



HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2021-2022

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Introduction

To our HKMS Families,

Welcome to Haddam-Killingworth Middle School. Our HKMS Program of Studies is designed to help parents and students learn about all of the classes that are offered during students' three years at Haddam-Killingworth Middle School.

The first section of our Program of Studies lists our core academic classes. For example, all English/language arts classes for grades six through eight are listed first, so you can see the progression of learning in reading and writing. Math, science, social studies, and world language are all organized in the same manner.

The second section contains our year-long applied academic and fine arts (AAFA) classes that meet every other day. You will find our PE/health and music classes in this section.

The last section contains all of our wheel classes, the trimester* classes that meet every other day during your child's applied academics block. Those classes are arranged by grade level, so you can see the three (or more) wheel classes your child will choose to take each year.

I hope this overview of our offerings helps to build your child's excitement about the learning opportunities they will have while attending the middle school.

Sincerely,

Dolores Bates, HKMS Principal

Daily Schedule

<u>TIME</u>	<u>Gr 6</u>	<u>Gr 7</u>	<u>Gr 8</u>
8:10-8:54	1	AAFA	
8:57-9:41	2	2	AAFA
9:44-10:28	AAFA	AAFA	3
10:31-11:14	1st lunch 10:31-10:56	1st lunch 10:31-10:56	4
11:03-11:44	4	4*	
11:17-11:44		2nd lunch 11:17-11:44	2nd lunch 11:17-11:44
11:47-12:31	5	AAFA	AAFA
12:34-1:18	AAFA	6	6
1:21-2:05	7	AAFA	7
2:08-2:50	FLEX	FLEX	FLEX

Grade 6 Schedule

In sixth grade, students have two periods per day of English/language arts and one period of math, science, and social studies during their academic time.

Sixth graders have two periods per day of applied academics and/or fine arts (AAFA). The sixth grade applied academic classes are as follows:

- World Language – Spanish or French
- Band or chorus
- PE/health
- Options for Wheel classes – art, life skills, design & modeling, and digital publishing

Students who are recommended for LEAP will have this class during Flex. Students who are recommended for reading intervention, math intervention, and/or targeted instruction will have this class during Flex or applied academics.

Grade 7 Schedule

In seventh grade, students have two periods per day of English/language arts and one period of math, science, and history during their academic time.

Seventh graders have two periods per day of applied academics and/or fine arts (AAFA). The seventh grade applied academic classes are as follows:

- World language - French or Spanish
- Band, chorus, or general music
- PE/health
- Options for Wheel classes – art, life skills, personal finance, technology education, exploring electricity

Students who are recommended for reading intervention, math intervention, and/or targeted instruction will have this class during Flex or applied academics.

Grade 8 Schedule

In eighth grade, students have one period per day of English/language arts, math, science, history, and French or Spanish during their academic time.

Eighth graders have two periods per day of applied academics and/or fine arts (AAFA). The eighth grade applied academic classes are as follows:

- Music: Band, Chorus, Jazz Band, and/or Honor Choir
- PE/Health
- Options for Wheel classes – art, ceramics, foods, technology education, automation & robotics, music production, world percussion

Students who are recommended for reading intervention, math intervention, and/or targeted instruction will have this class during Flex or applied academics.

Language Arts Curriculum Overview

The HKMS language arts program develops the skills and strategies of reading, writing, listening, and speaking needed for living literate lives in the 21st century. We follow the workshop model in all grades in concert with Teachers College at Columbia University, which promotes best instructional practices to help all students become powerful and independent readers and writers. In reading workshop, students are explicitly taught the strategies and habits of proficient readers through a brief “mini-lesson.” Following the lesson, students are given the time to practice the skills they have learned through reading a wide variety of books at their reading levels and of personal interest. During this independent work time, teachers meet with students individually and in small groups to help them advance their skills and grow as readers. Likewise, in writing workshop, students learn to reflect upon their experiences as they collect their ideas in writers’ notebooks and draft, revise, edit, and publish pieces such as personal narratives, memoirs, poetry, and literary or persuasive essays. Word study and learning the conventions of academic writing are also part of language arts teaching.

Language Arts, Grade 6:

Meets two periods per day

The sixth grade language arts program offers opportunities for students to connect with texts on a deeper level. Students study the development of characters in literature and social and world issues. Students learn to clearly communicate ideas, understandings, and experiences so they will be sophisticated, independent, lifelong learners.

In **reading**, grade 6 students read a variety of genres, including realistic fiction, short stories, informational books and articles, and poetry. They learn specific reading skills and strategies in order to synthesize information and analyze the author's craft. Students also write in response to texts.

In **writing**, grade 6 students write in a variety of genres, including narrative, argument and literary analysis, expository/ informational, and poetry. Students also have lessons in grammar, conventions, and vocabulary building.

In sixth grade, students receive a grade on their report cards for reading and a separate grade for writing.

Language Arts, Grade 7:

Meets two periods per day

Seventh-grade language arts uses the workshop approach to integrate the studies of reading, writing, grammar, word study, and oral presentation. The units of study for **reading** include author studies, reading across different genres, non-fiction reading, poetry, and historical fiction.

The **writing** portion of language arts in grade 7 will focus on the elements of writing within a variety of genres, such as narrative, argument, informative, and poetry. Teachers confer with students to provide constructive feedback and maximize student growth in writing. Students use words from their independent reading as well as from class reading examples for word study. The units of study for writing include writing realistic fiction, writing about reading, research-based argument essays, and writing historical fiction or documentaries.

Students will receive a grade on their report cards for reading and a separate grade for writing in seventh grade.

Language Arts, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

Language Arts instruction in grade eight occurs during one academic period. It uses the reader's and writer's workshop model to provide learners with critical analysis skills through mentor text instruction. Mentor texts help learners analyze various techniques authors use to persuade, inform, create claims, and entertain.

Units of study in **reading** include reading analytically across genres, fantasy and dystopia (novels about imaginative undesirable places and characters fighting against injustices), reading nonfiction critically, and classics.

Units of study in **writing** include literary essays and memoirs. Eighth-grade students learn to synthesize information from oral, visual, and media sources and further evaluate and analyze speech and writing within their summative writing pieces.

Students will receive one grade on their report cards for Grade 8 language arts.

Mathematics Curriculum Overview

The HKMS mathematics program builds on the knowledge and skills that students learned in elementary school. Students in grade 5 are heterogeneously grouped for math, and starting in grade 6, we offer two levels of math – grade level and accelerated. Students are recommended for the accelerated pathway based on class performance, classroom assessments, district assessments, and teacher recommendation.

If a student is at grade level for math throughout middle school and high school, a typical pathway through mathematics instruction is as follows:

Grade	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Course	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pre-Calculus• Probability/Statistics• Personal Finance

If a student is accelerated in math, a typical pathway through mathematics instruction is as follows:

Grade	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Course	Advanced Math 6	Advanced Math 7	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Calculus AB• AP Calculus BC• AP Statistics

While placements can shift along the path throughout middle and high school, students typically follow these common sequences in later years.

Mathematics, Grade 6:

Meets one period per day

In sixth grade math, students extend their reasoning of multiplication and division to the concepts of ratios and rates; complete their understanding of division of fractions; extend their understanding of rational numbers including negative numbers; write, interpret and use expressions and equations including variables; solve problems involving area, surface area and volume; and develop an understanding of statistical thinking.

In sixth grade accelerated math, students learn the curriculum taught in Math 6 as well as about half of the concepts that are taught in Grade 7 math. Students learn this content at an accelerated pace.

At the end of sixth grade, students are recommended for Grade 7 Math or Advanced Grade 7 math based on class performance, classroom and district assessments and teacher recommendation.

Mathematics, Grade 7:

Meets one period per day

Students will add, subtract, multiply and divide positive and negative rational numbers and apply absolute value. Students will create algebraic expressions along with applying the distributive property and combining like terms. Seventh graders will create and solve multi-step equations using operations of integers along with solving and graphing solutions to inequalities.

In addition, students will use proportions and scale factors to identify unit rates and calculate the best purchase prices. Students will perform operations with percents, including finding taxes, tips, discounts and percent change. Seventh graders will explore proportionality in scale drawings and solve problems involving angle measure, area, surface area and volume. Students find the probability of single and multiple events using charts, tree diagrams and fractions and use probability to predict the frequency of an event. Students collect and organize data in order to make inferences about populations from a sample and compare populations.

In 7th grade Accelerated math, students learn the curriculum taught in Math 7 as well as about half of the concepts that are taught in Grade 8 math. Students learn this content at an accelerated pace.

Mathematics, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

This course is designed to increase foundations math skills and prepare students for Algebra 1. The curriculum includes real numbers (number theory), Pythagorean theorem, congruence and similarity, transformations, linear relationships and functions, systems of linear relationships, volume of cones, cylinders and spheres and patterns in data. This class was formerly called Pre-Algebra yet the shift to Connecticut Core Standards extends beyond just algebraic thinking to include ratio and proportional thinking, number systems, geometry, probability and statistics, so it has been renamed Math 8.

Algebra, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

The Algebra 1 curriculum is based on the big ideas of algebra, conceptual understandings, real world applications, hands-on experiences gathering data and appropriate uses of technology. The curriculum is organized into units which include a variety of investigations and activities that engage students in active learning. Unit topics include patterns, equations, inequalities, system of equations, scatter plots, trend lines and functions. Students are expected to have a solid foundation in arithmetic skills (whole numbers, fractions, decimals, integers), problem solving, order of operations, combining like terms and distribution. Successful completion of Algebra 1 at HKMS earns credit towards HKHS graduation requirements.

**Note: HKMS no longer has a course named "Pre-Algebra". With the shift to Connecticut Core Standards, the math of middle school extends beyond just algebraic thinking to include ratio and proportional thinking, number systems, geometry, probability and statistics. Therefore, it has been named Math 8 to align with the grade 8 standards. In addition, Accelerated Math 7 is not the same as Math 8. Accelerated Math 7 includes about half of the grade 7 standards and all of the grade 8 standards.*

Science Curriculum Overview

The science program at HKMS is aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards and designed to provide students with hands-on inquiry into a variety of scientific understandings. Students learn by seeing science in action in the world around them.

Science, Grade 6:

Meets one period per day

Grade 6 science offers a rigorous curriculum of study based on student inquiry. Our mission is to create an atmosphere where students can collaboratively construct physical models that help build an understanding of scientific concepts. Sixth grade students investigate the following essential questions:

- How can disease impact the ability of living systems to survive?
- How do the motions and complex interactions of air masses result in changing weather conditions?
- How can reproduction and growth impact the ability of a living system to survive?
- How can thermal energy transfer impact the ability of a living system to survive?

Students discover the answers to the essential questions while designing their own investigations and are guided to develop a deeper understanding of scientific phenomena through their scientific research.

Science, Grade 7:

Meets one period per day

In seventh grade, students learn about the earth's structure and history, as well as the natural forces constantly changing the surface of the earth, by examining fossils and other evidence from the earth's past. Students study photosynthesis and cellular respiration to understand how living organisms make and get energy from food. Additionally, students learn about different ecosystems and the interaction with organisms living in them. Seventh grade students investigate the following essential questions:

- What causes changes in matter?
- How do organisms and ecosystems interact?
- How has the Earth changed?

During these units, students will form deeper connections between scientific concepts and skills, such as designing proper investigations, developing and revising models based on evidence, and analyzing data to make sense of phenomena.

Science, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

The goals of eighth grade science are to engage students in scientific practices to develop broader understanding of content, a deeper level of scientific inquiry skills, and improve research and data-analysis techniques. Our eighth grade units of study include Forces and Energy, Energy in Waves, Mechanisms of Diversity, and the Changing Earth. Eighth grade students investigate the following essential questions:

- How do objects affect other objects?
- How do waves transfer energy and information?
- What makes organisms different from one another?
- What has the history of the earth looked like?

During these investigations, students will form deeper connections between scientific concepts and skills, such as evaluating methods for collecting data, revising models based on evidence, and analyzing data to make sense of phenomena.

Social Studies Curriculum Overview

Social studies classes prepare students for their roles as citizens by developing knowledge of the regions of the world as well as of the past in order to understand present-day challenges and plan for the future. Students will examine primary sources and use critical thinking, reasoning and research skills to investigate history, geography, economics, and civics. Social studies classes support student achievement with respect to reading, writing, speaking, listening, and research/inquiry.

Social Studies, Grade 6:

Meets one period per day

Students in sixth grade learn geography continent by continent using the five themes of geography as a framework, which builds their understanding of the impact of geography on how people live. During their study of the Caribbean, South America, and Asia, students focus on the geographical, historical, political, social, economic and cultural aspects of each different region/continent.. Through inquiry, students will investigate topics about geography and history. They will find and evaluate primary and secondary sources, improve their informational writing, and develop their presentation skills.

Social Studies, Grade 7:

Meets one period per day

Students in seventh grade learn geography continent by continent using the five themes of geography as a framework, which builds their understanding of the impact of geography on early civilization. During their study of Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Europe, students focus on the geographical, historical, political, social, economic and cultural aspects of each different region/continent.. Through inquiry, students will investigate topics about geography and history. They will find and evaluate primary and secondary sources, improve their informational writing, and develop their presentation skills.

Social Studies, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

Eighth grade social studies is designed as a chronological survey in early American history. Time periods and eras included in our study are the American Revolution, creation of the new republic and Constitution, growth and expansion, Industrial Revolution, westward expansion, reform and social change, the differing north and south, and the Civil War. Students will study the political, economic, social, and geographical changes of the United States during these years. Each student will use inquiry to explore questions and analyze primary sources to draw conclusions. Students will expand their listening, speaking, writing, reading and citizenship skills to a high level of proficiency.

World Language Curriculum Overview

The HKMS world language department provides students the opportunity to learn French or Spanish with the goal of speaking, reading, and writing in the target language.

The students' world language choices for the 2021-22 school year are as follows:

- **Incoming 6th graders:** Students will continue their study of French I or Spanish I. At the end of eighth grade, they will have completed French II or Spanish II.
- **Incoming 7th graders:** Students will continue their study of French or Spanish, studying the French II or Spanish II curriculum.
- **Incoming 8th graders:** Students will continue the study of French or Spanish which they began in seventh grade. At the end of the year, they will have completed French II or Spanish II and will start the third year of the language in high school.

The chart below summarizes the 2021-22 world language pathway at HKMS for each grade level.

		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
6th grade in 2021-22		French I or Spanish I	French II or Spanish II	
7th grade in 2021-22			French II or Spanish II	
8th grade in 2021-22				French II or Spanish II

French, Grade 6:

Meets every other day

The second half of French I builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in fifth grade, extending students' understanding of French culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history, and geography. Students will expand their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in order to read, write, speak, and further understand the language at a basic level. Students will be expected to speak primarily in the target language in preparation for French II.

French, Grade 7:

Meets every other day

Seventh grade students learn the first half of the French II curriculum. The course is designed to extend students' understanding of French culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history, and geography. Students will extend their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in order to read, write, speak, and further comprehend the language at a basic level. Students will complete French II in eighth grade.

French, Grade 8:

Meets one period per day

The second half of French II builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in seventh grade, extending students' understanding of French culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history, and geography. Students will expand their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in order to read, write, speak, and further understand the language at a basic level. Students will be expected to speak primarily in the target language in order to start French III in high school. (Prerequisite: Grade 7 French II)

Spanish, Grade 6:

Meets every other day

The second half of Spanish I builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in fifth grade, extending students' understanding of Spanish culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history and geography. Students will expand their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar and syntax in order to read, write, speak and further understand the language at a basic level. Students will be expected to speak frequently in the target language in preparation of Spanish II.

Spanish, Grade 7:

Meets every other day

Seventh grade students learn the first half of the Spanish II curriculum. The course is designed to extend students' understanding of Spanish culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history, and geography. Students will extend their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in order to read, write, speak, and further comprehend the language at a basic level. Students will complete Spanish II in eighth grade.

Spanish, Grade 8:

Meets one period every day

The second half of Spanish II builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in seventh grade, extending students' understanding of Spanish culture through authentic and adapted sources of art, music, media, customs, history, and geography. Students will expand their knowledge of basic vocabulary, grammar, and syntax in order to read, write, speak, and further understand the language at a basic level. Students will be expected to speak frequently in the target language in preparation for high school courses. Students will be expected to speak primarily in the target language in order to start Spanish III in high school. (Prerequisite: Grade 7 Spanish II)

Music Curriculum Overview

Students at HKMS have multiple courses in which to pursue their interests in music. Below are the opportunities for music instruction at each grade level.

- **Grade 6:** Students will choose between band or chorus. Students may start a new band instrument in sixth grade.
- **Grade 7** – Students will choose between Band, Chorus or General Music.
- **Grade 8** – Students may take Band, Chorus, World Percussion and/or Music Production.
- **Audition groups** – Students in grades 7 and 8 can audition for Jazz Band. Students in grade 8 can audition for Honors Choir.

Band, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, all year

Sixth grade concert band incorporates and builds on the skills that were acquired during fourth and fifth grade band. Students refine their performance skills, learn to be self-reflective through ensemble critiques, and gain an understanding of the diverse nature of the music they perform. Team teaching is an integral component to the structure of this class. As a result of this class, students will have the opportunity to experience the power of performing as a member of a group. They will have a chance to listen and respond to diverse music and at the highest level, create and explore musical ideas. Twice per year there will be formal band concerts, with other informal performance opportunities throughout the school year. Students may choose flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, baritone/euphonium or combined percussion.

Band, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, all year

Seventh grade concert band incorporates and builds on the skills that were acquired during sixth grade band. It offers students the opportunity for more extensive experience with a wider variety of concert band literature. Continuation of team teaching provides a stable environment for small group instruction and individual assessment. Students will have a chance to listen and respond to diverse music and at the highest level, create and explore musical ideas. Twice per year there will be formal band concerts, with other informal performance opportunities throughout the school year. All participants in the seventh grade band are prepared for future involvement in the eighth grade concert band.

Band, Grade 8:

Meets every other day, all year

Through performance and the study of music theory, students will respond to the following questions throughout the school year:

- What makes a significant and meaningful performance?
- What defines a great musician?

By discussing and responding to these two questions, students will come to understand that music is personal. It expresses human experiences and values and is embedded in all aspects of life. Paying attention to detail and consistent work/practice habits play a big role in student achievement. Essential techniques are needed to achieve mastery and practice/preparation is vital for technique. Students in eighth grade band perform in the Winter Concert, HKHS Cooperative Concert, Spring Concert, and Memorial Day Parade.

Students typically have at least two years of instrumental performance experience before joining the eighth grade band. All traditional concert band instruments are allowed.

Jazz Band, Grade 7 & 8:

Meets every other day, all year

HKMS Jazz Band is an audition group consisting of seventh and eighth grade students. This band meets during the seventh & eighth grade applied academic classes. The group consists of saxophones, trumpets, trombones and a full rhythm section (drums set, bass, guitar and piano) in a traditional big band setting. The group studies and performs a variety of literature from various periods of jazz performance, ranging from swing to Latin to funk and rock.

Chorus, Grade 6:

Meets every other day all year

In sixth grade Chorus, students will learn how to sing, read music, and create a fun and supportive community environment, building upon what they did the previous year in their music class. Most sixth grade choir music will be in two or three parts. Students will learn intermediate concepts of sight singing, including Solfege (do, re, mi....) with skips and more complex rhythm counting. Students will be encouraged to find the beauty in their own voices. Twice per year there will be formal chorus concerts, with other informal performance opportunities throughout the school year.

Chorus, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, all year

In seventh grade Chorus, students will learn how to sing, read music, and create a fun and supportive community environment, building upon what they did the previous year in their music class. Most seventh grade choir music will be in 3 or 4 parts. Students will learn advanced concepts of sight singing, including Solfege (do, re, mi....) with many skips and syncopated rhythm counting. Many of our seventh grade students will also learn how to use their newer changed or changing voices in a supportive environment. Twice per year there will be formal chorus concerts, with other informal performance opportunities throughout the school year.

Chorus, Grade 8:

Meets every other day, all year

In eighth grade chorus, students will learn how to sing, read music, and create a fun and supportive community environment, building upon what they did the previous year in their music class. Most eighth grade choir music will be in 3, 4 or more parts. Students will continue to build on their sight reading skills, and begin to focus on basic concepts in music theory, including chords. Twice per year there will be formal chorus concerts, with other informal performance opportunities throughout the school year.

Honors Choir, Grade 8:

Meets every other day, all year

Honors Choir is an auditioned eighth grade ensemble which usually accepts between 16 and 24 members. The Honors Choir has a tradition of singing many concerts, including the two formal school concerts, the Applied Academics and Fine Arts night, the annual Six Flags Music in The Parks Competition, the HK Holiday Show, and numerous others throughout the year. Members of the Honors Choir are expected to practice at home on a nightly basis. Students from the Honors Choir will also be given the opportunity to audition for Regional Music Festivals. They will also be student leaders for the entire HKMS choral program.

Physical Education and Health Curriculum Overview

The HKMS physical education program is designed to encourage students to develop not only physically, but also socially and emotionally, as they progress through our curriculum into responsible, respectful and physically literate young adults. Students reach these objectives through a variety of individual and group activities that stress concepts, strategies, skills, wellness theories, and lifetime activities.

The HKMS health curriculum is a comprehensive program, aligned with Connecticut and national health education standards. It is designed to increase student awareness of essential information, skills, behaviors, and attitudes associated with a lifestyle focused on overall wellness (physical, social, environmental, emotional and mental health). Health is a required class one trimester class for each grade level.

Physical Education, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 2 trimesters

The sixth grade curriculum at HKMS builds on the knowledge and skills acquired during fifth grade. Sixth graders continue to enhance their skills in order to focus on applying them during game play. We use a variety of group and individual activities such as modified games and drills to reinforce those skills and introduce new concepts and strategies.

All sixth graders will participate in PE during the fall trimester in order to complete State Physical Fitness Testing and the swing dance unit.

Units of study may include: Introduction to Swing Dance, Flag Football, Soccer, Cooperative Games, Basketball, Fitness Center/Training (cardio programs and record keeping), Table Tennis, Floor Hockey, Frisbee Skills, Volleyball, Badminton, Team Handball, Strategic Games and Snowshoeing.

Health Education, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

The topics covered by the 6th grade health curriculum include:

- Mental and emotional health including strategies for stress reduction
- Healthy relationships including relational aggression and cyberbullying
- Advocating for the health and well-being of self and others
- Development of problem solving and decision-making skills
- Nutrition

Physical Education, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 2 trimesters

The seventh grade curriculum continues to build on the students' experiences from previous years while stressing the application of strategies and concepts in individual and group games/activities. Students will begin to take on more responsibility in the outcomes and pace of class with the introduction of the Sports Education Model. During this year students are challenged to develop connections between Physical Education and other academic courses to enhance their knowledge of concepts, strategies, skills and anatomy. In conjunction with seventh grade science, students will engage in a musculoskeletal unit designed to teach them how their bodies react to various training methods.

All seventh graders will participate in PE during the Fall Trimester.

Units of study may include: Swing Dance, Soccer, Flag Football, Gatorball, Basketball, Musculoskeletal Unit (Fitness Center), Table Tennis, Frisbee Games, Volleyball, Badminton, Cooperative Games, Lacrosse, Backyard Games, and Team Handball.

Health Education, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

The topics covered by the 7th grade health curriculum include:

- Development of communication skills and the ability to use them effectively to enhance health.
- Advocating for the health and well-being of self and others
- Application of problem solving and decision making skills
- Analysis of the health risks associated with substance use/abuse, including alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and inhalants.
- Analysis of the influence of peers, culture, media and technology on health attitudes and behaviors.
- Analysis of the risks of exposure to the sun's rays and development of the knowledge needed to reduce this risk.

Physical Education, Grade 8:

Meets every other day, 2 trimesters

The eighth grade curriculum is an extension of seventh grade where students further develop their knowledge of their strengths in PE and how those can be an asset for success. Students are required to transition to a higher level of thinking regarding concepts and strategies within units. Game play and lifetime activities are a key component to the eighth grade PE experience. Eighth graders focus on the use of various fitness activities while in the fitness center to help them develop their physical fitness. They will be introduced to and choose an exercise program of their interest which may include the use of equipment such as medicine balls, dumbbells, resistance bands, yoga/Pilates, balance boards, agility equipment and nautilus machines.

All eighth graders will participate in PE during the fall trimester in order to complete State Physical Fitness Testing and the swing dance unit.

Units of study may include: Swing Dance, Soccer, Flag Football, Gatorball, Basketball, Fitness Center (individualized exercise programs), Table Tennis, Frisbee Games, Volleyball, Badminton, Cooperative Games, Golf, Lacrosse, Backyard Games, Team Handball, and Olympics.

Students will leave HKMS able to make informed healthy decisions that will guide them towards a lifetime of being healthy and active young adults.

Health Education, Grade 8:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

The topics covered by the 8th grade health curriculum include:

- Application of problem solving and decision making skills.
- Analysis of the health risks associated with substance use, including prescription and over-the-counter drugs and illegal drugs.
- Advocating for the health and well-being of self and others
- Analysis of the influence of peers, culture, media and technology on health attitudes and behaviors.
- Communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases/infections.
- The characteristics of healthy relationships.
- Sexual harassment.

Wheel Classes Overview

Wheel classes are elective courses that allow students to explore a variety of applied academics and fine arts disciplines. Wheel classes at HKMS meet every other day for a trimester, so each class meets approximately 30 times. The number of wheel classes a student is able to take depends on whether or not they are in band or chorus or have targeted instruction and support classes. Please see the following pages for the wheel classes for each grade level.

Grade	WHEEL CLASSES OFFERED	Page
6	Art Design & Modeling Digital Publishing Life Skills I	25
7	Art Exploring Electricity General Music Life Skills II Multi-media Art Personal Finance Sports Wellness Technology Education Unified Physical Education	26 & 27
8	Art Automation & Robotics Ceramics Foods & Nutrition Music Production Sports Wellness Technology Education Unified Phys. Education World Percussion	28 & 29

Grade 6 Wheel Classes

Art, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This course is a compilation of art media experimentation and personal expression. Students are challenged to further their knowledge about art making and the processes involved in creative problem solving. Projects are based on the National Common Core Arts Standards, and connections are made to a variety of other disciplines including math and science. Students are continually asked to reflect on their artistic choices and analyze what makes their art successful.

The sixth grade curriculum includes both two- and three-dimensional art based on utilizing the elements of art and principles of design. Units of study include pencil and charcoal drawing, watercolor painting, and clay hand-building and pottery on the wheel.

Design & Modeling, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Students are introduced to Computer-aided design (CAD) using a 3D modeling program called Tinkercad. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the course to solve real-world problems.

Digital Publishing, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This course will focus on using current technology to enhance a story and communicate information. Students will gain experience with interviewing, researching and writing. They will learn about using animation, graphics, video, and online narration. For the final project, students will research, develop, and create a digital story of their own.

Life Skills I, Grade 6:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Life skills is a program that engages students within individual and cooperative learning environments to further build and develop their life skills. Themes, skills, and concepts that students will be developing are healthy living choices, non-verbal and verbal communications, design and production, time management, and goal setting. Through differing instructional strategies, the students will create and strengthen abilities in subjects that will aid them in becoming young adults.

Grade 7 Wheel Classes

Art, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

The seventh grade art curriculum incorporates the National Standards for Visual Art Education and focuses on two- and three-dimensional art including, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture. Elements of art are covered, and students also gain knowledge of principles of design and how to organize and lay out a piece of art.

Exploring Electricity, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Students examine the behavior and parts of atoms as well as the impact of electricity on the world around them. They learn skills in basic circuitry. Students then design and use what they know to create a small toy for a child.

Personal Finance, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This new course will help students build core personal finance skills and learn real-world strategies they can use. Through engaging resources and activities, students will practice these skills so they can get started on the right track to effectively manage their personal finances!

General Music, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Seventh grade general music explores both music history and music theory through the study and performance of piano and guitar. The students will spend time learning to play each instrument. Students will also learn to describe and evaluate performances by famous musicians. Each student will be equipped to play basic harmonic and melodic passages, and they will be given the tools to continue their studies if they wish.

Life Skills II, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Life skills is a program that engages students within individual and cooperative learning environments to further build and develop their life skills. Themes, skills, and concepts that students will be developing are healthy living choices, non-verbal and verbal communications, design and production, time management, and goal setting. Through differing instructional strategies, the students will create and strengthen abilities in subjects that will aid them in becoming young adults.

Mixed Media, Grade 7:

Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Mixed media art combines a variety of art forms into one single artwork. We will explore a wide range of techniques and combine media such as drawing over paintings, collage and sewing, fibers and jewelry, printmaking with found objects, and more.

Technology Education, Grade 7: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Students learn the fields of architecture and construction. They explore dimensioning, measuring, scaling, architectural sustainability, bridge types and apply what they have learned to design and recreate a scale model of an object. Students also use the engineering design process to replicate and build a truss-style bridge.

Sports Wellness, Grade 7: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This course will allow students to explore a variety of new topics, building on their knowledge from previous Health and PE classes. Students will expand their understanding of nutrition by exploring sports nutrition and its benefits to performance, as well as the potential dangers of some supplements and vitamins. The Sports Wellness Course will also take full advantage of the Fitness Center and students will learn how to set up targeted fitness routines to achieve their goals in weight training, aerobic training and how to properly recover between workouts. Students will continue to expand their expertise on Mindfulness and Relaxation techniques. We will also discuss and practice exercises you can do in a small space with limited equipment, such as yoga, body weight exercises, and resistance band training. Students will also be introduced to Sports First Aid concepts like RICE, common teenage sports injuries, and how to care for them.

Unified P. E., Grade 7&8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Unified Physical Education at HKMS will offer a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through ongoing fitness, sports, leadership and wellness activities. The Unified P.E. program will focus on the physical, intellectual and social growth of all participants as well as fostering a more inclusive school environment. Activities will include Outdoor Pursuits (orienteering, snowshoeing, bouldering/traversing/climbing), Fitness Activities (Yoga, Pilates, resistance training, running, fitness walking), Performance (tumbling, track & field), and Games & Sports (volleyball, basketball, badminton, pickleball, table tennis, golf and bowling).

Grade 8 Wheel Classes

Art, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

In eighth grade art, students have a strong focus on self expression through 2D projects, ceramics,

and graphic arts. We will explore composition, technique, the elements and principles of design, and attention-to-detail. Art history, art appreciation, problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated into lessons.

Automation & Robotics, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Students 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 apply what they know to design and build robots to solve various tasks. This class has a strong emphasis on mathematics.

Ceramics, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This course will build off of the main hand building techniques students already know; pinch, coil, and slab, as well as a basic introduction to wheel throwing. There will be a strong focus on originality and creativity. Our 3D projects will include both functional and sculptural pieces such as cups, mugs, vases, bowls, lanterns, statues, and more. Glazes will be explored and applied to finish each piece.

Foods & Nutrition, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Foods and nutrition is a program which focuses on nutrition and serves as an introduction to safety and sanitation within the kitchen environment. The students, through individual and cooperative learning, will build and develop their understanding of kitchen fundamentals and nutritional foundations. Themes, skills, and concepts that we will be developing are healthy food choices, dietary guidelines and nutrient facts, kitchen safety, kitchen sanitation, kitchen math, food borne illness, cooking terms and abbreviations, team work, and the ability to become an active part of their own household.

Music Production, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

Music production offers an opportunity to blend students' knowledge and skills in music with modern technology. Students use keyboards and computers to compose and improvise music, build on music literacy skills, critique compositions and performances, and gain appreciation for the diverse cultural, historical and stylistic music they perform and compose.

Technology Education, Grade 8: Meets every other day, 1 trimester

This course is designed to be a hands-on, project-based class in which students develop basic shop skills, a proper safety attitude, and basic skills in wood project construction. The course will focus on the concept of "learning by doing" where students will produce two or more projects to take home. Due to the nature of the course, students must act safely, be self-directed, motivated, and responsible.

Sports Wellness, Grade 8: **Meets every other day, 1 trimester**

This course will allow students to explore a variety of new topics, building on their knowledge from previous Health and PE classes. Students will expand their understanding of nutrition by exploring sports nutrition and its benefits to performance, as well as the potential dangers of some supplements and vitamins. The Sports Wellness Course will also take full advantage of the Fitness Center and students will learn how to set up targeted fitness routines to achieve their goals in weight training, aerobic training and how to properly recover between workouts. Students will continue to expand their expertise on Mindfulness and Relaxation techniques. We will also discuss and practice exercises you can do in a small space with limited equipment, such as yoga, body weight exercises, and resistance band training. Students will also be introduced to Sports First Aid concepts like RICE, common teenage sports injuries, and how to care for them.

Unified P.E., Grades 7&8: **Meets every other day, 1 trimester**

Unified Physical Education at HKMS will offer a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through ongoing fitness, sports, leadership and wellness activities. The Unified P.E. program will focus on the physical, intellectual and social growth of all participants as well as fostering a more inclusive school environment. Activities will include Outdoor Pursuits (orienteering, snowshoeing, bouldering/traversing/climbing), Fitness Activities (Yoga, Pilates, resistance training, running, fitness walking), Performance (tumbling, track & field), and Games & Sports (volleyball, basketball, badminton, pickleball, table tennis, golf and bowling).

World Percussion, Grade 8: **Meets every other day, 1 trimester**

This course is based primarily on the drumming traditions of West Coast Africa and the islands of the Caribbean. Rhythms are taught through the use of imitation and repetition. Students are free to watch and imitate the physical approach to learning each instrument. How a drum, rattle or bell is held or struck has a lot to do with its sound. Students will come to understand the many roles that respect and tradition play within all cultures and disciplines and the impact on the performer.

Supporting All Students at HKMS

At HKMS we recognize the importance of meeting students' individual needs through a variety of supports. The following supports are offered throughout the day to help our students maneuver through the challenging years of adolescence.

Flex Period, all grades

Meets daily

Each grade level has Flex, our flexible academic block, as the last period of the day, when a variety of academic and/or team activities occur. During Flex, students might ask a teacher for extra help; make up a test or quiz or take a retake; work on long-term projects or lab reports; read; receive reading, math, or targeted instruction from an interventionist or special education teacher; meet with a school counselor or other support personnel; gather together for a team meeting or a monthly town meeting.

L.E.A.P., Grade 6

Meets 2 times per week

Students who qualify for the L.E.A.P. (Learning Enrichment for All People) program will be a part of a small group setting and will complete projects that will expect them to apply evaluative criteria, identify personal learning styles, and communicate with others socially and academically. Projects and assignments vary in topic and nature, and are usually chosen by the students based on their interests, mostly in the areas of mathematics and language arts. Students problem solve, make decisions, and investigate challenging and complex problems over an extended period of time. These projects are student-driven and provide students with 21st century skills such as communication, independent and critical thinking, and research. Non-project based tasks include logic problems, philosophical reasoning, and short critical thinking assignments in the areas of mathematics, reading, and writing.

Math Lab, all grades

Meets daily

Math Lab is offered during the Flex period to provide additional support to all students. Math Lab is facilitated by our math interventionists and provides the opportunity for students to ask questions and get extra help on their current unit of study in math. Students may be recommended by their math teacher to attend once per week, or students may take the initiative to attend when they feel the need.

Math Intervention, all grades

Meets every other day

The math intervention program is designed for students who need additional help in mastering math skills and to support grade level math learning. Our goal is to provide high-quality instruction and practice of skills that is differentiated according to the students' needs. The program offers both small group and/or individualized instruction. The topics are individualized for each student enrolled to promote success in their primary math class. Enrollment in math intervention is based on performance in class and assessments.

Reading Intervention, all grades

Meets every other day

The reading intervention program is designed for students who need additional help in mastering reading skills such as encoding, decoding, comprehension and fluency. Our goal is to provide high-quality instruction and practice of skills that is differentiated according to the students' needs. The program offers both small group and/or individualized instruction. The topics are individualized for each student enrolled. Enrollment in reading intervention is based on performance in class and assessments.

Targeted Reading Instruction, all grades

Flexible for student needs

Targeted reading instruction is designed to provide additional individualized and explicit reading instruction beyond grade level language art classes. Instruction is designed to meet the specific needs of each student, in order to improve decoding (reading), encoding (spelling), fluency and/or reading comprehension skills. Reading instruction often includes vocabulary building activities through the teaching of the most common prefixes, suffixes and roots. The goal of the course is the advancement of foundational reading skills and overall reading achievement.

Targeted Instruction, all grades

Flexible for student needs

Students are placed in targeted instruction based on a recommendation from a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting. An Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is developed at the PPT meeting. The primary purpose of this class is for the special education teacher to utilize specialized instruction to address specific goals and objectives determined at the PPT meeting. The targeted instruction class is graded on a pass/fail basis. The special education teacher teaches the students self-advocacy, organization/time management, and study skills. Remediation of skills and classroom support is also a component of this class. The goal of targeted instruction is to provide the students with tools needed to be independent, self-directed learners.

Support Services, all grades

Flexible for student needs

The students of HKMS are served by two counselors, a school psychologist, and a social worker. The team works together to ensure the social, emotional and academic success of our students. Our student support staff meets with individual students and groups. Additionally, our school psychologist completes evaluations as a part of the special education process.

An additional member of the Support Services Team is the speech therapist. The primary responsibility of the speech therapist is to assist students who are in need of support with speech or language. The speech therapist works with all members of the middle school faculty and staff to ensure a coordinated response to students' individual needs.

Sports, and Extracurricular Clubs & Activities

Participation in after-school activities is a critical part of a student's learning and engagement in school. Students who participate in after-school activities are more connected to students and adults at school and typically are more successful academically. Below is a sample of the many sports, clubs, and activities that are offered at HKMS. Our clubs run three different times a year: fall, winter, and spring. This list is subject to change each year because student interest drives our offerings. If your child does not see a club in his/her area of interest, see Principal Bates to start a new club.

Interscholastic Sports, all grades

- Co-ed Cross Country, Fall Season
- Girls' Field Hockey, Fall Season
- Boys' Soccer, Fall Season
- Girls' Soccer, Fall Season
- Co-ed Swimming, Winter Season
- Co-ed Wrestling, Winter Season
- Boys' Basketball, Winter Season
- Girls' Basketball, Winter Season
- Co-ed Track, Spring Season
- Baseball, Spring Season
- Softball, Spring Season
- Unified Sports, All Seasons

Extracurricular Activities, all grades

- Anime Club
- Beach Bag Bonanza
- Drama Club (Spring Musical)
- Gardening Club
- Hiking Club
- Homespun Fun Club
- Homework Club
- Inspire (Girls' Leadership Group)
- Math Counts
- Robotics Club
- Street Hockey Club
- Video Game Club
- Yearbook Club
- Yoga Club