

**HOCKINSON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**6th GRADE PARENT/STUDENT FORECASTING INFORMATION**

We are looking forward to the 2016-17 school year! The school day will be composed of Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Fitness/Health (state required), and a 1.0 credit comprised of semester or year-long classes. Each student will also have a **HomeBase** class.

1st Semester	2nd Semester
Language Arts	Language Arts
Math 6 or Honors Math 6/7	Math 6 or Honors Math 6/7
Math teacher approval required for Honors Math 6/7	
Science	Science
Social Studies	Social Studies
Fitness/Health	Fitness/Health
Elective 1:	Elective 2:
Alt 1:	Alt: 2

State law requires that 6<sup>th</sup> grade students take two semesters of Fitness/Health. **Students who choose to take both Leadership, Journalism and Band will be required to fill out a PE waiver form.** *All students who participated in after-school Band 2015-2016 will be automatically enrolled in Band 2016-2017. If you do not wish to participate in Band, please make contact with Mrs. Ritenburgh.*

**6<sup>th</sup> grade students will need to choose from the following elective classes to equal 1.0 credit:**

**Example:** ART100 – Drawing/Painting Semester 1 (.5) and CTE000 Semester 2 (.5) equals 1.0 credit. BND600 – Band 6 (Year) equals 1.0 credit.

Semester 1 (.5 credit)		Semester 2 (.5 credit)		Year (1.0 credit)	
ART100	DRAWING/PAINTING	ART300	SCULPTURE	BND611/BND612	BAND 6
ART200	SCULPTURE	ART400	ART EXPLORATION	JOU001/JOU002	JOURNALISM **
CTE000	INTRO TO CODING	CTE000	INTRO TO CODING	LEA001/LEA002	LEADERSHIP **
STEM16	STEM16	STEM16	STEM16		
		STEM26	STEM26 *		

**\*Prerequisite STEM16    \*\*Application Required**

**Band 6:** Learn to become even better at playing your favorite instrument. Enjoy your music-loving friends with our expert band teacher, Mrs. Ritenburgh. Perform for an audience, compete in contests, and march in a parade!

**Journalism/Yearbook:** This class will help create skills for life: project management, teamwork, and design skills. You will take pictures, plan and organize the yearbook for HMS and create your own layouts using computer software. **An application must be submitted to the office by March 28<sup>th</sup> to be considered for this class.**

**Leadership:** Be part of a team that functions as the ASB who take the lead in planning school events, executing school service projects, recognizing achievements and promoting school spirit. **An application must be submitted to the office by March 28<sup>th</sup> to be considered for this class.**

**Painting/Drawing:** A beginning to intermediate level course on basic drawing and painting techniques that may involve a variety of materials such as pencil, charcoal, pastel, and acrylic paint.

**Sculpture:** A 3-Dimensional art experience to enhance the student's understanding of sculpture as an art form. ART200 and ART300 will incorporate different projects. Projects will be created out of multiple materials including clay, wire, papier-mâché, carving foam, plaster, cardboard, and/or wood.

**Art Exploration:** An exploration of several types of art, largely 2-Dimensional, using a variety of materials and methods such as print-making, watercolor, collage/mixed-media, and some 3-D art (sculpture).

**Intro to Coding:** Students will learn and apply introductory coding concepts. Puzzles and creative activities are designed to teach students computational thinking and the basics of computer programming. Students solve each puzzle by programming visual code blocks to achieve a goal. This course will focus on 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, making complex decisions, and collaboration.

**STEM classes:** Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) is designed to integrate technology, inquiry and project-based learning. Students are presented with challenging hands-on projects about real-world problems to promote teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving, documentation, and presentation skills.

- **STEM16:** An introduction to engineering design by creating a Space Craft for an Eggonaut. Students will explore the Six Simple Machines of Rube Goldberg and how Newton's 3 Laws of Motion relate. Students will study Bridge design and building to cross over canyons and conclude with racing Dragsters at unheard-of mph.
- **STEM26:** Students start out by designing and building Towers to withstand seismic shock waves. Students will create and calibrate Wind Turbines in order to tow boats. Finally, the class will conclude designing and building Catapults and Rockets.

Each student will also have a **HomeBase** class. Because we know that nurturing relationships are important to middle school students, through the HomeBase class, students will have an opportunity to have a relationship with an additional adult at school and to have more connections with other students in a small group setting. In HomeBase, your 6th grader will have fun, interactive competitions with other HomeBases including playing Knowledge Bowl and Jeopardy games. They will have the opportunity to learn about issues such as bullying and internet safety.

Please discuss the elective classes that are available with your child so that they are ready to choose their favorite electives and two alternates (in case they don't get their first choice). Mrs. Ambrose will visit 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes next week to talk with students about the schedule and to forecast on iPads. We will do our best to honor each student's 1<sup>st</sup> choice, but please keep in mind that an alternative placement may be necessary.

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