

Eagle Ridge Middle School

2009-2010 Sixth-Grade Course Catalog

Sixth-grade students are assigned to interdisciplinary teams. A group of two to four teachers share the same schedule and the same students. The teachers meet daily to plan instruction that crosses all curricular areas. All district and state requirements in each curriculum area are met. The following areas are included in the interdisciplinary teams:

Required Year-long Courses for Sixth-Grade Students

Course Number	Core Subject	Course Description
116098	Language Arts	This course features reading, writing, and oral communication skills. Students read short stories and novels while expanding their vocabulary, improving comprehension, and developing reading strategies. Emphasized are grammar, punctuation, capitalization, parts of speech, and spelling. Students write for a variety of purposes and learn about sentence structure, multi-paragraph essays, and writing techniques.
126098	General Math 6	Designed to provide a mathematical foundation for students living in a world of rapidly developing technology, this core subject gives students the opportunity to apply and connect old and new knowledge. Students will investigate graphs and statistics, decimal operations, pattern and number sense, fraction operations, geometry, ratio, proportion and percent, area and volume, integers, and be introduced to algebra and probability.
136098	Earth Science	Students will study the structure of Earth systems, Earth's history, weather, and Earth in the solar system. Life and physical science will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the school year. The understanding of scientific process, basic measurement tools, and organization skills are introduced. Basic laboratory and safety skills are emphasized through student centered activities, with emphasis given to practical implications and every day applications that are meaningful to students.
146098	World History/Geography	The focus of this course is on the geography and history of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The geography curriculum includes the use of maps and globes, geographical terms, place locations, climate, latitude, longitude, time zones, the earth's physical features and how they affect human life. World History includes the past and present history, cultures and economies of the area. The foundations of culture, ancient civilizations and how they have influenced modern culture are also studied.

Special Education: Eagle Ridge Middle School offers a continuum of Special Education services designed to meet individual needs while facilitating the development of independent skills.

Related Arts classes will be offered based on enrollment. Sixth grade students will be enrolled in an exploratory rotation, assigned by the computer, consisting of four related arts classes OR one full-year of band, orchestra, mixed chorus, or gifted seminar and two semester classes randomly assigned.

Full-Year Related Art Classes*

Course Number	Course Name	Course Description
161228	Beginning Band	This class is for all students who wish to play a band instrument. No previous experience is necessary to enroll in this class. Students will learn the basics of playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Performance uniforms will be black pants/skirts and a white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. . Some school instruments are available for a fee. Fundraisers may be done during the school year. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
163228	Advanced Band	This class is open to all students who already play a band instrument. Previous musical experience is necessary to enroll. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been made. Uniforms will be black pants/skirts and white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. Fundraisers may be done during the school year to help pay for trips we take during the year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. Placement in this class is through teacher approval only. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
161238	Beginning Orchestra	This class is for all students who wish to play a stringed instrument. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn the basics of playing a violin, viola, cello or bass. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
163238	Advanced Orchestra	This class is open to all students with at least one year of experience with the violin, viola, cello or bass. Students who play the harp may be admitted upon the recommendation of a private teacher. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.

164218	Mixed Chorus	This course is open to any student who enjoys singing and performing. No previous choir experience is necessary. Students will learn proper singing techniques, basic music reading skills and sing a variety of musical styles. The Chorus students will have the opportunity to go on several field trips throughout the school year. Attendance at concerts and competitions is required. Some fundraising will be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
396008	Gifted Seminar 6	The curriculum varies according to each student's needs and interests. Class members are encouraged to work with the teacher to design projects which will allow them to examine their intellectual passions and how they relate to their future goals. Also, group projects are offered to help develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of the importance of valuing everyone's unique perspective. An IEP is required to enroll in this class.
170098	Leadership	This course is associated with the US Air Force Auxiliary. The class will touch on a number of NM Benchmarks and Standards through the aerospace education program. Standards include science, technology, engineering and math. Additionally, leadership skills involving marching, physical fitness, exercise, color guard and teamwork will be emphasized. A fee may be assessed.

Exploratory Semester Related Art Classes*

Course Number	Course Name	Course Description
196008	Exploratory Art	The art curriculum for this class will emphasize problem solving and understanding of the creative process. The focus will be on the studio experiences that develop drawing, painting and sculpting skills. Students will develop an awareness of art through history and various cultures. The basic elements and principles of design will be taught and practiced.
196108	Exploratory Consumer Science	Students will spend the first portion of the semester learning basic hand sewing techniques while working cooperatively together in a group. Each group will produce a crazy quilt baby blanket that will be donated to the LINUS Project after it is placed on display in the school. During the second part of the semester students will learn the basics of cooking while using a variety of cooking tools and equipment. Some fundraising may be done during the school year.
176008	Exploratory Computers	This course will teach students to master typing skills using the touch method. They will learn the alphabet, number and symbol keys and their proper use. Research papers, book reports, title pages, outlines bibliographies and letters are among some of the production work taught in this semester course. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are emphasized.
196008	Exploratory Performing Arts	Students in this class will learn basic singing, public speaking, dancing and acting skills. This class will culminate in a performance held for parents. Participation in this performance is mandatory. This class meets New Mexico performance standards.
166208	Exploratory Music	This course will provide a general understanding of music. The class will learn simple songs, play simple percussion instruments, learn the history of music, and how to read music.
156098	Exploratory PE	This course is designed to introduce students to basic physical fitness and health concepts that promote total health. Students will participate in a variety of cooperative games, fitness activities, assessments, and team sports.
186018	Study Skills Reading	This course is offered to help struggling students with reading comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary. Students are identified for this program by their teams using data obtained from NWEA and SBA reading scores. Students read fiction and non-fiction booklets accompanied by skills-based handouts and quizzes. Whole class literacy instruction is also provided. This course is assigned to students based on teacher recommendations and reading scores.
186218	Study Skills Math	This course is offered to help struggling students with math skills. Students are identified for this program by their teams using data obtained from NWEA and SBA math scores. Individualized instruction as well as whole group instruction is used to assist students struggling to obtain proficiency. This course is assigned to students based on teacher recommendations and math scores.
118018/118028	Read 180	The READ 180 elective is designed to deliver individualized, adjusted reading instruction to move students who are currently 2 or more grade levels behind in their reading skills to their appropriate reading level. The program provides practice and application skills in multiple contexts to increase achievement by supporting and motivating students through the use of sophisticated software and motivating literature which helps students break out of the failure cycle and become confident, successful, lifelong readers and learners. NWEA and SBA reading scores as well as teacher recommendations are used to place students in this class.
111808	ESL	The goal of English as a Second Language (ESL) class is to strengthen the speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills of students who first learned a language other than English. Special emphasis is on vocabulary development, reading comprehension, and grammatical structure. Students are placed in this ESL class based on their proficiency score on the New Mexico English Language Proficiency Assessment, or NMELPA.

***All course offerings are dependant on sufficient funding.**