

# 2018-19 Middle School Program of Studies

**Please Note:**

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



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# Welcome

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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.

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The Board is committed to an environment of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, economic status, union affiliation, disability, and other human differences. No person shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, any academic or extracurricular program or educational opportunity or service offered by the District. The District will comply with the applicable statutes, regulations, and executive orders adopted by Federal, State and Municipal agencies. The District notes the concurrent applicability of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the relevant disability provisions of Alaska law.

Any student or employee who violates this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to ASD’s Compliance/Equal Employment Opportunity Senior Director, who also serves as the Title IX and ADA Coordinator, ASD Education Center, 5530 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage, AK 99504-3135 (907) 742-4132, [EEO@asdk12.org](mailto:EEO@asdk12.org), or to any of the following external agencies: **Alaska State Commission for Human Rights, Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the Office for Civil Rights-U.S. Department of Education.** REVISED: 8/2007, 8/2012, 5/2013, 7/2014, 3/2017, 9/2017



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*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 respon-

sible 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,



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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.

**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



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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** is a comprehensive middle school that supports students receiving traditional, Gifted, ELL, Special Education, Remedial and Accelerated services. Our mission is to create an environment where students and adults come together cooperatively to strive for academic achievement and social-emotional growth. Our diverse community encourages responsibility, promotes honesty and cooperation, challenges students to seek an inter-cultural understanding, and empowers students to have respect in order to achieve success today and in the future. We incorporate the use of a team approach in the four core areas: Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. Students also

take physical education and choose from a vast list of elective choices. Romig has a specialized program for all qualified Highly Gifted students as well as Russian and Spanish Immersion. A newly added Career and Technical Education facility includes courses in Applied Technology, Family and Consumer Science, Computer Technology, Video Production, and School Business Partnerships. Being co-located with West High School allows our students to take advanced classes as in math, music, 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



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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.

**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.

**P.A.I.D.E.I.A. Cooperative School** is a K-12 culture of academic innovation and adaptation, offering a personalized, customizable and blended learning plan for passion driven students and families. Students may take up to three classes at local ASD schools, attend small on-site core courses at P.A.I.D.E.I.A. and register for local university courses Staff assists students in coordinating business partnerships,

internships and mentorships. Teachers work collaboratively with parents and colleagues to design custom programs utilizing hundreds of online class options and several pre-approved, pre-arranged credit options for family-developed plans and life experiences. The program is enhanced with exploratories, field trips and customized cooperative groups.

**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.



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### *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  
 680 Hightower Road, Girdwood, Alaska 99587

**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

**PAIDEIA Cooperative School** ..... 742-4164  
 616 W 10th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99501

### *Charter schools serving middle level students*

**Alaska Native Cultural Charter School** ..... 742-1370

**Family Partnership** ..... 742-3700

**Frontier Charter School** ..... 742-1180

**Highland Academy Charter** ..... 742-1700

**Rilke Schule German Charter School of Arts & Sciences** ..... 742-0900

**Winterberry** ..... 742-0139



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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 Requirements

<b>Math</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Physical Education/Health</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Math 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Science 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 6
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Algebra	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 6 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Science 6 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

### 7th Grade Requirements

<b>Math</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Physical Education/Health</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Math 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 7
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Algebra	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 7 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 7 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Health**
<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I			<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

### 8th Grade Requirements

<b>Math</b>	<b>Language Arts</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Physical Education/Health</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Math 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education 8
<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Arts 8 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Science 8 Gifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Geometry			<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

\*\*While required at 8th grade, students are allowed to take this in 7th grade.

**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 46.



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### 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. _____



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### 8th Grade Planner

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



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# Special Programs

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*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.*

### Academic English Learner Program

**Grade level: 6,7,8**

**Prerequisites: Eligibility with the English Learner Program**

Academic STEM Innovations and Social Studies Infused courses offer students a platform for developing capacities and competencies in mathematical, scientific, engineering and/or Common Core literacy practices. Courses are designed to accelerate acquisition of the advanced, content-specific, language and literacy practices for English learners.

### 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.



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# Core Subjects

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*These are district written, adopted and approved subjects. These are required by all students in the 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.*

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# Language Arts

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### 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.



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### Language Arts 7..... M0120

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester/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 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.



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### Language Arts 8..... M0125

**Grade level: 8**  
**Length of course: Semester/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, 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.



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### 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.

#### Electives:

### AC Reading 6–8 ..... M0005S1LS, M0005S2LS, M0005LS

**Grade level:** 6,7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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.

### 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.



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### **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.

### **Debate** ..... M0520

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

Students explore multiple perspectives and research and defend a variety of positions and issues while developing strong reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The study and practice of academic debate will strengthen various language arts and civic skills, including: argument construction, evidence analysis and evaluation, organization, outlining, persuasion, effective word choice, citation, research competence, media literacy, reading comprehension, summarization and outlining, public speaking, ethics and civility.

### **Drama** ..... M9007

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Quarter/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.



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### **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–Genre Studies** ..... M9101

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

Students will read and write extensively during a study of various genre, such as biography, drama, or multicultural literature.

### **Literature–Recreational Reading** ..... 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.



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### 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 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, argument, and technical writing) to sustain and extend the writer's development.



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# Math

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### 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: Semester/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: Semester/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.



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### **Pre-Algebra** ..... **M1030**

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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.

### **Algebra I** ..... **M1014**

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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:** Semester/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.

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### **Math 6–8** ..... **M1006SP**

**Grade level:** 6,7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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.

### **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.

### **Electives:**

### **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.



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### **Mathematics 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 (Escher style), fractals in 2-D and 3-D and topographical maps geometric solids with unit origami, string art, tessellation's

### **Mathematics Support** ..... **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.



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### Physical Education ..... M6063, M6062, M6064

**Grade Level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of Course:** Quarter/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 ..... M2076Q, M2076

**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.



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### Health ..... M2075

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**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.

### AC Health Skills 6-8 ..... M6001LS

**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 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.

### Electives:

### 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.



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### 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.



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### Science 6 ..... M2012

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

The focus of the sixth grade science class is ecosystems and energy. Through inquiry-based science, students discover the interactions in Alaskan ecosystems, and the energy transformations Alaskans rely on to produce usable electricity.

Students use 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.

### AC Science 6–8 ..... M2001LS

**Grade level: 6,7,8**  
**Length of course: Semester/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.



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### German Immersion Science 6 ..... M2012GI

**Grade Level: 6**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 6 and German Immersion Social Studies 6.**

This science course is a continuation of the German immersion program at the Rilke Schule Charter School. The science content is representative of the district grade 6 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate ecosystems and sources of energy using process skills such

as observation, building models, interpreting evidence and experimenting, collecting and analyzing data, and drawing conclusions. This course is conducted in German, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.

### 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. The science content is representative of the district grade 6 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate ecosystems and

sources of energy using process skills such as observation, building models, interpreting evidence and experimenting, collecting and analyzing data, and drawing conclusions. This course is conducted in Spanish, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.

### Integrated Science 7 ..... M2030

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester/Year**

**Prerequisites: None**

This is an integrated science course in which students explore areas of life science, computer science, and physics, using applied mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on

scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry based laboratory experiences.



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### **Integrated Science 7 Gifted** ..... M2030G

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester/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.

### **German Immersion Science 7** .....M2030GI

**Grade Level: 7**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 7 and German Immersion Social Studies 7.**

This science course is a continuation of the German immersion program at the Rilke Schule Charter School. The science content is representative of the district grade 7 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate areas of life science, computer science, and physics, using

applied mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry based laboratory experiences. This course is conducted in German, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.

### **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. The science content is representative of the district grade 7 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate areas of life science,

computer science, and physics, using applied mathematics and technology. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry based laboratory experiences. This course is conducted in Spanish, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.



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### **Integrated Science 8** ..... M2052

**Grade level: 8**  
**Length of course: Semester/Year**  
**Prerequisites: None**

This is an integrated science course in which students explore areas of chemistry, earth and space science, and life science. 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: Semester/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.

### **German Immersion Science 8** ..... M2052GI

**Grade Level:**  
**Length of course: Year**  
**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 8 and German Immersion Social Studies 8.**

This science course is a continuation of the German immersion program at the Rilke Schule Charter School. The science content is representative of the district grade 7 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate areas of chemistry, earth and space science, and life science. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry based laboratory experiences. This course is conducted in German, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.



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### 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. The science content is representative of the district grade 7 science curriculum. Through inquiry-based science, students investigate areas of chemistry,

earth and space science, and life science. Emphasis is placed on scientific thought and reasoning coordinated with inquiry based laboratory experiences. This course is conducted in Spanish, but students are also taught appropriate English scientific terms.

#### Electives:

### 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.

### 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.



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### **Biology, 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.

### **Biology, 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.

### **Biology, Marine Science** ..... 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.

### **Biology, 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.



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### 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.

### Physics, 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, 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.



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### Science, Geology ..... 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.

### 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.

### 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.



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### **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.



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# Social Studies

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### 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.

### German Immersion Social Studies 6 ..... M3000GI

**Grade level: 6**  
**Length of course: Year**  
**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 6 and German Immersion Science 6.**

This social studies course is a continuation of the German Immersion Program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Students will continue their study of German through content while increasing their German language skills. The social studies content is similar to the district 6th grade social studies course in which students examine and review history, civics,

and geography during the "Emergence of America" from 1800-1871. It will also contain the history, civics, and geography of Europe during this period with special emphasis placed upon Germany. Students will use maps, globes, historical information, graphing, and problem solving skills for research studies. This course is conducted entirely in German.

### 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



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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: Semester/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.

### **German Immersion Social Studies 7** ..... **M3001GI**

**Grade level: 7**  
**Length of course: Year**  
**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 7 and German Immersion Science 7.**

This social studies course is a continuation of the German Immersion Program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Students will continue their study of German through content while increasing their German language skills. The social studies content will continue the study of the "Emergence of America" through examination of American and European

history civics, and geography from the 1870's through the end of WWII. It will also emphasize the history of Alaska within this context. Particular attention will be paid to the political and physical geography of countries around the world involved in World Wars I and II. This course is conducted entirely in German.



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### 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 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.



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### **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: Semester/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.



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### German Immersion Social Studies 8 ..... M3003GI

**Grade level: 8**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Social Studies 7, German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also be enrolled in German Immersion Language 8 and German Immersion Science 8.**

This social studies course is a continuation of the German Immersion Program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Social studies content will include the history of the United States, Europe, and the participants of WWII from the end of the conflict until the present day. Other areas of study include

governments of the world historically and today, economic, world resources, climate issues, ecology, and other modern topics as appropriate. This course is conducted entirely in German.

### 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



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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.

### 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.



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### Electives:

#### **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.



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### **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.

### **History of American Cinema** ..... M8051

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester  
**Prerequisite:** None

This course will familiarize students with the history and development of American film by introducing students to the language and vocabulary of the film industry. Students will be exposed to the evolution of "special effects" and familiarize them with the genres of the film industry. Students will

also learn how genres reflect the American social and cultural climate of historic times. This course will increase student's ability to watch films actively and with a critical eye for assessment and to enhance students ability to think, speak, and write critically about a film experience.

### **Law Studies** ..... M9044

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

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 it's role in our lives. Students will also learn about the many careers available in the justice system and the skills that go with them.



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### **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.



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### 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.



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# Electives

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*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.*

*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.*

*Electives are curriculum experiences designed to help students discover and/or examine learning related to their changing needs, aptitudes and interests. 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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# Art

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### 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.

### 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.

### Art Exploratory ..... M5005

**Grade level:** 6,7,8

**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 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.

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



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### **Art Exploratory** ..... **M9123**

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

Students may elect to enroll in a semester long development of units in drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery and sculpture. The 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.

### **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.

### **Graphic Arts** ..... **M9827**

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester  
**Prerequisite:** none

This elective is for students interested in art and technology. Students will learn about Computer Aided Design, 3-D

Modeling, Graphics and Animation. The class uses current technology, thus programs used in the class will vary.

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



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# Career Technology

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### Industrial Trades, Energy & Resource:

#### **Applied Technology 6 Exploratory** ..... **M8204**

**Grade level: 6**

**Length of course: Quarter**

Exploratory course introducing students to the different aspects of technology in the areas of industrial trades, transportation, energy, and natural resources

#### **Applied Technology 7** ..... **M8207**

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester**

Introductory course allowing students to explore the many different aspects of Technology in our world through the introduction of communication, power, energy, transportation, manufacturing, construction and career awareness.

#### **Applied Technology 8** ..... **M8208**

**Grade level: 8**

**Length of course: Semester**

Introductory course allowing students continued exploration of technology integration in the areas of industrial trades, energy, transportation and manufacturing. Students use engineering design principles to create, design and produce prototypes. Students focus on career awareness, communication skills and lifelong learning strategies.



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

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### Business and Technology:

#### Intro to Computer Tech 6 ..... M8489

**Grade level: 6**

**Length of course: Quarter**

Exploratory course focused on improving keyboarding speed and accuracy as well as learning about major internet safety topics (user names, predator awareness, cyberbullying, and

social media profile settings). Website evaluation, copyright infringement, website citations, and career research are also covered.

#### Business Education Exploratory 6 ..... M8504

**Length of course: Quarter**

Exploratory course focused on introducing students to a variety of business concepts and skills. Students learn about

entrepreneurship and leadership while emphasizing employability skills.

#### Business Education 7 ..... M8502

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester**

Business Education offers an opportunity to work towards keyboarding mastery and experience and practice the many facets of computer applications used in the business world.

Emphasis is placed on career exploration and the development of personal traits such as promptness, work habits, and individual responsibility

#### Computer Technology ..... M8500

**Grade level: 7, 8**

**Length of course: Semester**

This course emphasizes the foundational skills necessary for continued exploration and development in a variety of technical occupations. In this course, students are introduced to coding and logical problem solving skills, the use of office

applications to develop professional documents and presentations and graphic design tools used in creating marketing and promotional materials.

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



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### School Business Partnership..... M9128

**Grade level:** 7, 8

**Length of course:** Semester

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. Job applications, resume writing, and interviewing skills will be acquired as well as work ethics and on-the-job training.

### Video Production ..... M9054

**Grade level:** 7,8

**Length of course:** Semester

This course introduces students to the video production process. Students learn the basics of script writing and editing, production recording, video editing and processing. Students

explore different production types, including news, animation, short story, documentary, music video and public service announcements.

### Health and Human Services:

### Family and Consumer Science 6 Exploratory..... M9115

**Grade level:** 6

**Length of course:** Quarter

This is a 9-week introductory course for 6th grade. Skills taught include kitchen safety, food preparation, basic

cooking skills, hand sewing skills, and basic machine sewing.

### Family and Consumer Science 7..... M8307

**Grade level:** 7

**Length of course:** Semester

This is a 18-week course for 7th grade. Skills taught include kitchen safety, food preparation, basic cooking skills, hand

sewing skills, care giving and basic machine sewing and personal finance.

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



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### Family and Consumer Science 8..... M8308

**Grade level: 8**

**Length of course: Semester**

This course is an exploratory course emphasizing culinary, textiles and personal wellness. Students explore kitchen fundamentals, preparing nutritious meals and analyze dietary

components of ingredients. Students will learn to use basic sewing techniques to stitch manually and on a machine.

#### **Exploratory:**

### Career Adventures – INDE..... M8221

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester**

Students will be engaged in simulated, hands-on activities that provide exploration of their interests and abilities and the work habits and duties performed in a variety of careers in the high demand occupations for the future in Alaska.

Students will experience and interact with industry professionals assigned to leading highly-interactive, simulated workplace tasks and responsibilities focused on the wide variety of the industrial trades and resource extraction.

### Career Adventures – HANDS ..... M8220

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Semester**

Students will be engaged in simulated, hands-on activities that provide exploration of their interests and abilities and the work habits and duties performed in a variety of careers in the high demand occupations for the future in Alaska. Students will experience and interact with industry

professionals assigned to leading highly-interactive, simulated workplace tasks and responsibilities focused on the wide variety of the health science, human services, business and technology.

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



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# Leadership

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### **CADFY** ..... M9920

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**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.

### **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.

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



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### **Mentorship** ..... M9074, M9124

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**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.

### **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.

### **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.

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



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### **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.



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# Music

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### **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, M5503S1, M5503S2

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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, M5504S1, M5504S2

**Grade Level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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.

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



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### **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.

### **Intermediate Band** ..... **M5604, M5604S1, M5604S2**

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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 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.

### **Intermediate Band 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.

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### Advanced Band .....M5606, M5606S1, M5606S2

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Semester/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.

### 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.

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



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### Intermediate Orchestra Level 1 .....M5665, M5665S1, M5665S2

**Grade level:** 6,7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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.

### Intermediate Orchestra 2 ..... M5666

**Grade Level:** 6,7,8

**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.

### Advanced Orchestra .....M5668, M5668S1, M5668S2

**Grade level:** 6,7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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.

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



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### **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.

### **Creative Music Technology**..... M5505Q, M5505

**Grade level:** 7,8  
**Length of course:** Quarter/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.

### **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.

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### Music Exploratory Peer Teaching ..... M5719LS, M5719

**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.



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### **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.

### **Affective Skills Development 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.

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### Library Aide ..... M9051

**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.

### 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.

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### **PLTW Automation and Robotics** ..... **M9141**

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

Automation and Robotics is a project-based foundation course where students trace the history and development of automation and robotics. They learn about structures, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control

systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in engineering problem solving and explore requirements for careers in engineering.

### **PLTW Design and Modeling** ..... **M9142**

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

Design and Modeling is a project-based foundation course where students learn the design process and how to use the process to solve problems. Students learn solid modeling and how it has influenced their lives. Students also learn sketching techniques and use descriptive geometry as a component

of design, measurement, and computer modeling. Using the design process, students brainstorm, research, develop ideas, create models, test and evaluate design ideas, and communicate their solution to solve problems. Students will create and use an engineering notebook throughout the course.

### **Publication** ..... **M9091**

**Grade level: 6,7,8**  
**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.

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### 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 Deaf 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.

### 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.

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### 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 needed skills with individual and small group assistance. of the student’s regular program. Time is provided to focus on

### Study Skills 6–8 ..... M9926SP

**Grade level:** 6,7,8  
**Length of course:** Quarter/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.

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### **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.



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### 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.

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### **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.

### **German 1 A** ..... **M4205, M4205S1, M4205S2**

**Grade level:** 7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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, M4206S1, M4206S2**

**Grade level:** 7,8

**Length of course:** Semester/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.

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### German Immersion Language 6.....M4209GI

**Grade level: 6**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also enroll in German Immersion Social Studies 6 and German Immersion Science 6.**

This German language arts course is a continuation of the German immersion program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in German through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition in German through conversation, vocabulary, grammar, composition and appropriate world literature.

Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from German-speaking countries will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in German.

### German Immersion Language 7.....M4210GI

**Grade level: 7**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also enroll in German Immersion Social Studies 7 and German Immersion Science 7.**

This German language arts course is a continuation of the German immersion program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in German through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition in German through conversation, vocabulary, grammar, composition and appropriate world literature.

Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from German-speaking countries will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in German.

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



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### German Immersion Language 8.....M4211GI

**Grade level: 8**

**Length of course: Year**

**Prerequisite: German Immersion Program or teacher recommendation. Students must also enroll in German Immersion Social Studies 8 and German Immersion Science 8.**

This German language arts course is a continuation of the German immersion program at Rilke Schule Charter School. Students will increase and refine their communication skills in German through conversation, vocabulary building, grammar, composition in German through conversation, vocabulary, grammar, composition and appropriate world literature.

Thematic units of study integrating social studies content, including culture and the arts from German-speaking countries will supplement this rich language-learning environment for students. This course is conducted exclusively in German.

### 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

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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.**

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.*

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### 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

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.

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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, M4005S1, M4005S2

**Grade level: 6,7,8**

**Length of course: Semester/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.

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### Spanish 1 B .....M4006, M4006S1, M4006S2

**Grade level: 6,7,8**

**Length of course: Semester/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.

### 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

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



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# World Languages

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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.*

### **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 be offered at all schools.*



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# High School Graduation Requirements

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Current graduation requirements can be found at [www.asdk12.org/students/graduation/](http://www.asdk12.org/students/graduation/).



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