



Middle School Advanced Coursework
2021-22

Gifted and Talented



Middle School Advanced Coursework

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Middle School! In Middle School, we strive to offer *academic opportunities* that bridge the academic goals of the middle school and high school while being mindful of the *social-emotional development* of all students.

It is very important all families are educated about the options for advanced coursework and the considerations that must be made with these decisions.

Advanced Coursework at Middle School Campus

6th Grade

- 7th grade Math or Pre-Algebra
- Algebra I

7th Grade

- Pre-Algebra or Algebra I
- Spanish I
- Physical Science

8th Grade

- Algebra I or Geometry
- Spanish I or Spanish II
- Oklahoma History
- Physical Science

(all prerequisites apply to advancing courses)

High School Credit Courses offered on the Middle School Campus

Is your Middle School student ready for a high school course? Things to consider:

- The *content and classroom procedures* of high school courses are designed for high school aged students.
- Middle school courses are designed to create foundational knowledge for high school courses, thus *some academic gaps could occur* when taking a high school course before completing all middle school course work.
- The grade your child receives in their high school course will be placed on their *high school transcript* and cannot be removed.

- High school courses move at a *faster pace* than middle school courses.
- Regardless of how many high school courses students take in middle school, they must always take a minimum of 6 courses each year until they graduate.

Due to the highly advanced nature of the following courses at specific grade levels, additional academic safeguards are in place to ensure student readiness. Academic proficiency must be demonstrated for student placement in the following courses at certain grade levels. All course placements **must meet** the appropriate course pre-requisite requirements.

**It is also important to note that the Oklahoma graduation requirements state that a student must take 3 years of math while in high school in grades (9-12). When advancing in mathematics, it is important to keep in mind that this can have implications if a student does not want to take multiple courses in advanced math in high school. When moving ahead in middle school, take time to discuss and evaluate if this path is what your student will want to do to meet this graduation requirement.*

6th Grade

Algebra 1

- Student must pass the Pre-Algebra [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Pre-Algebra

Geometry

- Student must pass the Algebra 1 [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Algebra 1

Physical Science

- Not available to 6th grade due to teacher scheduling and availability

Oklahoma History

- Not available to 6th grade due to teacher scheduling and availability

Spanish I & Spanish II

- Not available to 6th grade due to teacher scheduling and availability

7th Grade

Algebra 1

- Student must pass the Pre-Algebra [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Pre-Algebra

Geometry

- Student must pass the Algebra 1 [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Algebra 1

Physical Science

- Students must pass the 7th grade Science [Proficiency Exam](#) and
- Student is concurrently enrolled in 8th grade Science or has passed the proficiency test and
- Student is concurrently enrolled in Algebra 1 or higher math

Spanish I

- No prerequisite

Spanish II

- Spanish I proficiency test passed

Oklahoma History

- Not available to 7th grade due to teacher scheduling and availability

8th Grade

Algebra 1

- Student must pass the Pre-Algebra [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Pre-Algebra

Geometry

- Student must pass the Algebra 1 [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, or
- Student has completed Algebra 1

Oklahoma History

- Student must successfully complete the first semester of 8th Grade U.S. History with an 80% or higher

Physical Science

- Student must successfully complete 7th grade science with an 80% or higher, AND be concurrently enrolled in Algebra I
 - NOTE: Unless students successfully pass the 8th grade science [Proficiency Exam](#) with a 90% or higher, they will be enrolled in 8th grade science AND Physical Science

Spanish I

- No prerequisites

Spanish II

- Spanish I prerequisite

Language Arts

Due to the nature of Language Arts Curriculum, teachers focus to provide enrichment and differentiation of instruction to meet the needs of advanced learners. Highly advanced students in Language Arts may consider taking a Middle School Language

Arts [Proficiency Exam](#). Please NOTE, students who successfully complete a Middle School Language Arts Exam with a 90% or higher will need to be *bused to the High School to continue their Language Arts coursework during middle school. It is important to consider that high school English classes explore content and themes that are age appropriate for high school students.*

Advanced Course Progression requiring placement at High School Campuses

Advancing students at a pace that requires placement at the high school level as a middle school student will bring a number of factors parents and students must consider. If it becomes necessary after taking advanced coursework at the middle school level to go to the high school, these are items to consider.

OPTION: Advancing at a rate that requires taking courses only offered on the high school campus.

CONSIDERATIONS:

- Transportation can be provided to the high school campus, however it will limit your child's opportunity for courses at the middle school, could conflict with their lunch or recess time, and may impact their core/elective classes.
- Middle School students will be placed in class with high school students. For example, Biology is a 10th grade class, thus students bused to the high school campus for Biology will be in class with 15-16 year old students.
- Preference must be given to high school students for enrollment in any high school campus course. For example, a course may fill to capacity with high school students.
- High School class size can be larger than Middle School classes.
- Students in high school courses will be engaging in content that is appropriate for the specific grade level of that course. The content of high school courses is developed with high school aged students in mind, not middle school aged students.

OPTION: Slowing down the course progression and skipping the next appropriate high school course.

CONSIDERATION:

- Taking a break between the normal progression of high school courses will create a gap in sequencing that could result in academic difficulty in future courses.

High School Courses offered at Middle School Campus

ALGEBRA I - 004041-42 (YEAR)

PREREQUISITE: Pre-Algebra

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 9

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: Elective or Additional Unit Credit when taken in Middle School

CONTENT: Students will reason, solve, interpret, graph, create and analyze linear, quadratic and exponential functions. In addition, students will solve and interpret solutions of linear inequalities, systems of equations and systems of inequalities.

Students will examine data through statistical analysis. This course is tightly aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Mathematics. An essential tool for students will be the graphing calculator. TI-84 Plus is recommended.

GEOMETRY - 004051-52 (YEAR)

PREREQUISITE: Algebra I

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 10-12

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: Elective or Additional Unit Credit when taken in Middle School

CONTENT: Students will reason, justify, prove, define, apply and explain theorems about points, lines, circles, polygons, right triangles, and three-dimensional shapes. In addition, students will connect algebra and geometry through the coordinate plane.

Students will solve multi-step contextual problems through applying geometric concepts in modeling situations. This course is tightly aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for mathematics. An essential tool for students will be the graphing calculator. TI-84 Plus is recommended.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE - 003001-02 (YEAR)

PREREQUISITE: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra I

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 9

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: Science

CONTENT: This lab based course involves the study of matter and energy. Topics of study include the structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions and nuclear processes, forces, motion, energy, energy transfer, waves and electromagnetic spectrum. Students will build an understanding of these topics by engaging in scientific practices including asking questions, planning and conducting investigations, gathering qualitative/quantitative observations, data analysis, modeling, and the use of mathematical and computational thinking to communicate their understanding of concepts.

OKLAHOMA HISTORY - 002195 (SEMESTER)

PREREQUISITE: None

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 9

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: Social Studies

CONTENT: Students explore the cultural, social, economic, and political development of Oklahoma from pre-historic periods through the creation of Indian Territory and the virtual admission of Oklahoma as the 46th state. Particular attention is given to the first and second removal periods, to the organization and settlement of Oklahoma Territory, and to the political and social crises of the 20th century. This class includes projects, cooperative learning, and research assignments.

SPANISH I - 009151-52 (YEAR)

PREREQUISITE: None

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: World Language

CONTENT: Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. Students are expected to actively participate in classroom activities to reinforce speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Assessments include individual and group projects, oral and written tests and quizzes and informal assessments throughout the year. By the end of the year, students will be able to talk and write about themselves and their immediate environments.

SPANISH II - 009161-62 (YEAR)

PREREQUISITE: Spanish I

TRADITIONAL GRADE LEVEL: 9-12

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT: World Language

CONTENT: This course is a continuation of skills developed in Spanish I, including an expansion of vocabulary and grammatical principles. Concepts learned in Spanish I are integrated into instruction, focusing on increased communicative proficiency. Reading, listening, writing and oral exercises of all types are practiced for the mastery of the material. Culture is emphasized throughout the course. By the end of the year students will be able to communicate about themselves and their environment in the present and past tense. Assessments include individual and group projects, presentations, oral and written tests and quizzes, and informal assessments throughout the year.