

6TH GRADE

Holmes Middle School

We dare to empower the whole child to profoundly impact our world

COURSE SELECTIONS MUST BE MADE USING THE ONLINE FORM BY March 3rd.

This IS NOT registration or Choice Enrollment – If Holmes is not your “Home School” you need to fill out an application on the D11 Website to be considered.

We appreciate you choosing Holmes for your student’s educational needs. The course selection process is used to help guide the classes that will be offered in the coming year.

- The Guardian and Student need to review the course listing and select classes that are of interest.
- The Guardian will be emailed the course selection link that needs to be filled out to record student/guardian preferences. This form can also be found on the Holmes Counseling web page.
 - Please contact Laura Kelley (laura.kelley@d11.org); 718-328-3812) for help accessing the form.
- Course Selections MUST be entered by Friday March 3rd in order for your student’s preferences to be considered when determining Exploratory schedules.

Should you have any concerns or questions about classes or course selection please contact your student’s counselor. Mrs. Tara Falslev (tara.falslev@d11.org) OR Mrs. Nichole Navarro (nichole.navarro@d11.org)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2023-2024 – 6TH GRADE

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

Advanced class placement will be determined by a body of evidence to include: parent and student request, standardized assessment data, teacher recommendations, and possible placement exams. Advanced math equates to accelerating one or more grade levels. Advanced Language Arts is taught at a quicker pace and with higher level expectations and rigor associated with assignments and assessments.

Language Arts

Advanced Language Arts

Math 6

Advanced Math: Math 7

Double Advanced Math: Math 8 – Pre-Algebra

All 6th Grade Students will automatically be enrolled in a Western History and Science Class.

EXPLORATORY COURSES

6th Grade is designed to allow students to experience as many exploratories as possible giving them a broad base of experiences to better identify what they like. The students will take a majority of the classes listed below, unless they are enrolled in a full year music class.

Please be aware that specific exploratory classes may not be scheduled if the requested numbers do not reach a minimum class size, or available teaching staff does not allow for a class.

FULL YEAR EXPLORATORY COURSES

Students commit to completing the entire year when selecting a yearlong course.

Beginning Band 1 (Full Year)

This course is designed to teach beginning instrumentalists on wind, brass, and percussion instruments. Students will learn basic musicianship. Instruction will be offered only on standard band instruments. The instructor will guide the student in the selection of a band instrument that is best suited for him/her. This course will prepare the student for movement into seventh grade concert band. Students are required to participate in scheduled evening concerts as part of the requirements for the course.

Intermediate Band (Full Year)

This band is a training group for students who have had at least one year of playing experience. Literature is geared to the member’s abilities with emphasis placed on improvement of tone quality, technical proficiency, and rhythmic accuracy. Students are required to participate in scheduled evening concerts as part of the requirements for the course.

Beginning Orchestra 1 (1st Semester – then will move to Beginning Orchestra 2nd Semester

This course is designed to teach beginning instrumentalists on either Violin, Viola, Cello or Bass. Students will learn basic musicianship. The instructor will guide the student in the selection of a stringed instrument that is best suited for him/her. This course will prepare the student for movement into Preparatory Orchestra 2nd Semester. Students are required to participate in scheduled evening concerts as part of the requirements for the course.

Preparatory Orchestra (Full Year)

Preparatory Orchestra provides the opportunity to develop an understanding and appreciation of music through performance and is designed for students who have had 1 or more year's experience on a stringed instrument. This orchestra performs for school and community events throughout the year and may also participate in state music festivals and contests. Practice of 30 minutes per day is expected for every orchestra member. Students are required to participate in all scheduled concerts and performing events.

Beginning Choir 1 (Full Year)

Students learn/reinforce fundamentals of good choral singing, as well as elements of theory, ear training, sight-reading, & musical terminology. Students will develop an appreciation for the art of excellence in vocal production, both in rehearsal & performance settings. There is a concert held towards the end of each academic quarter to demonstrate skills learned

ONE-QUARTER EXPLORATORY COURSES

You will be asked to rank the classes 1 – 5; 1 Being the class you want the most and 5 being the class you want the least.

Physical Education 6 1(Full Semester class) – MOST STUDENTS WILL HAVE THIS CLASS

The purpose of our physical education program is to increase each student's physical competence; health related fitness, self-esteem, and enjoyment of physical activity so that they can be physically active for a lifetime. Students will participate in multiple team and individual activities. A uniform will need to be purchased.

Beginning Family & Consumer Science A -FCS (Home Ec.)

This course is an exploration of life skills. Topics covered will include safety, food preparation and nutrition, basic sewing, childcare, relationships, and general home cleaning. Students will be asked to provide their own sewing supplies. The 6th grade sewing project is a pillow. The course will be delivered primarily through projects and hands-on activities.

Industry Basics (Wood Shop)

The primary focus of this class is to cultivate some of the basic skills required in industry. Students will enhance their ability to read a ruler. Students are then introduced to basic shop safety and will then get the opportunity to demonstrate skills using hand tools to build an accurately scaled project out of wood. The course follows a blended learning format meaning that most of the instruction is personalized, following an online curriculum that students can access and work through at their own pace.

Introduction to the Visual Arts

Introduction to the Visual Arts is a beginning art class offered to all 6th grade students at the middle school level. The elements and principles of design may be introduced through, but not limited to the mediums of drawing, painting and sculpture. The cultural and appreciative aspects of art are incorporated into the course through various instructional resources and art production experiences.

Introduction to Technology 1

This course is a brief introduction to technology, engineering, measurement, drawing styles, descriptive geometry and solid modeling. Students will use a 3D modeling software program to create various designs. Additionally, students will learn to use MS Office applications and use multiple keyboarding skills programs.

GTT Intro to Comp Science 1

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of programming logic using a variety of languages. Introductory concepts in Python, JavaScript, JQuery, PHP, HTML, CSS, and Ruby will be explored. Everyday examples and clear explanations are used so students with no prior programming experience can have success.

Integrated Applications to Tech1

Introduction to Graphic Design programming and concepts.

Music Exploration

Students will explore different elements of music both in theory and introduction to Guitar.