

ORCHARD LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL
HOME OF THE VIKINGS!



Principal: Morrison Borders, EdS

Assistant Principal: Stasi Mortimore, EdS

Dear Future Seventh and Eighth Grade Families,

This packet contains an overview of course offerings and detailed descriptions of elective classes for the 2019-2020 school year. The Orchard Lake Middle School (OLMS) faculty is excited to help you and your student through this time of transition and opportunity.

The course offering structure for seventh and eighth grades includes four periods of core academic courses, two periods of electives, and one advisory period (Viking Huddle). Depending on the class, electives last for either one semester or a full year. When selecting classes, students will take a combination of elective classes that fill two periods across the entire year.

*STEAM is a criteria-based program that provides students with the opportunity to take electives not offered to other students. Current STEAM students should complete the "Steam Pathway" Program Opt In or Out" form on the back side of the course request form and do not need to reapply every year to remain in the program. **Students interested in applying to be a part of the STEAM pathway should complete the online STEAM application form by February 12, 2019.***

CORE	ELECTIVES	
REQUIRED (Full year)	Semester Electives (20 weeks)	Year Electives (Full year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ELA ● History ● Math ● Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA) - <i>Criteria-based; 85th percentile Spring MAP Reading Score</i> ● Computer Programming (Computer Science 2) ● Computer Science for Innovators & Makers (CSIM) ● Fitness for Life - <i>May be repeated</i> ● LINK - <i>Application required</i> ● Spanish 1A ● Varsity Singers - <i>Audition required</i> ● Viking Voices White - <i>Audition required</i> ● Viking Voices Blue - <i>Audition required</i> ● Visual Arts - <i>May be repeated</i> ● WEB Leadership - <i>Application required, 8th grade only</i> <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> ● App Creators (STEAM 2) - <i>Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concert Band ● Symphony Band ● Concert Orchestra ● Symphony Orchestra ● Spanish 1 - <i>Prerequisite: Spanish 1A</i> ● Musical Theatre - <i>Audition required</i> ● Varsity Singers - <i>Audition required</i> ● Viking Voices White - <i>Audition required</i> ● Viking Voices Blue - <i>Audition required</i> ● WEB Leadership - <i>Application required, 8th grade only</i> <p>Support Class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lit Support ● Math Lab <p><i>* Placement in support classes is based on assessments and teacher recommendation.</i></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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ELECTIVE COURSES

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.

App Creators (STEAM 2): (Semester, Prerequisite: STEAM acceptance required)

This unit will expose students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society. Students will customize their experience by choosing a problem that interests them from the areas of health, environment, emergency preparedness, education, community service, and school culture. Because problems in the real world involve more than one discipline, the unit will introduce students to biomedical science concepts as they work on solutions for the specific problems they choose to tackle.

Computer Programming (Computer Science 2): (Semester, No Prerequisite)

Do you have ideas for a great video game? Do you enjoy building things in 3D (like Minecraft)? If so, this class may be for you! Students explore the programming side of computers with several different applications such as Scratch, Alice 3D, Google Sketch-up and Python. With these programs, students will learn how to work with object-based programming, coding, animating and 3D modeling. Internet safety and netiquette are also covered in this course.

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 for Life (Semester or Full Year, No Prerequisite)

This course is a high energy exercise and sports program designed to promote the elements of fitness: muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular endurance, and flexibility. Students will enjoy many sports, games, and fitness activities that develop a healthy mind and body. *Students will be challenged to cooperate together as they learn rules and strategies for different activities.*

Concert Band (Full Year, 6th Grade Band Prerequisite)

This class is the next step for Orchard Lake Band students after 6th Grade Band. In this class students will continue to improve their performance ability, as well as continue to learn the musical concepts essential for success in the 8th Grade Symphony Band. Students will continue to develop their ability to read, write, improvise, sing, and play a variety of music, including world and popular music, for their parents and peers through several performances throughout the year. Most importantly, students will interact in a positive, safe, and team-building environment to develop as young citizens in and through music. Any students interested in learning an instrument for the first time in 7th grade are encouraged to do so, and should contact the band director for further instructions.

Symphony Band (Full Year, 6th Grade Band Prerequisite & Audition required)

This class is the highest performing band offered to Orchard Lake Band students. Students will continue to improve their performance ability, and develop advanced skills that they will use in the high school band program and beyond. Students will continue to develop their ability to read, write, improvise, sing, and play a variety of music, including world and popular music, for their parents and peers through several performances throughout the year. Students will participate in field trips, concert tours, and special performance opportunities as part of this ensemble. Most importantly, students will interact in a positive, safe, and team-building environment to develop as young citizens in and through music. Previous musical experience on a band instrument is required for admittance. *See your band teacher for more information. Auditions mid-April*

Concert Orchestra (Full Year, 6th Grade Orchestra Prerequisite)

This is a year-long intermediate class for middle school students, open by audition only. Students will continue to develop the intermediate skills to advance violin, viola, cello and bass techniques/skills. Students will build confidence as violin, viola, cello and bass players and grow as performers in this supportive environment. Performances are a logical outgrowth of this class and therefore students will perform in several public concerts during the school year, with the possibility of travel.

Symphony Orchestra (Full Year, 6th Grade Orchestra & Audition required)

This class is for intermediate to advanced middle school students. Student will continue to develop the intermediate to advanced violin, viola, cello and bass techniques/skills. Students will build confidence as violin, viola, cello and bass player and grow as performers in this supportive environment. Performances are a logical outgrowth of this class and therefore students will perform in several public concerts during the school year, with the possibility of travel.

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 Productions (Full Year, Audition Required)

This advanced musical theater class offers students the opportunity to perform in several major musical productions: a mini musical in the fall, a Broadway musical in the spring (on the stage at WBHS) and a creative, dramatic musical show at the end of the year. Highlights include opportunities for lead roles, solos, acting and dancing features, as well as working with professional choreographers, directors, technicians and live musicians. Emphasis will be on building singing, acting and stage performance skills. AUDITION REQUIRED. Audition announcements, information and sign-up sheets will be available shortly.

Spanish 1A (Semester, No Prerequisite)

Students will be introduced to level I grammar structures, pronunciation, practical vocabulary, culture and listening comprehension. Reading and writing of short passages are part of the instruction. Speaking in the target language is an important part of the course. Interactive software is utilized to enhance instruction. This is a prerequisite for the second year of Spanish. Students who complete this semester plus a year of Spanish in eighth grade are eligible (with teacher recommendation) to enter second-year World Language classes as freshmen and earn one year of high school credit at West Bloomfield High School. Successful completion of three semesters of a world language at Orchard Lake Middle School and placement in level two in ninth grade is essential in order to qualify for an International APID diploma at West Bloomfield High School.

Spanish 1 (Full Year, Prerequisite: Spanish 1A)

Students will be introduced to level I grammar structures, pronunciation, practical vocabulary, culture and listening comprehension. Reading and writing of short passages are part of the instruction. Speaking in the target language is an important part of the course. Interactive software is utilized to enhance instruction. Students who complete this year of Spanish in eighth grade are eligible (with teacher recommendation) to enter second-year World Language classes as freshmen and earn one year of high school credit at West Bloomfield High School. Successful completion of three semesters of a world language at Orchard Lake Middle School and placement in level two in ninth grade is essential in order to qualify for an International APID diploma at West Bloomfield High School.

Viking Voices BLUE, SATB Mixed Choir (Semester or Full Year, Audition Required)

This dynamic and challenging vocal ensemble is for the most advanced and experienced 7th/8th grade singers and vocal musicians. Emphasis will be on reading music, advanced musical selections and musical variety. Students will receive prime performance opportunities and a superior vocal experience. Solo features, exciting concerts, travel and choral festival are among the yearly highlights. You may sign up for full year or semester; the two semesters will offer different curriculum and concert opportunities. Please see Mrs. Tini in Room 306 for audition information. *If you were in choir or vocal music this year and you already signed up for next year's choir with Mrs. Tini, you'll be automatically placed in a choir. The audition is for any student who is new to choir; please see Mrs. Tini.*

Viking Voices WHITE, SAB Choir (Semester or Full Year, Audition Required)

This select, top quality 7/8 vocal group builds upon the foundation of the past year in choir and vocal music, where voices and musical skills continue to develop. We will perform a wide variety of popular, choral and musical theater selections in several exciting shows and concerts throughout the year. Additional highlights include: solo features, performing with a live band, choral festival, and learning to read music. You may sign up for full year or semester; the two semesters will offer different curriculum and concert opportunities. Please see Mrs. Tini in room 306 for audition information. *If you were in choir or vocal music this year and you already signed up for next year's choir with Mrs. Tini, you'll be automatically placed in a choir. The audition is for any student who is new to choir.*

Varsity Singers, SSA Treble Choir (Semester or Full Year, Audition Required)

This 7th/8th grade all-female choir is a great place to build your voice and your musical skills. The classroom environment is fun, yet challenging and offers singers a unique opportunity to learn a variety of choral music and perform in several dynamic concerts throughout the year. Additional highlights include: solo features, performing with a live band, choral festival, and learning to read music. You may sign up for full year or semester; the two semesters will offer different curriculum and concert opportunities. Please see Mrs. Tini in Room 306 for audition information. *If you were in choir or vocal music this year and you already signed up for next year's choir with Mrs. Tini, you'll be automatically placed in a choir. The audition is for any student who is new to choir.*

Visual Arts (Semester, No Prerequisite, May be repeated)

This semester long course continues the exploration of drawing, painting, printmaking, and graphic design. Projects include 2D and 3D artwork. Students explore applying the elements of art and art history to the principles of design through a variety of challenging and creative projects. Through the art making process students investigate personal meaning, communication and connections between the visual arts and culture.

W.E.B. Leadership Academy (Semester or Full Year, Application Required, 8th Grade Only)

The Where Everyone Belongs mentoring program provides leadership with training to eighth grade students. W.E.B. leaders will mentor sixth grade students and other new students to OLMS. The goal is for students is to provide a positive example while working together to create a positive environment at OLMS. During this semester long class students will participate in leadership training, work with a group of sixth grade students and identify and solve problem issues in the school. This class is only for students who want to continue to make OLMS a positive place and who have exhibited positive leadership potential through grades, activity and service. MANDATORY training for selected students will take place in August. Participation in W.E.B. class is not required to be a W.E.B. leader.

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

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.

7th Grade REQUIRED CORE Course Descriptions

7 History (Full Year)

Students will investigate the past by studying world history. Building upon on the topics students examined in 6th grade, students will learn about the earliest humans, global migration, and settlement patterns. Students explore how the emergence of pastoral and agrarian societies set the stage for the development of cities, states, and powerful empires. Students will learn about trade networks and the cultural diffusion of skills and ideas. The growth, spread, and influence of world religions are also examined in this course.

7 Math (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.

8 Math (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.**

7 English/Language Arts (Full Year)

ELA 7 integrates reading, writing, listening and speaking objectives through the ELA Common Core State Standards units. Fluency is developed in the writing of constructed response paragraphs, narrative and expository essays. Students are expected to apply critical thinking skills through the study of literature, including fiction and nonfiction texts. Vocabulary and grammar are taught through these reading and writing units as well.

7 Science (Full Year)

This course focuses on extending the scope and sequence from 6th grade science following the state frameworks by promoting solid and accurate content, frequent practice of science process skills (measuring, inferring, hypothesizing, experimenting, observing, and following directions), hands-on activities, computer labs, integration of science concepts across the curriculum, and assessments. Areas of deeper study include: Chemistry and the periodic table, waves, the physics of motion and we end the year with a study of DNA and genetics.

8th Grade REQUIRED CORE Course Descriptions

8 History (Full Year)

The purpose of this course is to develop the students' understanding of the heritage that shaped America as a democratic nation. United States history is surveyed and analyzed beginning with the causes of the American Revolution, continuing with the formation of our national government, Westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and concluding at the beginning of the 20th century. In this course, strong emphasis will be placed on developing a deeper understanding of fundamental social studies concepts and skills through the study of significant historical events, primary source and graphic data analysis, and the application of Core Democratic.

The United States Through Industrialism immerses students in a powerful journey through the history of the United States from its earliest foundations to the age of industrialism. Students examine the philosophies, conflicts, and cultures around which the early nation developed and consider the influence of past events on the nation today.

This class covers time period from roughly French and Indian War through Reconstruction.

–Major areas of focus

- America; Before the Revolutionary War
- What was the Revolution really about?
- Creating a new nation- The Constitution and its implementation
- An expanding nation- Westward movement: Causes and conflicts
- Industrialization and the growth of idealism.
- Road to the Civil War and the war.
- Reconstruction after the war.

8 Math (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).

Algebra I (Full Year)

This class is equivalent to a first-year high school algebra course. The content includes but is not limited to integers, operations with polynomial, linear equations, roots and radicals. Successful completion leads to enrollment in Geometry in 9th grade. **Placement in this class is based on assessment protocols and teacher recommendation.**

8 English/Language Arts (Full Year)

The reading and writing process is reinforced, while students continue to develop fluency, comprehension, and analytic skills. Students write narrative poetry, an argument piece, literary analysis, and expository essays with an emphasis on in-text citation. Critical thinking skills with a focus on argumentation are used to analyze and interpret works of fiction and nonfiction. Vocabulary and grammar are taught through the reading and writing process.

8 Science (Full Year)

This year long course focuses on the high school content expectations in earth science and introduces microbiology prior to 9th grade biology. The course will follow the state frameworks by promoting solid

and accurate content, frequent practice of science process skills (measuring, inferring, hypothesizing, experimenting, observing, and following directions), hands-on activities, computer labs, integration of science concepts across the curriculum, and assessments. This includes: galaxies and stars, global and local weather, earthquakes, volcanoes and natural disasters, earth's hydrosphere, and we end the year with a prelude to high school biology on the cellular level.

OLMS 7th Grade Elective Course Request (For 2019-2020 School Year)

Please complete this entire form and return this form to your 1st hour teacher by **Thursday, March 7, 2019**.
Please print neatly and clearly.

Student Name: _____
Last Name
First Name

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Listed below are the elective opportunities for seventh grade students. We recommend that you review the course descriptions before making your selections. Please record your choices for electives on the lines below. Remember that two semesters equal a year.

Semester Elective Course Options:

Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA) <small>(Criteria-based; 85th percentile on Spring MAP Reading score)</small>	Computer Science for Innovators & Makers (CSIM)
Computer Programming (Comp Sci 2)	LINK <small>(Application required)</small>
Fitness for Life <small>(May be repeated)</small>	Varsity Singers <small>(By audition only)</small>
Spanish 1A	Viking Voices Blue <small>(By audition only)</small>
Viking Voices White <small>(By audition only)</small>	
Visual Arts <small>(May be repeated)</small>	

STEAM Pathway - *Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window*

Design & Modeling (STEAM 1)	App Creators (STEAM 2)
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Full Year Elective Course Options:

Concert Band	Concert Orchestra
Symphony Band <small>(By audition only)</small>	Symphony Orchestra <small>(By audition only)</small>
Musical Theater Productions <small>(By audition only)</small>	Varsity Singers <small>(By audition only)</small>
Viking Voices White <small>(By audition only)</small>	Viking Voices Blue <small>(By audition only)</small>

Please choose a total of 4 semesters/2 full year electives plus two alternates for the school year. If you are selecting a full year class, you will select it as your first choice and write the name of the course on both lines.

First choice(s): _____

Second choice(s): _____

Alternate(s): _____

We will do our best to accommodate course preferences but cannot guarantee you will receive all of your selections. Admission into application/audition classes is upon teacher approval provided space is available.

OLMS 8th Grade Elective Course Request (For 2019-2020 School Year)

Please complete this entire form and return this form to your 1st hour teacher by Thursday, March 7, 2019.
Please print neatly and clearly.

Student Name: _____
Last Name **First Name**

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Listed below are the elective opportunities for eighth grade students. We recommend that you review the course descriptions before making your selections. Please record your choices for electives on the lines below. Remember that two semesters equal a year.

Semester Elective Course Options:

Advanced Studies in History and ELA (ASHELA)(Criteria-based; 85th percentile on Spring MAP Reading score)	
Computer Programming/CS2	Computer Science for Innovators & Makers (CSIM)
Fitness for Life (May be repeated)	LINK (Application required)
Spanish 1A	Varsity Singers (By audition only)
Viking Voices White (By audition only)	Viking Voices Blue (By audition only)
Visual Arts(May be repeated)	WEB (Application required)

STEAM Pathway - *Must be current STEAM student or application required during STEAM window*
Design & Modeling (STEAM 1) App Creators (STEAM 2)

Full Year Elective Course Options:

Concert Band	Concert Orchestra
Symphony Band (By audition only)	Symphony Orchestra (By audition only)
Musical Theater Productions (By audition only)	Spanish 1 (Prerequisite: Spanish 1A)
Varsity Singers (By audition only)	Viking Voices White (By audition only)
Viking Voices Blue (By audition only)	WEB (Application required)

Please choose a total of 4 semesters/2 full year electives plus two alternates for the school year. If you are selecting a full year class, you will select it as your first choice and write the name of the course on both lines.

First choice(s): _____

Second choice(s): _____

Alternate(s): _____

We will do our best to accommodate course preferences but cannot guarantee you will receive all of your selections. Admission into application/audition classes is upon teacher approval provided space is available.

**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 District 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