

Switzerland Point Middle School



**Rising 6th Grade
2023-2024**

Your future begins here!



INTRODUCTIONS

Linda Carnall– Principal
Sarah Wiggins– Asst. Principal
Earl Brown – Asst. Principal
Jennifer Tippins– 6th Grade Counselor

Switzerland Point Administration



Linda Carnall
Principal



Earl Brown
Assistant Principal



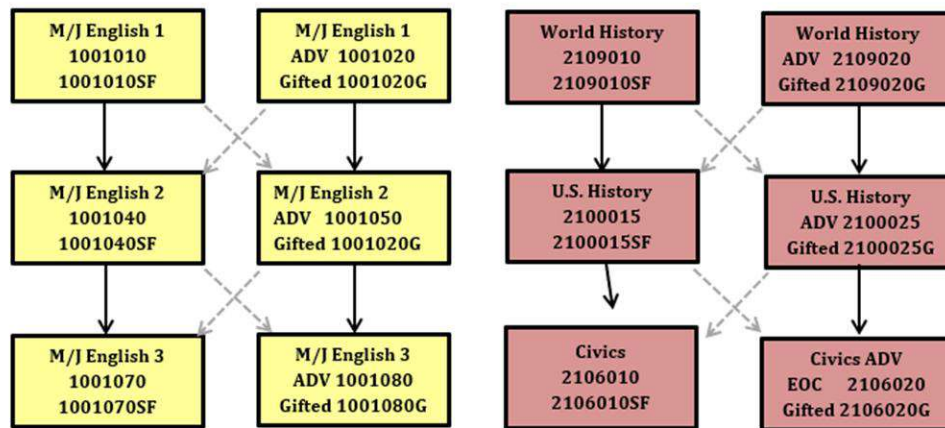
Sarah Wiggins
Assistant Principal

Course Progression- ELA/History



ELA / SOCIAL STUDIES

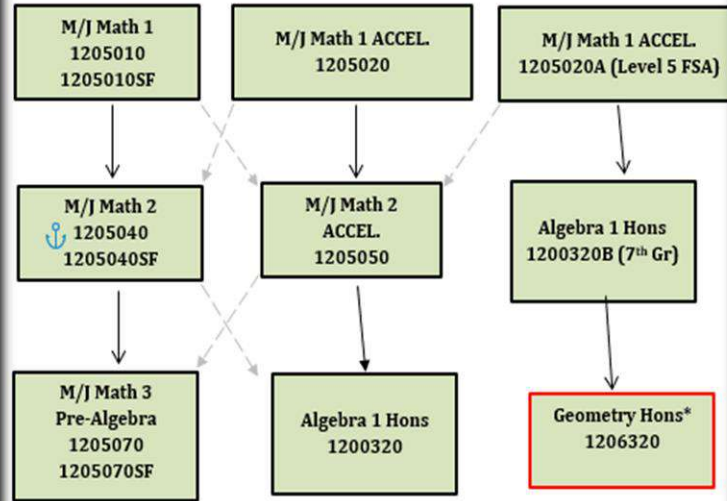
-Bold lines indicate preferred pathway



Advanced Course Placement Criteria

The following criteria represent consensus of all middle school and district administrators:

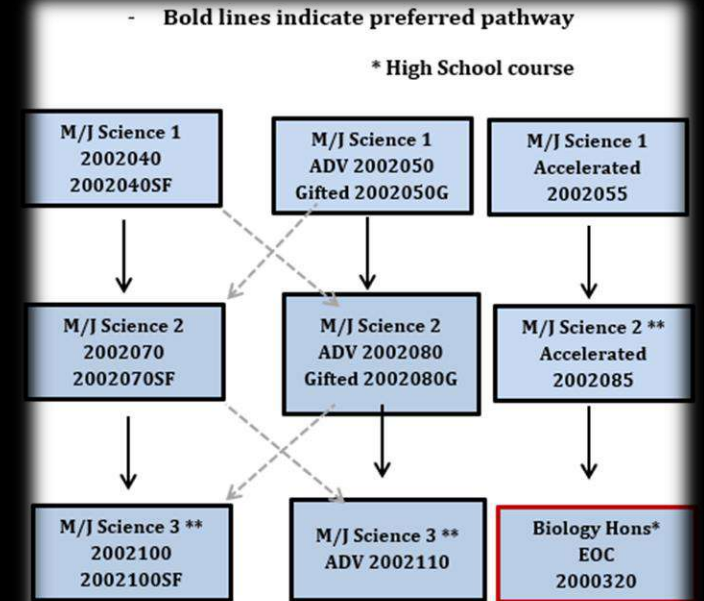
- Grades - A grade of C or better in the previous honors or advanced course, or students earning a grade of A in the previous standard course
OR
- FSA - Level 4 or 5 in appropriate area and not less than a Level 3 in any area
 - ❖ On Mathematics FSA for placement in honors or advanced mathematics.
 - ❖ On Reading FSA for placement in honors or advanced English, social studies, science, or foreign language;OR
- In the case of extenuating circumstances, petition may be made on a case-by-case basis to the principal (or designee) for review of criteria to ensure proper course placement.



-Please see the attached guidelines for math recommendations.

-If a 7th grader fails Algebra 1 Honors or 8th Grader Fails Algebra or Geometry, they must find a math credit to progress a grade level.

-There are ELA and Math scores that must be followed for Math placement



*Geometry is a co-requisite for Biology, but a student can opt out of Biology and still take Geometry.

Course Progression – Math/Science

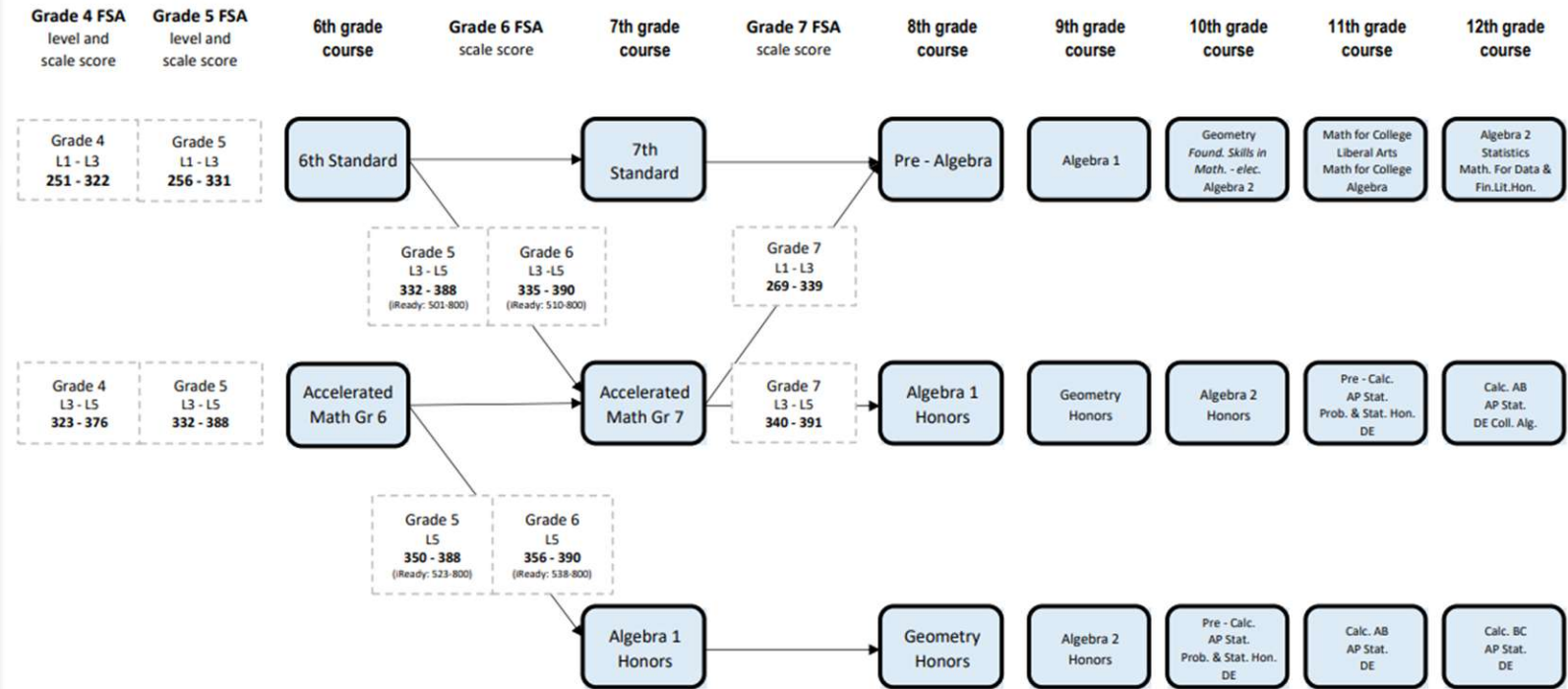
Math Progression

***Pending Updated Progression

- Things to consider
 - FSA Scores
 - What math are you wanting to get to in high school?
 - Are you ready to start thinking about your high school GPA?
 - Will require Summer Bridge work.

pending

SJCS Middle School Math Progression



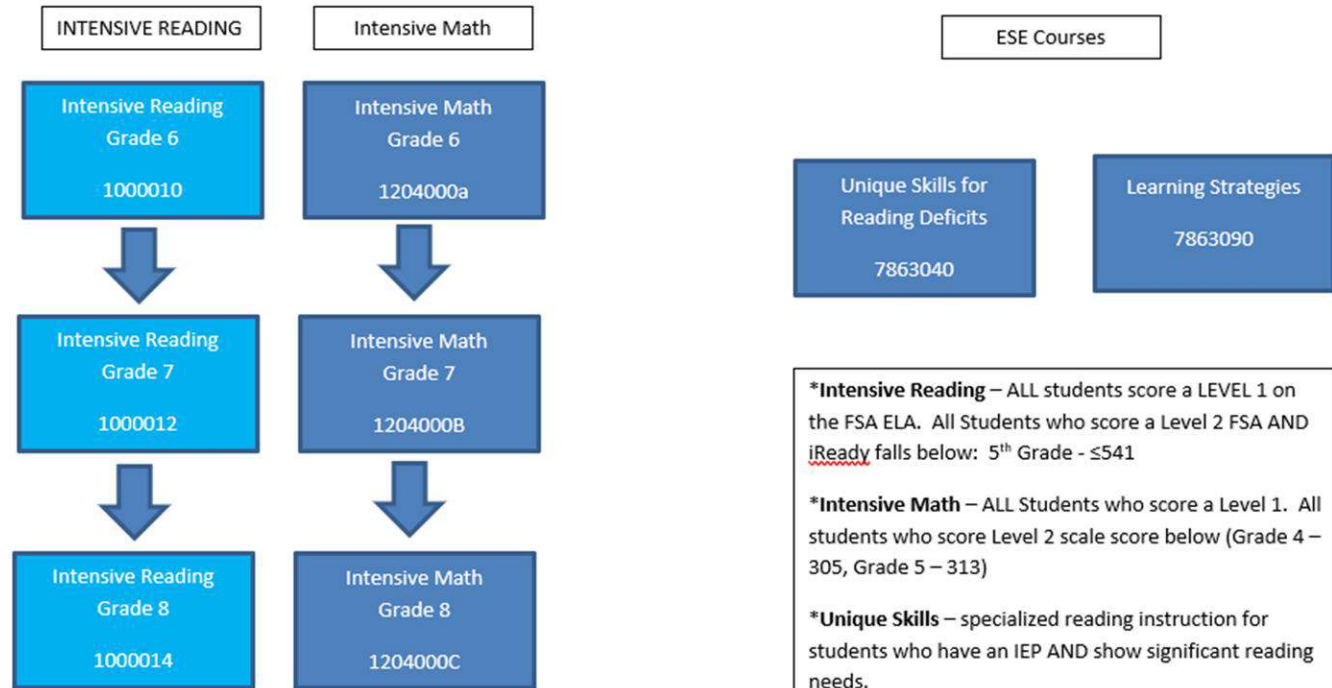
FSA ELA Level and Scale Score Requirements				
Enrolled in:	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Accelerated Math Grade 6	L3 - L5 311 - 360	L3 - L5 321 - 372	L3 - L5 332 - 385	
Accelerated Math Grade 7		L3 - L5 321 - 372	L3 - L5 332 - 385	L3 - L5 321 - 372
Algebra 1 Honors*		L4 - L5 325 - 372	L4 - L5 352 - 385	L4 - L5 339 - 391

* students have not taken Pre - Algebra

iReady scores may be considered as an additional data point for summer placement, but does not replace the use of the FSA scale score.



Intensive Classes



***Intensive Reading** – ALL students score a LEVEL 1 on the FSA ELA. All Students who score a Level 2 FSA AND iReady falls below: 5th Grade - ≤541

***Intensive Math** – ALL Students who score a Level 1. All students who score Level 2 scale score below (Grade 4 – 305, Grade 5 – 313)

***Unique Skills** – specialized reading instruction for students who have an IEP AND show significant reading needs.

***Learning Strategies** – specialized instruction in areas of independent functioning and/or SEL AND have an IEP who show a need for such strategies.

Course Progression – Intensive Classes



State Exams

You can find the Year at a Glance for all 6th grade courses here:
<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/year-at-a-glance/>

SIXTH GRADE

- **FAST Math 6**
 - PM1, PM2, and PM3
- **FAST ELA 6**
 - PM1, PM2, and PM3

SEVENTH GRADE

- **Algebra 1 EOC**
 - Algebra 1 Honors
- **FAST Math 7**
 - 7th Grade Standard Math
 - PM1 - PM3
 - 7TH Grade ACCEL Math
 - PM1
- **FAST Math 8**
 - 7TH Grade ACCEL Math
 - PM2 and PM3
- **FAST ELA 7**
 - PM1, PM2, and PM3
- **SSA Science 8**
 - Only students in the Accel Science 2 course

EIGHTH GRADE

- **Algebra 1 EOC**
 - *Algebra 1 Honors*
or FAST Math 8 or Geometry EOC
- **Geometry EOC**
 - Geometry Honors
- **FAST Grade 8 Math**
 - PM1, PM2, PM3
- **FSA ELA 8**
 - PM1, PM2, and PM3
- **Biology EOC**
 - Biology Honors
 - SSA Science 8
- **SSA Science 8**
 - Science Grade 8
- **Civics EOC**
 - Civics

*PM = State Progress Monitoring

Selection Process

***Pending changes



DISTRICT GUIDANCE

- Advanced Course Placement Criteria**
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 - OR
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 - ❖ On Reading FSA for placement in honors or advanced English, social studies, science, or foreign language;

SCHOOL GUIDANCE

- Teacher Recommendations:
- Class grade
 - Work ethic
 - Potential for success

PARENT GUIDANCE

- What are your child's interests/strengths?
- What is the right blend for your child?
- Extra curricular activities?
- Talk to your child

Course Progression Electives



6th Grade Elective Options

Art - Draw/Paint

Band

Career Planning for Gifted Students*

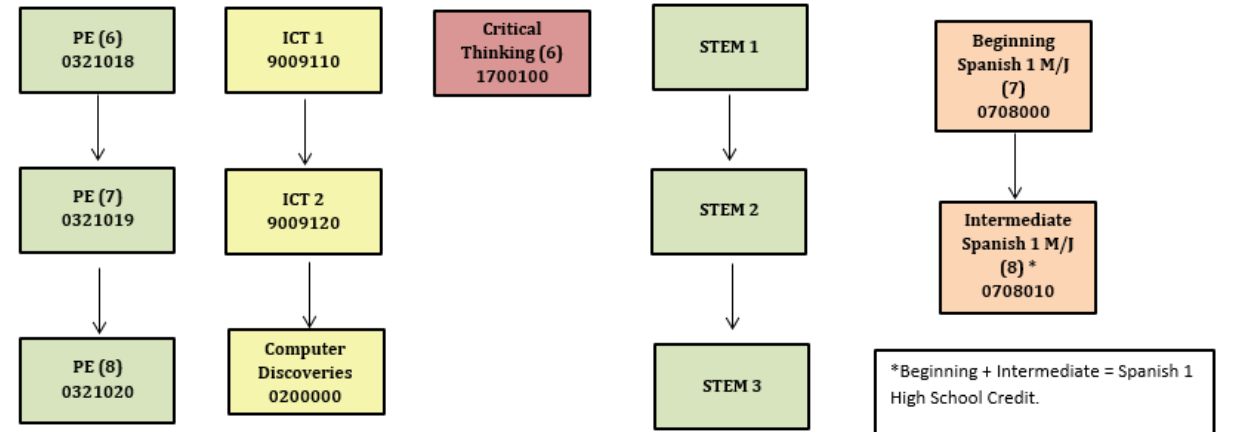
ICT 1 - ALL 6th graders take this course

Film as Literature

Theater - Audition Only

Stem 1 / Critical Thinking

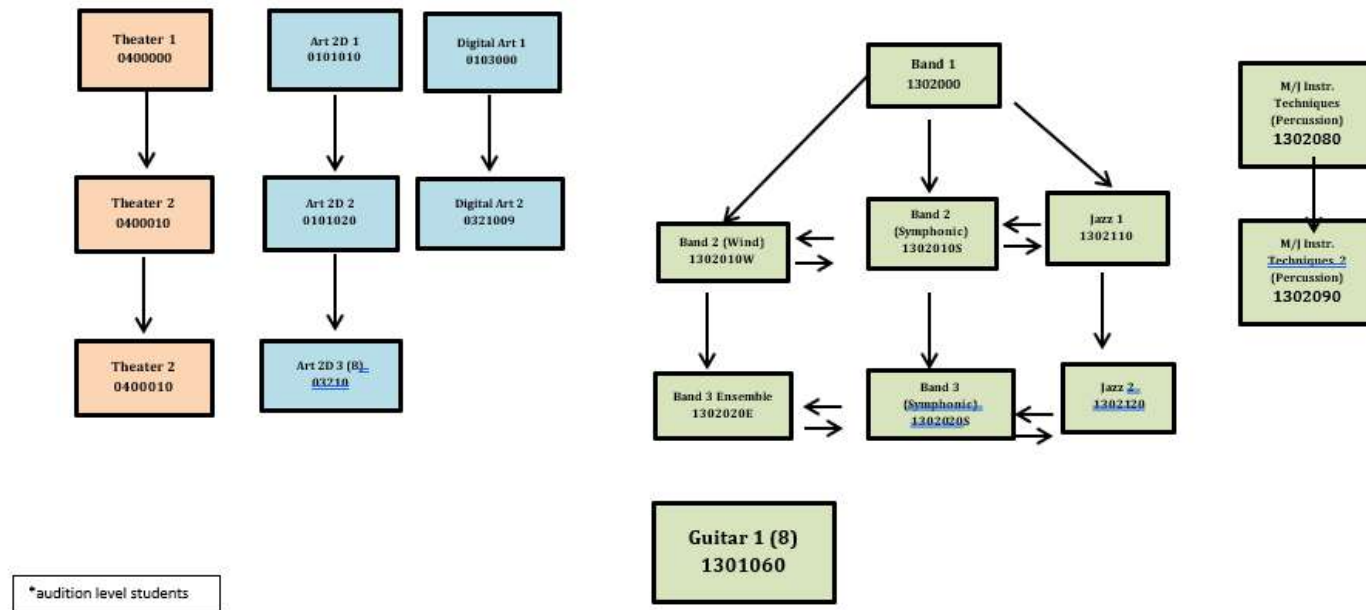
ELECTIVES PROGRESSION



Elective Continued...

ELECTIVES PROGRESSION - ARTS

-Bold lines indicate preferred pathway



2D-Art

2D Studio 1 – Foundation Level – Open 6th – 8th Grade

- Drawing
- Painting
- Printmaking
- Collage

2D Studio 2 – Intermediate Level – Open to 7th & 8th graders who have passed Studio 1

- Projects and techniques are different from and more advanced than Studio 1.
- Drawing
- Painting
- Printmaking
- Collage

2D Studio 3 – Advanced Level – Open to select 8th graders who have completed Studio 1 and 2.

- Painting
- Collage
- Mixed Media
- Printmaking
- Illustration
- Portfolio Development
- Drawing





- 3 Evening Concerts (November, Feb/March, April/May)
- Optional Extra Stuff
 - Reward Band Trip to Wild Adventures in May, St. Augustine Christmas Parade, Night of the Arts, Solo & Ensemble Festival, JU & Lakeside Jazz Festivals, High School Football night
- \$\$\$- Must rent an instrument + \$145 Fair Share
 - Goal is to provide premium experience, provide everything except the instrument (uniform, reeds, music, extra instructors, etc.) and many, many extras



Drama/Theater

Theatre at Switzerland Point is on the move. With new teacher Ms. Baker, there is a vision on create a department that relies on the students to make it happen. Introductory Classes will focus on all aspects of theatre to give you a taste for the art. Second- and Third-Year focus will bring you closer to technical theatre or performance theatre and possibly even playwriting! Join this class for a rounded look at the world through the lens of theatre.



Career Research and Planning Elective for Gifted Students



- The goals and standards for student learning revolve around the Global Competencies for Deep Learning:
 - *Creativity *Communication *Critical Thinking *Character *Collaboration *Citizenship
 - Students will grow more empathetic, become problem-solvers, learn to think divergently, make connections between ideas, become explorers, learn to take creative risks, and become wildly and unabashedly confident in their giftedness.
 - All these activities allow the students to grow in their social and emotional needs/goals as well as their academic success and global learning.

“Learning? I thought we were just having fun!”

- *STEM and Makerspace
 - *Passion Projects
 - *Riddles and Logic
 - *Art Activities
 - *Strategy Games
 - *Creative Writing
- *Research and Interviews
- *College/Career Planning
- *Community Outreach
 - *Relationship
- *Social and Emotional Lessons

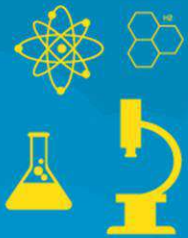


What is **STEM**?

S

SCIENCE

*Observing,
experimenting,
making
predictions,
asking
questions*



T

TECHNOLOGY

*Being inventive,
using tools,
making things
work, identifying
issues, using
computers*



E

ENGINEERING

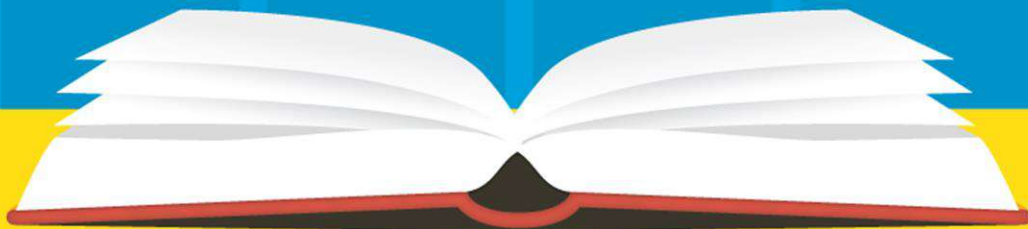
*Solving
problems,
using materials,
designing
and creating,
building*



M

MATH

*Patterning,
sequencing,
exploring shapes,
numbers,
volume and
size*



STEM Education at SPMS / Critical Thinking: Our STEM goal is to increase the **Technological Literacy** of students and to create learning situations that allow them to explore the **combinations of STEM** needed for **critical thinking and advanced problem solving**.



STEM 1 - Introduction to Technology (8600010):
STEM 1 - Exploration of Robotic Technology (8600070)

Information & Communications Technologies (ICT) Essentials 1

ICT 1 introduces students to core concepts associated with computers and their use including safety and privacy practices for online communication. The content includes hands-on opportunities to explore various software applications, such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, and Pixlr.

Students will earn Digital Tool Certifications for the following topics: Cyber Security, Word Processing, Multimedia, and Computing Essentials.



Film as Literature

The course of Literacy Through Film & Literature is designed to create exciting, high interest ways to introduce literature and make a lasting impact on student's literacy skills using film.

Students will be introduced to a variety of interactive activities using film to develop key literacy skills that are transferable to written texts and support literacy work across the curriculum.



***All books and films go through the approval process for SJCSD.*

Elective Forms

- Due at your registration appointment.
 - CCE – 2/23 – 2/24
 - HCE – 2/27 – 2/28
 - TCE – 3/1 – 3/3
- Please rank your elective preferences at the bottom of the form.
- List 1 – 5. You may not receive your 1st or 2nd choice. You are expected to stay in this class for the full year.
- 6th graders only get 1 elective.
 - Intensive classes may take the place of electives, PE, and ICT.



Sixth Grade Elective Sheet

Student Name:	Student Signature:
Parent Name:	Parent Signature:
Elem. School:	Parent phone number:

All Sixth Grade Students will take the following classes (circle Accel, Adv, or Std):

- English Language Arts (Adv / Std)
- Math (Accel / Std)
- Science (*Accel / Adv / Std)
- World History (Adv / Std)
- Physical Education
- ICT (computer class)

Please note:

- Some students will be required to take Intensive Math and/or Intensive Reading depending on FSA scores released.
- **Intensive classes take precedence over elective choices.** Students who score a level 1 or 2 on the FSA will be placed in Intensive Reading and/or Math.
- Some electives do require fair shares.
- ****Initial placement in advanced classes based on teacher recommendation and scores. Final placement in advanced classes is pending FSA scores released over the summer. High Level 3 on both Reading and Math FSA is required to be placed in advanced courses.
- **Double 5 is required for ACCEL Science 1. Will require a parent/student signed contract

Students may take one of the following electives:

Please rank your preference below (1-5). Mark 1 next to your first choice, 2 next to your second choice, etc.

Rank	Elective	Fair Share
	2D Art	\$10
	Literacy in Film	\$0
	Band 1	\$15/month + instrumental rental
	Gifted Elective**	\$0
	STEM 1	\$0
	Drama 1	\$0

**Students must be identified officially as gifted to take this course.

NOTE: We will do our best to accommodate your elective choices, but placement not guaranteed.

Support for Varying Needs



Intensive classes for Reading and / or math



Teachers and students supported by coaches



Individualized attention to skill deficits



Small class size



Utilize programs such as iXL, Lexia, Wilson, and Rewards.





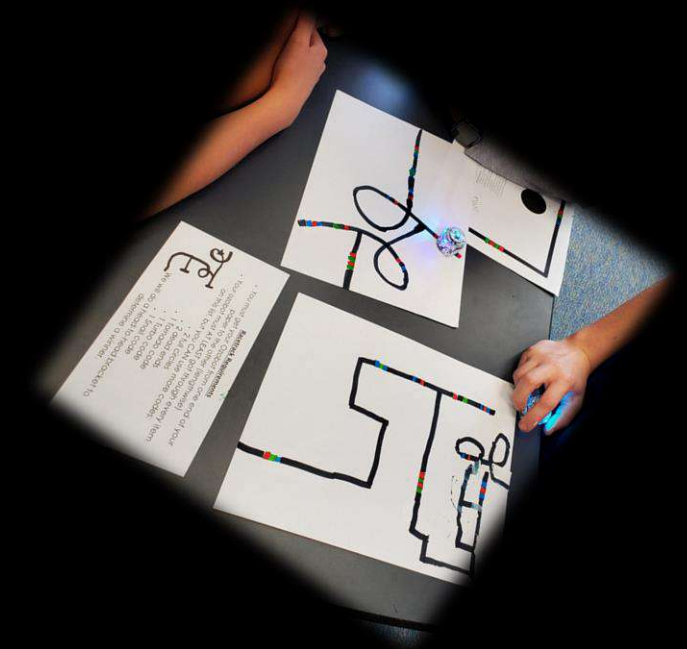
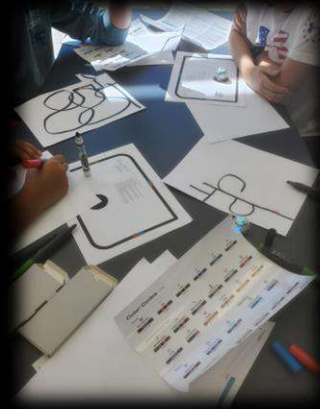
Media Center



Our goal is to promote a lifelong love of reading and to encourage inquiry-based learning by providing SPMS students with opportunities, resources, and access to state-of-the-art technologies in order to increase critical thinking and collaboration.

Highlights:

- Author Visits.
- Highest SSYRA middle school participation in St. Johns County.
- Makerspace and Makerspace Weekly challenges .
- Monthly Reading Promotions (Blind Date with a Book, Speed Dating with a Book).
- Collaborative Research lessons.
- One of the Highest book circulation in St. Johns County Schools.
- Access to E books and digital audio books.
- Implemented full use laptop lab and research station for the 2022-2023 school year.



Hello from the Dean's Office!!!!

Dean Puckett and Dean Gibian



What do they do?

- Set and teach behavior expectations.
- Enforce positive behaviors.
- Issue consequences for violations against the Code of Conduct.
- Work with new teachers to manage classroom behaviors.
- Communicate with parents if concerns arise.
- Collaborate with guidance to assist students with personal and/or academic issues.
- Work with Student Resource Officer to ensure student safety.
- Advocate for students when necessary.
- Use restorative discipline strategies to encourage behavior reflection and learning from mistakes.
- Don't forget to get the PBIS Parent App in August to monitor your students positive Raider Bucks.

RAIDER EXPECTATIONS

WE ARE

RESPECTFUL

- We realize that everyone has the right to learn and work to not infringe on that right
- We give attention to the person speaking
- We use electronics only for educational purposes
- We contribute to a positive learning environment
- We value the contributions of all learners
- We actively seek out opportunities to practice kindness on our campus

RESPONSIBLE

- We stay on task
- We ask questions when we do not understand
- We value challenging material
- We show up ready to learn, with our work completed and on time
- We are prepared with the required materials (books, paper, pencils...)

AND

SAFE

- We hold our classmates accountable for their actions by letting an adult know when we see something unsafe
- We are careful with classroom materials
- We keep our hands and feet to ourselves and refrain from running, throwing item and pushing
- We use materials appropriately for their intended purpose
- We foster a learning space that makes every student, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, or orientation, feel safe and honored within our walls

Raider Expectations

Utilize the Raider Expectations in rewarding student behavior and drive conversations when redirects need to occur.

Don't forget to download the PBIS Parent App in August. More information will be provided then.



6TH GRADE CAMP

Meet 6th grade teachers

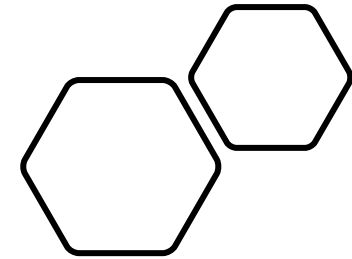
Get SPMS insider tips!

Learn how to use your locker

Walk your schedule

Make friends!

Get ready to CRUSH middle school!



DATES ARE PENDING.
July 31st and August 1st.
FOR YOUR PLANNING
PURPOSES. DATES
WILL BE FINALIZED
SOON AND
COMMUNICATED.



Questions?

Top 7 Ways to be a Successful RAIDER!!!!

- Read
 - Allow
 - Invest
 - Discuss
 - Encourage
 - Reassure
 - Schoology
- Read the newsletters and emails from teachers and administration.
 - Allow your child time to adjust to middle school.
 - Invest in time everyday to talk to your child about their accomplishments and obligations.
 - Discuss grades with your child using the tools provided such as Schoology and HAC.
 - Encourage your child to not be afraid to talk to their teachers when they have questions.
 - Reassure your child that middle school is not scary, and they will adjust.
 - Schoology is a Must.