

**ORCHARD LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
*HOME OF THE VIKINGS!*



**Principal: Morrison Borders, EdS**

**Assistant Principal: Scott Long, 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 this course selection sheet to your fifth grade teacher by Friday, February 24th, 2017.** 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 opportunity in Science and English Language Arts (ELA)
- a highly skilled teaching staff committed to building positive relationships with students
- cutting-edge technology for 21<sup>st</sup> century learners
- fine and performing arts departments that are second to none
- global languages program leading to AP high school and APID diploma opportunities
- organization and learning strategies class to ensure student success
- a nurturing, welcoming community of students, staff, and families

Orchard Lake Middle School's schedule is based on four quarters. A quarter is equal to one marking period (MP), a semester is two marking periods, and a full year is made up of two semesters or four quarters. The course offering structure for sixth grade includes four periods of core academic courses plus two periods of electives. Depending on the class, electives last for one marking period, 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. Students may elect to take band, orchestra, choir, and/or LINK. **All other electives are assigned randomly based on course availability.** A detailed description of all classes can be found at our OLMS website.

CORE		ELECTIVES	
Required Courses (full year)	One MP Electives (10 weeks)	Semester Electives (20 weeks)	Year Electives (full year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History</li> <li>● Math or Adv Math</li> <li>● Science</li> <li>● ELA</li> </ul> <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History</li> <li>● Math or Adv Math</li> <li>● STEAM Science &amp; STEAM ELA (application process required)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Art</li> <li>● Computer Exploratory</li> <li>● Fitness for Life (1 MP)</li> <li>● Musical Theater</li> <li>● Vocal Music</li> <li>● World Language/Spanish</li> <li>● World Language/Chinese</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fitness for Life (2MP)</li> <li>● LINK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Band</li> <li>● Orchestra</li> </ul> <p>Support Classes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Math Lab *</li> <li>● Read *</li> <li>● Read 180 *</li> </ul>

\* Placement in support classes is based on assessments and teacher recommendation.

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.

Morrison Borders, Principal  
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# Elective Course Descriptions

Students may elect to take band, orchestra, and/or LINK. **All other electives are assigned based on course availability.**

## **6 Art (1 Marking Period)**

Art is an adventure in creating! 6th Grade Art is a survey of OLMS' Visual Arts Program. We will focus on art from around the globe. This includes painting, drawing, design and art history.

## **6 Band (Full Year)**

Beginning Band 6 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 they will develop skills to play, sing, write, improvise, read, and truly understand music. In addition to performing, students will begin to learn and understand the importance and daily relevance of music through their classroom experience.

## **6 Computer Exploratory (1 Marking Period)**

In this course, you will have the opportunity to brush up on your computer skills in typing, word processing and presentations. You will also explore some of the latest apps in multimedia, video game development and 3D modeling. Internet safety and netiquette are also covered in this course.

## **6 Fitness for Life (1 Marking Period or 1 Semester)**

Fitness is a high energy exercise and sport 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.

## **6 LINK (1 Semester)\***

A LINK student assists and mentors students with special needs in their general or special education classes. The LINK program is about creating connections within a diverse group of students and ensuring that all students are acknowledged for what makes them different and what makes them and all of us the same.

## **6 Musical Theater (1 Marking Period)**

Perform in a live musical production and have fun learning skills to become an actor or actress on stage! This fun class offers opportunities to play improvisational games and learn to sing, dance and act as characters in a variety of Broadway musicals.

## **6 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.

## **6 Vocal Music (1 Marking Period)**

Perform in a live musical production complete with song, dance and drama! Learn the basics of vocal performance and become a better singer. Solo opportunities and lots of stage time along with lessons in music theory and reading music make this a great place to learn more about music and have fun doing it!

## **6 World Language/Chinese (1 Marking Period)**

During this course, students will learn simple vocabulary sets and simple grammar structures in Chinese. Students will speak, listen, read, and write in this global language. Music, games, and cultural activities are used to enhance the curriculum. There will be an emphasis on the structure and the grammatical pieces of the language in preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Chinese course.

## **6 World Language/Spanish (1 Marking Period)**

During this course, students will learn simple vocabulary sets and simple grammar structures in Spanish. Students will speak, listen, read, and write in this global language. Music, games, and cultural activities are used to enhance the curriculum. There will be an emphasis on the structure and the grammatical pieces of the language in preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish course.