Kamiakin Middle School

2020-2021
COURSE CATALOG

COURSE INFORMATION

6th Grade

2 Semesters English 6

2 Semesters Social Studies 6

2 Semesters 6th Grade Math

2 Semesters Science

1 Semester Fitness

3 Semesters Electives

7th Grade

2 Semesters English 7

2 Semesters Social Studies 7

2 Semesters 7th Grade Math or Algebra*

2 Semesters Science

1 Semester Fitness

1 Semester Health

2 Semesters Electives

8th Grade

2 Semesters English 8

2 Semesters U.S. History 2/Washington State History

2 Semesters 8th Grade Math, Algebra or Geometry

2 Semesters Science

1 Semester Fitness

3 Semesters Electives

• Elective classes are great opportunities to try new content areas, skills and creative tools within the school day.

• Students are provided an opportunity to list six preferences from our elective class category. This list changes slightly from year to year and electives classes can be changed after the registration cycle.

• A full year class will count as two electives.

• Students should give careful consideration to their preferences, as students will be required to keep their classes if indicated as a preference.

Reminder: These are preferences and Kamiakin cannot guarantee placement in electives due to a combination of teacher availability, space availability, enrollment capacity, and how these factors fit into a specific child's daily schedule. Counselors will do their best to meet as many preferences as possible.

ENGLISH & SOCIAL STUDIES courses

English 6
1 Year

In Language Arts, students develop their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills in a variety of literary and informational
texts, through both in-class and independent reading experiences. They deepen what they know about texts by analyzing literary/story elements, literary devices, and text organizational structures. They learn to evaluate texts and authors and to share reading experiences with others. In writing, students build on what they have learned in previous grades about writing for different audiences and purposes, the writing process and traits of effective writing. They deepen their understanding and skills about expository writing and are introduced to persuasive writing. They learn to evaluate their own writing and to reflect on their own progress as writers.

Social Studies 6
1 Year

The focus of 6th Grade Social Studies is the study of ancient civilizations. As they learn about ancient civilizations, students study characteristics of cultures and regions, different forms of government and economic systems, and the impact of ancient civilizations on world history. As in previous grades, students use the lenses of history, economics, civics, and geography and apply important Social Studies skills, as they read, research, explore, and learn about the world around them and their place in it.

English 7
1 Year

Students use the Writing Process and the 6+1 Traits of Writing to clearly communicate thoughts, feelings, opinions, and ideas in a variety of writing forms and for different audiences and purposes. Emphasis is placed on expository, persuasive, and summary writing. By employing the 6 Traits of an Effective Reader, they analyze literal and implied meaning of fiction and nonfiction. The class uses computers and/or other technology for problem solving and for presentations. In both, language arts and social studies students will complete all state and district required assessments.

7th Grade U.S. History I
1 Year

Emphasis is placed on these areas: Events and ideas leading to the development of a constitutional form of government, American Revolution, Rise of Industry, Civil War, Reconstruction, as well as U.S. geography and current events. Students form critical questions and seek answers by gathering, analyzing, and interpreting information regarding history, geography, culture, civics, and economics. In addition to their own cultural heritage they study people of diverse backgrounds and abilities.
Major Assignments and Projects
Individual and group projects
Passion Project
Several multi-paragraph writing assignments
Exams: short answer, extended answer, multiple choice, true/false Writing reflections/portfolio

English 8
1 Year

This course focuses on meeting the requirements of the state in the areas of both reading and writing. Students will gain strategies for reading comprehension, annotation and analysis through the reading of short stories, poetry, To Kill a Mockingbird and Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet. Students will focus on writing in the areas of narrative, expository and argumentative in connection with the concurrent reading.

8th Grade U.S. History II/WA State History
1 Year

This course focuses on American History from Reconstruction to present. Units of study include topics such as Westward expansion, immigration, WWI and WWII, The Great Depression and the Civil Rights era. Washington State History will be studied at the beginning of the year as well as embedded throughout the American History curriculum. Passing both semesters of Social Studies in 8th grade is necessary in order to receive credit for high school in the area of Washington State History. Failure to do so will result in summer school or independent study in 9th grade. Students will read primary source documents as well as non-fiction text and will write multiple expository essays throughout the year. National History Day will take place at the beginning of the year and instruction will focus on research and analysis.

6th, 7th, and 8th Grades
Safety Net Literacy SN English 6
SN English 7
SN English 8

By state criteria, this course provides additional instruction for students who were not proficient on their last state test score in reading and/or writing. Each student will have a learning plan based on their state testing that will be updated quarterly in sequence with the report card. The purpose of the class is to assist the student in the acquisition of grade-level skills through additional reading and writing instruction.
Essential Understandings
Communication (written and verbal) enable us to gain and share information about self, others and the world.
A variety of strategies, tools and technologies enhance effective communication
Audience and purpose influence choices in form, style and presentation

SCIENCE courses

6th Grade Science
1 Year

District Adopted Curriculum: McGraw Hill
Integrated iScience Course 1

Students in 6th grade science develop understanding of key concepts to help them make sense of life, earth and physical science. Science concepts and processes introduced in grades K-5: Physical, Earth and Life Science, are investigated with increasing depth where students plan and conduct their own experiments, devise data tables, analyze data, and communicate the results they obtain. Throughout the class, students learn to think critically and logically to make connections between prior science knowledge and evidence produced from investigations, models and system thinking. We follow the Next Generation Science Standards utilizing crosscutting concepts, and science/engineering practices, embedded in the disciplinary core ideas. The science strands/modules include: **Light** (*Physical Science*), **Earth History** (*Earth Science*), **Diversity of Life**, and **Systems** (*Life Science*)

7th Grade Science
1 Year

District Adopted Curriculum: McGraw Hill
Integrated iScience Course 2

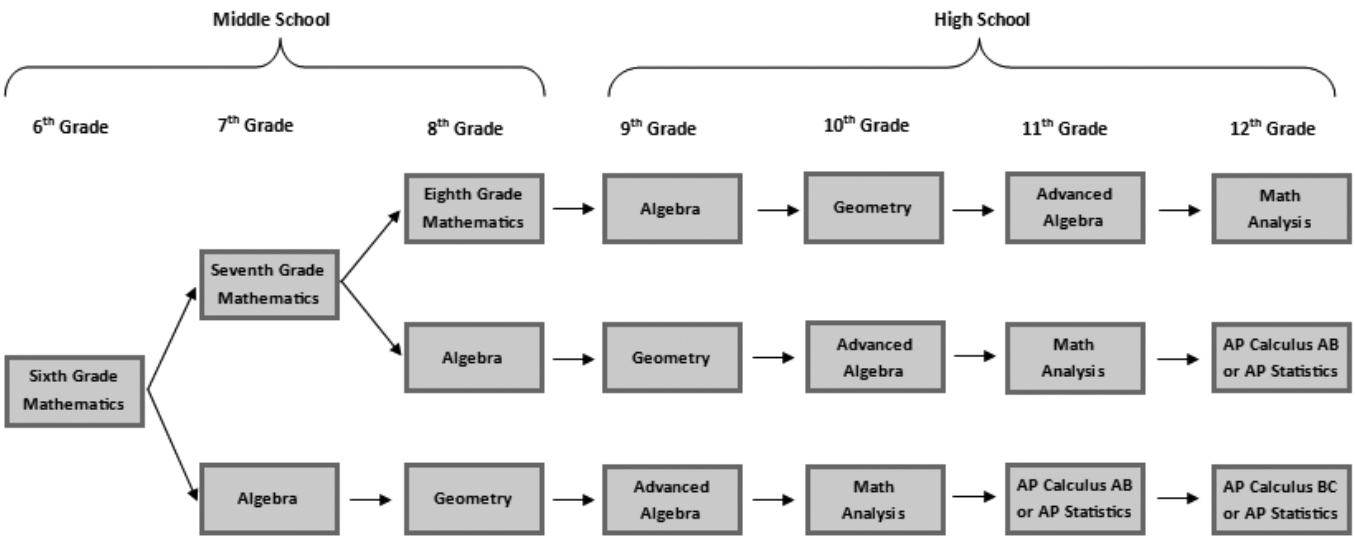
Students in 7th grade science develop understanding of key concepts to help them make sense of life, earth and physical science. Science concepts and processes introduced in grades K-5: Physical, Earth and Life Science, are investigated with increasing depth where students plan and conduct their own experiments, devise data tables, analyze data, and communicate the results they obtain. Through hands-on lab activities, class discussions, individual and group projects and activities, students investigate science topics relevant to their own lives and build understandings. We follow the Next Generation Science Standards utilizing crosscutting concepts, and science/engineering practices, embedded in the disciplinary core ideas. The science strands/modules include: **Energy, Machines and Motion** (*Physical Science*), **Catastrophic Events** (*Earth Science*), and **Population and Ecosystems** (*Life Science*).

8th Grade Science
1 Year

District Adopted Curriculum: McGraw Hill
Integrated iScience Course 3

Students in 8th grade science develop understanding of key concepts to help them make sense of life, earth and physical science. Science concepts and processes introduced in grades K-5: Physical, Earth and Life Science, are investigated with increasing depth where students plan and conduct their own experiments, devise data tables, analyze data, and communicate the results they obtain. Through hands-on lab activities, class discussions, individual and group projects and activities, students investigate science topics relevant to their own lives and build understandings. We follow the Next Generation Science Standards utilizing crosscutting concepts, and science/engineering practices, embedded in the disciplinary core ideas. The science strands/modules include: **Properties of Matter** (*Physical Science*), **Earth in Space** (*Earth Science*), and **Human Body Systems** (*Life Science*).

MATH courses



NOTE: Kamiakin follows the LWSD developed curriculum guides that align our adopted curriculum to the Washington state standards.

All Lake Washington middle school mathematics courses are designed to teach and assess:
Reading and writing of mathematical procedures.
Reading and writing of mathematical explanations.
Analyzing, displaying, reading, and interpreting data sets using graphs, charts, and tables.
Reading of texts and other mathematics curriculum materials.

Math Placement Testing
Algebra is the advanced math placement offering to seventh and eighth grade students who qualify according to district criteria.

Advanced Math Placement Criteria:
Algebra aptitude test (Administered in Spring)
Academic achievement
Level 4 on 6th grade state testing

MATH courses

6th Grade Math
1 Year

In this course students focus on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking by describing and summarizing numerical data sets. Students also build on their work with area by reasoning about relationships among shapes to determine area, surface area, and volume.

7th Grade Math
1 Year

In this course students build on their understanding from 6th grade by focusing on four critical areas: (1) develop understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers (explain the rules for adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with negative numbers) and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

8th Grade Math
1 Year

In this course instructional time focuses on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation and solving linear equations and systems of equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

Algebra 1
1 Year
CADR

Prerequisites: Aptitude test, math grades, state assessment
Algebra 1 formalizes and extends the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The course focuses on five critical areas: (1) develop fluency writing, interpreting, and translating between various forms of linear equations and inequalities, and simple exponential functions, and using them to solve problems; (2) compare and contrast linear and exponential functions, translate between different representations, use function notation, and interpret arithmetic sequences as linear functions and geometric sequences as exponential functions; (3) using regression techniques to describe linear relationships quantitatively and make judgments about the appropriateness of linear models; (4) extend the laws of exponents to rational exponents, see structure in and create quadratic and exponential expressions, and solve equations, inequalities and systems of equations involving quadratic expressions; and (5) compare quadratic, linear, and exponential functions to model phenomenon. They also identify the real solutions of quadratic equations as the zeroes of a related quadratic function and expand their experience to more specialized functions – absolute value, step, and those that are piecewise defined. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course, and together with the content standards allow students to experience math as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Geometry
1 Year
CADR

Prerequisites: Algebra I
In Geometry, students explore more complex geometric situations and deepen their explanations of geometric relationships, moving towards formal mathematical arguments. The course focuses on six critical areas: (1) using previous experience with rigid motions, students develop notions about what it means for two objects to be congruent, establish triangle congruence based on these rigid motions along with formal constructions, and use this as a familiar foundation for the development of formal proof, solving problems and proving theorems about triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons; (2) build a formal understanding of similarity, using earlier experience with dilations and proportional reasoning, and apply similarity to right triangle trigonometry and the Pythagorean Theorem, and use the Laws of Sines and Cosines to find missing measures; (3)work with the geometry of two- and three-

dimensional objects, as well as shapes of cross-sections and the result of rotating a two-dimensional object about a line; (4) build on the previous work with the Pythagorean Theorem to find distances and use a rectangular coordinate system to verify geometric relationships, including properties of special right triangles and quadrilaterals, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and the connection of geometric and algebraic definitions of the parabola; (5) prove basic theorems about circles, and use coordinate geometry to find equations of circles and determine intersections between lines and circles or parabolas, or between two circles; and (6) compute and interpret theoretical and experimental probabilities of compound events to make informed decisions, and make use of geometric probability models whenever possible. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout the course, and together with the content standards allow students to experience math as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

Safety Net Math 6, Safety Net Math 7, Safety Net Math 8

Prerequisites: By state criteria, this course provides additional instruction for students who were not proficient on the last state test scores in mathematics. (Smarter Balance and EOC)

The purpose of the class is to assist the student in the acquisition of grade-level skills and concepts through additional mathematics instruction. Extended Math teachers support students by pre-teaching, re-teaching and extra practice of the concepts and skills being covered in the regular math class. This class replaces two semester electives.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION courses

6th Grade - Fitness 6
1 semester

Students in grade six will combine fundamental skills into more com- plex movement forms in modified game, rhythmic, and recreational activities. Students assess their health-related fitness status and set reasonable and appropriate goals for development, maintenance, and improvement. Students will learn and apply health skills and strategies to improve or maintain personal health. Students begin to understand adolescent health issues and concerns and the relation- ship between choices and consequences.

Fitness Level I | Power Standards

Develops motor skills and movement concepts as developmentally appropriate.

Acquires the knowledge and skills to safely participate in a variety of developmentally appropriate physical activities.

Understands the components of health-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self-assessment in order to improve performance.

Understands the components of skill-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self-assessment in order to improve performance.

Health I | Power Standards

Explains the relationship of nutrition and food nutrients to body composition and physical performance.

Explains the foundations of health and analyzes personal behaviors.

Explains the stages of growth and development.

Explains the concepts of prevention and control of disease.

Acquires skills to live safely and reduce health risks.

7th Grade - Fitness 7/8
1 semester

In grade seven, students continue to develop competence in modified versions of various games and recreational activities. They can apply similar concepts from one sport or movement setting to another.

Students continue to develop responsible personal and social behaviors by demonstrating decision-making skills, conflict-resolution skills, appropriate etiquette, and respect for others. Students achieve and maintain personal fitness standards and set reasonable and appropriate goals for improvement or maintenance of health-related fitness.

Fitness Level I | Power Standards

Develops motor skills and movement concepts as developmentally appropriate.

Acquires the knowledge and skills to safely participate in a variety of developmentally appropriate physical activities.

Understands the components of health-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self-assessment in order to improve performance. Understands the components of skill-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self- assessment in order to improve performance.

Activities/Challenges

Individual, team sports, recreational activities emphasizing both competitive and noncompetitive activities.

Emphasis on social interaction, sportsmanship, conflict resolution, goal setting and team building and class participation.

Fitness testing and goal setting

7th Health
1 semester

7th grade students acquire the skills to live safely and reduce health risks. Health I explains the relationship of nutrition and food nutrients to body composition and physical performance. Student will learn the foundations of health and analyze personal behaviors. Stages of growth and development will be explained in this semester long course. Students will be taught the concept of prevention and control of disease.

8th Grade - Fitness 7/8
1 semester

In grade eight, students demonstrate competence in skillful movement in game situations and in a variety of recreational activities. They transition from modified versions of movement forms to more com- plex applications across all types of activities. Students demonstrate the ability to assume responsibility for guiding their own learning as they apply their knowledge and abilities to create a practice plan to improve performance in selected physical activities. Students are able to set goals, track progress, and participate in these activities to improve health-related fitness.

Fitness Level I | Power Standards

Develops motor skills and movement concepts as developmentally appropriate.

Acquires the knowledge and skills to safely participate in a variety of developmentally appropriate physical activities.

Understands the components of health-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self-assessment in order to improve performance.

Understands the components of skill-related fitness and interprets information from feedback, evaluation, and self-assessment in order to improve performance.

Individual, team sports, recreational activities emphasizing both competitive and noncompetitive activities.

Emphasis on social interaction, sportsmanship, conflict resolution, goal setting and team building and class participation.

Fitness testing and goal setting

Analyzes personal fitness information to develop and monitor

RESOURCE programs

Language Arts/Reading (Functional English)

1 year

Individualized Education Plan (IEP) required. This is an individualized program that includes reading, writing, spelling, vocabulary and phonics, with an emphasis on application of these skills.

Essential Understandings

Create quality products and presentations to communicate information

Use of the writing process

Learn to spell, utilizing phonetics and word structures

Use of a proofreading guide, to edit student's own writing

Use of a variety of text forms (recount, letters, procedure, books, reports, signs, posters and displays)

Use of a variety of strategies, to construct meaning from different reading materials

Use of a variety of phonic/word-attack strategies

Ability to re-tell, discuss, and interpret what is read or viewed

Activities/Challenges

Journal writing

Spelling lessons

Cooperative groups

Vocabulary and spelling building activities

Creative writing - narrative

Report writing - expository, process, persuasive

Reading program

Grammar activities

Assessment Tools

Teacher-created and/or program tests

Grading rubrics

Benchmarking and progress monitoring

Curriculum based measurements

Resources/Technology/Materials

Use of computers for research, word processing, and graphics

Use of library resources

My Access writing program

Step Up to Writing; 6+1 Writing Traits

INSIDE Language, Literacy and Content (National Geographic School Publishing)

SRA Morphographic Spelling

PowerSchool

Math Lab (General Math)

1 year

Individualized Education Plan (IEP) required. This class addresses fluency, calculation, and math reasoning.

All Lake Washington junior high mathematics courses are designed to teach and assess:

Reading and writing of mathematical procedures,

Reading and writing of mathematical explanations,

Reading of texts and other mathematics curriculum materials, responding to short answer and extended response questions using MSP-like scoring guides.

Core Processes – Computation and understanding of whole numbers, fractions, and decimals

Students will increase accuracy in computation of numbers, both whole and fractional, and compare and order numbers, both whole and fractional. Students will gain a real world understanding of numbers, their use in the world and application to real world situations.

Core Processes – Reasoning, problem solving, and communication Students refine their reasoning and problem-solving skills as they move more fully into the symbolic world of algebra and higher-level mathematics. They demonstrate the ability to understand and communicate mathematical ideas, to generalize, to draw conclusions, and to verify the reasonableness of solutions to problems.

Activities/Challenges

Daily assignments addressing overall math concepts, problem solving, and math fluency. The class primarily uses the *Cognitive Tutor: Bridge to Algebra*. This program integrates collaborative class work with individualized computer practice.

Resources/Technology

Cognitive tutor

Computers

Calculators

PowerSchool

Cognitive Tutor

Assessment Tools

Chapter tests

Quizzes

Curriculum based measurements

Benchmarking and progress monitoring

Cognitive Tutor progress monitoring

Strategies for Success - (Organization)

1 year

This daily class is designed for students who are on an IEP and qualify for specially-designed instruction in work completion, study social skills, behavior and/or organizational skills. In addition to receiving specially-designed instruction in study and organizational strategies, time will be designated for the application of these skills in the students' content-area assignments/projects.

Essential Understandings

Demonstrate quality in the workplace by showing pride in work

Assume responsibility for assigned tasks and self

Work independently

Exhibit initiative, organization, punctuality, and daily attendance

Demonstrate dependability and honesty

RESOURCE programs

Express self-advocacy clearly and appropriately
Critical Content/Process and Skills
Organization of materials and thoughts through writing in the content area
Study skills, test taking, time management.
Self-advocacy skill training and application
Strategies in listening skills
Resources/Technology
Students will be given computer access for research, word processing, graphics, presentations, and to find literary sources and texts.
PowerSchool
Assessment Tools
Weekly pre/post tests and quizzes on each unit of study skills strategies.
Rubrics for planner, binder and netbook checks
Curriculum based measurements

ELL Language Arts
1 Year

This course focuses on pronunciation, vocabulary and strategies for reading and writing. ELL addresses the needs of culturally diverse, non-English or limited-English speaking students. Students will learn to read, write and speak English. Students qualify for ELL by taking the Washington Language Proficiency Test (WLPT). Students will use the "6 + 1 traits" and "Step Up to Writing" to learn writing skills. Students write a compare/contrast essay, a five-paragraph essay and a persuasive essay. They read fiction and non-fiction pieces from the Prentice Hall Literature book as well as other selections. Weekly computer sessions using "Rosetta Stone" (an individualized computer language program) reinforce language skills. Oral communication is developed through question and answering sessions as well as giving oral reports.

ELECTIVE courses

6th Grade Art Prep Elective

This 9-week course is filled with projects focused on the foundations of art. Class activities will boost your critical thinking habits, grow your creativity, and develop your communication skills through making, writing, and talking about art. We will structure our learning of art through a variety of materials like paint and clay, a weekly Mystery Artist, and productive studio habits.

6th Grade Food Foundations Prep Elective

Throughout our lives we develop a relationship with food. In this class, you will prepare an impressive variety of foods. Students exhibit initiative, organization, creativity, independence and personal responsibility. Topics covered include use of small and large appliances, lab planning and preparation skills, use of class time, measuring/mixing equipment/skills, teamwork, leadership and organizational skills. Areas of study include; sanitation and safety, kitchen equipment cooking methods, kitchen math and science, recipes and food labels, production and meal planning, food groups, etc.

6th Grade Middle School Prep Elective

Study Skills courses prepare students for success in high school and/or for post-secondary education. Course topics may vary according to the students involved, but typically include reading improvement skills, such as scanning, note-taking, and outlining; library and research skills; listening and note-taking; Social-Emotional skills such as emotional awareness, emotional management, and social awareness; vocabulary skills; and test-taking skills. The courses may also include exercises designed to generate organized, logical thinking and writing about oneself.

6th Grade Intro to STEM

In this nine-week quarterly exploration course students will be introduced to a variety of STEM content including flight science with gliders and bottle rockets, design and modeling with 3D pens, micro-computer programming and robotics.

7th & 8th Grade Art Explorations Elective

This is for students who are ready to challenge their creativity will enjoy exploring the many avenues of the art world. We'll look at 2D and 3D art forms. If you would like to explore visual art with a lot of variety this is your kind of class. This class will create art with everything from clay sculptures to drawing realistically with shading and perspective. We will also be investigating the history of art from artists and various cultures around the world. Come learn more about the arts and how to use them as an expressive form of communication. This class is a great place to get a base understanding of visual art in a user-friendly atmosphere or a perfect venue to further your skills and interest in the creative field of visual art.

7th & 8th Grade Ceramics

This is for any students interested in working with CLAY! This class will focus on creating clay artworks from hand-built basics to extensive decoration options and glazing techniques. Students will gain experience in making functional as well as sculptural ceramic pieces using a variety of clay techniques. We will learn some of the science of clay and history of ceramics as an art form and as useful everyday tools. Come and get your hands dirty with fun clay construction experiences!

7th & 8th Digital Video

This Video Production course enables students to explore multiple elements of video communications, incorporating both the technical and artistic aspects of video media. Topics covered in the course include the use of video equipment and techniques, journalism basics, and broadcast production. Students will work together to create multiple video productions from start to finish including pre-recorded and

ELECTIVE courses

live school news broadcasts, silent films, sports and music videos, stop-motion animations and more.

7th & 8th Grade Digital Photography

In this introduction to digital photography class students will receive instruction and hands-on experience operating digital cameras and digitally manipulating their pictures using Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. Students will develop their understanding of how photography is an art form and a tool for communication. Building spatial skills, along with some basic art skills, students will learn how to compose and shoot quality photos, edit them, and present their work. Students will learn about photography artists through history as well as the science that allows photos to be taken and manipulated. Students will be able to use cameras provided in the classroom for this course.

7th & 8th Grade Foods and Culinary Foundations

If you would like the opportunity to advance your skills in the kitchen, this is the class for you. As you develop your skills, you can become more creative with the dishes you prepare. In this course you will have the opportunity to take your previous skills to the next level by planning and preparing your own meals, then demonstrating your consumer awareness through grocery and product selection. In addition, you will become familiar with various careers and opportunities in the food industry.

7th & 8th Grade International Foods Elective

If you would like to travel the world together—tasting the different kinds of foods from many cultures, this is the class for you! This semester course is designed for the student who wishes to prepare a variety of foods originating from all over the world. Various regions of the world will be covered including North America, Latin America, Europe, the Mediterranean, Asia, and the Mid-East among others. Various preparation techniques reflecting individual ethnic cooking styles will also be demonstrated as an essential part of the class. Students will study patterns of family meals, current customs and food habits, and cooking techniques and equipment unique to those countries. Sign up for this class if you enjoy tasting foods.

7th & 8th Stem 1

Students will engage in a variety of STEM based content focusing on the engineering design process. Areas of study include: Design and Modeling, Flight Science, Computer Programming, and Digital Media where students will work together to creatively solve real-world problems. In a Maker-Space environment students will use apply electrical, mechanical and engineering design principles to create products related to real-world problems; work with 3D modeling software to create virtual designs and produce portfolio products; explore principals of flight and design aircraft using various materials; and explore and program micro controllers in various scenarios. Projects include compression cannon paper rockets, designing and creating 3D action figures, RC demolition derby, designing and programming interactive games and devices with microcomputers, creating products with 3D modeling software and more!

8th Stem 2

Prerequisite: Successful completion of STEM I
This course is a continuation of STEM1. Students will continue work in design, engineering, programming, 3D modeling and flight science. New content includes 2D and 3D animation, and exploration of aerial drone science. Students will work with digital animation tools including Styx and Adobe Animate to create original 2D and 3D animated and mixed-media productions. They will also explore the role of drones in society, investigate drone flight dynamics through challenges and building drone designs, code custom and autonomous flight patterns with Arduino, and work to enhance apply their skills to aerial drone photography and racing.

7th & 8th Grade PLTW Automation and Robotics 1

In this Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course students will engage in activities that build knowledge and skills in design, computer science, engineering, problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration and perseverance. Students will learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics platform students will apply what they know to design and program various robotics productions including drag racers, light controls, mechanical arms, simulated space stations, rovers and more!

ELECTIVE courses

8th Grade PLTW Automation and Robotics 2

Prerequisites: PLTW Automation and Robotics 1
This course is a continuation of Automation and Robotics 1. Students will continue working with the VEX Robotics platform to explore and engage in more complex design and programming challenges.

7th & 8th Grade Team Sports

Students in Team Sports will learn and apply physical fitness concepts, principles and strategies that promote lifelong fitness. Emphasis in Team Sports will be on improving skills such as throwing, catching, striking and kicking. Students will apply skills in a variety of team sports and will be introduced to regulation rules and advanced play. This course is designed to be a competitive class and will present the opportunity for all students to participate in a variety of team sports. Emphasis will also be placed on teamwork, sportsmanship, healthy competition, and improving skills through participation and practice. Activities may include the following: basketball, volleyball, flag/flash football, softball, floor hockey, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, and soft lacrosse.

7th & 8th Grade Weight Training & Conditioning

Students in Weight Training & Conditioning will learn and apply physical fitness concepts, principles and strategies that promote lifelong fitness. Emphasis will be placed on strength training, circuit training, core development and aerobic activities. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness and movement activities for a lifetime. This course is designed for the self-motivated individual who would like to improve their physical fitness. Students will become familiar with body/muscle anatomy, cardiovascular development, weight lifting terms, techniques, and routines, as well as safety aspects associated with weight training. This is a great opportunity for students to enhance their personal fitness, individual skills and to work with others in a partner setting.

7th & 8th Grade Individual/Dual Sports

This course is designed for the self-motivated individual who would like to improve their physical fitness. Emphasis will be placed on cooperative play and aerobic activities. This class will also provide opportunities for all students to learn fundamental techniques, rules, and strategies used in individual and dual sports. Units may include tennis, bowling, badminton, archery, pickleball and Frisbee golf. The development and practice of skills through competitive play will be offered. This is a great opportunity for students to enhance their personal fitness, individual skills and to work with others in a partner setting.

7th & 8th Leadership Elective

Leadership gives students the opportunity to learn new ways in which they can become successful leaders at Kamiakin, in their community, family, and personal relationships. Based on the idea that true leadership is about serving others, this course will focus on understanding personality traits, character development, personal growth, and building strong relationships and teams. Also covered will be listening and speaking skills, conflict mediation, diversity acceptance, and a community service project. In addition to being role models for their peers, all members of the leadership class are also expected to help plan and participate in school-wide initiatives and activities such as assemblies, dances, fundraisers, and ongoing community building. Come have fun, work hard, and make Kamiakin a better place! ASB Officers full year.

7th & 8th Peer Tutor

Student Aides support student learning in the Transition Program. Designed for patient and caring students who wish to gain skills in serving as positive role models and peer mentors. Limited aide positions are available.

WORLD LANGUAGES courses

8th Grade World Languages (Spanish I)
1 year
CADR

Eighth graders may enroll in Spanish provided they have strong language arts abilities and disciplined study skills. Washington state's four-year, public universities require a minimum of two years of a World Language to be taken prior to admission. Three years are recommended and required by some colleges and universities. This course is equivalent to one year of beginning high school world language. It emphasizes communicative activities taught in concept-based units. The district adopted curriculum, *Paso A Paso*, provides the basis of the course. Language acquisition is developed through the natural sequence of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Understanding and appreciation of Hispanic culture develop as student's study and experience it firsthand. The course demands good study skills with daily homework and classroom accountability. This course is not appropriate for Spanish speakers. Students must achieve at least a C grade and obtain teacher recommendation to advance to Spanish II.

8th Grade World Languages (French I)
1 year
CADR

This class is a first-year high school level course. Students are expected to allow for a minimum of 30 minutes of homework/review each night. Students must purchase a workbook to be used in class. Course Description This course is equivalent to one year of beginning high school world language. It emphasizes communicative activities taught in concept-based units. The district adopted curriculum, Bien Dit, provides the basis of the course. Language acquisition is developed through the natural sequence of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Understanding and appreciation of Francophone culture develop as student's study and experience it firsthand. The course demands good study skills with daily homework and classroom accountability. Students may enroll in French provided they have strong language arts abilities and disciplined study skills.

PERFORMING ARTS courses

6th,7th,8th Jazz Ensemble

This group is Kamiakin's most mobile and busy ensemble with many bookings each year at regular concerts, community events, fundraisers and school functions. The main focus throughout the school year will be on the famous "big band" styles of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, and other notable big bands. Kamiakin's Jazz Ensemble also breaks into smaller groups to study "combo" and "Dixieland" styles. Opportunities for improvisation abound in all types of jazz offered as Kamiakin's jazz musicians maintain a tradition of excellence. Students interested in auditioning for and performing with our award-winning Jazz Ensemble are expected to have attained a reasonable amount of skill and technique on their instrument in order to perform selections acceptably.

6th,7th,8th Orchestra

The string orchestra is an excellent opportunity for students to expand their musical repertoire from all periods of history and musical styles while obtaining more advanced skills. The class will focus on musicianship and ensemble playing with an emphasis on technical skills such as intonation, vibrato, shifting and bow technique. We will perform at school concerts and district festivals. Opportunities to join the district honor group and to play at the solo/ensemble festivals are available for more advanced students.

6th Grade Concert Band

Kamiakin's Concert Band is a fantastic way to make friends and music as you enter into your middle school experience! This course is open to all instrumentalists who have completed elementary band at any school (special permission may be given to musically-trained students wishing to begin band in 6th grade). The emphasis of the class is on growing together as a well-balanced group, musical excellence and individual progress. In addition to quarterly concerts, this band represents Kamiakin at our district band festival (road trip!) and members have the chance to play as a soloist or in a small ensemble every March. Students enrolled in this band will also have the opportunity to audition for Washington's "Jr. All-State Band"! In middle school, musical literature is carefully selected to enhance the band's overall sound and experience.

7th Grade Symphonic Band

Kamiakin' s Symphonic Band is open to all 7th grade instrumentalists who have completed 6th grade band. Symphonic Band rehearses daily in order to perform for quarterly concerts, community functions, Seattle Center's "Winterfest" (road trip!), and the district's Solo/Ensemble festival. The musical selections studied and worked on by the Symphonic Band are more advanced and are chosen to highlight the band's overall sound as well as individual members as soloists. Symphonic Band members delve into musical sophistication through medium-advanced band repertoire, contemporary movie scores, solos, basic music theory and conducting. Playing beyond just "notes and rhythms", the band analyzes the emotion and intent conveyed by composers and learns to convey those messages to our audience. Selected members may perform with the Washington Jr. All-State Band in Olympia.

8th Grade Wind Ensemble

Members of this ensemble work to attain the highest musical standards and rehearse daily to refine instrumental skills in order to perform advanced literature for appreciative audience and professional adjudicators. The Kamiakin Wind Ensemble performs at quarterly concerts and represents our school and community at band festivals in either Washington, Oregon or Canada. Formal tuxedo-style vests and ties are worn to illustrate the professional approach this band brings to each and every concert. The Wind Ensemble is known for bringing emotion and excitement to the compositions they study. From their thrilling rendition of "Pirates of the Caribbean" to the proud marches and exciting overtures they offer adjudicators, emphasis in this course is on musical communication within the group and to an audience. After many years together, the Wind Ensemble enjoys the close-knit feeling of "family" as they complete their middle school band experience and look forward to the excitement of high school band.

6th, 7th, 8th Choir

This ensemble rehearses and performs choral literature representing various musical periods and styles. Emphasis is placed on developing vocal technique and musicianship. In addition to performing at the four quarterly concerts, this choir performs at various community events and festivals. Students enjoy working together to create high quality music and develop independent vocal and listening skills.

QUEST

6th, 7th, 8th Grade LWSD Quest

Quest is open to all students residing within the district who meet district criteria for identifying highly capable students. Applicants must apply through the Quest office and must demonstrate high academic achievement and cognitive ability. Quest offers acceleration and enrichment of core curriculum in the areas of language arts, social studies, and science. Providing academic challenge for highly capable learners, classes include greater breadth and depth of subject matter, a wide variety of learning processes and teaching methods, and high expectations for student work and achievement. The core classes in the Quest program demand students use full intellectual capacity to stretch their minds beyond the bounds of the traditional middle school curriculum. Students engage in critical thinking, reading and writing activities that are more often found in high school classes. They are expected to be self-directed, maintain above average grades, and complete quality work.