

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MIDDLE



SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2022-2023

Klinger Middle School

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Middle School Program Overview

The goal of the Middle School Program is to develop academic skills, build content knowledge, and expand learning experiences into new areas of study. At each grade level, support structures are in place to help students transition from the elementary school and prepare them for the high school.

The middle school schedule operates on a six-period daily schedule with core subjects lasting sixty minutes and exploratory classes lasting forty-three minutes. The exploratory classes follow an alternating day rotation, and the core courses meet daily. An additional thirty minute WIN (What I Need) period follows each student lunch period.

All middle school students are required to take the following core and Expo courses, unless modified in a student's individualized education plan:

Required Core Courses

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
English Language Arts (ELA)	English Language Arts (ELA)	English Language Arts (ELA)
Math	Math	Math
Science	Science	Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies

Required Expo Courses

Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
Art	Music (Performance or General)	Personal Finance & Career Exploration
Physical Education/Health	Physical Education/Health	Spanish
The Next Chapter	FCS or STEM	FCS or STEM
<i>Student Choice</i>	<i>Student Choice</i>	<i>Student Choice</i>

Advanced Thinking Enrichment 6, 7, & 8 (Gifted Course)

Students with gifted individualized education plans (GIEPs) may select to participate in a gifted Exploratory course. The Advanced Thinking Enrichment course focuses on critical thinking skills in the content areas of reading, science, and social studies. During the reading unit, students will read a variety of challenging texts that support interdisciplinary connections with an emphasis on divergent thinking, self-directed inquiry, literary and expository text analysis, and reasoning. During the science and social studies units, students will use extended thinking and reasoning skills while exploring core curriculum concepts more in depth. As a culminating unit, the students will create a final product that encompasses the specified thematic content covered throughout the course of each year. Along with this work, students will also pursue individual topics of interest through independent goal completion.

English Language Development (ELD)

Students who are eligible for English Language Development (ELD) courses are those who have limited English proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Student eligibility is determined by assessments of English proficiency administered by the ELD teacher. Students enrolled in ELD courses will take these courses in place of reading, language arts, or English, depending on each student's individual language needs. Teacher recommendation and placement is required.

Middle School Skills for Success (MSSFS)

Middle School Skills for Success provides direct instruction in the areas of study skills and organization, explicit skill instruction related to IEP goals, and social skills instruction. This course is for students who receive Learning Support or Emotional Support services, but generally who are not scheduled in both Supportive Reading and Supportive Math for academic reasons. Students' IEP teams must pre-determine if the student qualifies for this instruction in at least two of the three focus categories based on outlined criteria. The instruction is provided by a special education teacher three times in six days in place of one Expo class. Every attempt is made to schedule opposite Physical Education or another Expo that meets every other day.

Supportive Courses

Supportive courses are designed for students who have individualized education plans (IEPs). In these courses, students may receive modified curriculum materials and specialized instruction to meet their individual learning goals and needs.

Core Course Descriptions

Grade 6

English Language Arts 6

In English Language Arts 6, students focus on the writing process by composing narrative, informative, argumentative, and literary pieces. Other topics include writing conventions, vocabulary, and reading. At this level, students are identifying and developing clear intentions while writing organized, focused, and supported pieces. An emphasis will be placed on grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will read and analyze various literary and nonfiction texts.

The Next Chapter 6

In The Next Chapter 6, students will apply various reading strategies to analyze literary and non-fiction texts. To create strategic readers, skills will be developed by using increasingly complex texts. The expectation is for students to draw evidence from texts to support analysis using close reading.

Academic Lit 6

The Academic Lit 6 course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

Advanced Math 6

Advanced Math is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in math. Students in this advanced class will accelerate one full year in math – bypassing the sixth grade math curriculum to study the seventh grade math curriculum one year earlier than the average student. **Placement in this course will be based on individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

Math 6

This math course prepares students for pre-algebra by computing with multi-digit numbers and finding common multiples and factors, and by extending previous understanding of arithmetic to ratios, rational numbers, properties of numbers, algebraic expressions, solutions of simple equations and their applications. Other topics include measurement, geometry, unit rates, coordinate system, data analysis, and probability.

Academic Mathematics 6

Academic Mathematics 6 will provide the opportunity for students to review foundational skills needed for Core Connections 1 content, deepen their understanding of current topics in Core Connections 1, and develop productive strategies for studying the math content. The topics in this course include *collecting, displaying and analyzing data in multiple ways; representing and comparing quantities using manipulatives, diagrams, and number expressions; make sense of and convert multiple representations of portions (decimal, fraction, percent); recognizing and representing ratios in multiple forms; and evaluating and simplifying algebraic expressions*. This course is designed to support students to be successful in the Core Connections 1 course by providing reinforcement of skills.

Teacher recommendation is required.

Science 6

In Science 6, students will study Earth and space science. Students will learn about the oceans, meteorology, climate, and space. In the area of meteorology, students will study the water cycle, air pressure, causes and effects of natural disasters, and how climate is impacted. When studying astronomy, topics include stars and galaxies, constellations, objects in the Solar System, and the moon's effects on the Earth. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

Social Studies 6

Social Studies 6 focuses on early humans, ancient civilizations, beginning in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Israel, and Greece and leading through to the Fall of Rome. Students will learn about how civilizations develop and the patterns among civilizations. Students will develop skills as social scientists, such as analyzing cause and effect, and work with primary and secondary source materials.

Grade 7

English Language Arts 7

In Language Arts 7, students focus on the writing process by composing informative, argumentative, and literary pieces. Other topics include writing conventions, vocabulary, and reading. At this level, students are developing style, engaging the reader, and defending a stance using different viewpoints while writing organized, focused, and supported pieces. An emphasis will be placed on grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will read and analyze various literary and nonfiction texts.

Academic Literacy 7

The **Academic Literacy** course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for

skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

Pre-Algebra 7

Pre-Algebra is designed for students who have the ability to learn at a faster pace and have an aptitude in math. Problem solving, application, communication, and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students in this advanced class will continue their acceleration in math by studying the pre-Algebra 8 curriculum one year early. **Placement in this course will be based upon individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

Math 7

This course expands the application of rational numbers to numerical and algebraic expressions and to the solution of real-life and mathematical multi step problems using equations, inequalities, proportions, and percent. Geometric topics include angle measurement, constructions, properties of two and three-dimensional figures, and the application of geometric formulas. Topics also include statistics and probability, random sampling, statistical models and compound probability.

ACADEMIC MATH 7

Mathademic Lit 7 will provide the opportunity for students to review foundational skills needed for Core Connections 2 content, deepen their understanding of current topics in Core Connections 2, and develop productive strategies for studying the math content. The topics in this course include *operations with integers and rational numbers; simplify and solve algebraic expressions and equations; compare theoretical and experimental probabilities and use simulations of real world problems to make predictions; compare, recognize and solve problems involving proportional relationships; and solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume.* This course is designed to support students to be successful in the Core Connections 2 course by providing reinforcement of skills.

Science 7

In Science 7, physical science is the focus. Students learn about the basic principles of chemistry, energy, and force. Topics include matter, elements, forms of energy, electricity, simple machines, and Newton's Laws. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

Social Studies 7

Social Studies 7 focuses on world history from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. The major topics include how government, society, and economic policies are influenced by religion. Students will develop skills as social scientists such as analyzing cause and effect and work with primary and secondary source materials.

Grade 8

English Language Arts 8

Students will combine the skills and strategies previously learned in Language Arts classes to comprehend, question, connect, and analyze text verbally and through composition. Students will continue to develop their writing style through various modes of writing. An emphasis will be placed on the writing process as well as the conventions of language (grammar, usage, and mechanics).

Academic Literacy 8

The **Academic Literacy** course aims to develop the student's ability to read for academic success: to independently apply various reading strategies to comprehend and analyze texts. In addition, instruction will focus on decoding multisyllabic words, building comprehension, expanding academic vocabulary through word study, and writing in response to reading. Direct instruction for skills (decoding, encoding, and word attack for multisyllabic words; comprehension; vocabulary; writing paragraphs; constructing sentences) will be ongoing throughout the course. **Teacher recommendation is required.**

Algebra I

In Algebra I, students will be expected to solve multi-step equations/inequalities, apply these equations to real life situations and use mathematical properties to justify any step in the solving process. Other topics taught at this level include probability, statistics, absolute value, roots, operations with radicals, properties of exponents, simplifying polynomials, factoring and solving quadratic equations (including using the quadratic formula) and exploring quadratic equations. Problem solving, application, communication, and reasoning are emphasized throughout the course. Students enrolled in this course will take the Algebra I Keystone Exam. **Placement in this course will be based on individual student data and projections of proficiency on future assessments.**

Pre-Algebra 8

In this course, students will study irrational numbers, radicals, scientific notation, and will solve problems involving integer exponents, equations in one-variable, and system of equations in two-variables. They will also define, evaluate, and compare linear functions using tables, equations, and graphs. In geometry, rotations, reflections, translations, and dilations will be used to show congruence and similarity of two-dimensional figures on a coordinate plane. Students will also compute the volume of three-dimensional figures using formulas, and will apply the Pythagorean Theorem to real-life and mathematical situations. In statistics, students will investigate patterns in bivariate data.

ACADEMIC MATH 8

Mathemademic Lit 8 will provide the opportunity for students to review foundational skills needed for Core Connections 3 content, deepen their understanding of current topics in Core Connections 3,

and develop productive strategies for studying the math content. The topics in this course include *represent linear functions in multiple ways and solve systems of linear equations using different methods ; collect, analyze, and represent data using scatterplots and making predictions based on the trend of the data; analyze the slope of a line graphically, numerically, and contextually; recognize and solve problems involving proportional relationships; represent and simplify expressions using positive and negative exponents, square and cube roots and scientific notation; understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem; and solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres..* This course is designed to support students to be successful in the Core Connections 3 course by providing reinforcement of skills.

Science 8

In Science 8, students will study life science and biology. Students will learn about the properties of organic materials, cells, diversity of life, life cycles, biomes, and ecology. Students will use the scientific method to conduct experiments.

Social Studies 8

Social Studies 8 focuses on American history from 1787 through 1900. The major topics include the Revolutionary War, development of the United States Constitution, the systems of government, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, and Industrialization. Students will develop skills as social scientists such as working with primary and secondary source materials, geography and mapping skills, and developing critical and analytical thinking.

Expo Course Descriptions

For Expo courses, certain courses are required in each grade level. In Sixth grade and seventh grade, students have three required expo courses, and one self-selected. Eighth grade students have two required expo courses, and two self-selected. **All Expo classes will alternate on an A/B cycle.**

Expo Options (Bold courses are required)		
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
The Next Chapter 6	Physical Education / Health II	<u>Personal Finance & Career Exploration</u>
Physical Education / Health I	General Music/Band/Chorus/Orchestra	Spanish I
Introduction to Middle School Art	<i>Family and Consumer Science I</i>	<i>Family and Consumer Science I</i>
General Music/Band/Chorus/Orchestra	<i>Or</i> <i>STEM</i>	<i>Or</i> <i>STEM</i>
Innovation and Exploration	Intro to Spanish Culture	Band/Chorus/Orchestra
**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 6 (ATE 6)	Intermediate Middle School Art	Advanced Middle School Art
**Academic Mathematics 6	Programming and Consumer Media	Lifetime Fitness
**ELD Mathematics	Lights, Camera, Action	**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 8 (ATE 8)
**Academic Literacy 6	**Advanced Thinking Enrichment 7 (ATE 7)	**Academic Mathematics 8
	**Academic Mathematics 7	**Academic Literacy 8
	**Academic Literacy 7	**ELD Mathematics 8
	**ELD Mathematics 7	

** This course has a prerequisite.

Art

Introduction to Middle School Art 6 (Art I)

Art 6 is designed to give sixth grade students a selection of art experiences. Students will explore a variety of art media including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts. Artwork will be discussed with proper vocabulary, historical and cultural significance, and art aesthetics (elements 10 of art and principles of design). Students will produce original works with a strong emphasis on style and technique while making interdisciplinary connections. Students will begin to learn how to assess themselves and others honestly using specific criteria of craftsmanship and aesthetics.

Intermediate Middle School Art 7 (Art II)

Building on the foundational skills from Art 6, students will continue to explore new materials and techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts. There will be a stronger emphasis on style and design. Art History and its influence on the present day will be discussed in more depth. Pieces produced will begin to show significant improvement in skill level and technique while building a body of work for a portfolio. Students will assess themselves and others honestly with specific criteria based on the elements of art and principles of design and a high level of craftsmanship. This course meets every other day for a full year.

Advanced Middle School Art 8 (Art III)

Students who move on to this rigorous course will continue to use new materials and techniques to refine art making skills. This course will help students attain a high level of quality and craftsmanship in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and crafts while developing a personal style. Art from several periods in history will be studied and utilized to inspire and influence personal development within each piece. Students will develop a sense of confidence and independence in solving problems and meeting challenges in unique ways. Students will assess themselves and others honestly with specific criteria based on craftsmanship, aesthetics, and personal improvement. This course meets every other day for the year.

Business, Computers, and Information Technology

Programming/Consumer Media (Gr. 7)

This course is designed to provide an introduction to computer programming and consumer media. In the first part of the course, the students will apply foundational programming concepts to create animation products. In the second part of the course, students will learn the principles of marketing as a business owner and a consumer of products. Both aspects of this course include engaging, individualized, and hands-on activities that incorporate visual arts and communications.

Personal Finance/Career Explorations (Gr. 8)

In Personal Finance and Career Explorations, students will develop an understanding of various careers and the education and skills needed to successfully pursue these careers. Students will also learn about emerging occupations in the current and future labor market. In addition, students will develop a foundational understanding of personal finance that includes sources of income and expenditures, basic tax deductions, and managing personal finances. Students will complete a portfolio project in this course.

Communication Elective

Lights, Camera, Action! (Gr. 7)

In this course, students will learn about the origins of broadcasting, ethical issues confronted by broadcast journalism, and careers associated with broadcast journalism. Students will learn how to prepare for and conduct an interview, effective public speaking skills, journalistic writing for broadcast, and pre-and post-production processes.

Family and Consumer Science

Family and Consumer Science I

In this course, students explore a wide range of problem solving, hands-on activities, technology, and cooperative learning skills and techniques. This is a course about life skills that are relevant to every student. Topics covered in this course include interpersonal skills, work importance, hand-sewing and ironing/laundry care, babysitting, and an introduction to food science, nutrition, and consumer awareness.

Family and Consumer Science II

In this course, students will explore topics needed for successful and independent living in a world with many choices and influences. This is a course that all 8th grade students can take if they so choose. Students will go beyond the basics of food science and nutrition to managing a healthy lifestyle and acting as an independent, responsible consumer. Topics also include more advanced food with a focus on cultural cuisine, interior design and fiber arts, child development, and social emotional learning with an emphasis on meaningful relationships.

Innovation and Exploration

Innovation and Exploration (Gr. 6)

This course will focus on developing 21st Century Future Ready Skills by incorporating technology concepts, strategies, and resources into project-based problem-solving experiences organized around thematic topics reflective of the middle school curriculum. Students will be able to select and use District provided applications effectively and productively to question, experiment, research, and investigate. Throughout the course, students will hone skills pertinent to creative thinking, problem solving, and collaboration. Pragmatic experience in sharing information via tech-based multimedia platforms will provide useful practice for the secondary school learner.

Music

General Music 7 (Gr. 7)

In this course, students learn basic elements and principles within music. Topics include duration, intensity, pitch, composition, and genre. The course includes performing in class, improvising, using vocabulary, and describing style, as well as developing an appreciation for different types of music.

Performance Music

Students who select Performance Music for band, orchestra, and chorus will continue to develop as musicians by applying their musical skills in three performances. This course includes the goals and topics from the general music classes while preparing students for performances through the dynamics of working within an ensemble.

Course Codes

	Band	Chorus	Band and Chorus	Orchestra	Orchestra and Chorus
Grade 6	1061	1062	1064	1063	1065
Grade 7	1071	1072	1074	1073	1075
Grade 8	1081	1082	1084	1083	1085

Physical Education/Health

Physical Education/Health (Gr. 6 & 7)

During class, students will be exposed to individual and team activities. Instruction throughout the year will emphasize gross and fine motor skill development, teamwork, and social interaction. Fitness and Wellness will also be emphasized as critical components of healthy behavior and decision making. Students will learn basic health information and services. This curriculum will be delivered in co-educational grade level classes for both Physical Education and Health.

Lifetime Fitness (Gr. 8)

Lifetime Fitness is a semester-long course designed to introduce a series of physical fitness related concepts, applications, and activities with the expectation being that the information will enlighten and motivate students to improve their physical fitness and maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. These concepts will be presented through a series of demonstrations and lectures, and then applied through a variety of activities such as team/individual lifetime sports, outdoor/cooperative games, and cardiovascular fitness and strength training tasks. This Lifetime Fitness class may include, but is not limited to, the following: Xbox/Wii Fit, TRX Strength Training, Racquet Sports, Cooperative/Adventure Challenges, Dance/Aerobic Activities, and Golf.

STEM

STEM 1 (Gr. 7)

In this introductory class, students will learn about shop safety while exploring a wide range of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) related projects. Using 3D printing, students will learn how prototypes affect the design process while working collaboratively to solve everyday problems. Robotics will introduce students to basic programming and engineering. Students will use a variety of materials to build bridges, cars, and other design challenges. Through this exploratory course, students will build confidence in using tools and an understanding of how the design process works to solve problems in today's world.

STEM 2 (Gr. 8)

By diving deeper into the design process, students will be able to explore the manufacturing process from conception to prototyping to building and replication. Students will be expected to work collaboratively to design meaningful projects that can be built and tested within the Centennial community. This course will expand on the knowledge of tools and shop safety while allowing students to creatively express themselves in a vocational environment. STEM 2 will also expand on the robotics introduction from STEM 1. STEM 2 will also allow students to explore programming

languages through robotics. Students will work collaboratively, engineering their robots to accomplish specific tasks and in some cases, participate in certain competitions. (STEM 1 is not required to enroll in STEM 2).

World Language

Intro to Spanish Culture (Grade 7)

Students in Intro to Spanish Culture will learn about Spanish culture through history, celebrations, and everyday life. For a worldwide perspective, students will focus on Spain and Mexico, but will also briefly study the many other Spanish speaking countries, and the Spanish culture in the United States. Students do not need prior knowledge of the Spanish language as this class will be taught in English.

Spanish I (Grade 8)

In Grade 8, students can begin their World Language study in a Level I Spanish course. Within the course, students will focus on learning concepts of the language such as sound system, spelling patterns, common vocabulary, simple sentences and question structures. Students will develop basic conversational skills and competencies. Students will also learn about the part of the world in which the target language is spoken. Topics for this include customs, culture, gestures, and social structure.

Middle School Math Acceleration

On occasion, parents may choose to accelerate their child in mathematics. To exercise these options, a student must meet the following conditions for eligibility and follow the procedures below:

Assessment	Math Eligibility Criteria
PSSA	Advanced on most recent PSSA
PVAAS	70% Advanced projection on the Keystone Algebra I exam
NWEA MAP Math Growth	95th Percentile
Other	Teacher recommendation

Middle School Course sequence:

Grade	Academic Pathway	Advanced Pathway	Accelerated in Elementary School
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Math 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advanced Math 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-Algebra
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Math 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-Algebra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra I
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-Algebra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Algebra I 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Geometry (At WTHS)

*Students may not advance more than one grade level per calendar year.

Challenge Process:

In order to challenge a course and accelerate to the next sequential course:

- The student must:
 - Meet all eligibility criteria
- The parent must:
 - Obtain permission from the middle school's Department Coordinator
 - Present the request in writing, with the Department Coordinator's approval, to the middle school's guidance counselor by March 6, 2022.
- If approved, the student will receive materials for Independent Study from the Department Coordinator.
- Once a student has been approved and received materials, the student is responsible for reviewing the coursework leading into two assessment options:
 - Passing the District's end-of-year test with a score of 90% or greater score by June 30 of the current school year.
 - And/Or
 - Enrolling in a summer school course, at the parent's expense, and passing the District's end-of-year-test with a score of 90% or greater score by August 15.

- Any student who successfully challenges Algebra I must take the Algebra I Keystone exam during the winter wave of testing.
- Any student taking a course beyond Algebra I must take the course at William Tennent High School.