

**2022-2023**

# McMillan Magnet Center



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Directory



**Monarchs get Ready to Roar!!!**



## **McMillan Magnet Center** **Math, Technology and Engineering**

### McMillan Mission and Vision

The Mission of McMillan Magnet Center is to academically challenge students and to promote student ownership of learning in a safe, diverse, and respectful environment.

The Vision of McMillan Magnet Center is to:

- Collaborate with school, family, and community-based partners.
- Provide an innovative, project-based, cross-curricular school setting.
- Integrate components of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math through Project Lead the Way (PLTW).

This directory is designed to help you in planning a program of study that will best meet your needs and interests. Parents, teachers, and counselors will help you select and make decisions regarding courses for your student schedule.

Your directory contains complete information about course requirements and materials needed, as well as descriptions of each course being offered at McMillan. Read and study the course offerings before registering. Course choices become commitments and it is difficult to make changes. Careful consideration now will help assure you of a program that satisfies your needs and interests.

The magnet center curriculum is designed to encourage exploration in a variety of subject areas. The curriculum at McMillan Magnet Center reflects the infusion of multicultural nonsexist educational material consistent with the philosophy adopted by the Board of Education.

We hope this directory will be an effective tool in selecting your plan of study. The courses you select in middle school are most important to your future goals and endeavors.

Dr. Monica Green  
*Principal*

Mrs. Kim Langford  
*Assistant Principal*

Mr. Curtis Weber  
*Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Sarah Castanos  
*Dean of Students*

*Dr. Matthew Coffey*  
*Dean of Students*

Visit our website at <http://www.mcmillan.ops.org>

### Program Planning Worksheets

Before registration, carefully review the program of study and course descriptions in this handbook and plan a program with your counselor and parents. The sequence of required courses has been outlined on the worksheet provided on this page. You will want to add the elective courses you choose.

The example below is what a schedule could look like at McMillan:

Period	A Day	Period	B Day
1-1 1-2	ELA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELA 6 or Honors ELA 6</li> <li>• ELA 7 or Honors ELA 7</li> </ul> ELA 8 or Honors ELA 8	1-1 1-2	Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math 6 or Advanced Math 6</li> <li>• Math 7 or Advanced Math 7</li> <li>• Math 8 or Honors Algebra 1-2</li> </ul> H Geometry 1-2 (possibly offered off site)
2-1 2-2	Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science 6</li> <li>• Science 7 or Honors Science 7</li> <li>• Science 8 or</li> <li>• Honors Physical Science 1-2</li> </ul>	2-1 2-2	Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Studies 6</li> <li>• Social Studies 7</li> <li>• Social Studies 8</li> </ul>
3-1 3-2	Physical Education/Human Growth Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PE 6</li> <li>• PE 7</li> <li>• PE 8</li> </ul> Intro to College & Careers 6,7,8	3-1 3-2	Chorus/Band/Orchestra <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yearlong every other day</li> <li>• If not in Chorus/Band/Orchestra, then semester or yearlong elective</li> </ul>
4-1 4-2	Semester or Yearlong Elective	4-1 4-2	Semester or Yearlong Elective
Advisory	30 minutes every day	Advisory	30 minutes every day

## **ELECTIVES**

Students select elective courses to fill their remaining schedule. They may choose one of these options: 1) full year electives, 2) four semester electives, or 3) a combination of full year electives and one semester electives.

### **SIXTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Introduction to PLTW 1 & PLTW 2**

**Length: One semester each**

This course will explore a variety of Project Lead The Way (PLTW) units while infusing mathematics concepts. Specific skills taken from current mathematics standards will be taught and applied through Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)-based activities. Units consisting of accurate measurement, architectural basics, robotics, and programming will be covered during the course. This course is designed to help students gain interest in STEM-based careers and further PLTW course opportunities. This course, in conjunction with their current mathematics course, will provide students daily exposure to mathematics and its applications to the real world.

#### **PLTW CS Innovators & Makers**

**Length: One semester**

This required 6th grade course will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable objects. Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design 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.

#### **Art 6**

**Length: One semester**

This course examines artists' world views. Enduring understandings and ideas include: Art reveals aesthetic theories; Artists create art from multiple perspectives of time, place and culture revealing aesthetic theories; Artistic forms follow function throughout time; Critical processes identify aesthetic theories; and Art reflects the values and beliefs of a civilization/society. Students will play the role of artist, philosopher, historian, and archeologist to explore world art throughout time.

#### **Physical Education/Human Growth Development 6**

**Length: All year**

This course is designed to include a wide variety of sporting activities and teach the qualities of sportsmanship, competition, and fitness. It includes learning the rules and regulations for the major sports of volleyball, wrestling, basketball, soccer, and track and field events. Students also participate in a variety of leisure and lifetime activities including badminton, aerobics and more. Students must wear appropriate attire for physical education courses (tennis shoes, T-shirts, sweats or shorts, etc.). Although the physical education locker rooms have showers available for students use; students are not required to shower for class.

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Human Growth & Development is taught by the school nurse. Families may opt out of this portion of the course.

## **Middle School Service Learning**

### **Length: One semester**

This course is a hands-on study of the practice and intent of service learning, the integration of community service, and related academic study. Students will spend one semester actively developing, planning, implementing, and evaluating service-learning experience. Principles of civic engagement will be added to provide students with a well-rounded learning experience.

**NOTE: Enrollment in any music class requires mandatory participation in our concerts, which are held in the evening each semester in our auditorium. Additional performances may be scheduled.**

## **Chorus 6**

### **Length: One semester**

In this course sixth grade students will continue to develop their skill for reading and singing two and three-part octavo music. This emphasis is on vocal ensemble performance. There will be required performances.

## **Band Grade 6**

### **Teacher Recommendation**

### **Length: All year**

### **Materials Needed: Instrument**

This course is a band ensemble for sixth grade students who are continuing instruction on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Basic music concepts will be advanced as the student learns to read music and develop skill in playing their instrument of choice. A method book is used as the lesson guide. Performances will be required.

Prerequisite: one year previous in band.

## **Strings Grade 6**

### **Teacher Recommendation**

### **Length: All year**

### **Materials Needed: Instrument**

This course is the string ensemble for sixth grade students who are continuing instruction on violin, viola, cello or string bass. Basic music concepts will be advanced as the student learns to read music and develop skill in playing their instrument of choice. A method book is used as the lesson guide. Performances will be required.

**Prerequisite: two years previous instruction (5th grade)**

## **General Music 6**

### **Length: One semester**

In this course sixth grade students will explore music as part of everyday life, including studying various styles, understanding musical elements, and experimenting with aspects of performance.

## **Reading Skills 6A**

### **Length: All year**

This course is designed for readers who have a foundation in decoding skills but experience difficulty comprehending grade-level material. The curriculum focuses on strengthening fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary skills.

Placement is based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendation.

## **Reading Skills 6B**

### **Length: All year**

Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, direct instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be taught as needed. Students will read leveled, high interest literature for both academic and recreational purposes. Placement is based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendation.

## Course Placement Appeals

All Secondary Omaha Public Schools offer procedures for appealing course placement (i.e., AP, Honors, IB, etc.). Each building may have specific forms and deadlines; however, the following general procedures shall apply:

**Level One:** Counselor, Curriculum Specialist, Assistant Principal/Data, or Principal

A student or parent with a course placement appeal may first discuss the matter with the counselor, or building administrator involved, with the object of resolving the matter informally.

**Level Two:** Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

If the course placement appeal is not resolved at Level One and the individual still wishes to pursue the appeal, he/she may formalize the appeal in writing addressed to the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment at 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131.

**Level Three:** Superintendent

If the appeal is not resolved at Level Two and the individual still wishes to pursue the appeal, he/she may formalize the appeal to the superintendent of schools after receiving a written response from the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

These steps shall be taken in a timely manner to accommodate the registration of courses for the school year in question.

*Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-9822). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Equity and Diversity (equityanddiversity@ops.org), 3215 Cuming St, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-0307).*