

Mannion Middle School

8th GRADE COURSE CATALOG 2026-2027

All 8th Grade students at Mannion Middle School are required to take the following course:

English 8

History & Geography 8

Pre-Algebra 8

Health/PE/Computer Sci & App

Science 8

Elective

Placement in all core subjects will be based on student need, academic readiness, and assessment scores.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designed to build on knowledge and skills through close reading of texts, learning combining elements of different kinds of writing in support of analysis and reflection, and class discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the eighth grade English requirement.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8 ACCELERATED

This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designated as accelerated by the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. This course is designed to build on knowledge and skills through close reading of texts, learning combining elements of different kinds of writing in support of analysis and reflection, and class discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the eighth grade English requirement.

PRE-ALGEBRA

This one-year course is designed to focus on three critical areas: 1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; 2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and 3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness, including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of manipulatives, mathematical tools, and technology, including calculators and computer software, is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the mathematics requirement for eighth-grade students.

ALGEBRA

This one-year course provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills for further studies in mathematics. It is intended to increase mathematical fluency in problem solving, reasoning, modeling, and effective communication in the study of number, algebra, functions, and statistics. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of technology, including calculators and computer software, is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the Algebra I requirement and one of the mathematics credits required for high school graduation. (Course is also offered through Nevada Learning Academy at CCSD)

GEOMETRY

This one-year course provides students with a rigorous study of Euclidean geometry including advanced topics. It incorporates problem solving, reasoning, modeling, and effective communication in the study of transformational geometry, trigonometry, measurement, and probability. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of mathematical tools and technology, including calculators and computer software, is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for high school graduation. (Course is also offered through Nevada Learning Academy at CCSD)

SCIENCE 8

This one-year course for eighth-grade students provides the physical science explanations that extend understandings developed in previous science courses. Students will use scientific processes, protocols, and tools, including inquiry, to build understanding of structures, patterns, and relationships explained through the physical sciences. Critical thinking, collaboration, accuracy, and communication skills will be emphasized as students refine their scientific literacy. This course is required for eighth-grade students.

SCIENCE 8 ACCELERATED

This one-year course is designed to integrate science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas from the life sciences, Earth and space sciences, and the physical sciences. This course is designated as accelerated by the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. The topics covered in Science 7 Accelerated include Structure and Properties of Matter; Chemical Reactions; Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems; Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; Earth's Systems; History of Earth; Human Impact; and Engineering Design. Demonstrations and lab experiences that employ proper safety techniques are essential to this course. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the eighth-grade science requirement.

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 8

This one-year course examines the development of the Eastern Hemisphere with an emphasis on global studies. Using appropriate technology, students develop an understanding of current world issues and relate them to geographical, historical, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students will develop, research, and answer compelling questions using various and cross-disciplinary source material. Students will construct organized arguments for various audiences and purposes using researched evidence and reasoning. Students will participate in rigorous academic discussions, emphasizing multiple viewpoints in which claims and evidence are acknowledged and critiqued. Students will take action on local, regional and global problems at various times and places. This course fulfills the eighth-grade social studies requirement.

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 8 ACCELERATED

This one-year course examines the development of the Eastern Hemisphere with an emphasis on global studies. Using appropriate technology, students develop an understanding of current world issues and relate them to geographical, historical, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students will develop, research, and answer compelling questions using various and cross-disciplinary source material. Students will construct organized arguments for various audiences and purposes using researched evidence and reasoning. Students will participate in rigorous academic discussions, emphasizing multiple viewpoints in which claims and evidence are acknowledged and critiqued. Students will take action on local, regional and global problems at various times and places. This course is designated as accelerated by the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. This course fulfills the eighth-grade social studies requirement.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (FLIPS WITH HEALTH AT QUARTER)

This one-quarter course provides students the opportunity to develop a health-enhancing level of physical fitness. Students engage in movement and fitness activities at moderate to vigorous levels for a minimum of 50% of the instructional time. Through participation in physical activities, students develop motor skills, movement patterns, and safety within the course. Health-enhancing fitness concepts are explored through personal goal setting and self-evaluation. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the physical education requirement for eighth-grade students.

HEALTH (FLIPS WITH PE AT QUARTER)

This one-quarter course provides students an introduction to the mental, physical, social, emotional, and environmental aspects of human wellness. Goal setting and decision making processes are the foundation of this course. Topics include wellness, nutrition and physical activity, body systems, substance use and abuse, communicable and non-communicable diseases, violence prevention, safety, and consumer health. Sex education and sexually transmitted infectious disease education, within established guidelines, is an integral part of this course. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the health requirement for eighth-grade students.

COMPUTER SCIENCE (FLIPS WITH PE/HEALTH AT SEMESTER)

This one-semester course provides students with skills in computer science and applications. Areas of emphasis include computer science, computational thinking, productivity applications, digital citizenship, and integrated technology. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. This course is appropriate for grades eight through twelve. This course fulfills the one-half computer science credit required for high school graduation.

CCSD RETENTION POLICY

The retention policy is based upon Clark County School District Regulation 5123. This policy is subject to change by the Nevada State Board of Education and the Clark County School District Board of School Trustees.

EIGHTH GRADE: A pupil who enters Grade 8 must complete three semesters with a passing grade in mathematics, three semesters with a passing grade in English or reading, two semesters with a passing grade in science, and two semesters with a passing grade in social studies during the seventh and eighth grade years for promotion to high school.

8th GRADE ELECTIVE CHOICES

Electives are based upon student enrollment and staff availability.

BEGINNING BAND (Fee \$20)

The Beginning Band (brass, woodwind, and percussion) is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students without any previous musical experience. This course involves applying the basic fundamentals of music reading and the specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied. Daily home practice and concert participation are required. This course is a preparatory course for progression into concert band and symphonic band.

INTERMEDIATE BAND (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for students who have successfully completed the skills required in beginning band. Areas of emphasis include intermediate fundamentals of music reading and the specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

ADVANCED BAND (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for students who have successfully mastered intermediate band skills. Areas of emphasis include fundamentals of music reading, specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied, and advanced concepts of tone production and intonation. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

BEGINNING ORCHESTRA (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students with no previous orchestra experience. The course involves applying basic fundamentals of music reading and the specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for students who have successfully completed a middle school beginning orchestra course and/or demonstrated the required skills by audition. The course involves applying both basic and intermediate fundamentals of music reading and the specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

ADVANCED ORCHESTRA (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for students who have successfully completed a middle school intermediate orchestra course and/or demonstrated the required skills by audition. Areas of emphasis include advanced concepts in music reading, specific performance techniques of the instrument being studied, tone production, and intonation. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

BEGINNING CHORUS (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed as an introductory study in basic vocal production and music fundamentals. Major topics include beginning vocal performance skills, live performance opportunities, and the study of basic vocal literature including a range of historical periods and cultures. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

INTERMEDIATE CHORUS (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for middle school students who have successfully completed a beginning vocal music course, and/or have demonstrated competency by audition. Major topics include intermediate vocal performance skills, live performance opportunities, and the study of basic and advanced vocal literature including a range of historical periods and cultures. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated. Revised May 2019.

ADVANCED CHORUS (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed for middle school students who have successfully completed an intermediate vocal music course, and/or have demonstrated competency by audition. Major topics include advanced vocal performance skills, live performance opportunities, and the study of advanced vocal literature including a range of historical periods and cultures. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six through eight and may be repeated.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS: Please do not purchase or rent band or orchestra instruments until the instructor verifies instrument choices and sends information home.

BEGINNING ART (Fee \$20)

This one-year course develops basic knowledge and skills in visual art techniques through the introduction of a variety of media and subject matter. Various styles and artists are considered within their historical context. Problem solving, creativity, and originality are developed through planning, art making, and reflection. Students learn principles and practices of aesthetics and critique. Through collaboration and production, connections will be made between visual art and their academic studies, lives, and the world around them. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contribution to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course will fulfill one elective credit.

INTERMEDIATE ART (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is for students who have successfully completed beginning art, and will expand skills in visual art techniques through a variety of media and subject matter. Various styles, artists and historical periods will be investigated and demonstrated. Students will continue to develop problem solving skills, creativity and originality through art making and discussion. Students will apply knowledge of principles and practices of aesthetics and critique. Through collaboration and production, connections will be made between visual art and their academic studies, lives, and the world around them. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contribution to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course will fulfill one elective credit.

ADVANCED ART (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is for students who have successfully completed beginning and intermediate art and will apply advanced skills in visual art techniques through an expanded variety of media and subject matter. Diverse styles, artists and historical periods will be analyzed and incorporated into production. Students will implement creativity, originality and innovation through problem solving and art making. Students will demonstrate an extended knowledge of aesthetics and will effectively critique their own work and the artwork of others. Through collaboration and production, connections will be made between visual art and their academic studies, lives, and the world around them. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contribution to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course will fulfill one elective credit.

SPANISH 1

This one-year course is designed to facilitate a student's acquisition of the target language at the novice-high level as identified in the foreign language proficiency guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The focus is communication in the target language incorporating an understanding of the target cultures, connecting with other disciplines, comparing native language to the target language, and participating in multicultural communities. The course provides practice in correct use of basic vocabulary and language structures to enable students to function effectively within realistic settings. ACTFL recommends that at least 90% of the instructional time in class be conducted in the target language. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills either one of the elective credits or the Arts/Humanities credit required for high school graduation.

SPANISH II HONORS

This one-year course is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish I or who demonstrate a proficiency level of novice-high as identified in the foreign language proficiency guidelines established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Students continue to refine proficiency in the target language with the end-of-course goal of demonstrating proficiency at the intermediate-low level. This course is designated as honors level by the accelerated instructional pacing and depth of content. The focus is communication in the target language incorporating understanding of the target cultures, connecting with other disciplines, comparing native language to the target language, and participating in multicultural communities. The course provides practice in correct use of basic vocabulary and language structures to enable students to function effectively within realistic settings. ACTFL recommends that at least 90% of the instructional time in class be conducted in the target language. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to our society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one honors credit of the elective credits or the Arts/Humanities credit required for high school graduation.

EXPLORATIONS- CROSS TRAINING

This one-year course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to develop a basic understanding of the principles of athletic strength and cardiovascular training. Students will receive instruction in a variety of bodyweight training activities that will enable them to develop athletic strength, endurance, flexibility, speed and power. Students engage in movement and fitness activities at moderate to vigorous levels for a minimum of 50% of the instructional time. Students will participate in varied functional fitness movements at high intensity levels. Students will develop universal motor recruitment patterns by building functional movements, physical skills, and by adapting functional movements to their personal skill levels.

EXPLORATIONS- BEST BUDDIES PROGRAM

This one-year course is designed to allow students to work closely with other students on campus by participating in a two part program. One semester will focus on the beginning art curriculum where students will learn the basic knowledge and skills in visual art techniques through the introduction of a variety of media and subject matter. One semester will allow students to participate in several physical education activities including basketball, volleyball, pickleball, etc. Through participation in physical activities, students develop motor skills, movement patterns, and safety within the course. Students who select this course must exhibit patience, empathy, and selflessness.

STUDENT AIDE: (2.5 Min. GPA, No D's or F's, No N's or U's in Citizenship, No Suspensions or In-House Suspensions)

This one-year course is designed to allow students to assist teachers in classroom management. Under the direction of a supervising teacher, students will gain experience in clerical duties, laboratory assistance, working with faculty members, and following directions. Students are assigned supervising teachers by a formal application process. This is an elective course for eighth grade students.

CAFETERIA AIDE

This one-year course is designed to allow students to train in the school cafeteria. Under the direction of a food supervisor and a certified educator, students will gain experience in food service and handling, in handling money, in being responsible for customer service, and following directions. This is an elective course for eighth grade students.

MEDIA PRODUCTIONS (Fee \$20)

This one-year course is designed to provide students with advanced skills and knowledge in the production of multimedia projects and publications. Students use a variety of techniques to produce projects combining audio and video for school announcements. Students will also participate in the concepts of journalism that will be applied through publication of the school newspaper and yearbook. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology and digital media are an integral part of this course.

ROBOTICS (Documented Robotics Experience Required)

This one-year course is designed to integrate scientific and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas related to robotics. This course expands students' knowledge through the application of robotics principles and vocabulary. Students engage in kinesthetic project-based learning experiences, writing, and research projects. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is an elective course appropriate for grades six, seven, and eight.

District Calendar

This calendar is subject to change. Please review the current calendar online at: <https://ccsd.net/district/calendar/>.

Pathway to Graduation for Students

1. Participate in academic planning meetings with a school counselor.
2. Enroll in coursework that will help to achieve your educational goals.
3. Parents/Guardians must review and approve the Academic Plan.

Diploma Types

Alternative Diploma (a)		Standard Diploma		Standard Diploma		Advanced Diploma and College and Career Ready Diploma (b)	
Cohorts 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029		Cohorts 2026, 2027, 2028		Cohort 2029 and beyond		Cohorts 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029	
Categories	Credits	Categories	Credits	Categories	Credits	Categories	Credits
English	4	English	4	English	4	English	4
Mathematics	3	Mathematics	3	Mathematics	3	Mathematics	4 (c)
Science	2	Science	2	Science	2	Science	3
Wrld Hist/Geo/Hum	1	Wrld Hist/Geo/Hum	-	Wrld Hist/Geo/Hum	1	Wrld Hist/Geo/Hum	1 (e)
US History	1	US History	1	US History	1	US History	1
American Govt	0.5	American Govt	0.5	American Govt	0.5	American Govt	0.5
Economics and Fin Lit	0.5	Economics and Fin Lit	0.5	Economics and Fin Lit	0.5	Economics and Fin Lit	0.5
Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2	Physical Education	2
Health Education	0.5	Health Education	0.5	Health Education	0.5	Health Education	0.5
Computer Ed & Tech	0.5	Computer Ed & Tech	0.5	Computer Ed & Tech	0.5	Computer Ed & Tech	0.5
Arts/Hum/CTE	1	Arts/Hum/CTE	1 (d)	Arts/Hum/CTE	1	Arts/Hum/CTE	1
Electives	5	Electives	6	Electives	5	Electives	6
Flex Credit	2 (e)	Flex Credit	2 (e)	Flex Credit	2 (e)	Flex Credit	-
Total	23	Total	23	Total	23	Total	24
GPA Requirement	-	GPA Requirement	-	GPA Requirement	-	GPA Requirement	3.25 weighted

(a) Students with significant cognitive disabilities may earn the Alternative Diploma through participation in the NAA* instead of the ACT. The Alternative Diploma is included in a school's graduation rate, and students remain eligible for IDEA* services until their 22nd birthday.

(b) Additional College and Career Ready Diploma requirements:

- One (1) of the mathematics credits must be Algebra II or higher, and
- Proficiency in two languages, or two (2) credits in: AP* courses, IB* courses, Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit courses, a CTE* program of study, Work-Based Learning courses, or a world language course, and
- Earn a College-Ready endorsement or a Career-Ready endorsement, or earn both.

- (c) One of the four units of mathematics must be Algebra II or higher.
- (d) District students must take World History or Geography to earn either the Arts/Humanities/CTE credit for the Standard Diploma through 2028 or the World History/Geography credit for the other diplomas.
- (e) Flex Credits are: a 2nd or 3rd year CTE* course, or a 4th year of mathematics (Algebra II or higher), or a 3rd year of science, or a 3rd year of social studies. World History will only be a Flex Credit if a student also takes Geography.

A district-approved computer science course may count as either a 4th year of math or a 3rd year of science (one credit total) only after successful completion of the required math or science coursework. Please see your school counselor for details. Senate Bill 200, 2017.

The maximum weighted GPA that can be earned is 4.950; this is achieved by earning a 4.0 unweighted GPA and 0.950 bonus points.

*AP: Advanced Placement, IB: International Baccalaureate, CTE: Career and Technical Education, NAA: Nevada Alternate Assessment, IDEA: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, GPA: Grade Point Average.

NAC 390, District Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Requirements, Nevada Board of Regents, Senate Bill 200, 2017.

Schedule Changes

To ensure students receive the required amount of instruction to earn credit, schools may only change courses until a predetermined specific date each semester, as determined by the school's schedule. The school will communicate with students and their families about these deadlines. Please contact your school counselor with questions.

Courses may only be changed with the approval of the administration. Distance learning and online coursework allow students to earn credit through digital instruction and are excluded from these guidelines.

A unit of credit is awarded for a course containing at least 120 hours of instruction or 60 hours per semester. Courses contain 120 hours of classroom instruction, excluding passing periods.

NAC 389.040

Repeating Courses

A student may repeat a high school credit-bearing, non-repeatable course, but will not receive additional credit. When repeated, the higher grade for the course will be recorded on the permanent record and the lower grade will be replaced with a repeated course (RP) notation.

A student may repeat a high school credit-bearing, non-repeatable course one time to improve a grade, and repeat a failed course multiple times to pass the course. Regardless of the number of times a course is repeated, a grade of an "F" will only be removed once. If applicable, all other "F's" will remain on a transcript.

Promotion and Retention

Throughout middle school, a well-balanced educational program including mathematics, English, reading, science, social studies, career and technical education, fine arts or exploratory classes, health, and physical education is emphasized. Students who successfully complete all middle school coursework are prepared for the rigors of high school and the End-of-Course Exams. The Nevada State Board of Education and the Clark County School District have adopted promotion standards and regulations to ensure students are academically prepared.

A student in Grade 6 must complete one semester with a passing grade in mathematics, English or reading, and science for promotion to Grade 7. The principal has the authority to determine the course(s) that need to be repeated. No student may be retained more than once in Grade 6.

A student in Grade 7 must complete one semester with a passing grade in mathematics, English or reading, science, and social studies for promotion to Grade 8. The principal has the authority to determine the course(s) that need to be repeated. No student may be retained more than once in Grade 7.

A student who enters Grade 8 must complete three semesters with a passing grade in mathematics, three semesters with a passing grade in English or reading, two semesters with a passing grade in science, and two semesters with a passing grade in social studies during the Grade 7 and Grade 8 years for promotion to high school. A Grade 8 student who does not meet promotion requirements may be promoted to high school on academic probation provided the student meets the criteria for academic probation as defined in subsection III.B. A parent/guardian may elect not to place their student on academic probation but to remain in Grade 8.

A Grade 8 student not meeting the criteria for promotion to Grade 9 and not meeting the criteria for academic probation may be retained in Grade 8 for the following school year. A retained Grade 8 student may not be promoted midyear. A Grade 8 student may be retained for more than one year.

A Grade 8 student who has not met the promotion requirements may be promoted to Grade 9 on academic probation, provided at least one of the following criteria has been met:

- a. Criterion-Reference Test scores meet or exceed standards in the area(s) of credit deficiency; or
- b. Credits have been earned in the core area(s) (English or reading, mathematics, science, and social studies); however, the student is deficient in one semester of the five total credits required for promotion; or
- c. A student reaches 16 years of age before, on, or after the first day of school.

The principal of the sending middle school in agreement with the principal of the receiving high school, may determine if a student in Grade 8 is placed on academic probation. Academic probation will consist of the appropriate remediation in the subject area(s) in which the student failed to pass in middle school.

CCSD Regulation 5123 and NAC 389.445

Three-Year Course Plans

Each Grade 6 student must have an approved three-year academic Plan. The academic plan must set forth the specific educational goals the student intends to achieve before promotion to high school. The Grade 6 student and their parent/guardian are required to:

- Work in consultation with a school counselor to develop an academic plan; and
- Review the academic plan at least once each school year in consultation with a school counselor and revise the plan if necessary.

CCSD Regulation 5123

High School Credit Taken in Middle School

Certain coursework taken in middle school (Grades 6–8) may be counted as credit required to graduate from high school.

Summer School

Middle school students may earn middle school credit during the summer only as remediation for failed coursework. Students who have finished their Grade 8 year and are being promoted to high school may begin to take high school credit summer school coursework to accelerate their learning. Registration information is available from a school counselor in the second semester.

Career Plans

Planning for life after high school is one of the most important decisions you will make. The right path is unique for every student, and there are many exciting options. Your journey should align with your interests, skills, and career goals. In this section, you'll find information on six primary postsecondary pathways.

College

Going to college means continuing your education after high school, typically to earn a degree or certificate. This path can lead to a wide variety of careers and offers diverse learning experiences. Nevada has specific requirements for admission to its public institutions, but options exist for all students.

Public and Private

- Public colleges are funded by the state, so tuition is generally lower, especially for in-state residents.
- Private colleges rely on tuition and donations. Their tuition is often higher, but they may offer more financial aid.

College and University

- Colleges typically focus on undergraduate (bachelor's) and are often smaller, providing a more intimate learning environment. Many are private institutions, and most degrees take four years to complete.
- Universities are usually larger, offering a wider range of undergraduate and graduate programs (master's, doctoral). They often have a strong emphasis on research.

Two-Year Colleges

- Also known as community colleges or junior colleges, these schools offer associate degrees and certificates. They are a good option for those who want to save money, stay close to home, or improve their academic record before transferring to a four-year school.

Liberal Arts Colleges

- These four-year schools focus on a broad curriculum, including humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, to provide a well-rounded education.

Specialized Institutions

- Some colleges have a specific focus, such as arts colleges, single-sex colleges, or religiously affiliated colleges. There are also institutions designated to support specific communities, like Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs).

For more information, visit: bigfuture.collegeboard.org.

Nevada Public College Admission Requirements

The Nevada Board of Regents sets the minimum admission requirements for the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) institutions.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and Reno (UNR)

- 3.0 GPA in 13 core units:
 - English - 4
 - Math - 3
 - Social Studies - 3
 - Natural Science - 3 , or
- ACT Composite of 22 or SAT of 1120, or
- Earned an Advanced Diploma or a College and Career Ready Diploma

Nevada State University (NSU)

- 2.5 unweighted GPA, and
- 12 core units:
 - English - 4
 - Math - 3
 - Social Students - 3
 - Natural Science - 2

For more information, visit: nshe.nevada.edu/nshe-institutions/.

Career Training Programs

Career training programs, also known as vocational or trade schools, offer focused, hands-on education for a specific career field. This pathway is a great option for students looking for a cost-effective way to gain valuable skills to start well-paying careers without the time and financial commitment of a traditional college degree.

- Programs are typically much shorter than a four-year degree, often taking a few months to two years to complete.
- The curriculum is centered on real-world, job-specific skills with a strong emphasis on hands-on training.
- Instead of a degree, students earn a certificate, diploma, or industry-specific credential that demonstrates competency to employers.
- These programs are available for a wide range of industries, including:
 - Skilled Trades (e.g., electrician, plumber, HVAC technician)
 - Healthcare (e.g., medical assistant, dental hygienist, phlebotomist)
 - Technology (e.g., web developer, IT support, cybersecurity)
 - Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Automotive, and more.

For more information, visit: gowinn.nv.gov/programming.

Apprenticeship

An apprenticeship is a unique "earn-while-you-learn" pathway that combines paid on-the-job training with classroom instruction. It's an excellent option for students who learn best by doing and want to secure a high-paying, in-demand career without the burden of student debt.

- An apprenticeship is a full-time job. You are an employee from day one, earning a paycheck and often receiving benefits like healthcare and retirement plans. Wages typically increase with more skills and experience.
- You work alongside an experienced professional, a journeyman, who provides one-on-one mentorship and teaches the skills of the trade.
- In addition to working, you attend classes, which may be at a local community college, a trade school, or a union training center. This instruction complements the hands-on work.
- Upon completion, you earn a nationally recognized credential (often at no cost) that proves mastery, which can lead to high-paying jobs and long-term career stability.
- Apprenticeships are most common in the skilled trades like construction and electrical work, but they are expanding into new fields such as healthcare, IT, and advanced manufacturing.

For more information, visit: www.apprenticeship.gov.

Employment

For many students, entering the workforce directly after high school is an excellent and immediate path to financial independence and career growth. This option allows you to start earning a paycheck, gaining valuable real-world experience, and building your professional network without the cost or time commitment of further education.

- You can start earning money right away, which helps you become financially independent.
- You gain hands-on skills and work experience that are highly valued by employers.
- You can bypass the cost of tuition and avoid student loans, giving you a strong financial start.
- Working in different jobs can help you explore your interests and discover a career path you're passionate about before committing to long-term training or education.

Finding your first job is about more than just a high school diploma. You should create a resume that highlights your academic achievements, extracurricular activities, volunteer work, and any part-time jobs you've had. Many entry-level positions don't require previous experience but value skills like communication, a strong work ethic, and a willingness to learn. Job opportunities for high school graduates are available in many fields, including:

- Retail and Customer Service
- Hospitality and Food Service

- Administrative and Office Support
- Skilled Trades (often through entry-level roles that can lead to an apprenticeship)
- Logistics and Transportation
- Healthcare Support (e.g., medical assistant, with certification)

For more information, visit: employnv.gov.

Military Service

Choosing to serve in the military is a demanding but rewarding career path that provides immediate employment, valuable training, and a clear sense of purpose. It is a structured option for students who are ready to serve their country and want a clear path to professional and personal growth.

- Service members receive extensive training in a specific job, which can be applied to a civilian career later.
- The military offers significant educational benefits, including tuition assistance while you serve and the GI Bill, which can pay for college tuition, housing, and books for up to 36 months after your service ends.
- Servicemembers receive a steady paycheck, and may be eligible for bonuses, housing allowances, and a comprehensive benefits package that includes healthcare, dental, and life insurance.
- You may have the opportunity to travel the world, gain leadership experience, and develop discipline and a strong work ethic that will benefit you for life.

For more information, visit:

- Army: www.goarmy.com
- Navy: www.navy.com
- Air Force: www.airforce.com
- Coast Guard: www.gocoastguard.com
- Marines: www.marines.com
- National Guard: www.nationalguard.com
- Space Force: www.spaceforce.mil

Gap Year/Service Mission

A gap year or a service mission is an intentional period of time taken between high school and the next step in your life, such as college or the workforce. This pathway involves taking a deliberate break to explore, learn, and grow, often with the goal of gaining clarity and valuable life experiences.

For more information, visit: bigfuture.collegeboard.org and search: gap year.

Nevada Scholarships

Millennium Scholarship

The State of Nevada's Governor Quinn Millennium Scholarship Program provides financial support to Nevada's high school graduates who attend an eligible Nevada community college, state college, or university. You may receive up to a maximum award of \$10,000 for undergraduate coursework during the six years following your high school graduation. There is no application form to complete. If you meet all Millennium Scholarship requirements upon high school graduation, the District will submit your name to the Office of the State Treasurer. You will receive an award notification in early August. Please note that this information is subject to any changes in state law, policies adopted by the NSHE Board of Regents, availability of funding, and any related matters hereto.

A fact sheet on policy guidelines and requirements for eligibility can be obtained by calling 888-477-2667 or visiting http://www.nevadatreasurer.gov/GGMS/GGMS_Home/.

Nevada Promise Scholarship

The Nevada Promise Scholarship aims to make a college education more accessible and affordable by providing last-dollar financial aid to Nevada students attending one of the state's four community colleges: College of Southern Nevada, Great Basin College, Truckee Meadows Community College, or Western Nevada College. The scholarship helps eligible students pay for up to three years of tuition and mandatory fees.

Please contact your school counselor with additional questions, or visit www.csn.edu/promise.

Public Education Foundation

The Public Education Foundation offers a variety of scholarships to help students pursue higher educational goals. In many cases, the scholarships make the college and university experience accessible to students who might not otherwise dream of a college education. The Public Education Foundation offers more than 260 different scholarship opportunities for Southern Nevada's high school seniors to attend both in-state and out-of-state schools.

Scholarship donors are corporations, associations, organizations, foundations and individuals who want to create a brighter future by encouraging education. Each donor has the opportunity to determine the criteria of their scholarship and plays an active role in selecting the scholarship recipients. The Foundation provides professional assistance in establishing the scholarship funds at no cost, including advertising and promotion, clerical support, and an awards recognition luncheon in May. The luncheon gives the donors and scholarship recipients the opportunity to meet if they haven't already done so during the selection process.

To date, the Foundation has awarded more than 6,100 scholarships totaling nearly \$12 million.

For more details, please visit <https://thepef.org/scholarships/>.

Postsecondary Planning for Middle School Students

Grade 6

- Learn your way around! Get to know your schedule, where your classes are, and who your teachers are.
- Start using a planner or calendar to record homework assignments and due dates. This helps you complete your work before the deadline.
- Find a new club, sport, or activity that sounds cool. Never played an instrument? Join the band! Never played soccer? Try it out!
- Learn how to check your grades using Infinite Campus. If you receive a low grade, ask your teacher for help right away.
- Think about what you really enjoy and what you're good at. Do you love animals? Are you awesome at drawing? Discuss with your school counselor.
- Talk to adults you know about their jobs. Ask, "What do you actually do all day?" and "Did you have to go to college for that?"
- Meet with your counselor to review promotion requirements and discuss your career plan.
- Complete a 3-year academic plan aligned with your career plan. Don't forget about electives!

Grade 7

- Learn how to study smarter. Try different ways to prepare for tests (flashcards, drawing pictures, quizzing a friend).
- If you love a subject (like math or science), ask your counselor if there are accelerated classes you can take.
- Pick one to two activities you love and stick with them. Look for small ways to be a leader, like organizing a team lunch or running a club fundraiser.
- Take an online quiz or consult with your counselor to discover careers that align with your favorite subjects and talents.
- Keep a simple list on your phone or computer of any awards, great grades, volunteer work, or activities you do.
- Start learning about the different high school classes, like CTE (Career and Technical Education) that teach you hands-on job skills (like coding or mechanics).

Grade 8

- Ensure you're passing all your classes and have all the necessary requirements to officially promote to high school.
- Do a formal Career Interest Inventory (your school may offer one) to help match your personality to career clusters (like Business, Health, or Arts).
- Look into any special programs your district offers, like magnet programs and Career and Technical Academies. Attend the recruiting events at your school to learn about them.
- Be ready when it's time to pick your high school classes! Be sure to check with your school counselor to determine when this will happen.
- Visit the website of the high school you plan to attend. Research the sports, clubs, and extracurricular they offer and decide which ones you want to try out.

Enrollment Expectations

The enrollment expectations for middle school students are listed below by grade level. Middle schools may vary the curriculum in an effort to provide additional opportunities for students to succeed.

Grade 6

Reading
English
Mathematics
Science
Physical Education
Elective

Grade 7

Reading
English
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies
Elective

Grade 8

English
Mathematics
Science
Social Studies
Health / PE / Computers
Elective

Non-Discrimination and Accessibility Notice

The District does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, creed/religion, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, marital status or age, in admission or access to, treatment or employment, or participation in its programs and activities, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups, pursuant to federal and state laws including, but not limited to, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA), and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.