

**Sixth Grade Core Academic Program**

**English:** All Sixth grade students are required to take English. Some students will be placed in a 2nd hour of English based on need.  

**Social Studies:** Sixth grade students receive a year-long program on Ancient Civilizations.  

**Mathematics:** Common Core 6 class or the Accelerated Math 6. The District uses students Grade 5 academic scores, the SBAC, and the end of course exam/placement test, to determine student placement in Accelerated Math 6.  

**Science 6:** The Earth Science course is in alignment with the New Generation Science State Standards.  

**Physical Education:** Programs introduce the students to skills and activities that are appropriate and necessary to the continued development of the sixth grade mind and body.  

**Sixth Grade Electives**

Students choose from Music or Discovery Wheel Electives. The Music (Band/Orchestra) elective is assigned for the whole year. If you choose Discovery Wheel, you will be assigned by PowerSchool, two different courses for the year: (1) Visual Performing Arts (VAPA) and (1) Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). One (1) each semester. Students may also be assigned to an additional support elective-Step Up to Middle School Math, Literacy Support Academy or Academic Literacy Development, based upon individual need. Listed below are our Sixth Grade Elective Course options for 2021-2022.  

**DISCOVERY WHEEL:**  
1. **Exploring Technology/Coding (STEM):** A computer science course which helps nurture problem solving, logic and creativity. This course will teach basic computer science skills and de-mystify code, showing anyone can learn the basics.  
2. **Introduction to Music 5-6 (VAPA):** This wheel course is designed to discuss fundamentals of music, using various genres of music through history into current times.  
3. **Introduction to Art Grades 5-8 (VAPA):** This course is designed to give student exposure to the Secondary Curriculum of Visual and Performing Art Standards.  

**BAND AND ORCHESTRA (MUSIC):** This one-year music class concentrates on the performance of the following instruments; flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, percussion, violin, viola, cello and string bass. Students enrolled in music will not be placed in the Discovery Wheel classes.  

**SPECIALIZED ELECTIVE SUPPORT: PLACEMENT BY LEWIS STAFF**

1. **Step Up to Middle School Math:** An elective support course for students in grades 6–8 and is taken concurrently with their grade-level math course, at the recommendation of the teacher. It is designed for students whose placement indicators show a need for targeted support to increase success. The course provides remediation for gaps in students’ learning, front loads crucial concepts, and provides parallel lessons to build prerequisite skills.  
2. **Multi-Level Study Skills:** Study Skills programs and services are offered to special education students who need extra support in academic areas. Students are identified and assigned for this program based upon individual need, specialized academic program goals and objectives.  
3. **English Language Development (ELD) Sequence:** For students at the earlier stages of English proficiency Initial ELPAC novice or intermediate and Summative ELPAC minimally developed, somewhat developed, or moderately developed.  
4. **Academic Language Development (ALD):** Enrollment in these courses is for English learners (students who have been enrolled in the system for four or more years) who have not yet demonstrated proficiency on the Summative ELPAC. Concurrent enrollment in the student’s grade level English Language Arts course is required.  
5. **Literacy Support Academy:** Literacy Advancement Academy 6th is a two-semester course offering extra support for students experiencing difficulty in their regular grade 6 English courses, based on formal and informal assessments and 5th grade teacher recommendations. It is taught in addition to, not instead of, a student’s regular English course. The course continues the focus on literature, expository texts, writing, and speaking and listening found in the student’s regular courses while providing additional exposure to lessons, increased time on task, an in-depth study of genre and written forms, and additional reading and writing strategies to help students meet standards.  

**SDUSD Non-Discrimination Statement**

San Diego Unified School District is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education. District programs and activities shall be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying by reason of the following actual or perceived characteristics: age, ancestry, color, mental or physical disability, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, immigration status, marital or parental status, medical condition, nationality, national origin, actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, or on the basis of a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.  

Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion, in accordance with district policy, administrative procedure and state law. Employees who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal. Any disciplinary action shall be in accordance with applicable federal, state and/or collective bargaining agreements.