



EAU CLAIRE
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

2019-2020

**Middle School
Academic Planning Guide
Grade 6**

ECASD VISION: "We challenge minds, build relationships and nurture individual growth to prepare all students for post-secondary success."

A link to the online version of this academic planning guide is available on your school's webpage.

If you would like language assistance to interpret these materials, please call your child's school, or 715-852-3555.

Yog koj xav tau tsab ntawv nov txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu xov tooj rau koj tus menyuaam lub tsev kawm ntawv/715-852-3555.

Si Ud. le gustaría ayuda para interpretar el idioma de estos materiales, por favor llame Ud. a la escuela de su hijo o hija, o 715-852-3555.

Equal Educational Opportunities

All ECASD programs and classes (including Career & Technical Education and Project Lead the Way) are available to students regardless of their sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

The District encourages informal resolution of complaints concerning alleged discrimination. If any person believes that the Eau Claire Area School District or any part of the school organization has failed to follow the law and rules of §118.13, Wis. Stats., the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title IX, Title VI, or Section 504 or in some way discriminates against students on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability he/she can bring or send a complaint to Kay Marks, Executive Director of Human Resources, 500 Main Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Ms. Marks can be contacted at 715-852-3051.

The Eau Claire Area School District Non-discrimination policy can be found at <http://www.ecasd.us/ECASD/media/District-Site/PDFs/NondiscriminationPolicy2013.pdf>

Eau Claire Area School District: Multi-level System of Support

Students reach educational targets and benchmarks in different ways. Several factors can impact when students reach proficiency in a course of study. In Eau Claire, our goal is that all students will meet or exceed our benchmarks. Therefore, we work to provide educational services within a framework, known as a Multi-level System of Support (MLSS).

This means that we provide rigorous, differentiated educational programming within our universal coursework. Some students will need additional support and/or enrichment to meet or exceed grade-level benchmarks. Below is an explanation of some of the ways students can be supported in the MLSS framework within the Middle School program.

- **English Learners:** Students who speak a language other than English at home may qualify for English language support. For additional information on EL services, please contact the school's EL teacher or Brianna Smit at 715-852-3140 or bsmit@ecasd.us. You may also contact the district bilingual helpline at 715-852-3555.
- **Gifted Education:** The Eau Claire Area School District provides for the special learning needs of students who exhibit gifted behavior in any of the following areas: General Intellectual Ability, Specific Academic Ability, Artistic Ability (including art, music, drama), Leadership Ability, and Creative Ability.

Students are assessed for appropriate math, science, and language arts placement during their middle school years. If you are interested in learning more about enrichment and/or acceleration, please contact your school counselor or gifted resource teacher. You may also contact the district Gifted Education Coordinator, Michelle Kooiker, at 715-852-3110 or mkooiker@ecasd.us.

- **Special Education:** Special education services may be delivered in a general classroom, pull out environment; or a combination of these options. Individual Educational Plans (IEP) are designed to meet the student's educational needs with accommodations and/or modifications. Course selection decisions are made based on the student's IEP. Most special education courses parallel traditional core academic offerings, but some are significantly modified in content and focus. See your school counselor or IEP manager for more information. You may also contact the district Director of Special Education, Mandy Van Vleet, at 715-852-3074 or mvanvleet@ecasd.us.

Grade 6 Required Courses

6050	Reading 6	Grade 6	Required	Year
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Reading 6 is designed to build students' strengths as readers for learning and enjoyment. Students will work on developing and using strategies for literature as well as informational texts. They will become deep and critical readers who are proficient with texts at or above the sixth grade level. Additional skills development will include: comparing and contrasting; finding main idea and supporting details; literary and informational analysis; and vocabulary development.

6100	English 6	Grade 6	Required	Year
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English 6 emphasizes the teaching of all communicative arts (writing, language, listening, and speaking) in an integrated process. Students will have the opportunity to communicate with narrative, informative and argumentative pieces on self-selected as well as assigned topics. Skills will be taught within the writing process and reinforced with the district-selected materials. Organizational/study skills will also be emphasized.

6200	Math 6	Grade 6	Required	Year
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Mathematics at the sixth grade level provides students an opportunity to explore and master math concepts aligned to the Common Core State Standards for Math Content and Practice. Students will learn about: ratio concepts and reasoning with ratios; performing fraction and decimal operations; writing, interpreting and using expressions, equations and inequalities; solving problems with area, surface area and volume; summarizing and describing distributions and understanding variability. Students will also learn to strengthen their understanding of math concepts by developing Mathematical Practices or habits of mind that lead to deep understanding and proficiency. The primary text used for Mathematics instruction is *Big Ideas Math* by Ron Larson.

6300	Social Studies 6	Grade 6	Required	Year
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The sixth grade social studies curriculum is focused on world geography. Our primary theme is global understanding in combination with the Six Essential Elements of Geography. The sixth grade social studies program will organize geographical concepts and stimulate problem solving, critical thinking, and decision-making skills

6400	Science 6	Grade 6	Required	Year
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Science at middle level is designed to ensure students develop proficiency with scientific practices used by real scientists to answer questions about the natural world. In sixth grade, students will study Chemistry and Science Systems (Solar Systems, Inside Earth Systems, Weather Systems, and Ecosystems). The scientific method, equipment, measuring, and safety are integrated into daily lessons. Students will have many opportunities to observe and perform experiments.

Grade 6 Required Courses

6610	Art 6	Grade 6	Required	Semester
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Art 6 is studio-based and builds on concepts and skills from elementary art classes. Students will be introduced to new art experiences through the process of creating their own works of art in drawing, painting, and sculpture. Students will apply new art-making techniques, develop existing art skills, employ the power of their imaginations, reawaken their creativity and learn to solve problems from an artist's point of view. Students will discover and develop stories within works of art work through self-reflection and critiquing the aesthetic qualities of art. Emphasis will be placed on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design, careers in art and design, a variety of art styles and art history/diversity, developing good craftsmanship, innovative ideas, caring for materials, and working well with others.

6630	Computer Applications	Grade 6	Required	Semester
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Wisconsin Information Technology Literacy Standards will be met as students learn to use Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and PowerPoint. Students will work with scanners, digital cameras, iPads, e-mail, and the Internet. Keyboarding, formatting, composition, language arts, and decision-making skills will improve as students complete assignments using integrated software and web-based applications.

6700	Physical Education 6	Grade 6	Required	Year - Alternate Days
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The sixth grade curriculum will provide activities emphasizing total fitness. Emphasis is placed on participation and skill development. Teamwork, cooperation, fitness, and effort are all stressed at this level. A physical education shirt purchased from the school is required.

Grade 6 Music Electives

6900	Band 6	Grade 6	Meets Music Requirement	Year - Alternate Days
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Sixth Grade Band is a class for students who wish to learn to play a band instrument. No previous music experience is necessary. Free lessons are given during the summer to all beginning band students. Students will learn the basics of playing a band instrument including maintaining the instrument, reading music, and learning to perform in a large group. The student's choice of instrument must be approved by the band director. Participation in concerts will constitute part of the student's grade. Beginning band class meets every other day in a group sectional with similar instruments. This course has a dress code for all performances.

6910	Chorus 6	Grade 6	Meets Music Requirement	Year - Alternate Days
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Chorus Six is designed to give students a chance to experience the elements of music through singing and performing in concerts. Emphasis will be placed on building musicianship by developing healthy singing techniques, as well as competency in beginning music theory. Opportunities may be available for students to perform solos and participate in select ensembles. Students will be expected to perform in concerts, and participation in these concerts will make up a portion of the student's grade. This course has a dress code for all performances

6920	Exploring Music 6	Grade 6	Meets Music Requirement	Year - Alternate Days
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Exploring Music Six is designed to give sixth grade students a chance to experience the elements of music through singing, playing piano keyboards, listening, and performing in class. It will include sight singing and ear-training activities as well as a broad study of many types of music.

6930	Orchestra 6	Grade 6	Meets Music Requirement	Year - Alternate Days
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Sixth Grade Orchestra is for students who want to play a stringed instrument such as the violin, viola, cello, bass, or harp (students need previous experience to start harp in sixth grade). Free lessons are given during the summer to all sixth grade orchestra students. Participating in concerts will constitute part of the student's grade. Beginning orchestra meets every other day as an orchestra with all string instruments. This course has a dress code for all performances. Students may be expected to purchase some supplies.