



**WALTER C. POLSON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Course Request Form final - **Grade 6 going into 7**  
2021-2022

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade 6 Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

We are looking forward to another great year together at Polson! In preparation for 7<sup>th</sup> grade, please review our course offerings and place a checkmark next to the World Language course you wish to take (Spanish or French). We also have a wide variety of elective course offerings, which you'll choose on the next page. There is something for everyone! Please let us know if we can be of any help as you make your selections!

**In addition to the four CORE classes and a world language, ALL students take:**

- ✓ Physical Education (meets every other day for the full year)
- ✓ One Trimester each of Computers, Health, and Art (meets every other day)
- ✓ 1-2 electives that meet every other day for the full year.

**ALL students select one World Language:** *(Place a checkmark next to your choice. Please note that a student's grade 7 language will be the one they continue with in grade 8.)*

Spanish

Grade 7 Spanish meets every day. This course is a continuation of the foundational skills developed in grade 6. Teachers blend a variety of activities with basic grammatical concepts meant to enhance communication in real-life situations. Students will develop their language proficiency as well as investigate the culture of Spanish speaking countries throughout the year. This course will prepare students for advancement into Grade 8 Spanish and ultimately prepare them to succeed in the high school language curriculum.

French

Grade 7 French meets every day. This program introduces students to the French language and to the many francophone cultures of the world. Students learn to communicate in French by participating in lessons that incorporate grammar and vocabulary through games, songs, and skits. Lessons are based on real-life situations and prepare students to do everyday activities such as ordering at a restaurant, getting to know others, and talking about their own likes, dislikes, and habits.

**Please select from the following elective courses:** Indicate your top 4 choices in the grid at the bottom of the page. You will be placed in two of these courses next year. Electives meet every other day for the full year.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Concert Band</li> <li>● Jazz Band – <i>must take Concert Band, as well</i></li> <li>● Orchestra</li> <li>● Chorus</li> <li>● Music Technology</li> <li>● Advanced Team Sports</li> <li>● Physical Education 4 Life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Theatre</li> <li>● Advanced Theatre</li> <li>● Musical Theatre</li> <li>● Multimedia Art*</li> <li>● Technology Explorations*</li> <li>● Healthy Living*</li> </ul> <p><i>*Due to space limitations, this course is open to students who have not previously taken it.</i></p>
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**SAMPLE Student Related Arts Schedule**

	A Day	B Day	C Day	D Day	E Day	F Day
1	World Language	World Language	World Language	World Language	World Language	World Language
2	Art	Phys. Ed	Art	Phys. Ed	Art	Phys. Ed
3	<b>Elective 1</b>	<b>Elective 2</b>	<b>Elective 1</b>	<b>Elective 2</b>	<b>Elective 1</b>	<b>Elective 2</b>

**Please indicate your top 4 elective choices, in order of what's most important to you, in the chart below. You will be placed in two of the courses with one on an ACE day and one on a BDF day.**

	My elective course choices, in order of preference
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Choice</b>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Choice</b>	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Choice</b>	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Choice</b>	

**PARENT APPROVAL:** *I have reviewed my child's selections and approve of the choices.*

Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to your homeroom teacher by February 12, 2021.**

Students whose forms are not returned by the deadline may not receive their preferred elective choices.

## Grade 7 Elective Course Descriptions: Courses run dependent on interest.

### **Concert Band:**

Concert Band students prepare for two performances during the year, one in February and one in June. Repertoire is selected from a culturally diverse variety of musical periods and styles including classical, jazz, traditional, and contemporary. Students have the opportunity to audition for the CMEA (Connecticut Music Educators' Association) Southern Region Middle School Festival. Auditions for this festival are held in December. ***Prerequisite:* Participation in Grade 6 Band at Polson Middle School or by successful audition if students are new to Madison.**

### **Jazz Band:**

Jazz band is open to students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, piano, electric guitar, and electric bass. Jazz band performs in both the Winter and Spring Concerts. Repertoire is generally advanced and along with introducing several fundamental styles of Jazz, other modern styles of music such as rock, funk, and Latin are also explored. **Participation in concert band as an additional elective is required. Students that play drum set, guitar, bass, or piano are selected by audition.**

### **Orchestra:**

The orchestra program is made up of large-group rehearsals and individual home practice. They perform two concerts a year, as well as in-school and community performances. Students learn varied styles of music including but not limited to Baroque, Romantic, Classical, jazz, rock, selections from musicals, as well as contemporary. Students also have the opportunity to audition for the CMEA (Connecticut Music Educators' Association) Southern Region Middle School Festival. ***Prerequisite:* Participation in Grade 6 Orchestra at Polson Middle School or by successful audition if students are new to Madison.**

### **Chorus:**

Chorus is open to all interested students who enjoy singing. In addition to learning proper vocal technique, students will also learn music reading skills, and have the opportunity to perform as an ensemble multiple times throughout the school year. Students also have the opportunity to audition for the CMEA (Connecticut Music Educators' Association) Southern Region Middle School Festival.

### **Music Technology:**

This course is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> graders – no formal music experience necessary! In this class, we will learn how technology is used in the production of music. You will learn how to create and record your own music digitally. We will explore different music software programs, as well as learn how to record, mix and edit your own original digital music.

### **Multimedia Art:**

This course is designed for the art student who wants to advance their art skill level. Students will explore art through multiple art media, while developing ideas and creating both two- and three-dimensional artwork.

### **Theatre:**

The theatre program will cover pantomime, scenes, monologues, and full performance. Basic technique is taught through theatre games, improvisation, and exercises. This course will focus on experiencing the role of actor, the relationship between text and performance, scene and monologue work, preparing a role, character and scene analysis, and staging a scene. Students will have the opportunities to perform in-class and complete a performance at the end of the year. In addition, students will have the opportunity to engage in the elements of technical theatre such as set design, lighting, stage management, media, sound design, and costume design.

### **Advanced Theatre:**

This course will cover advanced acting technique through improvisation exercises and performance. It will focus on vocal flexibility, physical creativity and imagination, circumstance, script analysis, and advanced characterization. Students will also explore the world of advanced technical theatre. Students will have opportunities to perform in-class, outside of class, and complete a full-length performance at the end of the year. Students will also have the opportunity to view and analyze a professional production.

### **Musical Theatre:**

This course will cover basic musical theatre techniques. As a class we will study different aspects of musical theatre including voice, performance, and dance. We explore and study different genres of musical theatre. This class is for all students from beginner to advanced. Students will have opportunities to perform in-class, outside of class, and complete a cabaret style performance.

### **Technology Explorations:**

Do you like creating stuff with technology...videos, podcasts, 3D printing? Well, this is the class for you. In Technology Explorations, you'll learn how to bring your stories to life by creating and editing your own videos as you get to know the creative aspects of digital storytelling and learn the basics of video journalism. You will also learn the art of podcasting as you create your own learning path. You'll research a topic of your choice and share what you've learned by creating your own podcast. Finally, you'll be introduced to computer aided design by exploring the exciting world of 3D modeling and printing.

### **Healthy Living:**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade healthy living course is for students who want to be actively involved in learning about how to improve and maintain their health through a variety of activities. Topics covered in the course include preparing healthy foods, growing plants, involvement with Bauer Farm, stress reduction practices, and community involvement and projects.

### **Advanced Team Sports:**

This course is designed for students who wish to participate in an advanced physical education experience that will focus specifically on team games and sports. Students will receive instruction in advanced skills and strategies to participate in invasion games, such as football, basketball and floor/street hockey and fielding and striking games, such as baseball and softball. Students will be a part of a more competitive environment including class tournament play. In addition, this course will focus on teaching personal and social responsibility by emphasizing sportsmanship, leadership and teamwork.

### **Physical Education 4 Life:**

This course is designed for students who wish to participate in a physical education experience that will focus specifically on individual and lifetime activities. Students will receive instruction in advanced skills and strategies to participate in lifetime activities, such as tennis, bowling, dance, golf and yoga. Students will hike, jump rope, play disc golf, and learn to juggle. In addition, this course will focus on teaching fitness knowledge; students will develop and learn how to use physical activity as a strategy for stress management and mindfulness. Emphasis is placed on active movement, individual progress and fun.

## **Polson Directory: Call us any time!**

**Polson Main Office 245-6480**

**Polson Guidance Office 245-6487**

Ms. Kathryn Hart, *Principal*

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Ms. Leah Stillman, *K-12 Music Coordinator*

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Mrs. Kathy Gonzalez, *K-8 World Language Coordinator*

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