

A Passion for Excellence



HORACE MANN
Middle School
Neenah Joint School District

6th Grade

Course Descriptions & Registration Form

2017-2018

If you have questions, please contact:

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Required Core Course Descriptions

*Students will automatically be registered for these classes.

*English/Language Arts

During the 70 minute sixth grade English/Language Arts course, students will learn effective reading strategies and the writing process in order to analyze and evaluate text and in turn produce writing which reflects their understanding of the various writing genres. Students begin with reading short narrative text and write personal narratives while learning strategies to generate meaningful story ideas, manage, pace, elaborate on important scenes, and deepen insights. Next, based on the reading of short stories students will write a short story of their own. The third genre of exploration will be research. Students will read about famous individuals and follow with writing a research-based informational piece on a famous individual. Finally, students will read informational argument/position related text and follow with a literary essay supporting a personal position of their own about a social issue.

*Math 6

In Grade 6, instructional time focuses on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.

*Science

The essential learning standards of the sixth grade Science program explore the following areas of study: the nature of science, scientific process skills (measurement and observation), the scientific method (Problem; Hypothesis, Experiment, Observation, Conclusion), genetics, general chemistry, and the physics of motion. In addition, state standards for literacy in science pervade all aspects of the curriculum.

*Social Studies

In sixth grade Social Studies, students begin the year reviewing basic map, globe, and related social studies skills. They then learn about the key aspects of several important civilizations using the acronym GRAPES (geography, religion, achievements, politics, economics, and society). The first civilizations students examine are the four early river civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, China, and India. This leads into a unit covering the development of Greece and Rome, followed by the Middle Ages and world religions. The year concludes with students applying their understanding of GRAPES to a modern-day country. A variety of reading and writing strategies, along with technology, are incorporated in each unit throughout the year.

Additional Requirements need to be met to register for these Math classes

Math 7

*Sixth grade students who qualify by passing a written math exam and who have a teacher recommendation can take this course. **Registration is by School Counselor.*** In Math 7, instructional time focuses on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Introduction to Algebra

*Sixth grade students who qualify by passing a written math exam and who have a teacher recommendation can take this course. **Registration is by School Counselor.*** In Introduction to Algebra, instructional time focuses on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. This course is taught at Shattuck.

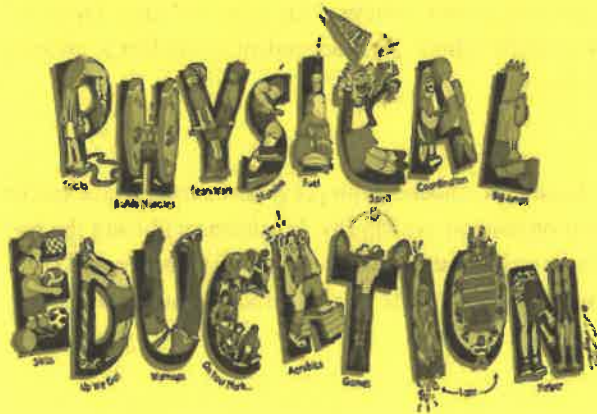
Required Encore Course Descriptions

**Students are automatically scheduled for these classes.*



***Art** (*One semester, every other day*)

Art in the sixth grade will help students make a transition to middle school art. It is designed to encourage self-discovery and artistic expression through problem solving. Students will explore the basics of drawing (perspective), painting (color impact on image), ceramics, fibers (weaving), sculpture and layout design, incorporating computer compositions.



***Physical Education** (*All year, every other day*)

Physical education is a sequential educational program that teaches students how to: understand and participate in physical activities that can help them develop positive attitudes toward maintaining a healthy lifestyle; practice the lifetime skills of cooperation and successful interaction with other students; and understand and improve their health-related fitness and motor skills. Students will be using pedometers, heart rate monitors, and fitness assessment tools gain a general knowledge of how and why they need to monitor daily activity. From the knowledge they gain, students will create a personal fitness profile.

**All students are required to purchase a heart rate monitor strap at a cost of \$16.00 and will be used until graduation. The straps are sold during registration.*

Students need to pick TWO World Languages

World Language (*One semester per language, every other day*)

World Language is designed to introduce students to the beginning stages of learning a foreign language - Spanish, French or Mandarin Chinese. Each class has an emphasis on spoken communication. Through the course objectives, students will communicate in the target language, gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures, connect with other disciplines and develop insight into the nature of language and culture. **Please note, once students enter Shattuck they will need to choose one language to study for the next two years (7th and 8th grade).**



Elective Music Course Descriptions

**Students need to pick one Music Class*

General Music *(One semester, every other day)*

This non-performing music class meets every other day for one semester of the school year. It is designed to be a music appreciation course that teaches students about the “ingredients” of music such as melody, harmony, notation, texture, style, rhythm and form. Students will explore the basics of music as well as sing, perform on classroom instruments, and listen to various examples of music from around the world, including musical theatre.

Choir *(All year, every other day)*

Choir is a class for students who enjoy singing! Choir members will learn basic singing skills and develop cooperative group skills. Students will learn to sing music that represents many different styles and cultures. This class will meet for choir rehearsals every other day. Small group lessons will meet once every eight school days, dependent on student availability. The rehearsals will culminate in several performances throughout the year.

Band *(All year, every other day)*

This course will consist of full band rehearsals and a small group lesson for students with previous instrumental experience. Lessons are held every eight days, during the school day, dependent on student availability. Musicians will learn the basic performance skills and develop cooperative group skills. The classes must be supported by individual practice and will culminate in several public performances. There is not a beginning percussion course in sixth grade because percussion students have already been screened and selected in fifth grade.

String Orchestra *(All year, every other day)*

This class will consist of every other day string orchestra rehearsals. Small group lessons meet once every eight days dependent upon student availability. Musicians will further develop ensemble playing skills and string technique through performance. The classes must be supported by individual practice and will culminate in public performances.



HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

STUDENT NAME: _____
Last First Middle Initial

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Circle one):

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|--------|----------|
| Alliance | Clayton | Coolidge | Hoover | Lakeview |
| Roosevelt | Spring Road | Taft | Tullar | Wilson |
- Other: _____

All students are **automatically scheduled** into the following Core and Encore classes:

- X **English/Language Arts**
- X **Math 6**
(Math 7 and Introduction to Algebra will be entered by the school counselor, if a student qualifies)
- X **Science**
- X **Social Studies**
- X **Art** (every other day; one semester)
- X **Physical Education** (every other day; all year)

All students **rank order preference for two World Languages:** (every other day, one semester/language)

_____ Spanish _____ French _____ Mandarin Chinese

Please write 1, 2, or 3 in front of each language. Every effort will be made to honor 1st and 2nd preference, but cannot be guaranteed.

All Students Choose One MUSIC CLASS:

A Second music class may be added ONLY IF a student is at or above grade level in reading and math.

- *If a second music class is chosen, please indicate 1st and 2nd choice*
- *If two music classes are selected, the student will not have a resource period (study hall).*

_____ **General Music** (every other day; one semester)

_____ **Choir** (every other day; ALL year)

_____ **Band** (every other day; ALL year) Check the instrument you play:

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alto Saxophone | <input type="checkbox"/> Baritone | <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinet | <input type="checkbox"/> Flute |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horn | <input type="checkbox"/> Oboe | <input type="checkbox"/> Percussion | <input type="checkbox"/> Tenor Saxophone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trombone | <input type="checkbox"/> Trumpet | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuba | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to start |

_____ **Orchestra** (every other day; ALL year) Check the instrument you play:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cello | <input type="checkbox"/> String Bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Viola | <input type="checkbox"/> Violin | <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to start |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

It is understood that your selections will be considered final.

Moving On Up!



WHO: ALL New Sixth Grade Students

WHAT: An introduction to the daily routines of a sixth grader at Horace Mann

WHERE: Horace Mann Middle School

WHEN: Monday and Tuesday, August 21 - 22, 2017
Choose one time block & attend both days; no parents!

8:00am - 9:30am

10:00am - 11:30am

2:00pm - 3:30pm

WHY: It's a workshop to check out Horace Mann Middle School, a great way to meet new friends, and it's FUN! You'll practice your locker combination, participate in team building activities, find your classrooms, meet some of your teachers and get to experience Horace Mann Middle School.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Student's Name: _____

Elementary School: _____

Please rank your preferred **times** – first choice (1) to third choice (3):

Monday, August 21 AND Tuesday, August 22, 2017

_____ 8:00am - 9:30am

_____ 10:00am - 11:30am

_____ 2:00pm - 3:30pm
