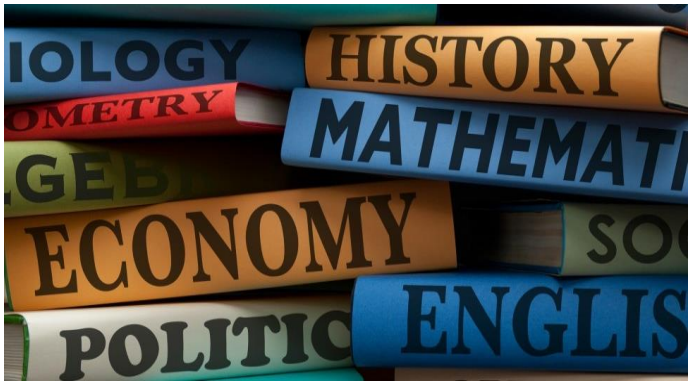
Tustin Unified School District



2019-20 Middle School Course Catalog

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District Mission Statement

The mission of the Tustin Unified School District, a learning community rich in heritage and committed to a tradition of excellence, is to ensure that each student optimizes individual achievement through an educational system characterized by challenging and exciting curricula and inspiring personalized instruction, in partnership with our dynamic and involved communities.

Tustin Unified School District Middle Schools

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Pioneer
2700 Pioneer Road
Tustin, CA 92782
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Phone: (714) 730-7573
Fax: (714) 730-7576

Orchard Hills (K-8)
11555 Culver Dr.
Irvine, CA 92602
Phone: (714) 730-7395
Fax: (714) 430-2278

Tustin Connect Center (6-8)
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A Special Message for Students and Parents

This catalog has been prepared to provide students and parents' information regarding the required course of study and elective course offerings available at the Tustin Unified School District's middle schools. The information contained in this publication should be reviewed and discussed as plans are formed for the student's 6th, 7th and 8th grade academic program.

The middle school program represents a very important phase in a student's educational experience. The goals of the instructional program are to assist students in making the transition from elementary school to high school curriculum. Skills in speaking, listening, reading, writing, literature, mathematics, history/social science, and science are further developed in the required course sequence. Elective courses such as foreign language, art, music, STEM, and home economics serve to broaden the student's educational background. Both required and elective courses are described for each course in this catalog.

Courses in this catalog represent all possible offerings in the Tustin Unified School District. Consult with your middle school guidance department for specific courses being offered at your site. Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact your school's principal or counselor.

Counseling Program and Services

Each middle school is staffed with a full time counselor committed to implementing a comprehensive counseling program. Counselors provide individual and small group educational planning and are available to assist students with personal situations requiring individualized help.

Middle school students and parents will be offered the following services:

- pre-enrollment orientation
- parent and/or student conferences upon request
- registration and scheduling
- achievement testing
- test interpretation
- special grade checks or progress reports upon request
- counseling assistance and referral information for special needs

Eligibility Requirements for Students to Participate in Extra-Curricular or Co-Curricular Activities

The Tustin Unified School District has established minimum standards for students in grades 6-12 participating in extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. Each quarter students must earn a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 on a 4.0 point scale and cannot have 2 or more U's in citizenship from 2 or more teachers (Board Policy 6145).

General Information

Scheduling/Registration for Middle School Fifth grade students are registered for the appropriate middle school in the spring of each school year following orientation meetings held on the elementary school campuses. Sixth and seventh grade students are registered for their seventh and eighth grade years in the spring of each year on the middle school campuses. Parents are encouraged to participate in the registration process by reviewing the course catalog with their student and signing the course selection sheet.

School Day and Attendance The middle school student takes seven separate courses. Students are expected to attend each of their scheduled classes promptly and regularly. Regular attendance is one of the greatest contributing factors to success in school. Absences should be avoided whenever possible.

Grade Reporting Grades are reported quarterly at nine-week intervals during the school year. These reports are available in the online Aeries grade portal, where parents can check grades throughout the year. If parents opted for a paper grade report, they should anticipate these reports and inquire about them if they have not been received within ten school days following the end of each quarter. Progress Reports are sent home by the sixth week of each quarter indicating failing (F) or unsatisfactory (D) grades. Unsatisfactory (U) or Needs Improvement (N) citizenship and/or work habit marks are also reported.

Binder Reminder Upon enrolling, students will be given a Binder Reminder/Student Handbook, an effective reference for information about school rules, expectations for student achievement and behavior, and student activity programs. The Binder Reminder is where the student is required to write down their assignments/homework and plan for future tests/projects.

Promotion Students who participate at middle school promotion ceremonies shall conform to the Tustin Unified School District's Board of Education Policy 5128 concerning Promotion/Acceleration/Retention. Students who are not being promoted may not participate in the promotion ceremony/activities. The school shall provide written notification of the policy to all eighth grade students/parents/guardians. By the end of the fourth quarter, the school shall notify parents/guardians of students who may be ineligible to participate.

Planning Overview

The required middle school courses are Language Arts, Social Science, Mathematics, Physical Education, and Science. The Planning Overview outlined below identifies required and elective courses by grade level.

GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Homeroom	Homeroom	Homeroom
Core 6 (3 periods) *Language Arts* *Social Science* *Reading*	Core 7 (2 periods) *Language Arts* *Social Science*	Core 8 (2 periods) *Language Arts* *Social Science*
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
Integrated Science	Integrated Science	Integrated Science
Elective*	Elective* Elective*	Elective* Elective*

*Strategic Reading and/or Strategic Math may be a required elective for students not meeting District standards. A possible two period block class in mathematics may be required for students not meeting grade level standards in mathematics.

In addition to the required and elective courses described in this catalog, middle schools offer programs for English language learners and special education students. School counselors are available to answer your questions about all courses and programs.

GATE and STEAM Magnet Program

Columbus Tustin Middle School's GATE/STEAM Magnet Program offers students a unique, collaborative learning environment. Students in the magnet program interact as a cohort of diverse learners immersed in an inquiry and project based approach to learning. Magnet teachers design learning experiences to stimulate intellectual curiosity, creativity, and risk taking with the goal of encouraging independent thinking, collaborative learning, and real-world problem solving.

Academics

This Magnet program provides an academically challenging environment in which each student's educational opportunities are maximized. All Columbus Tustin Magnet teachers are GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) trained, incorporate GATE instructional strategies into their daily lesson design, and focus on year-long GATE themes by grade level as they lead students through a project-based approach to learning. Classes move at an accelerated pace, preparing students for rigorous International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement programs in high school.

Curricular Extensions

The scope of the Magnet educational experience extends beyond the traditional classroom setting. Throughout the year, students become apprentice investigators and develop their skills of scientific research, discovery and documentation through experiential, hands-on field trip excursions throughout Southern California to extend classroom learning. These experiences include day trips, as well as longer overnight camps.

Admission Criteria

The Columbus Tustin GATE/STEAM Magnet program is seeking motivated, enthusiastic learners ready to take on a challenging workload. Applications are available at all elementary front offices, the Columbus Tustin front office, or online at https://www.tustin.k12.ca.us/ct/academics/math-science-technology-magnet. Admission is selective and is based on application responses and teacher recommendations. Priority will be given to students who are GATE identified, however this is not a requirement for admission. A lottery will be held if the number of qualified candidates exceeds our cohort size.

Language Arts and Social Science

Core combines the disciplines of Language Arts, Reading, and Social Science. The integrated curriculum allows for meaningful instruction and study skill acquisition. Skills learned are applied to a variety of areas and assignments. The writing, reading, note taking, spelling, and vocabulary of English are standards based and linked with the social science curriculum. For example, a literature assignment in English class may reflect the period of history being studied in the social science class. Core is a three-period course for grade 6 and a two-period course for grades 7 and 8 at most schools.

3800 CORE 6 (3 periods)	**3804 CORE 7** (2 periods)	**3807 CORE 8** (2 periods)
3801 Language Arts 3802 Reading 3803 Social Science	3805 Language Arts 3806 Social Science	3808 Language Arts 3809 Social Science

Core Honors is offered at each grade level. The course is designed for students who seek the challenge of an enriched English and social science curriculum. Students study the same Core topics of the regular Core class but in greater depth and complexity. Students can expect an increased amount of reading and homework. Prerequisites for Core Honors placement include any of the following: identified GATE student and/or standardized test scores in language arts and reading, grade point average, District assessments and/or teacher recommendation.

3810 CORE 6 HONORS (3 periods)	**3814 CORE 7 HONORS** (2 periods)	**3817 CORE 8 HONORS** (2 periods)
3811 Language Arts 3812 Reading 3813 Social Science	3815 Language Arts 3816 Social Science	3818 Language Arts 3819 Social Science

A. MATHEMATICS

6TH GRADE MATH (1500)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

6th Grade Math is a year long course that centers on four critical areas: 1) connecting ration and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; 2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; 3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and 4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. 6th Grade Math is the first of three middle school level courses designed to give a broad based foundation for success in Algebra l.

MATH 6 A (ACCELERATED) (1517)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Math 6 A (Accelerated) is a course for students seeking an accelerated and challenging math curriculum. The course combines all of the content from 6th Grade Math and the first half of the content from 7th Grade Math into one course. Moving at this very fast pace allows a student (with continued success) to take Algebra 1 during their 8th grade year. Students placed in this course must show competency of all pre-cursor skills on a year-end math test during their 5th Grade Math class and must have a history of success in math. Students choosing to accelerate and take this Math 6 A course are committing to taking four years of high school math.
(Course Placement Recommendation)

7TH GRADE MATH (1501)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

7th Grade Math is a year long course that centers 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 problem 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. 7th Grade Math is the second of three middle schools level courses that are designed to give a broad based foundation for success in Algebra 1.

MATH 7 A (ACCELERATED) (1520)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Math 7 A (Accelerated) is a course for students seeking an accelerated and challenging math curriculum. The course combines the second half of the content from 7th Grade Math and all of the content from 8th Grade Math into one course. Continuing form Math 6 A into this course and moving at this very fast pace allows for a student (with continued success) to take Algebra 1 during their 8th grade year. Students placed in this course must show competency of all pre-cursor skills on a Math 6 A year-end math test. Students continuing on in this class must also demonstrate strong course grades and teacher recommendations from previous math classes. Students choosing to accelerate and take Math 7 A coursework are committing to taking four years of high school math.

8TH GRADE MATH (1512)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

8th Grade Math is a year long course that centers on three critical areas: 1) 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; 2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; 3) analyzing two and three dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. 8th Grade Math serves as the third class in the middle school math progression that is geared at providing a solid foundation for Algebra 1 success.

ALGEBRA 1 (1504)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Algebra 1 is a systematic study of numbers and their properties. The content areas include structure of the real number system; simplification of algebraic expression; solving equations and inequalities; problem solving; polynomials and factoring; functions and graphing; exponents, and radicals. The aim of this rigorous course is to establish a solid foundation for more advanced course work in mathematics equivalency class.
(*Course Placement Recommendation)*

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 6 (4010)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 5

Students will receive standards based instruction in a variety of physical activities including team sports, individual sports and lifelong activities. Instruction will include basic skill work, rules and strategy. Students will value their fitness level and learn techniques to improve areas of weakness.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 7 (4012)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 5

Students will receive standards based instruction in a variety of physical activities including team sports, individual sports and lifelong activities. Instruction will include basic skill work, rules and strategy. Students will value their fitness level and learn techniques to improve areas of weakness.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 8 (4014)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 5

Students will receive standards based instruction in a variety of physical activities including team sports, individual sports and lifelong activities. Instruction will include basic skill work, rules and strategy. Students will value their fitness level and learn techniques to improve areas of weakness.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 6, 7, 8 (4016)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 5

Students will receive standards based instruction in a variety of physical activities including team sports, individual sports and lifelong activities. Instruction will include basic skill work, rules and strategy. Students will value their fitness level and learn techniques to improve areas of weakness.

INTEGRATED SCIENCE – GRADE 6 (4201)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

This is a standards-based course designed around the concept that systems within organisms and between them are adapted to Earth's climate systems. Students define systems and system models and apply these ideas to different Earth science and life science contexts. California weather is explored from the perspective of the flow of energy and cycling of matter within a system. From there, students' investigations of California are then extended to the more general level of regional climate in different parts of the planet. The course concludes by scaling from the regional climate level to the level of global warming. The goal of the course is to provide many opportunities to students to develop and apply skills relating to the technological and scientific aspects of solving societal problems.

INTERGRATED SCIENCE – GRADE 7 (4202)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

This is a standards-based course designed around the concept that natural processes and human activities cause energy to flow and matter to cycle through Earth's systems. Students begin their exploration by categorizing the kinds of living and nonliving matter in a natural environment. They then investigate physical changes and chemical reactions in the contexts of organisms and rocks. As the course progresses, students begin exploring cycles of matter and flows of energy at larger scales. Towards the end of the year, students address challenges to sustainability by applying their understandings of the natural processes and human activities that shape Earth's resources and ecosystems.

INTEGRATED SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (4203)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

This is a standards-based course that centers around the concept that the processes that change Earth's systems at different spatial scales today also caused changes in the past. The course tells a coherent story that generally includes two or more science disciplines that meaningfully connect with each other and build upon the knowledge and skills from the 6th grade and 7th grade science courses. Earth and Space Science content provides the conceptual "glue" by separately linking with physical science and with life science. Engineering design is also intimately connected with the science concepts throughout the course. The goal of this course is to serve as a capstone to the middle school grade span.

Elective Courses

The elective program is composed of quarter, semester, and year classes. Elective courses are offered at each school dependent upon student pre-registration sign-up, facilities, and staffing.

Every effort is made to honor individual student requests for elective classes; however, scheduling conflicts or limited enrollment may make it necessary to modify requests.

D. SIXTH GRADE EXPLORATORY

EXPLORATORY ART (2910)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In Exploratory Art students will explore the basic elements of art and principles of design as established in the state art standards.

EXPLORATORY AVID (2919)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In Exploratory AVID students will learn study skills as well as gain knowledge about college/universities and potential careers.

EXPLORATORY COMPUTER (2911)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

The Exploratory Computer course exposes students to basic keyboarding skills and computer usage.

EXPLORATORY DRAMA (2913)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In the Exploratory Drama course students will explore self-expression through pantomime, lip sync, improvisations, dramatized stories and Reader's Theater.

EXPLORATORY ENTREPRENEURSHIP (3615)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

Students will work in teams to start, fund and run their own business. The course will illustrate how to conduct and analyze market research to find a specific need that is yet to be filled. Through various engaging project-based learning activities, students will then take that need and move through the proper business channels to market, finance and produce it.

EXPLORATORY LANGUAGES (2918)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

Exploratory Spanish or French courses offer students an introduction to the Spanish or French language and the culture they reflect. Students develop beginning skills in speaking and comprehending oral messages while building vocabulary and learning about other cultures.

D. SIXTH GRADE EXPLORATORY

EXPLORATORY MUSIC (2914)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In the Exploratory Music course students will explore the elements of music including the reading of music, sound generation, modification and structure. Students are exposed to classical and contemporary musical forms.

EXPLORATORY SPEECH (2916)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In the Exploratory Speech course students will explore various oral communication skills to increase personal confidence when speaking before a group.

EXPLORATORY WOOD (2917)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

In Exploratory Wood students are introduced to hand tools, measurement, shop safety, organization, maintenance, and types of woods. Students complete individual projects.

MEDICAL DETECTIVES (2922)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6
- QUARTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 2.5

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Medical Detectives curriculum is utilized to guide is this course. Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a “crime scene”. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

E. ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

AVID GRADE 7 (3871)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the AVID course students will sharpen and refine attitudes, skills, and knowledge to successfully enter and complete a college-prep academic program in high school. Students will learn and apply study skills and learning strategies to improve performance in the content areas. Note taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test strategies, use of technology to improve performance, and self-awareness will be stressed.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Student application selected based on interest, interview, and academic potential)

AVID GRADE 8 (3870)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the AVID course students will sharpen and refine attitudes, skills, and knowledge to successfully enter and complete a college-prep academic program in high school. Students will learn and apply study skills and learning strategies to improve performance in the content areas. Note taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test strategies, use of technology to improve performance, and self-awareness will be stressed.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Student application selected based on interest, interview, and academic potential)

AVID EXCEL 7 (3874)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

AVID ExCEL changes the trajectory of long-term English language learners (L-TELLs) by accelerating language acquisition, developing literacy, and placing AVID Excel students on the path to high school AVID and college-preparatory coursework. Through a sequential set of middle school 7th and 8th grade courses, students are supported to build their academic language, leadership skills, and overall sense of commitment to school with a cohort of peers who share their same college readiness goals. The AVID Excel course sequence is made up of the AVID Excel Summer Bridge and the AVID Excel Elective with an emphasis on developing students' academic language proficiency in all domains—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—while also developing self-determination, leadership skills, and motivation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Student application selected based on interest, interview, and academic potential)

AVID EXCEL 8 (3875)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

AVID ExCEL changes the trajectory of long-term English language learners by accelerating language acquisition, developing literacy, and placing AVID ExCEL students on the path to high school AVID and college-preparatory coursework. Through a sequential set of middle school 7th and 8th grade courses, students are supported to build their academic language, leadership skills, and overall sense of commitment to school with a cohort of peers who share their same college readiness goals. The AVID ExCEL course sequence is made up of the AVID ExCEL Summer Bridge and the AVID ExCEL Elective with an emphasis on developing students' academic language proficiency in all domains—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—while also developing self-determination, leadership skills, and motivation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Student application selected based on interest, interview, and academic potential)

F. CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS (3101)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

An elective course developed using the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Automation and Robotics curriculum to introduce students to VEX robotics systems and programming using RobotC. Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, gear ratios, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem. Throughout the course students will document the engineering design process during robotics builds and design challenges integrated into the curriculum. The year culminates with a unit of flight and space where students will learn the basic principles of flight and Newton's laws of motion.

AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS COMPETITION (3102)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Automation and Robotics Competition class is designed to provide instructional time during the school day to build and program a robot for the official VEX robotics competition season. The class is designed for students who demonstrate a passion for robotics, are known to get along with others, and are very responsible. Students are expected to attend two after school practices each week from October - March and participate in four competitions held on Saturdays at Orchard Hills School from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. Students who are chosen will apply for a job responsibility and will be required to work on a team.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Applications required)

COMPUTERS APPLICATIONS (3002)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Computer Applications is an exploration into the fundamentals of Video Production, Graphic Design, Digital Photography, Scratch Computer Programming, Animation, Game programming, Android App development, Python Programming, and all things computer. Students will be exposed to an array of Digital Media production elements and gain a valuable skill set for their future.
Year 1 students focus on Video Production and Scratch.

F. CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

DESIGN AND MODELING (3103)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

An elective course developed using the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Design and Modeling curriculum to introduce students to Autodesk Inventor 3D modeling software and 3D printing. In this course, students begin to recognize the value of an engineering notebook to document and capture their ideas. They are introduced to and use the design process to solve problems and compete in engineering project design challenges. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software to create a virtual image of their designs and produce a 3d printed model.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (3615)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Entrepreneurship, students will analyze market research to find a need that has yet to be filled. They will learn how to operate and run their own businesses. Topics include market research, marketing strategy, developing a business plan, financing and managing human resources all through project-based simulations.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation & Letter of Intent)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2 (3616)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Entrepreneurship 2, students will work in teams to analyze successful business models and their significance in the community. Through various engaging project-based learning activities, student will create a business plan that will fulfill a goal set by the class to be completed by the end of the year.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation, Letter of intent, and Entrepreneurship year one)

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY I PLTW (3006)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The PLTW is an activities-oriented program designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. Taught in conjunction with a rigorous academic curriculum, the program is divided into three independent units: Design and Modeling, Automation and Robotics, and Energy and the Environment.

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 2 PLTW (3007)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

This is the second year of PLTW, which is an activities-oriented program designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. Units may include: The Magic of Electrons, The Science of Technology, Flight and Space, and Automation and Robotics.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Successful completion of Gateway to Technology 1 PLTW)

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 3 PLTW (3123)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

This is the third year of PLTW, which is an activities-oriented program designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. Units may include: The Magic of Electrons, The Science of Technology, Flight and Space, and Automation and Robotics.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Successful completion of Gateway to Technology 2 PLTW)

VIDEO PRODUCTION (3005)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Video Productions the basic elements of filming and editing are taught through the medium of video. Students work in teams to create, draft, conference, revise, set content, edit, and publish. Video cameras and editing equipment are utilized.

WEB DESIGN (3009)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the Web Design course, students will design and produce user friendly web sites that are essential to most businesses. Students will learn to write text, conduct research, and apply graphics and animation to web sites. Personnel responsibility and related ethics will be part of the Web Site Development course.

G. HOME ECONOMICS

CULINARY ARTS (3201)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Culinary Arts students develop proper care and techniques in preparing food. Students will learn beginning cooking techniques, use of the kitchen, table settings and using recipes.

CULINARY ARTS ADVANCED (3212)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Culinary Arts Advanced students are introduced to food preparation with an emphasis on making wise food choices, shopping and cooking techniques, use of kitchen equipment, table service and etiquette, reading and interpreting recipes.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Grade C or Better in Culinary Arts and/or Teacher Recommendation)

FASHION DESIGN (3210)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Fashion Design students develop basic sewing skills and learn about the use and care of sewing machines. Several projects are sewn.

HOME ECONOMICS (3203)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the Home Economics course students will acquire consumer information and develop basic sewing skills and learn about the use and care of sewing machines. Several projects are sewn. Students will also learn beginning cooking techniques, use of the kitchen, table settings and using recipes.

WOOD BEGINNING (3401)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Wood Beginning course introduces students to the proper use of hand and power equipment with an emphasis on skill development and safety. Students plan and construct projects.

WOOD ADVANCED (3402)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the Wood Advanced course students will further develop design and shop skills through completion of advanced wood projects.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Successful completion of Wood Beginning)

I. LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES

PUBLIC SPEAKING (3500)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Speech students will develop skills and confidence in public speaking as well as expression of ideas in conversation, discussion, debate, formal address, and public address announcements. Use of technology may be incorporated.

STRATEGIC READING A (3825), B (3826), C (3827), D (3828)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Strategic Reading A, B, C, D is required for students who do not meet standards in reading and need additional support with learning and acquiring reading skills. A wide variety of strategies including phonics, vocabulary and comprehension development will be used to help students improve interest and ability in reading.

YEARBOOK/PUBLISHING (3502)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Yearbook/Publishing course is designed for responsible students with demonstrated art and/or writing ability. Students must be able to meet publication deadlines. Students may be required to complete some work after school hours.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation)

J. MATHEMATICS ELECTIVES

STRATEGIC MATH (3917)

GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8

- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Intensive Math course is designed for students who do not meet standards in mathematics. Instruction includes conceptual understanding of important math topics and setting goals for improved student achievement. Students enrolled in Strategic Math will also be enrolled in their regular grade level math course.

(Course Placement Recommendation: Required for Grades 6, 7, 8 students who are not meeting district standards)

MATH ENRICHMENT (1543)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Intensive Math course is designed for students who do not meet standards in mathematics. Instruction includes conceptual understanding of important math topics and setting goals for improved student achievement. Students enrolled in Strategic Math will also be enrolled in their regular grade level math course.

(Course Placement Recommendation: Required for Grades 6, 7, 8 students who are not meeting district standards)

K. STUDENT SERVICES

LEADERSHIP – ASB/STUDENT COUNCIL (3600)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7 & 8
- SEMESTER/YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the Leadership – ASB course students develop leadership skills in organization, planning, Associated Student Body communication, financial management, governing strategies, and student involvement. Student body officers, grade level representatives and club presidents may be included.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Election to class office or teacher recommendation)

LEADERSHIP – PAL (PEER ASSISTANCE LEADER) (3601)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- SEMESTER/YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In the Leadership – PAL course students develop skills in listening and problem solving, and support the PAL Club and others. Activities may include welcoming new students, tutoring students, and school-wide service projects. Course focus is students helping students.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Application with a teacher/counselor recommendation)

STUDY CENTER (3614)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- SEMESTER/YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Study Center course is for students to learn how to effectively take classroom notes through the Cornell note taking system. This course teaches students study skills and reinforces proper study techniques. Additionally, the students will be afforded time in class to complete classroom assignments.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher/counselor recommendation)

L. VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

ART (3300)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Art course instruction focuses on the elements of art and principles of design through a variety of media with an emphasis on individual expression.

ART - ADVANCED (3330)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- SEMESTER COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Art Advanced focuses instruction on drawing, painting and crafts at a higher level than can be offered in Art. This course is for students who are serious about a more challenging art experience.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or portfolio)

ART PRODUCTION (3301)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- SEMESTER/YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

In Art Production students will further develop art concepts and skills through the production of creative work in the areas of graphics, printmaking, scenery and three-dimensional work.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or portfolio)

BAND - BEGINNING (3304)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Band Beginning includes woodwind, brass and percussion instruments, and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.

BAND - INTERMEDIATE (3315)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Band Intermediate includes woodwind, brass and percussion instruments, and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

BAND - ADVANCED (3320)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Band Advanced includes woodwind, brass and percussion Advanced Concert instruments, and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

L. VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

BAND - ADVANCED (3306)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Band Concert is focused on providing public presentations and concerts. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

CHORUS (3308)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Chorus course introduces students to the reading and singing of music for pleasure and performance. Public performances are scheduled.

CHORUS - ADVANCED (3309)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Advanced Chorus is for students who have had experience with chorus and/or have a musical background in 3 and 4 part music and basic choreography. Public performances are scheduled.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Beginning chorus, audition and/or teacher recommendation)

DRAMA (3302)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- SEMESTER/YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Drama course develops individual and group presentation skills. It may include creative dramatics, pantomime, puppetry, skits, one-act play productions, improvisation, and monologues.

ORCHESTRA - BEGINNING (3317)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Orchestra Beginning includes the orchestral string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass) and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.

ORCHESTRA - ADVANCED (3310)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Orchestra Advanced includes the orchestral string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass) and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

ORCHESTRA - CHAMBER (3313)

- GRADE LEVEL: 6, 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Chamber Orchestra includes the orchestral string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass) and is designed for students who would like to play an instrument or who wish to extend their instrument playing skills. Public performances are scheduled. Students are grouped according to skill based on teacher evaluation.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

THEATER ARTS (3303)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

The Theater Arts course is designed for students who have successfully completed Drama and wish to continue developing skills in dramatic performance. Students will be exposed to set and costume design. Students may write, stage and help direct original dramatizations. Students will be involved in a variety of productions and public performances.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and/or audition)

SPANISH 1A (3702)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

World languages are offered as a two-year program. The two-year middle school program is equal to one year at the high school level if completed with a "B" average. In the first year, students develop basic vocabulary and grammar while learning about culture and celebrations. (Refer to the Course Selection Form for language electives at each school).
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation)

SPANISH 1B (3705)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED:10

In the second year of world language instruction, students increase vocabulary and grammar skills with an emphasis on developing conversation skills. With teacher recommendation, students who complete the middle school two-year program with a grade of "B" or better may enroll in the second year of foreign language at the high school. (Refer to the Course Selection Form for language electives at each school).
(Course Placement Recommendation: Spanish 1A course with a grade of C or better and teacher recommendation)

SPANISH 1 (1414)

- GRADE LEVEL: 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Students in Spanish 1 will have acquired a basic vocabulary of approximately 1,000 words. Most will be able to interact comfortably in situations which require the use of basic information. They will be able to introduce themselves, family members or friends, talk about likes and dislikes, describe clothing (colors), appearance, mood, personality; make statements about dates, weather, seasonal activities, etc. In addition, they will be able to discuss other subjects recognizing similar/distinct attitudes between their own culture and the culture of the Hispanic world.
(Course Placement Recommendation: 3.5 Total GPA)

SPANISH FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS 1 (3700)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Spanish for Native Speakers 1 is designed for students who speak Spanish fluently and want to improve their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in Spanish. Emphasis is placed on composition, grammar, spelling and reading comprehension. Students are introduced to the literature and culture of the Spanish speaking world. The University of California system considers this course to be the equivalent of 2 years of a foreign language.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Consent of teacher and diagnostic placement test)

SPANISH FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS 2 (3701)

- GRADE LEVEL: 7, 8
- YEAR COURSE
- MAX CREDIT ALLOWED: 10

Spanish for Native Speakers 2 is designed for students who have completed Spanish for Native Speakers 1. Emphasis is on improving Spanish writing skills and grammar, and exploring Spanish, Chicano and Latin American literature, culture and history.
(Course Placement Recommendation: Teacher recommendation and C or better grade in Spanish for Native Speakers 1)

SPECIAL PROGRAM

RESOURCE SPECIALIST PROGRAM

The Resource Specialist Program is provided for students who meet the eligibility criteria for special education services and have identified unique learning needs requiring Specialized Academic Instruction (SAI) services. Students receive SAI services in order to make progress on their Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals that can address a variety of areas including academics, behavior, attention, social/emotional functioning, organization, independence, self-help, and study skills. SAI services can consist of pull-out services (where students receive support in a separate setting for a portion of their school day), push-in services (where students receive support in their general education class), or consultation services (where an education specialist provides the student with support by consulting with their educational team members).

SPECIAL DAY CLASS PROGRAM

Special Day Classes are provided for students who meet the eligibility criteria for special education services and have identified unique learning needs requiring intensive support and specialized curriculum for a portion or significant part of the school day in order to make progress on their Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals.

Special Day Classes provide a smaller specialized and/or therapeutic educational setting. When determining the need for a Special Day Class Program, IEP teams review both the benefits of a highly specialized setting and the benefits of integration with typical peers in order to develop an individualized program that provides educational services in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

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