

GRADES 7 & 8

MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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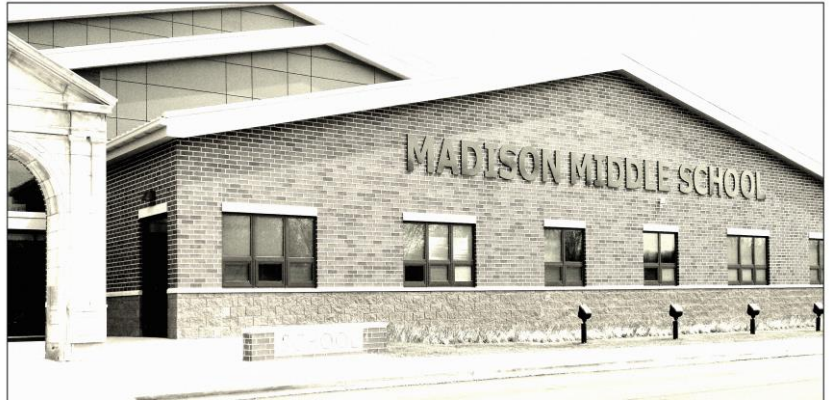
Jonathan M. Muro, Principal

Andrew Kepple, Asst. Principal

Allison Moncheck, Guidance Counselor

Jody Kurtz, Secretary

LuAnn Oglesbee, Secretary



Dear Parent/Guardian,

February 21, 2018

As we continue to celebrate the success and achievement that our students have made this year, it is also important to plan for the future! In scheduling for the 2018-2019 school year, there will be some choices amongst electives that students will have based on the opportunities available to them. In the coming weeks Ms. Moncheck, guidance counselor, will be visiting classes to meet with students to schedule classes online for next school year.

To prepare students for the scheduling choices they will need to make, this letter is provided to communicate what options there are for grades six, seven, and eight for next school year as illustrated below:

Grade:	Required:	Choices:(<i>students cannot take Band and Choir</i>)	Notes:
6th Grade:	Design and Model (semester)	-Band OR Choir (full year course)	If neither Band or Choir are chosen, the student will take <u>Art</u> one semester, and <u>PE</u> the other semester.
	Technology (semester)		
7th Grade:	Computer Science (9 weeks)	-Band OR Choir (full year course)	If neither Band or Choir are chosen, the student will take <u>PE</u> one semester and then <u>choose</u> their semester course for the other semester.
	Automation & Robotics (9 weeks)	-Art (semester course)	
	Health (semester)	-Healthy Lifestyles (semester course)	
8th Grade	App Creator (9 weeks)	-Band OR Choir (full year course)	If neither Band or Choir or Spanish is chosen, the student will take both <u>Art</u> and <u>Healthy Lifestyles</u> . *If a student chooses Spanish as well as Band or Choir, the student will not take App Creator, Science & Technology, or PE
	Science of Technology (9 weeks)	-Spanish (full year course, HS credit)*	
	PE (semester)	-Art (semester course) -Healthy Lifestyles (semester course)	

Course descriptions can be found on the back of this letter. A letter will be mailed to the student at the end of July to notify you when finalized schedules can be picked up at our office. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Moncheck in our office for any scheduling questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. Muro
Principal

Ms. Moncheck
Guidance Counselor

App Creators – This unit exposes students to computer science as a means of computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and conveys the positive impact of the application of computer science.

Art - Students will be introduced to a variety of vocabulary words, artists and art making materials. The goal is to introduce the students to many techniques and mediums, allowing them to have a broader view of art education. In addition to studio work, students will focus on disciplines such as art criticism, aesthetics, and art history. This approach allows for less emphasis on studio work, giving students a positive art experience regardless of ability.

Automation and Robotics – Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

Band – 7th/8th grade band is a class where students continue developing their wind and percussion instrumental technique, ensemble skills, and music literacy skills through rehearsing and performing a wide variety of musical styles. Students rehearse every day, and perform in 3 to 4 concerts during the year. The Director(s) will assess each student's skill development in rehearsals and concerts for a letter grade. All students are required to participate in all performance opportunities. Students in middle school band are also encouraged to be a part of the MS jazz band and woodwind choir that meet throughout the week.

Choir - Develop musical skills through singing choral literature appropriate for the middle school ages. All choir members will work on vocal pedagogy, performance etiquette, proper technique, and music expression. Various performance opportunities are offered throughout the year.

Computer Science – Throughout the unit, students learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects.

Design and Modeling – Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

Health – 7th grade Health is a semester long class that explores Wellness, Environmental Health and First Aid, Nutrition and Fitness, Teen Dating Violence, the 11 Body Systems, Abstinence, & Substance Abuse in an effective real-life application of evidence based learning to enhance and promote lifetime healthy behaviors.

Healthy Lifestyles - Healthy Lifestyles is a Family and Consumer Sciences course that teaches students kitchen safety and sanitation, food and nutrition, personal finance, and academic and career planning skills. Students get the opportunity to participate in cooking labs about once a week throughout the semester to practice various culinary skills.

PE – Physical Education focuses on individual and team activities while emphasizing lifelong physical fitness.

Science and Technology – Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. Students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to STEM activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nano-materials.

Spanish – An advanced pace high school course on the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Basic conversation, reading, writing, and listening skills are taught on a variety of topics such as foods, family, pastimes, sports, and school. Hispanic holidays are celebrated to experience the traditions of many Spanish-speaking countries.

Technology – Technology is a semester course where students learn how to type correctly using finger-key association. In addition, students also learn the basics on how to type documents, create spreadsheets and presentations using Microsoft Office.