



# **Chippewa Valley Schools**

## **Middle School Course Offerings**

**Algonquin – Iroquois – Seneca – Wyandot**

# Chippewa Valley Middle Schools 3-year plan of study

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

English Language Arts 6A and 6B

Math 6A and 6B

Science 6A and 6B

Social Studies 6A and 6B

Passport to Success\*

### **Elective Options:**

Introduction to Art

Band\*\*

Communication-Speak, Share, Connect

Choir\*\*

Physical Education – Be Well, Play Well

Technical Education – Introduction to Technology

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

English Language Arts 7A and 7B

Math 7A and 7B

Science 7A and 7B

Social Studies 7A and 7B

Physical Education & Health -Fit for Life\*

### **Elective Options:**

Art Exploration

Band\*\*

Everyday Essentials

Choir\*\*

Code On!

Middle School Moguls

Technical Education – Engineering Design

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

English Language Arts 8A and 8B

Math 8A and 8B

Science 8A and 8B

Social Studies 8A and 8B

Passion to Paycheck\*

### **Elective Options:**

AI in Action

Band\*\*

Physical Education – Team Up! Compete and Stay Healthy

Choir\*\*

Technical Education – Woodworking

Studio Art

Science Seekers

World Language (French, German, or Spanish)\*\*

\*required course

\*\*year-long course

*Remember when selecting elective courses that some classes are semester while others are year-long.*

“A” is the first semester part of the course, “B” is the second semester.

## **SIXTH GRADE**

### **Core Classes**

*Core classes are those in which all students will be enrolled.*

#### English/Language Arts

Over the course of sixth grade, students will study literature of various genres and informational text including literary nonfiction. This course follows a standards-based curriculum that focuses on deepening comprehension of complex texts, making inferences that are based upon textual evidence, determining thematic and character development, understanding claims and evidence, and applying those skills across complementary texts. Time will also be devoted to the development of academic vocabulary.

#### Math

Mathematics instruction and learning in sixth grade develops students' abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations related to everyday life. Students focus on the areas specified by the Michigan State Standards for Mathematics for sixth grade including concepts such as using ratio and reasoning to solve problems, applying and extending previous understandings of operations to rational numbers, using variable expressions, equations and inequalities to represent quantitative relationships, using various models to solve one and two variable equations and inequalities, and analyzing & presenting statistics in a variety of ways.

#### Science

In sixth grade, students will investigate three real-world phenomena every day. *Can I Believe My Eyes?* includes students investigating how light moves through space. *How Can I Smell Things from a Distance?* includes investigations involving volumes of different substances. *Where Have All the Creatures Gone?* includes examining why food is essential, how organisms need different structures to eat and reproduce, and exploring the relationships between organisms. They will study these phenomena using the best Next Generation Science Exemplary practices (NGSX), used by career scientists and engineers.

#### Social Studies

The sixth-grade social studies curriculum uses a thematic approach to introduce students to world geography and global issues. Students explore the five themes of geography, fundamentals of economics, core democratic values and the purpose of government, factors affecting both population movement and growth, culture, and the ways in which humans interact with the environment.

### **Required Course**

#### **Passport to Success (Semester-long)**

This semester-long course is for sixth grade students to be successful in middle school and beyond! Divided by thematic units, students will explore German, French and Spanish language and culture, while also learning important life, technology, and academic skills. This course will foster independence and shape future course opportunities.

## **Selective Classes**

*Selective classes are designed to provide each child with the support he or she requires for success. Students are assigned to these classes based on data. These classes are not options for students to choose during scheduling.*

### **English Success (Year-long)**

The ELD program supports students' acquisition of the English language for both academic and social purposes. Instruction focuses on the skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening across core academic content areas. Students placed in this program have a home or native language other than English and have not reached proficiency on the WIDA assessment as defined by the State of Michigan. The goal of the program is for students to be proficient in all aspects of the English language.

### **English Immersion (Year-long)**

This two-hour block class provides both foundational English language development and English language arts curriculum at an appropriate level for students who have recently arrived in the United States and/or are in the earliest stages of English language acquisition. Students will learn the basics of English for both academic and social purposes. Instruction will focus on students' immediate needs of basic communication and cultural adaptation in a positive setting that supports beginning foundational language acquisition. Additionally, the four domains incorporated throughout lessons, activities, and assignments will include listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. Throughout the learning process, students are provided accommodations and scaffolds that meet their current English proficiency level.

### **Math Success (Semester or Year-long)**

Math Success is a supportive class designed to help students strengthen their math skills, build confidence, and address gaps in understanding. Through a combination of classroom instruction and adaptive software, students receive personalized lessons tailored to their individual needs. This approach allows students to learn, practice, and review while also providing targeted remediation to reinforce foundational skills as needed. By focusing on both current coursework and essential math concepts, students gain the support they need to improve and succeed.

### **ELA Success (Year-long)**

ELA Success is a targeted reading intervention class for middle school students, based on assessment data. Teachers monitor progress to identify and address learning gaps, focusing on key elements of literacy, including vocabulary, background knowledge, decoding, and fluency. Using research-based strategies, this course helps students build confidence and strengthen reading skills for success in their general ELA class and beyond.

### **Accelerated Math – 6<sup>th</sup> grade (Year-long)**

*Prerequisite: Placement determined by data team, completion of summer work*

This course will replace the core math class. Students will learn at a faster pace while diving deeper into the math content of seventh grade standards. Mathematics instruction and learning will develop students' abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations related to everyday life. Students focus on the areas specified by the Michigan State Standards for Mathematics for seventh grade including concepts such as analyzing proportional relationships and using them to solve mathematical problems, modeling and solving real-world problems using equations and inequalities, understanding and using properties of geometric figures for two-dimensional & three dimensional figures, analyzing data using probability models and concepts, learning integer operations. *This course is for the serious math student who plans to take AP Calculus (AB/BC) to potentially earn college math credit in high school.*

## **Elective Classes**

*Elective classes are those in which students may choose to enroll.*

### **Band 6 (Year-long)**

The beginning band class offers instruction on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments with a focus on the performance skills necessary for long-term student success. Instruments (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and percussion kits) are typically provided by families. The sixth grade band performs a minimum of two concerts per year. Instruction includes:

- Proper posture and playing position
- Development of characteristic tone quality
- Basic training in music literacy

### **Choir 6 (Year-long)**

Students will learn to sing a variety of vocal music styles using proper vocal technique in the context of performance preparation. Essential skills of musicianship will also be explored and practiced including rhythm study, ear training and sight singing. Concerts showcase the talents and efforts of the students.

### **Communication – Speak, Share, Connect (Semester-long)**

This course focuses on building effective communication skills, fostering positive peer relationships, and navigating today's multimedia world. Students will practice verbal and non-verbal communication in various contexts. Hands-on projects and group activities will develop critical thinking, creativity, and responsible digital citizenship. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to communicate meaningfully with others.

### **Introduction to Art (Semester-long)**

Dive into the exciting world of artmaking and design. You'll learn to transform your ideas into meaningful and personal art pieces. Whether you're painting, drawing, or designing, this class is your canvas to express yourself and discover the artist within you!

### **Physical Education – Be Well, Play Well (Semester-long)**

Get ready to have fun, stay active and learn new skills in Be Well, Play Well! This exciting course introduces team sports, basic fitness activities, and important health topics in a way that's engaging and easy to follow. Whether you're a beginner or already love sports, you'll get to move, play and build confidence while learning how to make healthy choices for a strong and active life.

### **Technical Education - Introduction to Technology (Semester-long)**

Students will be learning and understanding the design process to create multiple projects in the computer lab and shop. Students will be involved in using machines, tools, and various materials in problem solving activities. Students will be challenged to design, produce, test and analyze a product using the technology systems model.

## **SEVENTH GRADE**

### **Core Classes**

*Core classes are those in which all students will be enrolled.*

#### English/Language Arts

Over the course of seventh grade, students will continue to study literature of various genres and informational text. This course follows a standards-based curriculum focused on deepening reading comprehension, application, literary response, analysis, and vocabulary development. Writing to communicate ideas and information using conventional writing skills is woven throughout instruction in narrative and informational areas.

#### Math

Mathematics instruction and learning in seventh grade develops students' abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations related to everyday life. Students focus on the areas specified by the Michigan State Standards for Mathematics for seventh grade including concepts such as analyzing proportional relationships and using them to solve mathematical problems, modeling and solving real-world problems using equations and inequalities, understanding and using properties of geometric figures for two-dimensional & three-dimensional figures, analyzing data using probability models and concepts, learning integer operations.

#### Science

In seventh grade, students will investigate three real-world phenomena. *Why Do Some Things Stop While Others Keep Going?* where students are immersed in investigating the transfer and conversion of energy as they explore everyday situations and objects. The *What Makes Weather Change?* unit focuses on what causes variation in local weather events and global climate patterns. *What is Going on Inside Me?* includes relationships between food and energy, as well as how organ systems function. They will study these phenomena using the best Next Generation Science Exemplary practices (NGSX), used by career scientists and engineers.

#### Social Studies

The seventh-grade social studies curriculum focuses on early world history and geography from early man through 1500 AD/CE. Students begin their exploration into world history with a focus on historical thinking. They explore major themes and significant changes in each era through chronological organization.

### **Required Course**

#### **Physical Education and Health - Fit for Life (Semester-long)**

Get ready to move, play, and compete in this high-energy course that combines team sports, fitness training, and essential health education to help you stay active and make smart choices for a healthy lifestyle. This course fulfills a state requirement to teach specific health standards.

## **Selective Classes**

*Selective classes are designed to provide each child with the support he or she requires for success. Students are assigned to these classes based on data. These classes are not options for students to choose during scheduling.*

### **English Success (Year-long)**

The ELD program supports students' acquisition of the English language for both academic and social purposes. Instruction focuses on the skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening across core academic content areas. Students placed in this program have a home or native language other than English and have not reached proficiency on the WIDA assessment as defined by the State of Michigan. The goal of the program is for students to be proficient in all aspects of the English language.

### **English Immersion (Year-long)**

This two-hour block class provides both foundational English language development and English language arts curriculum at an appropriate level for students who have recently arrived in the United States and/or are in the earliest stages of English language acquisition. Students will learn the basics of English for both academic and social purposes. Instruction will focus on students' immediate needs of basic communication and cultural adaptation in a positive setting that supports beginning foundational language acquisition. Additionally, the four domains incorporated throughout lessons, activities, and assignments will include listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. Throughout the learning process, students are provided accommodations and scaffolds that meet their current English proficiency level.

### **Math Success (Semester or year-long)**

Math Success is a supportive class designed to help students strengthen their math skills, build confidence, and address gaps in understanding. Through a combination of classroom instruction and adaptive software, students receive personalized lessons tailored to their individual needs. This approach allows students to learn, practice, and review while also providing targeted remediation to reinforce foundational skills as needed. By focusing on both current coursework and essential math concepts, students gain the support they need to improve and succeed.

### **ELA Success (Semester-long)**

ELA Success is a targeted reading intervention class for middle school students, based on assessment data. Teachers monitor progress to identify and address learning gaps, focusing on key elements of literacy, including vocabulary, background knowledge, decoding, and fluency. Using research-based strategies, this course helps students build confidence and strengthen reading skills for success in their general ELA class and beyond.

### **Accelerated Math – 7<sup>th</sup> grade (Year-long)**

*Prerequisite: Placement determined by data team, completion of summer work*

This course will replace the core math class. Students will learn at a faster pace while diving deeper into the math content of eighth grade standards. Mathematics instruction and learning will develop students' abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations related to everyday life. Students focus on the areas specified by the Michigan State Standards for Mathematics for eighth grade including concepts such as understanding models of and comparing linear and exponential relationships, analyzing systems of linear relationships, understanding and applying the relationships used within the Pythagorean Theorem, using transformations to justify congruence and similarity of two-dimensional figures and two variable data analysis. *This course is for the serious math student who plans to take AP Calculus (AB/BC) to potentially earn college math credit in high school.*



## **Elective Classes**

*Elective classes are those in which students may choose to enroll.*

### **Band 7 (Year-long)**

The intermediate band class is for students who have a foundation of basic music literacy, instrument assembly and maintenance, proper playing position, and sound production. Instruction continues to focus on the refinement of tone quality, technique, aural skills, and music literacy. Students may have the opportunity to transition to instruments that were not offered in sixth grade. These instruments include oboe, bassoon, French horn, euphonium, and tuba. Seventh grade students will participate in a minimum of 3 performances. Skill development includes:

- Concert F, Bb, Eb & Ab major scales
- Basic chromatic scale
- Understanding of whole, half, quarter, eighth and dotted half rhythms
- Understanding of 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, and 2/2 time signatures

### **Choir 7 (Year-long)**

Students will learn to sing a variety of vocal music styles using proper vocal technique in the context of performance preparation. Essential skills of musicianship will also be explored and practiced including rhythm study, ear training, and sight singing. Concerts showcase the talents and efforts of the students.

### **Art Exploration (Semester-long)**

Explore and experiment with both 2D and 3D materials to bring your artistic visions to life. This course is all about mixing it up and creating unique, personal art pieces that truly express who you are. Get ready to think outside the box and have fun with your creativity!

### **Code On (Semester-long)**

Learn the essentials of programming in this beginner computer science course. No experience required – just curiosity. You'll build confidence with core coding concepts, write your first programs, and develop problem-solving skills used by software developers every day.

### **Everyday Essentials (Semester-long)**

In everyday essentials, students will gain practical life skills that prepare them for real-world situations at home and beyond. Through engaging, hands-on activities and real-world applications, students will build confidence and independence in everyday tasks, setting a strong foundation for future responsibilities. Students will walk away with a guidebook of everyday essentials.

### **Middle School Moguls (Semester-long)**

Entrepreneurship is the process of starting and running a small business, turning ideas into opportunities to solve problems or meet needs. In this course, students will explore what it means to be an entrepreneur by learning how to create and grow their own business ideas. They'll develop essential skills like problem-solving, teamwork, and budgeting, while using multimedia tools such as videos, presentations, and digital design to share and promote their ideas. By the end of the class, students will understand the basics of starting a small business and feel confident about bringing their creative visions to life!

### **Technical Education – Engineering Design (Semester-long)**

Students will be reviewing the technology systems model to design, produce, test and analyze a CO<sub>2</sub> car. During the design process, students will learn and understand how to create their cars in Autodesk Inventor (CAD). Once designs are created, students will then move into the manufacturing process to create their cars in the shop and ultimately race in a competition. Students will be involved in using machines, tools and various materials in problem solving activities.

## **EIGHTH GRADE**

### **Core Classes**

*Core classes are those in which all students will be enrolled.*

#### English/Language Arts

Over the course of eighth grade, students will continue to study literature of various genres and informational text. This course follows a standards-based curriculum focused on deepening reading comprehension, application, literary response, analysis, and vocabulary development. Writing to communicate ideas and information using conventional writing skills is woven throughout instruction in narrative and informational areas. Students will express information and enhance understanding of presentation through strategic use of digital media and a variety of visual representations.

#### Math

Mathematics instruction and learning in eighth grade develops students' abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations related to everyday life. Students focus on the areas specified by the Michigan State Standards for Mathematics for eighth grade including concepts such as understanding models of and comparing linear and exponential relationships, analyzing systems of linear relationships, understanding and applying the relationships used within the Pythagorean Theorem, using transformations to justify congruence and similarity of two-dimensional figures and two variable data analysis.

#### Science

In eighth grade, students will investigate three phenomena that occur every day in the real world. The *How is the Earth changing?* unit focuses on plate tectonics and builds on key ideas related to conservation of matter, convection, and energy transfer. *Why do organisms look the way they do?* is organized around heredity, variation within and between species, and natural selection. The goal of *How will it move?* is to allow students to identify the forces that are involved in many real-world situations. They will study these phenomena using the best Next Generation Science Exemplary practices (NGSX), used by career scientists and engineers.

#### Social Studies

This course introduces students to the history of the United States from the colonies under British rule through Reconstruction. Students review the ideas and principles that form the basis of our constitutional republic, study the United States Constitution, explore the challenges faced by the new nation, analyze the nature and effect of territorial, demographic, and economic growth in the 19th century, and study the Civil War and Reconstruction.

### **Required Course**

#### **Passion to Paycheck (Semester-long)**

This course is designed for middle school students to lay the foundation for understanding the world of work and managing personal finances. Through interactive lessons, discussions and practical activities, students will develop skills and knowledge essential for future career planning and financial independence.

**\*Students taking band or choir and a world language will be exempt.**

## **Selective Classes**

*Selective classes are designed to provide each child with the support he or she requires for success. Students are assigned to these classes based on data. These classes are not options for students to choose during scheduling.*

### **English Success (Year-long)**

The ELD program supports students' acquisition of the English language for both academic and social purposes. Instruction focuses on the skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening across core academic content areas. Students placed in this program have a home or native language other than English and have not reached proficiency on the WIDA assessment as defined by the State of Michigan. The goal of the program is for students to be proficient in all aspects of the English language.

### **English Immersion (Year-long)**

This two-hour block class provides both foundational English language development and English language arts curriculum at an appropriate level for students who have recently arrived in the United States and/or are in the earliest stages of English language acquisition. Students will learn the basics of English for both academic and social purposes. Instruction will focus on students' immediate needs of basic communication and cultural adaptation in a positive setting that supports beginning foundational language acquisition. Additionally, the four domains incorporated throughout lessons, activities, and assignments will include listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. Throughout the learning process, students are provided accommodations and scaffolds that meet their current English proficiency level.

### **Math Success (Semester or year-long)**

Math Success is a supportive class designed to help students strengthen their math skills, build confidence, and address gaps in understanding. Through a combination of classroom instruction and adaptive software, students receive personalized lessons tailored to their individual needs. This approach allows students to learn, practice, and review while also providing targeted remediation to reinforce foundational skills as needed. By focusing on both current coursework and essential math concepts, students gain the support they need to improve and succeed.

### **ELA Success (Semester-long)**

ELA Success is a targeted reading intervention class for middle school students, based on assessment data. Teachers monitor progress to identify and address learning gaps, focusing on key elements of literacy, including vocabulary, background knowledge, decoding, and fluency. Using research-based strategies, this course helps students build confidence and strengthen reading skills for success in their general ELA class and beyond.

### **Accelerated Algebra 1 (Year-long)**

*Prerequisite: Placement determined by data team, completion of summer work*

Algebra 1 is the study of functions and representations. Key areas of study include linear, exponential, and quadratic functions as a means to model real-world situations and solve problems. Students extend their study of linear functions through systems of equations and inequalities. *This course is for the serious math student who plans to take AP Calculus (AB/BC) to potentially earn college math credit later in high school.*

## **Elective Classes**

*Elective classes are those in which students may choose to enroll.*

### **Band 8 (Year-long)**

The advanced band class is for students who want to expand their performance skills on their chosen instrument. Instruction continues to focus on the refinement of tone quality, technique, aural skills, and music literacy. Eighth graders will participate in a minimum of 3 performances. Skill development will focus on:

- Concert C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db Major Scales (2 octaves where appropriate)
- Introduction of minor scales
- Full-range chromatic scale
- Understanding of whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth and dotted rhythms
- Understanding of simple and compound time signatures
- Private lessons are encouraged but not required.

### **Choir 8 (Year-long)**

Students will learn to sing a variety of vocal music styles using proper vocal technique in the context of performance preparation. Essential skills of musicianship will also be explored and practiced including rhythm study, ear training, and sight singing. Concerts showcase the talents and efforts of the students.

### **AI in Action (Semester-long)**

Step into the fascinating world of Artificial Intelligence and see how it is transforming everything around us! In this class, you will explore how AI works and how it is used to solve real-world problems. From understanding how machines learn, to experimenting with coding; you will dive deep into the technology that is shaping your future. Become an AI innovator and discover the incredible potential of intelligent machines and data. Join us to unleash your creativity and be part of the tech revolution. Let's explore the amazing world of AI together.

### **Studio Art (Semester-long)**

Step into the world of Studio Art! This course is your creative playground where you can explore sculpture, painting, drawing, digital and more. Discover studio art concepts while crafting meaningful, personal masterpieces that reflect your unique style. Let your imagination run wild and bring your art to life.

### **Physical Education – Team Up: Compete and Stay Healthy (Semester-long)**

Get ready to refine your skills and elevate your game in Team Up: Compete and Stay Healthy. This dynamic course challenges students with team sports strategies and fitness training to enhance athletic performance and overall wellbeing. Through competitive game play and practice, students will develop the physical and mental skills needed for long-term success in sports and fitness.

### **Science Seekers (Semester-long)**

Are you seeking more action-packed science? In this hands-on elective, you'll build, create, experiment, and explore your way through the amazing world of science. Learn more about topics such as engineering, animals, the human body, chemistry, and space while doing interactive labs, creative projects, and engaging experiments. Expand your knowledge while you unleash your inner scientist!

### **Technical Education – Woodworking (Semester-long)**

Students will be reviewing the technology systems model to design, produce and analyze their projects. Students will be trained in our CNC software to create custom designs. They will use layout, drilling, sanding, cutting, finishing, and assembly techniques to complete their projects. Students will be involved in using machines, tools, and various materials in problem solving activities.

### **World Language – French, German, or Spanish (Year-Long, for High School Credit)**

*If selected as a Preferred Elective, data review will determine eligibility*

*Students may select French, German, or Spanish.*

This first-year course includes an overview of the culture with language integration. It will include listening, conversing, reading and writing. Students will use the language to gain a global perspective.