



**YOU DON'T HAVE
TO BE GREAT TO START,
BUT YOU HAVE TO
START TO BE GREAT**
- zig zagler

New Vision Charter School 2025-2026 Middle School Course Catalog

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SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

FRONT OFFICE

Main Office: 970.593.6827

Fax: 970.685.4829

Address: 299 Peridot Ave., Loveland, CO 80537

School Hours 7:50am - 3:15pm

Office Hours 7:30am - 4:00pm

ADMINISTRATION

Marian Hejl, Executive Director, mhejl@newvisioncharterschool.org

Maria Stafford, 5-8 Principal, mstafford@newvisioncharterschool.org

Chris Stine, 5-8 Assistant Principal, cstine@newvisioncharterschool.org

COUNSELOR

Erin Jobman, School Counselor, Grades 5-8, ejobman@newvisioncharterschool.org

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY DIRECTOR

Scott McNutt, NVCS Athletic/Activity Director, smcnutt@newvisioncharterschool.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

VISION	MISSION
New Vision Charter School is a public school of choice committed to transforming talents to strengths, ideas to actions, and beliefs to character through a creative and challenging learning environment.	New Vision Charter School will challenge, encourage, and empower students every day to persevere on their journey to be lifelong learners.

This guide is designed to help our 6th- 8th-grade students prepare for a positive middle school experience at New Vision Charter School. It is important that students seek the help of parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators in planning their educational pathways.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULES

6TH GRADE			7TH GRADE								
Monday-Friday			Monday, Tuesday, Friday			Wednesday			Thursday		
Period	Course	Time	Period	Course	Time	Period	Course	Time	Period	Course	Time
1	Core 1	7:50-8:50	1	Core 1	7:50-8:52						
2	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	8:53-9:38	2	Core 2	8:55-9:47	1-2	Core 1 IR/Study Hall	7:50-9:47	1-2	Core 2 IR/Study Hall	7:50-9:47
3	Core 2 IR/Study Hall	9:41-10:31	3	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	9:50-10:35	3	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	9:50-10:35	3	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	9:50-10:35
4	Core 3	10:44-11:34	4	Lunch	10:38-10:58	4	Lunch	10:38-10:58	4	Lunch	10:38-10:58
5	Core 4	11:37-12:27		Recess	10:58-11:13		Recess	10:58-11:13		Recess	10:58-11:13
6	Lunch	12:30-12:50	5	Specials	11:16-11:56	5	Specials	11:16-11:56	5	Specials	11:16-11:56
	Recess	12:50-1:05	6	Specials	11:59-12:39	6	Specials	11:59-12:39	6	Specials	11:59-12:39
7	Specials	1:09-1:49	7	Core 3	12:42-1:36						
8	Specials	1:52-2:32	8	Core 4	1:39-2:32	7-8	Core 3 IR/Study Hall	12:42-2:32	7-8	Core 4 IR/Study Hall Core 4	12:42-2:32 1:39-2:32
9	ELO	2:35-3:15	9	ELO	2:35-3:15	9	ELO	2:35-3:15	9	ELO	2:35-3:15

8TH GRADE								
Monday, Tuesday, Friday			Wednesday			Thursday		
Period	Course	Time	Period	Course	Time	Period	Course	Time
1	Core 1	7:50-8:52						
2	Core 2	8:55-9:45	1-2	Core 1 IR/Study Hall	7:50-9:45	1-2	Core 2 IR/Study Hall	7:50-9:45
3	Specials	9:48-10:28	3	Specials	9:48-10:28	3	Specials	9:48-10:28
4	Specials	10:31-11:11	4	Specials	10:31-11:11	4	Specials	10:31-11:11
5	Core 3	11:14-12:06						
6	Core 4	12:09-1:02	5-6	Core 3 IR/Study Hall	11:14-1:02	5-6	Core 4 IR/Study Hall	11:14-1:02
7	Lunch	1:04-1:24	7	Lunch	1:04-1:24	7	Lunch	1:04-1:24
	Recess	1:24-1:39		Recess	1:24-1:39		Recess	1:24-1:39
8	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	1:43-2:32	8	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	1:43-2:32	8	WIN (Advisory- Fri)	1:43-2:32
9	ELO	2:35-3:15	9	ELO	2:35-3:15	9	ELO	2:35-3:15

SCHEDULE CHANGE REQUESTS

The schedule is created from the course selections students make during registration in the spring. Staffing of these courses is then assigned accordingly. It is explained and impressed upon students that schedule changes are very difficult to make. Consideration of course selection is a very important and serious process. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to formulate class schedules together, as course changes and drops are restricted.

GRADING INFORMATION

Each student should strive to get the best preparation out of his or her time in middle school in order to be successful at NVCS. A cumulative GPA is calculated for all middle school level courses based on the number of credits received utilizing a 4.0 scale.

NVCS Middle School Grading Scale		
Score	Percentage Range	GPA Value
A+	96.5 - 100%	4
A	92.5 - 96.4%	4
A-	89.5 - 92.4 %	4
B+	86.5 - 89.4 %	3
B	82.5 - 86.4%	3
B-	79.5 - 82.4%	3
C+	76.5 - 79.4%	2
C	72.5 - 76.4%	2
C-	69.5 - 72.4 %	2
D+	66.5 - 69.4 %	1
D	62.5 - 66.4%	1
D-	59.5 - 62.4%	1
F	0 - 59.4%	0
S+	Satisfactory Plus	NA
S	Satisfactory	NA
S-	Satisfactory Minus	NA
U	Unsatisfactory	NA
I	Incomplete	NA

HONOR ROLL

Students at New Vision Charter School Middle School will receive academic recognition each quarter based on the following criteria:

Honor Roll	Principal's Honor Roll
3.5 – 3.778	3.8 – 4.0

MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-YEAR PLAN

Grade	Language Arts	Mathematics		Social Studies	Science	Specials		ELOs (Extended Learning Opportunity)
6	6 Reading	6 Math/Pre-Algebra CC 1.5		6 Social Studies	6 Science	6 Band, Orchestra, or Choir	6 Music Appreciation	Quarter 1: 6th Grade only ELOs, Quarter 2-4 combined with 7th & 8th grade
	6 STEM					6 PE/Health		
	6 Art					6 Spanish		
7	7 English Language Arts (ELA)	7 Pre-Algebra CC2.5	7 Algebra 1 <i>(dual Middle School & High School Credit)</i>	7 Social Studies	7 Science	7 Band or Choir	7 Audio Engineering	7th & 8th grade will have combined ELO Courses. Please see the course descriptions for ELO options.
						7 STEM	7 PE/Health	
						7 Art	7 Spanish 1A	
8	8 English Language Arts (ELA)	8 Algebra 1 <i>(dual Middle School & High School Credit)</i>	8 Geometry <i>(dual Middle School & High School Credit)</i>	8 Social Studies	8 Science	8 Band or Choir	8 Audio Engineering	
						8 STEM	8 PE/Health	
						8 Art	8 Spanish 1B	
						8 Communications		

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIALS ROTATIONS

All middle school students will receive two specials classes daily. These classes will alternate each day on a Purple/Orange day rotation.

ELO - EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to specials, students can participate in daily ELO (Extended Learning Opportunities). This time during the school day is provided to extend learning for students in a variety of ways. Students may be placed into an Academic Support or an Intervention Class during ELO Time based on student need and/or schedule.

MUSIC OFFERINGS

6th Grade

6083M-Band	6089M-Orchestra	6086M-Choir	6081M-Music Appreciation
Band is for students who are interested in playing or currently play an instrument. Students explore a variety of song styles. This course is open to beginners or experienced players. Students are expected to perform in the winter and spring performances.	Performing instrumental ensemble consisting of members of the string family. Students learn how to increase their instrumental technique, improve their sight reading skills, and be a responsible ensemble member. No previous experience is required.	Choir is for students who are interested in singing, even if they have no prior choir experience. Students will enjoy singing a variety of music from standards to show-stopping numbers. Students are expected to perform in the winter and spring performances.	Students will study the fundamentals of music and discover basic music terminology, instrument families, tempo, rhythm, form, and meter. These elements will then be used throughout the course as a foundation for discussion of music throughout history.

7th Grade & 8th Grade

7083M-Band	7086M-Choir	7700M-Audio Engineering
8084M & 8085M-Band	8612M & 8613M-Choir	8702M & 8703M-Audio Engineering
Band is for students who are interested in playing or currently play an instrument. Students explore a variety of song styles. This course is open to beginners or experienced players. Students are expected to perform in the winter and spring performances.	Choir is for students who are interested in singing, even if they have no prior choir experience. Students will enjoy singing a variety of music from standards to show-stopping numbers. Students are expected to perform in the winter and spring performances.	Learn the art and science of sound recording and audio engineering. During this course, you'll gain an understanding of techniques that can help to capture audio and turn it into high-quality music. You'll have opportunities to listen to and analyze some of the best records from the last century while learning the techniques that artists, engineers, and producers use to make them. Students will have access to Soundtrap EDU for this course.

8TH LANGUAGE OPTIONS

8062M & 8063M-Spanish 1B	8102M & 8103M-Communications
In this course, students will utilize the language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing to become confident and capable speakers of Spanish. Students will hone their skills through learning vocabulary and grammar in context and through exposure to the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will make cross-cultural connections and comparisons that will enable them to expand their understanding of the target language.	Communications explores the theories and practice of speech communication behavior to promote communication competence in interpersonal, small group, and public speaking situations. Communication skills are essential to personal and professional success. Yet, for many people, communication skills are often some of the hardest skills to develop. This course provides an overview of communication as a discipline. By taking this course, you will develop skills to confidently and competently communicate with individuals, groups, or audiences.

ELO COURSE OFFERINGS

Course #	Course Name
6806M	6th Create a Comic Book
6808M	6th Cursive
9008M	6th Elements of Art
6810M	6th Minecraft Education Edition
6812M	6th Puzzles & Brain Game
6701M	6th Stop Motion Animation
7800M	Academic Support**
9022M	Amazing Shake
9016M	Athletic Conditioning
9001M	Basic Woodworking
9053M	Business Builders
9004M	Ceramics
9003M	Children's Books
9005M	Clutch
9007M	Creative Problem Solving
9011M	Cursive
9024M	Financial Literacy
9017M	Fly Tying & Fly Fishing
9051M	Gardening 101
9023M	History of Baseball
9054M	History of Skateboarding

Course #	Course Name
9025M	Jewelry and Beading
9027M	Leadership
9029M	Minecraft Education Edition
9031M	Mock Trial
9055M	Mythology & Science Fiction
9033M	NASA
9056M	Nighthawk Navigation
9050M	Phone Photography
9039M	Pop Culture 101: 80s - 2000s
9040M	Psychology & the Brain
9042M	Read A-Latte
9030M	RPGs
9041M	Sculpture
9045M	Sports Skillz
9046M	Stop Motion Animation
9043M	Textile Crafts
9049M	Wilderness Medicine
9052M	Yoga
7900M	Yearbook - <i>application only</i>
9057M	Community Connections - <i>application only</i>

ELO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Read A-Latte 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 7th/8th Grade Q2, Q3, Q4 : 6th-8th Grade	Love reading? This is a book club-style class with a twist. We will enjoy ample student-driven reading opportunities in a relaxing environment, while also building our communication skills and fostering a love of reading for all. Come join the fun!
Children's Books 25/26 OFFERED: Q2, Q4 : 6th-8th Grade	This course will explore what it takes to create a children's book. Students will learn about illustrations and the writing process. Lastly, students will write, illustrate, and publish a children's story.
Cursive 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 6th Grade Only Q3: 6th-8th Grade	Can't read your grandmother's birthday cards? I am here to help you! Students will learn the basics of upper and lowercase letters in cursive. They will become comfortable reading cursive and master the cursive form.
Mythology & Science Fiction Q2: 6th-8th Grade	In this course, we will learn about and read myths from a variety of cultures, including Greek, Roman, Norse and Native American. We will also learn about the history of the science fiction genre and explore how mythology and sci-fi have impacted society.

MATH & PROBLEM SOLVING

Financial Literacy 25/26 OFFERED: Q4 6th-8th Grade	Learn more about personal finance: managing your money, budgeting, investments, and other practice math application for your future
Puzzles and Brain Games 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 6th Grade Only	Students will sharpen their math and creative language skills by completing a wide variety of puzzles and games. Puzzles will include Sudoku, logic puzzles, nonograms, crack-the-code, rebus, word finders, etc... Games range from creating various words out of an allotted draw (Boggle, Scrabble), challenges where students pull from their creativity to communicate game-related messages (Catch Phrase, Scattegories, Balderdash) or logic and strategy games (Mastermind, Clue). Puzzles and games will change and difficulty will increase as the elective progresses.
Creative Problem Solving 25/26 OFFERED: Q4 6th-8th	Students will sharpen their math thinking skills by completing a wide variety of puzzles and brain games. These will range from Sudoku, various varieties of Sudoku (Jigsaw Sudoku, Killer Sudoku, Samurai Sudoku), Kakuro Puzzles, Number Search, Number Fill in, and Checkerboard Puzzles. We will change the type of puzzle and the difficulty of the puzzles as the elective progresses.
RPGs 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 7th/8th Grade Only Q4 6th-8th	D&D and other role-playing games! Are you ready to create your own world and build teamwork as you and your classmates travel through it? This class is open to all levels of interest and experience. Be prepared to show up with an open mind, as anything is possible in this class!

SOCIAL STUDIES

Pop Culture 101: 80s - 2000s 25/26 OFFERED: Q4 6th-8th Grade	Do you like 80s, 90s and early 2000s music, movies, video games and culture? Do you want to learn more about this innovative and interesting time period? In this class, students will learn about the popular "pop" culture of the 80s-2000s – everything from new technology, like the internet, that was created in these decades to the most popular films and fads. Students will also learn about the politics and historical events from this time period, including The Cold War between the United States and Russia. The 80s through the early 2000s were a unique time period that we will explore in this class.
History of Skateboarding 25/26 OFFERED: Q3 : 6th-8th Grade	Skateboarding truly started in the late 1960's and 1970's stemming from the California surf culture. It exploded during the 1980's with movies like Back to the Future bringing it to popular culture. It was during this time that skate manufacturers began signing pro skateboarders like Tony Hawk to promote and design boards. This class will explore this history and the cultural impact it had, with students ultimately designing their own skateboard.
History of Baseball 25/26 OFFERED: Q2 : 6th-8th Grade	Do you like Baseball? Do you like History? Do you like Popular Culture? This class will explore how the game of baseball has played a significant role in US History. From the breaking of the color line by Jackie Robinson, to the inspirational first pitch by President Bush after 9/11, baseball has been a significant contributing factor in the cultural changes that have occurred in America's history.
Mock Trial 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 7th/8th Grade Only	A mock trial is a simulated courtroom experience where students act as lawyers, witnesses, and other courtroom roles to present a hypothetical legal case. Participation helps students hone critical thinking, public speaking, and teamwork skills. This experience provides a deeper understanding of the legal process and can prepare participants for potential legal or advocacy careers.

SCIENCE

Psychology & the Brain 25/26 OFFERED: Q2, Q3 : 7th/8th Grade Only	Have you ever wondered why we think the way we do? Or even think about why you dream at night? In Psychology and the Brain, you will begin to explore these questions and more about how our brains work, and even how sometimes things can go wrong. Come join our exploration and even have the opportunity to take a deeper look into the workings of your own brain! You will be driving your learning in this class.
Wilderness Medicine 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 7th/8th Grade Only Q4: 6th-8th Grade	Learn the basics of wilderness medicine and survival skills. This class aims to explore and strengthen problem-solving and critical thinking skills in a fun and skill-based manner. The goal is to foster a growth mindset, strengthen team building, learn medical basics with an outdoor mindset and have FUN!
Fly Tying & Fly Fishing 25/26 OFFERED: Q4: 6th-8th Grade	Do you love to make things? Do you like being outside? Have you enjoyed the thrill of catching fish in Fortnite or Minecraft? If you answered yes to any of those questions then this class is for you! In this class learn about fish, what they eat, where they like to hang out, and how to catch them, as well as how to tie flies that work well in our area. You'll also learn different fly casting techniques and have the opportunity to try catching fish with your own flies (Possibility for a field trip to Colorado Youth Outdoors)
Gardening 101 25/26 OFFERED: Q3 & Q4: 6th-8th Grade Semester Commitment	Explore the wonders of gardening by learning the basics of planting, nurturing, and maintaining a garden. Through hands-on activities and engaging lessons, you will develop a deeper understanding of plants, soil, and the environment. Learn valuable skills such as teamwork, responsibility, and patience and develop the knowledge and confidence to start their own gardens and appreciate the beauty and benefits of nature.
NASA 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 7th/8th Grade Only Q4: 6th-8th Grade	Head to the clouds? Looking up? Want to know what is out there in the black expanse that we see at night? We will study the NASA organization. Explore the history, past and current missions, what it takes to be part of NASA, and opportunities to work there

ART

Ceramics 25/26 OFFERED: Q3: 6th-8th Grade	In this course, students will explore the rich history, traditions, and qualities of clay as a functional and artistic medium. Students will hone their understanding of form, space, and volume through the construction of various hand-built projects, and will also experiment with a variety of surface applications and glazing techniques.
Sculpture 25/26 OFFERED: Q2, Q4: 6th-8th Grade	The focus of this course will be to introduce basic three-dimensional processes and materials as well as develop a student's understanding of form and space. Ceramics, Plaster, Mixed Media, and other sculptural mediums will be explored. Various historical periods will be studied to help students understand the importance of sculpture's role in reflecting and shaping history.
Elements of Art 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 6th Grade Only	It is important to develop a strong foundational understanding in the discipline of art to fully understand its true power. In this class, students will develop this knowledge by exploring the elements of art through a variety of engaging projects. Students will further strengthen this understanding by studying how these foundational elements have been used by artists throughout history.
Basic Woodworking 25/26 OFFERED: Q3: 6th-8th Grade	In this course, we'll learn about basic woodworking techniques using hand tools to create different projects. We'll discuss measurement, cuts, nailless joinery techniques, and shop safety. Students will have the opportunity to create a pencil box, A hinged box, and a small stool. (Materials Req'd)
Jewelry and Beading 25/26 OFFERED: Q3: 6th-8th Grade	Learn the basic skills of creating bracelets, necklaces, earrings, and rings with different types of mediums.
Create a Comic Book 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 6th Grade Only	Students will learn about the basics of creating a comic, starting from writing the script and creating their own characters, to drawing the comic itself.
Phone Photography 25/26 OFFERED: Q3: 6th-8th Grade	Photography is more than just taking a picture. It is an outlet for creativity, vision, and imagination. It can give you a sense of purpose, a mode of storytelling, and a different perspective on things. Smartphone photography is different from digital photography using a camera because it is so instant and accessible. You take a picture and see the results on a large screen, you can instantly edit it with a photo editor, and you can send or post it online to share instantly with your friends and followers.
Textile Crafts 25/26 OFFERED: Q3: 6th-8th Grade	Learn the basic skills of sewing, knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, and other fun textile crafts. Students will be introduced to key designs and will explore different techniques.

PE/ATHLETIC

Athletic Conditioning 25/26 OFFERED: Q3, Q4 : 6th-8th Grade	This class will focus on improving fast-twitch muscles, footwork, balance, and endurance. It is open to ability levels. Be prepared to show up with a positive attitude and to give your best effort.
Sports Skillz 25/26 OFFERED: Q2: 6th-8th Grade	The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting.
Yoga 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 7th & 8th grade only Q2: 6th-8th Grade	This course will focus on the fundamentals of yoga poses for beginners. We will focus on breath, movement, strength, flexibility, and balance. <i>Must be willing to participate daily.</i>

TECHNOLOGY

Yearbook 25/26 OFFERED: Q1-Q3 6th/7th Grade Q1 & Q2 <i>required</i> 8th Grade Q1, Q2 & Q3 <i>Required</i> Previous yearbook experience (preferred)	Students learn basic principles of yearbook production and develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines; digital photography; desktop publishing and using appropriate technology tools for media production. <i>Students must complete an application.</i>
Minecraft Education Edition 25/26 OFFERED: Q1 (6th Grade only), Q3 (6th-8th)	Minecraft: Education Edition is an educational version of the popular game, Minecraft, developed to foster interactive and collaborative learning. Created specifically for educational purposes, it enables students to explore engaging virtual environments related to various subjects, including STEM. With features like Code Builder, it introduces coding and also has lessons on math, social studies, science, and English. Minecraft: Education Edition is a versatile learning tool, which encourages creativity and collaboration.
Stop Motion Animation 25/26 OFFERED: Q2: 6th-8th Grade	Learn how movie studios use stop-motion animation to bring everyday items to life. In this course, we'll explore the twelve principles of animation and apply them to stop-motion video projects. Students will learn basic and advanced stop motion techniques, as well as video editing skills.

LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY

Amazing Shake 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 7th & 8th Grade Only Q2: 6th-8th Grade	Train for the most Amazing competition you've ever seen! Amazing Shake is a thrilling soft-skills competition that tests your professionalism, poise under pressure, and many other life and career-needed skills. Students can sign up for 1 quarter of training (either Q1 or Q2) to prepare themselves for competing in the NVCS Amazing Shake competition which takes place during February 2026. (Students who are unable to take Amazing Shake as an ELO can come to before-school coaching sessions between November-January in order to prepare to compete)
Amazing Shake: Community Connections 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: 7th & 8th Grade Only Q2: 6th-8th Grade	<p><u>Prerequisite:</u> Previous Amazing Shake experience is recommended, but not required. <i>Students must complete an application.</i></p> <p>Ready to take your soft skills to the next level? Hone your Amazing Shake skills while putting them into practice through various on and off campus opportunities. This course will consist of volunteering in NVCS classrooms, giving school tours, visiting local businesses and city leaders, and mentoring younger Amazing Shakers.</p>
Amazing Shake: Business Builders 25/26 OFFERED: Q2: 7th & 8th Grade Only	<p><u>Prerequisite:</u> Previous Amazing Shake experience is recommended, but not required.</p> <p>Students will build on previous Amazing Shake skills and experiences to take their ideas from concept to creation! They'll learn how to develop a product, design a prototype, and craft a business model, complete with marketing strategies and financial plans to pitch to a panel of sharks. Throughout the course, students will gain real-world skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and creativity, all while working toward creating their own business.</p>
Leadership Skills 25/26 OFFERED: Q4: 6th-8th Grade	Utilizing Sean Covey's 7 Habits of Effective Teens, this class will focus on building leadership skills in students and preparing them for the next transition in their lives into high school. This class will help build student's skills so that they can meet and overcome not only the challenges they will face in high school but also the challenges faced in everyday life.

Clutch 25/26 OFFERED: Q2: 6th-8th Grade	Performing under pressure is not just a gift, an unknown ability that only a few are blessed with. Students and athletes continually face "pressure" and critical situations. This will be a study of performing in pressure situations. We will reference the book Clutch by Paul Sullivan, study clutch performances in sports, business, and academic venues, how to become "clutch", and make a personal plan for performing in "clutch" situations.
Nighthawk Navigation 25/26 OFFERED: Q1: NEW 7th & 8th Grade	The Nighthawk Navigation class is designed for new 7th and 8th grade students at New Vision Charter School. This mandatory class helps students connect with one another, feel prepared, and begin their journey toward success at New Vision. Through this course, students will learn about important aspects of success, including character development, academics, and social responsibilities. The Nighthawk Navigation class aims to support students in transitioning smoothly and successfully into their new environment at NVCS.