



WYDOWN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Program  
of Studies*

2021-2022

As a community, the students, staff, parents and patrons of the School District of Clayton are united in our commitment to student learning. Our mission, vision and core values embody why we are here, what we want our students to become and the principles that guide our work.

**Mission Statement:**

We inspire each student to love learning and embrace challenge within a rich and rigorous academic culture.

**Vision Statement:**

We develop leaders who shape the world through independence, creativity and critical thinking.

**Core Values:**

We model and promote:

- Excellence by challenging our students and ourselves to meet the highest expectations of our community.
- Trust by building relationships based on integrity, mutual respect and open communication.
- Inclusiveness by valuing individual differences and the contributions of a diverse student body and staff.
- Innovation by encouraging ideas and practices that foster adaptability.
- Accountability by aligning our actions and resources with our stated objectives and taking responsibility for the outcomes.

**Tag Line:**

The School District of Clayton ... Setting the standard for a world-class education.

**MOCAP**

Because virtual instruction can be an effective education option for some students, there are certain courses available either through the District-provided virtual option, Launch or through the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). More information about virtual courses can be found on our website at <https://www.claytonschools.net/Page/20324>. If you are considering enrollment in a virtual course, please contact your counselor to discuss your options. In order for the District to pay for a student's participation in a virtual course, that student must have been enrolled in a full-time capacity the semester prior to enrollment. The District will only pay for virtual courses up to a full-time equivalent.

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# THE SIXTH GRADE PROGRAM

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Sixth Grade Students take the following classes:

## CORE CLASSES

Language Literacy  
Math/Math Extensions  
Science  
Social Studies  
PE/Health

## Required Elective:

World Language (Choose French or Spanish)

## Elective Classes:

Students choose the equivalent of *two* full year electives. Classes may be a combination of full year and semester classes.

## Support Classes:

If your child is assigned a support class they will have the option of opting out of World Language or an elective.



## THE SIXTH GRADE PROGRAM

The sixth grade student enrolls in four Core Classes, Physical Education, a World Language, and a combination of year and semester electives that equal 2 years. If your child is interested in taking different 6<sup>th</sup> grade electives than the required choices, please contact Dr. Jordan at [jamiejordan@claytonschools.net](mailto:jamiejordan@claytonschools.net) to discuss how we can individualize our instruction to meet your child's specific needs.

## SIXTH GRADE CORE CLASSES

### LANGUAGE LITERACY 6 (Year)

The sixth grade literacy curriculum extends the structures and strategies of the elementary program into the middle school setting. The curriculum emphasizes reading strategies, literature appreciation, and elements of fiction through a variety of shared texts and independent reading. Our goal is for students to develop a love for literature by exposing them to diverse texts and nurturing their reading lives through individual reading conferences, book talks and discussion groups.

Our writing curriculum engages students in all aspects of the writing process. Student choice is incorporated into the prewriting and drafting processes to allow students to explore meaningful topics. Also, individual writing conferences address student writing needs while emphasizing meaningful revision and editing techniques. Students are exposed to a variety of writing experiences that include narrative, creative, and analytical writing.

### MATH 6 (Year)

6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics focuses on the following essential understandings:

- Graphing positive and negative points on number lines and coordinate planes (in all 4 quadrants)
- Operations with fractions and decimals
- Apply understanding of percent's to solve real world problems
- Understand the relationship between fractions, decimals, and percent's
- Apply understanding of rates/ratios to solve real world problems
- Write and simplify expressions to solve one- and two-step equations
- Understand and apply area and volume formulas to real world problems
- Interpret, describe, and display data

Students will access the curriculum through *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 1*.

### MATH 6 EXTENSIONS (Year)

This challenge-level course emphasizes abstract reasoning and extension of the content and skills covered in Math 6. Students enrolled in extensions are expected to maintain a "B" at each semester with minimal out-of-class support. Students recommended for extensions courses in mathematics have excellent work habits and advanced abstract reasoning skills, exceptionally high scores on standardized mathematics tests and demonstrate an advanced level of problem solving and flexible thinking on district assessments.

## SCIENCE (Year)

6<sup>th</sup> grade science students will complete the following units:

**Matter and Energy in the Earth System:** Students will study how matter and energy cycle and flow through the Earth system. They begin the year with a unit that includes developing an understanding of matter, energy, and the Earth's spheres. Students are introduced to matter and energy and how they interact. Students study properties of and changes in matter. They will also explore the structure of matter (atoms) and what distinguishes pure substances of matter from mixtures. Students will study the energy fields and their ability to initiate change in matter. These units will then help students understand how weathering, erosion, and deposition affect Earth's surface. These topics are further reinforced through the natural geology of southeastern Missouri while students are at Sixth Grade Camp.

**Earth History:** Students explore Earth's history by learning about the methods scientists use to determine the relative age of rocks and the use of the geologic time scale to describe deep time. In order to understand how natural resources are distributed and limited, students spend some time studying minerals and rocks and their properties. The final piece is to learn the structure of the Earth and the internal processes that account for important features of Earth's surface and major geologic events.

**Ecology:** All things are connected and affected by each other. Students explore the many interactions that result in the diversity of populations, communities and ecosystems. First, they will distinguish between abiotic and biotic factors in the environment. From there, they discover that many variables affect the size of each level of organization. Finally, students use trophic pyramids to show how matter and energy flow through the biosphere.

## SOCIAL STUDIES (Year)

Sixth graders will examine 19<sup>th</sup>-century America through the theme of transformation. Learning via simulations, research projects, field experiences, and source analyses, students will gather information about important historical events and perspectives. The essential questions they will address throughout the year focus on how the United States changed economically, geographically, politically, and culturally over the century.

## 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (3 Quarters)

Our mission is to teach students to live and value a healthy lifestyle reflecting ongoing psychomotor (physical), cognitive (mental), and affective (social/emotional) development. The physical education curriculum is student-centered, fun, skill-oriented, and inclusive. Our students participate in a variety of activities where they learn how to improve their overall fitness, perform a variety of skills, and be responsible for their health and well-being. They learn how to cooperate with others, socialize with their peers, be confident and independent, and exhibit self-control. Students are enrolled in physical education for three quarters each year.

## 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE HEALTH EDUCATION (1 Quarter)

From Physical Education students will rotate into Health Education for one quarter during 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The sixth-grade curriculum includes Internet Safety (protecting personal information, digital footprint, and protection from online predators). Violence prevention is a topic that is covered with a focus on victims, aggressors, and bystanders/upstanders related to bullying and cyberbullying. Lastly, the male and female reproductive systems are studied with a focus on anatomy and physiology and how to keep the systems healthy. A letter will be sent home approximately one week before this unit begins with more details on content, so as to prepare parents for potential questions or discussions that may take place at home.

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLASSES

*These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation only.*

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (Year)

EL is designed for students whose first language is not English. EL students work individually and in small groups with the EL specialist to acquire English while getting support in academic content. In collaboration with core content teachers, ELs are provided with modified written materials and computer programs to provide a wide range of individualized activities for teaching English at all proficiency levels. *This class is for those who have been identified by a placement test and/or teacher recommendation.*

### LEARNING CENTER (Year)

Learning Center is for students who need extra support in executive functioning, such as homework completion and organization. These students have the skills set necessary to complete Wydown grade level work at a proficient level, however, the students struggle with completing assignments in a reasonable amount of time; making plans to complete work; Applying old skills to a new situation; Organizing materials and belongings; Completing work carefully and neatly and or ; Working independently and productively. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation only.*

### MATH STRATEGIES (Year)

This class is for a student who needs extra support to perform Wydown Grade level skills at a proficient level. This need has been shown through performance on standardized tests such as the Missouri Grade Level Assessments and or the NWEA tests. In this class, students will work on math skills to ensure they are able to show proficiency in Wydown grade level equivalency work. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation only.*

### READING STRATEGIES (Semester or Year)

Reading strategies is a course designed for students who need to improve their reading habits and comprehension. Using observations, interviews, and diagnostic testing, the reading specialist will determine reading strengths and weaknesses. Through small group instruction and class discussion, students will learn the strategies and tools that effective readers use to understand and remember what they read. Students will apply these strategies as they read a variety of fiction and expository texts. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation only.*

### STUDY SKILLS (Year)

This course is for students who currently have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and are receiving services through Special School District. The course goal is to facilitate the student's acquisition of skills and strategies that will enable him/her to become a competent, independent learner and problem solver. The goals and objectives will be facilitated through the regular curriculum. The student will be working on the goals stated in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The teacher will work to increase the fit between the student's specific educational, social and/or emotional needs and the demands of the classroom. *This class is taken based on a students IEP.*

### STUDY SKILLS: SPEECH-LANGUAGE SERVICES (Year)

A speech-language pathologist provides speech-language therapy through Special School District. Speech and/or language services are offered to those students who have a current Individualized

Educational Plan (IEP). These services are designed to meet the needs of students who exhibit disabilities in articulation, voice, fluency, language, and/or hearing, and comply with federal and state regulations. *This service is based on a student IEP.*

## WORLD LANGUAGES (required)

French and Spanish are the languages offered in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. If you would like to take both Spanish and French you may do so.

French or Spanish may be dropped in 6<sup>th</sup> grade in order to take a recommended class. There is no entry level Spanish or French in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, you will need to wait until your Freshman year to begin them.

### **FRENCH 6 (Year)**

The focus of sixth grade French is to introduce students to the basics of French through a year-long study of the language. The focus will be on common conversational topics as well as cultural concepts. Language skills will include conversation, writing, and basic grammatical structures. French 6 is taught through a variety of communicative activities, games, projects and skits. Units of study include greetings, self-description, school, sports, hobbies and food, as well as an exploration of Paris and the larger Francophone world. This is a true beginner's course, and no prior language experience is required.

### **SPANISH 6 (Year)**

The focus of 6<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish is on common conversational topics as well as cultural concepts. Language skills focus on conversation, writing and basic grammatical structures. Units of study include a brief review unit, likes and dislikes, describing yourself and others, telling time, school, describing classes and schedules, food, family, clothing, shopping, and getting around town. Culture focuses on Hispanic in the US, and the countries of Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Spain. Spanish is taught through games, hands-on activities, and projects. This course is open to students who have had past Spanish experience, as well as students who are new to the language.

## ELECTIVES

### **BEGINNING CADET BAND (Year)**

Cadet Band is open to any sixth grade student who would like to learn to play a band instrument, and who have scheduled an instrument fitting appointment with a member of the Wydown band Staff. These fittings typically take place in January and February of the student's 5<sup>th</sup> grade year, but may also be scheduled on an individual basis prior to the start of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade school year. Along with proper assembly and care, Cadet Band students will learn how to play with proper technique and sound on one of the following instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Baritone and Tuba. The instructors will determine a limited number of positions for those interested in Saxophone or Percussion through a screening process during the spring of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade year. The cadet band typically performs 3 evening concerts during the school year and participates in one Saturday festival trip during the month of April. No previous experience is necessary to be a member of the Cadet Band, but those who have experience are also welcome. A delayed entry/skill enhancement option for second semester may be available by request on a case by case basis for those who missed the initial opportunity.

### CHORUS (Year)

Chorus is an introductory vocal music ensemble for students who have a passion for singing. Members of the Chorus will learn fundamental music theory, sight-singing, and choral performance skills. Students will perform a wide variety of music in at least two evening concerts during the year.

### DRAMA 6 (Semester)

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of theatre arts skills, as well as to develop their appreciation for dramatic forms. This course introduces students to the world of theatre as well as many theatrical opportunities to enhance and grow as a performer. Students will learn to use their bodies, voices, movement, and more to communicate with an audience. Playwriting, improvisation, ensemble work, and production techniques will prepare students for further course work in this area while improving their powers of analytical criticism, self-esteem, collaboration, and creativity.

### LITERACY LAB: READING AND WRITING WORKSHOP (Semester)

Do you have a good book you want to read? Do you have an idea about a story you want to write? Join us in the Literacy Lab! During this reading and writing workshop class, you'll have time to read and or write around topics/genres/authors of your choice while growing as a reader and writer. That's right! You'll have a chance to read and write about topics of your choice in a variety of genres, like graphic novels, vlogs, songs, as well as more traditional genres such as mysteries, realistic fiction and memoir. As both a consumer, reader, and producer, writer, you'll serve as a "lit leader" at WMS and will develop campaigns promoting favorite books and your own writing. Grab a book and join us!

### MAGIC OF ELECTRONS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (Semester)

This 2 part hands-on course allows students to explore and blend the world of Engineering and Computer Science! In part 1, students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They learn basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them. In part 2, students learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. Using microcontrollers with inputs and outputs, they develop code that brings their physical designs to life!

### ORCHESTRA (Year)

6th Grade Orchestra is made up of students of all experience levels, beginning through advanced. Members of this ensemble will increase individual performance skills, and participate in small and large group ensembles. Orchestra is a performance class, which presents several concerts and participates in music festivals and clinics each year.

### THEATRE WORKS (Semester)

This class is for the student specifically interested in learning about the various elements related to bringing a live performance to the stage. Performance and backstage aspects will be explored and practiced as a Company. Working together as a Company is an integral part of the atmosphere and philosophy of this course, and the theatre department as a whole.

### VISUAL ARTS (Semester)

Exercise your creativity muscles and discover what your imagination can do! This course provides students with the time and space to explore a variety of art materials and develop art-making techniques. An emphasis in this course will be placed on idea generation and techniques to increase creativity. Practicing these skills will begin to grow their creative confidence in all areas. Students in this class produce meaningful and unique works of art in a friendly, supportive studio environment. Don't miss out on this special opportunity to challenge yourself artistically and exceed all expectations!

## ENRICHMENT

### EXPLORATORIUM (Semester or Year)

This class is designed for students in grades 6-8 who show signs of exceptional creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking in comparison to their chronological peers. The goal of Exploratorium is to provide students with elective opportunities to build their creative confidence and comfort with failure. The curriculum used in Exploratorium classes focuses on design thinking, creative confidence, and social-emotional learning. This course is for IDENTIFIED Enrichment students ONLY.

(This class is offered to all three grade levels. Anyone with questions concerning enrollment in these classes should contact the Gifted Education office directly at 854-6448.)

# Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Worksheet

Please read ALL directions before completing this form

6th graders required classes are:

Literacy

*Math/Math Extensions*

PE/Health

Social Studies

(Math placement will be finalized after spring testing. You will receive a letter with math placement.)

World Language

Science

(French or Spanish)

If there is a recommended class filled in below you will be assigned to this support class. Please mark if you would like to drop World Language or an Elective to take that class.

Teacher Recommended Support Class (for more detailed information please see the Program of Studies)	Please choose the class you would like to drop in order to take the Support Class
<input type="checkbox"/> English Language Learners <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Center <input type="checkbox"/> Math Strategies <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Strategies <input type="checkbox"/> Study Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/> World Language (French or Spanish may be dropped in 6 <sup>th</sup> grade in order to take a recommended class. There is no entry level in Spanish or French in 7 <sup>th</sup> or 8 <sup>th</sup> grade, you will need to wait until your Freshman year to begin them)

Choose either French or Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/> French	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
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Please Number Electives below from 1-8 (or 1-10 if you are an identified gifted student.) (#1 being first choice) Your child will be assigned a combination of 2 year electives including recommended classes.

Number	Elective Choices
Year	Band
Year	Chorus
Semester	Drama
	Exploratorium Year (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class)
	Exploratorium Semester (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class)
Semester	Literacy Lab: Reading & Writing Workshop
Semester	Magic of Electrons and Computer Science
Year	Orchestra (You may not take Orchestra in 7 <sup>th</sup> grade if not taken in 6 <sup>th</sup> )
Semester	Theatre Works
Semester	Visual Art

Parent Signature	
Student Signature	
Daytime Contact #	

**Registration forms are Due Friday, February 26, 2021**

Forms should be turned in to your Homeroom Teacher.

# THE SEVENTH GRADE PROGRAM

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Seventh Grade Students take the following classes:

Core classes:

Language Literacy  
Math/Math Extensions  
Science  
Social Studies  
PE/Health

Elective Classes:

Students choose the equivalent of three full year electives which may be any combination of semester and full year classes.

Support Classes:

Some students will be assigned a support class. If they have a support class they will then choose the equivalent of two full year electives.



## SEVENTH GRADE CORE CLASSES

**LANGUAGE LITERACY (Year)** Seventh-grade students practice literacy skills with a variety of genres, thinking about the overarching essential question: What is value and who determines it? Through whole class study and discussion, small group sharing, and individual choices, seventh graders explore literature, seeking connections with interdisciplinary experiences and other forms of media to broaden understandings of the world in which they live. Students show their learning through presentations, projects, assessments, reading responses, and written analyses. Writers' workshop routines ensure that students continue to use a variety of pre-writing strategies, develop editing and grammar skills, as well as use a multi-draft approach to produce a final draft. As in all literacy classes at Wydown, students reflect on their growth as language users.

### **MATH 7 (Year)**

7th grade mathematics focus on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. Students will access the curriculum through *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 2*. The representation of problems with bar models, diagrams, tables, graphs and geometric drawings leads to symbolic and algebraic solutions of rich and complex problems.

### **MATH 7 EXTENSIONS (Year)**

This challenge-level course emphasizes abstract reasoning and extension of the content and skills covered in Math 7. Students enrolled in extensions are expected to maintain a "B" at each semester with minimal out-of-class support. Students recommended for extensions courses in mathematics have excellent work habits and advanced abstract reasoning skills, exceptionally high scores on standardized mathematics tests and demonstrate an advanced level of problem solving and flexible thinking on district assessments.

### **SCIENCE (Year)**

7<sup>th</sup> grade science students will complete the following units:

**Sunlight and Energy:** Students will design a device to measure the solar constant. The quest to engineer a functioning solar constant device will lead students to investigate the properties of light. Students will explore how light interacts with different colored surfaces as well as materials of different densities. They will then begin to make and observe models of the electromagnetic spectrum in an effort to understand what caused the observed phenomena. All of their learning will be used to help students modify the design of their solar constant device and attempt to get a more accurate measurement.

**Motion, Forces and Energy:** In this Physics unit, students explore how objects on Earth interact with each other. Students study how changes in force and energy (kinetic and configurational) affect motion, distance, acceleration, speed, direction, time, and velocity, as well as how these measurements relate to one another. Students will also investigate the concepts of Newton's Laws of Motion, the force of gravity, and the roles they play on the interaction of objects.

**Gravity and Space:** In this Physical Science unit, students will explore gravity's role in the formation of the solar system and the influence on the Earth, Sun, and Moon system. Students will look at the interaction between gravity and motion of celestial objects, tying into what they learned in the previous Motion, Forces and Energy unit.

**Growth and Development:** Students study how life is possible on Earth as a result of the light and energy provided by the sun. They begin by reviewing living versus nonliving matter, and the characteristics of living things. Emphasis is placed on the idea that all living things are made of cells. Students investigate various types of cells in an attempt to understand the relationship between structure and function of living things, with a focus on cell transport and cellular respiration. Building on the concept of structure and function of living things, students will learn how cells combine to make tissues, which combine to make organs and organ systems, which make complex life possible.

**Inheritance of Traits:** Students study organisms that reproduce sexually and asexually, with a focus on the genetics of reproduction. Students model DNA and inheritance patterns with Punnett squares and pedigrees to understand how genes code for alleles and traits. Students also investigate other means of trait acquisition, including horizontal gene transfer, types of genetic mutations, and the role of the environment.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES (Year)**

Seventh grade social studies students explore the United States in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Our study begins with the presidency of William McKinley and concludes with the presidency of Barack Obama. We will become a community of thinkers as we walk through progress, boom and depression, work through World Wars and explore civil rights. Our research focus for the year is on finding reliable sources, synthesizing information from multiple sources, paraphrasing and note-taking. Throughout the year, we address the following essential questions:

- Why do humans behave the way they do?
  - What factors lead to unity? What factors lead to disorder?
  - Do the times shape the individual or does the individual shape the times?
  - What is progress? Have humans progressed?
  - How has geography affected human, social, political, economic, and cultural development?
  - How has technology affected human and cultural development?
- How does the past relate to the present?

### **7<sup>th</sup> GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (3 Quarters)**

Our mission is to teach students to live and value a healthy lifestyle reflecting ongoing psychomotor (physical), cognitive (mental), and affective (social/emotional) development. The physical education curriculum is student-centered, fun, skill-oriented, and inclusive. Our students participate in a variety of activities where they learn how to improve their overall fitness, perform a variety of skills, and be responsible for their health and well-being. They learn how to cooperate with others, socialize with their peers, be confident and independent, and exhibit self-control. Students are enrolled in physical education for three quarters each year.

### **7<sup>th</sup> GRADE HEALTH EDUCATION (1 Quarter)**

From Physical Education students will rotate into Health Education for one quarter during 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The seventh-grade curriculum includes a nicotine unit focused on the many negative health effects that tobacco and electronic cigarette/vaping (JUUL) products have on the brain and body. The nutrition unit focuses on essential nutrients; the contributing factors of obesity (including socioeconomic status) & the associated health risks; guidelines on healthy eating; and analyzing food labels. We also study eating disorders, such as anorexia and bulimia, with an emphasis on recognizing symptoms and allocating resources for help/treatment.

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLASSES

*These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (Year)

EL is designed for students whose first language is not English. EL students work individually and in small groups with the EL specialist to acquire English while getting support in academic content. In collaboration with core content teachers, ELs are provided with modified written materials and computer programs to provide a wide range of individualized activities for teaching English at all proficiency levels. *This class is for those who have been identified by a placement test and/or teacher recommendation.*

### LEARNING CENTER (Year)

Learning Center is for students who need extra support in executive functioning, such as homework completion and organization. These students have the skill set necessary to complete Wydown grade level work at a proficient level, however, the students struggle with completing assignments in a reasonable amount of time, making plans to complete work, applying old skills to a new situation, organizing materials and belongings, completing work carefully and neatly and or, working independently and productively. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### MATH STRATEGIES (Year)

Math Strategies is for a student who needs extra support to perform Wydown Grade level skills at a proficient level. This need has been shown through performance on standardized tests such as the Missouri Grade Level Assessments and or the NWEA tests. In this class, students will work on math skills to ensure they are able to show proficiency in Wydown grade level equivalency work. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### READING STRATEGIES (Year)

Reading Strategies is a course designed for students who need to improve their reading habits and comprehension. Using observations, interviews, and diagnostic testing, the reading specialist will determine reading strengths and weaknesses. Through small group instruction and class discussion, students will learn the strategies and tools that effective readers use to understand and remember what they read. Students will apply these strategies as they read a variety of fiction and expository texts. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### STUDY SKILLS (Year)

This course is for students who currently have Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and are receiving services through the Special School District. The course goal is to facilitate the student's acquisition of skills and strategies that will enable them to become competent and independent learners and problem solvers. The student will be working on the goals stated in the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). The teacher will work to increase the fit between the student's specific educational, social and/or emotional needs and the demands of the classroom.

### STUDY SKILLS: SPEECH-LANGUAGE SERVICES (Year)

A speech-language pathologist provides speech-language therapy through the Special School District. Speech and/or language services are offered to those students who have a current Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). These services are designed to meet the needs of students who exhibit disabilities in articulation, voice, fluency, language, and/or hearing, and comply with federal and state regulations.

## SEVENTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

### COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

#### CODING 1 – Code Websites, Games & Apps (Semester)

Coding is for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have a strong interest in computers and the Internet. Students will use various resources in order to build their knowledge base of internet literacy while learning techniques to improve their use of the internet and coding software programs, HTML coding in website design. HTML code writing is taught as the foundation of all websites. Website design is taught using text editor program & Adobe Dreamweaver in order to expose students to just a few of the ways in which a website is developed and designed. Game Design will expose the students to JavaScript coding where they will be coding and creating their own original games. Students will experience cell phone / tablet app design through coding. Students will also explore Computer & Internet safety and responsibilities. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and may only be taken once.

#### VIDEO LAB 1 (Semester)

Video is for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have a strong interest in filming, editing and creating videos. With a focus on tools and strategies to effectively communicate messages with a video format, this course provides experiences for students who are interested in video media. A focus is on real-life problem solving in order to produce and edit videos using Video Camera / Personal Devices & iMovie. Students have opportunities to work in collaborative groups as well as to create productions individually. Video Lab students explore the many layers of video production including storyboarding, scripting, filming, interviewing, critiquing, editing and re-editing. Students will cover topics such as PSA, commercials, music videos, interviews and short films. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and may only be taken once.

### ENGINEERING

#### ENGINEERING/Automation & Robotics (Semester)

Design, Build, and Program a Robot! Students use tools such as the engineering design process, an engineering notebook, and VEX Robotics® programming software to invent and innovate. Learn how creative thinking and problem solving can change your world! Automation and Robotics (AR) allows students to trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. This course is being offered in partnership with Project Lead the Way. This class may only be taken one time in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### ENGINEERING /Design & Modeling (Semester)

Design and Modeling (DM) provides students opportunities to apply the design process to creatively solve problems. Students are introduced to the unit problem in the first activity and are asked to make connections to the problem throughout the lessons in the unit. Students learn and utilize methods for communicating design ideas through sketches, solid models, and mathematical models. Students will understand how models can be simulated to represent an authentic situation and generate data for further analysis and observations. Students work in teams to identify design requirements, research the topic, and engage stakeholders. Teams design a toy or game for a child with cerebral palsy, fabricate and test it, and make necessary modifications to optimize the design

solution. This course is being offered in partnership with Project Lead the Way. This class may only be taken one time in 7th or 8th grade.

## ENRICHMENT

### DAVINCI (Semester)

Inspired by the famous thinker, Leonardo DaVinci, this course challenges students to think divergently, examine topics from multiple perspectives, and hone their research and communication skills. Students will use their critical thinking and creativity skills to engage in teacher-directed investigations, independent research, design challenges, and other activities. Students will demonstrate their work in many ways, such as one-on-one interviews, small group discussions, and class presentations. Students will use a variety of resources to organize their information including Google Slides, Flip grid, Google Sites, and other platforms as appropriate.

### EXPLORATORIUM (Semester or Year)

This class is designed for students in grades 6-8 who show signs of exceptional creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking in comparison to their chronological peers. The goal of Exploratorium is to provide students with elective opportunities to build their creative confidence and comfort with failure. The curriculum used in Exploratorium classes focuses on design thinking, creative confidence, and social-emotional learning. This course is for IDENTIFIED Enrichment students ONLY.

This class is offered to all three grade levels. Anyone with questions concerning enrollment in these classes should contact the Gifted Education office directly at 854-6448.

### LITERACY LAB: READING AND WRITING WORKSHOP (Semester)

Do you have a good book you want to read? Do you have an idea about a story you want to write? Join us in the Literacy Lab! During this reading and writing workshop class, you'll have time to read and or write around topics/genres/authors of your choice while growing as a reader and writer. That's right! You'll have a chance to read and write about topics of your choice in a variety of genres, like graphic novels, vlogs, songs, as well as more traditional genres such as mysteries, realistic fiction and memoir. As both a consumer, reader, and producer, writer, you'll serve as a "lit leader" at WMS and will develop campaigns promoting favorite books and your own writing. Grab a book and join us!

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

### BASIC F.A.C.S (Semester)

This class is an exploratory instructional program designed to teach basic skills in food preparation, babysitting skills and safety, hand sewing and machine sewing. Laboratory experiences, hands-on activities, and the use of technology in each area of study will emphasize the application of life skills. At completion, students will receive a babysitting certificate. Individual sewing projects made by hand and by machine will be completed. Students working in small groups will learn food preparation, safety and how to follow a recipe. This class is designed for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and *may only be taken once*.

## MUSIC

### **BEGINNING BAND (Fall Semester only)**

"No prior experience necessary." Beginning Band is made up of seventh grade students who have not yet had an instrumental playing experience, students who have opted to play a new instrument, or students who would benefit having added instruction before moving to Concert Band. The student will learn the proper assembly and care for their instrument, as well as how to play with proper technique and sound on one of these listed instruments only: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, Baritone, and Tuba. When the student has mastered the required competencies and receives the approval of the instructor, they will immediately be placed into the Concert Band as a full member. Students who do not meet the performance and/or behavior criteria by the end of the semester will be required to schedule another elective for the second semester.

### **CONCERT BAND (Year)**

Concert Band is made up of seventh grade students with at least one year of woodwind, brass, or percussion instrumental experience. Members of this ensemble are exposed to the elements needed for the production of a quality band sound as well as advanced technical skills. Students will perform as a full ensemble as well as have the opportunity to develop solo and small ensemble skills and participate in festivals and clinics.

### **CHAMBER CHOIR (Year)**

Chamber Choir is an advanced vocal music ensemble for students in grades 7&8 who, through the audition process, have demonstrated great musical skill and ability. The Chamber Choir will perform at concerts, community events, festivals, and competitions. Auditions will take place each January for the following school year.

### **CONCERT CHOIR (Year)**

Concert Choir is an intermediate vocal music ensemble for students who have a passion for singing and a desire to improve their skills. Members of the Concert Choir will increase their existing knowledge of music theory, sight-singing, and choral performance skills. Students will perform a wide variety of music in at least two evening concerts during the year.

### **CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (Year)**

Chamber Orchestra is an advanced orchestra for students in 7th and 8th grade who have demonstrated great musical skill and ability by successfully passing an entrance audition for the class. The audition process will take place during spring semester for the following school year. Chamber Orchestra is a performance class that presents several concerts and participates in music festivals and clinics each year.

### **ORCHESTRA (Year)**

7th Grade Orchestra is made up of string players with at least one year of experience who wish to study music through performance, increase their individual performance skills, and participate in a large performing group. Musical skills learned in previous years are refined and new skills are introduced. Orchestra is a performance class which presents several concerts and participates in music festivals and clinics.

## THEATRE

### DRAMA (Semester)

The semester drama class is offered for students who are interested in theatre and may or may not have previous theatrical experience. This class is appropriate for students who thrive in a class with a quick pace and large variety of activities. Topics include an introduction to the stage itself, basic stage voice, movement, and character creation. These skills will be developed through improvisation and scene work. Additional topics include auditioning, story theatre, and theatre production.

### INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH AND DEBATE (Semester)

This semester class is for those students interested in building effective communications skills. Work will include mechanics of effective speaking, argumentation, effective questioning techniques, multimedia presentations, persuasion, and exploration of the impact of instant communication. In addition, issues such as self-concept and biased perceptions in our society will be studied, along with their impact on successful communication.

### INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL THEATRE (Semester)

This is a semester course designed for students who are interested in the non-performance aspects of theatre. The focus of this class will revolve around the design aspects of putting a production together (concept, scenic, lighting, costumes, make-up, sound and more). A production portfolio will be developed throughout the semester. Introduction to Technical Theatre is a hands-on course that requires students to be self-motivated, extremely attentive to detail and thrive in a collaborative atmosphere. When possible the skills and content taught will be applied to our Wydown Theatre company productions.

### MUSICAL THEATRE (Semester)

Musical Theatre is designed to build upon the acting, singing, movement, and technical skills introduced in the 6th Grade Theatre Works classes. Seventh and eighth grade students will work in a collaborative setting toward the presentation and performance of a musical. Four phases of the theatrical process will be taught (Company skills, Auditions, Rehearsal, and Performance).

This class includes a required after school technical rehearsal and a public performance at the end of the term.

## VISUAL ARTS

### FIBER ARTS (Semester)

This is the ultimate “hands on” class, focusing on all 3 types of dimensional fiber media!

Fiber arts media includes macramé, embroidery, Japanese tie dye, stuffed animal making, needle felting, weaving and more. Often final pieces are so incredible and beautiful, many are framed and hung within the home. A background in hand sewing can be helpful, but not a requirement. Fiber Arts is available to 7th and 8th grade students and each year will be a different set of projects.

### VISUAL ARTS (Semester)

While students at this age crave more skill-based art instruction, students will still be exploring art making with various media. Having students practice creative problem solving techniques to gain independence is a focus this year and many leave having gained just that. Students completing this class often leave with an overwhelming urge to create art all the time and will likely want to enroll in more visual art classes in eighth grade!

## WORLD LANGUAGES

### CHINESE 7 (Year)

The Chinese curriculum at Wydown is designed as a two-year sequence beginning in the seventh grade and continuing through eighth grade. Successful completion combined with teacher recommendation would make a student eligible for Level II Chinese at Clayton High School.

Chinese 7 will introduce the students to the basic components of Mandarin Chinese through theme-based content and hands-on activities. Pinyin Romanization, simplified forms of Chinese characters, basic grammar patterns as well as functional everyday expressions will be taught within the living context of Chinese culture. Topics will start from self-introduction and develop to students' immediate surroundings such as school, family and daily life. Cultural components will be taught through movies, video clips, songs, calligraphy, crafts, cooking, festival celebrations and geographic context. The ultimate goal is to motivate students to become interested in and committed to the learning of Chinese language and culture.

### FRENCH 7 (Year)

The French 7 curriculum is a continuation of the sixth grade French program. Students may continue their study of French in seventh and eighth grades.

French 7 is a continuation of French 6. Designed for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, it is a year of acquisition of new skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. The focus will continue to be on common conversational topics as well as cultural concepts, focusing on the regions of France. An increasing emphasis will be placed on grammatical structures through conversation, reading and writing. Units of study include pastime activities, food and meals, shopping, the house and chores, travel, and places around town. Prerequisite: French 6 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

### LATIN 7 (Year)

The Latin curriculum at Wydown is designed as a two-year sequence beginning in Seventh grade and continuing through eighth grade. Successful completion combined with teacher recommendation would make a student eligible for Level II Latin at Clayton High School.

Latin was the language of the ancient Romans. Not only has it left influential literature, but it also has had far-reaching effects upon both English and the Romance Languages of Europe. The basic introductory Latin course allows students to begin learning classical Latin through a graded reading program. Students develop their reading skills through a gradual widening of vocabulary and sentence patterns in interesting stories about the varied experiences of a Roman family. The stories are based meticulously upon Latin literary sources, Roman history and archaeology. Throughout the course, students study the connection of Latin words with English vocabulary. Additional readings, films, and discussions about Roman history, geography, mythology and culture complement and enhance the readings.



## SPANISH 7 (Year)

The Spanish 7 curriculum is a continuation of the sixth grade Spanish program. Students may continue their study of Spanish in sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

This year-long study of Spanish is a continuation of sixth grade Spanish. The focus will continue to be on common conversational topics as well as cultural concepts. In class, students will perform skits, complete projects and participate in other hands-on activities. An increasing emphasis will be placed on grammatical structures through conversation and writing. Topics of study will include a review unit, house and party planning, sports and health, computer literacy and amusement parks, and planning and taking a vacation. Cultural units focus on Ecuador, The Dominican Republic, Argentina, and Costa Rica.

Prerequisite: Spanish 6 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Instructions/Information

Seventh Grade Students take the following classes:

Core classes:

Language Literacy  
Math/Math Extensions  
Science  
Social Studies  
PE/Health

Elective Classes:

Students choose the equivalent of three full year electives which may be any combination of semester and full year classes.

Ex # 1 choice is Concert Choir = 1 year  
# 2 is Visual Art = 1/2 year  
# 3 is Coding 1=1/2 year  
# 4 is Spanish =1 year

This is what we would enter as it totals 3. We do not put alternates in when we run schedules. We use them when we are unable to schedule all of your original choices.

In order to guarantee you get World Language, Band or Orchestra you must number them as your top electives.

Ex: Spanish #1  
Band #2

Support Classes:

Some students will be assigned a support class. These classes are required in order to give students the support that they need to succeed at Wydown. This Class will be marked in Table #1 of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Registration Worksheet.

If there is a Support class marked they would be the equivalent of 1 year elective. You would then choose a total of 2 years which may be any combination of semester and full year electives. Support classes always become number 1 choice.

Ex # 1 Learning Center =1  
# 2 choice is Concert Choir= 1 year  
# 3 is Visual Art = 1/2 year  
# 4 is Coding 1=1/2 year

1. Number elective choices beginning with 1 as your first choice in Table #2 Electives.
2. All electives that have white boxes must be numbered and you must have a parent signature in order to turn in your form.
3. Only number the shaded boxes if you meet the prerequisite requirements and would like to take the class.
4. Forms should be turned in to Mrs. Bird or a counselor in the counseling office *ONLY*. All forms will be dated and time stamped.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Worksheet

**WORKSHEET DIRECTIONS**-Please read ALL Directions before completing form.

- Number elective choices beginning with 1 as your first choice in Table #2 Electives. Number your choices carefully as classes will be scheduled in the order you choose if classes are available.
- If you have a required class numbered for you in Table #1 it will be assigned before your first choice.
- All electives that have white boxes in Table #2 must be numbered.
- You do not need to number the shaded boxes unless you want to take that class and you meet the requirements.
- *You must have a parent signature in order to turn in your form.*

## #1-Support Classes

If a box is filled in the following class is required for your student in order to give them the support they need to be successful at Wydown.

These are year-long classes

Office Use only	Class Name
	See Program of Studies for Descriptions
	ELL
	Learning Center
	Math Strategies
	ELL
	Reading Strategies
	Study Skills

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

## #2 Electives

Office use	Please number	Class Name
Semester		Basic F.A.C.S.
Year		Beginning Band/Concert Band
Year		Chamber Choir (teacher recommendation required)
Year		Chamber Orchestra (teacher recommendation required)
Year		Chinese 7
Semester		Coding I
Year		Concert Band (Cadet Band is the prerequisite to Concert Band)
Year		Concert Choir
Semester		DaVinci
Semester		Drama
Semester		Engineering A&R: Automation & Robotics
Semester		Engineering D&M: Design & Modeling
Year		Exploratorium (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class.)
Semester		Exploratorium (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class.)
Semester		Fiber Arts
Year		French 7 (French 6 is a prerequisite to French 7)
Semester		Intro to Speech and Debate
Semester		Intro to Technical Theatre
Year		Latin 7
Semester		Musical Theater
Semester		Literacy Lab: Reading and Writing Workshop
Year		Orchestra 7 (Orchestra 6 is a prerequisite to Orchestra 7)
Year		Spanish 7 (Spanish 6 is a prerequisite to Spanish 7)
Semester		Video Lab
Semester		Visual Arts

**Registration forms are Due Friday, February 26, 2021**

Forms should be turned in the Counseling office ONLY! They will be date and time stamped.

# THE EIGHTH GRADE PROGRAM

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Eighth Grade Students take the following classes:

## Core Classes:

Language Literacy

Math 8/Algebra/Challenge Algebra

Science

Social Studies

PE/Health

## Elective Classes:

Students choose the equivalent of three full year electives which may be any combination of semester and full year classes. These classes may include and teacher recommended classes.

## Support Classes:

Some students will be assigned a support class. If they have a support class they will then choose the equivalent of two full year electives.

## EIGHTH GRADE CORE CLASSES

### LANGUAGE LITERACY (Year)

Eighth grade students read from a variety of genres. During the reading, students maintain active reading notes, engage in both informal and formal discussions, respond to various writing prompts, and study vocabulary. Following the reading of at least one core text, students write a literary essay in which they use textual evidence, including quotations, to support a thesis. In addition to the core texts, eighth graders study several short stories, poems, and essays. Students also are expected to read a wide variety of self-selected books. As students build a portfolio of writing designed to help strengthen their skills, they work closely with teachers in individual conferences.

### ALGEBRA (Year)

This course is the study of Algebra I topics. Students in this course will represent and analyze mathematical situations and structures using algebraic reasoning. Topics in this course include writing and solving equations and inequalities, properties of functions, linear functions, systems of equations, exponents and polynomials, exponential functions, and radicals. Completion of daily assignments is an integral part of student work and is essential to preparation for class and success in Algebra. In addition, students are expected to demonstrate proficiency on summative assessments which include novel problems requiring students to apply their learning in new contexts. The TI-Nspire CX graphing calculator is used for demonstrations and class activities. It is strongly recommended that each student purchase a TI-Nspire graphing calculator.

### CHALLENGE ALGEBRA (Year)

The Challenge Algebra course is a comprehensive study of Algebra I topics. Students in this course will be expected to represent and analyze mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols. Topics in this course include linear, exponential, and quadratic functions, systems of equations, and systems of inequalities, polynomials, and data analysis. The workload in this class is significantly greater than in the Algebra class and requires that each student possess a high level of abstract reasoning. Students are expected to demonstrate a high level of proficiency on summative assessments which include novel problems requiring students to apply their learning in new contexts. Students recommended for extensions courses in mathematics have excellent work habits and advanced abstract reasoning skills, exceptionally high scores on standardized mathematics tests, and demonstrate an advanced level of problem solving and flexible thinking on district assessments. Students enrolled in Challenge Algebra are expected to keep up with the advanced pace, while producing quality work, and maintaining at least a "B" average for each semester with minimal out-of-class support. The TI-Nspire CX graphing calculator is used for demonstrations and class activities. It is strongly recommended that each student purchase a TI-Nspire CX graphing calculator.

### MATH 8 (Year)

8th grade mathematics focuses on four critical areas: (1) numerical fluency and arithmetic related to algebra; (2) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (3) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships and patterns; (4) the use of exponents to symbolize repeated multiplication and associated properties and applications.

## SCIENCE (Year)

8<sup>th</sup> grade science students will complete the following units:

**Humanity and the Environment:** Students investigate the history and consequences of contemporary global environmental issues and historical examples of a similar issue. The essential questions of the unit are “How do humans impact the environment?” and “How does the environment impact humans?” Students approach these questions through current world issues of water availability, food security, deforestation, human population, and disease. Students explore these issues through science and social studies and culminate in completion of individual and group components of a research project.

**Climate Chemistry:** Students study the effects of the changing global climate by gaining an understanding of climate science and chemistry. They investigate matter and its predictable nature, then apply this understanding to climate patterns on Earth. Students explore the factors and processes of determining climate and the causes and effects of global climate change.

**Ecology II:** Students investigate how ecosystems and populations change over time by studying the relationships between organisms and their environment. Students will focus on factors and conditions that cause an ecosystem or a population to adapt and the consequences of those changes to the ecosystem. They will also investigate human involvement in impacting change to ecosystems, as well as in preservation, conservation, and restoration of ecosystems.

## SOCIAL STUDIES (Year)

Eighth graders will explore world history from the beginning of civilizations to 1600 C.E. Students will examine Greek, Roman, Egyptian, Indian, and Chinese cultures, as well as other African, American, Asian, and European civilizations. Primary source readings, research, and field trips to the art museum are critical components. The essential questions the students will address throughout the year focus on geography, government, economics, and religion. This study of world history will be continued chronologically in the ninth grade at Clayton High School.

## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (3 Quarters)

Our mission is to teach students to live and value a healthy lifestyle reflecting ongoing psychomotor (physical), cognitive (mental), and affective (social/emotional) development. The physical education curriculum is student-centered, fun, skill-oriented, and inclusive. Our students participate in a variety of activities where they learn how to improve their overall fitness, perform a variety of skills, and be responsible for their health and well-being. They learn how to cooperate with others, socialize with their peers, be confident and independent, and exhibit self-control. Students are enrolled in physical education for three quarters each year.

## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE HEALTH EDUCATION (1 Quarter)

From Physical Education students will rotate into Health Education for one quarter during 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The eighth-grade curriculum emphasizes healthy decision-making and advocating for one’s own health through various lessons. This curriculum includes information on alcohol (immediate and long-term effects on the body & risks of binge drinking) and alcoholism. The unit over other drugs includes over the counter drugs, supplements/vitamins, energy drinks, and marijuana. The focus of these units is on how the substances affect our bodies, the addiction process, and decision-making. The mental wellness unit teaches about how to handle stress, how to recognize the signs of depression and suicide, and how to help someone.

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLASSES

*These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### ALGEBRA STRATEGIES (year)

Algebra Strategies is for a student who needs extra support to perform Algebra 8 skills at a proficient level. This need has been shown through performance on standardized tests such as the Missouri Grade Level Assessments and or the NWEA tests. In this class, students will work both on prerequisite math skills to ensure they are able to show proficiency in middle school math algorithms and problem solving strategies as well as assignments related to current course content.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (Year)

EL is designed for students whose first language is not English. EL students work individually and in small groups with the EL specialist to acquire English while getting support in academic content. In collaboration with core content teachers, ELs are provided with modified written materials and computer programs to provide a wide range of individualized activities for teaching English at all proficiency levels. *This class is for those who have been identified by a placement test and/or teacher recommendation*

### LEARNING CENTER (Year)

Learning Center is for students who need extra support in executive functioning, such as homework completion and organization. These students have the skills set necessary to complete Wydown grade level work at a proficient level, however, the students struggle with completing assignments in a reasonable amount of time; making plans to complete work; Applying old skills to a new situation; Organizing materials and belongings; Completing work carefully and neatly and or ; Working independently and productively. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### MATH STRATEGIES (Year)

Math 8 Strategies is for a student who needs extra support to perform Math 8 skills at a proficient level. This need has been shown through performance on standardized tests such as the Missouri Grade Level Assessments and or the NWEA tests. In this class, students will work on math skills to help ensure they are able to show proficiency in middle school math algorithms and problem solving strategies which will help students be successful in current and future mathematics courses.

### READING STRATEGIES (Year)

Reading Strategies is a course designed for students who need to improve their reading habits and comprehension. Using observations, interviews, and diagnostic testing, the reading specialist will determine reading strengths and weaknesses. Through small group instruction and class discussion, students will learn the strategies and tools that effective readers use to understand and remember what they read. Students will apply these strategies as they read a variety of fiction and expository texts. *These classes are placed through teacher, counselor or administrator recommendation.*

### STUDY SKILLS (Year)

This course is for students who are currently receiving Special School District services and have an Individualized Education Plan through Special School District. The course goal is to facilitate the student's acquisition of skills and strategies that will enable them to become competent and independent learners and problem solvers. The student will be working on the goals stated on the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). The teacher will work to increase the fit between the students' specific educational, social and/or emotional needs and the demands of the classroom.

## STUDY SKILLS: SPEECH-LANGUAGE SERVICES (Year)

A speech-language pathologist provides speech-language therapy through the Special School District. Speech and/or language services are offered to those students who have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These services are designed to meet the needs of students who exhibit disabilities in articulation, voice, fluency, language, and/or hearing, and comply with federal and state regulations.

## EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVES

### COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

#### CODING 1 – Code Websites, Games & Apps (Semester)

Coding is for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have a strong interest in computers and the Internet. Students will use various resources in order to build their knowledge base of internet literacy while learning techniques to improve their use of the internet and coding software programs, HTML coding in website design. HTML code writing is taught as the foundation of all websites. Website design is taught using text editor program & Adobe Dreamweaver in order to expose students to just a few of the ways in which a website is developed and designed. Game Design will expose the students to JavaScript coding where they will be coding and creating their own original games. Students will experience cell phone / tablet app design through coding. Students will also explore Computer & Internet safety and responsibilities. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and may only be taken once.

#### CODING 2 – Advanced Coding (Semester)

Coding 2 is for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have a strong interest in computers and the Internet. Students will advance their coding skills they started to build in Coding 1. This class will provide students the opportunity to continue improving their skills based on student-led projects in an educationally challenging, yet fun, classroom environment. This will involve working on projects individually as well as working as part of a team. The class projects will focus on student-led learning which will incorporate real life problem solving and how to illustrate abstract concepts into finished coded products. This course is offered to eighth graders and may only be taken once. Coding 1 is a prerequisite for this class.

#### VIDEO LAB 1 (Semester)

Video is for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have a strong interest in filming, editing and creating videos. With a focus on tools and strategies to effectively communicate messages with a video format, this course provides experiences for students who are interested in video media. A focus is on real-life problem solving in order to produce and edit videos using Video Camera / Personal Devices & iMovie. Students have opportunities to work in collaborative groups as well as to create productions individually. Video Lab students explore the many layers of video production including storyboarding, scripting, filming, interviewing, critiquing, editing and re-editing. Students will cover topics such as PSA, commercials, music videos, interviews and short films. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and may only be taken once.



## ENGINEERING

### ENGINEERING MODELS/Automation & Robotics (Semester)

Design, Build, and Program a Robot! Students use tools such as the engineering design process, an engineering notebook, and VEX Robotics® programming software to invent and innovate. Learn how creative thinking and problem solving can change your world! Automation and Robotics (AR) allows students to trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. This course is being offered in partnership with Project Lead the Way. This class may only be taken one time in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### ENGINEERING MODELS/Design & Modeling (Semester)

Design and Modeling (DM) provides students opportunities to apply the design process to creatively solve problems. Students are introduced to the unit problem in the first activity and are asked to make connections to the problem throughout the lessons in the unit. Students learn and utilize methods for communicating design ideas through sketches, solid models, and mathematical models. Students will understand how models can be simulated to represent an authentic situation and generate data for further analysis and observations. Students work in teams to identify design requirements, research the topic, and engage stakeholders. Teams design a toy or game for a child with cerebral palsy, fabricate and test it, and make necessary modifications to optimize the design solution. This course is being offered in partnership with Project Lead the Way. This class may only be taken one time in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## ENRICHMENT

### DAVINCI (Semester)

Inspired by the famous thinker, Leonardo DaVinci, this course challenges students to think divergently, examine topics from multiple perspectives, and hone their research and communication skills. Students will use their critical thinking and creativity skills to engage in teacher-directed investigations, independent research, design challenges, and other activities. Students will demonstrate their work in many ways, such as one-on-one interviews, small group discussions, and class presentations. Students will use a variety of resources to organize their information including Google Slides, Flip grid, Google Sites, and other platforms as appropriate.

### EXPLORATORIUM (Semester or Year)

This class is designed for students in grades 6-8 who show signs of exceptional creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking in comparison to their chronological peers. The goal of Exploratorium is to provide students with elective opportunities to build their creative confidence and comfort with failure. The curriculum used in Exploratorium classes focuses on design thinking, creative confidence, and social-emotional learning. This course is for IDENTIFIED Enrichment students ONLY.

This class is offered to all three grade levels. Anyone with questions concerning enrollment in these classes should contact the Gifted Education office directly at 854-6448.

## LITERACY LAB: READING AND WRITING WORKSHOP (Semester)

Do you have a good book you want to read? Do you have an idea about a story you want to write? Join us in the Literacy Lab! During this reading and writing workshop class, you'll have time to read and or write around topics/genres/authors of your choice while growing as a reader and writer. That's right! You'll have a chance to read and write about topics of your choice in a variety of genres, like graphic novels, vlogs, songs, as well as more traditional genres such as mysteries, realistic fiction and memoir. As both a consumer, reader, and producer, writer, you'll serve as a "lit leader" at WMS and will develop campaigns promoting favorite books and your own writing. Grab a book and join us!

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

### BASIC F.A.C.S. (Family and Consumer Science) (Semester)

This class is an exploratory instructional program designed to teach basic skills in food preparation, babysitting skills and safety, hand sewing and machine sewing. Laboratory experiences, hands-on activities, and the use of technology in each area of study will emphasize the application of life skills. At completion, students will receive a babysitting certificate. Individual sewing projects made by hand and by machine will be completed. Students working in small groups will learn food preparation, safety and how to follow a recipe. This class is designed for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. This course is offered to seventh and eighth graders and *may only be taken once*.

### EXPLORING THE F.A.C.S. (Family and Consumer Science) (Semester)

This class is for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. *Basic F.A.C.S. is a prerequisite for this class*. It builds on skills learned in Basic F.A.C.S. in the areas of culinary skills, nutrition, child development, and sewing technology. This is a student oriented, practical and relevant course that offers hands-on experience with individual creative projects. Students learn to work individually and in small groups while exploring topics in food preparation, food safety and sanitation, nutritional needs, sewing skills and the responsibilities of parenting. A variety of hands-on activities in the lab and in small groups encourages the application of life skills.

## MUSIC

### CHAMBER CHOIR (Year)

Chamber Choir is an advanced vocal music ensemble for students in grades 7&8 who, through the audition process, have demonstrated great musical skill and ability. The Chamber Choir will perform at concerts, community events, festivals, and competitions. Auditions will take place each January for the following school year.

### CONCERT CHOIR (Year)

Concert Choir is an intermediate vocal music ensemble for students who have a passion for singing and a desire to improve their skills. Members of the Concert Choir will increase their existing knowledge of music theory, sight-singing, and choral performance skills. Students will perform a wide variety of music in at least two evening concerts during the year.

### ORCHESTRA (Year)

8th Grade Orchestra is made up of string players with at least two years of experience or director approval that wish to study music through performance, increase their individual performance skills, and participate in a large performing group. Musical skills learned in previous years are refined and new skills are introduced. Orchestra is a performance class that presents several concerts and participates in music festivals and clinics each year.

## CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (Year)

Chamber Orchestra is an advanced orchestra for students in 7th and 8th grade who have demonstrated great musical skill and ability by successfully passing an entrance audition for the class. The audition process will take place during spring semester for the following school year. Chamber Orchestra is a performance class that presents several concerts and participates in music festivals and clinics each year.

## SYMPHONIC BAND (Year)

Symphonic Band is made up of eighth grade students with at least one year of woodwind, brass, or percussion instrumental experience or director approval. Members will refine earlier developed skills through a variety of rehearsal techniques designed to encourage the students' growth. Students will perform as a full ensemble as well as have the opportunity to develop solo and small ensemble skills and participate in festivals and clinics.

## THEATRE

### DRAMA (Semester)

This class is offered for students who are interested in learning various in-depth acting techniques. This class is appropriate for students who thrive in a class with a quick pace and large variety of activities. Topics include vocal techniques, expressive movement, and methods of character creation.

### INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH AND DEBATE (Semester)

This semester class is for those students interested in building effective communications skills. Work will include mechanics of effective speaking, argumentation, effective questioning techniques, multimedia presentations, persuasion, and exploration of the impact of instant communication. In addition, issues such as self-concept and biased perceptions in our society will be studied, along with their impact on successful communication.

### INTRODUCTION TO TECHNICAL THEATRE (Semester)

This is a semester course designed for students who are interested in the non-performance aspects of theatre. The focus of this class will revolve around the design aspects of putting a production together (concept, scenic, lighting, costumes, make-up, sound and more). A production portfolio will be developed throughout the semester. Introduction to Technical Theatre is a hands-on course that requires students to be self-motivated, extremely attentive to detail and thrive in a collaborative atmosphere. When possible the skills and content taught will be applied to our Wydown Theatre company productions.

### MUSICAL THEATRE (Semester)

Musical Theatre is designed to build upon the acting, singing, movement, and technical skills introduced in the 6th Grade Theatre Works classes. Seventh and eighth grade students will work in a collaborative setting toward the presentation and performance of a musical. Four phases of the theatrical process will be taught (Company skills, Auditions, Rehearsal, and Performance).

This class includes a required after school technical rehearsal and a public performance at the end of the term.

## VISUAL ARTS

### DIGITAL ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY 1 (Semester)

The Art Department is seeking interested, responsible, hard-working students to spend an exciting semester exploring the computer and camera as tools for creating imaginative works of art. You will be taught the fundamentals of using a digital camera as well as the skills necessary to manipulate the resulting images using the premier graphics software, Adobe Photoshop. Equal emphasis will be placed on mastering the technical aspects of the computer and camera as well as the artistic. All supplies, including cameras and photo paper, will be provided by the school.

### DIGITAL ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY 2 (Second Semester)

Are you ready for a challenge? Do you want to use the Photoshop tools and techniques learned in the Digital Art and Photography class to create realistic art that will amaze your friends and stun your parents? Then Advanced Photoshop is for you! This class will focus on learning how to create photo-realistic imagery without photographs. The course starts with an intense review of essential techniques followed by even more challenging tutorial-projects. The tutorial projects demonstrate how the techniques are applied in Photoshop to illustrate a wide variety of realistic objects and scenes. The experience gained from these tutorials will aid in the later creation of original student work. Prerequisite: Digital Art and Photography 1

### FIBER ARTS (Semester)

This is the ultimate "hands on" class, focusing in on all 3 dimensional fiber media!

Fiber arts media includes macramé, embroidery, Japanese tie dye, stuffed animal making, needle felting, weaving and more. Often final pieces are so incredible and beautiful, many are framed and hung within the home. A background in hand sewing can be helpful, but not a requirement. Fiber Arts is available to 7th and 8th grade students and each year will be a different set of projects.

### VISUAL ART 8 (Semester)

In addition to developing fundamental and advanced art-making skills, this class encourages students to recognize and appreciate the diversity of artistic expression that exists in the larger world and cultivate it within themselves. Students engage in projects designed to challenge their assumptions and explore other viewpoints. A variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art-making tools and materials are provided. This year, students will also focus on goal setting and project planning, which is a skill that will serve them in all areas of life. Students who complete this class with a strong portfolio and a strong grasp of the Elements and Principles of Design, can apply to skip Art 1 at CHS and go directly into Art 2.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

### CHINESE 8 (Year)

The Chinese curriculum is a continuation of the Chinese 7 program.

Chinese 8 is designed for students who have completed studying Chinese for a year. In this course, students expand their language skills beyond talking about their families and school life. They will learn how to talk about things they use in daily life (school supplies, sports equipment, etc.), how to talk about recreational activities and describe the places where they live. Cultural components will include Chinese poems, proverbs and idioms, music and movies, recreational activities, provinces and major cities. Students will be expected to comprehend most of the essential aspects of modern Chinese grammar and to communicate in real life situations related to the above topics.

Prerequisite: Chinese 7 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

### FRENCH 8 (Year)

The French 8 curriculum is a continuation of the French 7 program.

The course is available to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who have successfully completed French 6 & 7. Students will learn to express actions in the present and past tenses. Units of study include family, celebrations and holidays, meal preparation, food shopping, and one's daily routine. Students will continue to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the French-speaking world. This course continues to emphasize listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students are expected to be able to understand conversations by native speakers on topics related to everyday life. They are also expected to speak and write about these topics. The course requires regular practice outside of class, class participation, as well as oral and written assessments.

Prerequisite: French 7 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

### LATIN 8 (Year)

The Latin 8 curriculum is a continuation of the Latin 7 program.

8th Grade Latin is a continuation of the Latin sequence that began in 7th Grade. The second year of the basic introductory Latin course allows students to continue learning classical Latin through a graded reading program. Students develop their reading skills through a gradual widening of vocabulary and sentence patterns in interesting stories about the varied experiences of a Roman family in Italy and of Romans throughout the Empire. The stories are based meticulously upon Latin literary sources, Roman history and archaeology. Throughout the course, students study the connection of Latin words with English vocabulary. Additional readings, films, and discussions about Roman history, geography, mythology and culture complement and enhance the readings.

Prerequisite: Latin 7 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

### SPANISH 8 (Year)

The Spanish 8 curriculum is a continuation of the Spanish 7 program.

This year-long course at Wydown is a continuation of seventh grade Spanish. Successful completion combined with teacher recommendation would make a student eligible for Intermediate Spanish at Clayton High School. Spanish 8 students will continue to strengthen their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Most of the class will be conducted in Spanish. Students will perform skits and complete projects throughout the course. Topics of study will include travel, talking about past vacations, The World Cup, daily routines and making plans, clothes and shopping, at the market, legends and stories, preparing and describing food, and ordering meals in a restaurant. Cultural units focus on Costa Rica, Argentina, Puerto Rico, ancient and modern Mexico, and Spain.

Prerequisite: Spanish 7 at Wydown or placement test and teacher approval.

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Instructions/Information

Eighth Grade Students take the following classes:

Core classes:

Language Literacy  
Math/Math Extensions  
Science  
Social Studies  
PE/Health

Elective Classes:

Students choose the equivalent of three full year electives which may be any combination of semester and full year classes.

Ex # 1 choice is Concert Choir= 1 year  
# 2 is Visual Art = 1/2 year  
# 3 is Coding 1=1/2 year  
# 4 is Spanish =1 year

This is what we would enter as it totals 3. We do not put alternates in when we run schedules. We use them when we are unable to schedule all of your original choices.

In order to guarantee you get World Language, Band or Orchestra you must number them as your top electives.

Ex: Spanish #1  
Band #2

Support Classes:

Some students will be assigned a support class. These classes are required in order to give students the support that they need to succeed at Wydown. This Class will be marked in Table #1 of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Registration Worksheet.

If there is a Support class marked they would be the equivalent of 1 year elective. You would then choose a total of 2 years which may be any combination of semester and full year electives. Support classes always become number 1 choice.

Ex # 1 Learning Center =1  
# 2 choice is Concert Choir= 1 year  
# 3 is Visual Art = 1/2 year  
# 4 is Coding 1=1/2 year

1. Number elective choices beginning with 1 as your first choice in Table #2 Electives.
2. All electives that have white boxes must be numbered and you must have a parent signature in order to turn in your form.
3. Only number the shaded boxes if you meet the prerequisite requirements and would like to take the class.
4. If a box has an X it may only be taken once. You have taken it in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.
5. Forms should be turned in to Mrs. Bird or a counselor in the counseling office *ONLY*. All forms will be dated and time stamped.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration Worksheet

**WORKSHEET DIRECTIONS**-Please read ALL Directions before completing form.

- Number elective choices beginning with 1 as your first choice in Table #2 Electives. Number your choices carefully as classes will be scheduled in the order you choose if classes are available.
- If you have a required class numbered for you in Table #1 it will be assigned before your first choice.
- All electives that have white boxes in Table #2 must be numbered.
- You do not need to number the shaded boxes unless you want to take that class and you meet the requirements.
- *You must have a parent signature in order to turn in your form.*

## #1-Support Classes

If a box is NUMBERED the following class is required for your student in order to give them the support they need to be successful at Wydown.

These are year-long classes

Office Use only	Class Name See Program of Studies for Descriptions
	Algebra/Math 8 Strategies
	English Language Learners
	Learning Center
	Reading Strategies
	Study Skills

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

ELECTIVES		
Office use	Please number	Class Name
Semester		Basic F.A.C.S. (may not be taken in 8 <sup>th</sup> if taken in 7 <sup>th</sup> )
Year		Chamber Choir (teacher recommendation required)
Year		Chamber Orchestra (Teacher recommendation required)
Year		Chinese 8 (Chinese 7 prerequisite)
Semester		Coding 1 (may not be taken in 8 <sup>th</sup> if taken in 7 <sup>th</sup> )
Semester		Coding 2 (Coding 1 prerequisite)
Year		Concert Choir
Semester		Da Vinci
Semester		Drama
Semester		Digital Art 1
Semester		Digital Art 2 pre-requisite Digital Art 1
Semester		Engineering A&R: Automation & Robotics (may not be taken in 8 <sup>th</sup> if taken in 7 <sup>th</sup> )
Semester		Engineering D&M: Design & Modeling (may not be taken in 8 <sup>th</sup> if taken in 7 <sup>th</sup> )
Year		Exploratorium (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class.)
Semester		Exploratorium (You must be an identified gifted student to take this class.)
Semester		Exploring the FACS (Prerequisite Basic F.A.C.S.)
Semester		Fiber Arts
Year		French 8 (Prerequisite is French 7)
Semester		Intro to Speech and Debate
Semester		Intro to Technical Theatre
Year		Latin 8 (Prerequisite is Latin 7)
Semester		Literacy Lab: Reading & Writing Workshop
Semester		Musical Theater
Year		Orchestra 8 (Prerequisite Orchestra 7)
Year		Spanish 8 (Prerequisite Spanish 7)
Year		Symphonic Band (Prerequisite is Concert Band)
Semester		Video Lab (may not be taken in 8 <sup>th</sup> if taken in 7 <sup>th</sup> )
Semester		Visual Arts

**Registration forms are Due Friday, February 26, 2021**

Forms should be turned in the Counseling office ONLY! They will be date and time stamped.