



B E R K L E Y
S C H O O L S

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE



Anderson Middle School

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Core Academic Curriculum

English Language Arts.....	1-2
Mathematics.....	3-4
Science.....	5
Social Studies.....	6-7
Special Education.....	8

Elective Course Offerings

World Languages.....	9
Family and Consumer Science.....	10
Physical Education.....	11
Fine and Performing Arts.....	12-14
Computer Technology.....	15-16
Additional Elective Offerings.....	16

Core Curriculum

English Language Arts

English Language Arts 6

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

This course focuses on strategies to improve reading and writing skills. Students learn strategies for reading and understanding a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. Through their participation in Readers Workshop, students will build independence and stamina while reading books at their appropriate reading level. Instruction is provided through explicit teaching and modeling, individual feedback given during teacher-student conferences and supported independent reading time. As recommended by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), reading units expose students to the two main text types: fiction and nonfiction. Units of study for sixth grade students include: Informational Reading, Investigating Characters Across a Series, Reading as a Researcher, Exploring the Past Through Historical Fiction, Analytical Reading of Fiction, Exploring Social Issues and Author Study. Writing strategies are explicitly taught through modeling, conferring and supported practice. Feedback is critical and provided through teacher-student conferences and assessment of writing. Students will write a number of pieces for each of the three text types and purposes identified by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS): Argument, Informative, and Narrative. This course includes a study of vocabulary and language. The CCSS Language Standards to be covered in sixth grade include the parts of speech, and parts of a sentence with special emphasis on pronouns, varying sentence patterns and establishing appropriate tone. Units of study for sixth grade include: Writing the Personal Essay, Writing an Argument Paragraph, Writing the Literary Essay, Informational Writing: Cause and Effect, Personal Persuasive Essay, Letter of Complaint, Realistic Fiction about a Social Issue and Poetry Writing.

English :Language Arts 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

This course focuses on strategies to improve reading and writing skills. Students learn advanced strategies for reading and understanding a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. Through continued participation in Readers Workshop, students build independence and stamina while reading books at their appropriate reading level. Instruction is provided through explicit teaching and modeling, feedback given during individual teacher-student conferences and supported independent reading time. As recommended by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), reading units expose students to three main units of focus: investigating characterization, non-fiction and historical fiction. Units of study for seventh grade students include: Reading Mysteries, Nonfiction Reading for Information, Narrative Nonfiction: Biographies and Memoires, Exploring Social Issues, Reading as a Researcher, Archetypes and Allegory: A Study of Myths and Legends and Appreciating Drama and Poetry. Writing skills are developed through continued participation in Writers Workshop. Writing strategies are explicitly taught through modeling, conferring, and supported practice. Feedback is critical and provided through teacher-student conferences and assessment of writing. Students will write a number of pieces for each of the three text types and purposes identified by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS): Argument, Informative and Narrative. This course includes a study of vocabulary and language. The CCSS Language Standards to be covered in seventh grade include the parts of speech, and parts of a sentence with special emphasis on pronouns, varying sentence patterns, use of phrases and clauses, and precision of language. Units of study for seventh grade include: Writing the Personal Essay, Writing the Literary Essay, Informational Writing: Personal Expertise, Comparing and Contrasting, Research Writing, Developing a Proposal Essay, Writing the Memoire, and Poetry Writing.

English Language Arts 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

This course teaches advanced strategies for reading and understanding an increasingly complex variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. Through their participation in Readers Workshop, students continue to build independence and stamina by reading most books at their level. Students will also prepare for high school reading through whole class shared reading and the study of classic literature. Instruction is provided through explicit teaching and modeling, feedback given during individual teacher-student conferences and supported independent reading time. As recommended by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), reading units expose students to the two main text types: fiction and nonfiction. Units of study for eighth grade includes: Launching Readers Workshop with Experienced Readers, Exploring Science Fiction and Dystopian Literature, Informational Reading, Investigating Characters Across a Series, Reading as a Researcher, Exploring People and Places through Historical Fiction, Developing Analytical Reading and Interpretation, and Reading for Justice and Power: Social Issues. This course continues to develop student writing skills through participation in Writers Workshop. Advanced writing strategies are explicitly taught through modeling, conferring and supported practice. Feedback is critical and provided through teacher-student conferences and assessment of writing. Students will write a number of pieces for each of the three text types and purposes identified by the Common Core State Standards (CCSS): Argument, Informative and Narrative. This course includes a study of vocabulary and language. The CCSS Language Standards to be covered in eighth grade include the parts of speech and parts of a sentence with special emphasis. Units of study for eighth grade include: Writing the Literary Essay, Informational Essay Writing, Argument and Opinion-Editorial Writing, Writing the Persuasive Essay, Raising the Level of the Personal Essay: I Believe Essay, and Leaving a Legacy.

Creative Writing 6

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

This course provides students with an opportunity to explore many forms of creative writing. Through instruction and exploration, students develop an understanding of using and developing short story elements as well as figurative language and poetic devices. Students author a number of creative pieces including short stories, poems, and free writes. Units of study include: Being creative with descriptive, informational, persuasive, and narrative writing. Developing short stories in a chosen genre. Using figurative language to develop poems.

Mathematics

Math 6

Length of Course: Full Year Grade

Level: 6

Prerequisites: 5th Grade Math

Connected Math 6 focuses on developing a strong understanding and usage of rates and ratios. Students will apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers. They will write, interpret, and use expressions and equations, as well as develop an understanding of statistical thinking. Students will solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area and volume. The collaborative structure and format challenges students to make sense, reason abstractly and persevere in solving problems aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Math 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: Math 6

This course will develop a deeper understanding of mathematics by using the Connected Math Program. The students will investigate and become fluent in mathematics by using the Commutative Property and the Distributive Property to solve problems, understand the use of variables in writing symbolic rules and represent relationships using tables, graphs and equations. Students use properties of similar figures to explore reductions, enlargements, translations and the effect scale factor has on an object's area. They will develop the ability to make comparisons of quantitative information using ratios, fractions, decimals, rates, unit rates, percents and to reason in proportional situations. Linear relationships will be interpreted between two variables in a verbal context, table, graph, and equation. Students will solve linear equations and write equations for lines. They will focus on volume and surface area of three dimensional figures, and continue to develop reasoning and problem solving skills. This course is aligned to Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Algebra 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: Math 7

This course will develop a deeper understanding of mathematics using the Connected Math Program. The students in this course will extend their understanding of linear and non-linear functions and explore the Pythagorean Theorem. They will focus on exponential relationships, recognizing and representing quadratic functions and factoring simple quadratic expressions. They will explore long-range expectations in probability situations, learn to make predictions based on theoretical or experimental probabilities, and will continue to develop reasoning and problem solving skills. This course is aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Geometry

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: Algebra 8

Geometry aims to formalize and extend the geometry that students have learned in previous courses. It does this by focusing on establishing triangle congruence criteria using rigid motions and formal constructions and building a formal understanding of similarity based on dilations and proportional reasoning. It also helps students develop the concepts of formal proof, explore the properties of two and three-dimensional objects, work within the rectangular coordinate system to verify geometric relationships and prove basic theorems about circles. Students also use the language of set theory to compute and interpret probabilities for compound events.

Math Strategies 6 (Elective)

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

Math Strategies 6 is intended to support students who need additional support with Math 6 content and strengthening of their general mathematics skills. This course uses a 3 step approach to support students by preteaching upcoming content, reteaching current and previous content, and targeting general math skills using a variety of instructional resources.

Science

Science 6

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

The Mi-STAR science curriculum in 6th grade supports students in developing key knowledge and skills related to real-world Unit Challenges based on the 5E Learning Cycle which are aligned to the NGSS and Michigan Science Standards. In 6th grade the cross-cutting concepts connecting the science units are Systems & System Models and Patterns/Cause & Effect. Units encountered in 6th grade may include The Water Cycle, Investigating and Modeling Body Systems, Chemical Processes in Organism Digestion, Forces & Motion, Plant Growth, Interactions within Ecosystems, and Cycling of Energy and Matter Through Food Webs.

Science 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

The Mi-STAR science curriculum in 7th grade supports students in developing key knowledge and skills related to real-world Unit Challenges based on the 5E Learning Cycle which are aligned to the NGSS and Michigan Science Standards. In 7th grade the cross-cutting concepts connecting the science units are Energy & Matter and Structure & Function. Units encountered in 7th grade may include Creating an Energy Plan, Cycling & Use of Minerals, Moving Thermal Energy, Life Cycle of Building Materials, How Humans Affect Plant/Animal Reproduction, Genetics & Agriculture, Water Chemistry & Quality, and Maintaining Ecosystem Services

Science 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

The Mi-STAR science curriculum in 8th grade supports students in developing key knowledge and skills related to real-world Unit Challenges based on the 5E Learning Cycle which are aligned to the NGSS and Michigan Science Standards. In 8th grade the cross-cutting concepts connecting the science units are Scale, Proportion, & Quantity and Stability & Change. Units encountered in 8th grade may include Natural Selection & Antibiotics, History of Life on Earth, Sound & Light Waves in Communication, Solar System, Forces & Seasons, Weather, Climate & Michigan Agriculture, Natural Hazards, and Climate Change.

Social Studies

Social Studies 6

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

The curriculum introduces students to the physical and human geography of the world. Students explore the tools and strategies that geographers use and the patterns of natural and human characteristics they study through geographic inquiry. Students will focus on the roles of social scientists and explore how these social studies fields are both complimentary and interdependent. An emphasis is placed on using content specific vocabulary to encourage students to develop social science literacy skills. Particular units of focus are Foundations of World Geography, The World in Spatial Terms, Population and Migration, Culture, Human Environment Interaction, Technological Change and Innovation, World Trade and Economic Globalization, and Conflict and Cooperation.

Social Studies 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

The curriculum focuses on ancient history and world geography, with an emphasis on historical thinking. Students learn to decipher how this discipline differs from a geographic perspective. They investigate how historians select, analyze and organize evidence to then use that evidence to create accounts that answer questions and solve problems. Students investigate human history from the beginning to about 1500. They explore major and significant changes in each era through a chronological organization. Particular units of focus are The Beginnings of Human Society, Early Civilizations and the Emergence of Pastoral People, Classical Traditions and Major Empires, Interactions, The Fall of Empires and World Religions.

Social Studies 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

The curriculum introduces students to the history of the United States from the Articles of Confederation to the end of the 19th century. Using primary and secondary sources, as well as historical thinking, they explore time and place in 19th century America. Students review the ideas and principles that form the basis of our constitutional republic and further their understanding of American government with an in-depth study of the United States Constitution. They explore the challenges faced by the new nation and the role of political and social leaders in meeting those challenges. An emphasis is placed on the early attempts to abolish or contain slavery and the realization of the Declaration of Independence for all. Students study the multiple causes, key events, and complex consequences of the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students learn to use historical evidence to both support historical arguments and construct historical narratives.

Current Events 6 (Elective)

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore what is happening in the world around them. Students will read and discuss the local, national and world news using credible sources while checking for bias within those sources. Since this is a current events class, topics are constantly changing and dependant on present events. Lastly, students taking this course will learn how to make a difference in their community and world by getting involved in social action projects.

Special Education

Resource Room English Language Arts

Length of Course: Full year

Grade Level: 6-8

Prerequisite: IEP Team / Caseload Teacher recommendation/assignment

This course is designed to provide the student with instruction in basic reading skills, reading comprehension, reading fluency, and written expression. Seventh and eighth graders typically are also enrolled in a grade-level Language and Literature class.

Resource Room Math

Length of Course: Full year

Grade Level: 6-8

Prerequisite: IEP Team / Caseload Teacher recommendation/assignment

This course is designed to provide the student with instruction in math calculation and math problem solving, typically off grade level. Students that participate in resource room math are provided with direct instruction and use a variety of tools, manipulatives, and technology.

Learning Resource Center (LRC)

Length of Course: Full year

Grade level: 6-8

Prerequisite: IEP Team / Caseload Teacher recommendation

This class is designed to meet specific educational needs of students, relating to their IEP. In addition, LRC provides students with support and focuses on study skills, organization, use of time, and decision-making. LRC is not a homework completion course. Students are expected to bring work home each night.

World Languages

Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture

Length of Course: Year

Grade Level: 7 and 8

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture is an elective course recommended prior to taking Spanish 1. The purpose of the class is to provide an engaging and interactive introduction to the Spanish language and culture. A variety of vocabulary and grammar will be taught in connection with culture through speaking, listening, reading and writing activities to allow for students to gain context as they begin to learn the Spanish language.

Spanish 1

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7 or 8

Prerequisites: Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture strongly recommended

In Spanish 1, the student begins to develop the four linguistic skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Culture is interwoven throughout the units. The student will compare and make connections between his/her culture and the Hispanic world and community. Spanish I is designed for beginner and near-beginner students. Students increase language proficiency through the study of the themes listed in the Michigan World Languages Standards. Students will develop their ability to listen, speak, read and write in the target language. Culture is interwoven throughout the units. Students will compare and make connections between their own culture and those of Spanish-speaking worlds and their respective communities.

Spanish 2

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: Successful Completion of Spanish 1

Spanish II is designed for students who have successfully completed the first year of a language. Students increase language proficiency through the study of the themes listed in the Michigan World Languages Standards. Students will develop their ability to listen, speak, read and write in the target language. Culture is interwoven throughout the units. Students will compare and make connections between their own culture and those of Spanish-speaking world and their respective communities.

Family and Consumer Science

Family and Consumer Science 6

Length of Course: Quarter

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

This course focuses on developing skills for healthy and independent living. Emphasis is on kitchen safety and sanitation, reading and understanding recipes, nutritional guidelines, measurement skills, cooking techniques and nicotine education. Students will also learn about personal reproductive health, emphasizing the normal changes and challenges of adolescent growth.

Family and Consumer Science 7

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

This hands-on course takes a fresh look at preparing and serving creative foods. Students explore the discipline of sewing by completing a hand and machine sewn project. Students participate in experiences which help to prepare them for becoming an independent person. This course emphasizes alcohol, marijuana/THC, and reproductive health awareness.

Family and Consumer Science 8

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

Students have the opportunity to explore their personal skills and interests to determine possible career pathways. This course also explores cooking techniques, food preparation, table setting, table manners, etiquette, critical thinking and communication skills. The health component brings to light the magnitude of teenage parenthood through an optional mechanical baby experience. It addresses the dangers of illicit drug use and mental health awareness.

Physical Education

Physical Education 6

Length of Course: 10 Weeks

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

Most of what is taught in the 6th grade revolves around building fundamental skills as they relate to the different sports. Looking at the mechanics of shooting a basketball, serving a volleyball, throwing a frisbee are examples of what 6th grade physical education focuses on. The end result is that the student has a proper foundation on which to build on. The emphasis on playing is to promote sportsmanship, fair play along with the idea of playing with others of all different skill levels. At no point should the game be more important than the students who are participating. Along with sports there are also different games the students will be able to enjoy. These games are meant to be fun while engaged in activities that require a good amount of fitness.

Physical Education 7

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

In the 7th grade the students expand on the fundamentals they learned in 6th grade. Different kinds of basketball shots, more advanced volleyball serves, different ways to throw and catch a frisbee. This approach is the same in any sport the students will come into contact with. The emphasis on playing is to promote sportsmanship, fair play along with the idea of playing with others of all different skill levels. At no point should the game be more important than the students who are participating. Along with sports there are also different games the students will be able to enjoy. These games are meant to be fun while engaged in activities that require a good amount of fitness.

Physical Education 8

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

The 8th grade student will begin to look at strategies used in the different sports they play. Offensive and defensive responsibilities and how they interact with team play. A chance to create their own version of plays and then share those ideas with teammates. The emphasis on playing is to promote sportsmanship, fair play along with the idea of playing with others of all different skill levels. At no point should the game be more important than the students who are participating. Along with sports there are also different games the students will be able to enjoy. These games are meant to be fun while engaged in activities that require a good amount of fitness.

Music

Orchestra 6

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 5th grade orchestra or director approval

This course introduces ensemble playing, independent rhythm/counting and ear-training. Musicianship skills such as sight-reading and instrument geography are developed. The skills needed to perform as an ensemble and follow a conductor continue to be developed. The student's understanding of posture, intonation, rhythm and counting are solidified. The student's ability to read music is developed. Students will participate in various concert experiences. Method Book: *Standard Literature between Grades 1-2.*

Orchestra 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 6th grade orchestra or director approval

Students will continue to expand from basic techniques and will be introduced to more advanced techniques: including shifting, vibrato and advanced bowing. Students learn to become independent in tuning their instruments. Students will be assessed in group and individual performances. Students will have the opportunity to participate in MSBOA events: Solo and Ensemble Festival and Orchestra Festival. There will be in-district concert opportunities as well as auditions for the BOA Scholarship program and auditioning for Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Learning will include music from a method book as well as standard literature between Grades 2-2.5.

Orchestra 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 7th grade orchestra or director approval

Students will continue to expand from basic techniques and will be introduced to more advanced techniques: including shifting, vibrato and advanced bowing. Students learn to become independent in tuning their instruments. Students will be assessed in group and individual performances. Students will have the opportunity to participate in MSBOA events: Solo and Ensemble Festival and Orchestra Festival. There will be in-district concert opportunities as well as auditions for the BOA Scholarship program and auditioning for Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Learning will include music from a method book as well as standard literature between Grades 2.5 – 3.

Band 6-8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6-8

Prerequisites: Successful completion of previous grade band or director approval

Students will learn and improve upon tone, technique, rhythm, intonation, and interpretation. They will be assessed on individual and group performances. Relationships between music and other disciplines outside of music are explored. Students work on improvisation skills and analyze music from a historical and cultural context as they listen to, analyze, describe and evaluate music performances. *Essential Elements Books I and II* and selected repertoire are the classroom material used. Students participate in various concert experiences.

Choir 6

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: Prior experience in choir or director approval

Sixth Grade Choir is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in music through performance. Students learn to sing with proper technique, expression, accuracy and a wide variety of literature. Students will sing music written in unison and two-parts and compose short pieces using solfege. Students will read whole, dotted half, half, quarter notes and rests in 4/4 and 3/4 time and identify and define standard notation symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation and expression. Students participate in various concert experiences during the school year.

Choir 7

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 6th grade orchestra or director approval

In addition to the 6th grade curriculum, students will learn to sing music written in three parts and be introduced to the bass clef. Students will read at sight melodies in the treble and bass clef, which include intervals of M3/m3, and evaluate the quality and effectiveness of music performances by themselves. Students participate in various concert experiences during the school year.

Choir 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 7th grade orchestra or director approval

Eighth Grade Choir builds off the choir curriculum in 6th and 7th grades. Students will sing music written in two and three parts, read simple melodies in both the treble and bass clef, and sight read examples in major keys up to three sharps or flats. Attention is given to the elements of music: tension, release and balance. Students participate in various concert experiences during the school year.

Fine and Performing Arts

Art

Art 6

Length of Course: 10 Weeks

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

6th grade art is a 10 week, hands-on exploratory art class. Students develop an understanding of visual culture, the five step creative process, and imaginative image making. Students explore various artists/styles and a variety of tools and media, such as drawing, ceramics, sculpture, painting, and digital arts.

Art 7

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

7th grade art is a semester long exploratory art class. Student artists continue to examine visual culture and the five step creative process. Emphasis is placed on developing basic drawing skills, understanding the elements and principles of design, and exploring various artists/styles. Student artists continue to experience familiar tools and techniques and are introduced to more complex art making processes such as printmaking and jewelry. Skills and practices are scaffolded for more advanced art making concepts in 8th grade art.

Art 8

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

8th grade art is a semester long class and is designed to nurture independent artists (with guidance). Projects are based on students' research where they design the outcome. Realistic drawing is practiced daily in a sketchbook. Student artists continue to examine visual culture and the five step creative process while emphasis is placed on developing intermediate drawing skills, applying knowledge of the elements and principles of design and color theory, and exploring various artists/styles. Student artists are encouraged to independently explore familiar tools and techniques to make more independent artistic choices. Skills and practices are scaffolded for more advanced art making concepts in high school.

Computer 6

Length of Course: 10 Weeks

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: None

This course focuses on two key components of computing that will aid students in the future, in both school and beyond. The two components are typing and coding. Students will practice and hone their typing skills through a variety of methods. Secondly, students will begin learning what it means to code a computer to accomplish a challenge presented to them. Thirdly, students will start an investigation into 3D animation. They will be tasked to do this in two formats that are geared towards MS students. The “drag and drop” method will be explored along with learning what javascript coding actually looks like. Lastly the students will be tasked with looking at other computer tools such as photoshop and Google Drawings.

Computer 7

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisites: None

This course is a continuation of what students started in 6th grade computers. Taking 6th grade computers is not a prerequisite for this course. Students will continue to perfect their typing skills through the same tool used previously. Coding will also be taught with some of the same tools from the previous class and new programs will be introduced. The new program could be used to program Lego robotics in either 7th or 8th grade Robotics. Also, students will continue their investigation into 3D animation. Students will also be tasked with creating a number of computer based projects. Also, the students will start an investigation into 3D design and 3D printing.

Robotics 1 (Lego Robotics)

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 7-8

Prerequisites: None

In this course students will learn how to program a LEGO robot through a virtual program that is designed to mimic what a real life LEGO robot would function. Once they have learned some programming they will work in groups to create their own groups robot to accomplish a task that is similar in nature to what they had just learned in the virtual world. The students will have their robots try to complete a predetermined course. Some of the components the student will use in their robots will be touch sensors, light sensors, ultrasonic sensors, and gyroscopic sensors. Students will also be given the opportunity to compete in an online virtual robot competition with the possibility of moving up through various stages in the competition.

Robotics 2 (Tetrix Robotics)

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

In this course students will learn how to build and operate a radio controlled robot. This will be done through the students working in groups to design and build a radio controlled robot to complete a specific task. As the semester progresses the students will be tasked with incorporating a LEGO robot into their radio controlled robot, to mimic what they could see in a FIRST robotics competition as a member of the Robotic Team at the high school. Students will also be given the opportunity to compete in an online virtual robot competition with the possibility of moving up through various stages in the competition.

Coding for Web Design

Length of Course: Semester

Grade Level 7

Prerequisites: None

This course will introduce the students to the computer languages that are used to create a website. They will learn the basic computer language of HTML that puts all of the things one might see on a website. They will also learn CSS which makes all of the components of a website pretty and eye-catching. Lastly they will learn Javascript that makes all of the pretty components make a website more functional. They will be investigating both Google Sites and Dreamweaver programs.

Media

Length of Course: Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

This course offers students a chance to report, film and produce Anderson Middle School's daily video newscast. Using state of the art equipment, students will access the green-screen production room to create a daily professional newscast which is broadcasted throughout the school. Students will also report, write, and sell *The Viking Beat* school newspaper. Students have the opportunity to experiment with different forms of media and use their creativity to produce a variety of news and projects.

Yearbook

Length of Course: Year

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisites: None

In this 21st century, cross curricular, project-based class, students work collaboratively by using technology such as digital cameras and photo editing software to digitally produce a yearbook. Students use writing skills, communication skills and creativity to tell the story of the school community and peers in an engaging way. Students demonstrate knowledge of graphic design and think creatively when organizing information within the yearbook. In this course, students think critically to meet deadlines, track goals, and utilize multimedia to market information that aligns with and models an actual business.

LINK

Length of Course: Year

Grade Level: 7-8

Prerequisites: None

Students who elect to be a LINK in lieu of another elective class serve as a peer to peer support for a student or students in special education either in a resource room class or a general education class. Additional school activities are often planned through out the year as well to allow for LINKS and their peers to be a social support as well.

Academic Strategies

Length of Course: Year

Grade Level: 6-8

Prerequisites: None

This course is intended to support general education students and students with a 504 plan. There is a focus on learning executive functioning skills while offering academic support. Students will get assistance with organization and work management to help maintain academic performance.