

Computer Pathway

Computers 1

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Computer literacy is an essential skill in the 21st century, and having an understanding of the digital world is more important now than ever. Want to learn all about Google and what is offered in G-Suite? This one-semester course offers students tools such as digital citizenship, social media safety, keyboarding, Google Suite of applications, web 2.0 tools, and even Minecraft. This is a prerequisite course for Computer II.

Computers 2

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: D- or higher in Computers 1

Computer literacy is an essential skill in the 21st century, and having an understanding of the digital world is more important now than ever. This one-semester course will continue to build on the concepts covered in Computers 1. Other content will range from coding, AI, and cybersecurity to mobile app development, podcasting, graphic design, and more.

Computer Science Pathway

Computer Science Discoveries 1

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Computer Science Discoveries 1 is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. Computer Science Discoveries 1 is designed to be an accessible and engaging course for all students, regardless of background or prior experience. It provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover problem-solving and computing, web development, and animations and games.

Computer Science Discoveries 2

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: grade of D- or higher in Computer Science Discoveries 1

Computer Science Discoveries 2 is a computer science course that builds on Computer Science Discoveries 1, continuing to empower students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. The course provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover the design process, data and society, and physical computing.

Everyone Can Code/Introduction to Python Programming

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Everyone Can Code introduces students to core coding concepts using the Swift programming language. Students use real Swift code to solve puzzles and create projects. Students will be introduced to the Python programming language. This will help prepare students for the Python class at the high school.

Project Lead the Way Pathway (PLTW)

Project Lead the Way (PLTW 1): Design & Modeling

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Design and Modeling (DM) provides students with opportunities to apply the design process to creatively solve problems. Creating a prototype and constructing items with a 3D printer will be part of the course.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW 2): Flight & Space

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: D- or higher in PLTW 1

The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through the Flight and Space (FS) unit. Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars

Project Lead the Way (PLTW 3): Automation and Robotics

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: D- or higher in PLTW 1

Students are given the opportunity to combine mechanisms with input and output devices to automate the mechanisms. Construction and programming skills are layered, and projects and the problem provide students the opportunity to connect their learning throughout the lessons in the unit. Students take on the role of interns and work in teams to identify design requirements and create prototypes to meet the needs of clients. They also explore different aspects of automation and robotics and experience how solving real-life problems involves the teamwork of mechanical engineers, software developers, and electrical engineers.

Physical Education Elective: This fulfills the physical education requirement.

Physical Education 6

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course focuses on improving students' fitness levels. Students will engage in daily fitness and team sport activities in order to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance and flexibility. This course will provide students with information about finding and tracking their heart rate, as well as basic health and nutrition information. Regular class discussion will include self-motivation, self-pacing, teamwork, fair play and related topics.

Fine and Performing Arts Electives:

Beginning Choir

Length of course: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

This course is a semester long option for students starting out and interested in becoming better singers through performance. This class focuses on the basics of vocal production, professional performance practices, self-confidence and learning to read music. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts. The Beginning Choir will perform 2 concerts per semester. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students may sign up for both semesters of Beginning Choir. Students may also audition after 1 semester with the potential to move into Intermediate or Advanced Choir (per director approval).

Full Year Intermediate Choir

Length of course: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Credit in Beginning Choir and/or permission from/audition with Ms. Pedersen

This course is a full-year option for students serious about continuing to develop their singing voices through performance. This class focuses on beginning and advanced vocal production, professional performance practice, self-confidence and continuing to learn to read music. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts and performances at MSVMA Choir Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSVMA Solo and Ensemble Festival. **Audition permission from the teacher is required.** Students may audition after the first semester with the potential to move into Advanced Choir (per director approval).

Full Year Advanced Choir

Length of course: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Credit in Beginning and/or Intermediate Choir and/or permission from/audition with Ms. Pedersen

This course is a full-year option for students serious about continuing to develop their singing voices through performance. This class focuses on advanced vocal production, professional performance practice, self-confidence and continuing to learn to read music. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts and performances at MSVMA Choir Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are highly encouraged and available through MSVMA Solo and Ensemble Festival. **Audition permission from the teacher is required.**

Beginning Band

Length of course: 1 Year

Prerequisite: None

This course is a year long option for students starting out and interested in learning to play band instruments in an ensemble setting. This class focuses on the basics of instrumental sound production, professional performance practices, self-confidence and learning to read music. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts. The Beginning Band will perform 2 concerts per year. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students may also

audition after 1 semester with the potential to move into Intermediate or Advanced Band (per director approval). May be taken more than one year if necessary.

Intermediate Band (Concert Band)

Length of course: 1 Year

Prerequisite: Credit in Beginning Band and/or permission from/audition with band director

This course is a full-year option for students serious about continuing to develop their instrumental abilities through performance. This class focuses on beginning and advanced instrumental techniques production, professional performance practice, self-confidence and continuing to learn to read music. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. **Audition permission from the teacher is required.**

Students may audition after the first semester with the potential to move into Advanced Band (per director approval).

May be taken more than once.

Advanced Band (Symphony Band)

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Previous band experience and director approval/audition with band director

This course is a full-year option for students serious about continuing to develop their instrumental skills through performance. Placement in this class will be decided based on playing skills, practice habits, effort, and instrumentation. Students in this class will push their individual skill development and their ensemble skills to the next level. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students must be willing to practice at home regularly and must bring their instrument to class. Placement in this course for the first semester does not guarantee a spot for the entire year. If effort, practice habits, or class behavior is not meeting expectations removal may occur. **Audition permission from the teacher is required. May be taken more than once.**

Introduction to Art

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Art will give students the opportunity to work with multiple different materials including watercolor paint, tempera paint, drawing, digital art, metal tooling, and clay. We will use the elements of art as a guide while we work our way through each project. You do not have to be an amazing artist to try to make art, you just have to want to try. ***This is a prerequisite for any ART 1.***

Art 1

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: D- or higher in Introduction to Art or teacher approval

This class will continue strengthening the skills learned in Introduction to Art. Students will get the opportunity to explore even more mediums such as paper mache, oil pastels, textiles, and printmaking as well as continue working on painting, drawing, digital art, metal tooling and clay. We will continue using the elements of art and principles of design as a guide

for us as we work our way through each project. You do not have to be an amazing artist to try to succeed in this class, you just have to want to try. ***This is a prerequisite for ART 2.***

Art 2

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: D- or higher in Art 1 or teacher approval

This class will continue strengthening the skills from Art 2. Students will begin learning about different art styles and what materials are appropriate within those styles. Working in areas such as painting, drawing, sculpting, 3-D building, mixed media, and more, this class takes a step into much more advanced thinking and creating and students should have the drive to truly further their art making abilities. ***This is a prerequisite for any of the specialized art classes.***

Art History

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Students will have the opportunity to learn about the history of some of their favorite artists. We will talk about how art has evolved over the years, as well as do some fun activities and crafts to fully understand these major moments in art history. This is not your typical art class, but if you are someone who enjoys learning fun facts, making crafts, and wants to possibly continue into an art related job field, then this is the class for you!

Core Enrichment Electives

Budget Math

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Have fun while learning valuable math life skills. Students will “interview” for a job, find a “home”, and support themselves and their fictional family on their income. Some topics we will take a close look at include: how to balance a checkbook and how to balance a family budget.

Careers 1

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

A nine-week introductory dive into six career zones (Natural Resources and Agriculture, Arts and Communication, Human Services, Health Science, Business, Management, Marketing and Communication and Engineering, Manufacturing, and Industrial Technology.) We also explore and reinforce essential employability skills (teamwork, problem solving, creativity, organization, time management, etc.) ***This is a required course for all sixth grade students.***

Health

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This class focuses on the following health topics during the marking period: Communicable diseases; nutrition and exercise; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; social and emotional health; and puberty and relationships. Students will

explore these topics through partner discussion, group discussion and skits, whole class discussion, real life examples, and video usage for examples. Most work is done in class, but there will be a few assignments to be completed at home. Physical activity is also a portion of the student's grade. Participation is required.

National Parks

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Learn the history of the National Park system and learn how preservation of this beautiful land first started. Then travel through 4 specific National parks as you get ready to explore others on your own. As a class we will look at Death Valley National Park / Yellowstone / Acadia / Everglades. Later you will explore other parks that interest you and plan a 3 day trip (maybe someday you will actually be able to explore this park with your family or friends using YOUR plan)

Poetry

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Read Write Recite - Through poetry, students will gain an understanding of writing styles and techniques, develop an appreciation for the power of poetry, and build reading, writing and speaking confidence.

Science Adventures

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

A way to explore science outside of the typical science curriculum. Students will take concepts they are learning in class and dive deeper, allowing them to understand how things work, make real world connections, and develop their skills as a scientist. Students will also have the chance to see how science really does connect to other subjects in school (especially math). Get ready for an adventure through science!

Travel Math

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Learn math in a fun new way! Study decimals, percentages and more while traveling through and learning about different United States National Parks.