

Middle School Curriculum Handbook 2022-2023



Millard Public Schools

Millard Board of Education

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Millard Public Schools Mission

The mission of the Millard Public Schools is to guarantee each student demonstrates the character, knowledge, and skills necessary for personal excellence and responsible citizenship through an innovative, world-class educational community that engages and challenges all students.



NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Millard School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or on any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local laws in admission to or access to or treatment of employment, in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the discrimination and harassment policies: Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, 5606 South 147 Street, Omaha, NE 68137 (402) 715-8200. The Associate Superintendent of Human Resources may delegate this responsibility as needed. Complaints by school personnel or job applicants regarding unlawful discrimination or unlawful harassment shall follow the procedures of District Rule 4001.2. School personnel or job applicant complaints regarding sexual harassment shall follow the procedures of District Rule 5010.2. Student or parent complaints regarding sexual harassment shall follow the procedures of District Rule 5010.3.

It is the intent of District and Middle School administrators to offer all courses and programs as noted within the 2022-2023 Middle School Curriculum Handbook. However, courses and/or program offerings may be canceled due to budget constraints and/or low enrollment numbers.









Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

Welcome to middle school! This is an exciting time for both students and parents! As principals of the middle schools within Millard Public Schools, we take great pride in our middle level program. Our middle schools not only provide high academic expectations, but also support the social, emotional, and physical needs of the 11-14 year old student. Middle school students in Millard will have many opportunities to expand upon the academic foundations built during the elementary years. Our schools are safe and caring places where students can learn academic and college and career readiness skills, practice Millard Public Schools character traits and participate in a variety of activities.

The Middle School Curriculum Handbook contains a summary of the Millard Public Schools Middle Level Philosophy, course offerings and descriptions, specialized programs, and additional resource information for our students and parents. We hope this information will help families feel more informed and comfortable so that together we can help our students succeed. The effort and dedication students apply to their studies during middle school will affect their educational performance at high school and beyond.

Parent and guardian support and interest are critical factors for successful student learning. We value and encourage parent involvement and participation. Our schools are committed to keeping parents and guardians informed through various forms of communication such as school websites, newsletters, social media, ParentVUE / StudentVUE / Synergy access, phone calls, emails, and more. Please feel free to contact our school staff if you have questions.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve your family during this exciting time in the life of your adolescent. As a nationally recognized school district, we are committed to doing whatever it takes to ensure student success and promote a strong sense of community.

We wish you the best and great success as we work together during the 2022-2023 school year!

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Considerations for Course Enrollment

<u>Millard Public Schools Middle Level Philosophy</u>: The purpose of the Millard Middle Schools is to meet the intellectual, social, ethical, emotional, and physical needs of 11-14 year old students through programs and instructional practices that are academically and developmentally appropriate and include essential elements of instruction, management, and curriculum.

- > The essential elements of middle level instruction, management, and curriculum are:
 - High academic expectations
 - Interdisciplinary teams
 - Exploratory offerings
 - Inclusionary practices
- Operational parameters for the middle schools include:
 - Common planning
 - Schedule conducive to multiple options for students
 - Developmentally appropriate co-curricular program

- Student advisement
- Developmentally appropriate instructional practices
- Climate conducive to learning
- Team leadership and team structure
- Effective transition in, through, and out of middle grades
- Partnership of students, home, staff, and community

<u>The Middle School Schedule</u>: Students attend seven classes daily from 7:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Classes begin at 8:30 a.m. on Mondays to allow for teacher collaboration. The transportation schedule will be the same Monday through Friday for students riding the bus. The school year is divided into sixweek periods referred to as hexters.

Required Courses: What do I enroll in?

- Four Core Subjects: Every student takes a "core" curriculum of four year-long classes in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Mathematics placement is determined by the triangulation of three data points, teacher recommendation, and past progress in the mathematics classroom.
- **Physical Education:** Students take a year-long Physical Education course that meets every other day. On opposite days, a student may choose either a Spanish or Reading course.
- Academic Seminar: Seventh grade students take this hexter-long course to develop plans for high school, college, and career readiness.
- ➤ **Health:** In 6th grade, 7th grade, and 8th grade, students will take one hexter of Health.
- ➤ **Guided Study Period (GSP):** Students will have a yearlong GSP supported by their team teachers. (Band, Chorus or Orchestra will be scheduled during GSP or elective periods depending on building schedules.)
- Academic Support Classes: Teachers, parents, and students may decide that students would benefit from academic support or enrichment beyond the required courses.
 - Students with Special Education Individual Education Programs (IEP) may participate in a resource class as specified in the student's IEP.
 - Other students who need additional academic or organizational support may be directed to take a Success Strategies course.
 - o Students learning English may take English Language Development (EL) classes.

Considerations for Course Enrollment

Elective Courses: After required courses are scheduled, students will select elective courses as well as elective course alternates to be used if first-choice courses conflict or are unavailable. In 6th grade, students will take five elective courses. In 7th grade, students will take four elective courses. In 8th grade, students will take five elective courses.

<u>High Ability Learners (HAL)</u>: The HAL Program is designed to both challenge and provide opportunities for identified middle level students. It is a collaborative program involving all middle level teachers including a middle level HAL facilitator. Opportunities may include differentiated classroom instruction, seminars, and workshops. In addition, HAL identified students may enroll in a HAL elective course. Please refer to the Millard Public Schools website https://www.mpsomaha.org/departments/curriculum/high-ability-learners to find more information.

<u>English Language Development (EL) Program</u>: The purpose of the English Language Development Program is to provide English language instruction to limited and non-English speaking students who enter our community and require these services. The goal of the program is to help students demonstrate proficiency in English so that they can be full participants in the general education program. **EL students attend Andersen Middle School** or **Central Middle School**.

<u>Programs of Choice</u>: Millard Public Schools supports the philosophy of alternative programs and parent choice. These programs may use a specific curriculum, classroom management and structure system, and instructional practices that are significantly different from the PK-12 Education Program. Parent choice programs embrace the District and Nebraska standards and assessments.

- > Bridge to Early College at Central Middle School
- ➤ International Baccalaureate® Middle Years Program (IB-MYP) at North Middle School
- > Montessori Program at Russell Middle School

<u>Grading Guidelines</u>: The Millard Public Schools Grading Guidelines for second through twelfth grade shall be used to report achievement, academic progress, and compute Grade Point Averages (GPA) where applicable.

Number	Letter Grade	% Grade Range	Standard Grade
Grade			Points
1 =	A =	100-93 =	20 Grade points or
2 =	B =	92-85 =	15 Grade points or
3 =	C =	84-77 =	10 Grade points or
4 =	D =	76-69 =	5 Grade points or
5 =	F =	68-0 =	0 Grade points
P =	P =	Pass =	0 Grade points
F =	F =	Fail =	0 Grade points

A student's Grade Point Average (GPA) shall be calculated by dividing the total Grade Points achieved by the total course credits attempted.

Considerations for Course Enrollment

	Millard Public Schools Secondary Mathematics Articulation Placement is based on testing, classroom performance, and teacher recommendation.						
6 th Grade							
Integrated Math I	Integrated Math II	Integrated Math III	Algebra I	Geometry OR Honors Geometry	Algebra II OR Honors Algebra II	Precalculus OR Honors Precalculus OR College Algebra OR AP Statistics	
Integrated Math II	Integrated Math III	Algebra I	Geometry OR Honors Geometry	Algebra II OR Honors Algebra II	Precalculus OR Honors Precalculus OR College Algebra OR AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB OR AP Calculus BC OR AP Statistics OR Precalculus OR Honors Precalculus OR College Algebra	
Integrated Math III	Algebra I	Honors Geometry	Algebra II OR Honors Algebra II	AP Statistics OR Precalculus OR Honors Precalculus	Precalculus OR Honors Precalculus OR AP Calculus AB OR AP Calculus BC OR AP Statistics	AP Statistics OR AP Calculus BC OR AP Calculus AB OR Calculus II & Advanced Topics OR Calculus III/ Differential Equations	

Middle School Course Offerings

Grade 6

Required Courses

English: 0600 English Language Arts 6 or 0897 Honors English 6 (CMS only)

Math: 2600 Integrated Math I, 27006 Integrated Math II, or 28006 Integrated Math III

3600 Science 6

4600 Ancient Civilizations 6 8600 Physical Education 6

8610 Health 6

Electives

7650 Art 6

7600 Band 6

5610 Child Care, Food & Nutrition 6

7630 Chorus 6

2663 CS6 - Charting Your Course with

Computers

2656 Creative Writing 6

7610 General Music 6

9061 HAL Challenge 6

5622 Integrated Learning Lab 6

4602 Law and Public Service 6

BE01 Leadership in Bridge to Early College 6 (CMS only)

7620 Orchestra 6

6600 Skilled and Technical Sciences 6

1618 Spanish A

1620 Spanish I-A

3621 STEM 6

2652 Young Adult Literature 6

Grade 7

Required Courses

English: 0700 English Language Arts 7 or 0898 Honors English 7 (CMS only)

Math: 2700 Integrated Math II, 28007 Integrated Math III,

or 02117 Algebra I

3700 Science 7

4700 World Studies 7

8700 Physical Education 7

8710 Health 7

5827 Academic Seminar 7

Electives

7750 Art 7

7700 Band 7

5710 Child Care, Food & Nutrition 7

7730 Chorus 7

2665 CS7 - Navigating Your Digital

World with Computers

2756 Creative Writing 7

7710 General Music 7

9071 HAL Challenge 7

5722 Integrated Learning Lab 7

4702 Law and Public Service 7

BE02 Leadership in Bridge to Early

College 7 (CMS only)

7720 Orchestra 7

6700 Skilled and Technical Sciences 7

1718 Spanish B

1722 Spanish II-A

3721 STEM 7

2752 Young Adult Literature 7

Grade 8

Required Courses

English: 0811 English Language Arts 8

or 0813 Honors English 8

Math: 2800 Integrated Math III,

02118 Algebra I,

or 0221 Honors Geometry

3800 Science 8

4800 United States History 8

5880 Health 8

8800 Physical Education 8

Electives

7800 Band 8

7810 Chorus 8

2856 Creative Writing 8

2667 CS8 - Destination: Creative Design

2669 CS8 - Destination: Game Design

2671 CS8 - Destination: Web Design

7850 Drawing 8

6820 Engineering & Design 8

1814 Explore French

1833 Explore German

5810 Food, Nutrition & Family Connections

9081 HAL Challenge 8

5822 Integrated Learning Lab 8

4802 Law and Public Service 8

BE03 Leadership in Bridge to Early

College 8 (CMS only)

7820 Orchestra 8

7860 Painting 8

7870 Pottery/Sculpture 8

7880 Printmaking/Fibers 8

6800 Skilled and Technical Sciences 8

1818 Spanish C

1826 Spanish II-B

3821 STEM 8

2852 Young Adult Literature 8

Electives are offered based on student request and building staffing. Not all electives may be offered in every building.

6th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

LANGUAGE ARTS

0600 English Language Arts 6

1 Year

Students will learn and apply comprehension strategies while reading, writing, and responding to a variety of media and genres. Students will refine their writing skills in all modes of writing through the Six Traits and the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish with diverse purposes and audiences in mind. Learners will develop speaking and listening skills to effectively communicate in both formal and informal settings. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for English Language Arts 7.

0897 Honors English 6 (CMS Bridge to Early College students only)

1 Year

Honors English 6 provides an extension of curriculum from the English Language Arts 6 course with an emphasis on advanced reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course will encourage analysis of texts and effective use of complex writing skills. Students will communicate information about a variety of topics, texts, and issues through questioning, summarizing, and explanation within small and large groups. Students who take this course are expected to be self-motivated learners who are eager to develop their skills of independence.

MATHEMATICS

2600 Integrated Math I

1 Year

Students will continue the study of multiplication and division of whole numbers and addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and fractions through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. They will also study measurement; coordinate-plane graphing; mean, median, mode, and range; data representations; geometric measurement in two- and three-dimensional figures; percent; ratios; proportions; integers; one-step equations and inequalities.

27006 Integrated Math II

1 Year

Students will study operations of fractions, decimals and integers through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. In addition, students will study two-step equations, inequalities, and theoretical/experimental probability. Application of percent, ratios, proportions, and two- and three-dimensional geometry will also be studied while comparing measurements, applying mathematical formulas, and analyzing data.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams or Integrated Math I

28006 Integrated Math III

1 Year

Students will learn to solve multi-step and linear equations and inequalities using rational number operations. They will also study number theory, exponents, square roots, geometric concepts and relationships. Application of real number operations, data representation, and proportions will be extended from Integrated Math II. Justification and application of the Pythagorean Theorem will also be learned.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams or Integrated Math II

SCIENCE

3600 Science 6 1 Year

Students will use scientific inquiry to investigate the natural world and understand the connections among life, physical, and Earth sciences through 3-Dimensional teaching and learning strategies. Students will also explore the role of science in society. Concepts included in Science 6 are Water Cycle, Weather/Climate, Cells/Genetics, Body Systems, and Thermal Energy. Each unit has students engage as scientists or engineers in making explanations or designing solutions as they figure out a real-world problem. Students use the three dimensions (core ideas, practices, and crosscutting concepts) as they build their understanding of the concepts and skills they can use in their lives.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4600 Ancient Civilizations 6

1 Year

Students will study cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere from Pre-History through the Middle Ages while incorporating geography, history, government, culture, and economics. Students will participate in engaging activities and build critical thinking skills using primary and secondary sources. Current events will be included throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8600 Physical Education 6

1 Year

The sixth grade physical education program is co-educational and provides students opportunities to demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain lifelong participation in exercise. Sixth grade physical education emphasizes continued development of skills and lead-up games in a variety of lifetime activities with a concentration on team activities, individual activities and physical fitness. (Alternate days)

HEALTH

8610 Health 6 1 Hexter

Students will be introduced to the promotion of good health and well-being. Activities emphasize the positive choice one makes related to chemical substances, fitness, friendships, human growth and development, and nutrition.

7th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

LANGUAGE ARTS

0700 English Language Arts 7

1 Year

Students will learn and apply comprehension strategies while reading, writing, and responding to a variety of media and genres. Students will refine their writing skills in all modes of writing through the Six Traits and the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish with diverse purposes and audiences in mind. Learners will develop speaking and listening skills to effectively communicate in both formal and informal settings. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for English Language Arts 8.

0898 Honors English 7 (CMS Bridge to Early College students only)

1 Year

Honors English 7 provides an extension of curriculum from the English Language Arts 7 course with an emphasis on advanced reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course will introduce students to deeper application of texts and extend their use of complex writing skills. Students will develop the skills of academic discourse in small and large groups. Students who take this course are expected to be self-motivated learners who are eager to refine their skills of independence.

MATHEMATICS

2700 Integrated Math II

1 Year

Students will study operations of fractions, decimals and integers through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. In addition, students will study two-step equations, inequalities, and theoretical/experimental probability. Application of percent, ratios, proportions, and two- and three-dimensional geometry will also be studied while comparing measurements, applying mathematical formulas, and analyzing data.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams or Integrated Math I

28007 Integrated Math III

1 Year

1 Year

Students will learn to solve multi-step and linear equations and inequalities using rational number operations. They will also study number theory, exponents, square roots, geometric concepts and relationships. Application of real number operations, data representation, and proportions will be extended from Integrated Math II. Justification and application of the Pythagorean Theorem will also be learned.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams or Integrated Math II

02117 Algebra I

Students will explore linear, quadratic, and exponential equations in depth. They will also study probability concepts as an extension of Integrated Math II. Algebra I is designed for students who have a strong understanding of the basics of arithmetic, demonstrated algebraic readiness, and understand mathematics in a more abstract form.

Prerequisite: Integrated Math III

SCIENCE

3700 Science 7 1 Year

Students will demonstrate the understanding of the unifying concepts and processes of life, physical, earth through 3-Dimensional teaching and learning strategies, the use of scientific inquiry, engineering practices, and technology. Students will explore the cycling of energy and matter in chemistry, biochemistry, ecosystems, and earth itself through real world, phenomena-based learning that leans on authentic scientific practices and builds on crosscutting concepts that flow throughout all of the sciences.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4700 World Studies 7 1 Year

Students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they examine specific historical ideas, beliefs, and themes while analyzing how individuals and societies have changed over time. Students will further develop understanding of fundamental geographic concepts and processes, economic reasoning, and demographics of the world. Major significant local, national, and world events will be utilized throughout the course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8700 Physical Education 7

1 Year

The seventh grade physical education program is co-educational and is designed to provide students with a variety of opportunities to continue demonstrating knowledge and skills, while participating in team and individual activities. The purpose of the seventh grade program is to provide students with continued opportunities to develop skills and individual fitness through exercise. (Alternate Days)

HEALTH

8710 Health 7 1 Hexter

Students will develop and maintain healthy lifestyles. Emphasis is placed on information and the positive choices students can make to promote good health, now and throughout their lives. Health 7 focuses on diseases, environmental health, personal health, relationship boundaries, and substance abuse.

7th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

5827 Academic Seminar 7

1 Hexter

Students will explore their way to success! They will determine how to challenge themselves academically while they are in middle school and as they transition into high school. This course will assist in building intellectual and career capacity while reflecting and refining work habits, further developing strategies for perseverance, and exploring the Nebraska Career Education Model in order to create their four-year plan for high school and beyond.



"You're never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

C.S. Lewis



8th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

LANGUAGE ARTS

0811 English Language Arts 8

1 Year

Students will learn and apply comprehension strategies while reading, writing, and responding to a variety of media and genres. Students will refine their writing skills in all modes of writing through the Six Traits and the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish with diverse purposes and audiences in mind. Learners will develop speaking and listening skills to effectively communicate in both formal and informal settings. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for English 9, Honors English 9, or English 9 Literacy Enrichment at the high school.

0813 Honors English 8

1 Year

Honors English 8 provides an extension of curriculum from the English 8 course with an emphasis on advanced reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course will encourage deeper application, frequent academic discourse, and independent critical thinking. Students who take this course are expected to be self-motivated learners with a strong foundation in oral and written communication who are eager to sharpen their skills.

MATHEMATICS

2800 Integrated Math III

1 Year

Students will learn to solve multi-step and linear equations and inequalities using rational number operations. They will also study number theory, exponents, square roots, geometric concepts and relationships. Application of real number operations, data representation, and proportions will be extended from Integrated Math II. Justification and application of the Pythagorean Theorem will also be learned.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams or Integrated Math II

02118 Algebra I

1 Year

Students will explore linear, quadratic, and exponential equations in depth. They will also study probability concepts as an extension of Integrated Math II. Algebra I is designed for students who have a strong understanding of the basics of arithmetic, demonstrated algebraic readiness, and understand mathematics in a more abstract form.

Prerequisite: Integrated Math III

0221 Honors Geometry

1 Year

Students will study the properties and applications of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This includes inductive and deductive thinking skills in problem solving situations as well as transformations, right triangle trigonometry, properties of circles, and perimeter, area, and volume applications. Writing proofs to prove properties of geometric figures is emphasized. This course will go into greater depth than Geometry.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

SCIENCE

3800 Science 8 1 Year

Students will make connections among life, physical, Earth, and space sciences through 3-Dimensional teaching and learning strategies. Students will explore the forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, heredity, natural selection and adaptations, space systems, and the history of Earth. Students will demonstrate their understanding of these concepts through scientific inquiry and the use of technology. Students will use this knowledge to engineer solutions to real-world issues. Students will explore these topics through real-world, phenomena-based learning by using authentic scientific practices and by building on crosscutting concepts that flow throughout all of the sciences.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4800 United States History 8

1 Year

Students will study history through a chronological approach emphasizing the social and political impact of the development of the United States. The course begins with a review of early explorers, early colonization and events leading up to the American Revolution. A detailed study of the United States Constitution through the Gilded Age.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8800 Physical Education 8

3 Hexters

The eighth grade physical education program is co-educational and is designed to expand students' exposure by demonstrating competency, while participating in team and individual activities with a concentration on individual fitness and exercise. This program emphasizes application of skills and sport knowledge through modified game participation.

HEALTH

5880 Health 8 1 Hexter

Students will demonstrate health-enhancing behaviors by accepting responsibility for their physical, emotional, and social well-being. Units of study include Healthy Relationships, Emotional Health (Stress, Loss, Depression, and Suicide), and Human Sexuality (Teen Parenting, Refusal Skills, Dating, and Sexually Transmitted Infections). Activities emphasize the positive choices one makes related to basic values: equality, honesty, respect, responsibility, promise keeping, self-control, and social justice. The theme throughout the course is abstinence from risky behaviors.



"Passion is why teachers teach and why parents devote their lives to raising their children. It is the fire in our hearts and the determination in our minds to make a difference."

> Ron Clark Educator and Author



Special Education Courses

SPECIAL EDUCATION – FUNDAMENTALS

Fundamentals courses below are offered only at Andersen, Beadle, Central and North.

9910 Fundamentals of English (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed for students who require an alternate curriculum in written and oral expression. The outcomes of these courses are aligned with the Nebraska Department of Education's Alternate Assessments Standards. This course's grading system is pass/fail.

9915 Fundamentals of Reading (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed for students who require an alternate curriculum in reading. The outcomes of these courses are aligned with the Nebraska Department of Education's Alternate Assessments Standards. This course's grading system is pass/fail.

9920 Fundamentals of Math (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed for students who require an alternate curriculum in mathematics. The outcomes of these courses are aligned with the Nebraska Department of Education's Alternate Assessments Standards. This course's grading system is pass/fail.

9930 Fundamentals of Science (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed for students who require an alternate curriculum in science. The outcomes of these courses are aligned with the Nebraska Department of Education's Alternate Assessments Standards. This course's grading system is pass/fail.

9940 Fundamentals of Social Studies (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed for students who require an alternate curriculum in social studies. The outcomes of these courses are aligned with the Nebraska Department of Education's Alternate Assessments Standards. This course's grading system is pass/fail.

Special Education classes and support are offered at each grade level in accordance with the student's Individual Educational Program (IEP).

ART

7650 Art 6 1 Hexter

Sixth grade art is an introductory course designed to give students an overview of the Elements of Art: shape, line, color, value, texture, space, and form. Included in this course are two-dimensional and three-dimensional experiences, some of which may be painting, drawing, and sculpture. Students will explore the influences of art from other times and cultures.

7750 Art 7 1 Hexter

Seventh grade art is a course in which the Elements of Art are used to develop an understanding of the Principles of Design: balance, rhythm, movement, contrast, emphasis, pattern, and unity. Included in this course are two-dimensional and three-dimensional experiences, some of which may be painting, drawing, and sculpture. Students will continue to explore the influences of art from other times and cultures.

7850 Drawing 8 1 Hexter

Drawing is an elective course designed to further involve students with the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students will concentrate on a variety of drawing skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Drawing materials may include, but are not limited to, pencils, pen & ink, oil pastels, chalk, and charcoal.

7860 Painting 8 1 Hexter

Painting is an elective course designed to further involve students with the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students will concentrate on a variety of painting skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Painting materials may include, but are not limited to, oil pastels, watercolor, tempera, and acrylic paints.

7870 Pottery/Sculpture 8 1 Hexter

Pottery/Sculpture is an elective course designed to further involve students with the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students will concentrate on a variety of pottery/sculpture materials, which may include, but are not limited to clay, plaster, wood, papier-mache, cardboard, and wire.

7880 Printmaking/Fibers 8 1 Hexter

Printmaking/Fibers is an elective course designed to further involve students with the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students will concentrate on a variety of printmaking/fibers skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Printmaking/fibers materials may include, but are not limited to yarn, jute, linoleum blocks, styrofoam, fabric, stamps, and found objects.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS)

2663 CS6 – Charting your Course with Computers

1 Hexter

Students will become efficient users of emerging technology to improve productivity. This course is the middle level introduction to Computer Science (CS). Students will be introduced to the 4-step problem solving process and will understand how computers are used as part of this process. Students will work collaboratively to propose an app that will solve a real-world problem.

2665 CS7 – Navigating Your Digital World with Computers

1 Hexter

Students will apply the 4-step problem solving process to investigate, collaborate, communicate, and design a user interface for an app. Students will be introduced to abstraction by learning how computers store, represent, and encrypt data. In addition, students will have the opportunity to design and write programs to have robots complete a variety of tasks.

2667 CS8 – Destination: Creative Design

1 Hexter

Students will apply their knowledge of the design process by designing user interfaces for a variety of technology platforms and by evaluating and revising their models based on feedback from potential users. Students will present their projects and their design rationale in a classroom presentation.

2669 CS8 – Destination: Game Design

1 Hexter

Students will build on their coding experience by programming animations, interactive art, and games. Learners begin with simple programming concepts and advance to generating sprite-based games, using professional programming concepts and the design process. In the final project, students will develop a personalized, interactive game.

2671 CS8 – Destination: Web Design

1 Hexter

Students will learn how to create and share the content of their own web pages. Students will choose their content and learn how to structure and style their pages using HTML and CSS.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES (FCS)

5610/5710 Child Care, Food and Nutrition (6th or 7th)

1 Hexter

Students will use problem-solving skills to identify and implement solutions for living in an ever-changing society. Problems will include kitchen safety, healthy choices, food preparation for independence, consumer skills, and babysitting.

5810 Food, Nutrition and Family Connections 8

l Hexte

Students will use food preparation techniques and equipment to prepare a variety of foods. Students will learn about nutrition, food preparation methods, consumer skills, and ethnic dishes.

5622/5722 Integrated Learning Lab (6th or 7th)

1 Hexter

Students will work within problem and project-based investigations focused on current topics or projects that are relevant in today's world. This course will assist students in finding innovative solutions through analysis and collaboration on open-ended, experiential projects. Integrated topics and problems may include health, science, mathematics, and technology concepts and solutions as students solve new problems and adapt to new situations.

5822 Integrated Learning Lab 8

1 Hexter

Students will define an issue or interest and work within problem and project-based investigations focused on what is relevant in today's world. This course will assist students in finding innovative solutions through analysis and collaboration on open-ended, experiential projects. Integrated topics and problems may include health, science, mathematics, and technology concepts and solutions as students solve new problems and adapt to new situations.

SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES (STS)

6600 Skilled and Technical Sciences 6

1 Hexter

Students will be introduced to several areas of the skilled and technical sciences. Each area is called a Module. Module options are listed below. Paired students work for three days on a Module. Each day students complete a hands-on activity.

6th Grade Module Options:

3D Modeling Circuitry Hang Gliding Simple & Powered Machines

Applied Design CNC Design Manufacturing Super Clip

Automation Drafting Processing Plastics Wall Construction

Balloons Electronics Robotics
Carpentry Engineering Trusses Rocketry

6700 Skilled and Technical Sciences 7

1 Hexter

Students will continue to explore the skilled and technical sciences through hands on activities. Safety, tool use, design process, and career exploration will be covered in a variety of construction, manufacturing, and engineering stations. Students will apply academics and employ innovative technical problem-solving skills.

7th Grade Module Options:

Additive Manufacturing Electronics Home Design Rocket Science
Aerodynamic Design Engineering Bridges Home Maintenance Rocketry & Space
Alternative Energy Engineering Towers Mechanical Advantage Smart/Eco Home

Electricity Flight Technology Robotics

6800 Skilled and Technical Sciences 8

1 Hexter

Students will continue to explore the skilled and technical sciences through hands on activities. Safety, tool use, design process, and career exploration will be covered in a variety of construction, manufacturing, and engineering stations. Students will apply academics and innovative technical problem-solving skills. Stations will prepare students for high school STS courses.

8th Grade Module Options:

3D Design/Scanning Electronics Home Maintenance Rocketry & Space Additive Manufacturing Engineering Bridges Lasers Smart/Eco Home Aerodynamic Design Engineering Towers Mechanical Advantage Woodworking

Alternative Energy Engines Metals
CNC Machining Flight Technology Robotics
Electricity Home Design Rocket Science

6820 Engineering & Design 8 1 Hexter

Students will explore concepts in engineering and design, building upon skills learned in previous STS courses. A solution-based design project challenge will be presented to students. Projects will include construction, engineering, and manufacturing processes. Research, problem-solving, critical thinking, and building will culminate in a student presentation of their solution to the challenge. Through this process, students will begin to learn the necessary design and building skills to be successful in high school STS courses and beyond.

MUSIC

7610 General Music 6 1 Hexter

This is a non-performance music course. This course provides an interactive and hands-on way to explore music through singing, moving, creating, playing instruments, listening and utilizing technology. Students will also explore a variety of musical genres.

7710 General Music 7 1 Hexter

This is a non-performance music course and is a continuation of General Music 6. This course provides an interactive and hands-on way to explore music through singing, moving, creating, playing instruments, listening and utilizing technology. Students will also explore the historical and cultural aspects of music.

In addition to General Music, students may choose one or more of the following electives. Administrators and music teachers will assist with the most appropriate scheduling options for each student. The following courses are electives offered in conjunction with Guided Study.

7600 Band 6 1 Year

Sixth grade band is a continuation of the instrumental music studies begun in fifth grade. In addition to improving individual playing skills, students will begin to learn group-playing techniques. Every band student will learn proper rehearsal behavior (attentiveness, respect, good posture, etc.), three major and three minor scales, the chromatic scale, fundamentals of music theory, tone production, breath control, and the importance of practicing for improvement. Percussionists will also learn 12 rudiments. Students are required to perform at all scheduled concerts.

7700 Band 7 1 Year

Seventh grade band is open to students who have successfully completed the objectives of sixth grade band or the equivalent, possess a desire to play band literature, and improve their level of musical performance. Students will continue to develop basic music skills: music theory, notation, sight-reading, rehearsal procedures, and practicing for improvement. Students are required to learn a minimum of five major scales, five minor scales, and the chromatic scale. Percussionists are also required to learn a minimum of 15 rudiments. Students are required to perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level. *Prerequisite: Band 6*

7800 Band 8 1 Year

Eighth grade band is open to students who have successfully completed the objectives of seventh grade band or the equivalent, possess a desire to play advanced band literature, and improve their level of musical performance. Students will continue to develop basic music skills: music theory, notation, sight-reading, rehearsal procedures, and the importance of practicing for improvement. Students are required to learn a minimum of seven major scales, seven minor scales, and the chromatic scale. Percussionists are also required to learn a minimum of 18 rudiments. Students are required to perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level.

Prerequisite: Band 7

7620 Orchestra 6 1 Year

Students will study music from various cultures and historical periods. Students will build on previously learned skills by learning techniques such as shifting, vibrato, and bowing styles. Students will also experience playing in an ensemble with other instruments. Students are required to perform in evening performances.

7720 Orchestra 7 1 Year

Students will study intermediate level repertoire from the string orchestra literature. The students will also study intermediate music theory and music history concepts and build artistry and skills in individual and group settings. Students enrolled in this class will be required to participate in several public performances with the group, most of which take place in the evening.

Prerequisite: Orchestra 6

7820 Orchestra 8 1 Year

Students will study intermediate level repertoire from the string orchestra literature. The students will also study intermediate music theory and music history concepts as well as building artistry and skill in individual and group settings. Students enrolled in this class will be required to participate in several public performances with the group, most of which take place in the evening.

Prerequisite: Orchestra 7

7630 Chorus 6 Trimester or Year

This is a performance-oriented course that includes required concert participation. This class develops the student's ability to sing two-part choral literature. Students will be introduced to vocal technique, theory, and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 6 is a firm building block for successful participation in Chorus 7 and a lifelong involvement in music.

7730 Chorus 7 Trimester or Year

This is a performance-oriented course, which includes required concert participation. This class develops the student's ability to sing two-part and/or three-part choral literature. Students will continue their studies of vocal technique, theory, and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 7 is a firm building block for successful participation in Chorus 8 and a lifelong involvement in music.

7810 Chorus 8 Semester or Year

Eighth grade Chorus is a performance-oriented course, which includes required concert participation. This course develops the student's ability to sing three-part and/or four-part choral literature. There will be a continued emphasis on vocal technique, theory, and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 8 is a firm building block for successful participation in the various high school choral ensembles and a lifelong involvement in music.

READING

2652/2752/2852 Young Adult Literature (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Year

This course is designed with the avid reader in mind! Students will read and familiarize themselves with a wide variety of genres from full novels to short stories, articles, poems, blogs, etc. Each hexter will focus on a new and engaging theme. Similar to a book club, students will share responsibility for facilitating discussion of whole class texts and within smaller literature circles. Emphasis will be placed on independent, active reading and responding to both fiction and nonfiction text. The course meets on alternate days.

WORLD LANGUAGE

1618 Spanish A

1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the Spanish culture. Spanish A is the first year of a three-year course to be completed in 8th grade. The course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. By completing Spanish A, Spanish B, and Spanish C, students will work through material similar to Spanish I at the high school.

1718 Spanish B 1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the Spanish culture. Spanish B is the second year of a three-year course to be completed in 8th grade. The course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. By completing Spanish A, Spanish B, and Spanish C, students will work through material similar to Spanish I at the high school.

1818 Spanish C 1 Year

Students will further develop the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the Spanish culture. Spanish C is the third year of a three-year course sequence. The course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. By completing Spanish A, Spanish B, and Spanish C, students will work through material similar to Spanish I at the high school.

1620 Spanish I-A 1 Year

This sixth-grade course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters and will continue with Spanish II-A in seventh grade and Spanish II-B in eighth grade. In Spanish II-A, Spanish II-A, and Spanish II-B, students will work through material similar to Spanish I & II at the high school.

1722 Spanish II-A 1 Year

This seventh-grade course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters and will continue with Spanish II-B in eighth grade. In Spanish II-A and Spanish II-B, students will work through material similar to Spanish I & II at the high school.

1826 Spanish II-B 1 Year

This eighth-grade course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. In Spanish II-B, students will work through material similar to Spanish II at the high school. Upon successful completion of this course, students will have the option of enrolling in Spanish III or Honors Spanish III in high school.

1814 Explore French (8th)

1 Hexter

Students will experience the vocabulary, geography and cultural aspects of the French language. Students will participate in activities related to the language and customs of the French culture(s). This course will meet every day for one hexter.

1833 Explore German (8th)

1 Hexter

Students will experience the vocabulary, geography and cultural aspects of the German language. Students will participate in activities related to the language and customs of the German culture(s). This course will meet every day for one hexter.

ENRICHMENT ELECTIVES

Courses listed below have units that are unique to each grade level. This allows students to experience similar content at a deeper level or choose a new experience each year.

4602/4702/4802 Law and Public Service (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Hexter

Students will learn about law and public service. This six-week course explores the importance of Civic Responsibility, Legal Services, Law Enforcement Services, Correction Services, Security and Protective Services, and Emergency and Fire Management Services within our government.

2656/2756/2856 Creative Writing (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Hexter

This course is an introduction to creative writing for middle school students who enjoy writing and who want to improve their writing techniques. Students will read mentor texts and write daily. Within different units, writers will experiment with a variety of genre and will share their writing in small groups and potentially with the class.

9061/9071/9081 HAL Challenge (6th, 7th, 8th)

1 Hexter

In this six-week course, HAL Math, Reading, and/or Visual-Spatial students will explore challenging topics and nurture creativity through reflective research projects. In addition, leadership activities and collaborative, hands-on advanced math and science lessons will be combined with selected readings. Experiences will include critical thinking and inquiry-based learning.

BE01

Leadership in Bridge to Early College 6 (CMS Bridge to Early College students only) 1 Hexter

Students will kick-start their college career preparation by exploring and applying self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. Students will have the opportunity to directly apply the Millard Public Schools College and Career Readiness Skills.

Prerequisites: None

RF02

Leadership in Bridge to Early College 7 (CMS Bridge to Early College students only) 1 Hexter

Students will continue to grow their college career preparation by exploring and applying self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. Students will have the opportunity to directly apply the Millard Public Schools College and Career Readiness Skills.

*Prerequisites: None**

BE03

Leadership in Bridge to Early College 8 (CMS Bridge to Early College students only) 1 He

Students will demonstrate growth in their college career preparation by applying self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making through the culmination in a final project. Students will have the opportunity to directly apply the Millard Public Schools College and Career Readiness Skills. *Prerequisites: None*

3621 STEM 6 1 Hexter

The middle school STEM 6 elective course will engage students in an opportunity to expand upon and complement what they are learning in their science and mathematics courses. This course will offer an opportunity to integrate problem-based learning and promote systems thinking. Units in the course may include the study of Science and Engineering Practices in Ancient Civilizations.

3721 STEM 7 1 Hexter

The middle school STEM 7 elective course will engage students in an opportunity to expand upon and complement what they are learning in their science and mathematics courses. This course will offer an opportunity to integrate problem-based learning and promote systems thinking. Units in the course may include Disciplinary Core Ideas for Grade 7, Science and Engineering Practices, and Cross Cutting Concepts: Matter, Energy, and Ecology.

3821 STEM 8 1 Hexter

The middle school STEM 8 elective course will engage students in an opportunity to expand upon and complement what they are learning in their science and mathematics courses. This course will offer an opportunity to integrate problem-based learning and promote systems thinking. Units in the course may include disciplinary core ideas for Grade 8: Forces and Interactions, Adaptation and Innovation, Science and Engineering Practices, Research, Build, and Test Prototype, STEM Presentation Development.

06SS/07SS/08SS Success Strategies (6th, 7th, 8th)

To Be Arranged

This course will individualize support for selected students in reading, writing, and/or mathematics. Depending on student need, focus areas may include reading comprehension, reading fluency, word analysis, writing process, writing genre, mathematics conceptual understanding, computational fluency, or problem solving. The overall goal of this supplemental course is to rebuild and enhance skills and strategies needed to be successful.

06SSR, 07SSR, 08SSR is used for Success Strategies Reading (6th, 7th, 8th)

06SSM, 07SSM, 08SSM is used for Success Strategies Mathematics (6th, 7th, 8th)

Prerequisites: Administrator recommendation

Bridge to Early College Program Central Middle School

The Bridge to Early College Program is an Early College High School preparatory program. The program is for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders and will provide an academic foundation and leadership activities in order to better prepare them for success in Early College High School.

Who is eligible?

Students must submit an application during their 5th grade year and be accepted to participate starting in 6th grade. The Bridge to Early College program is open to all middle school students within the district regardless of their home school assignment. Students accepted to participate in the Bridge to Early College Program will attend Central Middle School.

If Central Middle School is not the student's assigned school, they will also need to apply for a within-district transfer to Central Middle School.

What is different about the Bridge to Early College Program?

The program will incorporate additional opportunities for accelerated English courses, elective courses, and an extracurricular club. The goal is to provide a strong academic foundation, exposure to additional leadership experiences, and a strong cohort experience. While participation in the program does not guarantee acceptance to the Early College High School program, the program is designed to build the experiences and background necessary to be a competitive applicant to the Early College High School program.

Courses:

- Honors English 6, Honors English 7, and Honors English 8
- Advanced Mathematics (placement determined by testing, classroom performance, and teacher recommendation)
- Spanish A, Spanish B, and Spanish C
- Leadership in Bridge to Early College elective

Students in the program will take Honors English, advanced mathematics courses and Spanish for all three of their middle school years. Each year the students will be in a leadership elective course designed specifically for this program. The final unique component of the program is an extracurricular club designed for the cohort of students.

For more information, contact the office at Central Middle School at 402-715-8225.

The International Baccalaureate® - Middle Years Programme (IB-MYP) Millard North Middle School

The International Baccalaureate® program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. This program encourages students across the world to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Millard North Middle School is the only all IB-MYP middle school in the state of Nebraska serving grades 6-8. The IB program continues at Millard North High School in Grades 9-10.

All students at Millard North Middle School participate in the IB-Middle Years Program.

Why choose IB-MYP?

- International Baccalaureate® offers a continuum of education, consisting of four programs for students aged 3 to 19.
- The International Baccalaureate® Organization (IBO) is proud of their reputation for **high-quality** education sustained for over 50 years.
- International-mindedness is encouraged in IB students. To do this, it is believed that students must first develop an understanding of their own cultural and national identity.
- IB encourages a **positive attitude to learning** by prompting students to ask challenging questions, to critically reflect, to develop research skills, to learn how to learn, and to participate in community service.
- The IBO ensures that their programs are accessible to students in a wide variety of schools—
 national, international, public, and private—through unique relationships with IB World Schools
 worldwide.

What is different about IB-MYP at Millard North Middle School?

- The IB-MYP program at Millard North Middle School is a program for students at all ability levels.
- IB programs are recognized around the world and ensure an increased adaptability and mobility for IB students.
- The curriculum and pedagogy of IB programs focus on international perspectives of learning and teaching, while insisting that students fully explore their home culture and language.
- IB World Schools, such as Millard North Middle School, must undergo an exhaustive authorization process in order to offer one or more of the programs, which includes a study of the school's resources and commitment to the IB mission and philosophy.
- IB teachers participate in a wide variety of professional development opportunities to constantly update their knowledge and share their expertise with colleagues around the world.
- The core components of IB programs encourage students to participate in creative and serviceoriented activities, while at the same time emphasizing the importance of reflection on a personal and academic level.
- With this in mind, all students at Millard North Middle School participate in service learning opportunities.
- Many students graduating from the Diploma Programme (which can be accessed at Millard North High School) find that it enhances their opportunities at colleges and universities. The IBO works closely with universities around the world to gain recognition for IB programs.

(See previous sections for detailed course descriptions)

For more information, contact the office at North Middle School at 402-715-1280.

International Baccalaureate® - Middle Years Program (IB-MYP) Millard North Middle School

Grade 6 Grade 7 Grade 8

Required Courses

0660 English Language Arts 6 IB Math: 2601 Integrated Math I IB, 27016 Integrated Math II IB, or 28016 Integrated Math III IB

3601 Science 6 IB

4601 Ancient Civilizations 6 IB 8601 Physical Education 6 IB

8611 Health 6 IB

Required Courses

0760 English Language Arts 7 IB
Math: 27017 Integrated Math II IB,
28017 Integrated Math III IB,

or 28117 Algebra I IB

3701 Science 7 IB

4701 World Studies 7 IB

5828 Academic Seminar 7 IB

8701 Physical Education 7 IB

8711 Health 7 IB

Required Courses

English: 0860 English Language Arts 8 IB

or 0899 Honors English 8

Math: 2801 Integrated Math III IB,

28118 Algebra I IB,

or 2821 Honors Geometry IB

3801 Science 8 IB

4801 United States History 8 IB

5881 Health 8 IB

8801 Physical Education 8 IB

Electives

7651 Art 6 IB 7601 Band 6 IB

5611 Child Care, Food and Nutrition 6 IB

7631 Chorus 6 IB

2664 CS6 - Charting Your Course with Computers IB

2657 Creative Writing 6 IB

7611 General Music 6 IB

9062 HAL Challenge 6 IB

4603 Law and Public Service 6 IB

7621 Orchestra 6 IB

6601 Skilled and Technical Sciences 6 IB

1619 Spanish A IB

1621 Spanish I-A IB

3622 STEM 6 IB

2653 Young Adult Literature 6 IB

Electives

7751 Art 7 IB

7701 Band 7 IB

7731 Chorus 7 IB

2757 Creative Writing 7 IB

2666 CS7 – Navigating Your Digital World with Computers IB

7711 General Music 7 IB

9072 HAL Challenge 7 IB

5723 Integrated Learning Lab 7 IB

4703 Law and Public Service 7 IB

7721 Orchestra 7 IB

6701 Skilled and Technical Sciences 7 IB

16197 Spanish A IB

1719 Spanish B IB

1723 Spanish II-A IB

3722 STEM 7 IB

2753 Young Adult Literature 7 IB

Electives

7801 Band 8 IB

7831 Chorus 8 IB

2857 Creative Writing 8 IB

2668 CS8 - Destination: Creative Design IB

2670 CS8 - Destination: Game Design IB

2672 CS8 - Destination: Web Design IB

7851 Drawing 8 IB

6821 Engineering & Design 8 IB

1815 Explore French IB

1834 Explore German IB

5812 Food, Nutrition, & Family

Connections 8 IB

9082 HAL Challenge 8 IB

5823 Integrated Learning Lab 8-1 IB

5825 Integrated Learning Lab 8-2 IB

4803 Law and Public Service 8 IB

7821 Orchestra 8 IB

7861 Painting 8 IB

7871 Pottery/Sculpture 8 IB

7881 Print Making/Fibers 8 IB

6801 Skilled and Technical Sciences I -8 IB

6811 Skilled and Technical Sciences II -8 IB

16198 Spanish A IB

1819 Spanish C IB

. 1827 Spanish II-B IB

3822 STEM 8 IB

2853 Young Adult Literature 8 IB

(Course descriptions are listed in the previous sections.)

Electives are offered based on student request and building staffing.

Not all electives may be offered in every building.

Montessori Middle School Program Accredited by the American Montessori Society® Russell Middle School

The Millard Public Schools Montessori Program nurtures and inspires a community of collaborative, self-directed, and high-achieving learners through a true Montessori prepared environment.

Montessori Provides Students:

- Academic growth through enhanced creativity and critical thinking
- Engaging curriculum that is interdisciplinary and organized by themes
- Opportunities to understand themselves and how they learn
- The development of respect and personal responsibility towards others and the environment
- The ability to practice organizational, planning and logistical skills through a classroom business
- Opportunities to work individually and in groups
- Teachers who are Montessori trained and certified through a two-year training process

Sixth Grade Montessori: Completing the 9-12 year old Montessori Cycle

Sixth grade Montessori in Millard is a year of transition. While most Montessori classrooms have multiple grades, the sixth grade class is one grade. Students meet state and district standards by completing the curriculum for the 9-12 year old and preparing for the 7th and 8th grade environment. A student of this age group is just beginning to see him or herself fitting into the larger picture. They are very curious about how the physical and social world around them works. Students are becoming more autonomous and are ready to take on more responsibility for their own learning. They are transitioning to abstract thinking and becoming less dependent upon materials for simple concepts. The environment of the classroom is one that places an emphasis on individual responsibility, problem solving, exploration, creativity, and a strong sense of community.

Courses include: *

- 0680 Language Arts 6 Montessori
- 4610 Cultural Studies 6 Montessori
- 4611 Personal World/Community 6 Montessori
- 2630 Integrated Math I Montessori
- 2730 Integrated Math II Montessori
- 2830 Integrated Math III Montessori

Seventh and Eighth Grade Montessori

Seventh and eighth grade Montessori students are beginning a new plane of development, the period from 12-15 years of age, or early adolescence. Based on brain development and the developing social, personal and psychological needs of adolescents, the Montessori curriculum uses three modes to facilitate learning: large group work with the entire seventh and eighth grade, small group work, and individual work. Learning happens in all three modes.

In this multi-age classroom, the curriculum is integrated for the different subject areas based on themes or cycles. There are twelve different themes over two years that address all district and state standards. Each cycle is based on guiding questions from three major focal points that are important to the developing adolescent: Personal World (Psychology, Health, Cosmic and Peace Education); Natural World (Science); and Social World (Social Studies). Mathematics and Language Arts complement these themes. The student is responsible for both individual and group work projects within these areas. Student success is based on 85% mastery or higher.

Several times each year, the students spend time away from school on "immersion." These immersion times extend the curriculum into a larger arena, both for the students' emotional development and learning about the world. This is sometimes referenced as "school away from school."

Courses include: *

- 0881 Language Arts 7-8 Montessori
- 2730 Integrated Math II Montessori
- 2830 Integrated Math III Montessori
- 2840 Algebra I Montessori

- 2850 Honors Geometry Montessori
- 3705 Science 7-8 Montessori
- 4712/4812 Social Studies 7-8 Montessori
- 4711 Personal World/Community 7-8 Montessori

^{*}See previous course description sections for PE, Music, and World Language.

Montessori Course Descriptions Russell Middle School

SIXTH GRADE MONTESSORI COURSES

0680 Language Arts 6 Montessori

1 Year

Students will learn to use comprehension strategies and higher-level thinking skills while reading a variety of literary genres. Students will develop grammar skills that include in-depth study of the parts of speech, verb conjugation, and sentence diagramming. Students will enhance their fluency through word study and vocabulary skills. Students also refine the writing process through Six Trait Writing, editing skills, and the practice of persuasive, narrative, descriptive, and expository writing. Students also develop research skills and practice public speaking.

4610 Cultural Studies 6 Montessori

L Year

Cultural studies are science and social studies topics, which include physical science, biology, chemistry, earth science, history, geography, and map skills. Students will study ancient civilizations from Pre-history through the Middle Ages, incorporating geography, history, culture, government, and economics. In science, students will study concepts that include chemistry, classification of living things, biomes, human anatomy, genetics, nutrition, and astronomy.

4611 Personal World/Community 6 Montessori

1 Year

Students in 6th grade are becoming more and more responsible for their own learning while learning to problem solve and explore as part of a larger learning community. Within the daily community meeting and subject area lessons, students will practice working in groups, conflict resolution, service learning, goal setting, test taking skills, note taking skills, and listening skills.

2630 Integrated Math I Montessori

1 Year

Students will continue the study of multiplication and division of whole numbers and addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals and fractions through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. They will also study measurement; coordinate-plane graphing; mean, median, mode, and range; data representations; geometric measurement in two- and three-dimensional figures; percent; ratios; proportions; integers; one-step equations and inequalities.

2730 Integrated Math II Montessori

1 Year

Students will study operations of fractions, decimals and integers through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. In addition, students will study two-step equations, inequalities, and theoretical/experimental probability. Application of percent, ratios, proportions, and two- and three-dimensional geometry will also be studied while comparing measurements, applying mathematical formulas, and analyzing data.

2830 Integrated Math III Montessori

1 Year

Students will learn to solve multi-step and linear equations and inequalities using rational number operations. They will also study number theory, exponents, square roots, geometric concepts and relationships. Application of real number operations, data representation, and proportions will be extended from Integrated Math II. Justification and application of the Pythagorean Theorem will also be learned.

Montessori students will also select elective courses from the previous section.

These courses are taken with special area teachers.



"Education is a natural process carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words, but by experiences in the environment."

Maria Montessori



Montessori Course Descriptions Russell Middle School

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE MONTESSORI COURSES

4711 Personal World/Community 7-8 Montessori

2 Years

Seventh and Eighth grade students gain an understanding of who they are as they explore concepts in the areas of health, personal development, philosophy, study skills, and ethics. Students have large group lessons and maintain a daily journal about different subjects. They have the opportunity to reflect on friendships, how they learn best, and what particular issues mean to them. Students also explore the qualities necessary for leadership, integrity, empathy, and setting goals for personal and academic success. Students also develop and manage a classroom business.

0881 Language Arts 7-8 Montessori

2 Years

This course is composed of reading, writing, and computer skills, which are all connected to the themes that the students are studying. Students will explore different genres and literary formats as they best relate to the different themes. Socratic discussions are used to assist students as they develop critical thinking skills, and learn to evaluate and analyze information with others. The Six Traits of Writing are practiced to improve writing skills. Students also study and learn vocabulary, as well as Greek and Latin roots, associated with the topics being studied. Communication skills are developed using technology, poetry, research and presentations, and creative expression.

2730 Integrated Math II Montessori

1 Year

Students will study operations of fractions, decimals and integers through the study of algebraic equations and expressions. In addition, students will study two-step equations, inequalities, and theoretical/experimental probability. Application of percent, ratios, proportions, and two- and three-dimensional geometry will also be studied while comparing measurements, applying mathematical formulas, and analyzing data.

2830 Integrated Math III Montessori

1 Year

Students will learn to solve multi-step and linear equations and inequalities using rational number operations. They will also study number theory, exponents, square roots, geometric concepts and relationships. Application of real number operations, data representation, and proportions will be extended from Integrated Math II. Justification and application of the Pythagorean Theorem will also be learned.

2840 Algebra I Montessori

1 Year

Students will explore linear, quadratic, and exponential equations in depth. They will also study probability concepts as an extension of Integrated Math II. Algebra I is designed for students who have strong understanding of the basics of arithmetic, demonstrated algebraic readiness, and understand mathematics in a more abstract form.

2850 Honors Geometry Montessori

1 Year

Students will study the properties and applications of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This includes inductive and deductive thinking skills in problem solving situations as well as transformations, right triangle trigonometry, properties of circles, and writing proofs to prove properties of geometric figures is emphasized. This course will go into greater depth than Geometry.

3705 Science 7-8 Montessori

2 Years

Using the scientific method, students study biology, chemistry, and physics. One year of science focuses on a review of chemistry and biology (cells and genetics) along with earth science. Students study earth structure, earth's surface, weather, and climate. The year culminates in a visit to Estes Park to study mountain formation. The second year of science focuses on technology, ecology, and physics (light, sounds, forces, and motion). Students build a hydro-rocket and the year culminates with a visit to the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.

4712/4812 Social Studies 7-8 Montessori

2 Years

One year students research the discovery and exploration of North America. The implication of the discovery of the new land, immigration, economic systems, and social solutions are also investigated during this year. Throughout the second year, students learn about government. The students study the writing of the U. S. Constitution and write their own classroom constitution. Students also do an in-depth study of the Bill of Rights and the social and historical implications. They learn about different types of governments and how they form.

Montessori students will also select course electives from the previous section.

These courses are taken with special area teachers.

English Language Development Program Andersen Middle School or Central Middle School

The purpose of the English Language Development Program is to provide English language instruction to limited and non-English speaking students who enter our community and require these services. The goal of the program is to help students demonstrate proficiency in English so that they can be full participants in the general education program.

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students are grouped by language proficiency level within the middle level English Learner Program (EL).

Beginning English Learners

Students at these levels have emerging skills with the English language and have limited English proficiency. They rely on gestures and non-verbal cues to communicate. The education program for these students may include:

- Homeroom with an EL or content area teacher
- General education courses which may include Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and special area classes as available
- Two or three periods of the Beginning English Learner Courses:
 - EL Beginning Literacy
 - EL Beginning Writing
 - o EL Beginning Communication

Progressing English Learners

Students at this level are progressing and have a strong command of conversational English. They are beginning to develop proficiency in language used for academics. The education program for these students may include:

- Homeroom with an EL or content area teacher
- General education courses including English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and special area classes as available
- One or two periods of the Progressing English courses:
 - EL Progressing Literacy
 - o EL Progressing Communication

Advanced English Learners

Students continue to progress at these levels and handle most communicative situations with confidence. They are developing proficiency in academic language and are better able to understand academic texts. The education program for these students may include:

- General education courses including English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and special area classes as available
- One period of the Advanced English Learner course:
 - EL Advanced Literacy & Communication

English Learner Course Descriptions

Beginning English Learner Courses

9001 EL Beginning Literacy

In this course, EL students will develop their literacy skills through a variety of reading activities. Students will learn strategies to support their development as active and critical readers and will explore a variety of text types, including both fiction and informational texts. Using context clues, visual aids, and the understanding of how words are formed in their first language, students will learn to determine the meaning of words and phrases.

9002 EL Beginning Writing

Students in this course will begin to recognize words and phrases in written text. They will participate in written exchanges of information on familiar topics. Students will learn to recognize and use frequently occurring nouns, verbs, conjunctions, and prepositions in their writing. With support, the Beginning EL student will write about literary and informational texts and be able to express an opinion or idea.

9003 EL Beginning Communication

In this course, EL students learn English vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure to assist them in the development of academic, cultural, and life skills. Students will learn to identify key words and phrases in oral communication and participate in short conversations. They will practice communicating information about familiar texts, topics, and experiences. With support, the Beginning EL student will use accurate English to communicate in grade-appropriate simple sentences.

Progressing English Learner Courses

9004 EL Progressing Literacy

This course is designed for intermediate English learning students to continue progressing in the language domains of reading and writing. The course focus is to continue the development of English vocabulary and the understanding of grammatical structures. Students will develop further comprehension skills through fluency, summarizing, and sequencing events in a reading passage. They will also learn strategies such as recognizing text structures, using text features to locate information in textbooks, and using context clues to assist in comprehension. Students will continue to expand their writing capabilities through the practice of writing 5 paragraph essays and other larger writing tasks.

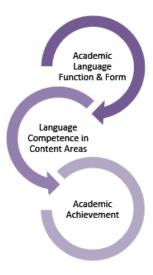
9005 EL Progressing Communication

This course is designed for intermediate English learning students to continue progressing in the language domains of speaking and listening. Students will develop further communication skills by participating in classroom discussions, conversations, and oral presentations with fewer supports. Students in this course will strengthen their ability to express their own ideas using more content-specific and academic language.

Advanced English Learner Courses

9006 EL Advanced Literacy & Communication

Students in this course are nearing grade-level English language skills. Students will continue to interact and engage with grade-level texts to continue to advance their English grammar and vocabulary skills. Students will produce and present written and oral essays that demonstrate their ability to use the English language through speaking and writing.



Language acquisition takes place across the content areas and therefore collaboration among educators is critical to enhancing and excelling the learning experiences of English learners. Content area teachers and EL teachers work together to understand and leverage the language and literacy practices used across content areas.

Millard High School Opportunities

Millard Public Schools offers a variety of unique opportunities for students. The chart below is provided as a reference. Further details can be found in the High School Curriculum Handbook on the Millard webpage at https://www.mpsomaha.org/departments/curriculum/secondary-education.

Program	Location	Target Grades	How do I get involved?			
Millard Special Programs						
AFJROTC (Air Force Junior ROTC)	Millard South	9 th -12 th Grade	Attend or transfer to Millard South. Register for AFJROTC classes.			
AP Capstone™ Program	Millard West	11 th -12 th Grade	Attend or transfer to Millard West			
Early College	Millard South	9 th -12 th Grade	Attend or transfer to Millard South. Submit an application in January of 8 th grade. Application on Millard Early College webpage.			
International Baccalaureate [®] Diploma Programme	Millard North	9 th -10 th Grade: MYP Middle Years Programme 11 th -12 th Grade: DP Diploma Programme	Attend or transfer to Millard North.			
Students attend their home	Millard Academies Students attend their home school for half the day and travel to the academy location for the other half of the day. Transportation is provided.					
Business and Entrepreneurship Academy	Millard South					
Business and Logistics Management	Millard North					
Education Academy	Millard West		Submit an application in November of 10 th grade.			
Health Sciences Academy	Keith Lutz Horizon High School	11 th and 12 th Grade	Participate in an interview conducted in December. Application on Millard Career Academy webpage.			
STEM Academy	Millard West					

Millard High School Opportunities

Program	Location	Target Grades	How do I get involved?			
Additional Opportunities						
UNMC High School Alliance (University of Nebraska Medical Center)	Students attend their home school for half the day and travel to UNMC for the other half of the day.	11 th and 12 th Grade	See Counselor for Information/Application Packet. Submit an application to the Counseling Office by spring deadline. Limited number of spots.			
Zoo Academy	Students attend their home school for half the day and travel to the Zoo for the other half of the day.	11 th and 12 th Grade	See Counselor for Information/Application Packet. Submit an application to the Counseling Office by December deadline. Limited number of spots. Start in 11 th grade, two-year program.			
Intern Omaha	Students work at a paid internship and complete course requirements to earn HS credit.	12 th Grade	See Counselor for more information. Students apply in December of 11 th grade year. An application and interview are required.			
Students attend th	Metropolitan Community College Academies Students attend their home school for half the day and travel to MCC for the other half of the day.					
3-D Animation & Games	Elkhorn Valley					
Architecture Technology	Fort Omaha					
Automotive Collision	Applied Technology Center					
Automotive Technology	South Omaha	11 th or 12 th Grade	See Counselor for Information/Application Packet.			
Certified Nursing Assistant	South Omaha	11 or 12 Grade	Submit an application to Counseling Office by March deadline.			
Civil Engineering Technology	Fort Omaha		omee sy maren dedame.			
Construction Technology	Fort Omaha					
Criminal Justice	Sarpy Center					
Culinary Arts Foundation	Fort Omaha					

Millard High School Opportunities

Program	Location	Target Grades	How do I get involved?			
Metropolitan Community College Academies (continued)						
Diesel Technology	Applied Technology Center					
Digital Cinema/Filmmaking	Elkhorn Valley					
Diversified Manufacturing Process Operations	Fort Omaha					
Early Childhood Education	Learning Center					
Electrical Technology	Fort Omaha					
Emergency Medical Technician	South Omaha					
Fire Science Technology	Applied Technology Center					
Full Stack Web Development	Fort Omaha	11 th or 12 th Grade	See Counselor for			
Google Support Professional	Fort Omaha		Information/Application Packet. Submit an application to Counseling			
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC)	Fort Omaha		Office by March deadline.			
Horticulture Land Systems and Management	Fort Omaha					
IT Technician	Fort Omaha					
Office Administrative Professional	Sarpy Center					
Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing	Fort Omaha					
Prototype Design	Fort Omaha					
Theatre Technology	Omaha Community Playhouse					
Welding & Fabrication Technology	Fort Omaha					



40 Developmental Assets® for Adolescents (ages 12-18)

Search Institute® has identified the following building blocks of healthy development—known as Developmental Assets®—that help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.

Support

- **1. Family support**—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
- 2. Positive family communication—Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parents.
- 3. Other adult relationships—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
- **4. Caring neighborhood**—Young person experiences caring neighbors.
- **5. Caring school climate**—School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
- **6. Parent involvement in schooling**—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.

- **Empowerment 7. Community values youth**—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.
 - **8. Youth as resources**—Young people are given useful roles in the community.
 - **9. Service to others**—Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.
 - **10. Safety**—Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.

Boundaries & Expectations

External Assets

- 11. Family boundaries—Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts.
- **12. School Boundaries**—School provides clear rules and consequences.
- 13. Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.
- **14. Adult role models**—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.
- **15. Positive peer influence**—Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.
- **16. High expectations**—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.

Constructive **Use of Time**

- 17. Creative activities—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.
- 18. Youth programs—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in the community.
- **19. Religious community**—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.
- **20. Time at home**—Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.

- **Commitment** 21. Achievement Motivation—Young person is motivated to do well in school.
- to Learning **22. School Engagement**—Young person is actively engaged in learning.
 - 23. Homework—Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.
 - **24. Bonding to school**—Young person cares about her or his school.
 - **25. Reading for Pleasure**—Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.

Positive Values

- **26. Caring**—Young person places high value on helping other people.
- 27. Equality and social justice—Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
- 28. Integrity—Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs.
- **29. Honesty**—Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy."
- **30. Responsibility**—Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.
- **31. Restraint**—Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.

Social **Competencies**

Internal Assets

- **32. Planning and decision making**—Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.
- **33.** Interpersonal Competence—Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.
- 34. Cultural Competence—Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.
- **35. Resistance skills**—Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.
- **36. Peaceful conflict resolution**—Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.

Positive Identity

- **37. Personal power**—Young person feels he or she has control over "things that happen to me."
- **38. Self-esteem**—Young person reports having a high self-esteem.
- **39. Sense of purpose**—Young person reports that "my life has a purpose."
- **40. Positive view of personal future**—Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.

MPS PK-12 College and Career Readiness Skills and 40 Developmental Assets®

The Millard Public Schools PK-12 College and Career Readiness Standards are skills necessary for academic and life-long success. These standards are Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills; Creativity and Innovation; Collaboration and Teamwork; and Citizenship and Personal Responsibility. Within each standard are indicators, which define expectations for students as they progress through their elementary, middle and high school years.

Thirty-five of the 40 Developmental Assets® are related to the Millard PK-12 College and Career Readiness Standards, which are included in the following table. Demonstration of the College and Career Readiness Skills along with the 40 Developmental Assets® will assist young people during their school years while becoming prepared for their future.

MPS PK-12 COLLEGE AND	40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS*		
CAREER READINESS SKILLS	Internal Assets	External Assets	
 CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS Demonstrate the ability to reason critically, systematically, and logically to evaluate situations from multiple perspectives. Conduct research, gather input and analyze information necessary for decision-making. Develop and prioritize possible solutions with supporting rationale using valid research, historical context and balanced judgment. Demonstrate a willingness to learn new knowledge and skills. Exhibit the ability to focus, prioritize, organize and handle ambiguity. Recognize factors, constraints, goals and relationships in a problem situation. Evaluate solutions and determine the potential value toward solving the problem. 	21. Achievement motivation 22. School engagement 23. Homework 27. Equality and social justice 30. Responsibility 32. Planning and decision making 33. Interpersonal competence 34. Cultural competence 35. Resistance skill 36. Peaceful conflict resolution 37. Personal power 38. Self-esteem 39. Sense of purpose 40. Positive view of personal future	3. Other adult relationships 5. Caring school climate 10. Safety 12. School boundaries 14. Adult role models 16. High expectations	
CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION Search for new ways to improve the efficiency of existing processes. Appreciate new and creative ideas of others. Use information, knowledge and experience to generate original ideas and challenge assumptions. Know when to curb the creative process and begin implementation. Determine the feasibility of improvements for ideas and concepts. Accept and incorporate constructive criticism into proposals for innovation.	 21 Achievement motivation 22. School engagement 26. Caring 32. Planning and decision making 33. Interpersonal competence 34. Cultural competence 36. Peaceful conflict resolution 37. Personal power 	3. Other adult relationships 5. Caring school climate 10. Safety 12. School boundaries 14. Adult role models 16. High expectations 17. Creative activities	

MPS PK-12 COLLEGE AND	40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS*			
CAREER READINESS SKILLS	Internal Assets	External Assets		
COLLABORATION AND TEAMWORK Contribute to team-oriented projects, problem-solving activities and assignments. Engage team members, build consensus and utilize individual talents and skills. Anticipate potential sources of conflict to facilitate solutions. Demonstrate the ability to disagree with a team member without causing personal offense. Take responsibility for individual and shared group tasks.	21. Achievement motivation 22. School engagement 26. Caring 30. Responsibility 32. Planning and decision making 33. Interpersonal competence 34. Cultural competence 36. Peaceful conflict resolution 37. Personal power 38. Self-esteem 39. Sense of purpose	3. Other adult relationships 5. Caring school climate 10. Safety 12. School boundaries 14. Adult role models 15. Positive peer influence 16. High expectations		
 CITIZENSHIP AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY Respect the rights of others. Treat others in a considerate and non-demeaning manner. Respect diversity. Demonstrate the ability to manage time. Demonstrate the ability to follow directions. Develop the attributes of integrity, self-discipline, and positive attitude. Take personal responsibility for actions. Establish and execute plans to completion and persevere when faced with setbacks. Model behaviors that demonstrate reliability, dependability and commitment. Arrive on time to school, work, appointments or meetings adequately prepared and appropriately dressed. Comply with policies and regulations. Participate in school and/or community organizations. Engage in local government through attendance, participation and service. Demonstrate a respect for laws and regulations and those who enforce them. Consider the ethical implications and long-term consequences of decisions and actions on personal reputation and credibility. 	21. Achievement motivation 22. School engagement 23. Homework 24. Bonding to school 26. Caring 27. Equality and social justice 28. Integrity 29. Honesty 30. Responsibility 31. Restraint 33. Interpersonal competence 34. Cultural competence 35. Resistance skills 36. Peaceful conflict resolution 37. Personal power 40. Positive view of personal future	3. Other adult relationships 5. Caring school climate 9. Service to others 10. Safety 11. Family boundaries 13. Neighborhood boundaries 14. Adult role models 16. High expectations 17. Creative activities 18. Youth programs 19. Religious community		



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