

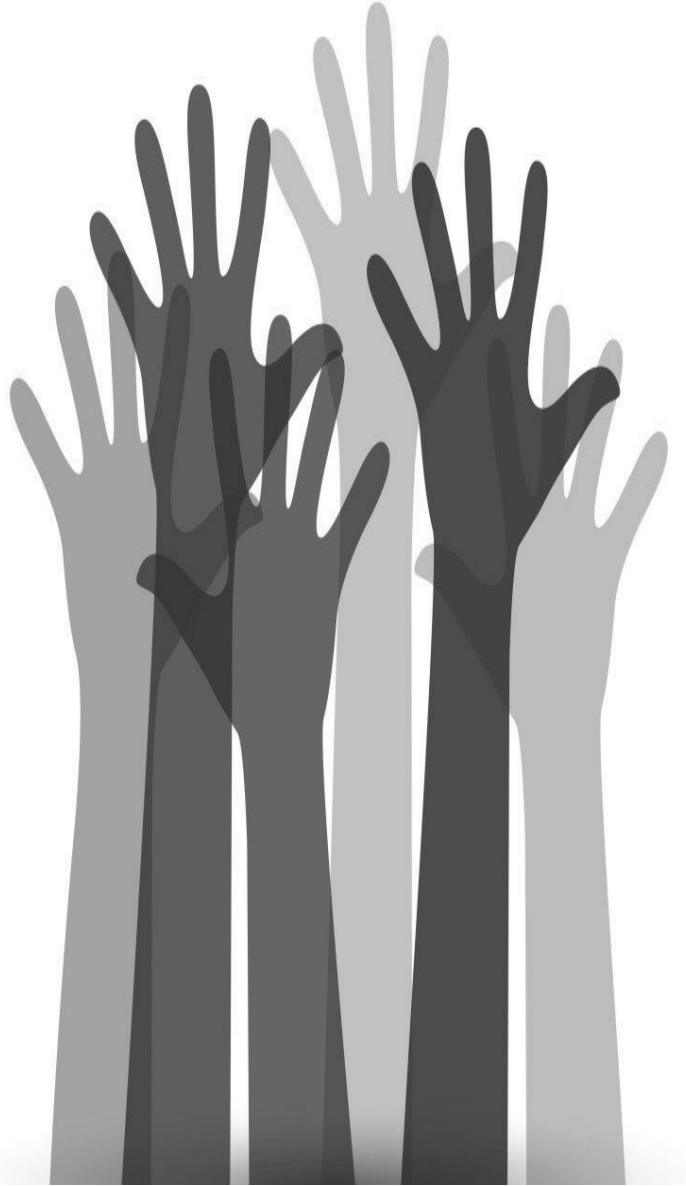
2023-2024

Bulletin of Courses

Kalamazoo Public Schools

Every child. Every opportunity. Every time.

Middle School



**YOUR PATH
YOUR PROMISE**

KALAMAZOOPROMISE.COM

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR . . .

BUILDING A SCHEDULE THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

The first step in the scheduling process is for parents and students to review this bulletin together and choose elective courses to complete a schedule. Course offerings and descriptions are listed in sections by grade level. Please read the appropriate grade-level section and complete the course selection sheet that the counselor gave you. Returning the Course Selection Sheet to school as soon as possible will reasonably ensure that you get the elective courses of your choosing.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The KPS middle schools operate on a trimester schedule. On the trimester schedule, the school year is divided into three, 12-week sections. Marking period grades are issued every six weeks; twice per trimester.

Sample School Year on the Trimester Schedule		
1 st Trimester	2 nd Trimester	3 rd Trimester
Fall	Winter	Spring
September – End of November	Early December – Mid-March	Mid-March – June

All middle school students are scheduled into six, 58-minute class periods per day. During each of the three middle school years, students are required to take a full year of English language arts, math, science, and social studies. In addition, students are also required to take one trimester (12 weeks) of physical education and one trimester of computer applications during each of their middle school years.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Three-Trimesters (full year per grade level)

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

One-Trimester (12 weeks per grade level)

- Computer Applications
- Physical Education

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in reading or math (as indicated by state and local assessments) will have an additional period to build core academic skills in the area of need. Opportunity for elective courses (such as art, music, life skills/physical education, or Spanish) will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Students performing at or above grade level will have the opportunity to choose elective courses of interest such as art, music, life skills, physical education or Spanish. Students may choose to take most elective courses for either one, two, or three trimesters.

IMPORTANT!

TEST RESULTS – HOW THEY INFLUENCE SCHEDULING

It is important that you understand the relevance of district and state-wide testing, (such as the NWEA measurement of academic progress) that is used to determine placement into academic courses. Students who exceed expectations may be recommended for advanced English and/or math courses. Advanced Math could put them on track to earn high school credits while still in middle school. Likewise, low test results will help to identify students in need of additional support in the areas of mathematics

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS ARE LISTED BY GRADE LEVEL

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Dear Incoming 6th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

Before you know it, you will be walking through the doors of middle school! And because it will be here faster than you think, we have already begun to plan for your sixth grade year. An important first step in planning is to determine which courses are appropriate for you. We will be evaluating your performance on district and state tests to determine which English language arts and mathematics courses will serve you best. That is one reason why it is important that you always do your best; not only on classroom tests, but also on district-wide tests such as the NWEA.

While most of the courses you take in sixth grade are required, you will be able to choose some courses of interest such as art, music, and Spanish. These are called “electives”. However, if your test results indicate that you need some support with your reading and math skills, then you will be required to take extended learning courses. Your opportunity to take elective courses will be limited until grade level expectations are met.

This booklet describes the various courses that are available. We ask that you and your parent/guardian review this booklet together and choose elective courses to complete your schedule. **Please indicate your choices on the course selection sheet that your counselor provided. Make sure your parent/guardian signs the bottom of the form and return it to school tomorrow.** Once we receive your course selection sheet, we will begin to develop a sixth grade schedule that is right for you.

Best wishes for an exciting and rewarding middle school experience!

SAMPLE TRIMESTER SCHEDULE • GRADE 6								
		1 st Period	2 nd Period	3 rd Period	4 th Period	5 th Period	*6th Period*	
1	FALL September - December	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	Physical Education	Reading Strategies and Success Skills, Algebra Readiness or electives	Trimester Elective
2	WINTER December- March	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	Computer Applications		Trimester Elective
3	SPRING March – June	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	Trimester Elective		Trimester Elective

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)

- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 6
- Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics 6
- Science 6
- Social Studies 6

One-Trimester (12 weeks)

- Computer Applications 6
- Physical Education 6

ELECTIVES

ELA or math extended learning courses are required for students performing below grade level as indicated by the results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses will be limited.

Students who are not required to take extended ELA or math courses will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES • THREE TRIMESTERS (FULL YEAR)

All sixth grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

English Language Arts 6**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30610**

This course provides a balanced literacy program to guide students to become proficient readers and writers and help them learn to speak and listen effectively. Students will demonstrate understanding of figurative language and nuances in word meanings, analyze central ideas and themes, and make logical inferences to understand both informational and narrative text. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR**Advanced English Language Arts 6****ENGLISH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30612**

This course moves at a faster pace and delves deeper into literature and writing skills. The advanced study highlights elements of persuasion. Opportunities are presented for impromptu, informative, and persuasive speeches, debate, small and large group discussion, and critical reasoning. Persuasive writing, reasoning, research, and language study are included throughout the study.

Mathematics 6**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50610**

Sixth grade math offers a well-developed integrated mathematics foundation (all strands of math). Topics of study include number theory, rational numbers, two-dimensional geometry and measurement, probability, an introduction to algebra, positive and negative numbers, scientific notation, and spatial visualization. Graphing calculator technology will be used in the later units of study to help visualize mathematical relationships and to better allow students to tackle real life problems.

OR**Advanced Mathematics 6****MATH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50612**

Students may enroll in this advanced mathematics course which is designed to prepare students for 7th Grade Advanced Math and Algebra I in 8th Grade. The course will move at a faster pace and delve deeper into mathematical concepts.

Science 6**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 70610**

This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to Physical, Earth, Life, and Health sciences and develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include the rock cycle, Michigan's geologic history, energy transformations, ecosystems, and the engineering design process. Students will begin to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

Social Studies 6**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 80610**

This course provides students with an understanding of the regions of the world in the Eastern and Western Hemispheres and the people who live there. Students are challenged to use the tools of geography to view, analyze, and understand the world around them. The course will integrate informational reading and writing including visual literacy with the study of charts, graphs, and maps.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS • TRIMESTER COURSES

Sixth grade students are also required to take the following courses for one trimester:

Computer Applications:

Technologies in Our Changing World 6

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 Weeks)

Course # 15610

Students will explore 21st Century Skills while learning about technology concepts and operations and online communication tools as they use productivity tools to produce presentations and documents. They will learn responsible digital citizenship, information literacy strategies, legal and fair use, and about digital footprints. They will discuss online manners and ethics, strategies to combat cyber-bullying, and ways to be safe online.

Physical Education 6

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 Weeks)

Course # 65610

This course provides students with an opportunity to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness. Students will increase their knowledge of health-related fitness, motor skills, and individual and team sports.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

EXTENDED LEARNING

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in language arts or math, as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, will have an additional period to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education or Spanish, will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Reading Strategies and Success Skills

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA

Course # 30651

Reading Strategies and Success Skills is designed to help students maximize their reading comprehension of narrative and informational text. The class also provides a focus on social emotional learning, goal setting, and study skills to understand the expectations of middle school. Successful completion of this course helps students succeed in cross-curricular classes.

Algebra Readiness

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA

Course # 506782

This course is designed to build on students' current mathematical understanding to progress toward mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students successful experiences in mathematics. Successful completion of this course helps students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

AVAILABLE AT MAPLE STREET AND MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOLS

ESL I

ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 30613

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This is a course of intensive English language instruction designed for students who are dominant in a language other than English and who place at level 1 or 2 on the WIDA (English Language Proficiency Assessment). Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are developed with an emphasis on listening and speaking.

ESL II

ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 30713

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This course is designed for students who place at level 2 or 3 on the WIDA (the English Language Proficiency Assessment) and/or who have completed ESL I. Students continue to strengthen their academic listening and speaking skills, and begin to interpret and analyze different genres of literature. Students develop their analytical skills in order to complete narrative, descriptive, and expository writing.

Bilingual Skills

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 90685

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This class offers supplemental instruction to English language learners who need to move beyond ESL classes. It provides an emphasis on building content area skills. Students are introduced to learning strategies and study skills to help them experience academic success. The writing process including organizational skills, style, mechanics and content is applied to all areas of student writing. Students learn strategies to help them prepare to make oral presentations. They will also write research papers and complete a career exploration component.

ESL (Classroom Support Services)

Services available at Maple Street Magnet and Milwood Magnet Schools

English as a Second Language services are designed for students in the classroom environment who require focused instruction in academic vocabulary, language acquisition, and literacy strategies to become proficient language learners and readers.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses (listed below and on pages 6-9). Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

ART ELECTIVES

Art 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 10625

This is a general art course that provides students with an introduction to creative problem solving in a project-oriented class. Students will learn how to use materials and tools appropriately to create personal works of art. Students' work will be used for exhibitions at the building and district level, and throughout the community.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Beginning Band

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) or 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60635

Prerequisite: None

Scheduling Note: Must be taken first trimester

This class gives students their first opportunities to play band instruments. No previous experience is necessary. Students will be fitted to suitable instruments, which are available through KPS or area music stores. In addition to playing instruments, this class will focus on music-reading skills and musicality. Students will also be introduced to ensemble skills such as blend, balance, intonation, and technique. Performing at concerts is an integral part of this class.

Orchestra 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) or 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60645

Students will improve at playing a string instrument through additional study of music symbols and terminology, as well as learning blend and balance of parts, accurate intonation, music styles, and development of technical skills in an ensemble setting. Performance at concerts will be an integral part of the class.

VOCAL MUSIC

Choir 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60625

Participation in choir includes using skills of part-singing, group singing, sight-reading, and vocal production. In addition, the curriculum will include instruction in music history, criticism, evaluation, and listening skills. The relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts will be explored. Students are required to participate in some performance activities. Concert performances, festivals, and solo and small ensemble performance opportunities will be offered.

SPANISH

Spanish for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 90645

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 6 and 7

This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Automation and Robotics

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15620

Offered at all KPS middle schools

Students will explore 21st Century skills related to technology, online communication and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics®, to invent and innovate solution to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development and influence of engineering and robotics.

Life Skills 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20635

Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove Middle School

This course is based on skills that will encourage healthful and productive consumer living. Exploratory units include food and nutrition, clothing, health, parenting, safety, communication, and consumer skills.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Elective Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65625

Offered at Linden Grove, Maple St. and Milwood Magnet Schools only

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course promotes lifetime sports, recreational, and wellness activities that provide an opportunity to refine skills and attitudes that encourage lifelong fitness. Activities will include health-related fitness testing, dynamic stretching, team sports, and individual and dual sports.

Fit 4 Life

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65665

Offered at Linden Grove and Milwood Magnet Schools only

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course is designed to promote cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength with emphasis on the combination of strength, speed and agility training, and cardiovascular health. Students will learn about heart rates, BMI, muscle groups, and equipment utilization.

Healthy Lifestyles/Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 45625

Offered at Linden Grove Middle School

Scheduling Note: This course may be elected for one trimester only and is in addition to the required P.E. course

Students will combine physical fitness, nutrition education, and positive communicative skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle to promote lifelong fitness. They will assess the effect of food choices on individual wellness, and plan and prepare nutritious foods.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Additional 12-week elective course offerings are available at our theme-based magnet schools.

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple St. Magnet School:

Music 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60665

This is a non-performance class where students will learn about music of different cultures around the world. They will also utilize technology (GarageBand) and learn basic piano skills.

Musical Theater

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 6067877

This course is for the student that is interested in Musical Theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Performances will be both in-class and "main stage" productions.

On Stage 6

Elective • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 30645

Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.

Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student written material.

Spanish Language Literature I

Elective • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Prerequisite: Participation in dual immersion program at the elementary level or substantial prior Spanish-speaking experience

Course # 90865

This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Columbian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar. (Students must complete Spanish Literature I, II and III to receive 2.0 high school credits.)

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School

The following electives are available at Maple Street Magnet School only:

Arabic Culture

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 8067831

This is an introduction to Arabic culture in America and worldwide, to broaden the student's worldview. Included are basic Arabic alphabet and numbers, countries, customs, music, art, clothing, weather, lifestyle, the Arabic lunar calendar, holidays, Arabic industry, celebrities and noteworthy individuals, and an historic overview.

Arabic for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 908678

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 6 and 7

This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb to be with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Milwood Magnet School

The following electives are available at Milwood Magnet School only:

Digital Imaging 6

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15655

This course will provide students with the opportunity to explore and use computers, digital cameras, and state-of-the-art imaging software to create digital art, use creative problem solving and art evaluation. Students will utilize a variety of technology and techniques to achieve creative solutions to artistic problems. Works will be used for exhibitions and displays in the building.

Video A

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20665

This course introduces the care and use of digital video cameras, tripods, audio equipment, and video production software. Students will create two film productions.

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:

Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) • 0.5 Credit, Course can be repeated

Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only

15 hours of service learning required

Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

Welcome to 7th Grade!

Dear Incoming 7th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

Before you know it, your sixth grade year will come to an end, summer vacation will come and go, and you will be back to school as a seventh grader. And because it will be here faster than you think, we have already begun to plan for your seventh grade year. An important first step in planning is to determine which courses are appropriate for you.

We will be evaluating your performance on district and state tests to determine which English language arts and mathematics courses will serve you best. That is one reason why it is important that you always do your best; not only on classroom tests, but also on district and state tests such as the M-STEP.

This booklet describes the various courses that are available. We ask that you and your parent/ guardian review this booklet together and choose elective courses to complete your schedule.

Please indicate your choices on the course selection sheet that your counselor gave you to bring home. Make sure your parent/guardian signs the bottom of the form and return it to school tomorrow. Once we receive your Course Selection Sheet, we will begin to develop a seventh grade schedule that is right for you.

SAMPLE TRIMESTER SCHEDULE • GRADE 7									
		1 st Period	2 nd Period	3 rd Period	4 th Period	5 th Period	*6th Period*		
1	FALL September - December	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	Physical Education	Strategic Reading, Strategic Math or electives	Trimester Elective	
	2	WINTER December- March	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES		Computer Applications	Trimester Elective
		3	SPRING March – June	MATH	ELA	SCIENCE		SOCIAL STUDIES	Trimester Elective

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)

- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 7
- Mathematics or Advanced Mathematics 7
- Science 7
- Social Studies 7

One-Trimester (12 weeks)

- Computer Applications 7
- Physical Education 7

Electives

ELA or math extended learning courses are required for students performing below grade level as indicated by results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses may be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Students who are not required to take extended courses will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES • THREE TRIMESTERS (FULL YEAR)

All seventh grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation. Academic support courses are also required for students performing below grade level as indicated by state and local test results.

English Language Arts 7**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30710**

This course provides a balanced literacy program to guide students to become proficient readers and writers and help them learn to speak and listen effectively. Students will demonstrate understanding of figurative and connotative meaning of words and analyze central ideas and themes in informational and narrative text while providing textual evidence to support the analysis. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR**Advanced English Language Arts 7****ENGLISH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30712**

This course moves at a faster pace and delves deeper into literature and writing skills. Advanced students look at historical events and social issues of the 1940s through literature of the decade focusing on the concept of change. Numerous opportunities for reading, writing, listening, and speaking are incorporated into the study. Students make both a written and an oral presentation of their research.

English Language Learners – See page 13 for course options

Mathematics 7**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50710**

Seventh grade mathematics offers a well-developed integrated mathematics foundation (all strands of mathematics). Topics of study include similarity, ratios, proportions, percents, linear relationships, three-dimensional measurement, probability, and data analysis.

OR**Advanced Mathematics 7****MATH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50712**

Students may enroll in this advanced mathematics course which is designed to prepare students for Algebra I in 8th Grade. The course will move at a faster pace and delve deeper into mathematical concepts. *(Successful completion of Algebra I meets high school graduation requirements).*

Science 7**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 70710**

This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to Physical, Earth, Life, and Health sciences and further develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include renewable energy resources, weather and climate, physical and chemical changes, cells, and heredity. Students will continue to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

Social Studies 7**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 80710**

This course provides students with an understanding of the first three eras of ancient world history including the early civilizations of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Students will examine the time periods through the lenses of historians and social scientists. The course will integrate informational reading and writing including visual literacy with the study of charts, graphs, and maps.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS • TRIMESTER COURSES

All seventh grade students are required to take the following courses for one trimester:

Computer Applications: Career Life Choices I

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 Weeks)

Course # 15710

Students will envision their futures and explore their unique abilities and dreams as they create an Educational Development Plan (EDP). They will learn how decisions made in the “digital” world affects their “real” world. They will use productivity and online tools to produce documents, spreadsheets, and charts. They will develop financial literacy skills and prepare a personal budget reflecting a desired lifestyle compared to their educational goal to understand the relationship between time commitment and financial reward.

Physical Education 7

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 Weeks)

Course # 65710

This course emphasizes a personal commitment to lifetime activities and fitness for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and competitive learning. Students will have opportunities to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness which includes fitness testing, individual and team sports. This course will also include a three-week session focused on reproductive health.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

EXTENDED LEARNING

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in math, as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, will have an additional period (to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education or Spanish, will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Algebra Readiness

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA

Course # 506782

This course is designed to build on students’ current mathematical understanding to progress towards mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students successful experience in mathematics. Successful completion of this course helps students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

AVAILABLE AT MAPLE STREET AND MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOLS

ESL I**ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30613****Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools**

This is a course of intensive English language instruction designed for students who are dominant in a language other than English and who place at level 1 or 2 on the WIDA (the English Language Proficiency Assessment). Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are developed with an emphasis on listening and speaking.

ESL II**ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30713****Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools**

This course is designed for students who place at level 2 or 3 on the WIDA (the English Language Proficiency Assessment) and/or who have completed ESL I. Students continue to strengthen their academic listening and speaking skills, and begin to interpret and analyze different genres of literature. Students develop their analytical skills in order to complete narrative, descriptive, and expository writing.

Bilingual Skills**ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 90785****Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools**

This class offers supplemental instruction to English language learners who need to move beyond ESL classes. It provides an emphasis on building content area skills. Students are introduced to learning strategies and study skills to help them experience academic success. The writing process including organizational skills, style, mechanics and content is applied to all areas of student writing. Students learn strategies to help them prepare to make oral presentations. They will also write research papers and complete a career exploration component.

ESL (Classroom Support Services)**Services available at Maple Street Magnet and Milwood Magnet School**

English as a Second Language services are designed for students in the classroom environment who require focused instruction in academic vocabulary, language acquisition, and literacy strategies to become proficient language learners and readers.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Students will complete their schedule with the appropriate number of elective courses (listed below and on pages 15-18). Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one, two, or three trimesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

ART ELECTIVES

Art 7

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 10725

A general visual art class that includes the study of the history of art, art production, aesthetics, creative problem solving, and art criticism. Students will create artwork in two and three-dimensions that solve artistic problems. Student work will be used for exhibitions at the building and district level's and throughout the community.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Intermediate Band

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60735

Prerequisite: Beginning Band or equivalent

This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed a full year of Beginning Band. Concert performances, solo and small ensemble performance opportunities will be available. Performing at concerts is an integral part of this class.

Orchestra

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) or 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60745

Prerequisite: 6th grade orchestra or equivalent

Continuing development of all the aspects listed in the 6th grade course description (page 6) as well as the following: maturation of tone, vibrato, shifting, and sight-reading skills through study of sheet music. Performances will be an integral part of the class.

VOCAL MUSIC

Choir 7

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60725

This is a class for students who enjoy singing all types of music including pop, spirituals, folk, Broadway, and classical. Instruction includes part-singing, sight-reading, and the basics of proper singing. In addition, the curriculum includes instruction in music history, criticism, evaluation, and listening skills. The relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts will be explored. Students are required to participate in some performance activities. Concerts, festivals, and solo and small ensemble performance opportunities will be offered.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following elective courses for one, two, or three trimesters to complete their schedule. Every attempt will be made to accommodate choices.

Automation and Robotics

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15720

Offered at all KPS middle schools

Students will explore 21st Century skills related to technology, online communication and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics®, to invent and innovate solution to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development and influence of engineering and robotics.

Future Michigan Educator Course I

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 556710

Offered at all KPS middle schools – Grade 7

This course encourages students to explore the teaching profession through guided instruction and participation in experiences related to education. Students will learn about the qualities of a healthy learning environment, how culture and identity can influence learning and how to create equitable learning environments for all students. Students can apply the skills they have learned to lead short lessons in the classroom or with elementary students.

Life Skills 7

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20735

Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove

This course is based on skills that will encourage healthful and productive consumer living. Exploratory units include food and nutrition, clothing, health, parenting, safety, communication, and consumer skills.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Elective Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65725

Offered at Linden Grove, Maple St., and Milwood Magnet Schools only

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course promotes lifetime sports, recreational, and wellness activities that provide an opportunity to refine skills and attitudes that encourage lifelong fitness. Activities will include health-related fitness testing, dynamic stretching, team sports, and individual and dual sports.

Fit 4 Life

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65765

Offered at Linden Grove and Milwood Magnet Schools only

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course is designed to promote cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength. An individual strength training program will be implemented with a variety of cardiovascular activities. Students will learn about heart rates, BMI, muscle groups, and equipment utilization.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

SPANISH

Spanish for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 90645

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 6 and 7

This course introduces the basic elements of language. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb *to be* with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Spanish Intermediate

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 90745

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 7 and 8

This course will enhance Spanish communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do, and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple Street Magnet School:

Music 7

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60765

Many styles of music from classical to rock n' roll will be discussed and critiqued. Students will experience and gain a better understanding of music past and present.

Musical Theater 6-8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 6067877

This course is for the student that is interested in Musical Theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Performances will be both in-class and "main stage" productions.

On Stage 7

Elective • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course #30745

Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.

Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student written material.

Spanish Language Literature II

Elective • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Prerequisite: Spanish Language Literature I

Course #90875

This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Columbian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar. (Students must complete Spanish Literature I, II & III to receive 2.0 high school credits.)

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts (continued from previous page)

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple Street Magnet School:

Arabic Culture

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 9080678

This is an introduction to Arabic culture in America and worldwide, to broaden the student's worldview. Included are basic Arabic alphabet and numbers, countries, customs, music, art, clothing, weather, lifestyle, the Arabic lunar calendar, holidays, Arabic industry, celebrities and noteworthy individuals, and a historic overview.

Arabic for Beginners

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 9080067

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 6 and 7

This course introduces the basic elements of language. Students will learn greetings, leave-takings, and introductions. They will begin to develop communication skills in a second language, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, ask and give information, use the verb to be with adjectives, and use gender and adjective agreement.

Arabic Intermediate

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 9080078

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 7 and 8

This course will enhance Arabic communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology

The following elective courses are only offered at Milwood Magnet:

Digital Imaging 7

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15755

This course will provide students with the opportunity to explore and use computers, digital cameras and state of the art imaging software to create digital art, use creative problem solving and art evaluation. Students will utilize a variety of technology and techniques to achieve creative solutions to artistic problems. Works will be used for exhibition and display in the building.

Video A

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20765

Scheduling Note: Do not take this class if you passed it in 6th grade

This course will acquaint students with the technical and aesthetic concepts involved in successful studio field production. Some of the skills taught will include: pre-production skills, video production structure and aesthetic principles, camera operation, and recording procedures. Basic studio, lighting, audio techniques, and basic editing concepts will also be covered

Video B

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20775

Prerequisite: Video A

Students will be focusing on Chroma Key, manipulation of lighting, saturation, cutting on action, camera shots, and points of view. Throughout the course, students will create three films: *Around the World/Social Justice*, *Inside Out*, and *All in One*.

Video C

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20785

Prerequisite: Video A

This course extends the concepts learned from the prerequisite, "Video A". Students will be focusing on manipulating speed, key frames, composition, intended message, copyright, effective audio, and natural transitions. Throughout the course, students will be creating four films; Stop Motion, Reverse Speed, Music Video, and Time Shifting.

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:

Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) • 0.5 Credit, Course can be repeated

Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only

15 hours of service learning required

Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

Dear Incoming 8th Grade Students and Parents/Guardians,

It's hard to believe, but before you know it, your seventh grade year will come to an end, summer vacation will come and go, and you will be back to school as an eighth grader. An important first step in planning for next year is for students and parents to review this bulletin and to choose elective courses to complete a middle school schedule. Descriptions of the courses we offer to eighth grade students are found on the following pages.

As an eighth grader, you will have the opportunity to earn high school credits that will count towards graduation. Courses like Algebra I, Spanish I and Basic Design are the same courses as offered to students in high school. You are also eligible to earn one-half credit for Computer Applications. By successfully passing these courses while still in middle school, you will open up your high school schedule for even more electives.

It is especially important that you strive to do your very best as the Kalamazoo Public Schools has implemented a retention procedure for eighth grade students. Students who are not successfully passing their core academic courses (English, math, science, and social studies) will be evaluated and possibly recommended for retention in the eighth grade. So be sure to put your best foot forward, study hard, take advantage of the academic support courses available to you, and ask for help if you find yourself falling behind.

After reviewing this bulletin with your parent/guardian, you will need to **complete the requested information on the Course Selection Sheet that your counselor gave you to bring home. Make sure that your parent/guardian signs your course selection sheet and return it to school tomorrow.** Once we receive your course selection sheet, we will begin to develop a schedule that's right for you.

SAMPLE TRIMESTER SCHEDULE • GRADE 8								
		1 st Period	2 nd Period	3 rd Period	4 th Period	5 th Period	*6th Period*	
1	FALL September - December	MAT H	ELA	SCIENC E	SOCIAL STUDIE S	Physical Education	Essential Academic Success Skills or electives	Trimester Elective
2	WINTER December-March	MAT H	ELA	SCIENC E	SOCIAL STUDIE S	Computer Applications		Trimester Elective
3	SPRING March – June	MAT H	ELA	SCIENC E	SOCIAL STUDIE S	Trimester Elective		Trimester Elective

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Full-Year (36 weeks)

- English Language Arts or Advanced English Language Arts 8
- Mathematics 8 or Algebra I
- Science 8
- Social Studies 8

One-Trimester (12 weeks)

- Computer Applications 8
- Physical Education 8

ELECTIVES

Essential Academic Success Skills is required for students performing below grade level as indicated by the results on state and local tests. Opportunities for elective courses will be limited.

Students who are not required to take this course will choose elective courses to complete their schedule.

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES • THREE TRIMESTERS (FULL YEAR)

All eighth grade students are required to take the core academic courses below. Students are scheduled into the appropriate ELA and math courses as determined by test scores and teacher recommendation.

English Language Arts 8**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30810**

This course provides students with a balanced literacy program. Students will analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning (literature) and how the author uses and refines meaning of key terms over the course of a text (informational text). Students will compare and contrast two or more texts determining the central ideas and themes, citing textual evidence to support analysis, and write objective summaries of texts. Students will concentrate on the writing process with a focus on narrative, argumentative, and informational writing.

OR**Advanced English Language Arts 8****ENGLISH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 30812**

This course features many of the topics of English Language Arts 8 at a faster and deeper pace. Advanced English provides an overview of utopia and gives students an opportunity to examine why ideas about utopia undergo change. Through the study of literature, art, and music, students learn about the search through the ages for utopia and the struggles to grasp and maintain it on both personal and societal levels.

Mathematics 8**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50810**

This course offers a well developed integrated (all strands of math) math foundation. Topics of study include modeling, Pythagorean Theorem, exponential relationships, quadratic relationships, and algebraic reasoning.

OR**Algebra I****MATH OPTION • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 50812****Eligible for 1.0 High School Credit**

This course provides students with the fundamental skills and concepts of algebra including proportions, linear functions, exponential functions, and quadratic functions. This course integrates the use of multiple representations including graphs, tables and equations and uses manipulatives and technology to further students' algebraic thinking. Students learn to model real-life situations with connections to geometry, statistics and probability.

KPS students who pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school math credit towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

Science 8**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 70810**

This course develops students' understanding of major concepts pertaining to Physical, Earth, Life, and Health sciences and further develops an understanding of engineering. Major topics of study include forces and motion, plate tectonics, atomic structure, cell division, genetics, and an introduction to medical investigation. Students will continue to develop laboratory and scientific research skills through hands-on experiments, observations, presentations, discussions, and text resources.

Social Studies 8**REQUIRED • 3 Trimesters (full year)****Course # 80810**

Students will continue their study of United States History from the writing of the Constitution through Reconstruction. Geographic, civics/government and economics content is integrated within the historical context. Students analyze an issue and propose a plan for civic action using significant content knowledge, research and inquiry. Where appropriate, they make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS • TRIMESTER COURSES

Eighth grade students are also required to take the following courses for one trimester:

Computer Applications

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15810

Eligible for 0.5 High School Credit

Students will explore interactive learning through the use of multimedia, online digital planning and mapping tools, and application tools to create integrated projects. They will learn research information fluency skills, and analyze how personal interest, aptitude, and behavior effects educational, career, and life planning. They will identify choices and actions that lead to a successful transition into adulthood and examine those factors that may impede a self-sufficient life.

*** KPS students who successfully pass this course will receive one-half (0.5) high school credit towards graduation.*

Physical Education 8

REQUIRED • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65810

This course emphasizes health-related fitness and development of the skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity. Students will participate in multiple individual sports, team sports, recreational games and fitness activities. Advanced level skills and strategies will be taught to achieve and maintain a health and wellness level of physical fitness.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

EXTENDED LEARNING

In addition to the above requirements, students performing below grade level in language arts or mathematics as indicated by the results on state and local assessments, may have an additional period to build core academic skills. Opportunities for elective courses such as art, music, physical education or Spanish, will be limited until grade-level expectations are met.

Essential Academic Success Skills

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA

Course # 30851

Essential Academic Success Skills is designed to help students apply reading strategies to narrative and informational text. The class also provides a focus on social emotional learning, goal setting, study skills, and academic planning. Successful completion of this course helps students understand the expectations of high school.

Algebra Readiness

REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS MEETING THE CRITERIA

Course # 506782

This course is designed to build on students' current mathematical understanding to progress towards mastery of grade-level standards. The class provides instruction that will support the core-curricular math course, while also addressing individual skills needed to provide students successful experiences in mathematics. Successful completion of this course help students prepare for success in mathematics including algebra.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND SERVICES

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

AVAILABLE AT MAPLE STREET AND MILWOOD MAGNET SCHOOLS

ESL I

ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 30813

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This is a course of intensive English language instruction designed for students who are dominant in a language other than English and who place at level 1 or 2 on the WIDA (the English Language Proficiency Assessment). Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are developed with an emphasis on listening and speaking.

ESL II

ENGLISH PLACEMENT • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 30813

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This course is designed for students who place at level 2 or 3 on the WIDA (the English Language Proficiency Assessment) and/or who have completed ESL I. Students continue to strengthen their academic listening and speaking skills, and begin to interpret and analyze different genres of literature. Students develop their analytical skills in order to complete narrative, descriptive, and expository writing.

Bilingual Skills

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 90885

Offered at Maple Street and Milwood Magnet Schools

This class offers supplemental instruction to English language learners who need to move beyond ESL classes. It provides an emphasis on building content area skills. Students are introduced to learning strategies and study skills to help them experience academic success. The writing process including organizational skills, style, mechanics and content is applied to all areas of student writing. Students learn strategies to help them prepare to make oral presentations. They will also write research papers and complete a career exploration component.

ESL (Classroom Support Services)

Services available at Maple Street Magnet and Milwood Magnet School

English as a Second Language services are designed for students in the classroom environment who require focused instruction in academic vocabulary, language acquisition, and literacy strategies to become proficient language learners and readers.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one, two, or three trimesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

ART ELECTIVES

Art 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 10825

This course will provide students with the opportunity to work with a wide variety of subject matter. Students will demonstrate higher levels of understanding and create increasingly complex works of art. They will also be introduced to career pathways in the visual arts. Students will develop the skills necessary for success in high school art programs.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Automation and Robotics

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15820

Offered at all KPS middle schools

Scheduling Note: This course will count toward 0.5 Computer Applications Credit

Students will explore 21st Century skills related to technology, online communication and productivity tools to produce presentations related to the engineering design process. Students will use programming software VEX Robotics®, to invent and innovate solution to technological problems. Students will also learn about careers related to the history, development and influence of engineering and robotics.

Basic Design 8

Elective • 2 Trimesters (24 weeks)

Course # 10835

Eligible for 0.5 High School Credit

Students will study the elements of art and principles of design by exploring a variety of 2-D and 3-D media and techniques. Emphasis is on color theory, composition, self-expression, art appreciation, and sketch book development. *KPS students who pass this course will receive one-half high school credit.*

Future Michigan Educator Course 2

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 55810

Offered at all KPS middle schools – Grades 7 & 8

This course is designed to provide students who are interested in a career in education with the skills to become a peer educator within their building and become eligible for employment as a peer tutor during summer school. Students will learn strategies for inclusive teaching and how the education system is designed to prepare students for success as an adult. Students will have the opportunities to lead tutor students in small groups and one-on-one tutoring in a supervised setting.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Advanced Band

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60835

Prerequisite: Intermediate Band or equivalent

This class builds upon playing skills and musical knowledge of students who have completed Intermediate Band. Students will study more complex pieces of music. Concert performances, solo and small ensemble performance opportunities will be available. Performing at concerts is an integral part of this class.

Orchestra 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) or 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 60845

This performance-based class will further develop the playing skills and musical knowledge achieved in Grade 7 Orchestra. Course content will also include improvisation, composing, and arranging music within specified guidelines, criticism, evaluation, and listening to music. Students will demonstrate higher levels of music skills and knowledge. Concerts, solo, and small ensemble festival performance opportunities will be provided. Some performances will be required by the instructor.

VOCAL MUSIC

Choir 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60825

Students will demonstrate higher levels of choral music skills and knowledge; will deal with increasingly complex works of music; and will provide more sophisticated responses to works of music. Concerts, solo, and small ensemble performance opportunities will be provided. Students sing a wide range of material, from classical to contemporary, and improve their total musicianship as well as their singing ability. Some performances will be required by the instructor.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Unless otherwise noted, students may choose to take the following courses for one, two, or three trimesters. Every attempt will be made to accommodate student choices.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Elective Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65825

Offered at Linden Grove, Maple St. and Milwood Magnet School only

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course promotes lifetime sports, recreational, and wellness activities that provide an opportunity to refine skills and attitudes that encourage lifelong fitness. Activities will include health-related fitness testing, dynamic stretching, team sports, and individual and dual sports.

Fit 4 Life

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 65865

Scheduling Note: This elective course is taken in addition to the required P.E. course.

This course is designed to promote cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength. An individual strength training program will be implemented with a variety of cardiovascular activities. Students will learn about heart rates, BMI, muscle groups, and equipment utilization.

Healthy Lifestyles/Physical Education

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 45825

Scheduling Note: This course may be elected for one trimester only.

Offered at Linden Grove

Students will combine physical fitness, nutrition education, and positive communicative skills to pursue a healthy lifestyle to promote lifelong fitness. They will assess the effect of food choices on individual wellness, and plan and prepare nutritious foods.

Life Skills 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20835

Offered at Hillside and Linden Grove

This course provides students with a greater depth in the area of consumer living. Instruction includes personal development and self-awareness, food preparation, and basic sewing skills.

WORLD LANGUAGE: CHINESE

Chinese I

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (full year)

Course # 90851

ELIGIBLE FOR 1.0 HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

This course focuses on the basic elements of Chinese and the cultures of the Chinese-speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately, while written communication skills are developed gradually. Students are introduced to a rich variety of activities that develop the communicative skills. Technology is used to reinforce learning.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

WORLD LANGUAGE: SPANISH

Spanish Intermediate

Elective • 1 Trimesters (12 weeks)

Course #90745

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 7 and 8

This course will enhance Spanish communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

Spanish I

Elective • 2 Trimesters (24 weeks)

Prerequisite: Spanish Language Literature II

Course #90885

Eligible for 1.0 High School Credits

This course focuses on the basic elements of Spanish and the cultures of the Spanish speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately while written communication skills are developed gradually. Technology is used to reinforce classroom learning.

KPS students who successfully pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school World Language credit (Spanish) towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple St. Magnet School:

Music 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 60865

Many styles of music from classical to rock n' roll will be discussed and critiqued. Students will experience and gain a better understanding of music past and present.

On Stage 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course #30845

Scheduling Note: This course may be taken only once.

Students will improve their communication skills through drama and theatre. The first part of the course will focus on improvisation and short scenes; the second part will focus on in-class performances of plays, poems, and essays, using both published and student written material.

Musical Theater 6-8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 6067877

This course is for the student that is interested in Musical Theater. Students will have the opportunity to rehearse, perform, direct, and choreograph/stage various scenes from the Broadway genre. In addition to performing and producing, students will learn the historical and cultural significance of various Broadway musicals. All students are expected to both perform and direct/produce. Performances will be both in-class and "main stage" productions.

Spanish Language Literature III

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (Full Year)

Course # 90885

Eligible for 2.0 High School Credits

This Spanish language literature course will expand students' literacy skills in the Spanish language through the exploration of various genres and elements of authentic Spanish language literature and will provide a great deal of opportunity for oral communication. Students will discover major works of literature from the Pre-Colombian period to the present day. Students will develop their writing skills and acquire information from authentic sources in Spanish to develop research projects and advance their understanding of Spanish grammar.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

MAGNET SCHOOLS

Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts (continued from previous page)

The following elective courses are offered only at Maple St. Magnet School:

Arabic Intermediate

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 9080078

Scheduling Note: Available to students in grades 7 and 8

This course will enhance Arabic communication skills. Students will be able to discuss their family, the weather, and everyday activities. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in the present and future tense. They will be able to discuss what they like to do and want to do and be able to discuss what they do during and after school.

Arabic I A, B & C

ELECTIVE • 3 Trimesters (Full year)

Course # 908017, 908018, 908019

Eligible for 1.0 High School Credit

This course focuses on the basic elements of Arabic and the cultures of the Arabic-speaking world. Students begin oral communication immediately, while written communication skills are developed gradually. Students are introduced to a rich variety of activities that develop communicative skills. Technology is used to reinforce learning. *KPS students who successfully pass this course will receive one (1.0) high school world language credit (Arabic) towards the Michigan Merit Curriculum.*

Milwood Magnet School: A Center for Math, Science and Technology

The following elective courses are only offered at Milwood Magnet School:

Digital Imaging 8

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 15855

This course provides students the opportunity to explore and use computers, digital cameras, and state of the art imaging software to create digital art, use creative problem solving and art evaluation. Students will utilize a variety of technology and techniques to achieve creative solutions to artistic problems. Completed work will be used for exhibition and display in the building.

Video B

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks)

Course # 20875

Prerequisite: Video A

Students will be focusing on Chroma Key, manipulation of lighting, saturation, cutting on action, camera shots, and points of view. Throughout the course, students will create three films: *Around the World/Social Justice*, *Inside Out* and *All in One*.

Video C

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester

Course # 20885

Prerequisite: Video B

This course extends the concepts learned from the prerequisite, "Video A". Students will be focusing on manipulating speed, key frames, composition, intended message, copyright, effective audio and natural transitions. Throughout the course, students will be creating four films; Stop Motion, Reverse Speed, Music Video and Time Shifting.

KPS Virtual

The following elective is available at KPS Virtual only:

Current Events (Today's Events, Tomorrow's History)

ELECTIVE • 1 Trimester (12 weeks) • 0.5 Credit, Course can be repeated

Course # 80531VP – KPS Virtual Only

15 hours of service learning required

Students will become actively involved in their school and community as they investigate global issues facing the world. Units include: Preparing to Participate, The Environment, Human Rights and Responsibilities, The Global Economy, International Cooperation and Conflict, and Issue Investigation and Action Plan determined by current global activity.

EARN HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT EVEN BEFORE YOU ENTER HIGH SCHOOL

Eighth grade students have several opportunities to earn high school credit which will count towards graduation, even before entering high school.

Students are eligible to receive high school credit by passing the following courses while still in middle school (8th grade):

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| ▪ Algebra I | 1.0 credit |
| ▪ Basic Design | 0.5 credit |
| ▪ Chinese I | 1.0 credit |
| ▪ Computer Applications | 0.5 credit |
| ▪ Spanish I | 1.0 credit |

TESTING FOR CREDIT

Testing out of a high school course can provide a student the opportunity to earn credit in required courses and move into more challenging advanced learners courses or electives of interest. Students considering testing out should be self-directed learners capable of demonstrating an understanding of the subject area content expectations in the course for which they wish to test out.

The student must score at least 70% or better on the district designated test in order to test out and receive credit. The testing out credit will appear on the transcript and will count towards the total number of credits needed for graduation. However, the score does not translate into a grade and is not part of the GPA calculation for any purpose. When considering the test out option, students need to consider the following:

- 1) the effect on their GPA calculation (this may mean NOT including a potentially high grade in the GPA);
- 2) NCAA requirements; and
- 3) other college admission considerations.

The following test out exams are available to 8th grade students:

- Algebra I
- English 9
- Environmental Science
- World History
- Spanish

For more information, including the testing schedule, talk with your school counselor or call Secondary Education at 337-0168.

SUMMER SPANISH COURSE: LEARN AND EARN

For students unable to fit Spanish into their schedule during the eighth grade, or just interested in an exciting summer learning experience, we are offering Spanish I during the summer. Students desiring to learn Spanish can enroll in the six-week Summer Spanish: Learn and Earn program offered to eighth and ninth grade students in the Kalamazoo Public Schools. Students will be awarded one high school world language credit (Spanish I) for successfully passing the course.

Details will be made available in early May.

LOOKING AHEAD TO HIGH SCHOOL . . .

Like the middle schools, the high schools operate on a trimester schedule. We believe the trimester schedule will help students meet the state increased graduation requirements and provide flexibility in meeting students' needs.

On the trimester schedule, the school year is divided into three, 12-week sections. Grades are issued at the end of each trimester.

Sample School Year on the Trimester Schedule		
1 st Trimester	2 nd Trimester	3 rd Trimester
Fall	Winter	Spring
Begins early September	Begins December	Begins Mid-late March

One-half (0.5) credit will be awarded for each trimester (12-week) course that is successfully passed. Students are scheduled into five, 70-minute courses per trimester. Students can earn 2.5 credits per trimester for three trimesters per year (7.5 credits total per year). A total of 30 credits can be earned by the time the student graduates. Students need a minimum of 26 credits to graduate.

Sample Four-Year Plan on the Trimester Schedule				
Period:		1 st Trimester (12 weeks) FALL	2 nd Trimester (12 weeks) WINTER	3 rd Trimester (12 weeks) SPRING
9th Grade earn 7.5 credits	1 st	• Algebra I 9A	• Algebra I 9B	• Algebra I 9C
	2 nd	• Computer Applications	• Environmental Science A	• Environmental Science B
	3 rd	• World Language I A	• World Language I B	• Honors English 9 B
	4 th	• Honors English 9 A	• World History A	• World History B
	5 th	• Elective	• Elective	• Physical Education
10th Grade earn 7.5 credits 15 credits cumulative	1 st	• Geometry A	• Geometry B	• Health
	2 nd	• World Language II A	• World Language II B	• College Readiness
	3 rd	• United States History A	• Biology B	• Honors English 10 B
	4 th	• Biology A	• Honors English 10 A	• United States History B
	5 th	• Elective	• Elective	• Elective
11th Grade earn 7.5 credits 22.5 credits cumulative	1 st	• Honors English 11 A	• Honors English 11 B	• Elective
	2 nd	• Government & Politics A	• Government & Politics B	• Economics
	3 rd	• Elective	• Science/science-related	• Science/science-related
	4 th	• Algebra II A	• Algebra II B	• Elective
	5 th	• Elective	• Elective	• Elective
12th Grade earn 7.5 credits 30 credits cumulative	1 st	• Elective	• Elective	• Elective
	2 nd	• Elective	• Elective	• Elective
	3 rd	• College English A	• College English B	• Elective
	4 th	• Math/math-related course	• Math/math-related course	• Elective
	5 th	• Elective	• Elective	• Social Studies elective

ENROLLMENT/GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Ninth Grade: Students who enter high school from one of our middle schools are expected to have passed all eighth grade courses.

Minimum number of credits needed for classification as:

Sophomore	Grade 10	5.5
Junior	Grade 11	13.0
Senior	Grade 12	18.5
Minimum number of credits required to graduate		26.0

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following graduation requirements were adopted by the Kalamazoo Public Schools' Board of Education and meet the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). The requirements are subject to review and may change at the discretion of the Board. Any such changes would follow a phase-in process.

Required Credits/Subjects	# of Credits
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
Social Studies	4
Physical Education	.5
Health	.5
Visual, Performing and Applied Arts	1
College and Career Readiness	.5
Computer Applications	.5
World Languages	2
Electives	6-10
MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDITS TO GRADUATE:	26

Additional Requirements for Graduation:

- **MME – Grade 11**
- **20-Hr. Online Experience (*Met in College and Career Readiness course*)**

Within the minimum number of credits required in subject areas, are specific course requirements as listed below:

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

ENGLISH

- 1.0 English 9 or Honors English 9
- 1.0 English 10 or Honors English 10
- 1.0 English 11 or Honors English 11
- 1.0 English or English-related course (senior year)

MATHEMATICS

- 1.0 Algebra I
- 1.0 Geometry
- 1.0 Algebra II
- 1.0 Math or math-related course (senior year)

SCIENCE

3.0 credits are required for graduation. Students must take at least one trimester in each of the following areas of science: Physical Science, Life Science, and Earth Science.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 1.0 World History
- 1.0 U.S. History
- 1.0 Government
- 0.5 Economics
- 0.5 Social Studies elective

STUDENT-ATHLETES

It isn't too early to acquaint yourself with the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)

If you are planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wish to participate in Division I or Division II athletics, you must be certified by the NCAA Initial Eligibility Center. The Eligibility Center ensures consistent application of NCAA initial-eligibility requirements for all prospective student athletes to all member institutions.

Your Responsibility as a Prospective Student-Athlete:

It is your responsibility to make sure the Eligibility Center has the documents it needs to certify you.

These documents are:

- completed and signed Student Release Form and registration form
- completed transcript mailed directly from every high school you have attended
- ACT and/or SAT scores
- Foreign Student Application (if applicable)

To be certified by the Eligibility Center, you must:

Graduate from High School

You should apply for certification if you are sure you wish to participate in athletics as a freshman in the college to which you will be admitted. The Eligibility Center will issue a preliminary certification report when you have had all your materials submitted. After you graduate, if your eligibility information is requested by a member institution, the Eligibility Center will review your final transcript to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards.

Have a GPA of at least 2.3

Earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale of at least 2.3 in a core curriculum of at least 16 (or 14 for Division II) academic courses which were successfully completed during grades 9 through 12. Only courses that satisfy the NCAA definition of a core course can be used to calculate your NCAA GPA. No special values are allowed for "+" or "-" grades

The standards maintain 16 core courses passed, **but 10 of those 16 courses must be completed by the START of the student-athlete's senior year of high school**. Additionally, the new sliding scale for the SAT/ACT will soon be approved with higher test scores required.

For more information about the National Collegiate Athletic Association eligibility requirements, visit www.ncaa.org or contact your high school counselor.

Kalamazoo Public Schools

Every child. Every opportunity. Every time.

2023-2024

Hillside Middle School

1941 Alamo Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269.337.0570

Atiba McKissack, Principal
Kristin Covault, Counselor
Kevin Moore, Counselor

Linden Grove Middle School

4241 Arboretum Pkwy
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269.337.1740

Michael Hughes, Principal
Stephen Spybrook, Counselor
Darien Coffee, Counselor

Maple Street Magnet School

922 W. Maple St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269.337.0730

Jeffrey Boggan, Principal
Dawn Couch, Counselor
Angel Olivarez, Counselor

Milwood Magnet School

2916 Konkle St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269.337.0670

William Hawkins, Principal
Stephanie Simpson, Counselor
Roshonda Wiggins, Counselor

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Kalamazoo Public Schools will not tolerate or condone any act of bias or discrimination toward any person based on religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, pregnancy, gender identification, height, weight, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities or other legally protected factors in any of its activities, programs or services.

This notice complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Michigan Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977. Inquiries by students and/or their parents/guardians should be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, Kalamazoo Public Schools, 1220 Howard Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. All other inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Kalamazoo Public Schools, 1220 Howard Street (337-0100) or to the Director of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C. 20201.