



6TH GRADE TRANSITION NIGHT

MCA SUPPORT TEAM



Amanda Riedl
Principal



Stacy Stackhouse
Assistant Principal



Jackie Ottosen
Assistant Principal



Amy DiDomenico
Guidance Counselor



Nicole Ribeiro
Guidance Counselor



Brian Green
Dean



CORE CLASSES (4)

English/Language Arts

Science

Math

World History

REQUIRED NON-CORE CLASSES (2)

Critical Thinking/Digital Tools

Physical Education

NON-CORE CLASSES (1)

Band I

2D Studio Art

Chorus

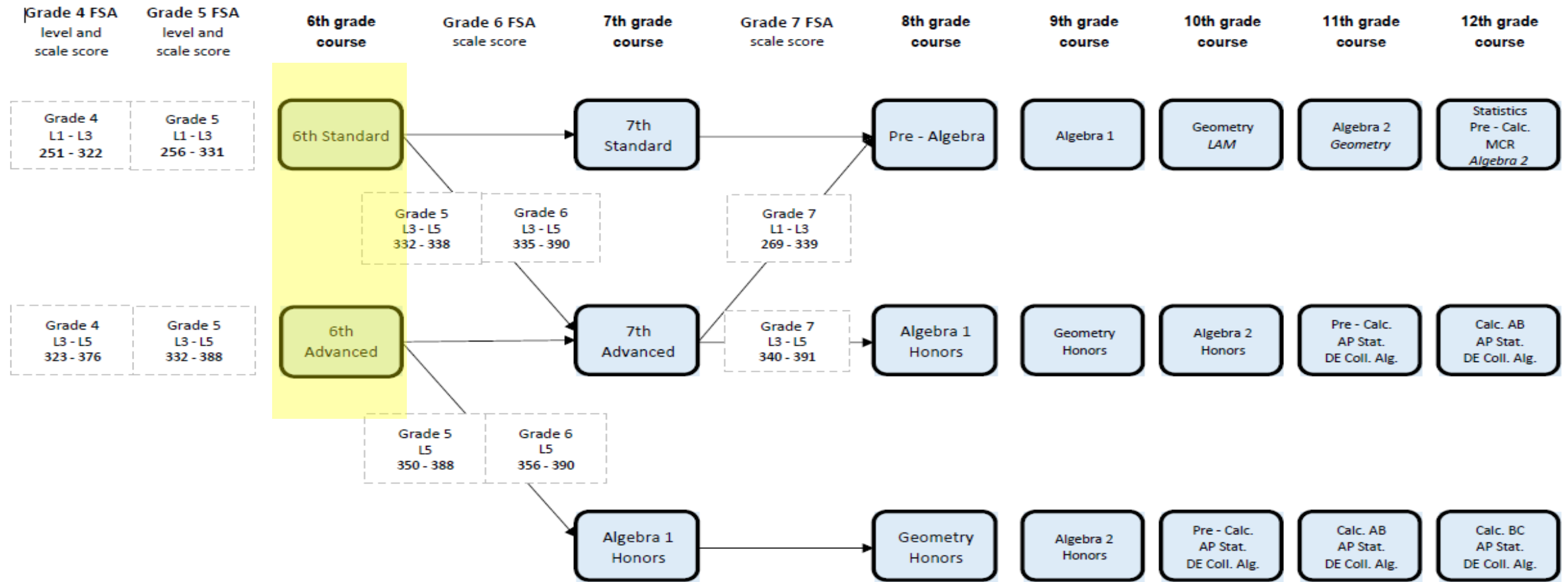


6TH GRADE CURRICULUM COURSES

- **ELA – Advanced/Standard**
- **Science – Advanced/Standard**
- **World History – Advanced/Standard**
- **Math – Advanced/Standard**

Student recommendation form will be sent home in April.

SJCSD Middle School Math Progression



Mathematics Scale Scores (240 - 393) for Each Achievement Level					
Assessment	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Grade 5					
Mathematics	256 - 305	306 - 319	320 - 333	334 - 349	350 - 388
Grade 6					
Mathematics	260 - 309	310 - 324	325 - 338	339 - 355	356 - 390
Grade 7					
Mathematics	269 - 315	316 - 329	330 - 345	346 - 359	360 - 391
Grade 8					
Mathematics	273 - 321	322 - 336	337 - 352	353 - 364	365 - 393

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- All 6th grade students take a full year of P.E.
- Students cannot wear their school clothes to participate in Physical Education.
- Every student must have a PE uniform – Uniform will be available for purchase before the end of the school year. Communication will be sent home!
- Students must wear sneakers.
- Students are given adequate time to change at the beginning and end of class.

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Grade 6:	Fitness	Gymnastics / Dance
Grade 7:	Team Sports	Comprehensive PE
Grade 8:	Individual / Dual Sports	Comprehensive PE

CRITICAL THINKING/DIGITAL TOOLS

This course will enable students to develop critical thinking skills and problem-solving skills which are embedded with digital tools necessary for the success in their future academic and occupational goals. Additionally, students will learn how to organize their time using Schoology, build vision boards to guide future planning, and build study skills as they enter a time where independent learning becomes a priority.

- Digital citizenship
- Cyber security
- Multimedia
- Word processing
- Computing

BEGINNING BAND

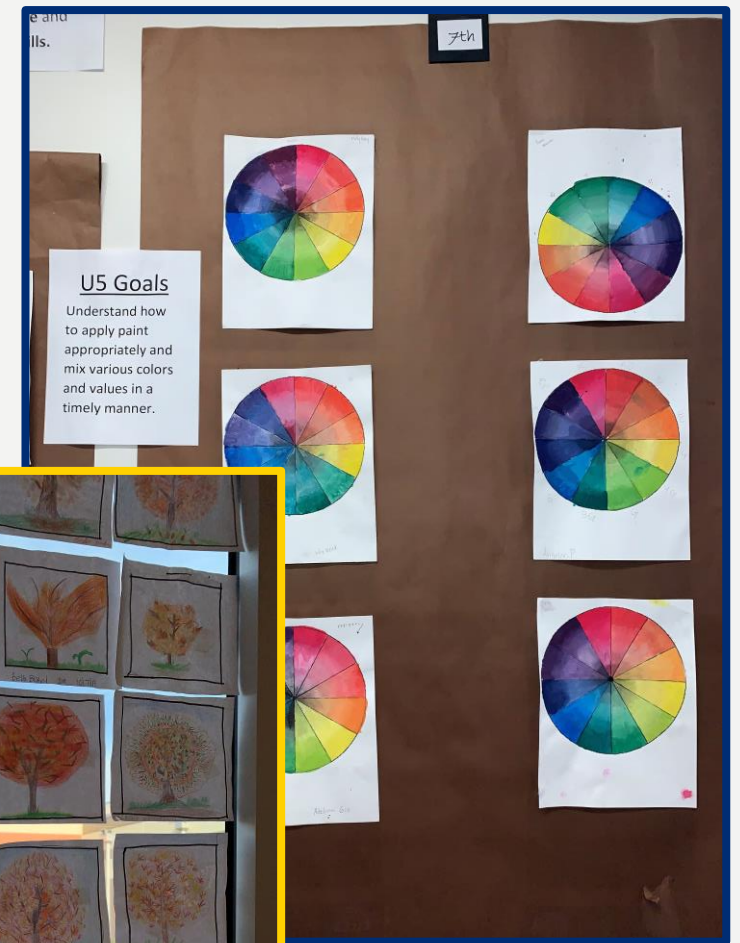
Great opportunity for students to “try on” an experience of playing an instrument of choice.

- Parent permission is required to participate in Band.
- Students will perform during a winter and spring performance.
- Practice = Homework, students are expected to practice at least 20 minutes a day on their instrument.
- Students interested in band should select band on their elective form.
- A “try on” instrument session will be held prior to the end of the school year to fit students with instruments.
- Instrument purchase/rental – Information will be provided at the time of “try – on.”



ART

- 6th grade Art – 2 Dimensional Art
- Focus on exploring media and creating a variety of 2D artwork
- Art design – drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage
- Final Exam is required



COURSE OPTION VERIFICATION-6TH GRADE

Please fill this form out in its entirety and return to your classroom teacher by February 28, 2020.

Student Name: _____

Please rank non-core courses in preference (1 – most preferred to 3 – least preferred) that you hope to take next school year. Return the form to your classroom teacher. We will do our best to give you the requested course; however, due to schedule constraints and class size requirements we cannot guarantee that the course chosen will be available.

_____ Beginning Band - This full-year course is designed for students who have no previous musical training, where they will develop their musicianship while performing music in a concert band setting. Financial obligations and occasional time commitments outside of school hours are part of this course. A “try on” instrument session will be held prior to the end of the school year to fit students with instruments.

_____ Studio Art I(2-D) – Students will explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials. A \$25.00 art donation is requested for this course of study.

_____ M/J Chorus - In this class students will learn vocal technique, basic music theory as well as performance and creative thinking skills. Students will sing a wide range of musical styles and participate in a mandatory. There will be a fair share fee for music and shirts. No audition is required.

ELECTIVE NON-COURSE FORM

- ✓ Included in your packet
- ✓ Parent letter and elective choice forms - **Due February 28**
- ✓ Teachers have provided input and made recommendations for core academic courses.
- ✓ Student course verification forms will be sent home in April with directions on how and when to return.
- ✓ PE and Critical Thinking/Digital Tools are standard electives for all students.
- ✓ Choice electives need to be ranked.

DAILY SCHEDULE

- 7 Period Day – 3 min passing period between classes
- Class Length – 45 min periods - M, T, H, F
- Wednesday Schedule – 40 min periods
- Lunch – 30 min daily
 - Middle school students will have lunch together!
 - Students will choose their own seating during lunch time.
 - PRIDE behaviors will continue to be the expectation. Should students need redirection, we will continue the guidelines in the Code of Conduct.
- Students report to homeroom each day by 8:25 am for important morning announcements. (Warning bell rings at 8:20 am.)

COMMUNICATION

-
- Website – most updated information
 - Newsletter/School messenger
 - On-going communication with parents regarding updates remainder of school year
 - Summer letter with information listed below

Transition Opportunities

- Academy in Action – Late July(date will be sent by April)
- Back to School orientation – August(stay tuned)
- Curriculum Chat Nights – Scheduled for September



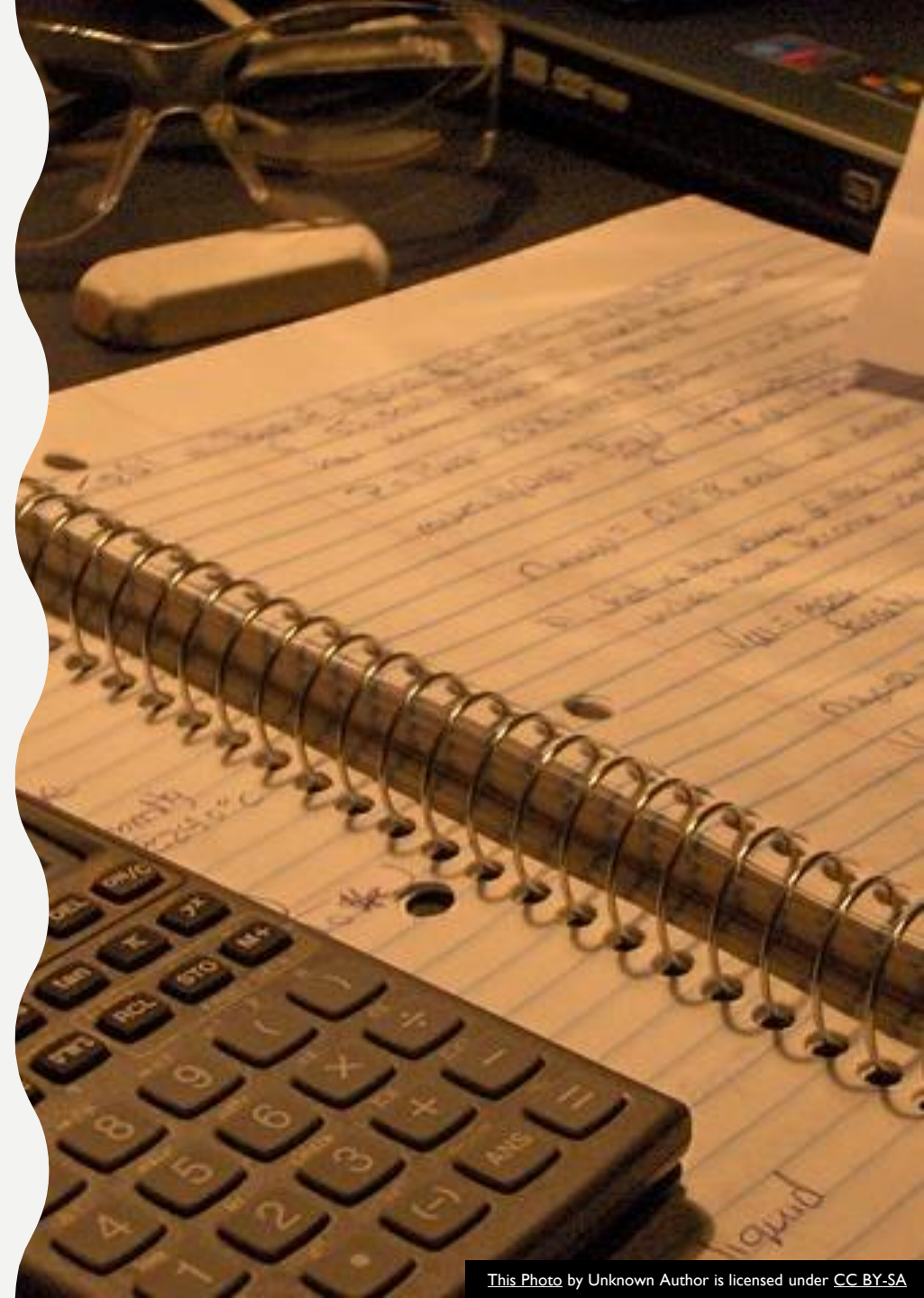
HOW DO I STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE LEARNING?

- Schoology will be the main source of learning communication.
- Online textbooks are available for all core classes and are available through Schoology.
- Usernames and passwords are the same for all accounts.
- Students will use Schoology to view upcoming activities, tests, and important class information.
- Home Access Center (HAC) allows parents and students to view grades online. Students use the same username and password for all of their textbooks and HAC.
- Organization is the key to success! All 6th graders will receive a planner.
- It will be the responsibility of the student to choose the best way to stay organized, using a planner and Schoology.
- Parents will want to check their child's planner and Schoology on a daily basis to assist the child in the development of organizational skills.

HOMework

- Homework/Home practice is to be expected for students in middle school.
- Your child will be able to access all homework via Schoology.
- Homework could be classwork that needs to be completed at home.
- Expect students to have homework MOST nights.
- There is also a calendar that will show when each assignment and upcoming activity is for the student for all their classes.
- If your child says he/she has no homework:

TRUST BUT VERIFY



SUPPLIES

- The 6th grade supply list will be posted on the MCA website during the summer.
- Supplemental supply requirements will be posted on each teacher's Schoology page if necessary.
- There will be additional fees for Band and Art classes.
- PE uniforms will be available for purchase through our website throughout the summer.



BACKPACKS

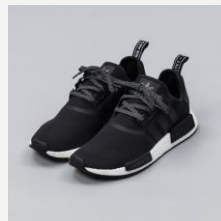
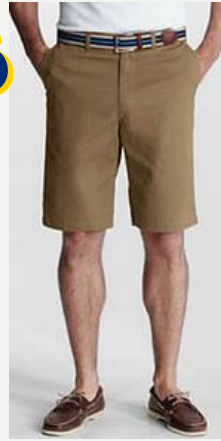
- Backpacks may be carried between classes – please stress the importance of load capacity with your child.
- No rolling backpacks are allowed without a doctor’s note – these cause a trip hazard during hall change.
- Backpacks **MUST** remain on back of chair while in classrooms. If a student has to be reminded to pick up their backpack, steps will be taken to help the student remember, such as a limited time without backpack in classroom! This is a safety concern!
- Although string backpacks **OR** smaller backpacks are suggested, it will be the students responsibility to organize their locker and backpack in order to be on time to class!



Dont's



Do's



DRESS CODE

- Shorts & Skirts can't be shorter than fingertip length.
- Leggings may be worn with a shirt that is fingertip length.
- No tank tops or sleeveless shirts smaller than 3" wide
- No shirts that reveal midriffs or open backs
- No lace or sheer shirts with tanks underneath
- No shirts off the shoulder that show straps
- No holes, rips, or tears in jeans showing skin
- No backless shoes

TECHNOLOGY DEVICES/CELLPHONES

The cell phone will be the student and parent/guardian's responsibility at all times. The school is not responsible for investigating lost, damaged, or stolen cell phones. If a student needs to communicate with a parent, he/she must do so through the front office.

APPROPRIATE DEVICE USAGE:

- Before warning bell (8:20 am)
- After arriving at bus or PPU during dismissal
- During middle school lunches **only except** for phone FREE Friday!
- Only one earbud should be worn at any time while on school property.

INAPPROPRIATE DEVICE USAGE

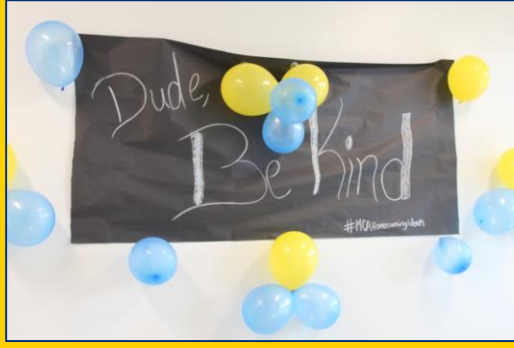
- Pictures, videos and phone calls are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** during the school hours.
- During class time **UNLESS** given permission by the classroom teacher.
- During passing period **AND** during dismissal while transitioning to bus or PPU.



POLICIES AND OTHER INFORMATION

- Your child has options for re-test.
- We expect students to do their best the first time on an assessment, however, we recognize students learn at different rates and in different ways. To ensure ALL students have the opportunity to learn, re-test options are given to students.
- Students who score below proficiency on a summative assignment (test, project, research paper) can participate in grade recovery. Students coordinate with the teacher for this retake opportunity. Students are only allowed to retake the test one time.
- Promotion requires that academic requirements are met in the following core classes:
- Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies

ALL STUDENTS CAN AND WILL LEARN!



- Students are given time built into their schedule in order to receive extra assistance in all CORE classes, enrichment opportunities, and if time permits, a retest opportunity.
- This time is built to ensure extra time is given to students that may need it for learning.
- Re-test or grade recovery is scheduled between the student and teacher and typically is scheduled before or after school.

LEADING THE CHARGE OF LIFELONG LEARNING!

Q & A