

# North Bethesda Middle School

Incoming 6th Grade  
Parent/Student Information Meeting

January 5, 2022

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



# Tonight's Outcomes:

- **To provide information about North Bethesda Middle School;**
- **To review the instructional program at North Bethesda Middle School;**
- **To share department specific information regarding course offerings and recommendations;**
- **To present information about the transition to middle school and what to expect in 6th grade; and**
- **To review the registration process.**



# Mission and Vision

- **Our school provides an environment where all students thrive emotionally, academically, and socially.**
- **We envision a learning environment where individual differences are valued and every student achieves personal growth and academic success. Strong positive relationships between staff and students are nurtured so that every student has room to take intellectual risks, think broadly, self-advocate, and support their community.**



# Welcome and Introductions:



**Dr. AnneMarie Kestner Smith**, Principal



**Mrs. Melvise Powell**, Assistant Principal



**Mrs. Katherine Rudd**, Assistant Principal



**Mr. Daniel Werbeck**, Acting Assistant School Administrator



# Welcome and Introductions: Counselors



**Jennifer Sadara**, Resource Counselor



**Lynn Jarosi**, 6th Grade Counselor



**Jackie McKibben**, 6th Grade Counselor



# Welcome and Introductions

## Content Specialists

**Mr. Eric Kling**, Social Studies

**Mrs. Amy Watkins**, Mathematics

**Mr. Matthew Ghaman**, English/ESOL

**Mrs. Katherine Connolly**, Acting Science/Technology

**Mr. Alex Tsironis**, Arts/PE/Health

**Mrs. Kristy Myers**, World Language

**Mrs. Leigh Mayfield**, Special Education



# North Bethesda Middle School

- 1160 Students
- Awarding winning Music programs
- Extra-Curricular Activity Programs
- Enrichment Academies
- Active PTSA

# North Bethesda Middle School

- NBMS-PTSA.org

<http://www.nbms-ptsa.org/Volunteer>

President: Craig Hillman

Email: [President@nbmsptsa.org](mailto:President@nbmsptsa.org)





# Middle School Team Structure

Jennifer Byrd, 6th Grade Team Leader





# Welcome to the North Bethesda Middle School Family!

In 6th grade, students will:

- Have 7 periods during the day
- Have SOARR time
- Use lockers
- Continue to advocate for their own learning
- Have a little more freedom AND responsibility
- Attend Outdoor Education
- After School Activities



## Regular Bell Schedule

**Period 1: 8:15 - 9:05 (50 min)**

**Period 2: 9:09 - 9:54 (45 min)**

**Period 3: 9:58 - 10:43 (45 min)**

# NBMS Bell Schedule

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
<b>LUNCH</b> 10:46 - 11:16 (30 min)	<b>Period 4</b> 10:47 - 11:32 (45 min)	<b>Period 4</b> 10:47 - 11:32 (45 min)
<b>Period 4</b> 11:20 - 12:05 (45 min)	<b>LUNCH</b> 11:35 - 12:05 (30 min)	<b>Period 5</b> 11:36 - 12:21 (45 min)
<b>Period 5</b> 12:09 - 12:54 (45 min)	<b>Period 5</b> 12:09 - 12:54 (45 min)	<b>LUNCH</b> 12:24 - 12:54 (30 min)








**Period 6: 12:58 - 1:43 (45 min)**

**Period 7: 1:47 - 2:32 (45 min)**

**SOARR: 2:37 - 3:00 (23 min)**

# Sample Student Schedule

## BASE SCHEDULE- 8TH

<b>01: ENG1014 Grade 8 Adv English - ENG1014-00011</b> <i>8:15 AM-9:05 AM</i>	Steffens, Allison  Room: <b>D104</b>
<b>02: ART1016 Innov Art &amp; Design 3 - ART1016-00001</b> <i>9:09 AM-9:54 AM</i>	Zhang, Sandy  Room: <b>C208</b>
<b>03: MAT2004A Hon Geometry A - MAT2004A-0006</b> <i>9:58 AM-10:43 AM</i>	Roberts, David  Room: <b>C105</b>
<b>04: SOC1020 Historical Inquiry American Studies - SOC1020-00003</b> <i>10:46 AM-11:32 AM</i>	Kling, Eric J.  Room: <b>D112</b>
<b>05: HPE1005 Physical Education Gr 8 - HPE1005-00032</b> <i>11:36 AM-12:21 PM</i>	Smiddy, Stephen  Room: <b>GYM</b>
<b>06: WLG2132A Spanish 2A - WLG2132A80-05</b> <i>12:58 PM-1:43 PM</i>	Puleo, Nicole M.  Room: <b>B107</b>
<b>07: SCI1004 Invstig In Science 8 - SCI1004-00012</b> <i>1:47 PM-2:32 PM</i>	Montello, Christina N.  Room: <b>D100</b>

# Outdoor Education

**Outdoor Ed is a one day extended outdoor learning experience filled with fun, adventure, nature, & friends for 6th graders in Montgomery County.**



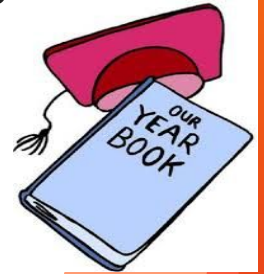
# Sixth Grade Communication

- Student Handbook
- NBMS Website
- Parent Weekly Grade Level Updates
- Dr. Smith's NBMS News and Notes and Sunday Message
- Parent and Student communication through Synergy



# Sample Extracurricular Activities

- Student Government Association
- Homework Help
- Environment Club
- Yearbook
- Drama-Musical
- Math Team
- Science Olympiad (Grade 7 & 8)
- Minority Scholars
- Dungeons & Dragons
- SAFE Club
- Knitting
- Intramurals
  - Indoor Soccer
  - Weight Training
  - Running Club



# What to Expect as a Parent of a Middle Schooler

- Major changes in your child (physically, socially and emotionally)
- A learning curve in getting to know 7+ teachers
- ORGANIZATION to play a big role in success
  - (Encourage use of AGENDA BOOK right away!!!!)
- General answers from your child unless you ask “specific questions”
- Work load will increase





# Course Offerings for 6th Grade Students



- Advanced English 6 or ESOL
- Grade 6 Math, Accelerated Math 6 Plus or Applied Investigations into Mathematics (Accelerated Math 7 Plus)
- Historical Inquiry into World Studies 6
- Investigations in Science 6
- Physical Education/Health 6
- Elective Courses
- The North Bethesda MS Course Registration Site is available on the school website.





# 6th Grade Electives

## Unified Arts 6 Rotation

The rotation includes 1 quarter of each of the following courses:

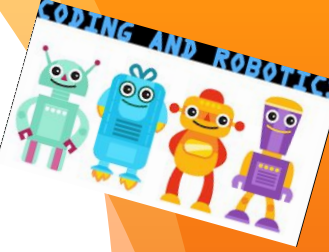


### Art 6

Coding and Robotic Design

Greek Mythology and/or Music

Imagineering Technology



# 6th Grade



# Full Year Elective Options:

**MS Band I**

**Orchestra I**

**MS Chorus I**

**FY Spanish 1A or French 1A**

**Digital Literacy/Creative Writing**



# Social Studies





# Middle School Social Studies

**6th Grade - Ancient Civilizations to year 1000 CE**

**-Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, China**

**7th Grade - Middle Ages Civilizations around the world  
(1000-1500 CE)**

**8th Grade - US History Part A - (Colonial Period to 1890)**



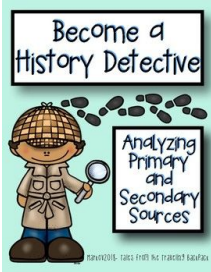


# Historical Inquiry in World Studies 6:

## *WHAT will my student learn?*

- Students learn history from the earliest human settlements to 1000 CE  
Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China
- Lays a foundation for students to understand key principles both in the past and today for:
  - CULTURE
  - POLITICAL SYSTEMS / GOVERNMENT
  - ECONOMICS
  - GEOGRAPHY





# Historical Thinking skills:

## *HOW will they learn?*

- **Students analyze archeological evidence, primary and secondary sources, and understand history as an ongoing investigation using Historical Thinking Skills:**
  - **SOURCING**
  - **CLOSE READING**
  - **CORROBORATION**
  - **RESEARCH**



# Historical Inquiry in World Studies 6

<p><b>Unit 6.1</b> Patterns of Settlement</p>	<p><b>How do complex societies develop over time?</b></p> <p>From hunter-gatherers, established farming communities to the rise of towns and cities, each society throughout time has exhibited different levels of complexity in its political, social, and economic systems. Each society has strived to meet the wants and needs of its citizens and their successes and failures have become the building blocks for future societies to learn from to create more complex and sustaining civilizations such as in Mesopotamia and Egypt.</p>
<p><b>Unit 6.2</b> The Impact of Economics</p>	<p><b>How do economic growth and decline impact society?</b></p> <p>Building on the idea that societies are complex due to various factors students explore which factors make a civilization categorized as an empire. From there, students explore the first dynasties of China to modern-day China examining the relationship between the economic and political system and the impact the growth and decline of the economic system have on the structure and effectiveness of China's political system.</p>
<p><b>Unit 6.3</b> Citizenship and Governance</p>	<p><b>How does a government meet the common good of its citizens?</b></p> <p>A political system, such as a democracy strives to meet the common good of its citizens through shared accountability. Political systems influence how people in power make decisions that then impact the social and economic system of civilization, including how they operate and who benefits from the choices. This examines Ancient Greece and Rome.</p>
<p><b>Unit 6.4</b> Cultural Systems</p>	<p><b>How does culture influence the development of a civilization?</b></p> <p>Culture is made up of beliefs, values, religion, and traditions. Individuals and groups in societies use their cultural identity to influence structures and processes in their political, economic, and social systems. Culture is ever-changing due to the interactions between groups of people from different societies. It is through these interactions facilitated many times both past and present by trade that people either accepted or resisted changes in their beliefs, ideas, or traditions.</p>



# Mathematics



# Guidelines for MS Math Articulation

- **Students enrolled in Math 5 will be recommended for Math 6 or Accelerated Math 6 Plus**
- **Students enrolled in Compacted Math  $\frac{5}{6}$  will be recommended for Accelerated Math 6 Plus or AIM (Accelerated Math 7 Plus)**



# MATHEMATICS COURSES / TRAJECTORY

Current Course	2022-2023 (6th Grade)	2023-2024 (7th Grade)	2024-2025 (8th Grade)	2025-2026 (9th Grade)
Grade 5 Math	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Algebra 1
Grade 5 Math Compacted 5/6	Accelerated Math 6 Plus  (All 6th & Half 7th)	Accelerated Math 7 Plus  (Half 7th & All 8th)	Algebra 1	Honors Geometry
Compacted 5/6	AIM 6 (Accelerated Math 7 Plus covers Half 7th & All 8th)	Algebra 1	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra 2

Note: Students in Compacted  $\frac{5}{6}$  who are struggling (C's or lower) and have a MAP-M score lower than 218 should consider taking Math 6.



# Math 180 Intervention

This intervention is for students performing at least two years below grade level or below the 10th percentile on MAP-M.

Use multiple measures:

- \*Grades

- \*Progress Checks

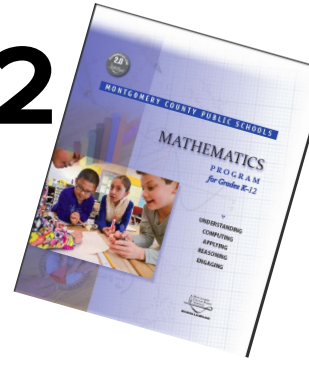
- \*Fall MAP-M Score of 193 or lower (5th grade) and/or  
Fall MAP-M Score of 184 or lower (4th grade)

Course is for General Education and Special Education students.

- \*If student has formal assessments for special education services, you can also consider data from those tests. Such as the WJ-IV.



# Mathematics Program for K-12

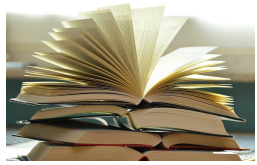


- For more information, please visit:
  - <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math>



# English and Language Arts





# English

**NBMS English courses are instructed at the advanced level with student tailored scaffolds unique to each child's literacy profile.**

## **Studysync:**

- An ELA curriculum designed to meet the rigorous academic needs of today's classroom.
- StudySync is designed to engage every student, because every student deserves the same opportunity and access in the classroom, regardless of his or her native language, learning level or physical, social and emotional ability.



A McGraw-Hill Education Partnership



# Advanced English with StudySync

- StudySync features an integrated reading and writing platform that balances extended writing projects, novel studies, and paired text analysis.
- StudySync offers a variety of interactive elements including unit trailers, student polling, intuitive annotation software, and text supported “academic tweets” known as StudySync BLASTS!



The screenshot shows the StudySync interface for a unit titled "Testing Our Limits". The unit is for Core ELA, Grade 6, and lasts for 30 days. It includes an "Add to bookshelf" button. The instructional path lists several activities: SyncStart: Eleven, The Big Idea, The Mighty Miss Malone, Red Scarf Girl (with a blue checkmark), Hatchet (with a blue checkmark), and The Magic Marker Mystery. A sidebar on the left contains links for Unit Overview, Integrated Reading and Writing, Extended Writing Project and Grammar, ELL Resources, Novel Study, and End-of-Unit Assessment.

This block shows two parts of the StudySync interface. The top part is the "Create Your Blast" form, which asks "How do contemporary issues and culture shape your worldview?" and has a text input field with "140 characters left". The bottom part is the "Answer the StudySync QuikPoll" section, which asks "Which kind of news do you find yourself reading and responding to the most?" and lists several categories with checkboxes: World affairs, Sports, Arts and culture, Science and technology, and Something else. A "Submit" button is at the bottom.

This block shows the "StudySync Blast Info" page. It has a "Background" section with a "Welcome to StudySync!" message and a paragraph explaining that the platform is used by over 55 million K-12 students. It also includes a paragraph about the educational value of the platform, mentioning that it helps students reflect on current events and use social media for discussion. There are "Annotations" and "Comments" buttons at the top right.





# English for Emerging Multilinguals

## **Advanced English 6: ALL Grade 5 Students**

All rising sixth graders will take Advanced English 6

- ❖ Four units of comprehensive study
- ❖ Quarterly novel study
- ❖ Quarterly extended writing projects (narrative, literary analysis, argumentative, expository)
- ❖ Oral presentation and research projects
- ❖ Primary instruction through StudySync

### **Considerations for ESOL students:**

- ELP 1 and 2 students will take English 6 for ELLs 1 & 2 Double Period
- ELP 3 students will take English 6 for ELLs 3 Single Period
- ELP 4 students will take Advanced English 6 with a dual, English and ESOL certified teacher

**English Language Proficiency (ELP) level four students will be receiving their primary language service hours within the mainstream English course by a dual certified English and ESOL teacher.**

This is a shift from years prior as language acquisition experts acknowledge the need for multilinguals to immerse themselves in **both advanced conversational and scholastic language opportunities** before fluency can be mastered.



# Reading Classes

Taken in addition to Advanced English

## Academic Literacy

A semester long, single period, reading intervention designed for below grade level students or on-grade level students with specific literacy strand gaps.

- ❖ Primary instruction through Inspire Literacy (iLit) software
- ❖ Weekly non-tech reading center work
- ❖ MAP-R strand specific reading interventions
- ❖ Medium size student to teacher ratios
- ❖ **NEW** Planning is underway to provide a film, photography, and literacy exit course for semester 2.

## Read 180 Double Period:

A year long, intensive reading program.

- ❖ Instruction provided through the Read 180 program
- ❖ Daily reading centers rotating through:
  - Guided Reading
  - Small group comprehension study
  - Spelling / Grammar study
  - Fluency and Decoding practice
  - DEAR Lexile Libraries

## Reading Elective: Digital Literacy & Creative Writing

Not a reading intervention, but an opportunity for extended practice with:

- ❖ Online research
- ❖ Creative writing,
- ❖ Online literacy
- ❖ Project based learning
- ❖ Oral presentations
- ❖ **NEW** Career Exploration, Strengths Discovery, and Project Based Learning by Thrively.com

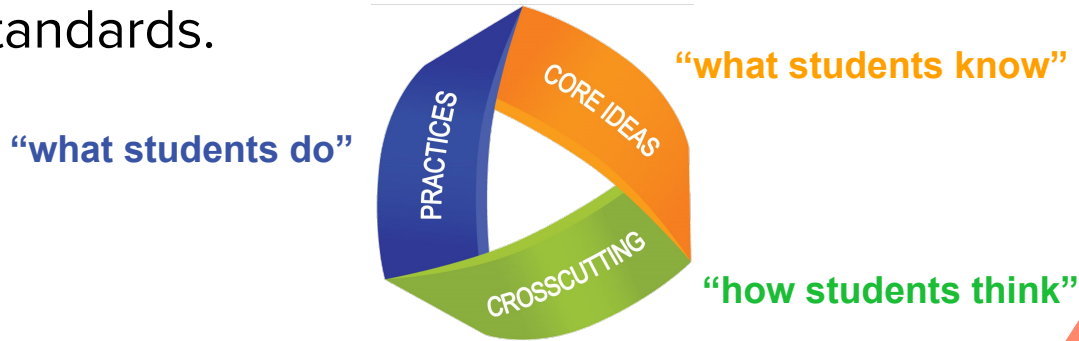


# Science



# MCPS Middle School Science

- MCPS Middle School Science engages all students through phenomenon-based, 3-Dimensional learning and provides opportunities for students to connect their learning to real world problems.
- Our instructional goal is to prepare students for lifelong learning by developing skills necessary for success in college and career as outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards.



# Science 6

## Investigations in Earth Science

- **Unit 1: Watershed Science**
- **Unit 2: Atmospheric Phenomena**
- **Unit 3: Dynamic Earth**
- **Unit 4: Earth's Geologic Past**
- **Unit 5: Earth's Energy Resources and Human Impacts**



# Science 6

- The NGSS aligned Investigations in Earth Science course provides opportunities for students to engage in science and engineering practices and apply crosscutting concepts to deepen their understanding of core ideas across science disciplines. The curriculum is phenomena-based; instruction is woven around a relevant problem/project that drives student learning.
- Students apply their understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) to propose solutions to problems.
- Instruction provides opportunities for hands-on explorations, productive discourse, and purposeful reading and writing.
- The course starts with a foundational approach to science instruction to develop student skills in the metric system, scientific method, and science and engineering practices, taught through the lens of stream ecology. Additional units include weather and climate, earth's materials and processes, natural resources, and geologic history.
- Students are awarded 10 SSL hours for participating in activities built into the course.



# Science 6

Grade Level	Course 2022-23	Course 2023-24	Course 2024-25
6	<b>Investigations in Earth Science</b>	Investigations in Earth Science	Investigations in Earth Science
7	Investigations in Science 7	<b>Investigations in Life Science</b>	Investigations in Life Science
8	Investigations in Science 8	Investigations in Science 8	<b>Investigations in Physical Science</b>



# Physical Education Health





# Health & Physical Education



## Physical Education

- Everyday for 3 quarters
- Change into athletic clothes (optional), but appropriate shoes required
- PE locker, separate from hall locker

## Health Education

- Everyday for 1 quarter



# Physical Education

- The goal of physical education is to help students become responsible citizens who are both physically educated and health literate.
- We expose students to a variety of physical activities in hopes that they will fall in love with fitness and become lifelong movers.



# Health

- Comprehensive health education is taught for a term of 9-weeks during Grade 6.
- Knowledge, concepts, skills, and strategies essential to making healthful decisions are presented promoting lifelong health and well-being.
- Certified Health Education teachers implement a variety of learning activities to promote and practice wellness skills and health literacy. The development of lifelong positive health-related attitudes and behaviors are emphasized to promote self-reliance and self-regulation.



# Health

## Key Concepts

- **Mental and emotional health** - personal well-being; analyzing influences; accessing information; interpersonal communication; decision making; goal setting; managing emotions; stress-management; advocacy.
- **Alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs** - benefits of a drug-free lifestyle.
- **Personal and consumer health** - personal hygiene; health care products.
- **Safety and injury prevention** - media, technology, and harassment; cyber-bullying and bullying; personal safety; first aid and emergency response.



# World Language



# World Language for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Full Year 1A French or Spanish



- In World Language courses, students will begin to learn to communicate orally and in writing in a culturally appropriate manner about topics related to daily life. They interpret basic information when listening and reading. Vocabulary and basic grammatical structures are taught within the context of these familiar topics. Culture is also embedded throughout the course.



# World Language for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Full Year 1A French or Spanish

- 1st half of French/Spanish 1
- The class is taught at a slower pace.
- There are four units of study throughout the school year.
- FY1A course will give students the opportunity to build a strong foundation in the language, by having more time to practice vocabulary and grammatical concepts.
- French/Spanish 1B in 7th grade
- French/Spanish 2AB in 8th grade



**PLEASE NOTE THAT WORLD LANGUAGE CLASSES ARE HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COURSES AND YOU WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO HAVE YOUR GRADE REFLECTED ON YOUR CHILD'S HIGH SCHOOL GPA AND TRANSCRIPTS**



# Special Education





# Special Education

- **Transition to Middle School**
- **Special Education Programs**
  - **Hours-based**
  - **GTLD**
  - **Speech and other related services**



# Special Education

- **Role of the RTSE**
  - **Department chair**
- **Role of the Case Manager**
  - **Classroom support**
  - **Day-to-day needs and monitoring**
  - **Main point of contact**



# Band

- Full Band Class Daily
- Additional Instrument Choices: French Horn, Percussion, Tuba, Baritone, Oboe, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Bass Clarinet
- Participation in 6<sup>th</sup> grade MCPS Honors Groups
- No prior Band experience is required.



# Orchestra

- Full Orchestra Class Daily
- Electric Bass, Guitar, and Piano students are encouraged to learn a string instrument
- Additional Instrument Choices: Viola and Bass
- Participation in 6<sup>th</sup> grade MCPS Honors Groups
- No prior Orchestra experience is required



# Chorus

- Year long course that meets daily
- Focus on Choral Techniques
- Sight-singing and Music Theory
- Concert Performances at exciting venues
- Social/Emotional Education – Anyone can sing!
- We're #1!





6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders performing the National Anthem for the Washington Wizards at Verizon Center

**NBMS A Cappella collaborates with world famous Kings' Singers!**





# Winners of the MIX 107.3 Holiday Song Contest Earned \$2,500 for NBMS!





# Student Service Learning (SSL)

- **Maryland High School Graduation Requirement = 75 hours**
- **Service learning recognizes needs in the community and connects them to curriculum goals.**
- **Students work through direct, indirect and advocacy action including the phases of preparation, action and reflection.**
- **Students are eligible to earn hours once they have finished 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**
- **All service learning must be pre-approved by MCPS.**



# Registration Process



**2021 - 2022**



# Recommendation and Registration Process

- **Elementary school staff made math and reading recommendations.**

*\*Students who are recommended for an intervention class will be notified by email*

- **Review North Bethesda MS Course Registration Site**
- **Elementary School course registration will be completed virtually during the week of January 10th - January 14th.**



# Please review:



8935 Bradmoor Drive | Bethesda, MD 20817  
240-740-2100

## REGISTRATION WORKSHEET Incoming Grade 6

2021-2022

Parent Full Name:			TEACHER RECOMMENDATION
Parent Cell Number:			
Parent Email Address:			
Street Address:			
City:	Zip:	Home Phone:	
Parent Signature:			

**REQUIRED COURSES** \*Students are pre-registered for the courses below. No action is necessary at this time.

ENGLISH/ESOL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 6 Adv English (ENG1010)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English for English Learners I (ESL1014)</li> <li>English for English Learners II (ESL1017)</li> <li>English for English Learners III (ESL1020)</li> </ul>
MATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 6 Math (MAT1005)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applied Investigations into Mathematics 6 (MAT1003) *By Teacher Recommendation Only</li> </ul>
SOCIAL STUDIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical Inquiry in World Studies 6 (SOC1001)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Historical Inquiry in Global Humanities 6 (SOC1009) *By Teacher Recommendation Only</li> </ul>
SCIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigations in Science 6 (SCI1002)</li> </ul>	
PE AND HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE Grade 6 (HPE1003)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Education Grade 6 (HPE1000)</li> </ul>

**ELECTIVE COURSES**

GRADE 6 STUDENTS SHOULD RANK THEIR ELECTIVE CHOICES BY SUBMITTING THE [6TH GRADE ELECTIVE PREFERENCE FORM](#)

ARTS	MUSIC	LANGUAGE
_____ Unified Arts Rotation (ART1070) <i>(This includes 1 quarter of each of the following: MS Studio Art I, Greek Mythology and/or Music, Coding and Robotic Design, and Imagineering Technology)</i>	_____ MS Band 1 (ART1033)  _____ Orchestra 1 MS (ART1045)	_____ MS FY French 1A (WLG1003)  _____ MS FY Spanish 1A (WLG1005)
_____ Digital Literacy and Creative Writing (ENG1030)	_____ Chorus MS 1 (ART1040)	

We cannot guarantee that students will be enrolled in the elective of their first choice. Electives will be offered based on staffing.

North Bethesda Middle School Counseling Office: 240-740-2110

**PLEASE COMPLETE REGISTRATION IN SYNERGY BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021**

# Next Steps . . .

- Access the **North Bethesda MS Course Registration Site**.
- **NMBS Counselors will conduct virtual registration during the week of January 10th - January 14th.**
- **For information regarding registration timeline, please contact your elementary teacher.**





**Follow us on Twitter:**

**@NBMSPrincipal**

**@NBMSCounseling**

**[NBMS WEBSITE](#)**



