



Middle School
Curriculum Handbook
2024-2025

Millard Public Schools

Millard Board of Education

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Millard Public Schools Mission

Millard Public Schools guarantees each student exemplifies the knowledge, skills, and character necessary for personal excellence and responsible citizenship through an innovative, world-class educational community that challenges and empowers 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 4001.3. Complaints by students or parents regarding unlawful discrimination or unlawful 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 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 school year!

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Andersen Middle School

John Southworth, Principal
Beadle Middle School

Michelle Klug, Ed.D., Principal
Central Middle School

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Kiewit Middle School

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Considerations for Course Enrollment

Millard Public Schools Middle Level Philosophy: 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
 - Student advisement
 - Developmentally appropriate instructional practices
 - Climate conducive to learning
- Operational parameters for the middle schools include:
 - Common planning
 - Schedule conducive to multiple options for students
 - Developmentally appropriate co-curricular program
 - Team leadership and team structure
 - Effective transition in, through, and out of middle grades
 - Partnership of students, home, staff, and community

The Middle School Schedule: Students attend seven classes daily from 7:55 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 six-week 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 on alternate days or alternate hexters. 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, Choir 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.
 - 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.

High Ability Learners (HAL): 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.

English Language Development (EL) Program: 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.**

Programs of Choice: 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

Grading Guidelines: 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 Grade	Letter Grade	% Grade Range	Standard 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

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Algebra 1 -AND- Geometry 1	Algebra 2 -AND- Geometry 2	Algebra 3 -AND- Algebra 4: Probability and Statistics	*AP Precalculus -OR- College Algebra -OR- *AP Statistics -OR- Trigonometry -OR- Discrete Mathematics -OR- Sports Math & Game Theory -OR- Math for the Arts -OR- Math for Life -OR- Skilled and Technical Math
		Algebra 1 -AND- Geometry 1	Algebra 2 -AND- Geometry 2	Algebra 3 -AND- Algebra 4: Probability and Statistics	*AP Precalculus -OR- College Algebra -OR- *AP Statistics -OR- Trigonometry -OR- Discrete Mathematics -OR- Sports Math & Game Theory -OR- Math for the Arts -OR- Math for Life -OR- Skilled and Technical Math	*AP Calculus AB -OR- *AP Calculus BC -OR- *AP Statistics -OR- Precalculus -OR- Honors Precalculus -OR- College Algebra -OR- Any course from 11th grade
Integrated Math II for 6th graders <i>(Only 2023-2024 6th graders)</i>	Math 8 for 7th Grade	Algebra 1 -AND- Geometry 1	Algebra 2 -AND- Geometry 2	Algebra 3 -AND- Algebra 4: Probability and Statistics	Mathematics -OR- Sports Math & Game Theory -OR- Math for the Arts -OR- Math for Life -OR- Skilled and Technical Math	Any course from 11th grade
Prealgebra 6	Algebra 1 -AND- Geometry 1	Honors Algebra 2 -AND- Honors Geometry 2	Honors Algebra 3 -AND- Algebra 4: Probability and Statistics	*AP Precalculus -OR- College Algebra -OR- *AP Statistics -OR- Trigonometry -OR- Discrete Mathematics -OR- Sports Math & Game Theory -OR- Math for the Arts -OR- Math for Life -OR- Skilled and Technical Math	*AP Calculus AB -OR- *AP Calculus BC -OR- Any course from 10th grade	Calculus 2 & Advanced Topics -OR- Calculus III & Differential Equations -OR- Any course from 10th or 11 grade

*AP-Advanced Placement®

6th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

Grade 6

Required Courses

English:

0600 English Language Arts 6 -OR-
0897 Honors English 6 (CMS only)

Math:

MA606 Math 6
MA626 Prealgebra 6

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 Choir 6
2663 Computer Science 6
2656 Creative Writing 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)
7610 Music Lab 6
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:

MA707 Math 7 -OR-
MA807 Math 8 -OR-
MA827 Algebra 1 AND
MA847 Geometry 1

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 Choir 7
2665 Computer Science 7
2756 Creative Writing 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)
7710 Music Lab 7
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:

MA808 Math 8 -OR-
MA828 Algebra 1 AND
MA848 Geometry 1 -OR-
MA848 Geometry 1 AND
MA888 Honors Geometry 2

3800 Science 8
4800 United States History 8
8800 Physical Education 8
5880 Health 8

Electives

7800 Band 8
7830 Choir 8
2667 Computer Science 8 Creative Design
2669 Computer Science 8 Game Design
2671 Computer Science 8 Web Design
2856 Creative Writing 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)
7810 Music Lab 8
7820 Orchestra 8
7850 Drawing 8
7860 Painting 8
7870 Pottery/Sculpture 8
7890 Advanced Art Exploration 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
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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
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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

MA606	Math 6	1 Year
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Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Grade 6, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems, completing computational understanding with the division of fractions and moving towards efficiency by using the algorithm for each operation, extending understanding of the number line to include the entire system of rational numbers, which now includes negative numbers, writing and using expressions and equations, and representing data in multiple ways in order to analyze and interpret the results.

MA626	Prealgebra 6	1 Year
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Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Prealgebra 6, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for writing and using expressions and equations, representing data in multiple ways in order to analyze and interpret the results, developing an understanding of proportional relationships, extending understanding of the number line and understanding operations with rational numbers, solving problems involving perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, using linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems, including rate of change and y-intercept for a given situation, developing an understanding of irrational numbers and integer exponents, analyzing two-dimensional figures and solving problems using understanding of distance, angle, similarity, and congruence; understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem, and investigating probability concepts.

Prerequisite: Qualifying test scores on math placement exams

SCIENCE

3600	Science 6	1 Year
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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
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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
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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. The course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. 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.

6th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

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

MA707 Math 7 **1 Year**

Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. During Grade 7, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for developing an understanding of proportional relationships, understanding operations with rational numbers, using expressions and linear equations to represent and solve problems, solving problems involving perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, and investigating probability concepts.

Prerequisite: Integrated Math I

MA807 Math 8 **1 Year**

Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. During Grade 7, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for developing an understanding of proportional relationships, understanding operations with rational numbers, using expressions and linear equations to represent and solve problems, solving problems involving perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, and investigating probability concepts.

Prerequisite: Integrated Math II

MA827 Algebra 1 **1 Semester**

Students will explore linear and absolute value equations and inequalities in depth. Parallel and perpendicular lines will be investigated as they relate to linear functions. They will also study systems of equations and their applications. Algebra 1 is designed for students who have a strong understanding of the basics of arithmetic, demonstrated algebraic readiness, and who understand mathematics in a more abstract form.

Prerequisite: Integrated Math III

MA847 Geometry 1 **1 Semester**

Students will study the properties and applications of geometric figures in two dimensions. This includes inductive and deductive thinking skills in problem solving situations as well as similarity and congruence, Pythagorean Theorem applications, special right triangle relationships and right triangle trigonometry. Writing proofs to prove properties of geometric figures is emphasized.

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, and space sciences 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.

7th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

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 course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. The purpose of the seventh grade program is to provide students with continued opportunities to develop skills and individual fitness through exercise.

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.

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.

8th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

LANGUAGE ARTS		
0811	English Language Arts 8	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
0813	Honors English 8	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
MATHEMATICS		
MA808	Math 8	1 Year
<p>Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Grade 8, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for using linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems, developing an understanding of irrational numbers and integer exponents, analyzing two-dimensional figures and solving problems using understanding of distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem, and determining and describing rate of change and y-intercept for given situations.</p> <p><i>Prerequisite: Integrated Math II</i></p>		
MA828	Algebra 1	1 Semester
<p>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.</p> <p><i>Prerequisite: Integrated Math III</i></p>		
MA848	Geometry 1	1 Semester
<p>Students will study the properties and applications of geometric figures in two dimensions. This includes inductive and deductive thinking skills in problem solving situations as well as similarity and congruence, Pythagorean Theorem applications, special right triangle relationships and right triangle trigonometry. Writing proofs to prove properties of geometric figures is emphasized.</p> <p><i>Prerequisite: Integrated Math III or Algebra I</i></p>		
MA888	Honors Geometry 2	1 Semester
<p>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 2 and is recommended for students who plan to pursue Advanced Placement[®] or International Baccalaureate[®] mathematics classes in high school.</p> <p><i>Prerequisite: Algebra I</i></p>		
SCIENCE		
3800	Science 8	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
SOCIAL STUDIES		
4800	United States History 8	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		

8th Grade Course Descriptions - Required

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. The course meets on alternate days or alternate hexters. 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.

Special Education Courses

SPECIAL EDUCATION – FUNDAMENTALS

Fundamentals courses below are offered only at 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).

Elective Courses

ART		
7650	Art 6	1 Hexter
<p>Art 6 is an elective course designed to expose students to an exploration of 2D and 3D media and techniques. In this class, students explore self-expression through a variety of art media and techniques. This class is designed to encourage students to think critically and problem solve as an artist.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
7750	Art 7	1 Hexter
<p>Art 7 is an elective course designed to further expose students to an exploration of 2D and 3D media and techniques while focusing on composition. In this class, students explore self-expression through a variety of art media and techniques. This class is designed to encourage students to think critically and problem solve as an artist.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
7850	Drawing 8	1 Hexter
<p>Drawing 8 is an elective course designed to further expose students to an exploration of a variety of drawing skills. In this class, students will explore self-expression through 2D experiences which include, but are not limited to, pencil, pen, ink, oil pastels, chalk, charcoal, and multi-media art. This class is designed to encourage students to think critically and problem solve as an artist.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
7860	Painting 8	1 Hexter
<p>Painting 8 is an elective course designed to further expose students to an exploration of a variety of painting skills and techniques. In this class, students will explore self-expression through 2D experiences which include, but are not limited to, oil pastels, watercolors, temperas, acrylics, and multi-media art. This class is designed to encourage students to think critically and problem solve as an artist.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
7870	Pottery/Sculpture 8	1 Hexter
<p>Pottery and Sculpture 8 is an elective course designed to further expose students to an exploration of 3-dimensional media and techniques. In this class, students explore self-expression through 3D experiences which include, but are not limited to, clay, plaster, wood, paper-mache, cardboard, and wire. This class is designed to encourage students to think critically and problem solve as an artist.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
7890	Advanced Art Exploration 8	1 Hexter
<p>Advanced Art Exploration 8 is an elective course designed to further challenge students with an exploration of media, techniques, and compositional elements and principles. Included in this course are rigorous 2D and 3D experiences which will include, but are not limited to, drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery, printmaking, digital, and multi-media art. This class is designed to encourage students to form a deeper connection to the fine arts and its relevance in our global society. It is strongly suggested, but not required, that students take Art 6, Art 7, and one or more of the 8th grade Art electives in preparation for this class.</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p>		
9601/9701 /9801	Arts for ME IB (6th, 7th, 8th at North Middle)	1 Hexter(s)
<p>Arts for ME is an adapted art course designed to expose students with cognitive and physical disabilities to an exploration of different art media and techniques, art processes, and appreciation. It may include experiences in 2D and 3D work or new and emerging media. Placement in this course is determined by the building based on student need and availability.</p>		

Elective Courses

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS)

2663	Computer Science 6	1 Hexter
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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	Computer Science 7	1 Hexter
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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	Computer Science 8 Creative Design	1 Hexter
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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	Computer Science 8 Game Design	1 Hexter
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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	Computer Science 8 Web Design	1 Hexter
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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 & Nutrition (6th or 7th)	1 Hexter
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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 & Family Connections 8	1 Hexter
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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
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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
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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.

Elective Courses

SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES (STS)

6600	Skilled and Technical Sciences 6	1 Hexter
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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
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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
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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
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Students will explore concepts in engineering and design, building upon skills learned in previous STS courses. This is not like the STS courses you have had before! To be successful in this course, you should have previous experiences in STS courses in 6th, 7th or 8th grade as projects will include construction, engineering, and manufacturing processes. A solution-based design project challenge will be presented to students. This project will take the entire hexter to research, problem-solve, think critically about, and build. The project 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.

Elective Courses

MUSIC		
7610	Music Lab 6	1 Hexter
<p>This course provides students an open introductory music laboratory environment where they can select and explore modules that may include: music production & creation through technology, experiencing musical instruments, and responding to the music surrounding our lives. This is a course open to all students regardless of their previous musical experience or enrollment in music ensembles.</p>		
7710	Music Lab 7	1 Hexter
<p>This course provides students an open intermediate-level music laboratory environment where they can select and explore modules that may include: music production & creation through technology, experiencing musical instruments, and responding to the music surrounding our lives. This is a course open to all students regardless of their previous musical experience or enrollment in music ensembles.</p>		
7810	Music Lab 8	1 Hexter
<p>This course provides students an open advanced music laboratory environment where they can select and explore modules that may include: music production & creation through technology, experiencing musical instruments, and responding to the music surrounding our lives. This is a course open to all students regardless of their previous musical experience or enrollment in music ensembles.</p>		
<p><i>In addition to Music Lab, 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.</i></p>		
7600	Band 6	1 Year
<p>Sixth grade band is a continuation of the instrumental music studies begun in fifth grade or the equivalent. 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.), fundamentals of music theory, tone production, breath control, and the importance of practicing for improvement. Students are required to perform at all scheduled concerts. Prerequisite: Band 5 or consult with the Band Director.</p>		
7700	Band 7	1 Year
<p>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 perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level. Prerequisite: Band 6 or consult with the Band Director.</p>		
7800	Band 8	1 Year
<p>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 perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level. Prerequisite: Band 7 or consult with the Band Director.</p>		

Elective Courses

7620	Orchestra 6	1 Year
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Students will experience playing a violin, viola, cello, or bass in an orchestra and build on previously learned skills, including increasingly advanced techniques and music theory. Students are expected to attend day and evening concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor ensembles exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: Orchestra 5 or consult with the orchestra director.

7720	Orchestra 7	1 Year
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Students will experience playing a violin, viola, cello, or bass in an intermediate-level orchestra and build on previously learned skills, including increasingly advanced techniques and music theory. Students are expected to attend day and evening concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor ensembles exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: Orchestra 6 or consult with the orchestra director.

7820	Orchestra 8	1 Year
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Students will experience playing a violin, viola, cello, or bass in an advanced-level orchestra and build on previously learned skills, including increasingly advanced techniques and music theory. Students are expected to attend day and evening concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor ensembles exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: Orchestra 7 or consult with the orchestra director.

7630	Choir 6	Trimester or Year
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Students will experience singing in a vocal ensemble with the goal of developing building blocks for independent musicianship and vocal technique. Students will work individually and as a team to gain an understanding of musical concepts and vocabulary, while preparing music for performance. Students are required to attend scheduled concerts outside of school. Participation in Choir 6 prepares students for successful participation in Choir 7 and a lifelong enjoyment of music. Additional opportunities such as show choir and musicals may exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: None

7730	Choir 7	Trimester or Year
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Students will experience singing in a vocal ensemble with the goal of improving independent musicianship and vocal technique. Students will work individually and as a team to grow their understanding of musical concepts and vocabulary, while preparing music for performance. Students are required to attend scheduled concerts outside of school. Participation in Choir 7 prepares students for successful participation in Choir 8 and a lifelong enjoyment of music. Additional opportunities such as show choir and musicals may exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: None

7830	Choir 8	Semester or Year
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Students will experience singing in a vocal ensemble with the goal of refining independent musicianship and vocal technique. Students will work individually and as a team to demonstrate an understanding of musical concepts and vocabulary through their performance repertoire. Students are required to attend scheduled concerts outside of school. Participation in Choir 8 prepares students for successful participation in the various high school choral ensembles and a lifelong enjoyment of music. Additional opportunities such as show choir and musicals may exist for students at this level.
Prerequisite: None

Elective Courses

READING		
2652/2752/2852	Young Adult Literature (6th, 7th, 8th)	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
WORLD LANGUAGE		
1618	Spanish A	1 Year
<p>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. There are five strands or “essential components” present in every world language classroom: Communication, Culture, Connections, Communities, and Cognition. There are three modes of communication that contribute to a culture of language proficiency: Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational. By completing Spanish A, Spanish B, and Spanish C, students will work through material similar to Spanish I at the high school.</p>		
1718	Spanish B	1 Year
<p>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 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.</p>		
1818	Spanish C	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
1620	Spanish I-A	1 Year
<p>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. There are five strands or “essential components” present in every world language classroom: Communication, Culture, Connections, Communities, and Cognition. There are three modes of communication that contribute to a culture of language proficiency: Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational. In Spanish I-A, Spanish II-A, and Spanish II-B, students will work through material similar to Spanish I & II at the high school.</p>		
1722	Spanish II-A	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
1826	Spanish II-B	1 Year
<p>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.</p>		
1814	Explore French (8th)	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
1833	Explore German (8th)	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		

Elective Courses

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
<p>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.</p>		
2656/2756/2856	Creative Writing (6th, 7th, 8th)	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
9061/9071/9081	HAL Challenge (6th, 7th, 8th)	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
JAG7/JAG8	JAG (7th & 8th AMS, BMS, CMS, RMS)	To Be Arranged
<p>Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG Nebraska) is dedicated to empowering students with the personal and professional development skills and support to achieve success in high school, further-education, and employment. Classes include project-based learning and leadership development.</p> <p><i>Prerequisites: None</i></p>		
BE01/BE02/BE03	Leadership in Bridge to Early College 6th, 7th, 8th (CMS Bridge to Early College students)	1 Hexter
<p>Students will 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.</p> <p><i>Prerequisites: Selected for participation in the Bridge to Early College Program starting in 6th grade</i></p>		
3621	STEM 6	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
3721	STEM 7	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
3821	STEM 8	1 Hexter
<p>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.</p>		
06SS/07SS/08SS	Success Strategies (6th, 7th, 8th)	To Be Arranged
<p>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.</p> <p>06SSR, 07SSR, 08SSR is used for Success Strategies Reading (6th, 7th, 8th), 06SSM, 07SSM, 08SSM is used for Success Strategies Mathematics (6th, 7th, 8th)</p> <p><i>Prerequisites: Administrator recommendation</i></p>		

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 service-oriented 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

Required Courses

English:

0660 English Language Arts 6 IB

Math:

MA616 Math 6 IB -OR-

MA636 Prealgebra 6 IB

3601 Science 6 IB

4601 Ancient Civilizations 6 IB

8601 Physical Education 6 IB

8611 Health 6 IB

Electives

7651 Art 6 IB

9601 Arts for ME 6 IB

7601 Band 6 IB

5611 Child Care, Food & Nutrition 6 IB

7631 Choir 6 IB

2664 Computer Science 6 IB

2657 Creative Writing 6 IB

9062 HAL Challenge 6 IB

4603 Law and Public Service 6 IB

7611 Music Lab 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

Grade 7

Required Courses

English:

0760 English Language Arts 7 IB

Math:

MA717 Math 7 IB

MA817 Math 8 IB -OR-

MA837 Algebra 1 IB AND

MA857 Geometry 1 IB

3701 Science 7 IB

4701 World Studies 7 IB

5828 Academic Seminar 7 IB

8701 Physical Education 7 IB

8711 Health 7 IB

Electives

7751 Art 7 IB

9701 Arts for ME 7 IB

7701 Band 7 IB

7731 Choir 7 IB

2757 Creative Writing 7 IB

2666 Computer Science 7 IB

9072 HAL Challenge 7 IB

5723 Integrated Learning Lab 7 IB

4703 Law and Public Service 7 IB

7711 Music Lab 7 IB

7721 Orchestra 7 IB

6701 Skilled and Technical Sciences 7 IB

1719 Spanish B IB

1723 Spanish II-A IB

3722 STEM 7 IB

Grade 8

Required Courses

English:

0860 English Language Arts 8 IB -OR-

0899 Honors English 8

Math:

MA818 Math 8 IB -OR-

MA838 Algebra 1 IB AND

MA858 Geometry 1 IB -OR-

MA858 Geometry 1 IB AND

MA898 Honors Geometry 2 IB

3801 Science 8 IB

4801 United States History 8 IB

8801 Physical Education 8 IB

5881 Health 8 IB

Electives

7801 Band 8 IB

7831 Choir 8 IB

2857 Creative Writing 8 IB

2668 Computer Science 8 Creative Design IB

2670 Computer Science 8 Game Design IB

2672 Computer Science 8 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

7811 Music Lab 8 IB

7821 Orchestra 8 IB

7861 Painting 8 IB

7871 Pottery/Sculpture 8 IB

7891 Advanced Art Exploration 8 IB

9801 Arts for ME 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

(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
- MA60M Math 6 Montessori
- MA62M Prealgebra 6 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
- MA70M Math 7 Montessori
- MA80M Math 8 Montessori
- MA82M Algebra 1 Montessori
- MA84M Geometry 1 Montessori
- MA88M Honors Geometry 2 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		
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0680	Language Arts 6 Montessori	1 Year
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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	1 Year
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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
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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.

MA60M	Math 6 Montessori	1 Year
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Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Grade 6, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems, completing computational understanding with the division of fractions and moving towards efficiency by using the algorithm for each operation, extending understanding of the number line to include the entire system of rational numbers, which now includes negative numbers, writing and using expressions and equations, and representing data in multiple ways in order to analyze and interpret the results.

MA62M	Prealgebra 6 Montessori	1 Year
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Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Prealgebra 6, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for writing and using expressions and equations, representing data in multiple ways in order to analyze and interpret the results, developing an understanding of proportional relationships, extending understanding of the number line and understanding operations with rational numbers, solving problems involving perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, using linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems, including rate of change and y-intercept for a given situation, developing an understanding of irrational numbers and integer exponents, analyzing two-dimensional figures and solving problems using understanding of distance, angle, similarity, and congruence; understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem, and investigating probability concepts.

**Montessori students will also select elective courses from the previous section.
These courses are taken with special area teachers.**

Montessori Course Descriptions

Russell Middle School

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE MONTESSORI COURSES		
4711	Personal World/Community 7-8 Montessori	2 Years
<p>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.</p>		
0881	Language Arts 7-8 Montessori	2 Years
<p>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.</p>		
MA70M	Math 7 Montessori	1 Year
<p>Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. During Grade 7, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for developing an understanding of proportional relationships, understanding operations with rational numbers, using expressions and linear equations to represent and solve problems, solving problems involving perimeter and area of two-dimensional figures as well as surface area and volume of three-dimensional figures, and investigating probability concepts.</p>		
MA80M	Math 8 Montessori	1 Year
<p>Mathematics focuses on building a deep understanding of concepts within four comprehensive strands: Number, Algebra, Geometry, and Data. Through high expectations and strong supports, students learn to communicate, represent, and make connections with all math concepts through critical thinking, authentic problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and perseverance. In Grade 8, instruction emphasizes the development of the mathematical processes as the vehicle for using linear equations to represent, analyze, and solve a variety of problems, developing an understanding of irrational numbers and integer exponents, analyzing two-dimensional figures and solving problems using understanding of distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem, and determining and describing rate of change and y-intercept for given situations.</p>		
MA82M	Algebra 1 Montessori	1 Semester
<p>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.</p>		
MA84M	Geometry 1 Montessori	1 Semester
<p>Students will study the properties and applications of geometric figures in two dimensions. This includes inductive and deductive thinking skills in problem solving situations as well as similarity and congruence, Pythagorean Theorem applications, special right triangle relationships and right triangle trigonometry. Writing proofs to prove properties of geometric figures is emphasized.</p>		
MA88M	Honors Geometry 2	1 Semester
<p>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 2 and is recommended for students who plan to pursue Advanced Placement® or International Baccalaureate® mathematics classes in high school.</p>		

Montessori Course Descriptions

Russell Middle School

3705	Science 7-8 Montessori	2 Years
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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
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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 Learner Course Descriptions

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
 - 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
 - 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.

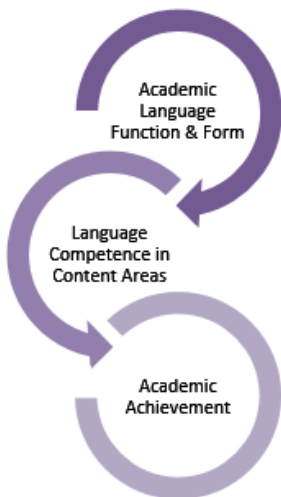
9005 EL Progressing Communication

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 Reserve Officers' Training Corps)	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.
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	11 th and 12 th Grade	Submit an application in November of 10 th grade. Participate in an interview conducted in December. Application on Millard Career Academy webpage.
Business and Logistics Management	Millard North		
Education Academy	Millard West & Millard North		
Health Sciences Academy	Keith Lutz Horizon High School		
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.
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	11 th or 12 th Grade	See Counselor for Information/Application Packet. Submit an application to Counseling Office by March deadline.
Administrative Technology	Sarpy Center		
Advanced Manufacturing Year 1 & Year 2	Fort Omaha		
Architecture Technology	Fort Omaha		
Automotive Collision	Applied Technology Center		
Automotive Technology	South Omaha		
Business	Sarpy Center		
Certified Nursing Assistant	South Omaha		
Civil Engineering Technology	Fort Omaha		
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	11 th or 12 th Grade	See Counselor for Information/Application Packet. Submit an application to Counseling Office by March deadline.
Digital Cinema/Filmmaking	Elkhorn Valley		
Early Childhood Education	Learning Center		
Electrical Technology	Fort Omaha		
Emergency Medical Technician	South Omaha		
Fire Science Technology	Applied Technology Center		
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC)	Fort Omaha		
Horticulture Land Systems and Management	Fort Omaha		
Human Services	Sarpy Center		
IT Technician	Fort Omaha		
Photography	Fort Omaha		
Powersports & Outdoor Power Equipment Tech	South Omaha		
Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing	Fort Omaha		
Prototype Design	Fort Omaha		
Theatre Technology	Omaha Community Playhouse		
Web & Mobile App Programming	Fort Omaha		
Welding & Fabrication Technology	Fort Omaha		



Andersen Middle School
15404 Adams Street - Omaha, NE 68137
(402) 715-8440
<http://ams.mpsomaha.org>
Eric Grandgenett, Principal



Beadle Middle School
18201 Jefferson St - Omaha, NE 68135
(402) 715-6100
<http://bms.mpsomaha.org>
John Southworth, Principal



Central Middle School
12801 L Street - Omaha, NE 68137
(402) 715-8225
<http://cms.mpsomaha.org>
Michelle Klug, Ed.D., Principal



Kiewit Middle School
15650 Howard Street- Omaha, NE 68118
(402) 715-1470
<http://kms.mpsomaha.org>
Marshall Smith, Principal



North Middle School
2828 South 139th Street - Omaha, NE 68144
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Scott Ingwerson, Ed.D., Principal



Russell Middle School
5304 South 172nd Street - Omaha, NE 68135
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Beth Fink, Ed.D., Principal