

Where can I find important information? <u>Discovery Middle School</u>

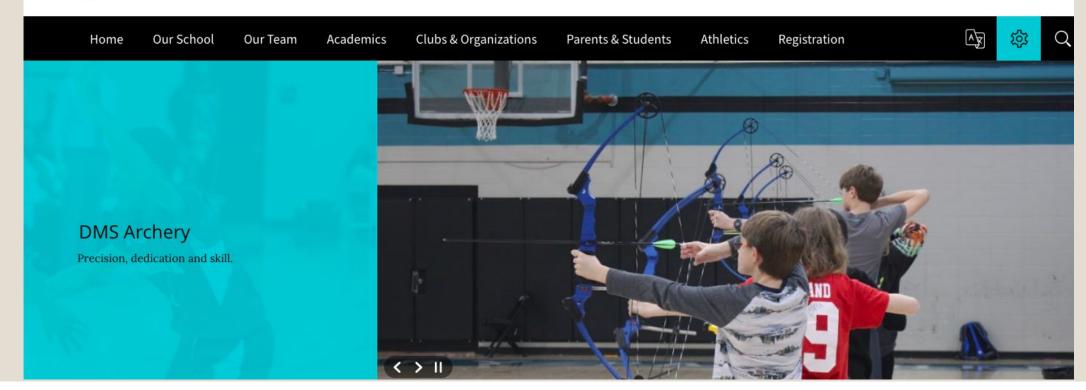


Discovery Middle School

A Place for Innovation, Excellence & Discovery

DISTRICT HOME

OUR SCHOOLS +



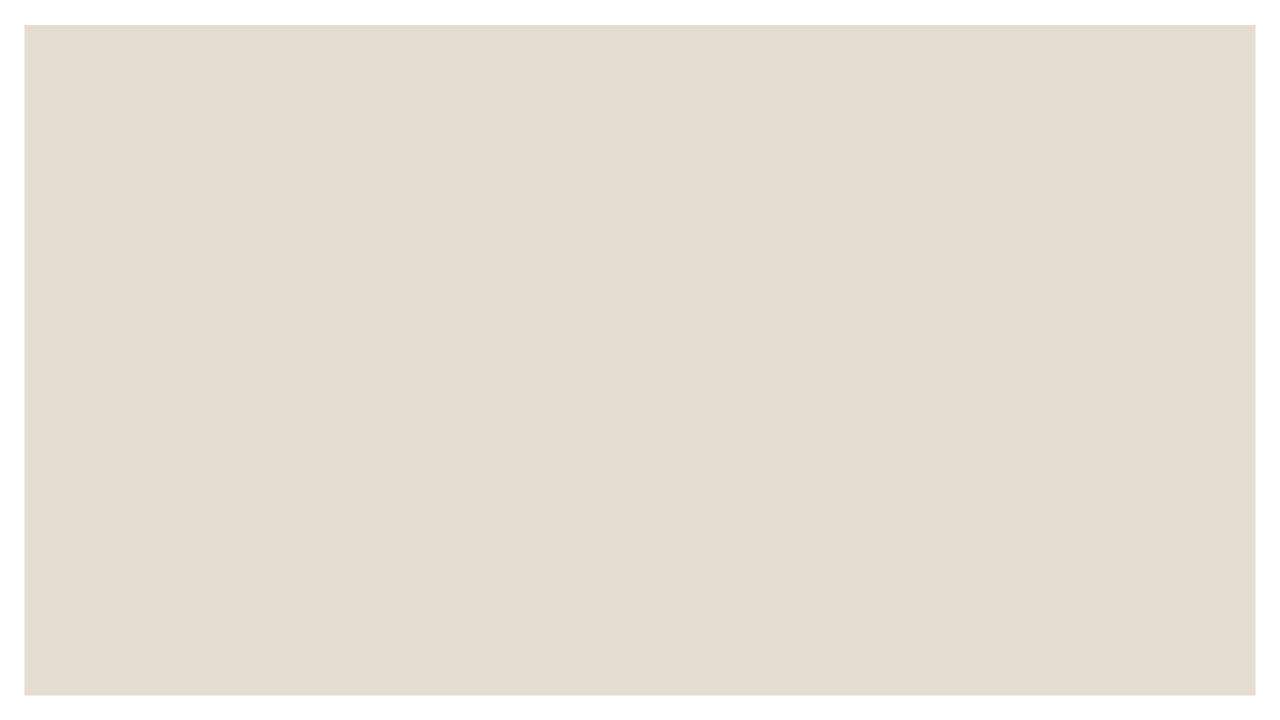
Logistics

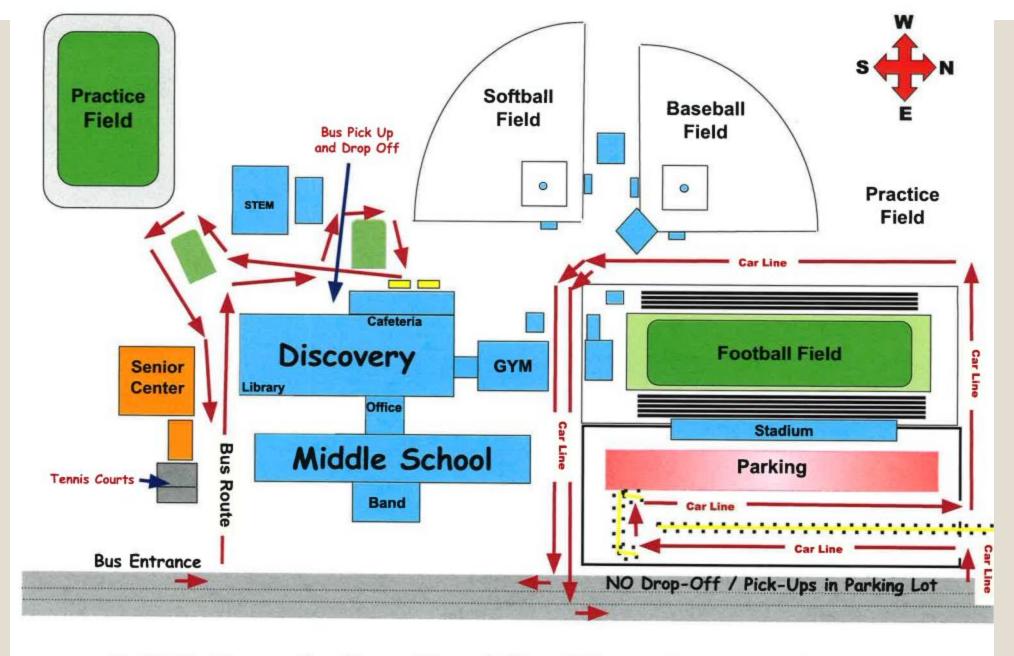
- School starts at 8:15 a.m. and ends at 3:20 p.m.
- Doors are opened for students to enter at 7:40 a.m.
- Our car line entrance is located on the north side of the parking lot. The car line exit is on the north side of the building alongside the gym.
- Buses will enter and exit on the south side of the school between DMS and the Senior Center.
- Student check out will end at 2:45 p.m. each day so that the car line can be cleared before dismissal.











DMS Bus & Car Traffic Flow (am and pm)

Attendance

- Attendance is very important at the secondary level.
- All excuse notes MUST be turned in within 3 days.
- Students will receive a zero for any work missed if they have an unexcused absence.
- Parents are only allowed 5 absence notes per semester. Any absences beyond this limit will require a doctor's note to be excused.
- Absenteeism is a part of our school report card. Poor attendance impacts student success in the classroom and the school.
- If you have extenuating circumstances with your child, i.e. hospitalization, chronic illness etc. please be sure to contact the counselor as soon as possible.
- Attendance notes should be turned in electronically by emailing them to dmsattendance@madisoncity.k12.al.us



Technology

- Students must be responsible for their own personal devices (iPad, cell phones,computer, AirPods). DMS is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen devices.
- Students are allowed to use their cell phones between classes and at lunch.
- Students are not allowed to use cell phones in the classroom and must follow the teachers' policies regarding cell phone use.
- If you need to get an immediate message to your student, please call the front office.
- Students are not allowed to talk on the phone during instructional time. They cannot step out of class to answer a call from parents.





Social Media

- Major distraction
- Teach appropriate use
- Monitor Regularly
- Set Limits



Dress Code

- All students must adhere to the dress code.
- Students who are in violation of dress code will be asked to change to appropriate attire.
- Most common dress code violations include the following:





- Inappropriate pictures, advertising or symbols on clothing
- Pajama pants
- Holes in jeans too far above the knee
- Leggings, yoga pants with tops that are not "fingertip length"
- Shorts, skirts that are more than shorter than "fingertip length"

Vaping

- Talk with your students about the dangers of vaping
- 1 in 4 middle and high school students use e-cigarettes daily.
- Increased 78% in high school students, 48% in middle school students
- U.S. Surgeon has called e-cigarette use among youth an "epidemic"
- In MCS, the consequence is 5 days of out of school suspension followed by 15 days of Alternative School, and 5 days ISS for the first offense.
- A second offense and/or a positive drug test will result in a hearing and a more severe punishment which could include expulsion.



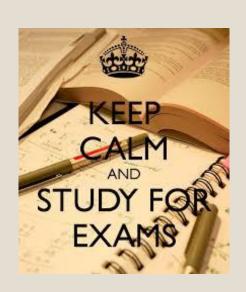
Fighting

 In MCS, the consequence is 5 days of out of school suspension followed by 15 days of Alternative School, and 5 days ISS for the first offense.



Grading Policy

- Student grades consist of 60% test grades and 40% daily grades.
- Students must complete make-up work as soon as possible after an excused absence.
- Make-up working and missing assignments count as a 0 until turned in and graded by the teacher.
- All students will take a mid-term and/or final exam at the end of the fall semester and a final exam at the end of the spring semester. These are cumulative exams.
- There are no early exams. If a student misses an exam, they will receive a zero until it is made up. Make up dates for missed exams will be posted on the website.



5 Block Schedule

8:15 – 9:33	1st Block
9:34 - 9:37 9:37 - 10:53	Transition 2nd Block
10:53 – 10:57 10:57 – 12:40	Transition 3rd Block (Includes Lunch)
12:40 – 12:44 12:44 – 2:00	Transition 4th Block
2:00 - 2:04 2:04 - 3:20	Transition 5th Block

- *Math and ELA are year-long courses that are one 74-minute block
- *Science and SS are semester-long classes
- *Students have two full 74-minute blocks for electives with the opportunity to have up to 8 different electives

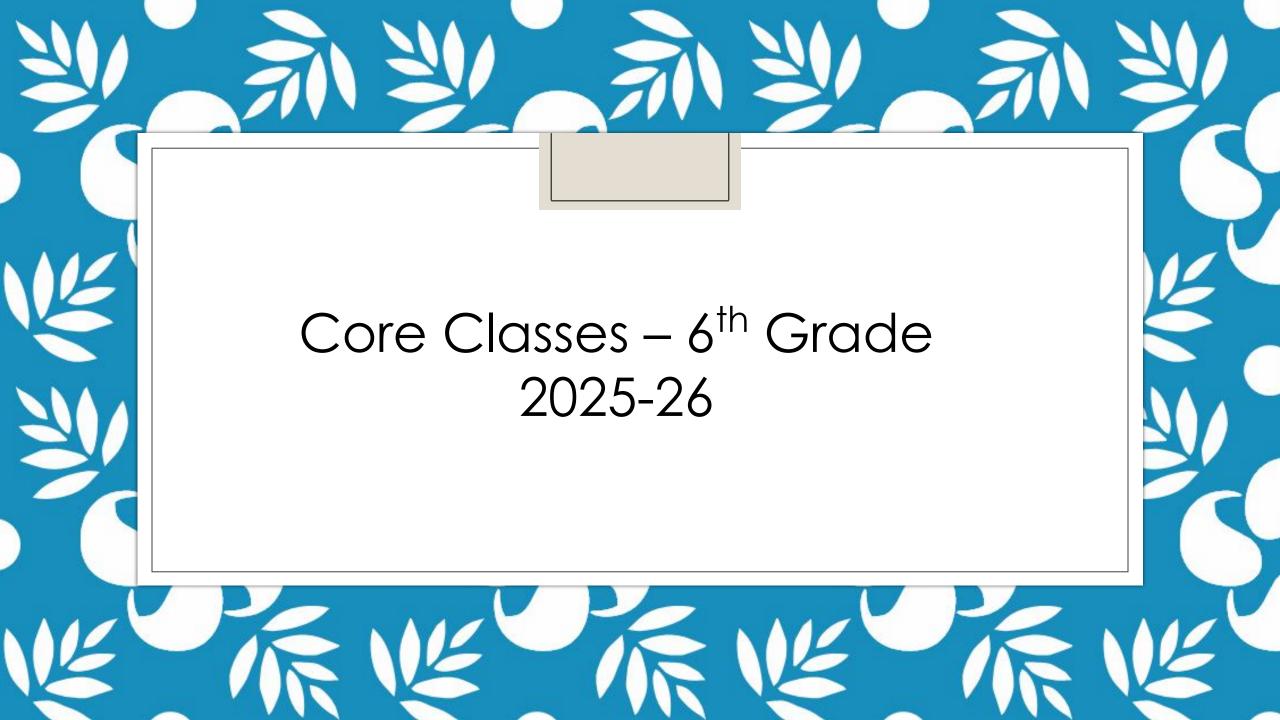
Weekly Rotation of Blocks

	WEEK 1 ABCDE	WEEK 2 EDCBA	WEEK 3 BACED	WEEK 4 DECAB
8:15-9:33	A Block	E Block	B Block	D Block
9:37-10:53	B Block	D Block	A Block	E Block
10:57-12:40	C Block	C Block	C Block	C Block
12:44-2:00	D Block	B Block	E Block	A Block
2:04-3:20	E Block	A Block	D Block	B Block

Lunch

11:01am - 11:21am	Lunch A
11:26am - 11:46am	Lunch B
11:51am - 12:11pm	Lunch C
12:16pm - 12:36pm	Lunch D

- Parents cannot have lunch with students or bring in outside food.
- The lunch schedule is only tentative and may be subject to change.
- Please do not send cash for lunch. Send a check or sign up for <u>LINQ Connect</u> to manage your student's lunch account online.



6th Grade Core Classes

Language Arts Options

Language Arts 6

Honors Language Arts 6

Math Options

Math 6

Accelerated Math 6

Accelerated Math Team 6

Required for all 6th Grade Students

Earth and Space Science 6

Social Studies 6



6th Grade Math Team Course

This course is designed for students who desire the opportunity to take Accelerated Math Team 7 in the 7th grade. Students will be taught the accelerated 6th grade math standards throughout the course and will be expected to attend inside and outside of school competitions.

Competition

Mathematics

Recommendation made by school based on data.

There will be fees associated with this class for tournament costs.

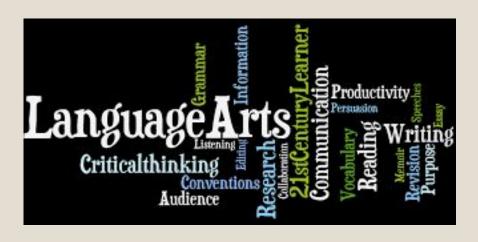
Tournament attendance is expected, and the schedule is to be determined.

6th Grade Honors Language Arts

This course is designed for students who enjoy reading and writing and desire the opportunity to take Honors Language Arts in the 7th grade. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop academic habits of mind. Outside and summer reading are required.

We do expect every student to read independently for at least 30 minutes per night.

<u>Summer Reading for 6th Grade</u>



6th Grade Elective Options

9 Weeks	9 Weeks	Semester	Year
Academic Team Electives	Math Electives	Fine Arts Electives	Fine Arts Electives
Introduction to Chess	Math Meets Art	Advanced Theater Audition Only	Beginning Band
Competition Chess	General Electives	Language Arts Electives	Chorus
	Digital Publishing Tools	Digital Comm Application	Language Arts Electives
Fine Arts Electives	STEM Electives		Yearbook - Application
Introduction to Visual Arts	STEM		
Technical Theatre	Design & Modeling PLTW		
Beginning Theater	Innovators and Makers		
	Health Science Discovery		
Language Arts Electives	World Language Electives		
Creative Writing I	Survey of World Lang: Latin		
Composition Workshop	Survey of World Lang: French		
Intro to Public Speaking	Survey of World Lang: German		

PE Options and Requirements

- All students are required to take at least one PE elective.
- Only one PE elective per term (9 weeks) is allowed.
- Students may take up to 3 PE electives per year.
- PE uniforms are required.

Indoor Sports

Outdoor Sports





DMS Course Catalog 2025-2026

6th Grade Registration Form

<u>Applications</u>

6th Grade Registration Steps

- DMS course catalog and registration packets are available on the DMS website under Registration.
- Parent and student sign request forms!
- All registration packets are due February 26th.
 - Turn in to current Homeroom teacher
- 6th graders will enter requests at DMS with counselors the week of March 6th.
- No schedule changes after March 5th.
- Completed registration forms will become the student schedule for the entire 2025-26 school year.
- Request courses and alternate courses carefully as there are no changes to either requests or schedules after March 5, 2025 deadline.

Sample Schedule

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	
1	Math				
2	Language Arts				
3	Science		Social Studies		
4	PE	Survey of For. Lang.			
5					

Sample Schedule

1 st 2nd 3rd 4th Math Language Arts **Social Studies** Science Outdoor Survey Creative Indoor For. Lang. Sports **Sports** Writing Design & **Digital Beginning** Modeling **Theatre** Communications

Sample Schedule

1 st 2nd 3rd 4th Math Language Arts 2 **Social Studies** 3 Science Outdoor Survey Indoor Creative 4 For. Lang. **Sports Sports** Writing Chorus 5

