2022-2023 6th Grade Related Arts Course Descriptions

Art 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: The 6th Grade Art curriculum is designed to introduce students to the Element of Art, a variety of techniques and media, with an introduction to art history and critique. Individual creativity, neatness and respect for the work of others is encouraged.

*Band 6 [2 class periods]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: 6th Grade Band is open to all 6th grade students who desire to learn a band instrument. The following instruments are available for a 6th grade student: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. Students will focus on the following concepts: rhythmic comprehension, tone production, music reading and notation, solo and ensemble performance, listening and transcription, basic music theory, music history, cultural relevance, and introduction to expressive techniques. Instrument selection takes place during the spring mouthpiece testing. Dates for mouthpiece testing will be announced after our elementary school recruitment. Students who wish to be in band must rent an instrument and have it in class the first week of school. If renting/purchasing an instrument is a concern, we will work with you to discover affordable options. Course grading will include daily participation, effort in class, practice records (individual recordings), playing & written quizzes, and performance in various seasonal concerts and state/local festivals.

*Chorus 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Chorus offers the opportunity to participate in a vocal music program dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in music through performance. Students participate in daily rehearsals and perform in concerts during the school year.

Computer Lab 6 (Technology Class) [1 class period-semester class]
All students will be scheduled for this course by default unless certain scheduling conflicts apply.
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Students are taught the hardware and software fundamentals of computer systems. They learn the rules and use of technology through online safety. Students who complete this course learn keyboarding, Word Processing (formatting, proofreading, spelling and grammar tools), Spreadsheets (data formatting), computational thinking and coding basics (writing code), and internet usage and online communication (learning to "surf" the web, email, instant messaging, blogs, community sites, podcasting, and digital collaboration).

Digital Learning 6 (Technology Class) [1 class period-semester class]
All students will be scheduled for this course by default unless certain scheduling conflicts apply.
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Digital Learning provides opportunities for students to collaborate as they solve challenging problems using various technological formats. This problem solving strategy is guided by open-ended questions which drive student-led investigative processes. Students research the problem, collect data, and draw conclusions based on their findings. Digital Learning supports the use of multiple learning styles as students integrate writing and technology to demonstrate understanding.

Industrial Technology 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Industrial Technology focuses on answering the question: What is engineering? Students complete a series of nine projects ranging from Engineering Career Brochures to designing their very own Rube Goldberg device. Each project is full of hands-on activities that promote teamwork and critical thinking skills utilized by today's engineers.

Music 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Music 6 is designed to help students understand the importance and influence of music in their lives and show them how to appreciate a wide variety of music. In this course, students will use digital technology to write lyrics and create videos. Students will examine music from several perspectives and engage in class discussions and research to understand how technology has advanced the field of music. There is no formal performance required.

*Orchestra 6 [2 class periods]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: The orchestra class is open to students who desire to learn to play one of four different stringed instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass. It is a yearlong class that meets 90 minutes during the designated related arts time. The student will receive guidance in producing proper tone, pitch, rhythm, posture, dynamics, and performance at different levels. Orchestra is designed to help build self-esteem (achievement), cooperation (playing in an ensemble), and life skills (practice, study, commitment) through the discipline of learning to play an instrument. The 6th grade orchestra has two performances a year, one at Christmas and one in the spring. These are all mandatory and part of the student's grades for the year.

Physical Education/Health 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
All students will be scheduled for this course by default unless certain scheduling conflicts apply.
Purpose: The Physical Education program allows each student to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead-up games, team sports, individual sports, and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports, as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning and lifelong physical activities. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

The Health Program is designed to familiarize students with issues they will encounter during their middle school years. It is designed to provide knowledge and experiences which will enable them to make choices that will have a positive impact on their health. Units covered include: stress management, managing mental and emotional health, your body systems, physical fitness, sports conditioning, eating responsibly, and more.

*Released Time 6 [2 class periods]
Prerequisite: Signed consent form
Purpose: Released Time Bible Education class, provided by Christian Learning Centers of the Upstate, Inc. is an off-campus class taught at a local church. It is a non-credit course and is designed for students who wish to augment their education with religious and moral instruction. Parent/guardian permission through a signed consent form is required.

STEM 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: STEM introduces students to the four areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through an interdisciplinary approach that will increase awareness, build knowledge, develop problem solving skills, and potentially awaken an interest in pursuing a career in STEM.

*Theatre 6 [1 class period]
Prerequisite: none
Purpose: Theatre is an all-encompassing introduction to theatre arts. Students will take their first steps towards understanding the basics of theatre. They will cover the core components of the theatre machine: acting, directing, playwriting, and technical theatre. By understanding the inner workings of these concepts and practices, they will also expand their knowledge of theatre history. Young artists will also be introduced to publicity, the nuance of play production, and a deep well of improvisational exercises and games. This course will provide a strong foundation to continue a pursuit of the arts while enhancing other non-arts skills such as public speaking and the ability to collaborate with others. Please note this is not musical theatre.

*WPPL (Digital Literacy 6) [1 class period]
Prerequisite: approved application
Purpose: Students will gain experience in producing the morning school broadcast show. Students learn how to operate a camera and the behind the scenes logistics of video production.

*Yearbook (Annual 6) [1 class period]
Prerequisite: approved application
Purpose: Students will learn the components of the yearbook program and produce pages for a mock yearbook with the possibility of contributing to the final yearbook publication.

*Denotes specialty course (meaning an application or audition is required) or performing arts course - these courses may override the PE/Health or Technology requirement. Students may participate in more than one of these. All other courses are considered exploratory courses.