

ORCHARD LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL*HOME OF THE VIKINGS!*

Principal: Morrison Borders, EdS

Assistant Principal: Stasi Mortimore, EdS

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

This packet contains an overview of the 6th grade registration process and a course selection sheet for the upcoming year. **Please return the elective course request to your fifth grade teacher by THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019.** The Orchard Lake Middle School (OLMS) faculty is excited to help you and your student through this time of transition and opportunity.

At OLMS, we pride ourselves on providing our students:

- a rigorous and engaging academic program
- an innovative STEAM elective
- a highly skilled teaching staff committed to building positive relationships with students
- cutting-edge technology for 21st century learners
- fine and performing arts departments that are second to none
- a nurturing, welcoming community of students, staff, and families

Orchard Lake Middle School students take seven courses each day. Students will have four required courses, an advisory period called Viking Huddle, and two periods of elective courses. Descriptions of required courses and elective courses can be found in this packet.

CORE	ELECTIVES	
Required Courses (Full year)	Semester Electives (20 weeks)	Year Electives (Full year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English• History• Math• Science 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA) - <i>Criteria-based; 85th percentile Spring MAP Reading Score</i>• Art 6• Computer Science for Innovators & Makers (CSIM)• Fitness 6• JV Choir 6• LINK - <i>Application required</i>• Musical Theater 6 <p>STEAM Pathway</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design & Modeling (STEAM 1) <i>- Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beginning Band• Beginning Orchestra <p>Support Classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lit Support*• Math Lab* <p>* Placement in support classes is based on assessments and teacher recommendation.</p>

We are looking forward to working with you next year and are waiting for the opportunity to assist you with any questions you may have. In addition to the emails listed below, we can be reached by phone at (248) 865-4480.

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Stasi Mortimore, Assistant Principal
stasi.mortimore@wbsd.org

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6th Grade REQUIRED CORE Course Descriptions

English 6 (Full Year)

Students will work on an assortment of reading and writing skills. Literacy skills are reinforced through the study of fiction and non-fiction. Students write in a variety of genres including expository and narrative composition, while they learn about the writing process, vocabulary, and grammar.

History 6 (Full Year):

Students will explore different ways geographers study and map the Earth. Students also look how humans interact with each other and the natural features of the world around them. As the planet has provided us with both benefits and challenges, students will look at how we have used or changed our environment and the consequences of those changes. Students will examine how our global human activities (like migration or trade, for example) have created a variety of issues, and how different societies have responded to those issues. The best part is that students will have the opportunity to see how people all around the planet are connected to one another during our year-long trek across the globe! Units of study include: The Geographer's World, Latin American, Europe and Russia, Africa, Southwest and Central Asia, Monsoon Asia, & Oceania and Antarctica.

Science 6 (Full Year):

This year-long course focuses on giving students an experience that will foster a deep understanding of concepts and an interest in science that will last for years to come. Students will learn how to "think like scientists" in their approach toward learning science concepts. Lessons in this course offer multiple approaches for learning including direct instruction, inquiry-based lab activities, group projects, and independent learning opportunities. Areas of study include measurement, laboratory explorations, space science, water, cells and body systems.

Math 6 (Full Year):

This course is designed to strengthen and enrich math concepts and to prepare students for 7th grade math. Instruction will include the following topics: Represent data sets using various methods and analyze how changes in data impact the representation, Make sense of multiple representations of portions (decimal, fraction, percent) and convert from one form to the other, Recognize ratios in tables and graphs and solve corresponding problems, Use models and standard algorithms for computations with fractions and decimals, Simplify variable expressions by combining like terms and using the Distributive Property, evaluate variable expressions and solve simple equations and inequalities, Solve percent problems including those with discounts, interest, and tips, Compute area, surface area, and volume of rectangular solids.

Compacted Math 1 (Full Year):

This is an accelerated middle school math course that provides an opportunity for students learn the 6th, 7th and 8th grade math curriculum in a compacted 2-year math sequence in the 6th and 7th grade year. Following this sequence, students enter Algebra 1 in the 8th grade. *This course is the first course of the 2-year math sequence.*

Math 7 (Full Year)

This course is designed to strengthen and enrich math concepts and to prepare students for 8th grade math. Instruction will include the following topics: algebraic reasoning, integers and rational numbers, patterns and functions, ratios and proportions, percentages, collecting and analyzing data, geometry, measurement, probability, and solving multi-step equations and inequalities. **Placement in this class is based on assessment protocols and teacher recommendation.**

Math 8 (Full Year)

This class emphasizes algebra, geometry, data and probability and will provide transition into Algebra. Students will develop fluency in these concepts enabling them to solve more complex problems. Instruction will include the following topics: numbers and operations (real number concepts), algebra (linear functions, non-linear functions, equations, simultaneous equations and linear inequalities), geometry (Pythagorean Theorem, geometric figures, volume, surface area, transformations and symmetry), and probability (draw, explain, and justify conclusions based on data and understand probability concepts for simple and compound events). **Placement in this class is based on assessment protocols and teacher recommendation.**

6TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA): (Semester, all grade levels, Criteria-Based - Students must be at or above the 85th percentile in reading based on their Spring MAP reading score.)

A one semester course that provides an environment where education is individualized, collaborative and designed to help students think deeply and critically about English/Language Arts and Social Studies. Independent and group project work will be students will utilized . Classroom experiences are designed to foster a sense of passion and a spirit of discovery in our students. One focus is to encourage students to develop into confidently curious, creatively productive and ethically rooted world citizens. Cross-curricular integration and a diverse range of learning opportunities will be provided.

Art 6 (Semester):

This semester long course includes the traditional arts of drawing, painting, and graphic design. Project opportunities include two and three dimensional artwork. Students study the artwork of famous artists, reflect on the roles of artists in the world, and further their understanding of the aesthetics of art. Students explore applying the elements of art and principles of design to a variety of fun and creative projects.

Beginning Band (Full year):

Beginning Band is an exciting introduction to the world of instrumental performance. Students wishing to learn how to play a band instrument will be exposed to a positive learning environment where the class will focus on the developments of technical skills and musical understanding. Every band student will improve their abilities on their instrument through a combination of practice, rehearsal and performance.

Beginning Orchestra (Full year):

Orchestra is an awesome place to learn how to play a musical instrument. Beginning violin, viola, cello and bass students will learn how to play, write, improvise, read music in a nurturing and supportive environment. Students will have fun learning to play a wide variety of musical styles. Students will also get the opportunity to perform in several concerts during the school year.

Band and Orchestra Instrument Information: *Students will see a demonstration of these instruments at their elementary school later this year. The West Bloomfield School District will be holding an instrument rental night at West Bloomfield High School later in May. At that time, you may rent an instrument from one of our vendors that will be delivered in September to the middle school.*

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (CSIM): (Semester, All grade levels)

This unit will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life. Physical computing projects will promote student awareness of interactive systems, including Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and broaden their understanding of abstract computer science concepts through meaningful and authentic applications.

Design and Modeling (STEAM 1): (Semester, Prerequisite: STEAM acceptance required, All grade levels)

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy. *This course is primarily designed as a 6th grade course. However, newly enrolled 7th/8th grade students or new students to STEAM have the option to take this if requests allow a section.*

Fitness 6 (Semester):

Students will explore the basic elements of fitness, including muscular strength, cardiovascular endurance and flexibility. Students will embrace the importance of fair play, sportsmanship and competition through team sports with an emphasis on the “spirit of the game”. In addition, students will develop skills to enable them to make life-long healthy choices though the importance of daily exercise. There is also a responsibility and accountability objective that is enforced through physical education protocol. **Students will be challenged to cooperate together as they learn rules and strategies for different activities.**

JV Choir 6 (Semester):

Become a part of the exciting choral program at OLMS! Learn the foundation of great singing and the basics of music while having fun performing with friends. JV choir students will perform in the OLMS Choir Concerts as well as the 6th grade Music Theatre production. Highlights include solo opportunities, lots of stage time, performing with live musicians, singing a variety of music and learning in a professional environment. Build your voice and become a better singer!

LINK (Semester, Application required):

The goal of the LINK program is to create a “link” between students with special needs and their peers. Research shows that peer to peer support program such as LINK benefits all involved! Students with special needs improve social, communication and independence skills and LINK students strengthen communication, mentoring and leadership skills. **LINK** students at OLMS will assigned to assist a student with and/or classroom for students with special needs. LINKS may be assigned to support students in academic and elective classes and/or during lunch.* LINK is not only about helping others but also about developing an understanding of those who may be different than you and creating positive, meaningful relationships with others. If you enjoy helping others, like challenges and are willing to step out of your comfort zone, then LINK is for you! **Please note: LINK students will continue to have a “duty-free” lunch period with his/ her grade level.*

Musical Theater 6 (Semester):

Have a great time performing in a live musical production! During the semester, you will be learning fundamental acting skills and choreography to be combined with the JV Choir 6 students at the end of the semester in a real Broadway play. Come and be a part of a great cast of characters and have fun performing for a live audience. All students are welcome.

Support Course Descriptions

Placement in support classes is based on assessment protocols and/or teacher recommendation.

Math Lab (Full Year)

Math Lab is designed to be a second math class to help increase math confidence, knowledge and skills through pre-teaching, skill building, and re-teaching of the grade level math topics. Topics covered in the class will vary depending on the needs of the students. However, typical topics supported include creating tables, coordinate graphing, using variables, ratios, fractions, volume, perimeter, area, data distributions, and linear equations.

Literature Support (Semester)

A one semester course that provides an environment where education is individualized, collaborative and designed to help students think deeply and critically about English/Language Arts and Social Studies. Independent and group project work will be students will utilized . Classroom experiences are designed to foster a sense of passion and a spirit of discovery in our students. One focus is to encourage students to develop into confidently curious, creatively productive and ethically rooted world citizens. Cross-curricular integration and a diverse range of learning opportunities will be provided.

6TH GRADE 2019 - 2020 Elective Course Request

ROOSEVELT STUDENTS: Please complete this form (front & back) and return it to your 5TH grade teacher by **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019.**

Student Name: _____
Last Name First Name

Elementary School (Circle one): Sheiko Roosevelt Other: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

To ensure a complete schedule, please choose four elective courses and two alternates. If the course choice is a full year class, you will select it as your first choice and second choice.

ELECTIVE COURSE CHOICES

Semester Courses:

Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA): (Criteria-Based; Students must be at or above the 85th percentile in reading based on their Spring MAP reading score.)

Art 6

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (CSIM)

Fitness 6

LINK (By application -Please complete application on back of this form)

JV Choir 6

Musical Theater 6

Design & Modeling (STEAM 1)(Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window)

Full Year Course:

Beginning Band

Beginning Orchestra

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Fourth Choice: _____

Alternates:

1. _____

2. _____

**Congratulations!
You're a VIKING!**



FOR ROOSEVELT STUDENTS ONLY

**For students currently enrolled in the STEAM Program
STEAM Program Opt in or Out**

Student Name:

Last Name

First Name

I agree that my child will no longer be part of the STEAM program at Orchard Lake Middle School and will not be enrolled in the STEAM elective as part of their 2019-2020 school year.

If I choose to OPT my child out of the STEAM program, I am aware that to re-enroll back into the STEAM program, I would have to reapply and most recent assessments will be considered.

If you are a School of Choice student, you will still be enrolled in the West Bloomfield School if you choose to OPT out of the STEAM program.

Please check the option you would prefer.

_____ My child will continue to be a part of the STEAM Program

_____ I am opting my child out of the STEAM Program

Parent Signature

Date

OLMS LINK STUDENT APPLICATION

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE BY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE "LINK" AS ONE OF YOUR ELECTIVE COURSES.

Student Name: _____

Grade (In Fall 2019): 6 7 8

Have you ever been a LINK before? Yes No

1. Why do you want to be a LINK student?

2. What personal qualities do you have that would make you a great LINK student?

Required Teacher Recommendations (2)

Teachers, in signing this recommendation, you state that this student has demonstrated leadership skills, is a good, responsible worker who takes initiative, has integrity, and follows through with assignments and/or duties and that the student is kind and respectful to others. PLEASE NOTE: Specific feedback may be solicited through a Google Form. Teachers- you are also welcome to email me with any comments you may have. Please sign and print your name below.

Sign

Print

1. _____

2. _____

6TH GRADE 2019 - 2020 Elective Course Request

Please complete this form and return it to your 5TH grade teacher by THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019.

Student Name: _____
Last Name First Name

Elementary School (Circle one): Sheiko Roosevelt Other: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent/Guardian Email: _____

To ensure a complete schedule, please choose four elective courses and two alternates. If the course choice is a full year class, you will select it as your first choice and second choice.

ELECTIVE COURSE CHOICES

Semester Courses:

Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA): (Criteria-Based; Students must be at or above the 85th percentile in reading based on their Spring MAP reading score.)

Art 6

Fitness 6

Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (CSIM)

JV Choir 6

LINK (By application -Please complete application on back of this form)

Musical Theater 6

Design & Modeling (STEAM 1)(Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window)

Full Year Course:

Beginning Band

Beginning Orchestra

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Fourth Choice: _____

Alternates:

1. _____

2. _____

Congratulations!
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OLMS LINK STUDENT APPLICATION

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE BY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE "LINK" AS ONE OF YOUR ELECTIVE COURSES.

Student Name: _____

Grade (In Fall 2019): 6 7 8

Have you ever been a LINK before? Yes No

3. Why do you want to be a LINK student?

4. What personal qualities do you have that would make you a great LINK student?

Required Teacher Recommendations (2)

Teachers, in signing this recommendation, you state that this student has demonstrated leadership skills, is a good, responsible worker who takes initiative, has integrity, and follows through with assignments and/or duties and that the student is kind and respectful to others. PLEASE NOTE: Specific feedback may be solicited through a Google Form. Teachers- you are also welcome to email me with any comments you may have. Please sign and print your name below.

Sign

Print

3. _____

4. _____