training in the fundamentals of choral music. It will involve further study of vocal technique with emphasis on individual and group musical development. Several required performances include school concerts, school district festivals and outside school performances.

Beginning Band M5603

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

Beginning band is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing a wind or percussion instrument. Correct breathing, tonguing, posture, proper care of the instrument and reading musical notation will be learned in a large group setting. Limited public performances may be required. Students provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Intermediate Band Level 1 M5604

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Beginning Band or director approval

This course is for students who wish to develop their performance skills beyond the beginning level. Students will encounter a continuation of skills and fundamentals from beginning band with increasing emphasis on better tone production, good intonation, refinement of

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Music

Standard:

muscular coordination, experimentation in small ensembles, and memorization of scales in basic keys. Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Public performances will be required. Students provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Intermediate Band Level 2**M5605**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Beginning Band or director approval

This course is for students who wish to develop their performance skills beyond intermediate band (level 1). Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Public performances will be required. Students provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Advanced Band**M5606**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Intermediate Band or director approval

This course is a sequel to intermediate band. Students will continue development of all skills taught in intermediate band with more emphasis placed on performing. Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Several required performances include school concerts, school district festivals and outside school performances. Students provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Jazz Band**M5607**

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length: Year

Prerequisites: Intermediate Band and director approval

This course is for students interested in performing and learning jazz. Students will be introduced to jazz theory, style and the art of improvisation. Several required performances include school concerts and outside school performances. Students provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school. Instrumentation of each jazz band may vary depending on director discretion.

Beginning Orchestra**M5670**

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: None

Beginning orchestra is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing an orchestra instrument (i.e. violin, viola, cello, bass). Basic left and right hand techniques, proper care of the instrument, and reading musical notation will be learned in a large group setting. Limited public performances may be required. Students usually provide their own instruments except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Music

Standard: Intermediate Orchestra Level 1 M5665

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Beginning Orchestra (sixth grade) or director approval

This course is for students who wish to develop their performance skills beyond a fundamental level. Students will encounter a continuation of skills and fundamentals from beginning orchestra with increasing emphasis on better tone production, good intonation, refinement of muscular coordination, experimentation in small ensembles, and memorization of scales in basic keys. Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Public performances will be required. Students usually provide their own instruments, except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Intermediate Orchestra Level 2 M5666

Grade Level: 7,8

Length: Year

Prerequisites: Director approval

This course is for students who wish to develop their performance skills beyond intermediate orchestra (level 1). Students will continue development of all skills taught in intermediate orchestra (level 1). Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Public performances will be required. Students usually provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.

Advanced Orchestra M5668

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Intermediate Orchestra or director approval

This course is for students who wish to develop their performance skills beyond an intermediate level. Students will continue development of string skills with more emphasis placed on performing. Responsibilities of the individual within the large music ensemble will be stressed. Public performances will be required. Students usually provide their own instrument except for the larger instruments that may be available from the school.



Music

Alternative:**Beginning Guitar****M5811***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: None*

This elective is designed for students who have little or no experience with playing the guitar. Students will learn basic strumming and finger techniques as well as music theory as it applies to the guitar.

Music Exploratory**M5500***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: None*

This elective is designed for students who have interest in learning about the development of music throughout history. Students will explore many different styles and rhythms and note their historical significance.

Music Exploratory Peer Teaching**M5719LS***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: Instructor approval*

This class is designed for both Life Skills/Intensive Needs (INLS) students, and General Education (GE) students, who are interested in working as Peer Teachers. Music Exploratory Peer Teaching employs music and music-related activities to reinforce creativity, expression, and appropriate social interaction with peers and adults. GE students are enrolled as Peer teachers, and their role is to work one-on-one and in small groups with the INLS students to reinforce class goals and develop meaningful peer relationships.

Music Keyboard**M5712, M5713***Grade level: 6,7,8**Length of course: Semester/Year**Prerequisites: None*

A piano keyboarding class where students learn how to play the piano. Also students will learn rhythm, movement, theory, appreciation, and history. Students will learn presentation with performance required.

Creative Music Technology**M5505***Grade level: 7,8**Length of course: Semester**Prerequisites: None*

This course addresses the creative application of music technology in a culturally relevant manner, exploring common media production techniques, current in modern entertainment and advertising. Building upon basic music theory skills, students explore the application of GarageBand, iTunes, iPhoto, iDVD, iMovie, Microsoft Word and Safari programs in the creation of complex, media presentations. The course also examines copyright and safety implications.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Physical Education

Alternative:

First Aid

M9080

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course will include a variety of safe and healthy living concepts. The American Red Cross First Aid Course will also be covered. A fee will be charged upon completion of the course to receive a first aid card.

Outdoor Adventure

M9082

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course will cover different outdoor activities both in the classroom and through hands-on experience. A variety of activities will be covered, as well as the exploration of the gear needed to participate in them. Students will read from a variety of outdoor literature and biographies of important individuals and engage in different projects.

Outdoor Survival

M9083

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

In this course students will learn the skills and knowledge to successfully deal with outdoor survival emergencies. Students will learn about the Outward Bound Program of Colorado, Arctic and Antarctic exploration and Alaskan survival stories.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Science

49

Alternative:

Anatomy

M9032

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

An introduction to anatomy and physiology. Students will discover more about themselves by learning more about how their bodies work and function. Work is based on daily activities in class.

Animals of the World

M9028

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will learn about a variety of animals from all seven continents. They will utilize readings, research, computers, guest speakers, and videos. A final research project on an animal is required.

Aviation Science

M9040

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This class is an introduction to the Ground School for a Private Pilots license. It covers the physics of aerodynamics, processes of flight, and procedures for obtaining a pilots license and/or career in aviation. This class explores the history of aviation and famous aviators. It involves many hands-on activities and aviation related field trips.

Edible Science

M9029Q, M9029

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective reinforces science principles through food. Activities include food observation labs, food surveys, and analysis and graphing of food preferences. Students will be able to identify chemicals found in foods. They will also classify foods by kingdom and research food topics.

Environmental Issues

M9026

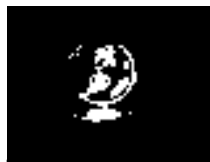
Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

In this class, students will study a variety of local and global environmental issues. Students will, as a class, choose one or two environmental issues to study in-depth and take action on. Projects are implemented with teacher assistance and administrative approval.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Science

Alternative: **Freshwater Science** **M9131, M9030**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective will introduce students to the basic concepts, terms, and theories as they relate to the ecological factors that influence, maintain, and adversely affect freshwater habitats. This will include the freshwater habitats for salmonids that inhabit South Central Alaska.

Geology/Earth Science **M9025**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective is designed to give students lab and field experience in the geology of Alaska, with special focus on the mineral wealth, which supports the present and past Alaskan economy. Field trips may be taken. They will also study the geology base of the oil industry and spend time with working geologists.

Marine Science and Oceanography **M9129, M9031**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective involves the study of the ocean and life therein. Primary focus is marine adaptations. Students investigate different regions and zones of the ocean and the life forms that exist in those locations..

Rockets and Aerodynamics **M9132, M9038**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective will teach students about the science of aerodynamics, airplanes and rockets. Students will build a glider, a rocket from scratch and an Estes Model Rocket. Students observe and learn about stability, simple electrical circuits, the space program, laws of motion, orbits, trajectories and altitude tracking.

Science Olympiad **M9022Q, M9022**

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course will prepare students for a statewide competition in science. It stresses teamwork and hands-on activities. The events include examples such as: egg drop, crime busters, write-it/do-it metric mastery, and nature quest, etc. The course consists of about twenty hands-on events. Students must be able to work independently, as a team and have an interest in science.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Science

Alternative:

Science Projects

M9120, M9023

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

In this elective students will generate projects of their own interest, then organize and carry out experiments to answer their questions. They will also read and discuss scientific and mathematical writings, which have had major impacts on the growth of scientific thought. This course is appropriate for creating science fair projects.

Weather and Climate

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course includes: water and carbon dioxide cycles, the atmosphere and heat transfer, clouds and precipitation, air masses and storms, climate regions and changes in climate, weather stations and forecasting.

Wilderness Safety

M9024

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This course includes: Wildlife Management, Gun Safety, and Hunting Ethics. No firearms are used or handled in this class. Course materials will be provided by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that may require students to meet minimum standards in each of the categories. The class does not teach how to hunt so much as focusing on a lesson of "learn to return." It is primarily about safety.

Wildlife

M9033

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

This elective is an introduction to the ecosystems and wildlife of Alaska. The course consists of topics that may include ecology and ecosystems; food chains, webs and pyramids; survival adaptations of both plants and animals; mammals/marine mammals, fish, birds; and current issues of humans and wildlife.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
be offered at
all schools.**



Social Studies

Alternative:

AC Consumer Economics 6–8

M3007LS

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Special Education Certification (IEP).

This course is designed as a transitional skills class for students with an IEP and enrolled in a Life Skills program to prepare students for financial survival. Student will be introduced to topics such as a study of sources and procedures necessary for job successes, which will include payroll deductions, income taxes, benefits and development of wise spending habits through sound money management. Alternate curriculum for students enrolled in a Life Skills as required by their IEP.

Asian Studies

M3009

Grade Level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Asian Studies Focuses on geography, culture, and general history. The enduring understanding is how the economic, political, and social stability within a region are powerfully influenced by the distribution and size of populations and how they access and distribute available human and material resources.

Culture of World Mythologies

M3697Q, M3697

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students explore the ancient world mythologies that form the traditions and cultures of today's society. Includes a myriad of ancient mythologies that are the basis of world religions, geographical phenomenon, holiday tradition, historical fiction, and oral tradition. Studies such as Alaska Native, Native American, European, Egyptian, and Early Mesopotamia link today's students to increased global understanding.

Economics

M9041

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students build a foundation of financial literacy through hands-on studies of personal finance and principles of economics. Activities such as experimental economics, mini-society, Junior Achievement, and/or the stock market game will provide opportunity for fun exploration of important 21st century topics.

Law Studies

M9044

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



Social Studies

Alternative:

This course will survey the juvenile justice system, conflict resolution and other law-related activities. Activities such as Youth Court, mock trial, and/or guest speakers from the local Bar Association will engage students in an enlightening exploration of the legal system and its role in our lives. Students will also learn about the many careers available in the justice system and the skills that go with them.

Native Studies

M9045

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will become aware of and knowledgeable about Alaska native groups. Historical, traditional, cultural, and sociological perspectives are emphasized. Students will explore Alaska native mythology, and create their own myth. Students will create traditional or contemporary objects of Alaska native art in class.

Project Citizen

M7002Q, M7002

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Students will learn civic engagement and public policy by identifying, researching, and seeking solutions for their selected community problem or issue. Students will learn problem solving, collaboration, and reflection in conjunction with an authentic project. Using the Center for Civic Education's "Project Citizen" curriculum, students can also compete at local, state, and national levels.

Social Studies Seminar

M9915Q, M9915

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester

Prerequisites: None

Seminar offers a variety of subjects explored through careful reading, thinking, listening, and communicating. Through individual effort and cooperative groups, students collaboratively learn to access challenging literature in order to explore the world of ideas and formulate complex ideas of their own. Content might include philosophy, current events, historical documents, and/or other forms of literature.

World Cultures

M9047

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisites: None

How are dreams caught? What are sushi, chamoyu and Ikebana? Students will explore major cultures from the following world regions: Africa, Middle East, Asia, South America and North American natives through drawing, painting, sculpture, culinary art, language and mask making.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



World Languages

The Anchorage School District World Languages Program in the middle school prepares students to use world languages for meaningful communication in both spoken and written form. The program emphasizes language as it is used in various real-life situations that students are most likely to encounter. Through the study of another language, students develop a sensitivity to the cultural and linguistic heritage of other groups and their influence on our own.

STANDARD:

Chinese 1 A

M7109

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Chinese. Units of study integrate the culture of China introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

Chinese 1 B

M7110

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Chinese 1 A or teacher recommendation

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Chinese with more in-depth study of the Chinese culture. Communicative activities in Chinese will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

French 1 A

M4405

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of French. Units of study integrate the culture of France and other Francophone countries and introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

French 1 B

M4406

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: French 1 A or teacher recommendation

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of French with more in-depth study of the Francophone culture. Communicative activities in French will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



World Languages

German 1 A

M4205*Grade level: 7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisite: None*

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of German. Units of study integrate the culture of Germany and its influence in the United States and introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

German 1 B

M4206*Grade level: 7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisite: German 1 A or teacher recommendation*

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of German with more in-depth study of the German culture. Communicative activities in German will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

Japanese 1 A

M4705*Grade level: 7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisite: None*

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Japanese. Units of study integrate the culture of Japan and its influence in the United States and introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

Japanese 1 B

M4706*Grade level: 7,8**Length of course: Year**Prerequisite: Japanese 1 A or teacher recommendation*

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Japanese with more in-depth study of the Japanese culture. Communicative activities in Japanese will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

Japanese Immersion Language 7

M4707JI*Grade level: 7**Length of course: Year**Prerequisite: Japanese Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Japanese Immersion Social Studies 7.*

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



World Languages

This language course is for students who have participated in an elementary Japanese immersion program or are native speakers of Japanese who are bilingual and biliterate. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in Japanese through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition, and appropriate Japanese literature. Thematic units of study integrating culture and the arts from various Japanese-speaking countries will supplement this rich language learning environment for students.

Japanese Immersion Language 8

M4708JI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Japanese Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Japanese Immersion Social Studies 8.

This Japanese language course and the immersion Japanese social studies course are the continuation of the Japanese Immersion Program. In this course students will increase and refine their communication skills in Japanese through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Japanese literature. Thematic units of study integrating culture and the arts from Japan will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Japanese. *Students who are native speakers of Japanese are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Japanese immersion courses.*

Russian 1 A

M4605

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Spanish. Units of study integrate the culture of countries where Russian is spoken and introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

Russian 1 B

M4606

Grade level: 7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Russian 1 A or teacher recommendation

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Russian with more in-depth study of the Russian culture. Communicative activities in Russian will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

Russian Immersion Language 7

M4609RI

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Russian Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Russian Immersion Social Studies 7

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



World Languages

This Russian language course and the immersion Russian social studies courses are the continuation of the Turnagain Elementary School Russian Language Immersion Program. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in Russian through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Russian literature. Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from Russia will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Russian. *Students who are native speakers of Russian are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Russian immersion courses.*

Russian Immersion Language 8

M4611RI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Russian Immersion 7 or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Russian Immersion Social Studies 8.

This Russian language course and the immersion Russian social studies course are the continuation of the Russian Immersion Program. In this course students will increase and refine their communication skills in Russian through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Russian literature. Thematic units of study integrating culture and the arts from Russia will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Russian. Students who are native speakers of Russian are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Russian immersion courses.

Spanish 1 A

M4005

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in learning experiences which encourage confidence and proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Spanish. Units of study integrate the culture of countries where Spanish is spoken and introduce meaningful vocabulary centered around thematic topics such as school, city and family life, body, food, clothing, numbers, telling time, place, and sports. Basic grammatical structures are introduced to support the developing writing skills.

Spanish 1 B

M4006

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisites: Spanish 1 A or teacher recommendation

Students continue to develop and expand their proficiency skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing of Spanish with more in-depth study of the Hispanic/Latino culture. Communicative activities in Spanish will involve students in a variety of practical situations for further development of the oral and written language including additional grammatical structures in preparation for level II high school language course.

**NOTE: Not all
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World Languages

Spanish Immersion Language 6

M4001SI

Grade level: 6

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Spanish Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Spanish Immersion Social Studies 6.

This Spanish language course and the immersion Spanish social studies courses are the continuation of the district's Spanish immersion programs at Chugiak Elementary. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in Spanish through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Spanish literature. Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from Spanish will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. *Students who are native speakers of Spanish are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.*

Spanish Immersion Language 7

M4002SI

Grade level: 7

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Spanish Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Spanish Immersion Social Studies 7

This Spanish language course and the immersion Spanish social studies courses are the continuation of the district's Spanish elementary immersion programs at Chugiak and Government Hill. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in Spanish through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Spanish literature. Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from Spanish will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. *Students who are native speakers of Spanish are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.*

Spanish Immersion Language 8

M4003SI

Grade level: 8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: Spanish Immersion 7 or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in Spanish Immersion Social Studies 8.

This Spanish language course and the immersion Spanish social studies course are the continuation of the Spanish Immersion Program. In this course, students will increase and refine their communication skills in Spanish through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition and appropriate Spanish literature. Thematic units of study integrating culture and the arts from the various Spanish-speaking countries will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. *Students who are native speakers of Spanish are also invited and encouraged to enroll in the two Spanish immersion courses.*

NOTE: Not all electives will be offered at all schools.



World Languages

French Exploratory

M9060

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in language learning experiences, which begin to develop proficiency in listening comprehension and speaking. Some exposure to reading and writing is done. Basic vocabulary such as greetings, alphabet, colors and numbers, calendar, food and “survival” French is taught. This course will help students gain the ability to understand the fundamentals of language and disseminate between French and English. Introduction to the culture will allow students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as a better understanding of their own.

German Exploratory

M9061

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in language learning experiences, which begin to develop proficiency in listening comprehension and speaking. Some exposure to reading and writing is done. Basic vocabulary such as greetings, alphabet, colors and numbers, calendar, food and “survival” German is taught. This course will help students gain the ability to understand the fundamentals of language and distinguish between German and English. Introduction to the culture will allow students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as a better understanding of their own.

Japanese Exploratory

M9062, M4704

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Semester/Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in language learning experiences, which begin to develop proficiency in listening comprehension and speaking. Some exposure to reading and writing is done. Basic vocabulary such as greetings, alphabet, colors and numbers, calendar, food and “survival” Japanese is taught. This course will help students gain the ability to understand the fundamentals of language and distinguish between Japanese and English. Introduction to the culture will allow students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as a better understanding of their own.

Russian Exploratory

M9138

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in language learning experiences, which begin to develop proficiency in listening comprehension and speaking. Some exposure to reading and writing is done. Basic vocabulary such as greetings, alphabet, colors and numbers, calendar, food and “survival” Russian is taught. This course will help students gain the ability to understand the fundamentals of language and distinguish between Russian and English. Introduction to the culture will allow students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as a better understanding of their own.

**NOTE: Not all
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all schools.**



World Languages

Spanish Exploratory

M4004, M4000S, M4000

Grade level: 6,7,8

Length of course: Quarter/Semester/Year

Prerequisite: None

Students are active participants in language learning experiences, which begin to develop proficiency in listening comprehension and speaking. Some exposure to reading and writing is done. Basic vocabulary such as greetings, alphabet, colors and numbers, calendar, food and "survival" Spanish is taught. This course will help students gain the ability to understand the fundamentals of language and distinguish between Spanish and English. Introduction to the culture will allow students to develop an appreciation for cultural diversity as well as a better understanding of their own.

**NOTE: Not all
electives will
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all schools.**



High School Graduation Requirements

Students must complete 22.5 credits *and* pass the state-mandated High School Graduation Qualifying Exam to receive a diploma. Seniors who do not pass the exam will receive a certificate of achievement.

1. Language Arts 4 credits

English 9-1, 9-2, English 10-1, 10-2, and one semester of Composition during grades 11 or 12 plus three semesters of electives in grades 10, 11, or 12.

2. Social Studies 4 credits

World History 9-1 and 9-2, U.S. History 10-1 and 10-2, one semester of Alaska Studies, one semester of Economics, one semester of United States Government, one semester of a Social Studies elective. Students may waive the .5 credit social studies requirement by completion of Level III of a world language (Chinese, Latin, French, German, Japanese, Russian, or Spanish); immersion students may waive the .5 social studies requirement by completion of Japanese for Fluent Speaker II or Spanish Immersion: Vistas Juveniles del Mundo Hispano.

3. Mathematics 2.5 credits

Five semesters of Mathematics electives. In order to satisfy the Algebra requirement, students must complete one of the following options: Algebra I, semester 1 and 2; **or** Algebra A, semester 2 **AND** Algebra B, semester 1 and 2; **or** Algebra Survey, semester 1 & 2; **or** Credit-by-Choice Challenge by Examination.

4. Sciences 3 credits

Three years (six semesters) of science credit are required. Two semesters must be life science. Two semesters must be physical science.

5. Physical Education/Health Education 1.5 credits

Three semesters of physical education graduation requirements can be fulfilled by passing the required Lifetime Personal Fitness course plus .5 credit from the lifetime activity courses (noted as such in course listings) plus .5 additional credit from any physical education class. A) Students may obtain a waiver of .25 of the physical education graduation requirement for each full season of ASAA-sanctioned sports participation within the Anchorage School District. Elective credit must be earned to replace the Physical Education/Health Education requirement that is waived. A waiver of the physical education requirement under this section does not affect the overall minimum requirements of 22.5 credits.

- A) Lifetime Personal Fitness can be waived by:
 - 1. successful completion of a fitness and written test administered by Health and Physical Education Department; or
 - 2. participation in two seasons of ASAA-sanctioned extracurricular sports within the Anchorage School District and successful completion of the computerized knowledge test administered by the designated high school building personnel
- B) Students may also waive physical education requirements through Credit By Choice, correspondence, college coursework, or field study programs.
- C) A maximum of 1.0 waiver of the physical education requirement is available upon successful completion of 2 years (four semesters) of JROTC.
- D) Healthy Life Skills and First Aid are not repeatable upon receiving a passing grade in a previous semester.

6. Electives 7.5 credits

Fifteen semester courses have not been specified so as to provide students an opportunity to pursue individual educational goals. Electives may include additional courses in Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Fine Arts, World Languages, Physical Education and Career Technology.

Total 22.5 credits

- a. A student may be considered for graduation when he or she has acquired a minimum of 22.5 credits after grade 8 in required and elective subjects. Depending upon High School Graduation Qualifying Exam results, either a diploma or certificate of achievement will be awarded.
- b. Seniors entering the ASD for the first time may graduate by meeting requirements of their previous school when the ASD requirements create hardship.

