

# Westpine Middle School

## Course Description (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)



### Language Arts

(#10010100)

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 6 students, using texts of appropriate complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

### Advanced Language Arts

(#10010200)

### High Achiever Language Arts

(#1001020A)

### Gifted Language Arts

(#1001020G)

The purpose of this course is to provide grade 6 students, using texts of high complexity, advanced integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness. Academic rigor is more than simply assigning to students a greater quantity of work. Through the application, analysis, evaluation, and creation of complex ideas that are often abstract and multi-faceted, students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on the content they are learning.

### Mathematics

(#12050100)

In Grade 6, the focus is on four critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking.

### Advanced Mathematics

(#12050200)

In this Grade 6 Advanced Mathematics course, focus is on six critical areas: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking; (5) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; and (6) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations.

### GEM Mathematics

(#1205010H)

The sixth grade GEM curriculum includes all of the Florida Math Standards for grades six through eight. It is a rigorous course that moves at a rapid pace. This course is designed for mature, mathematically talented students and requires students to spend time beyond the school day reviewing course content and completing assignments.

### General Earth Science

(#20010100)

This course emphasizes laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. Laboratory investigations in the middle school classroom will help all students develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work, as well as the skills to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations.

**Advanced Earth Space Science (#20010200)**  
**High Achiever Earth Space Science (#2001020A)**  
**Gifted Earth Space Science (#2001020G)**

This course emphasizes laboratory investigations in the middle school classroom will help all students develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work, as well as the skills to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations. Learners will understand measurement error; and learn the skills to aggregate, interpret, and present the resulting data

**General World History (#21090100)**

The primary content for this course pertains to the world's earliest civilizations to the ancient and classical civilizations of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Students will be exposed to the multiple dynamics of world history including economics, geography, politics, and religion/philosophy. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents.

**Advanced World History (#21090200)**  
**High Achiever World History (#2109020A)**  
**Gifted World History (#2019020G)**

The primary content for this course pertains to the world's earliest civilizations to the ancient and classical civilizations of Africa, Asia, and Europe. Students will be exposed to the multiple dynamics of world history including economics, geography, politics, and religion/philosophy. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents. This course offers scaffold learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc. Students will develop and demonstrate their skills through participation in a capstone and/or extended research-based paper/project (e.g., history fair, participatory citizenship project, mock congressional hearing, projects for competitive evaluation, investment portfolio contests, or other teacher-directed projects). <sup>SEP</sup>

**Intensive Reading (#10000100)**

The purpose of this course is to provide instruction that enables students to accelerate the development of reading and writing skills and to strengthen those skills so they are able to successfully read and write middle grade level text independently. Instruction emphasizes reading comprehension, writing fluency, and vocabulary study through the use of a variety of literary and informational texts encompassing a broad range of text structures, genres, and levels of complexity. Texts used for instruction focus on a wide range of topics, including content-area information, in order to support students in meeting the knowledge demands of increasingly complex text. Students enrolled in the course will engage in interactive text-based discussion, question generation, and research opportunities. They will write in response to reading and cite evidence when answering text dependent questions orally and in writing. The course provides extensive opportunities for students to collaborate with their peers. Scaffolding is provided as necessary as students engage in reading and writing increasingly complex text and is removed as the reading and writing abilities of students improve over time.

**Novel Studies (#1700000A)**

The purpose of this course is to engage students with accelerated reading opportunities through high interest novels. Students will enhance their reading skills by discovering the complexities of text through project based learning.

**SVE Courses for ESE (#78 classes)**

The five courses beginning with 78 are courses for students who qualify for an ESE self-contained classroom. Students will study in each subject area as defined above according to their IEP goals and current level of performance in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and reading/learning strategies.

## **Beginning Band**

**(#13020000)**

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. *Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from the school or an outside source.*

## **General Music**

**(#13010900)**

Students explore the essential elements of music in America (e.g., jazz, rock, soul, blues) and global cultures (e.g., Latin, Bollywood, European, Asian, world drumming). Students reflect on the significance of social influences and historical events on the development of music. Participants focus on the creation, use, and performance of music; and the modes of listening, distributing, and gaining access to music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## **Drama**

**(#1700000A)**

Students explore various performance, technical, and administrative aspects of theatre. Students learn about basic characterization through physical activity, reading selected theatre literature, reading and writing theatrical reviews, and analysis of such tools as scripts, costuming, and theatrical makeup.

## **Peer Counseling**

**(#14000000)**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop awareness of self and others. Emphasis will be on acquisition of basic skills for thoughtful planning, peer facilitation, effective communication and making healthy choices. The content includes peer facilitating, human needs, self awareness and expression, peer pressure, peer and family relationships, conflict resolution, goal setting, social skills, active listening, personal choices, healthy lifestyles and effects of stress.

## **2-D Art**

**(#01010100)**

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

## **STEM/Robotics**

**(#1700000S)**

Construct, build and propel yourself through the exciting hands-on STEM adventure! Students will utilize Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to complete project based tasks, some including the creation and programming of robots.

## **Physical Education**

**(#15080000)**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness, which are critical for students' success.

## **Speech/Debate**

**(1007000)**

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. The content should include, but not be limited to, the following: learning and practicing a variety of speech formats, learning and demonstrating appropriate formal and informal public speaking techniques for audience, purpose, and occasion. Eye contact and body movements, voice register and choices of language, Using research and writing skills to support selected topics and points of view, across a range of disciplines, using a range of sources, including digital collaboration amongst peers, especially during the drafting and practicing stages.

### **Beginning Spanish**

**(#070800A)**

Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are emphasized.

### **Beginning French**

**(#0701000)**

Introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are emphasized.

### **Photography/Yearbook**

**(#1700000F)**

Students explore the aesthetic foundations of art using beginning photography techniques. This course may include, but is not limited to, color and/or black and white photography via digital media and/or traditional photography. Processes and techniques for image capture and printing may include, but are not limited to, handcrafted pinhole cameras, hand tinting photographs, mixed media, photo collage, cross-processing, emerging technologies and new media. Content covers the basic mechanics of a camera, including lens and shutter operation, compositional foundations, printing an image for display, and evaluating a successful print. Craftsmanship and quality are reflected in the surface of the print, care of the materials, attention to compositional conventions, and expression of personal ideas and feelings. Student photographers use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works.

### **Business CTACE**

**(#82002200)**

Students will explore various programs in the Microsoft Office Suite in order to begin meeting competencies necessary for Industry certification.

### **Journalism/Digital Media/Web Design**

**(#17000001)**

Students will learn to use a variety of digital media to relay relevant information to a variety of audiences. Students will learn to create and maintain websites, conduct daily monitoring announcements, and create digital photographs and video.

### **Speech I\***

**(#1007300M)**

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as they apply to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Students in this course will compete in speech and debate tournaments.

### **HOPE\***

**(#3026010M)**

The purpose of this course is to develop and enhance healthy behaviors that influence lifestyle choices and student health and fitness. Students will realize the full benefit of this course when it is taught with an integrated approach.

### **Spanish 1\***

**(#0708340M)**

Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.