



Barry and June Gunderson Middle School
10155 Marnie Street
Las Vegas, NV 89178
702-799-2560

Principal - Pamela Lindemuth
Assistant Principals - Angela Deer,
Kris Huffman, April McCartney, Jennifer Wiggins

Course Selections 25-26

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
ELA 6 ELA 6 ACC (2 Periods)	ELA 7 ELA 7 ACC (2 Periods)	ELA 8 and ELA 8 ACC (2 Periods) ELA 8 Double ACC (1 Period)
Math 6 Math 6 ACC Math 6 DBL ACC (2 Periods)	Math 7 Math 7 ACC Algebra I (2 Periods)	Pre-Algebra Algebra I Geometry H (2 Periods)
Science 6 ACC (2 Periods)	Science 7 ACC (2 Periods)	Science 8 ACC (1 Period)
PE 6, Navigating the Middle	History & Geography 7 ACC	History & Geography 8 ACC
Elective	Elective	PE 8, Health, Computers 8
		Elective Elective #2 (ELA Double ACC only)

Please note that elective selections were made in Spring 2025. If your child did not choose an elective in Spring 2025, they will be placed in an elective based on availability. No exceptions.



Required Core Classes

Language Arts

ELA 6:

This one-year, two-period course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designed to build knowledge and critical-thinking skills through close reading of texts; writing to support claims, to clarify ideas, and/or to develop ideas; and a range of collaborative discussions. 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 integral part of this course. This course fulfills the sixth-grade English requirement and the sixth-grade reading requirement for promotion.

ELA 6 Accelerated - This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designated as accelerated by the faster instructional pacing and depth of content. This course is designed to build knowledge and critical thinking skills through close reading of texts; writing to support claims, to clarify ideas, and/or to develop ideas; and a range of collaborative 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 sixth-grade English requirement.

ELA 7:

This one-year, two-period course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content 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 by 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 and digital media are integral part of this course. This course fulfills the seventh-grade English requirement and the seventh-grade reading requirement for promotion.

ELA 7 Accelerated - This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designated as accelerated by the faster instructional pacing and depth of content. This course is designed to build on knowledge and skills through close reading of texts, learning by 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 seventh-grade English requirement.



ELA 8:

This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content 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 by 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.

ELA 8 Accelerated - This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content 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 by 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.

ELA 8 Double Accelerated - This fast-paced one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Nevada Academic Content Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designated as double accelerated by meeting every other day, along with the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. This course is designed to build on knowledge and skills through close reading of texts, learning by 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 requires a minimum MAP score in 7th grade and an SBAC score. This course fulfills the eighth-grade English requirement.

Mathematics

Math 6:

This one-year course is designed to focus on critical areas, including connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and developing understanding of statistical thinking. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of manipulatives, mathematical tools, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for middle school.

Math 6 Accelerated - This one-year course is designed to prepare students for the increased rigor of Algebra I in middle school. This accelerated course includes the grade six mathematics curriculum as well as a portion of the grade seven mathematics curriculum. This



course focuses on connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; developing an understanding of statistical thinking; developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; and developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of manipulatives, mathematical tools, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for middle school.

Math 6 Double Accelerated:

This one-year course is designed to prepare students for the increased rigor of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Geometry H in middle school. This compacted course includes grade six and seven curriculum as well as a portion of the currently adopted CCSS grade eight curriculum. This course focuses on six critical areas: 1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; 2) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; 3) extending the properties of operations and the relationships between addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; 4) understanding and analyzing expressions and linear equations; 5) working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; 6) developing understanding of statistical thinking. 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 sixth-grade students.

Math 7:

This one-year course is designed to focus on developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and drawing inferences about populations based on samples. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The use of manipulatives, mathematical tools, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for middle school.

Math 7 Accelerated - This course is designed for middle school students who have successfully completed Mathematics 6 Accelerated. This one-year course is designed to prepare students for the increased rigor of Algebra I in middle school. This accelerated course includes a grade seven mathematics curriculum as well as a portion of the grade eight mathematics curriculum. This course focuses on developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving



area, surface area, and volume; drawing inferences about populations based on samples; 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; and 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, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for middle school.

Pre-Algebra:

This one-year course is designed to focus on formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; grasping the concept of a function, and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; 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, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for middle school.

Algebra I:

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 numbers, 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 manipulatives, mathematical tools, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for high school graduation.

Geometry H:

This one-year course provides students with a rigorous study of Euclidean geometry. This course is designated as honors level by the accelerated instructional pacing and depth of content. It is designed for the above-average student who has successfully completed Algebra I, with a grade of "C" or better. 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 manipulatives, mathematical tools, technology, and the Standards of Mathematical Practice to connect mathematical processes to mathematical content is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills one of the mathematics credits required for high school graduation.



Science

Science 6:

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 6 include Energy; Structure and Properties of Matter; Earth's Systems; Weather and Climate; Human Impact; Structure, Function, and Information Processing; Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms; 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 sixth-grade science requirement.

Science 7:

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 include Structure and Properties of Matter; Chemical Reactions; Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems; Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; Earth's Systems; the 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 seventh-grade science requirement.

Science 8:

This one-year course is designed to integrate science and engineering practices, crosscutting concepts, and core ideas from 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 8 Accelerated include Forces and Interactions; Energy; Waves and Electromagnetic Radiation; Space System; Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms; Natural Selection and Adaptations; 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.

Social Studies

History & Geography 7:

This one-year course examines the development of the Western Hemisphere with an emphasis on the Americas. 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 seventh-grade social studies 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 is designated as accelerated by the enhanced instructional pacing and depth of content. This course fulfills the eighth-grade social studies requirement.

Navigating the Middle, Physical Education (PE), Computers, and Health

Navigating the Middle 6:

This one-semester sixth-grade course provides students the opportunity to build and enhance their executive functioning skills at the middle school level. Students will have the opportunity to increase their working memory, attention and focus on tasks, planning and prioritizing, time management, flexible thinking, organization, and cooperative and problem-solving skills.

PE 6:

This one-semester 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 sixth-grade students.

PE 8:

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 8:

This one-quarter course provides students an introduction to personal, community, and environmental health, mental and emotional health, nutrition and physical activity, substance use and abuse, safety practices, injury prevention, CPR/AED, personal safety, human reproductive system, HIV/AIDS, related communicable diseases, and sexual responsibility. Topics include analyzing influences, accessing information, interpersonal communication, decision-making, goal-setting, self-management, and advocacy. Instructional practices integrate the Motivational Framework for Culturally Inclusive Teaching, to establish inclusion of all cultural and linguistic backgrounds, develop a positive learner disposition toward learning, enhance meaning through engaging experiences, and engender competence of subject matter among all students. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the health requirement for eighth-grade students.

Computers 8:

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.

Electives

Final curriculum and elective offerings will depend upon staffing and pupil enrollment at Gunderson MS. Students are required to designate first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth choices for electives. Students are not guaranteed an elective choice, however, every effort will be made to assign students their first choice. Students will be required to remain enrolled in their assigned elective for the entire school year.

Please be advised that any student who has not or is not making adequate academic progress may be placed in APEX credit retrieval, Fundamentals of Reading and Writing, or Fundamentals of Math as their elective class.

Performing Arts

All [Art](#) and Photography classes have a \$40 course fee:

Beginning Art Grades 6 & 7


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. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagcj@nv.ccsd.net.

Intermediate Art Grades 7 & 8 (Portfolio Audition)

This one-year course is for students who have successfully completed one full year of beginning art and will expand their 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. Portfolio Information:

 Portfolio Auditions For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagcj@nv.ccsd.net.

Advanced Art Grade 8 (Portfolio Audition)

This one-year course is for students who have successfully completed one full year of 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 the 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 disciplines outside of the arts. Portfolio Information:  Portfolio Auditions For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagcj@nv.ccsd.net.

Photography Grades 7 & 8

This one-year course provides students with the fundamentals of photography. Topics include photographic vision, operating cameras, image processing, output, and quality control. 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. Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop are used in this class. This course will fulfill one elective credit. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagcj@nv.ccsd.net.

All Band classes have a \$30 course fee:

Band: Beginning Woodwinds All Grades

For students with no band experience. Daily home practice and participation in 2 evening concerts are required. Instruments offered are flute, clarinet, and saxophone for the Fall; Oboe and Bassoon for those interested in the Spring. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.



Band: Beginning Brass All Grades

For students with no band experience. Daily home practice and participation in 2 evening concerts are required. Instruments offered are Trumpet, Trombone, and Baritone in the Fall; French Horn and Tuba are offered for those interested in the Spring. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.

Band: Percussion All Grades

For students with no band experience and those who have prior percussion experience. Daily home practice and participation in 2 evening concerts are required. All students need to rent or purchase a bell kit. The course offers specific percussion instruction; students will be able to play in Jazz Band on a drumset through this course. For questions or concerns, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.

Band: Intermediate Band Grades 7 & 8

For students who have prior band experience, this course focuses on the continued development of instrument-specific techniques for the intermediate-level player. Daily home practice and participation in 2 evening concerts are required. Performances at Pep Rallies and Sporting Events are required. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.

Advanced Band Grades 7 & 8

For students with prior band experience, this class is open with director approval. This course focuses on both the continuing musical training necessary to play a wind instrument or percussion, and the preparation and performance of music of various styles for public concerts and adjudicated festivals. Daily home practice and participation in all scheduled performances are required. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.

Advanced Jazz Band Grades 7 & 8

Jazz Band provides an opportunity for students to study and perform in the instrumental jazz idiom. Admission into the Jazz Band is based on auditions; director approval is required as this is the top ensemble within the Band Program. Jazz Band is an early bird (before school) class; meets from 7:00 am to 7:50 am daily. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. White** at whitem10@nv.ccsd.net.

All [Choir classes](#) have a \$40 course fee.

Choir - Boys Grade 6

Come have fun making tons of great friends and singing all different types and styles of vocal music - no audition needed! You do not need to have any prior singing experience to be in this class. Singing, performing, vocal technique, music fundamentals, music theory, music history and the changing male singing voice are explored, along with both rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. This class performs three concerts per year, singing unison and two/three-part music, and participates in the Clark County School District Middle School Choir Festival. This class performs different styles of music in English, as well as in foreign languages, and Pop music, too. Performances are required and are part of students' grades. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fleischer** at muhledl@nv.ccsd.net.



Choir - Girls Grade 6

Come have fun making tons of great friends and singing all different types and styles of vocal music - no audition needed! You do not need to have any prior singing experience to be in this class. Singing, performing, vocal technique, music fundamentals, music theory, music history and the changing singing voice are explored, along with both rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. This class performs three concerts per year, singing unison and two/three-part music, and participates in the Clark County School District Middle School Choir Festival. This class performs different styles of music in English, as well as in foreign languages, and Pop music, too. Performances are required and are part of students' grades. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fleischer** at muhledl@nv.ccsd.net.

Choir - Advanced Girls Grade 7

Come have fun making tons of great friends and singing all different types and styles of vocal music - no audition needed! You do not need to have any prior singing experience to be in this class. Singing, performing, vocal technique, advanced music fundamentals, music theory, and music history are explored, along with both advanced rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. This class performs three concerts per year, singing unison and two/three-part advanced-level music, and participates in the Clark County School District Middle School Choir Festival. This class performs different styles of music in English, as well as in foreign languages, and Pop music, too. Performances are required and are part of students' grades. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fleischer** at muhledl@nv.ccsd.net.

Concert Choir Grades 7 & 8 Boys, 8 Girls

Come have fun making tons of great friends and singing all different types and styles of vocal music - no audition needed! You do not need to have any prior singing experience to be in this class. Singing, performing, vocal technique, advanced music fundamentals, music theory, and music history are explored, along with both advanced rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. This class performs four concerts per year, singing three/four-part advanced-level music (SAB/SATB), and participates in the Clark County School District Advanced Choir Festival. This class performs different styles of music in English, as well as in foreign languages, and Pop music, too. Performances are required and are part of students' grades. If interested, students in this class are encouraged to audition and participate in the Clark County School District Middle School Honor Choir. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fleischer** at muhledl@nv.ccsd.net.

Madrigal (Chamber) Singers Grades 7 & 8 - Auditions Based on Eligibility ONLY

This auditioned, advanced-level class, is made up of a select group of 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Advanced-level singing, performing, vocal technique, advanced music fundamentals, music theory, and music history are explored, along with both advanced rhythmic and melodic sight-reading. This class performs several times throughout the school year, including concerts on campus, televised holiday caroling in our community, and participates in the Clark County School District Advanced Choir Festival. This class performs advanced level 4-part music (SATB) in different styles and foreign languages, both a cappella and accompanied, as well as Pop music, too. Performances are required and are part of students' grades. If interested, students in this class are encouraged to audition and participate in both the Clark County School District Middle School Honor Choir and the Nevada Middle School All-State Choir. For



questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fleischer** at muhledl@nv.ccsd.net.

All Orchestra classes have a \$40 course fee.

Beginning Orchestra Grades 6 & 7

This one-year course introduces students to the application of basic fundamentals of music reading, and the specific performance techniques of the 4 instruments being studied: Violin, Viola, Cello, or String bass. 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 6th and 7th graders and may be repeated. **This course requires independent practice outside of class time and two evening concerts including a Winter and Spring concert.** Students are required to pay a \$40 course fee. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Kehler** at yavitda@nv.ccsd.net.

Intermediate Orchestra Grades 7 & 8 (6 by Audition Only)

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: Violin, Viola, Cello, or String bass. 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. **This course requires independent practice outside of class time and two evening concerts including a Winter and Spring concert.** Students are required to pay a \$40 course fee. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Kehler** at yavitda@nv.ccsd.net.

Advanced Orchestra Grade 8 (6 and 7 by Audition Only)

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. **This course requires independent practice outside of class time and 3-5 evening concerts including Winter Concert, Spring Concert, School functions, CCSD Festival, and more.** Students are required to pay a \$40 course fee. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Kehler** at yavitda@nv.ccsd.net.



Additional Elective Courses

Please be advised that any student who has not or is not making adequate academic progress may be placed in APEX credit retrieval, Fundamentals of Reading and Writing or Fundamentals of Math as their elective class.

Archery & Intro to Outdoor Education (Explorations) ALL Grades - Course Fee \$50

Archery (½ year course) is designed to provide students with the safety strategies, skills, and archery techniques necessary to participate in and enjoy archery as a lifetime activity. Students will actively participate in activities that focus on range set-up and safety, bow nomenclature, inspection, operation, maintenance, and repair. For questions regarding **Archery Elective**, please email **Mrs. Warner** at franken@nv.ccsd.net.

Introduction to Outdoor Education (½ year course) is designed to introduce students to the skills for enjoying the great outdoors. Class time will involve practicing basic outdoor survival skills including map & compass use for hiking, risk management & safety specific to outdoor adventuring, Leave No Trace principles, knot tying and use for camping and wilderness pursuits, and other outdoor recreation experiences. Grizzlies participating in Archery/Outdoor Education will have priority signing up for a Grizzly Overnight Adventure Field Trip. For questions regarding the **Intro to Outdoor Ed Elective**, please email **Mrs. Szczubiala** at szczurj@nv.ccsd.net.

Cooking ALL Grades - Course Fee \$40

This dynamic, one-year course offers a hands-on introduction to food preparation, nutrition, culinary techniques, and cultural exploration. Students will develop essential cooking skills, learning to work with a variety of kitchen equipment, from basic tools to more advanced cooking gadgets. We will dive into global food traditions, discovering the customs, ingredients, and culinary techniques that define cultures around the world. Along the way, the course fosters an appreciation for diversity and its contributions to global cuisine, promoting cultural awareness and inclusivity. By the end of the year, students will have a rich understanding of food from both a practical and cultural perspective, equipped to make informed, nutritious, and culturally mindful food choices. For more information, contact Ms. Abel at abeltj@nv.ccsd.net.

CrossFit (PE Elective) ALL Grades - Course Fee \$50

This one-year course will teach you basic exercises, aerobic workouts, and the importance of nutritional value by engaging in structural planning and modifying your performance daily. Students engage in movement and fitness activities. Students will develop universal motor recruitment patterns by building functional movements, and physical skills, and by adapting functional movements to their personal skill levels. Students will participate in constantly varied functional fitness movements. For questions regarding the **CrossFit Elective**, please email **Mr. Harris** at harricw@nv.ccsd.net.

Dance ALL Grades - Course Fee \$50

By audition only. This one-year course is designed for middle school students to learn the fundamental basics of dance. Students will examine the role and meaning of dance in diverse social, cultural, and historical contexts. Students will study and practice various styles of dance including, but not limited to: hip hop, ballet, modern, ballroom, and contemporary. Students will develop greater self-confidence, self-expression, and body awareness. Public performance



outside of the regular school day is a requirement of this course. This is an elective course offered to sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students. For questions regarding this course, please email **Ms. Kendrick** at kendrr1@nv.ccsd.net. **Auditions for the GMS dance are May 6-7, 2025.**

Digital Media/Graphic Design I (Intro to Media Tech) Grades 6 & 7 - Course Fee \$40

This STEAM project-based class integrates Graphic Design, Game Design, Video Production, and Programming, using industry-standard software such as Adobe Photoshop, Premiere Pro, and GameSalad. Throughout the course, you'll dive into inquiry-driven learning, collaboration, and a hands-on approach to mastering creative and technical skills. The first semester will focus on graphic design, web development, and game development, with a strong emphasis on programming. You'll learn how to edit and capture photographs, design layouts, explore typography, create animations, and produce magazine articles. In addition, you'll gain practical experience in front-end web development to build your own customized website. By the end of the course, you'll have developed industry-standard skills that can lead to career opportunities and further studies in Digital Media II. Expect a fast-paced, collaborative environment where you'll work in groups to apply your knowledge and produce high-quality, real-world projects. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagj@nv.ccsd.net.

Digital Media/Graphic Design II (Newscasting) Grades 7 & 8 - Course Fee \$40

Prerequisite: Completion of Digital Media/Graphic Design I or by Application - Students will learn how to work a camera/video camera, interview, report, edit, and produce the news and announcements for Gunderson MS. This can be fast-paced and will be working in collaborative groups. Understanding of technical, directorial, and written skills in communication and production. Students will learn to use the green screen as well as video editing software (Adobe Premiere Pro & Photoshop) and understand lighting, scriptwriting, pre-, and post-production. Students develop broadcast news packages and document school performances and events. Our entire program runs on deadlines, so great attendance is a MUST! Some after-school hours may be necessary in order to capture school events and activities. **APPLY NOW!**

Application link: <https://forms.gle/qfGQuASbp8avaDW86>

For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Schlagheck** at schlagj@nv.ccsd.net.

Drama I (Intro to Acting) ALL Grades - Course Fee \$20

This course is an introduction to the art of acting and theater. Students will learn to express thoughts and emotions through acting, pantomime, and improvisation. Script reading will be used to teach stage movement, projection, and character portrayal. Scriptwriting and character development will be explored. For questions regarding this course, please email Mx. Segal at segalc@nv.ccsd.net

Drama II (Intro to Technical Theater) Grades 7 & 8 - Course Fee \$20

This course is an introduction to the technical side of theater. Students will learn about the various aspects of theater that come into play outside of the actors. Students will work on different skills from designing and building sets and props, use of light and sound, planning for and designing costumes, and even aspects of stage makeup. For questions regarding this course, please email Mx. Segal at segalc@nv.ccsd.net



Forensic Science Grade 8 ONLY - Course Fee \$30

Parents will be required to sign a waiver at the beginning of the year if students are placed in the class. This course is designed as a year-long course to challenge students in the math and sciences. Students in Forensic Science will develop a deep knowledge in the core disciplinary ideas that are described in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) including science inquiry. Forensic Science is a hands-on laboratory and project-based learning course that will lead the student through a foundation of law and criminal justice, the history of forensics, and modern scientific advances in the field. Hair, fibers, DNA, ballistics, serology, poisons, drugs, arson, explosions, fingerprinting, forgery, and entomology are studied in detail. The scientific method, data analysis, and powers of observation and critical thinking to solve a problem are addressed in all aspects of the course. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Essy** at essysj@nv.ccsd.net. **Application Link:** <https://forms.gle/TswEoo581XmTWk2r5>

Course Goals:

Through this course, students will learn how a forensic scientist collects, analyzes, and evaluates evidence to solve crimes. Students will cultivate critical thinking skills while being engaged in real-life STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) practices. This year-long course will focus on the following forensic evidence techniques:

- Crime scene situations and evidence
- Fingerprint analysis
- Hair and fiber analysis
- Blood spatter evidence
- Ballistic analysis
- Detection of alcohol and drugs (legal and illegal) associated with a criminal/crime scene
- Detection of poisons in blood
- Impressions evidence
- Handwriting analysis as it relates to the forgery of documents
- Decomposition of a body and forensic entomology
- Case studies on infamous crimes

It is important that you are comfortable with these topics and understand that at several points during our study of these topics, you may encounter graphic images, videos, and illustrations in order to further your understanding of certain topics. It is important to note that to convict criminals, one must first understand the circumstances of criminals, the crimes they commit, and the evidence identified.

Fundamentals of Mathematics ALL Grades - No Course Fee

This one-year intervention course in mathematics is designed for students who need additional instruction and support to master necessary middle school mathematics concepts. This course provides additional instruction in conjunction with the student's required mathematics course of study in grades 6, 7, and/or 8. 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 is a repeatable elective course and does not fulfill the middle school mathematics requirement for promotion.** For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Ratliff** at hoods@nv.ccsd.net.



Fundamentals of Reading and Writing ALL Grades - No Course Fee

This one-year, one- or two-period intervention course is designed for students who need additional instruction and support to master grade-level reading and writing skills and concepts. This course provides additional instruction in conjunction with the student's required reading and English course(s) of study in grades 6, 7, and/or 8. 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 integral part of this course.

This course is a repeatable elective and does not fulfill the middle school English or reading requirement for promotion. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Fennoy** at fennokm@nv.ccsd.net.

Grizzly Fit (PE 7) Grade 7 ONLY - Course Fee \$30

GrizzlyFit is a one-year course that will teach you basic exercises, aerobic workouts, and the importance of nutritional value by engaging in structural planning and modifying your performance daily. Students engage in movement and fitness activities at moderate to vigorous levels for a minimum of 50% of the instructional time. Students develop universal motor recruitment patterns by building functional movements, and physical skills, and by adapting functional movements to their personal skill levels. Students participate in constantly varied functional fitness movements at high-intensity levels. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Harris** at harricw@nv.ccsd.net or franken@nv.ccsd.net.

Publications I (Publications 7) Newspaper - ALL Grades - Course Fee \$20

This course will focus on the fundamentals of producing a newspaper publication. Students will be introduced to journalistic writing and editing, layout and design, interviewing, and photography. Over the course of the year, students will produce a quality digital newspaper that covers the entire student population and reports on different school events. Students will work collaboratively and positively with their peers by learning how to both give and receive constructive feedback. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Strimboulis** at phillsh@nv.ccsd.net.

Publications II (Publications 8) Yearbook - Grades 7 & 8 - Course Fee \$20

Application Required - Are you creative and like to work with others? Do you want to have fun, be independent, and create something for our entire Gunderson community? Then Yearbook is the place for you! The main objective of this course is to create a product that reflects our ENTIRE school community. Our goal is to produce a yearbook that documents the best parts of the school year here at Gunderson. We need the best of the best who will work collaboratively, talk to peers and staff, and be able to stay on task. Our entire program runs on deadlines, so great attendance is a MUST! Some after-school hours may be necessary in order to capture school events and activities. **APPLY NOW!**

Application link: <https://forms.gle/uyPEGBwfgo7CRERYZ>. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mrs. Strimboulis** at phillsh@nv.ccsd.net.



Robotics I - Intro to Robotics/Electronic Coding ALL Grades - Course Fee \$50

This is a beginning course in the STEM field of robotics. The objective of this course is to introduce the student to basic programming as well as problem-solving strategies. This course will involve students in the development, building, and programming of different types of mechanisms that go into different robotic designs. Students will work hands-on in teams to design, build, program, and document their progress. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, decision-making, timing sequences, propulsion systems, and binary number systems. Students will also explore block-based coding and apply that code to virtual robotics as well as electronic devices to explore movement and sensor control. My hope is that this class will provide motivation for students to continue in robotics, computer science, and engineering courses. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Mainguy** at maingjd@nv.ccsd.net.

Robotics II - Advanced Robotics Grades 7 & 8 - Course Fee \$50

**Must have completed Robotics I with C or better.*

The objective of this course is for students to continue programming as well as problem-solving strategies. This course will involve students in the development, building, and programming of different types of mechanisms that go into different robotic designs. Students will work hands-on in teams to design, build, program, and document their progress. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, decision-making, timing sequences, propulsion systems, and binary number systems. My hope is that this class will provide motivation for students to continue in robotics, computer science, and engineering courses. For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Mainguy** at maingjd@nv.ccsd.net.

Speech and Debate ALL Grades - Course Fee \$0

This elective will allow students to work on their public speaking abilities as they explore various speech and debate styles. Using structured events from the World Scholar's Cup and the National Speech and Debate Association, students will work on skills like collaboration, critical thinking, research, writing, and speaking. Students will become familiar with:

- Scholar's Bowl
- Interpretation
- Critical Analysis of Texts & Research
- Collaborative Writing
- Impromptu Speaking
- Pro Con Challenge
- Big Question Debate
- Lincoln - Douglas Debate
- World Schools Debate

For questions regarding this course, please email Mx. Segal at segalc@nv.ccsd.net.

Student Cafeteria Training ALL Grades - No Course Fee

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 money, being responsible for customer service, and following directions. Students must have and maintain satisfactory citizenship and good attendance to participate in



this elective. Students are provided a free lunch every day for their services.

Application Interest Form: [Student Cafeteria Worker Application](#). For questions regarding this course, please email **Mr. Roldan** at roldar@nv.ccsd.net.

Student Council & Leadership ALL Grades - Application Required and Course Fee \$50

By application only. This class is for student leaders who want to make Gunderson an amazing school by spreading school spirit through the GMS Student Council. Students are available to apply for a Student Council office during their seventh and eighth-grade years. Students in sixth grade are representatives. Students help host events such as dances, fundraisers, activities, spirit weeks, assemblies, and more. This course is open for students in grades 6-8. An application is required. **Applications for 7th & 8th graders are due by Friday, February 21, 2025.** Application Form: <https://bit.ly/stuco2526>

We ask that all incoming **6th-grade students attend a MANDATORY informational meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2025.** 6th Graders Meeting Registration Form: <https://bit.ly/GMS2526>

For questions regarding this course, please email Ms. Smith at smithkm6@nv.ccsd.net.

Student/Office Aide (Student Aide 8) Grade 8 Only - No Course Fee

Applied Office Practice is offered as an elective class to students. Activities include many tasks related to assisting office personnel. This requires the student to be responsible and assume a leadership position by example. The eligibility requirements listed below must be met and maintained for students to earn credit and continue enrollment in the program. Grading will be based on attendance and work performance. Students will be assessed on the quality and quantity of work they produce in addition to cooperation, dependability, courtesy, punctuality, attitude, initiative, and confidentiality. Placement in a specific office is not guaranteed.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be in 8th Grade
- Must not have any D's or F's in the previous semester
- Must have good attendance in the previous semester (5 or fewer unexcused absences)
- Must have good citizenship (No N's or U's) in the previous semester
- Students who fail to maintain the above listed eligibility requirements, or fail to effectively perform their duties, will be removed from the course, which may result in a loss of credit for the semester.
- If you do not meet these requirements and/or complete the application, you will **not** be placed in the class.

Application Link: <https://forms.gle/3kpTNecLqE3ftrgZA>. For questions regarding this course, please email **Ms. Bridges** at figlass@nv.ccsd.net.

