

MIDDLETON-CROSS PLAINS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

KROMREY MIDDLE SCHOOL



COURSE DESCRIPTION HANDBOOK

2023-2024

GRADES 5-8

MIDDLETON-CROSS PLAINS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Non-Discriminatory Statement

It is the policy of the public schools that no person may be denied admission to any public school in the District, or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, co-curricular, pupil service, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation including transgender status, gender expression, gender identity, gender nonconformity or change of sex, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap as required by s. 118.13 Wis. Stats. This policy also prohibits discrimination as defined by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race and national origin), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The District has adopted a grievance procedure and process that provides for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints by employees, students, and other individuals alleging any action in violation of Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance procedure and process are included in [Policy 411.3](#) (Students and Other Applicable Individuals, [Política 411.3](#)) and [Policy 528](#) (Employees). These policies address how to report sexual discrimination including sexual harassment and file a Complaint of sex discrimination or a formal complaint of sexual harassment, and how the District will respond.

PARENT REQUESTS FOR SPECIFIC ACADEMIC BLOCK PLACEMENT OR TEACHERS

KMS POLICY: WE DO NOT HONOR REQUESTS FOR SPECIFIC ACADEMIC BLOCKS OR TEACHER PLACEMENT FOR YOUR CHILD FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR DUE TO MANY PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS.

STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services office is available to help with the many questions and concerns of students and parents during the middle school years. You may contact a counselor, psychologist, or social worker or Advanced Learning teacher to discuss curriculum, registration, social/emotional/behavioral concerns, or other issues. Feel free to call the Kromrey Middle School Student Services Office (829-9538) any time during regular school hours between 7:30am and 3:45pm.

L.M.C. – LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Our L.M.C. is an integral part of the curriculum and school life at the Middle School. The goals of the L.M.C. are to help students become independent library users familiar with library automation, to help students develop an appreciation of a variety of literary works, to assist teachers in preparing the curriculum and to help students in the study of the curriculum.

Teachers are encouraged to bring in their classes for research, material selection, recreational reading and study. Students may use the L.M.C. before and after school and during the lunch-period.

KMS CLASSES AT A GLANCE 2023-2024

| 5 th Grade Core Classes | 6 th Grade Core Classes | 7 th Grade Core Classes | 8 th Grade Core Classes |
|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory Literacy Mathematics Science Social Studies Extended Learning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory Literacy Mathematics (CC1) Science Social Studies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory Literacy Mathematics (CC2) Science Social Studies Academic Literacy/Tech Ed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advisory Literacy Mathematics (CC3) Science Social Studies Academic Literacy/Acad. Career Planning |
| Encore Classes Required | Encore Classes Required Quarter (Qtr) | Encore Classes Required Every Other Day (EOD) | Encore Classes Required Every Other Day (EOD) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art (EOD Yearlong) General Music (One Sem. EOD) Phy Ed (EOD Yearlong) Computer (One Sem. EOD) <i>World Language**</i> <p><i>** Students will receive one Qtr (EOD) of French, German, Mandarin and Spanish</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Music Tech Ed Family Consumer Science (FCS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education (Phy Ed) Music (Must choose at least one, but can choose more than one) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education (Phy Ed) Health |
| | Encore Class Required EOD | Encore Class Choice EOD | Encore Class Choice EOD |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Physical Education (Phy Ed) World Language (choice of French, German, Mandarin or Spanish) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Band Choir Computer Family Consumer Science (FCS) Music Orchestra | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Band Choir Found. Of Computer Exploratory Gateway to Tech Music Theater Teen Cuisine Orchestra |
| | Encore Class Choice (EOD) | Encore Class Choice 5 Day | Encore Class Choice 5 Day |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Band Choir Computer Literacy Orchestra <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education (Phy Ed) -(becomes a yearlong every day class) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education Spanish Language <i>Arts-please see coursebook for specific requirements</i> World Language* Level 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Band Orchestra Physical Education Spanish Language <i>Arts-please see coursebook for specific requirements</i> World Language Level 2 World Language Level 1 – <i>placement is based on availability and will be combined with 7th graders.</i> |

*World Languages offered are German, French, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. World Language is not a required course in middle school

If you feel your child meets the requirements for advanced learning, please contact Maria Nygard at mnygard@mcpasd.k12.wi.us

General Information

Attendance:

Families should contact the school if their child will be arriving late, leaving early or will not attend for the day. You may report an absence by going to the parent/guardian Campus portal and entering in your child's absence.

Middle School Grading: Reporting Student Progress

Report cards will be available each quarter via the parent/guardian Campus portal. Report cards are no longer mailed out to families. If you would like a hard copy of your child's report card, please contact the student services office at 608-829-9639.

Students will be graded based on the Standards Based Grading method. Families who have questions regarding their student's grade, should speak to the teacher directly. Please see the grading system below:

Academic Performance Level for Middle School Standards Rubric

| Name | Score |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Advanced Understanding | 4 |
| Secure Understanding | 3 |
| Partial Understanding | 2 |
| Minimal Understanding | 1 |
| Incomplete Evidence | 0 |
| Not Assessed at this time | |
| No Evidence | NE |

Academic Performance Level for Individual Development

| Name | Score |
|-------------------|-------|
| Consistently | C |
| Some of the Time | S |
| Needs Improvement | N |

Student Schedule Questions:

If you have questions regarding your student's schedule, please contact the student services office at 829-9639 to speak to the Administrative Assistant or school counselor.

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5th GRADE REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

LITERACY

Length: Year

Students in fifth grade have a literacy block with a minimum of 90 minutes daily. The Lucy Calkins Units of Study is used for both reading and writing, which includes mini lessons, independent and group work time along with student and teacher conferences. This provides a focused time to develop skills in reading, writing and word study. Words Their Way is our word study program which emphasizes focus on word patterns and relationships. Independent activities will often focus on concepts being studied in science, and social studies.

MATHEMATICS

Length: Year

Bridges in Mathematics, a K–5 math program will help meet the new standards and make math meaningful and exciting. In fifth grade, students focus on computing with fractions, dividing with larger numbers, calculating with decimal numbers, and finding the volume of rectangular prisms.

SCIENCE

Length: Year

The Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District utilizes the Full Option Science System (FOSS) and Mystery Science at the K-5 Level. FOSS strives to develop students' abilities to do and understand scientific inquiry through:

- Asking and answering questions
- Planning and conducting simple investigations
- Employing tools and techniques to gather data
- Using data to construct reasonable explanations
- Communicating investigations and explanations
- Understanding that scientists use different kinds of investigations and tools to develop explanations using evidence and knowledge

The Fifth-Grade program emphasizes the following content: Earth and Sun Module, Mixtures and Solutions Module, Living Systems Module.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Length: Year

The elementary social studies curriculum is based on the 2018 Wisconsin Standards for Social Studies. Units covered are US Geography, Indigenous Cultures, Exploration, and Colonization. The aim of social studies is the promotion of civic competence. Young people who are knowledgeable, skillful, and committed to democracy are necessary to sustaining and improving our democratic way of life and participating as members of a global society. The standards are focused on six disciplines. These disciplines represent a way of categorizing knowledge about the human experience, and they constitute the organizing strands that thread through our elementary social studies program.

5th GRADE ENCORE CLASSES

ART

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Art is a way of understanding ourselves and our relationship with the world around us. Throughout the K-12 Art program, students explore the three essential questions of:

- What is art?
- How is art created?
- Why is art important?

Students explore the answers to the above questions when engaged in art experiences focused around the following six Art standards: Creation, Perception, Interpretation, Relation, Reflection and Connection.

GENERAL MUSIC

Length: Every Other Day for One Semester

What Exactly Do We Do in Music Class? The short answer to this question is that in music class we sing, play instruments, and learn about how music works. But there's more to it than that - music in the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District reflects the national music education standards, also adopted in the state of Wisconsin. Our Elementary Music Curriculum is based on students learning eight main concepts: Time, Pitch, Melody, Harmony, Form, Expression and History and Culture.

TECHNOLOGY ENRICHMENT 5

Length: Every Other Day for One Semester

Students at the 5th Grade Level participate in technology enrichment and keyboarding. The Technology Enrichment Standards and curriculum help students prepare to work, live, and contribute to the social and civic fabric of their communities. In class, students will work on developing proficient keyboarding skills, creating projects, researching topics, developing internet skills, and practicing digital citizenship.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Length: Every Other Day or Yearlong

Students will improve personal health and fitness levels by incorporating fitness and sport-based skills. Students focus on developing and promoting physical activity, fitness, and cooperative social behavior that will foster lifelong healthier lifestyles. Activities may include: volleyball, Omnikin, basketball, soccer, paddle minton, football, team building, eclipse ball, fitness testing, cardio, fitness room activities, frisbee and more.

WORLD LANGUAGE-EXPLORATORY

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Designed to give a brief introduction to the French, German, Mandarin Chinese, and Spanish languages. Basic vocabulary relating to daily living in the home, school, and community will be introduced through activities, songs, and dialogues. Emphasis will be on listening and speaking skills, with an overview of the role of each of these languages in the world.

The fifth-grade exploratory language course is divided into one quarter, every-other-day sessions, one each of French, German, Mandarin and Spanish. This course will allow a sampling of all four languages in order for fifth graders to choose which language to continue with for sixth grade (required) and seventh grade and eighth grade (optional)

5th GRADE ELECTIVE ENCORE CLASSES

BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Students may elect to take band or orchestra. Students attend two classes each week (often held on the same day): Small group and large group. Small group classes meet once per week on a rotating schedule throughout the day. Large groups of classes meet once per week during Extended Learning Time (ELT) during the day. Our emphasis is on technique and music reading fluency, using a variety of music styles. There are some written assignments and individual practice time outside of the school day is expected.

BAND – All 5th grade band students start as beginners on their instrument. Instruments offered in 5th grade are flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, baritone, and mallets/percussion. Students will have a chance to be fitted for an instrument in the spring if they attend an MCPASD elementary school in 4th grade. Students who are new to MCPASD at the start of their 5th grade year will have an opportunity to be fitted for an instrument in September. Students are expected to perform in two concerts per year (January and May). Families may rent instruments via local music stores or may qualify for use of a school-owned instrument. Individual practice time outside of the school day is expected.

ORCHESTRA – In 5th grade orchestra, students continue or begin instruction on violin, viola or cello. Partway through the year, students are introduced to the string bass and have the option to study that instrument. Students continue to build on the fundamental skills of note-reading, rhythm building and ensemble playing using a variety of styles of music. Students are expected to perform in 3-4 evening concerts during the school year. Individual practice time outside of the school day is expected.

Please note: Band and Orchestra will not show up on the schedule during the school day. At the end of summer, the Band and Orchestra teachers will give the scheduler a list of students who are signed up and it will be added to the bottom of the schedule.

6th GRADE REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

LITERACY

Length: Year

The Literacy class in 6th grade is taught in a workshop model and has an emphasis on writing and reading skills.

During writing, our units of study include writing narrative, informational, and opinion pieces. Grammar and usage are studied throughout the year. The writing process and speaking and listening skills are integral parts of instruction.

During reading, the focus is on increasing reading comprehension using these strategies: *predicting, inferring, questioning, connecting, summarizing, visualizing, synthesizing, and evaluating*. Our units of study include elements of both fiction and non-fiction, and use novels, short stories, and a variety of other texts to read for information and enjoyment. Student choice, small group discussions, and speaking and listening skills are an integral part of instruction.

MATHEMATICS

Length: Year

Core Connections 1 (CC1)

The first course in the College Preparatory Math (CPM) curriculum. Sixth graders will begin to master pre-algebra concepts through problem-based learning, structured study teams, and spaced practice. These three key elements of the text are intended to develop mastery overtime and promote long-term learning.

Core Connections 2 (CC2)

Students recommended for CPM **Core Connections 2** will learn many pre-algebra and algebra skills, number relationships, geometry, and graphing. Students recommended for this course took *Core Connections 1* during their fifth-grade year. Students taking **Core Connections 2** will learn the necessary concepts to advance to *Core Connections 3*.

SCIENCE

Length: Year

The sixth-grade science program integrates scientific inquiry with a thematic approach for teaching science in the context of personal and social issues. Specific units covered in sixth grade include Experimental Design, Cell Biology and Disease, Genetics, and Ecology and Evolution.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Length: Year

The social studies program emphasizes mapping, early humans, and ancient civilizations (China, India, Egypt, Greece, Rome), and the Middle Ages/Renaissance period. A wide variety of hands-on and interactive activities will be offered throughout each unit.

6th GRADE REQUIRED ENCORE CLASSES

ART **Length: One Quarter**

This course will build on basic art concepts experienced in elementary school. Sixth grade art students will explore different materials and techniques while creating 2D and 3D art. Hands-on activities provide students an opportunity to practice creative and critical problem solving. Many art projects are based on work of the great Masters of the past and present and on the world around them.

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE **Length: One Quarter**

In this hands-on course students will be introduced to the basic concepts of Family and Consumer Science. Students learn about what FCS is, investigate careers, learn the basics of sewing, and understand basic cooking procedures.

HEALTH **Length: Every Other Day Yearlong**

Sixth grade health is a required Encore class that meets every other day, yearlong. The 6th grade health class will cover the following topics: Health/Wellness, body systems including the Skeletal System, Muscular System, Nervous System, Circulatory System, Respiratory System, Digestive System, Urinary System, and Reproductive System. We end the year with Drugs/Alcohol and Refusal Skills.

GENERAL MUSIC **Length: One Quarter**

Sixth Grade General Music is a required class that builds on the concepts and skills learned in grades 1-5. We focus on music reading skills through units on rhythm, melody, harmony, composition, and performance. Students will learn about these musical elements through a variety of genres of music and activities - which may include ukulele, drums, keyboards, boomwhackers, movement, singing, games, and online music mixing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION **Length: Every Other Day Yearlong or Year**

Students will improve personal health and fitness levels by incorporating fitness and sport-based skills. Students focus on developing and promoting physical activity, fitness, and cooperative social behavior that will foster lifelong healthier lifestyles. Activities may include volleyball, Omnikin, basketball, soccer, paddle minton, football, team building, eclipse ball, dance, fitness testing, cardio, fitness room activities, speedball, tennis, floor hockey, lacrosse, frisbee, and track and field. Every day classes will have more activities than every other day. Activities info was doubled so we deleted it

ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY 6 **Length: One Quarter**

In sixth grade Engineering and Technology, students will explore and discover aerodynamics and design using the design/build process. Students will develop the basic skills of 3D computer modeling through modeling software and a 3D printer. Students will also learn the appropriate ways to use power tools in a safe learning environment, and the value of accurate measurement in our ever-changing society.

INTRODUCTION TO WORLD LANGUAGE **Length: Every Other day Yearlong**

Students will choose one of the four offered languages (French, German, Mandarin or Spanish) and attend class every-other-day for the school year. The 6th grade Introduction course will review and build on the curriculum taught in the 5th grade exploratory course. Introduction to World Language seeks to expand the student's vocabulary and cultural exposure within the target language.

6th GRADE ELECTIVE CLASSES

BAND

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Band is an elective course and all students are invited to participate. Both students who've played a band instrument in 5th grade and new students interested in learning to play a band instrument (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, mallets/percussion) are welcome to play in the Kromrey 6th grade band. Students interested in playing mallets/percussion are highly encouraged to study the instrument with private lessons (outside of the school day) for at least two years because of the complexities in the different instruments in the percussion section. Sixth grade band meets every other day for the entire school year. In addition to every-other-day band class, students will have small group instruction sessions each week.

All members of the 6th grade band are required to perform at two evening concerts (December & May), have an opportunity to play pep band for high school sporting events, attend a field trip to see a concert and may elect to participate in the solo/ensemble festival. **Practicing outside of the school day is expected to improve musicianship and skills on the instrument.**

Students who have previously participated in both band and orchestra can continue doing both. A modified schedule will be offered so that students will spend half of the time in each class. If interested in this option, please notify Mrs. Coughlin at dcoughlin@mcpasd.k12.wi.us and choose the Band & Orchestra option on the course selection sheet.

CHOIR

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

All students are welcome regardless of experience. The music studied in Choir ranges greatly in style, and differs in both historical and cultural context (singing in multiple languages is common). The human voice is an instrument, and students learn to use their voices in a highly technical way. Additionally, students are required to participate in two evening concerts at the MHS Performing Arts Center, as well as a "Pops Concert & Trivia Night". Optional activities include Broadway Express, District Solo/Ensemble, and a field trip.

COMPUTER LITERACY 6

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

In this yearlong, every-other-day course, students will increase their computer technology intelligence through project-based learning. Students will gain a better understanding of computer safety and strengthen their skills in photo editing, video editing, keyboarding, Google applications, coding, online research, digital marketing, website development and digital game creation. Many of the skills practiced will help students be successful in other courses and introduce them to the ever-growing field of informational technology.

ORCHESTRA

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Students who play violin, viola, cello and bass are all welcome, including beginners. Students study instrument techniques, music theory, music history, and a wide variety of music styles. Students have written and playing assignments and are expected to practice at home between classes. All KMS Orchestras perform in concerts and attend field trips to performances. Students will continue to have small group lessons during the orchestra class period. Doubling in band is possible in 6th grade.

7th GRADE REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

LITERACY

Length: Year and One Semester

Literacy is divided into two classes which consist of one five-day yearlong course and one five-day semester course which alternates with Gateway to Technology. Students will enhance their narrative, argumentative, and informational writing through a Writing Workshop model. Writing units of study include memoir writing, short story writing, a literary essay, a research-based argument piece, informational website writing, poetry, and on-demand writing. The study of literature includes an Independent Reading program exploring different genres, short stories, a shared reading of a classic novel, dystopian and historical fiction book club units, and a variety of mentor texts that parallel the writing units of study. Speaking, vocabulary, grammar, and conventions are incorporated into the reading and writing curriculum.

MATHEMATICS

Length: Year

The seventh-grade mathematics curriculum at KMS is College Preparatory Math or "CPM" **Core Connections 2** or **Core Connections 3**. These courses align with the common core standards, required for schools state-wide. Seventh graders will be placed into one of these two courses.

Core Connections 2 (CC2)

Students recommended for CPM **Core Connections 2** will learn many pre-algebra and algebra skills, number relationships, geometry, and graphing. Students recommended for this course took *Core Connections 1* during their sixth-grade year. Students taking **Core Connections 2** will learn the necessary concepts to advance to *Core Connections 3*.

Core Connections 3 (CC3)

Core Connections 3 cover a variety of concepts including linear sentences and systems, slopes and lines, transformations and similarity, Pythagorean Theorem and much more. Students recommended for this course took *Core Connections 2* during their sixth-grade year. Students taking **Core Connections III** will learn the necessary concepts to advance to *Core Connections Algebra*.

SCIENCE

Length: Year

Students study physical science in seventh grade. Units covered include metric measurement, the periodic table, phases of matter, electricity, heat energy, Newton's Laws of motion, light energy and sound energy. Organization and observation are stressed throughout the course. Students are asked to discover and apply concepts through many hands-on, activity-oriented labs.

SOCIAL STUDIES (U.S. HISTORY)

Length: Year

The seventh-grade social studies course will provide a general survey of United States history beginning with the American Revolution emphasizing significant events and various people's contributions in the building of this nation. By studying the social, economic, and political characteristics of the United States, students will gain a greater understanding of the United States and its role in the world today. Many of the following topics are included in the seventh grade United States history curriculum: Geography, The Revolutionary War; causes and results, The Constitution and Law, The Westward Movement, The Civil War and Reconstruction.

ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY 7

Length: One Semester

The seventh grade Engineering and Technology utilizes the design/ build process and 21st Century skills to solve real world problems. Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a pencil cup, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Sketchup design software, students will design many things in 3d software and learn about reverse engineering. In the woodshop, students will create gumball machines and have an introduction to metal working making cell phone holders. Students will also incorporate problem-solving strategies while working in a team to research, build, test and evaluate paper roller coasters. This project introduces many STREAM concepts from applied physics, to graphic design.

7th GRADE REQUIRED ENCORE CLASSES

Music is required; however you can choose between Band, Choir, Music or Orchestra. You may also choose more than one.

BAND

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Band is an option that fulfills the 7th grade music requirement. Students who've played in 6th grade are welcome to continue in band and new students interested in learning to play a band instrument are welcome to play in the Kromrey 7th grade band. All instruments are possible, but if choosing percussion, you need to know that mallets are emphasized for the first year. Band rehearses every other day for the entire year. In addition, students will participate in small group instruction.

All band members are required to perform in two evening concerts (December & May), play in the pep band for high school sporting events, participate in a band clinic, perform at the elementary schools and may elect to participate in a solo/ensemble festival. **Practicing outside of the school day is expected to improve musicianship and skills on the instrument.** A higher level of commitment and practice from beginning band students will be expected in order to catch up to the students with 1-2 years of prior experience.

CHOIR

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

All students are welcome regardless of experience. The music studied in Choir ranges greatly in style, and differs in both historical and cultural context (singing in multiple languages is common). The human voice is an instrument, and students learn to use their voices in a highly technical way. Additionally, students are required to participate in two evening concerts at the MHS Performing Arts Center, as well as a "Pops Concert & Trivia Night". Optional activities include Broadway Express, District Solo/Ensemble, and a field trip.

GENERAL MUSIC

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Beatmaking, guitar, piano, ukulele, movie music, drums - students will create, discuss, listen to, and experience the elements of music of a variety of styles and cultures. Students will also explore the histories of musical genres, including hip hop and pop music. Though this is a non-performance class, students will present some projects and work to the class.

ORCHESTRA

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Students who play violin, viola, cello and bass are all welcome, including beginners. Students study instrument techniques, music theory, music history, and a wide variety of music styles. In 7th grade orchestra, students will expand their knowledge of musical performance and learn the concept of shifting. Students continue to develop ensemble skills while playing five part music, and take part in their first solo/ensemble festival. All KMS Orchestras perform in concerts and attend field trips to performances. Students will continue to have small group lessons during the orchestra class period.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong or Year

Students will improve personal health and fitness levels by incorporating fitness and sport-based skills. Students focus on developing and promoting physical activity, fitness, nutrition and cooperative social behavior that will foster lifelong healthier lifestyles. Every day classes will have more activities than every other day. Activities may include volleyball, Omnikin, basketball, soccer, football, team building, eclipse ball, speedaway, fitness testing, cardio, fitness room activities, lacrosse, frisbee, track and field, badminton, takraw, team handball, and floor hockey.

Every day classes will get to do more activities than every other day classes. Activities info was doubled so we deleted it

7th GRADE ELECTIVE CLASSES

ART

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Seventh grade art is an elective course that meets every other day throughout the year. This course engages students to use creative thinking skills to express ideas and viewpoints about personal experiences and the world around them. Students will focus on developing skills which include drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics and collage. They will have the opportunity to experience and refine their own artistic style and gain confidence in the artist they have become.

COMPUTER DIGITAL EXPLORATION & MULTIMEDIA 7

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

This project-based course features multimedia and artistic computer applications. Photoshop, Podcasting, and Stop-Motion Animation each get a full quarter-long focus to offer students a deeper dive into how these technologies can fuel their creative projects. The final quarter offers opportunities for students to drive their own projects and explorations. Students will work individually and in groups to produce engaging projects practicing and mastering their acquired skills.

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

This is an elective course where students will get a variety of experiences in Family Consumer Science. Students will practice life skills, problem solving and creativity skills with hands-on activities. In this class, students will learn about child development, career exploration, basic food and nutrition, interior & fashion design, and hand sewing. FCS will give students the basic life skills needed in today's world.

SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS-7

Length: Year

This class is designed for 7th grade students who already speak Spanish at home, in their communities, and/or with their families. The courses are designed to help students continue developing their academic language and literacy skills in Spanish through the exploration of literature, current events, history, and culture. Students may enroll in this course for multiple years in order to deepen their Spanish academic language and literacy skills each year through the exploration of different themes and texts. After taking this course, students will have opportunities for additional advanced Spanish learning at the high school level.

WORLD LANGUAGE – Level I

Length: Year

Students may enroll in a 5-Day World Language course (French, German, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish) in seventh and eighth grade. Students taking a Level I language in seventh grade may choose to continue taking a Level II language class in eighth grade. Students who successfully complete the seventh and eighth grade language sequence at the middle school level may continue their language study with Level III in high school. This provides students with the opportunity to achieve proficiency in a foreign language through level VI (6) during high school. Many universities require successful completion of at least 2 levels in one foreign language in high school. Most universities grant college credits for upper-level high school world language courses. Our curriculum follows the Wisconsin State Foreign Language Standards. Five key words summarize the intent of these standards:

COMMUNICATION: communicate in languages other than English **CULTURES**: gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures **CONNECTIONS**: connect with other disciplines and acquire information **COMPARISONS**: develop insight into the nature of language and culture **COMMUNITIES**: participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

8th GRADE REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

LITERACY

Length: Year and One Semester

Literacy is divided into two classes: one year-long class and one semester class which alternates with Academic and Career Planning.

Students will enhance their narrative, argumentative, and informational writing through a *Writing Workshop* model. The 8th grade Writing Units of Study include *Investigative Journalism, Literary Essays, and Position Papers, Documentaries, and Multi-genre Projects*. Skill development is emphasized in the areas of research, writing conventions, and working through the writing process.

The reading component of the class follows a *Reading Workshop* model. Along with a choice-driven *independent reading* program, students spend time exploring literature from the following targeted genres: short stories, mysteries, literary nonfiction, global literature, as well as historical fiction set during World War II.

Students also will work on vocabulary and speaking skills through a variety of opportunities such as presentations and oral readings.

MATHEMATICS

Length: Year

Daily, students in our Core Connections math classes learn to solve problems by questioning, investigating, analyzing, gathering, and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments that justify their thinking. Students learn in collaboration with others, sharing information, expertise, and ideas. Both 8th grade Core Connection courses are well-balanced between procedural fluency (algorithms and basic skills), deep conceptual understanding, strategic competence (problem solving), and adaptive reasoning (extension and transference). The lessons in each course meet all the content standards and embed the "Mathematical Practices" of the Common Core State Standards released in June 2010.

CORE CONNECTIONS 3 (CC3)

Core Connections 3 is the third of a three-year sequence of courses designed to prepare students for a rigorous college preparatory algebra course. CC3 uses a problem-based approach with concrete models. The course helps students to develop multiple strategies to solve problems and to recognize the connections between concepts. The key ideas are representing a linear function with a graph, table, rule, and context, solving linear equations, recognizing and solving problems involving proportional relationships, describing various transformations on a coordinate grid, applying geometric relationships of lines and polygons, analyzing nonlinear functions, representing and simplifying numerical and algebraic expressions, and computing perimeter, area, and volume. *Prerequisite: Core Connections 2.*

CORE CONNECTIONS ALGEBRA

Core Connections Algebra is the first course in a five-year sequence of college preparatory mathematics courses that starts with Algebra I and continues through Calculus. CC Algebra aims to deepen and extend student understanding built in previous courses. The key ideas are representing functions, collecting and analyzing data and making predictions, symbolically manipulating expressions in order to solve problems, solving simple and complex equations and inequalities, solving contextual word problems, and solving a system of two linear or quadratic equations and inequalities. The course is structured around problems and investigations that build the conceptual understanding of these algebraic topics and an awareness of connections between the different ideas. *Prerequisite: Core Connections 3.*

CORE CONNECTIONS GEOMETRY

Students in Geometry will investigate and draw conclusions about transformations and symmetry, relationships between figures, properties of plane figures, measurements of plane figures, measurements of three-dimensional shapes, tools for analyzing and measuring shapes, investigation and proof, geometric construction, algebra, and probability. The course will be structured around problems and collaborative investigations that build spatial visualization skills, conceptual understanding of geometry topics, and an awareness of connections between different ideas. Students will investigate, conjecture, and then prove to develop their reasoning skills. *Prerequisite: Core Connections Algebra*

SCIENCE

Length: Year

The eighth-grade curriculum is designed to foster the investigation and understanding of Earth Science. The terms investigate and understand a range of rigorous scientific skills which are developed throughout the course. Hypothesizing, analyzing, organizing, making observations, classifying, and collecting data are skills that are utilized as we study Weather, Hydrology, Climate, Astronomy and Geology. All these subjects include lab experiments and/or hands-on activities. Inquiry-based experiences are provided to enhance general academic development.

SOCIAL STUDIES (CULTURES & GEOGRAPHY)

Length: Year

The eighth-grade world studies course will focus on geography, current issues and elements of culture. Elements of culture include history, government, economics, daily life, language, arts, social groups, and religion. Interdependence of regions throughout the world will also be explored. Regions to be studied will be drawn from the following:

- Africa
- Asia
- Australia and Oceania
- Russia and Eurasia
- Latin America
- Middle East

ACADEMIC AND CAREER PLANNING

Length: One Semester

Academic and Career Planning is a required semester course. Academic and Career Planning has been designed to link academics to the career world. Students will be advised in the transition to high school as well as college and career readiness. A large portion of the course is devoted to the online program Xello. This program will be used to identify careers, research colleges, create a resume, and develop goals for the future. Some of the class activities include understanding how to complete job applications, practicing interviewing skills, becoming an entrepreneur, practicing banking and budgeting, and identifying personal skills and talents. It is a great course to get students ready for the next chapter of their life.

8th GRADE REQUIRED ENCORE CLASSES

HEALTH

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Eighth graders will be required to take a Health course every other day for the duration of the school year. The topics covered will include:

Self-care: This unit will set the tone for the semester. Main emphasis is based on decision making strategies, core beliefs/values, exploring self-concept, setting goals, time management and coping strategies dealing with stress and anxiety.

Mental Health: This unit covers mental disorder categories, types, causes and treatment. We also discuss ways to stop mental disorder stigma and the sensitive concepts of grief, loss, divorce and suicide/prevention.

Consumer Health: This unit explores how advertising, labeling, and frauds affect our consumer health decisions. Skills that will be taught include reading labels, analyzing advertising, and comparison shopping of health products.

Nutrition: This unit helps students understand the importance of proper nutrition, micronutrients, reading food labels, portion control and the concept of calories in vs. calories out (burned).

Drug Awareness: This unit covers the categories of drugs, how drugs affect the body, facts and myths about drugs, ways of dealing with drug abuse in the community, laws affecting drug use, refusal skills, and emphasizes making wise decisions concerning personal drug use.

Physical Growth and Development: This unit covers the concepts of healthy vs. unhealthy relationships, gender orientations and stereotypes, male/female anatomy and physiology, adolescent changes, reproduction, birth control and sexually transmitted diseases.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Length: Every Other Day or Year

Students will improve personal health and fitness levels by incorporating fitness and sport-based skills. Students focus on developing and promoting physical activity, fitness, nutrition and cooperative social behavior that will foster lifelong healthier lifestyles. Activities may include volleyball, Omnikin, basketball, soccer, badminton, speedaway, football, team building, eclipse ball, fitness testing, cardio, fitness room activities, pickleball, tennis, futsal, lacrosse, frisbee, and track and field. Every day classes will have more activities than every other day. Activities info was doubled so we deleted it

8th GRADE ELECTIVE CLASSES

ART

Length: Every Other Day or Yearlong

Eighth grade art is the opportunity to explore and express individual creativity through a variety of art experiences. This course meets every other day which gives the student the opportunity to explore other options. 8th grade art is also offered every day for the whole year for even more exploration and experimentation.

Program A (every other day or semester): This course expands on the seventh-grade experience while continuing to explore and engage the students in self exploration through different media in the Arts. Students will continue to be immersed into the arts in the following areas: Design, drawing, architecture, clay, sculpture, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students continue to develop fine drawing skills and a foundation for art making and appreciation.

Program B (Year): This art course is an elective and meets every day throughout the school year. This course builds on the seventh-grade experience and continues to explore the areas of producing art. Several areas that may be explored along with the areas listed in Program A are: Advertising design, art careers, public art, wheel thrown pottery, and experimental media.

Our yearlong course gives interested artists the opportunity to grow their creative talents as they continue to discover new media and methods. Students will be able to explore personal areas of interest in collaboration with the instructors.

BAND

Length: Every Other Day or Yearlong

Band is an elective course and may be taken every-other-day OR every day for the entire school year. If a student has never played in band before, a required playing proficiency will need to be met in order to join band in 8th grade.

Every-Other-Day Band: Every-other-day band rehearses concert music every other day during class for the entire year. Students will participate in small group instruction.

All 8th grade band members (Concert and 5-Day) are required to perform in two evening concerts (December & May), participate in the district and Kalahari band festivals, may play in the pep band for high school sporting events, and will participate in solo/ensemble. **Practicing outside of the school day is expected to improve musicianship and skills on the instrument.**

5-Day-Band: In addition to participating in the Every Other Day Band portion of the curriculum, students electing the Five-day option also participate in additional units of study which include: jazz band, percussion ensemble, learning a new instrument, conducting, solo/ensemble, world drumming, bucket drumming, composition and they will complete a service learning project and performances for the community, for which they can log hours to count towards the Middleton High School graduation requirement.

CHOIR

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

All students are welcome regardless of experience. The music studied in Choir ranges greatly in style, and differs in both historical and cultural context (singing in multiple languages is common). The human voice is an instrument, and students learn to use their voices in a highly technical way. Additionally, students are required to participate in two evening concerts at the MHS Performing Arts Center, as well as a "Pops Concert & Trivia Night". Students in 8th Grade Choir attend an all-day music festival at the Kalahari. Optional activities include Broadway Express, District Solo/Ensemble, and a field trip.

EXPLORATORY

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

In eighth grade exploratory Engineering and Technology students will work collaboratively on a variety of project-based units, covering a wide spectrum of technology and engineering. The units are designed to challenge and engage the minds of middle school students. Through the design process they will take an idea from concept to final product.

FOUNDATIONS OF COMPUTER SCIENCE 8

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

This yearlong, every-other-day course is purely dedicated to coding/programming. Students will work individually and collaboratively in groups to explore computer science and problem-solving through the curriculum of CS Discoveries. First semester focuses on web page creation through HTML and CSS coding languages. Second semester focuses on JavaScript and hands-on programming with Circuit Playground devices and simple robots. Move beyond colorful blocks--learn to write real code!

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY (GTT)

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Have you ever wanted to design, build, and program your own robot? Maybe you can create the most efficient automated assembly line? We will be using the STEM approach as well as 21st Century Skills in the Automation and Robotics unit to make these dreams come alive, using VEX robotics components. Students will also design and build a CO2 dragster with the assistance of 3D computer modeling software, and a variety of lab equipment.

MUSIC THEATER

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

All students are welcome regardless of experience. Students perform regularly in class. There are three evening performing-events: student-selected short scenes and monologues, student-directed one-act plays, and the Spring Musical. In addition to studying acting techniques, students will learn and practice singing techniques in the Music Theater genre. Students who wish to audition for a speaking role for the Spring Musical should expect after school rehearsals, March through May.

ORCHESTRA

Length: Every Other Day or Yearlong

Students who play violin, viola, cello and bass are all welcome, including beginners. In 8th Grade Orchestra, students study more challenging music from various genres including jazz, fiddle, pop, rock, and classical. They will also improvise and write their own music. Students will perform in evening concerts and participate in the Beyond the Notes festival at Kalahari. Students have written and playing assignments and are expected to practice at home between classes. There are additional (optional) opportunities to participate in WSMA District Solo/Ensemble Events and State Honors Orchestra Auditions.

TEEN CUISINE

Length: Every Other Day Yearlong

Teen Cuisine builds on basic knowledge of nutrition and cooking skills. This class is geared to tee. Students interested in nutrition, cooking, and culinary arts with an emphasis on career-based skills and knowledge. Student experiences will include running a restaurant, creating menus, experiencing multi-cultural foods, making special occasion foods, decorating cake techniques, taste testing foods, and taking ownership of eating habits. Completion of this course with teacher recommendation may allow you to enter Culinary Arts 1 freshman year (normally a 10th grade or above level course).

WORLD LANGUAGE – Level I (French, German, Mandarin or Spanish)**Length: Year**

Students taking a Level I language in eighth grade may continue taking a level II language class in ninth grade at Middleton High School. This provides students with the opportunity to achieve proficiency in a foreign language through level V (5) during high school. Many universities require successful completion of 2 levels in one foreign language. Most universities grant college credits for upper level high school foreign language courses.

WORLD LANGUAGE – Level II (French, German, Mandarin or Spanish)**Length: Year**

Students may enroll in a 5-Day World Language course (French, German, Mandarin Chinese, or Spanish) with the successful completion of 7th grade Level I. Students who successfully complete the seventh and eighth grade language sequence at GCMS/KMS may continue their language study with level III in high school. This provides students with the opportunity to achieve proficiency in a foreign language through level VI (6) during high school. Many universities require successful completion of 2 levels in one foreign language. Most universities grant college credits for upper level high school foreign language courses.

Our curriculum follows the Wisconsin State Foreign Language Standards. Five key words summarize the intent of these standards:

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- COMMUNITIES: participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world

****SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS-8******Length: Year**

This course is designed for 8th grade students who already speak Spanish at home, in their communities, and/or with their families. The courses are designed to help students continue developing their academic language and literacy skills in Spanish through the exploration of literature, current events, history, and culture. Students may enroll in this course for multiple years to deepen their Spanish academic language and literacy skills each year through the exploration of different themes and texts. After taking this course, students will have opportunities for additional advanced Spanish learning at the high school level.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education program at Kromrey Middle School provides *services* for students who have been determined through a multi-disciplinary team *assessment* to have special education needs in the following areas:

- Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD)
- Hearing Impairment (HI)
- Orthopedic Impairment (OIA)
- Speech & Language Impairment (SL)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Other Health Impaired (OHI)
- Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Cognitive Disability (CD)
- Visual Impairment

Students may be placed in the following courses only by consultation with their case manager and the special education staff. These courses may not be pre-selected during the registration process.

SUPPORT COURSES OFFERED

Adaptive Physical Education – This course is designed for students who are not able to participate fully in the regular physical education program. To be eligible, students must have this identified as an exceptional need on the most recent educational evaluation.

Communication Instruction - Communication Instruction – Communication Instruction class targets the speech and language goal/objectives in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Expressive and receptive language skills are the focus of instruction.