



6th Grade Syllabus

Dear Families and Students,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! We are looking forward to a great school year in the 6th grade. This document contains information that applies to all three 6th grade level cores: Avalanche, Social Studies, . Included are 6th grade policies, course syllabi, and other information we think you will find helpful throughout this year for the core content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

NOTE: These policies and/or course syllabi may change throughout the year to meet the students' needs and comply with Adams 12 Five Star Schools guidelines.

Meet Your Team:

Teacher Name	Position/ Core Name	Teacher Email	Teacher Phone Number
Steve Bogucki	Science - Nuggets	steve.bogucki@adams12.org	720-972-2235
Amanda Gomberg	ELA. - Nuggets	gom027516@adams12.org	720-972-2246
Mark Genco	SS - Nuggets	mark.genco@adams12.org	720-972-2247
Trista Harguth	Math - Nuggets	trista.m.harguth@adams12.org	720-972-2248
Anne Brickley	Science - Avs	anne.brickley@adams12.org	720-972-2237
Nicole Wells	ELA. - Avs	wel022165@adams12.org	720-972-2244
Holly Bishop	SS - Avs	bis005455@adams12.org	720-972-2245
Doug Lardes	Math - Avs	Lar011710@adams12.org	720-972-2238
Siobhan Eubanks	Science - Broncos	siobhan.eubanks@adams12.org	720-972-2236
Aaron Dees Mr. Dees' Website	ELA - Broncos	aaron.dees@adams12.org	720-972-2257
Val Higgins	SS - Broncos	valerie.higgins@adams12.org	720-972-2256
Keri Coupens	Math - Broncos	keri.A.Coupens@adams12.org	720-972-2243
Hanna Pennington	Learning Specialist	pen025601@adams12.org	720-972-2239

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We are looking forward to working with you and your child.

The 6th Grade Team

Schoology

Teachers throughout Rocky Top will use Schoology to assign work, and share notes, videos, and announcements for students. All work will be assigned and submitted through the Schoology learning management system.

Communication

- Communication between families and teachers is a vital component in every child's education. There are many ways to stay connected with teachers and Rocky Top Middle School:
 - News from The Top
 - News from The Top is our school newsletter. The newsletter provides timely, detailed information regarding school events, exciting things happening in our classrooms, community news, and important information from Adams 12 Five Star Schools.
 - [Infinite Campus](#)
 - Our grade book is a great way for parents and students to track progress toward mastery of standards, monitor attendance, and review assigned fees. Once teachers have updated grades, families and students can view assignments immediately.
 - [Rocky Top Middle School Website](#)
 - On the Rocky Top Middle School website, you can find links to daily school announcements, important information from Rocky Top Middle School, upcoming events, and general announcements.
- You may access the Infinite Campus Parent Portal through our website to track your child's academic achievement. Contact Susan Weiss at 720-972-2202 if you need support setting up your family's login information.
- The best way to reach us is by email. Teachers cannot take telephone calls during the day, because of their teaching and meeting schedule, but feel free to leave voice mail messages. You can expect a response to voicemail or email within 24 hours.
- Please schedule an appointment if you would like to meet with a teacher or core team. Making arrangements ahead of time will ensure that we can devote our time and full attention to you.

Late Work Policy

- When an absence is excused, students shall be given a period of at least the same number of days they were absent plus one additional day to make up missed assignments. This make up period begins the next school day following the absence. (Superintendent Policy 2.3.2) After reviewing the Schoology announcements and other links, students must contact their teachers directly to confirm expectations and due dates upon their return to school.
- For student work to increase learning and serve as an opportunity to show what students have mastered, assignments must be submitted on time. It is also our goal to teach students the importance of effective time management when meeting deadlines. To determine progress toward mastery of a standard, students must complete and submit a sufficient amount of work to create a body of evidence to represent their learning.

Bear Necessities

- Following the Adams 12 Elevate and Unified Improvement Plan (UIP), students will receive instruction around social-emotional learning (SEL).
- Bear Necessities (labeled "Personal Development" on Infinite Campus) is a class in which **all** Rocky Top students are enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Every classroom teacher will facilitate a Bear Necessities class, so some students will likely get the chance to get to know a teacher they may not encounter at any other point in their schedule.
- Through this class, it is our mission to help students acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals,

feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions. We are honored to be a part of the original Adams 12 Five Star Schools pilot and are grateful to be able to share these skills with our students during our school day.

Study Sessions

- Each teacher offers regularly scheduled study sessions for students seeking additional explanations of topics covered in class. Students must arrange for their own transportation before and after these sessions. Teachers are not available before or after school outside of regular study sessions unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Students must arrive on time to study sessions to get the most out of the session and to prevent disruption to the learning of others in attendance.
- Each morning session is from 8:10 to 8:30 AM and all afternoon sessions are 3:55 to 4:15 PM. Individual teacher-student sessions are outlined below.

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Morning Sessions 8:10-8:30 AM	Bogucki (Sci)	Genco (SS) Higgins (SS)	Eubanks (Sci) Brickley (Sci)	Dees (ELA) Gomberg (ELA) Wells (ELA) Pennington (LS)	Lardes (Math) Harguth (Math) Coupens (Math)
After School Sessions 3:55-4:15 PM	Bishop (SS)				

Middle School Grading Tenets

- The following percentage scale will be used for the aggregate grade: A (100-89.5%), B (89-79.5%), C (79-69.5%), D (69-59.5%), F (59 or below).
- Grades will be calculated by averaging a student's performance on grade reporting criteria (GRC) aligned to the standards in each subject area.
 - For example, in science, the GRCs are life, physical, earth, and science/engineering practices. If only 3 are covered in semester one then these three GRC will be used to determine the student's aggregate grade.
- All assignments/assessments that are entered into Infinite Campus must be scored using a rubric with four scoring criteria. The lowest score a student may receive on a completed assignment/assessment is 50%. All rubrics will be scored using a 10-point scale. For any assignment/assessment teachers may use a multiplier of up to 10 to increase the weight of an assignment/assessment.
- The lowest score a student may receive on an assignment/assessment is 50%. If an assessment/assignment is not completed, it will be scored as a missing assignment (M).
- Non-academic factors (e.g. participation, effort, behavior, extra credit, etc.) will not be factored into the grading system.
- All other district grading policies including, but not limited to, absences, awarding incomplete grades, and parent communication will be followed.
- Students will be offered opportunities to either correct or retake assessments within a reasonable time period provided that students meet reasonable expectations prescribed by the teacher (e.g. attend a help session, complete any missed formative work, etc.).
- ALL group projects will be represented by an individual grade for each student. During long-term projects, students will receive progress grades (check-ins) leading up to the final due date.
- Students' learning will be assessed approximately every two to three weeks in each content area and marks will be recorded in Infinite Campus.

- To accurately reflect student progress, general education teachers collaborate regularly with specialists throughout the building to ensure necessary learning supports are in place and progress is made toward the goals of students' IEPs, ALPs, and 504s.

Gradebook Reporting Criteria (GRC)

To provide clearer understanding of where each student is on their learning trajectory, educators across the Adams 12 Five Star School District will use the following GRC's. Based on the Colorado Academic Standards, these grade reporting criteria break down an overall course grade into specific aspects of study. This allows educators, students, and parents to know where a student is doing well and in what areas they may need to focus more attention.

Language Arts	Science	Social Studies	Math
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing • Speaking and Listening • Language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life • Physical • Earth • Science Practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Geography • Economics • Civics • Personal Financial Literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratios and Proportional Relationships • The Number System • Expressions and Equations • Geometry • Statistics and Probability

Chronological Essential Learning/Standards

Language Arts
<u>Units of Study/Focus:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authors as Mentors 2. Critical Consumers 3. The Power of Argument 4. Analyzing Author's Craft 5. Examining Differing Perspectives 6. Inquiry Into Arguments

Social Studies
<u>Units of Study:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geography 2. First Nations (Inuits and Native Peoples in North America) 3. Ancient America (Maya, Inca and Aztec) 4. Conquest and Colonization in the Western Hemisphere 5. Revolutions and Post-Colonization in the Western Hemisphere 6. Contemporary Study of the Western Hemisphere

Math 6
<u>Units of Study</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Numerical Expressions and Factors 2. Fractions and Decimals 3. Ratios and Rates 4. Percents 5. Algebraic Expressions and Properties 6. Equations

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Area, Surface Area and Volume8. Integers, Numbers Lines, and the Coordinate Plane9. Statistical Measures10. Data Displays |
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Honors Math

<u>Units of Study</u>

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Numerical Expressions and Factors2. Fractions and Decimals3. Ratios and Rates4. Percents5. Algebraic Expressions and Properties6. Integers, Numbers Lines, and the Coordinate Plane7. Equations and Inequalities8. Area, Surface Area, and Volume9. Statistical Measures and Data Displays10. Add, Subtract, Multiply, and Divide Rational Numbers11. Expressions |
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Science

<u>Units of Study:</u>

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Matter and Water</i> - A study of the atomic model and the kinetic theory of matter including a study of the distribution and circulation of water through Earth's systems and human dependence on water.2. <i>Earth's Structures and Natural Processes</i> - A study of the interrelationships between Earth's structures, natural processes, geologic time, and human activity.3. <i>Environmental Interactions</i> - A study of the complex interactions between organisms, environment, and the flow and use of energy. |
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