MIDDLE SCHOOL

Curriculum

2026-2027

	GRADE 5	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
ENGLISH & LANGUAGE ARTS	Creative and personal narrative as well as analytical paragraph and essay writing, reading and discussing a variety of novels, and practicing language skills through vocabulary and grammar exploration.	Various genres of writing that correspond with whole-class novels and book clubs; vocabulary and grammar units; collaborative discussion and presentation skills.	Exploration through reading and grammatically correct writing, the intentional use of all literary devices and author's style in short stories, poetry and literary works; expansion of critical thinking/ inferential questioning through discussion and oral presentation techniques.	Well-articulated, evidence-based, and personal writing using novels, graphic novels, and published essays as resources with an emphasis on building sophistication of thought and expression in both speaking and writing.
MATH & COMPUTER SCIENCE	Singapore Math approach and problem solving through number theory, multiplication, division, decimals, fractions, ratio, percent, algebra, data and probability, basic geometry, and real world connections through math.	Rational numbers, patterns, fractions, decimals, percents, alternative methods of computation, data and statistics, algebraic reasoning and using algebra to solve real problems.	Operations with signed integers, algebraic expressions and equations, ratio and proportion, data and statistics, geometric properties of angles, rates of change, perimeter and area of 2D shapes, surface area and volume of 3D shapes. ACCELERATION DETERMINED VIA PLACEMENT	Linear equations and inequalities, linear functions, systems of linear equations, exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and functions.
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING	**ENGINEERING & PLANETARY SCIENCE:** EV3 Robotics, Astronomy, Coding, Force & Motion, STEM Challenges	**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:** Ecosystems, Energy & Matter, Waves, Weather/Climate	**LIFE SCIENCE:** Cells & Body Systems, Coding/Simulation, Genetics, Infectious Disease, Natural Selection	**PHYSICAL SCIENCE:** Electricity & Magnetism, Energy, Matter, Reactions, STEM Challenges ACCELERATION DETERMINED VIA PLACEMENT
HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCES	**WORLD HISTORY & CULTURES:** Examination of the growth and development of human communities and cultures, with a focus on Egypt, Greece, the Indus River and China.	**UNITED STATES HISTORY & CULTURES:** Exploration of the development and evolution of the United States, with an eye to the impact of the past on 21st century America.	**GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES:** Thematic investigation of both history and the current day with a focus on understanding multiple points of view.	**WORLD HISTORY 1300-1900:** Study of the major civilizations and developments from 1300 to 1900, with a focus on the emergence of an interconnected world.
WORLD LANGUAGES	Using familiar topics, students learn to express themselves and understand the Spanish language. Course includes emphasis on the study of Hispanic Culture.	Students expand their ability to communicate and understand the Spanish language while gaining a deeper understanding of their own culture through the study of Hispanic culture.	Students start a two year sequence in the study of French, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish. Emphasis on building confidence with the language, basic grammar and vocabulary, and study of culture.	Students continue the study of language chosen in 7th grade: French, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish. ACCELERATION DETERMINED VIA PLACEMENT
ARTS	Students take three arts classes, one in each discipline of Musical Arts, Visual Arts, and Theatre Arts, choosing a combination of one year-long PLUS two semester-long electives.	Students take three arts classes, one in each discipline of Musical Arts, Visual Arts, and Theatre Arts, choosing a combination of one year-long PLUS two semester-long electives.	Students choose between two options: **Deep Dive** - one class that meets every day OR **Exploration** - pairing two classes that alternate days.	Students choose between two options: **Deep Dive** - one class that meets every day OR **Exploration** - pairing two classes that alternate days.

CURRICULUM COLLABORATION

LIBRARY: The library has a diverse collection of books and resources to foster lifelong reading and learning in all children. In the library, students also learn how to locate, use, and cite informational research sources ethically, and then creatively communicate their constructed knowledge through different media.

MAKERSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY: Makerspace and technology work enhance the curriculum by igniting creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. Equipped with modern tools such as 3D printers, laser engraver and cutters, and CNC machines, students explore, play, and prepare to lead with compassion within the community.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EXPERIENCES

ADVISORY: The MS Advisory Program's Mission is to create a space where we develop a sense of self and belonging, foster relationships, and build strong character values so that we grow together as compassionate and inclusive community.

THEME: HOW DOES THE MIDDLE SCHOOL LEAD?

L = Learn with Curiosity and Joy
E = Embrace Challenge
A = Advocate for self and others
D = Demonstrate teamwork

EXPERIENCES INCLUDE:

Guest Speakers & Presentations
Off-Campus Trips
Student Leadership Opportunities
Team and Community Building
Community Service (7th & 8th grades)
Health & Welness Programming
Family History
Passport Day
LEAD Projects
RAM Time
TEAMWORK Day
ROCK Awards

Arts Fest, CHADS, Concerts, ERB testing, Flex, Geography Bee, Helping Hands, Homecoming, Middle School Meetings, PreventEd, Puberty Education, Spirit Days, Spring Classic, Spring Fling, Talent Show, Turkey Train, Visiting Authors with Writing Workshops, Winter Classic, Winter Term **AFFINITY GROUPS:** Asian Student Union, Black Student Union, Jewish Student Union, Muslim Student Union, PRISM, South Asian Student Union

WINTER TERM

Each January, students embrace a unique immersive program that allows them to venture outside of the traditional school day to extend love of learning and intellectual curiosity, encourage reflection, and enhance community relationships.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Open Art Studio
Anime Club
Athletic Development
ASAP
Bible Study Club
Book Clubs
Chess Club
Community Leadership Council
Dance Team Club
Fiddle Fun
French Club
Girls on the Run
K-Pop Club
Lego Robotics Team
Maker Club
Math Team
MICDS Rambassadors
MS Meeting Club
Playback Theater
Sewing Club
Spelling Bee Club
String Ensemble
Yoga & Relaxation Club
5th/6th Grade Play
7th/8th Grade Play

ATHLETICS

6, 7, and 8 Grades: Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Squash, Swimming, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball, Water Polo, Wrestling

Arts Electives

		MUSICAL ARTS	VISUAL ARTS	THEATRE ARTS
5th & 6th GRADES	Year-Long Electives	Intro to Band, Intro to Orchestra, Charger Band, Charger Choir, Charger Orchestra	Visual Art Expedition	**Theatre Expedition:** Contemporary Practices **Theatre Expedition:** World Practices
	Semester Electives	3-Chord Magic, Digital Music, Music Expedition	Digital Art, Let's Make It 2D, Let's Make it 3D,	Intro to Acting, Voice and the Actor, Body and the Actor, **Behind the Scenes:** Design and Production
7th & 8th GRADES	Deep-Dive Electives	Concert Band, Concert Choir, Concert Orchestra	Beyond the Sketch, **Sculpture:** Building in the Studio	Advanced Performance Practices, Advanced Design and Production
	Exploration Electives	Ram Band, Ram Choir, Ram Orchestra	Art in a Digital World, 2D Create, 3D Create	Art of Acting, Design and Production, Intro to Musical Theatre History and Performance, Intro to Video Production

Physical Education

HEALTH & FITNESS UNITS	**Athletic Development, Circuit Training, Energy System Training, Nutrition, Speed Development, Strength Training, Swimming, Yoga**
TRADITIONAL SPORTS	**Baseball,Basketball, Field Hockey, Flag Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Squash, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling, Water Polo**
NON-TRADITIONAL SPORTS & PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES	**American Handball, Badminton, Cricket, Dance, Futsal, Handball, Jokgu, Kabaddi, Pickleball, Powerball, Speedminton, Tchoukball, Ultimate Frisbee**