



## Middle School – Grade 6

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# Academic Planning Guide

*The Academic Planning Guides are also available on your school's webpage.*

### **Language Assistance**

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

Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov ntawv nov ua lus Hmoob, thov hu xov tooj rau koj tus menyam lub tsev kawm ntawv los yog hu tus xov tooj no: 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

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All ECASD programs and classes (including Career & Technical Education) 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>

## Equitable Multi-level System of Supports (EMLSS)

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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 an Equitable Multi-Level System of Support (EMLSS) framework.

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 EMLSS framework within the Middle School program.

### English Learners:

Students who speak a language other than English at home may qualify for English language (EL) support. Contact your school's EL teacher or the Director of Student Services.

Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Director of Student Services, Misti Trowbridge	715-852-3188	<a href="mailto:mtrowbridge@ecasd.us">mtrowbridge@ecasd.us</a>

**Talented and Gifted Education:**

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 may be assessed for appropriate math, science, and language arts placement during their middle school years. Contact your school’s instructional coach or the Director of Secondary Programming.

Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Director of Secondary Programming, Tim Mulrain	715-852-3068	<a href="mailto:tmulrain1@ecasd.us">tmulrain1@ecasd.us</a>

**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, IEP manager, or the Director of Special Education for more information.

Name	Phone Number	Email Address
Director of Special Education, Dana McConnell	715-852-3077	<a href="mailto:dmcconnell1@ecasd.us">dmcconnell1@ecasd.us</a>

**Course Credit Requirements:**

The District has established standard credit requirements for high school graduation. All required credits must be earned by completing the course with a minimum passing grade while the student is enrolled in the grades 9-12 in the high school. Students in the Talented and Gifted program in middle school may enroll in high school courses; however, credits earned count as middle school courses only and will not impact high school grade point average. Middle School courses will be listed on a student’s high school transcript to ensure sequence of coursework will be followed. Students will need to complete the required number of credits for each high school department during grades 9-12.

## Grade 6

## Required Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Length of Course	Description
6100	English Language Arts 6	Year	Emphasizes the teaching of all communicative arts (writing, language, listening, and speaking) in an integrated process. Students will work on developing and using strategies for literature as well as informational texts and will become critical readers who are proficient with texts at or above grade level. Additional skills development will include comparing and contrasting; finding main idea and supporting details; literary and informational analysis; and vocabulary development. 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	Year	Provides students an opportunity to explore and master math concepts aligned to the state standards for math content and practice. Students will learn about ratio concepts and reasoning, fraction and decimal operations, expressions, equations and inequalities, surface area and volume, distributions and 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.
6300	Social Studies 6	Year	Focuses on world geography with the primary theme being global understanding in combination with the six essential elements of geography. Students will organize geographical concepts while using problem solving, critical thinking, and decision-making skills.
6400	Science 6	Year	Designed to ensure students develop proficiency with scientific practices used by real scientists to answer questions about the natural world. Students will study chemistry and science systems (solar, earth, weather, and ecosystems) The scientific method, equipment, measuring, and safety are integrated into daily lessons and students have opportunities to observe and perform experiments.
6610	Art 6	Semester	Studio-based curriculum which 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. They 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 artwork 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 6	Semester	Focus on Wisconsin Information Technology Literacy Standards 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	Year – Alternate Days	Provide activities emphasizing total fitness with an emphasis on participation and skill development. Teamwork, cooperation, fitness, and effort are all stressed at this level. A T-shirt will be provided to meet the dress code requirement for class.

## Grade 6

*Music Electives*

✓ All courses meet the Music requirement.

Course Number	Course Name	Length of Course	Description
6900	Band 6	Year-Alternate Days	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 with similar instruments. This course has a dress code for all performances.
6910	Chorus 6	Year-Alternate Days	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	Year-Alternate Days	Designed to give Grade 6 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	Year-Alternate Days	A class 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 Grade 6. Free lessons are given during the summer to all Grade 6 orchestra students. Participating in concerts will constitute part of the student's grade. Beginning orchestra meets with all string instruments. This course has a dress code for all performances. Students may be expected to purchase some supplies.