

**Warren Woods Middle School**  
**Course Selection**  
**SIXTH GRADE**

**Core Academic Classes**

**LANGUAGE ARTS (Full Year) Mandatory**

This is a one-period course. Written and verbal communication skills are covered. The writing process is used to develop competency in written communication. Sentence structure, parts of speech, spelling, and vocabulary are taught to foster fluency in writing. Oral communication is also emphasized. Emphasis is placed on the strategies to become better readers. The students read both fiction and nonfiction of varying lengths. Essential reading skills and strategies are taught within the context of the selections.

**SOCIAL STUDIES (Full Year) Mandatory**

The focus is on the study of the countries of the Western Hemisphere including Latin America, United States and Canada, Europe and Russia may also be studied. Students are involved in research projects, which help them to understand the increasing importance of interdependence among countries in a global society.

**MATHEMATICS (Full Year) Mandatory**

Emphasis is placed on a brief review of the four processes: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Knowledge of decimals, percentages, metrics, fractions, ratios/proportions, geometry, and probability are extended. Problem-solving techniques are stressed. Algebraic operations are also applied.

**ADVANCED MATH (FULL YEAR) By Recommendation**

6th Grade Advanced Math is a faster paced math class combining both 6th grade and 7th grade math content standards. Students must be recommended for this course by their 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher as well as meet a set minimum score on their Spring NWEA. Topics covered include fraction and decimal operations, integers and rational numbers, ratios, rates and proportions, linear relationships, statistics and data analysis, and geometry.

**SCIENCE (Full Year) Mandatory**

This course introduces and builds knowledge about the scientific concepts of: matter, solid earth, energy, scientific measurement, ecosystems, human interaction with the environment, cell theory, heredity and classification of organisms.

**CORE ENRICHMENT (Full Year) Mandatory**

This class is utilized by teachers to continue working with students on core literacy competencies. Students will be learning strategies that can be used across the curriculum. Students may also receive re-teaching of concepts that they may have learned earlier.

**ADVISORY (Full Year) Mandatory**

This class covers lessons focusing on topics such as self-improvement, decision-making, peer pressure, goal-setting and building community. Advisory time is also used to explore careers and other subjects of student interest.

## Elective Class Options

**Students select this rotation or band:**

### EXPLORATORY ROTATION

#### **EXPLORING FINE ARTS (10 weeks)**

The course will provide a basic overview of various types of art media. Emphasis will be placed on learning the elements and principles of design and how they influence the success of a work of art. The four disciplines of art, which include art criticism, art history, art aesthetics, and art production, will also be discussed.

#### **WORLD CULTURES (10 weeks)**

In World Cultures, students dive into various cultures, their customs, the language and food. Students learn popular expressions, sample authentic food and view artifacts and video clips of real cultural activities. Students learn about important holidays, traditions and festivals around the world. Basic Spanish and French language is explored.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (20 weeks)**

Emphasis is placed on games and activities used to develop self-confidence, team work, and sportsmanship. These activities are large group sport activities. A battery of tests, recommended by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Fitness for Youth, is administered.

### BAND

#### **BEGINNING BAND (Full Year)**

In this yearlong course, sixth graders have the opportunity to explore traditional band instruments. The acquisition of instruments is discussed in the fall. The classes are offered in two sections. The band teacher will place students in the appropriate section.

#### BRASS AND PERCUSSION

Beginning brass instruments are the trumpet and the trombone. In the second semester, students who show interest and aptitude can transfer to the French horn, baritone, or tuba. Percussion students study techniques using a percussion kit with a practice pad and bells. Beginning band students perform four concerts during the school year.

#### WOODWINDS

Beginning instruments in the woodwind family are the flute and clarinet. During the second semester, students can transfer to bass clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, oboe, or bassoon. Beginning band students perform four concerts during the school year.

**All of the courses listed may not be offered depending on student interest and staff availability. Students will receive the schedule of their classes in August/September.**