

Wilson School District Middle School Program of Studies

2025-2026



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Mission and Vision:

Mission:

To empower our students to create their own futures.

Vision:

To create a place where students love to learn, staff love to work, and people love to live.

Grading:

The marks you receive on your report card range from 0-100. Generally, it can be said that the value of the marks is as follows:

90-100 Outstanding: Work of superior or excellent quality; has done more than actually required.

80-89 Above Average: All the work assigned has been accomplished with good workmanship and promptness.

70-79 Average: Has met requirements of assignments but has done no supplemental work; achievement is average.

60-69 Below Average: Work is incomplete, tardy, or careless. Achievement is poor.

59 & below Not Passing: Work is below passing standards and often not completed; achievement in the subject is very poor.

W - Mark Withheld: Failure to complete the required work because of absence or other reason acceptable to the teacher. The proper letter grade will be assigned upon completion of the work. Except in unusual cases, the incomplete work must be made up within two weeks after the assignment of the mark.

X - Excused due to physical/medical restrictions

For example, if a student earned:

<u>1st tri</u>	<u>2nd tri</u>	<u>3rd tri</u>
78	84	80

The calculation would be:

$$78 + 84 + 80 = 242$$

$$242 \text{ divided by } 3 = 80.6\%$$

Report cards will be posted in November, February, and June following each trimester.

Semester classes (for all high school credit courses) use a similar algorithm. All grades are computed using the Skyward software. If there are questions regarding your child's grades, please contact either the classroom teacher or their school counselor.

Grade Point Average (GPA):

Skyward uses an algorithm to calculate students' current GPA. This is calculated based on the average score in each year-long core subject area (6th and 7th grades). For 8th grade students, semester classes are also included in the calculation. See the examples below:

6th/7th Grade

Mathematics - 93%

English - 88%

Science - 96%

Global Studies - 79%

Reading - 82%

The calculation would be:

$$93 + 88 + 96 + 79 + 82 = 438$$

438 divided by **5** = 87.6 GPA

8th Grade

Mathematics - 93%

English - 88%

Science - 96%

History - 79%

Spanish/French or Reading - 82%

Tech Ed (semester elective)- 95%

The calculation would be:

$$93 + 88 + 96 + 79 + 82 + \mathbf{95} = 533$$

533 divided by **6** = 88.8 GPA

Honor Roll:

A good scholastic record should be a goal of all students each year in school. To achieve **high honor roll** status, students must attain a grade point average of at least 93% with no individual grade being lower than 85% in all subjects.

To achieve **honor roll** status, a student must attain a grade point average of at least 85% with no individual grades being lower than 80% in all subjects.

*(*8th grade only: Grades for Trimester Elective Classes will factor into the overall grade point average.)*

Students' names will be listed on the high honor roll and honor roll each trimester. Students will receive a **certificate of academic achievement** based on classes currently completed during the marking period.

* For both Honor Roll and High Honor Roll, calculated grades are not rounded up. Individual course grades were rounded initially for the trimester report card process. Therefore, grades are not rounded again for the calculation of high honor roll and regular honor roll.

National Junior Honor Society:

Since 1929, the National Junior Honor Society has been recognizing the highest achieving students in grades 6-9. Modeled after its well-known companion program, the National Honor Society, NJHS provides a solid foundation for ambitious middle level students as they prepare for their high school and higher education pursuits.

The Wilson School District has a membership chapter at both Southern and West middle school for eligible 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. In order to be eligible a student must have earned high honor roll designations (see honor roll description) for the first two grading periods of the school year. They must then complete an application, furnish two teacher recommendations and be in good standing in regards to both attendance and disciplinary records. Finally, a review board of teachers, administrators and advisors will then examine each candidate and recommend them for membership. Upon acceptance, membership candidates will then walk through an induction ceremony.

Members of the National Junior Honor Society are expected annually to maintain levels of Scholarship (minimum 90% cumulative GPA), Citizenship and Service (20 hours annually of voluntary service to others).

Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities:

Students involved in extracurricular activities must be academically eligible to participate in a game. A student who fails two major subjects or one major and at least two minor subjects will be ineligible for one week. Eligibility runs Sunday to Saturday. Thursday of each week, an eligibility report will be produced that will indicate those students who are in danger of and/or failing a subject. Coaches/directors, parents and the students who are ineligible will be contacted by school personnel.

Weekly monitoring of band and band front members will occur during marching band season (Sept. to Oct. 31). Present eligibility standards for band and band front are: two or more failures require the student to be ineligible for one week; tutoring is mandatory.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities and are ineligible will report to the after school tutoring/study session. At the end of the tutoring, the student will report to practice. If there is a home game, the student must go to the tutoring/study session first, and then report to the game. If there is an away game, the student must make arrangements to go home after the tutoring/study program.

If a student misses a tutoring/study session during the ineligible week the student must make up that session the following week on a day arranged by the school counselor(s) and coaches. School counselor and coach/director will coordinate the tutoring/study session program after school as well as during the day.

For school related activities held over holidays, the student must be eligible the last time eligibility was checked. Ineligible students will not be able to participate in trips. Trips are defined as: anytime students are leaving the school for either a number of periods, full day, and/or multiple days. Trips can include musical performances or class field trips.

At the end of each trimester, if a student is ineligible due to grades, he/she will be ineligible for fifteen (15) school days and the above stated guidelines will be followed. If at the end of the year, a student's final grades show the student ineligible, he/she will be ineligible the first fifteen (15) school days unless the student attended summer school to improve his/her grades.

Promotion Requirements:

In grades 6, 7 and 8, all major subjects are considered for promotion. A major subject is one which meets 5 or more times per week. If students receive a below passing grade (Below 60%) in one major subject, they will be promoted. If students fail one major and two minor subjects, or if they fail two major subjects, they may not be promoted. However, if students make up one of the deficiencies through an approved summer school, students may be promoted. If three major subjects are failed, students will not be promoted. However, if two major subjects are made up in summer school, they may be promoted at the discretion of the principal. When four major subjects, including elective majors are failed, students may not make up the work and they will not be promoted unless approved by the principal and school counselors.

If students fail to meet these standards, they may be promoted if:

1. He/she has spent two years in the same grade and made up deficiencies in summer school.
2. In the opinion of the administration, the student is socially and physically too mature to be retained.
3. In the opinion of the administration, the student has worked to his/her capacity.

Required Mathematics Completion

A student must pass their current mathematics course placement in order to progress to the next level of mathematics the following school year. If a student does not pass with a grade of 60% or above, they will be required to take the course in summer school (at the parent's expense) or repeat the same course the following school year. This could have an impact upon the student's course selection and/or graduation credit requirements.

Course Requirements by Grade Level:

6th and 7th Grade:

The 6th and 7th grade schedules consist of an eight-period day. Students attend four core classes each day consisting of a double period of English Language Arts, a double period of Mathematics, a single period of Science, and a single period of Social Studies. During the remaining two periods, students attend their special area classes. One of the periods includes Health and Physical Education on an every other day basis. The final period consists of thirty day "half-trimester" courses in Art, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Library, Music, and Technology and Engineering.

8th Grade:

The 8th grade schedule consists of a seven-period day. Students attend five core classes each day consisting of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and either Reading or World Language. During the remaining two periods, students attend their special area classes. One of the periods includes Health and Physical Education on an every other day basis. The final period consists of three, trimester-long electives chosen by students in the areas of Art, Business, Family and Consumer Science, Music, and Technology and Engineering.

Course Selection Process:

The following timeline provides approximate dates when the selection process will take place for the upcoming school year:

December & January - 8th grade Learning Support students hear an explanation of the Early Admission Program at BCTC. They take a tour, hear about the application process and consider the option of formally applying to BCTC as a 9th grader. Applications are distributed and handed out to interested students following the January tour. Interviews with BCTC staff take place in February.

January - Course recommendations made by 8th grade teachers - typically a two week window for teachers to enter 9th grade recommendations into Skyward. Students are given a designated day to go around to each teacher and discuss recommendations and goals.

January - 8th grade presentation - High school counselors and administration - Present information about available courses, credits, timelines and expectations.

February - High School Scheduling presentation and open house for parents and students.

February - High School counselor classroom presentations - Students hear presentations regarding available courses and enter requests and back-up requests in Skyward. Parents can see recommendations and requests on Skyward. The window for students to make request changes is typically open for two weeks.

February - Middle School Counselors meet with each 8th grade student individually to discuss and review grades, course requests and goals for 9th grade.

March - Course recommendations made by 6th and 7th grade teachers in Skyward.

March - Next year's 7th and 8th grade scheduling - Middle School Counselors go into 6th and 7th grade science sections. They discuss course options for 7th and 8th grade, including electives and music ensembles.

March - 7th grade students complete a Google Form where they rank electives for each trimester and select foreign languages and their involvement in musical ensembles. The students then enter course requests into Skyward. Parents / guardians can see requests in Skyward and make changes until a designated date.

High School Credit Courses:

Middle school students have the opportunity to receive high school credit and GPA for the following courses:

Algebra I
Spanish I
French I

Course Offerings:

- **Art**

- Art Grade 6

- In this half-trimester class, students will be introduced to art at the middle school level. We will work with a variety of hands-on materials including clay, colored pencils, sharpies, and more. Students will practice blending using Prismacolor pencils, and use many of the elements and principles of art to create our works. Our clay project will feature textures and sculptural elements and will allow students to practice applying glaze to create a finished piece. This course will build on the skills

learned at the elementary level and will allow students to self-assess their work and become more confident in their creative problem-solving.

- Art Grade 7
 - In this half-trimester course, 7th-grade students will build upon the foundational skills learned in the 6th-grade art course. The curriculum is designed to deepen students' understanding and application of various artistic techniques. Students will explore a range of media and creative processes, including drawing, painting, and clay sculpture. In painting, students will focus on color theory, experimenting with color mixing and application. They will also engage in clay slab building, learning basic hand-building techniques to create functional or sculptural pieces. Throughout the course, students will further develop their design skills, learning how to apply principles of composition and form to create visually dynamic works of art. Each project will encourage creativity and personal expression while reinforcing essential artistic concepts and techniques.
- Art Explorations (Grade 8)
 - In the 8th-grade Art Explorations course, students embark on a comprehensive study of 2-dimensional art concepts, focusing on the development of drawing skills. They will engage in observational drawing exercises that emphasize value shading, proportion, and perspective techniques. A range of drawing tools, including graphite pencils, colored pencils, and pens, will be used to explore these concepts. Students will also learn the fundamentals of composition and the elements and principles of design to enhance their artistic creations. These principles are applied through various media, including colored pencils, paint, and other 2-dimensional creative techniques. To reinforce their learning, students will complete biweekly sketchbook assignments tied to the current unit of study. Additionally, students will research artists who incorporate these techniques into their work, culminating in a final report at the end of the trimester.
- Art 3D Experience (Grade 8)
 - This trimester-long course continues to build upon the sculptural skills of 6th and 7th grade with clay, but also features other materials and techniques that highlight the element of form. Using clay, students will create a vessel using differing techniques such as hand building or coiling. Artists will use a variety of hands-on media such as paper, cardboard, clay, paper mache, metal tooling, plaster...etc. Students will also practice their drawing skills through bi-weekly sketchbook assignments and thumbnail sketches for their 3-dimensional projects.

● Business

- Digital Literacy (Grade 6)
 - Sixth graders will learn an overview of Google products in conjunction with good digital citizenship practices.
- Career Concepts (Grade 7)
 - Seventh graders will investigate how personal interests and abilities play a role in choosing their career path. They will brainstorm their dream lifestyle, take career interest surveys, meet with professionals from various industries in Berks County, develop a career plan, and learn to create a budget.
- Investment and Entrepreneurship (Grade 8)

- In Investment and Entrepreneurship, students will learn about investing in the stock market and about marketing and entrepreneurship in a shark tank simulation.
- Business Multimedia (Grade 8)
 - Multimedia covers the elements and principles of design, graphics, and movie making.

● English Language Arts

- ELA Grade 6
 - ELA 6 is a comprehensive course that combines reading and writing to build essential literacy skills for all sixth graders. Students will develop writing skills across narrative, informative, and argumentative modes, while honing vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure. Through reading workshop activities, they will increase reading proficiency by selecting and engaging with literature from diverse genres, responding in journals, and analyzing texts for deeper comprehension. The course includes the study of whole class novels, book club novels, short stories, and poetry. Students will learn to think deeply and analyze texts to prepare them for the complex texts they will encounter in middle school and beyond.
- ELA Grade 7
 - ELA 7 is a comprehensive course that combines reading and writing to build essential literacy skills for all seventh graders. Students will develop writing skills across narrative, informative, and argumentative modes, while honing vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure. Through reading workshop activities, they will increase reading proficiency by selecting and engaging with literature from diverse genres, responding in journals, and analyzing texts for deeper comprehension. The course includes the study of short stories, novels, poetry, and Greek myths, emphasizing author's craft and text-dependent analysis to prepare students for the complex texts they will encounter in high school and beyond.
- English Grade 8
 - The 8th grade English course is designed to equip students with the tools to become proficient communicators and critical thinkers. Through the exploration of diverse literary texts, students will refine their writing, speaking, and listening skills. By analyzing various genres and authors, students will develop a deeper appreciation for language and literature. Furthermore, the course will emphasize research skills, enabling students to effectively gather, evaluate, and present information. By fostering a love of reading and encouraging independent reading habits, this course aims to inspire a lifelong passion for learning.
- Reading Writing Workshop Grade 8
 - Reading/Writing Workshop 8 is a course designed to enhance reading and writing skills. Within a reading workshop format, students will develop focused strategies for reading both fiction and nonfiction literature. Within a writing workshop format, students will develop informative and argumentative writing skills. These skills are intended to support reading and writing requirements in a student's other core classes. This course will be required for students who demonstrate specific literacy needs in the areas of comprehension and writing.

● Family and Consumer Science

- Family and Consumer Science (Grade 6)
 - 6th grade FCS focuses on child development and nutrition. Babysitting is usually a student's first job. In the child development unit, we will help students become better babysitters by discussing stages of child development, babysitting safety strategies and the responsibilities of babysitting. The foods and nutrition unit is an introduction to cooking and nutrition where students will learn beginning cooking skills including kitchen safety and sanitation, measuring, and cooking terminology. Students will also learn about MyPlate and essential nutrients which will help make healthier breakfast and snack food choices. Students will apply their skills and knowledge through foods lab experiences in class.
- Family and Consumer Science (Grade 7)
 - 7th grade FCS students will build on their foods and nutrition knowledge and skills from 6th grade. They will utilize safe food handling techniques to successfully follow a recipe to create food products. Students will learn about consumerism and nutrition facts labels. Students will also demonstrate their hand-sewing skills to create a hand-sewn project.
- Foods and Nutrition (Grade 8)
 - A major focus of this course will be in the area of foods and nutrition. Students will learn basic cooking methods that will give them the background to prepare a wide variety of culinary delights. Each food group is studied. Students will learn about the various foods in each group, major nutrients and prepare recipes. Students use research skills to learn about different cultures and cuisines, then prepare and taste foods from around the world.
- Textiles and Interior Design (Grade 8)
 - Students explore the fundamentals of textiles and sewing by creating simple sewing projects for personal and community use. The interior design component allows students to learn the fundamentals of design through a personal space planning project. Supplies will need to be purchased for class projects. Therefore, students may incur individual costs for projects.

● Gifted Education

- QUEST
 - QUEST is an enrichment program designed for gifted support students in grades 6 through 8. Meeting at least once during a 6-day cycle, this course provides an opportunity for students to engage in challenging, teacher-designed activities that foster critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving. Students are grouped in small classes with peers of similar gifted abilities and strengths, allowing for tailored enrichment experiences. In addition to structured activities, students have the flexibility to self-select enrichment projects that align with their personal interests, encouraging independence and self-directed learning. QUEST aims to cultivate a passion for exploration and intellectual growth while nurturing each student's unique abilities.
- Gifted Seminar
 - Gifted Seminar is an immersive, trimester-long course designed for 8th grade Gifted Support students. Throughout the course, students engage in a process of intellectual discovery, beginning with brainstorming and researching topics of

personal interest. They then formulate critical questions they aim to explore and answer during the trimester. Students document their progress and insights through a reflective journal, allowing them to track their learning journey. The culmination of the course is a final project that showcases their research and findings, which is presented to peers. The seminar concludes with a reflection on the experience and an exploration of "What's next?" for their work, encouraging students to think about future directions for their intellectual growth and interests.

● Health and Physical Education

- Health and Physical Education (Grade 6)
 - 6th Grade health will be Learning and understanding the relationship between Health and Wellness and roles that they play in their lives as they grow and mature. Focusing on the key aspects of Mental, Physical, and Social health, while also learning and implementing important Stress relief skills that will help promote good Health and Wellness as well as creating opportunities for Success. 6th Grade Physical Education will be focused on the importance of being physically active and lifelong fitness. Students will use skills such as active communication and teamwork to perform tasks and activities all while moving and remaining active.
- Health and Physical Education (Grade 7)
 - 7th Grade health will be learning and discussing how communication and quality engagement play a role in mental and social health, as well as how the words and actions one makes can directly affect relationships with those around them in both positive and negative ways. Students will actively work on advocating for oneself, and limiting risky behaviors that could affect the trajectory of their lives. 7th Grade Physical Education will focus on the beginning stages of personal fitness and team sport activities. Students will have the opportunity to learn how to utilize weight room equipment as well as proper lifting techniques. Students will also participate in a variety of team sport activities that focus on sportsmanship and teamwork.
- Health and Physical Education (Grade 8)
 - 8th Grade Health addresses the constant struggles that teens and young adults face on a daily basis. Students will learn how to manage stress as well as apply decision making skills. Through guided research, students will learn how to find tools, resources and strategies to help manage future problems. 8th Grade Physical Education will focus on Personal Fitness at the advanced level as well advanced team sport activities and lifetime fitness and activities. The students will participate in a wide variety of team sports that promote team strategy and skill development. Students will have the ability to take charge of their own personal fitness in and out of the weight room.

● Library

- Gateway to Information - GIF (Grade 6)
 - In 6th grade GIF, students will learn how to effectively use both the physical library and digital tools to locate books, articles, and information for their studies. They will gain familiarity with book genres, classifications, and how to find materials that match their interests and academic needs. They'll also dive into the principles of

digital citizenship, focusing on safe, responsible, and ethical behavior online. The course emphasizes key research skills, such as identifying credible sources and properly citing information. By the end of the program, students will have the skills they need to conduct independent research, engage with a wide range of media, and navigate the world of information both in the library and online.

- SPARK (Grade 7)
 - In 7th grade SPARK, the course guides students through the research process, teaching them how to find credible sources, evaluate information, and organize their findings into a clear, impactful presentation. Throughout the course, students will select one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to address global issues, and conduct in-depth research on their chosen goal, and then create a project proposing innovative solutions to help solve the problem. The final project will culminate in a class presentation where students will share their research, insights, and proposed solutions. This project not only strengthens research and presentation skills but also encourages students to think critically about global issues and their potential to make a positive impact on the world.

● Mathematics

- Math 6
 - Math 6 is a problem-based core curriculum anchored in content and practice standards that supports learning and success for all students. Students engage in math by actively solving problems in both mathematical and real-world contexts, developing arguments with precise language. Topics include area, ratios, unit rates, percentages, fraction division, base ten arithmetic, expressions and equations, rational numbers, and data analysis.
- Math 6/7a
 - Math 6/7a is an accelerated course students qualify for based on a variety of data from fifth grade. It is a problem-based core curriculum grounded in content and practice standards that promotes learning and success for students. Through hands-on math activities, students engage in solving problems both within mathematics and in real-world scenarios, building arguments with precise language. Topics covered include area, ratios, rates, percentages, fractions, decimals, equations, expressions, proportional relationships, percent changes, rational numbers, and data analysis.
- Math 7
 - Math 7 is a problem-based core curriculum rooted in content and practice standards to foster learning and achievement for all. Students learn by doing math, solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts, and constructing arguments using precise language. Topics covered; Scale Drawing, Proportional Relationships, Measuring Circles, Percentages, Rational Numbers, Expressions, Equations, Inequalities, Angles, Triangles, Prisms, and Probability.
- Math 7b/8
 - Math 7b/8 is the accelerated course that follows Math 6/7a. It is a problem-based core curriculum rooted in content and practice standards to foster learning and achievement. Students learn by doing math, solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts, and constructing arguments using precise language. Topics covered; Rigid Transformation, congruency, Scale Drawing, Similarity, Slope, Writing

and Solving Equations, Inequalities, Expressions, Equations, Linear Relationships, Functions, Volume, Exponents, Scientific Notation, Pythagorean Theorem, and Irrational numbers.

- Math 8
 - Math 8 is a problem-based pre-algebra course designed to focus on solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts that is aligned with the Common Core Standards. Topics of study include transformations, similarity and congruence, slope and linear relationships, linear equations and systems, functions, volume, data associations, exponents, scientific notation, irrational numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Algebra I
 - Algebra I is an accelerated course for students who have successfully completed Math 7b/8. It is a problem-based pre-algebra course designed to focus on solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts that is aligned with the Common Core Standards. Topics of study include sequences, linear and exponential functions, features of functions, equations and inequalities, systems of equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, and structures of quadratic expressions.

● Music

- General Music Grade 6
 - 6th Grade Music class is a half-trimester course that explores the “greatest hits” of music from the Baroque era through modern times through the exploration of the most prominent composers from each period in music history. In class, we trace the development of music through the 20th century as we examine how consumers shaped the music we know and love today.
- General Music Grade 7
 - 7th Grade Music class offers students the opportunity to explore, at an introductory level, the elective courses that will be available to them as 8th graders. We begin the course with an introduction to reading music, playing the piano and the ukulele which students will have the opportunity to learn more in-depth about in 8th Grade Piano/Guitar. The 2nd unit of study for this course is an introduction to the beginnings of musical theater and Broadway. During this unit, students will formulate a marketing campaign for their own, original Broadway musical which serves as a preview for 8th Grade Musical Theater elective. To wrap up the course students dive into the exploration of digitally created music using programs such as BandLab to create their own original music compositions in a digital environment, which introduces students to 8th Grade Music Technology elective class.
- Musical Theater (Grade 8)
 - The 8th Grade Musical Theater elective allows students with an interest in both the performance and technical aspects of musical theater to explore the history, performance, and production of a musical through the creation and performance of a brief production featuring student choreography, blocking, musical numbers, and a script.
- Piano/Guitar (Grade 8)
 - Students in 8th Grade Piano/Guitar engage in the study of piano and guitar both in a group and individual setting as students have the opportunity to work at their own pace to develop their musical skills. This course teaches students basic music

theory, and notation, as well as proper playing technique on piano and guitar. Students will have the opportunity to perform an end of unit recital with a self-selected piece for their peers.

- Music Technology (Grade 8)
 - Students will gain insight into the music industry of the 21st century by exploring concepts of music through technology and content creation. This elective course will provide a comprehensive introduction to music technology, balancing theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and creative exploration. Topics that will be covered include music theory, audio editing, podcasting, music production, songwriting, and film scoring. We will primarily be using web-based digital audio workspaces (DAW), like BandLab, where the concepts learned via these programs can be transferred to other programs in the professional industry (ex. GarageBand, ProTools, Finale, etc.) throughout the duration of this course.
- Band Grades 6, 7, 8
 - The Middle School Band is designed for students who want to continue their study of wind, brass, and percussion instruments while making exciting music with friends. In band, students will perform a variety of musical styles, from traditional to contemporary, in both small group and full ensemble settings. Throughout the year, students will learn the basics of music theory, including rhythm, scales, and note reading, develop instrumental technique by practicing posture, breath control, and finger placement, and work on ensemble playing, while improving skills like listening, timing, and blending with other instruments.
- Chorus Grades 6, 7, 8
 - Are you ready to find your voice and make music with friends? The Middle School Chorus is the perfect place for students who love to sing and want to build their vocal skills in a fun, supportive environment! This course will help you discover your musical potential and learn how to sing confidently in a group setting. Experience the power of teamwork, blending your voice with others to create beautiful harmonies and become part of a true musical ensemble!
- Orchestra Grades 6, 7, 8
 - In 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Orchestra, students continue their study on violin, viola, cello, and bass where they will develop techniques such as bowing, finger placement, rhythm, and reading musical notation. Through regular rehearsals and performances, students will develop ensemble skills, including listening, blending, and following a conductor. The orchestra will explore a diverse repertoire ranging from classical masterpieces to contemporary pieces, emphasizing musical expression and collaboration. Participation in concerts and events is an essential part of the curriculum, providing students the opportunity to showcase their progress and share their love of music with the community. Join us to experience the joy of playing in an orchestra and to build lasting musical and personal skills!

● Science

- Science Grade 6
 - In 6th grade science students will focus on three units of study: Ecosystems, Weather & Climate, and Dynamic Earth Forces. Some exciting activities to look forward to are our overnight camping trip to South Mountain YMCA, creating and testing earthquake and hurricane houses using our earthquake and hurricane

simulators, a virtual mission to save the island of Martinique, and all of the fun and exciting hands-on labs we will do.

- Science Grade 7
 - Seventh grade science is a course where you'll explore the amazing world around us! We'll dive into the exciting fields of life, physical, and Earth science. You'll learn how to solve real-world problems and make a difference. This class will prepare you for more advanced science courses in high school. Get ready for a fun and challenging year of learning!
- Science Grade 8
 - The 8th grade science course offers a comprehensive exploration of the fundamental principles of chemistry, biology, and physics. Students will delve into the microscopic world of atoms and molecules, understanding their structure, behavior, and interactions. They will investigate the building blocks of life, from cells to organisms, exploring concepts such as genetics, evolution, and ecology. Additionally, the course will introduce the concepts of motion, energy, and waves, providing a foundation for further scientific inquiry. Through hands-on laboratory experiments and critical thinking, students will develop a strong scientific foundation and a lifelong curiosity about the natural world.

● Social Studies

- Global Studies Grade 6
 - 6th grade Global Studies takes students on a journey through the diverse landscapes, cultures, and histories of the Western Hemisphere, with a special emphasis on Canada and Latin America. This course is designed to foster a deep understanding of both physical and human geography, encouraging students to think critically and develop a global perspective.
- Global Studies Grade 7
 - Students will explore the diverse regions of the Eastern Hemisphere, including the Middle East and Southwest Asia, South Asia, East and Southeast Asia, and Europe. This course also includes the colonial period of the Americas, with a focus on historical, geographical, and cultural aspects. The curriculum will cover ancient civilizations, religions, modern history, economic systems, and contemporary issues in each region. From the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley to the European Enlightenment period and the Triangle Trade of the Americas, students will gain a practical understanding of the interconnectedness of these regions. Students will also engage in critical thinking skills, cultural appreciation, and a global perspective.
- US History Grade 8
 - United States History I is a comprehensive study of the origins and development of the American culture from the earliest English settlements during Colonization to Reconstruction. The course focuses on the people, ideas, and events that have shaped the nation. In addition to learning the skills used by the historian, the student is taught to view our nation's history as a continuous process of growth and change.

● Technology and Engineering

- Technology and Engineering Grade 6

- This introductory course immerses 6th-grade students in the world of technology and engineering through dynamic, project-based learning that connects to their daily lives. Using a hands-on approach, students actively explore technology's impact and enhance their problem-solving abilities through creative projects. The curriculum emphasizes the design process and collaborative problem-solving, encouraging students to think critically. Students will learn 3D modeling to design products and eventually bring their digital creations to life in physical form. Throughout these projects, they will discover how the skills they develop can be applied to real-world careers and practical applications.
- Technology and Engineering Grade 7
 - In this course, 7th-grade students continue exploring technology through engaging, project-based learning that relates to their daily experiences. With a focus on hands-on activities, students deepen their understanding of technology's role while refining their problem-solving skills through the design process. Students will use both modern and traditional tools to plan, design, and transform their ideas into tangible projects. As they work on these creations, they will gain insights into how their developing skills align with various career paths and real-world uses.
- Aviation and Alternative Energies (Grade 8)
 - This course introduces 8th-grade students to the fields of aviation and alternative energies with a hands-on, exploratory learning approach. Students engage with technology and develop advanced problem-solving skills through exciting projects centered on these fields, with a focus on the design process. They will build on previous knowledge of design and engineering to acquire new insights into aviation and alternative energy. By planning, building, testing, and analyzing their own projects, students can apply their learning in meaningful ways to understand these important areas of technology.
- Construction and Design (Grade 8)
 - In this course, 8th-grade students explore the fundamentals of construction and design through a hands-on, exploratory approach. The curriculum emphasizes creative problem-solving, collaboration, and the design process, enabling students to gain valuable insights into design and construction. Students will work on individual and collaborative projects, applying newly acquired background knowledge and integrating previously acquired design and engineering skills. Through planning, building, testing, and analyzing, they will bring their concepts to life, developing practical skills and understanding real-world applications of construction and design.

● World Languages

- French I
 - French I is an introduction to French with an emphasis on oral communication. Topics studied include how to greet people in French and keep a conversation going, how to utilize everyday terms, and how to ask and understand basic directions when traveling. Also included are the fundamentals of French sentence structure. Students study French cultural heritage of art, history, cuisine, and customs.
- Spanish I

- Spanish 1 is an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Basic speech patterns, vocabulary, and pronunciation are presented through conversational dialogues and oral practice. Also included are essentials of grammar, everyday culture (such as behavior patterns of native speakers, geography, etc.), and the development of listening, reading, and writing skills. Students are expected to use Spanish as much as they can.

Virtual Course Offerings:

The Wilson School District is proud to provide virtual courses for students in grades 4-12. This allows students flexibility in pathways towards graduation and being life, career and college ready in the 21st-Century.

Stay on Track, or Get Ahead

The Wilson Virtual Academy, WVA, offers a complete Wilson educational program with virtual course content and rigor that is similar to what you would encounter in the traditional classroom. The WVA also provides flexibility in when and where students complete their work, as long as they stay on track with assignment due dates and passing grades.

Does your student require special education services? Not to worry, the WVA offers these options and more! Students who enroll in WVA can have a customized schedule created to address their needs.

Your student's School Counselor, Principal, and Virtual Academy team work closely together to create a full virtual schedule, or combine virtual courses with Wilson in-person classes to create a hybrid schedule.

Personalized Supports

As a resource to our students performing in a virtual setting the district has available several varied supports.

- Personalized Learning Academy ~ PLA
- Virtual Guided Student Program ~ GSP
- In-person after & night school tutoring

All supports are designed to help students maintain appropriate pacing and provide content support in their virtual classes. Students can request or be assigned a specific support .

Always a Bulldog!

Students can go virtual and take advantage of everything the district has to offer. We understand that participating in extracurricular activities and clubs are an important part of the educational experience to be life ready! Students who choose a virtual learning experience can stay involved in Wilson School District's expansive extracurricular program & clubs.

WVA students can be a member of Wilson's competitive sports teams, participate in one of the

best music and theater programs in Pennsylvania or compete in academic challenges.

Graduates of WVA receive a Wilson diploma!

For additional information, please contact your student's school counselor or our Coordinator of Innovation, Mr. Chris McCaffrey at mccchr@wilsonsd.org 610-670-0180 ext 5074.