

2020-2021 Kodiak Middle School

Course Description Booklet

English/Language Arts (ELA) *Required Core Class*

ELA 6 *Grade Level: 6*

English Language Arts for 6th graders.

ELA 7 *Grade Level: 7*

English Language Arts for 7th graders.

ELA 8 *Grade Level: 8*

This course will target students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instruction. Through fiction, non-fiction, and poetry reading, students will practice reading strategies and comprehension skills. The focus in writing will be on narrative, informational, argumentative, and research writing. The overall goal of the class is to increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

Mathematics *Required Core Class*

Math 6 *Grade Level: 6*

A course covering grade-level standards in the areas of ratios and proportional relationships, the number system (with a focus on fluency in decimal and fraction operations, understanding negative numbers, and absolute value), expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability.

Math 7 Grade Level: 7.

A course covering grade-level standards in the areas of ratios and proportional relationships, the number system (with a focus on operations with rational numbers), expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability.

Math 8 Grade Level: 8

A course of grade-level standards which include, but are not limited to, working with radicals and integer exponents, scientific notation, geometric transformations, Pythagorean Theorem and an emphasis on linear relationships.

Algebra I* Grade Level: 8

Topics include, but are not limited to, linear, exponential and quadratic functions, scientific notation, linear systems and inequalities, the Pythagorean Theorem and function notation.

Students are accepted into Algebra I based on high-level MAP scores, student and parent desire for the student to be in Algebra, and recommendation of 7th grade teacher. Students fill out applications in 7th grade to be eligible for Algebra I in 8th grade.

**Students who take Algebra I may be eligible to receive 1.0 credit of Algebra I at the high school level, and may be eligible to enroll into Geometry once in high school. For specific guidelines to earn early high school credit, please refer to [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 6146.2](#).*

<p style="text-align: center;">Science Required Core Class</p>

Integrated Science I Grade Level: 6

Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) students will study an integration of physical science topics including Geology, Physics, Chemistry. Students will survey concepts related to atomic structure, thermal energy, particle motion, weather, water cycle, global warming, geologic processes, and resources. These concepts will be reinforced with engineering and design practices, scientific Literacy, and science process skills.

Integrated Science II Grade Level: 7

Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) students will study a range of life science topics including Biology, Genetics, Ecology. Students will survey concepts related to cell structure and function, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, stimulus and response, reproduction, heredity, body systems, natural selection and evolution, ecological succession, and food webs,. These concepts will be reinforced with engineering and design practices, scientific literacy, and science process skills.

Integrated Science III *Grade Level: 8*

Aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) students will study an integration of physical science topics including Chemistry, Physics, and Astronomy. Students will survey concepts related to properties of matter, atomic theory, molecular composition, chemical change, energy, forces and interactions, properties of waves, and astronomy. These concepts will be reinforced with engineering and design practices, scientific literacy, and science process skills.

Social Studies & Reading *Required Core Class*

Western Hemisphere *Grade Level: 6*

Explore the geography and culture of countries in the Western Hemisphere and how the two are closely connected. Reading strategies for Informational Text are emphasized.

Eastern Hemisphere *Grade Level: 7*

Explore the geography and culture of countries in the Eastern Hemisphere and how the two are closely connected. Reading strategies for Informational Text are emphasized.

United States (US) History *Grade Level: 8*

Students learn United States History from early Native Americans through the Civil War. We'll look at how geography affects settlement and culture, how the U.S. government works, and why people do what they did as the U.S. grows to become a powerful democracy.

Physical Education (PE) *Required Core Class*

PE/Health 6 Combo *Grade Level: 6*

Sixth grade students will begin the first six weeks of school in a classroom setting focusing on Health. The four main areas of study during Health include social, mental, physical, and emotional health.

Sixth grade students will have Physical Education for the remainder of the school year. During PE, students further develop their foundational skills through cooperative participation in group and individual activities. The four main areas of activities include physical fitness and exercise, individual sports/activities, team sports/activities, and aquatics.

PE Grade Level: 7

Philosophy & Objectives:

The KMS 7th Grade Physical Education and Health Program provides a wide variety of physical activities that progress from the gross to fine motor skills. Through participation in a cooperative and positive environment the students will have the following opportunities:

1. To improve their level of overall fitness.
2. To develop skills basic to games and sports.
3. To develop qualities of leadership; and sportsmanship.
4. To gain lifetime skills that will carry over into adult life.

List of Activities:

Hockey, Speedway, Archery, Basketball, Softball, Soccer, Hand-Eye Skills, Volleyball, Badminton, Foot-Eye Skills, Flag Football, Dance & Movement, Fitness, Life Skills. This is a tentative list and is subject to change by teacher.

Grading:

The PE grade is based on the following components:

1. Daily Participation
2. Effort
3. Written Tests
4. Preparedness
5. Attendance.

PE Grade Level: 8

PE (one semester) taught to 8th grade students. Students further develop their foundational skills through cooperative participation in group and individual activities. The four main areas of activities include: Health related physical fitness; Individual sports/activities; Team sports/activities; and Aquatics.

Health Required Core Class for 7th & 8th Graders

Health. Semester only. Grade Levels: 7 & 8

Seventh and eighth grade KMS students will have one semester of Health each school year. There are four units of study identified in the KIBSD Health curriculum: Healthy Relationships & Living, Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Use & Prevention, Nutrition & Fitness, and Sexual Health & Wellness. The major emphasis in Health is establishing and maintaining healthy relationships with peers, using effective communication strategies to avoid and reduce health risks and conflict, understanding sexual health and personal wellness and the use of goal setting and decision making to enhance overall personal health.

English Language Acquisition Program

English Language Arts 6. *Year-long. Grade Level: 6. Placement determined by ELAP teacher.*

Students will focus on the 6th Grade State of Alaska Standards related to reading literature and informational text, writing, language, and speaking and listening. Support in English language and students' heritage languages will also be provided with the goal of maintaining and strengthening student bilingualism and multiculturalism. Writing instruction will include narrative, informative, argumentative, and poetry units.

Math 6. *Year-long. Grade Level: 6. Placement determined by ELAP teacher.*

A course with emphasis on language of mathematics covering grade-level standards in the areas of ratios and proportional relationships, the number system (with a focus on fluency in decimal and fraction operations, understanding negative numbers, and absolute value), expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability.

Study Skill 6. *Semester or year-long. Grade Level: 6. Placement determined by ELAP teacher.*

Skills development is designed to provide general academic and English language support with the goal of student success in all classes and a smooth transition to middle school. Students will build their organizational skills, work habits, goal-setting abilities, English and heritage language literacy skills, community integration, and learning strategies, focusing on strategies that can be applied in multiple content areas. Academic vocabulary from core content area classes will also be emphasized.

Study Skills 7. *Semester or year-long. Grade Level: 7. Placement determined by ELAP teacher.*

Skills development is designed to provide general academic and English language support with the goal of student success in all classes. Students will build their organizational skills, work habits, goal-setting abilities, English and heritage language literacy skills, community integration, and learning strategies focusing on applications in multiple content areas. Academic vocabulary from core content area classes will also be emphasized.

Study Skill 8. *Semester or year-long. Grade Level: 8. Placement determined by ELAP teacher.*

Skills development is designed to provide general academic and English language support with the goal of student success in all classes. Students will build their organizational skills, work habits, goal-setting abilities, English and heritage language literacy skills, community integration, and learning strategies, focusing on strategies that can be applied in multiple content areas. Academic vocabulary from core content area classes and student career explorations will also be emphasized through regular field trips and guest speakers.

CTE Exploratory *Required Core Class for 6th Graders*

CTE Exploratory *Year-long. Grade Level: 6.*

This course is designed to allow 6th grade students to explore Career Technology (CTE). Students will begin the year with an introduction to Digital Literacy including the Microsoft Office 365 Suite. In Microsoft Word, students will learn keyboarding and word processing, including accessing OneDrive to save documents. Students will also learn multimedia platforms, such as Powerpoint, iMovie, Garage Band, and others. Students will explore PowerSchool, including Class pages, Unified Classroom, and Outlook email, which will include email communication processes and etiquette. Students will have Digital Citizenship, including online safety, etiquette, and monitoring a digital footprint. These skills may be applied as students continue to explore additional hands on CTE topics that may include Coding, Robotics, STEAM, and Culinary Arts. Additional topics may also be added as time and student interest permits.

This course is intended as an introduction to all other CTE courses offered at KMS.

Fine Arts *Elective Classes*

Beginning Art *Year-long. Grade Level: 6.*

An introduction to creating visual art with emphasis on basic drawing skills, color theory and two dimensional works.

Beginning Art *Semester long. Grade Levels 7 & 8.*

An introduction to creating visual art with emphasis on basic drawing skills, color theory and two dimensional works. Students in this class will have experience navigating the social and academic expectations of Middle School.

Intermediate Art *Semester long. Grade Levels 7 & 8*

An extension of beginning art to include an introduction to three dimensional art (Successful completion of Beginning Art required).

Advanced Art 2D: *Semester long. Grade levels 7 & 8*

A comprehensive in-depth study into drawing and painting. Reflective studio practice guides students through the creation of original artwork as they learn the language of art, study artists and their work, and consider different theories and purposes of art.

Advanced Art 3D: Semester long. Grade level 8 - application required

This course is a continuation of concepts explored in Intermediate Art in three- dimensional media and is designed as a comprehensive in-depth study into sculptural concepts. Reflective studio practice guides students through the creation of original artwork as they learn the language of art, study artists and their work, and consider different theories and purposes of art.

Beginning Band Year-long. Grade Level(s): 6-8

An introduction to band (no prior experience is necessary).

Intermediate Band Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite(s): Beginning Band, or teacher approval.

An intermediate course for band (1 year of band experience).

Advanced Band Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8 Prerequisite(s): Beginning & Intermediate Band, or teacher approval.

An advanced course for band (2 or more years of band experience).

Beginning Orchestra Year-long. Grade Level(s): 6-8. Prerequisite(s): None

Students will study and perform a variety of orchestral literature in concerts. This course prepares students for the technical and musical skills required for continuation in the KMS Intermediate Orchestra.

Intermediate Orchestra Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite(s): Beginning Orchestra and/or instructor approval.

Students will study and perform a variety of orchestral literature in concerts. This course prepares students for the technical and musical skills required for continuation in the KMS Advanced Orchestra.

Advanced Orchestra Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Orchestra and/or instructor approval.

Students will study and perform a variety of orchestral literature in concerts. This course prepares students for the technical and musical skills required for continuation in the high school orchestra program.

6th Grade Choir Year-long. Grade Level(s): 6. Prerequisite(s): Read and return the Choir handbook and forms. Fee: \$80 for choir uniform - some work scholarships available.

An introduction to vocal technique and music literacy skills. Students will study and perform a variety of vocal literature for treble and mixed voices.

Middle School Boys Choir *Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite(s): Read and return the Choir handbook and forms. Fee: \$80 for Choir uniform - some work scholarships available.*

Choir for young men 7th through 8th grade, or otherwise approved by the teacher and family. Study of a variety of vocal literature for tenor-bass and mixed voices.

7th & 8th Grade Treble Choir *Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite(s): Read and return the Choir handbook and forms. Fee \$80 for Choir uniform - some work scholarships available.*

Choir for young women in the 7th and 8th grade. Study of a variety of vocal literature for treble and mixed voices.

Theatre Arts *Semester only (or year-long if approved by teacher). Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Fee: \$25.*

Students will be introduced to basic concepts of theatre arts utilizing various drama techniques and avenues of study. Students will learn and use drama and theatre vocabulary in class discussions and activities, as well as study literary elements in scripts, to enhance and reinforce literacy skills. Students will exhibit and show proficiency of skills in Language Arts, Speaking and Listening, and Performance through individual and group theatre games, presentations, performances, as well as script and journal writing.

Career Technology & Other Electives *Elective Classes*

STEAM I *Semester only (or year-long if approved by teacher). Grade Level(s): 7 & 8.*

STEAM is based on the idea of educating students in five specific disciplines- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math- in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Students learn how these five core subjects connect to real world situations. Students in STEAM classes learn how to problem solve, work as a team, and learn technology skills necessary for the 21st century workplace. Students learn proper lab procedures and lab safety rules. Students are introduced to various computer skills and programs, including Windows 10 and AutoCAD. Students will acquire skills that meet industry standards. Many STEAM lessons involve building models and simulating situations. There is an emphasis on the engineering design process.

STEAM II Semester only (or year-long if approved by teacher). Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite: One semester or year of STEAM that included AutoCAD instruction.

For STEAM Level 2, students must have prior AutoCAD instruction and practice including the 2D and 3D side of AutoCAD. Students should also be familiar with the process of creating a 3D model on AutoCAD and printing it on the 3D printers. Students need to have completed at least one semester of STEAM with a passing grade, and AutoCAD instruction, to be eligible to take this course. STEAM Level 2 will build on the skills learned in STEAM. Students will complete intermediate/advanced projects using 3D AutoCAD. Students will continue to acquire new skills that meet industry standards. Students are expected to follow proper lab procedures and lab safety rules especially at this more advanced level. Many of the STEAM lessons at this level involve building models and simulating situations. There is a heavy emphasis on the engineering design process.

Greenhouse & Agriculture Semester only (or year-long if approved by teacher). Grade Level(s): 7 & 8.

KMS Agriculture provides instruction within a greenhouse environment. Plant anatomy, growth and reproduction, propagation, and production are covered through the course. Students learn how to prepare soil, plant seeds, transplant, artificially pollinate, fertilize, prune, and harvest crops. Students also learn about the requirements of plants, the importance of insects to agriculture, and how to test the soil to improve growing conditions. Students will learn how to grow lettuce hydroponically. Students will also learn how to start plants indoors under grow lights and transplant them into the greenhouse. Students will be working in the classroom, the plant room, and in the greenhouse.

Industrial Arts Semester only (or year-long if approved by teacher). Grade Level(s): 7 & 8

The KMS Industrial Arts program is a class where students can put to use the skills they have been developing since kindergarten. Students use math, geometry, and art to create a wide variety of projects out of wood, metal, composite, and any other material deemed appropriate. Possible projects might include smokers, chairs, desks, household items, keepsake boxes, and other things approved by the instructor. Safety, quality, cleanliness, work ethic, and accountability are all characteristics taught, and practiced, in the KMS Industrial Arts program.

Introduction to Automotive Technology Semester only. Grade Level: 8

Introduction to Automotive Technology begins with classroom and shop instruction on the tasks set forth in the National Automotive Technician Educational Foundation (NATEF) General Service Technician (GST) industry curriculum. Class content includes: safety rules and procedures, tool usage and safety, automotive measurement, basic electricity, wheels and tires, brake systems, steering systems, suspension systems, basic troubleshooting, and employability skills. Visit: www.natef.org for more information.

Introduction to Welding Semester only. Grade Level: 8

Students will learn the basic theory and practice of fusing ferrous metals. Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW) is the process emphasized. Students gain experience with a selection of welded joint designs and a variety of electrodes. Standard industrial safety procedures are stressed.

Library & Office Aide Semester or year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Requires teacher/administration placement and approval.

The Office & Library Aide classes at KMS are designed to offer students the experience of learning basic skills as they assist in the completion of various library and office operations as assigned. Enrollment as an Office or Library Aide is a privilege. In keeping with the high standards of KMS, the office or library aide is expected to dress appropriately for the school setting in accordance with school guidelines, understand and comply with confidentiality protocol, and in no way abuse the privileges of the office or library aide position.

In addition, the course is offered on a first come, first serve basis. The class is graded as Pass/Fail and grading will be based upon punctuality, attitude, and effort. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in removal from the class.

World Language *Elective Classes*

Spanish I Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8

A basic introduction to the Spanish language with an emphasis on SPEAKING, using *Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling and Comprehensible Input (TPRSci) techniques, as well as personalization strategies. Readings are written specifically for novice learners, using everyday language, and are mostly done as a class. Stories are simple, and are often based on class members.

Song, movement, and acting are also important parts of the class.

**Students who take Spanish I may be eligible to receive 1.0 credit of Spanish I at the high school level, and may be eligible to enroll into Spanish II once in high school. For specific guidelines to earn early high school credit, please refer to [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 6146.2](#).*

Spanish II Year-long. Grade Level(s): 7 & 8. Prerequisite: Spanish I.

This course is designed to equip students with practical tools they can use to SPEAK with others in Spanish, using *Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling and Comprehensible Input (TPRSci) techniques. Students will create stories together, and will read together, as a class, as well as independently.

Song, movement, and acting are also important parts of the class.

**Students who take Spanish II may be eligible to receive 1.0 credit of Spanish II at the high school level, and may be eligible to enroll into Spanish III once in high school. For specific guidelines to earn early high school credit, please refer to [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 6146.2](#).*