

# Warren Woods Middle School

## 2023-2024 Course Guide

### SIXTH GRADE

#### Core Academic Classes

##### **LANGUAGE ARTS (Full Year) Mandatory**

In this 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. Topics covered include fraction and decimal operations, integers and rational numbers, ratios, rates and proportions, linear relationships, statistics and data analysis, and geometry. Students must meet certain criteria to be considered for this class. Criteria includes student Spring NWEA scores, MSTEP scores, and recommendation by their 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher.

##### **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 ROTATION**

##### **ELA ENRICHMENT (10 weeks) Mandatory**

This course is used to reinforce and strengthen students' ELA skills. Using Daily Language Review students practice language skills covering punctuation, verb tense, conjunctions, word meanings, and more.

##### **MATH ENRICHMENT (10 weeks) Mandatory**

This course focuses on weekly review topics to help build fluency with key math skills. Topics include fraction operations, graphing, and a spiral of 6<sup>th</sup> grade math skills. Students also complete three different math projects related to number sense, problem solving, and data analysis.

##### **SCIENCE ENRICHMENT (10 weeks) Mandatory**

Students will participate in enrichment activities focusing on helping student decipher Science Informational text particularly analyzing data, summarization and vocabulary.

##### **21 THINGS FOR STUDENTS (10 weeks) Mandatory**

This course helps students improve their technology proficiency as they prepare for success in the real world. Focus areas include helping students build information literacy and digital citizenship skills and become knowledgeable about internet safety.

##### **ADVISORY (Full Year) Mandatory**

Using Character Strong, a research based social and emotional learning curriculum focused on foster the Whole Child, this course provides students with vertically-aligned lessons that teach SEL and character, side-by-side. The goal of Advisory is to establish a strong foundation of social & emotional skills among students by teaching healthy habit development, social awareness strategies, empathy building techniques, and more.

For information regarding online learning opportunities, please refer to the Warren Woods Public Schools website or contact the counseling department.

## Elective Class Options

Students select either the exploratory 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.

Students will make their elective course selection when they come to the middle school with their class for Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation on Thursday March 23, 2023. Please make sure you have discussed these options with your student prior to their visit and they are ready to make their selection.

**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.**