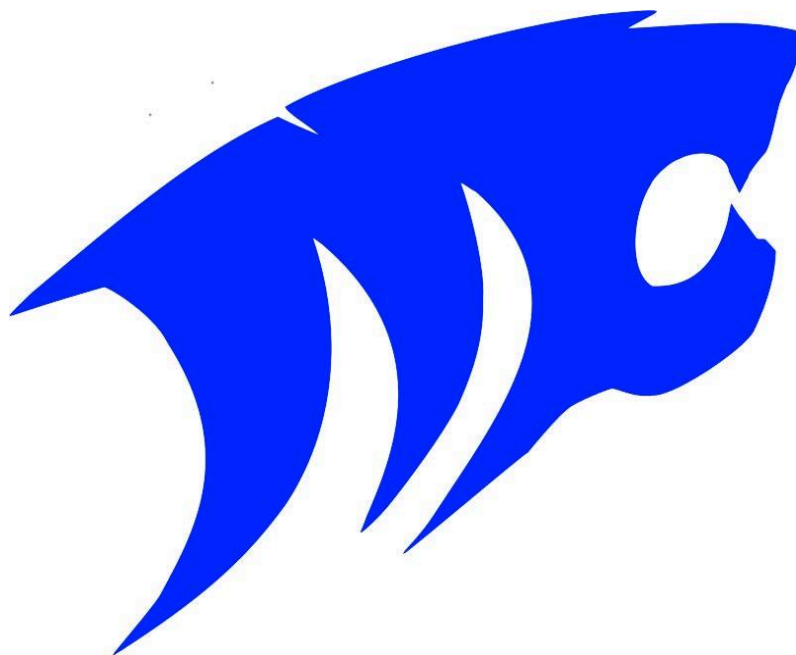


Montague Area Public Schools



N.B.C. Middle School
2024-25 Course Catalog

General Information

SCHEDULE CHANGES

All schedule change requests must be made through the NBC office the first week of each semester. All schedule changes are approved by the principal. The principal reserves the right to change schedules for any reason. Schedules will not be changed for the following reasons: to change lunches, to have a specific teacher, to change seminars, or to be with friends.

HOMEBOUND POLICY

Homebound services are provided by N.B.C. to students who are unable to attend school due to a medical condition. Students become eligible for homebound services when the N.B.C. office, receives a note from a physician or hospital that indicates a medical condition that will cause the student to miss at least five consecutive days of school. Upon receiving this notification, N.B.C. will make arrangements for homebound services to begin as soon as possible. The district utilizes certified teachers to instruct students receiving homebound services.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) shall identify the appropriate courses of study and the supports, accommodations, and modifications necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular requirements or in a Personal Curriculum (PC), and meet the requirements for promotion to the high school. A personal curriculum must incorporate as much of the middle school content expectations as is practicable for the pupil and is consistent with the pupil's educational development plan (EDP) and IEP.

FULL-TIME ONLINE STUDENT

This program was designed for the student who needs to take classes online. The parent/guardian will complete an application that will be reviewed to make sure that online learning is a good fit for the student. The student is required to work on classes through the online program we offer for a minimum of 10 hours a week. The student may need to devote more time based on class progress. The student must also have weekly communication with the teacher who is assigned to supervise the online students. [MCVA Course Catalog 21/22](#)

SPECIAL EDUCATIONS STUDENTS:

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) shall identify the appropriate courses of study and the supports, accommodations, and modifications necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular requirements or in a Personal Curriculum (PC), and meet the requirements to progress on to high school. A personal curriculum must incorporate as much of the middle school content expectations as is practicable for the pupil and is consistent with the pupil's educational development plan (EDP) and IEP.

6th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics (grade 6) courses typically emphasize skills in numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order); measurement; patterns; simple functions; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

ACCELERATED MATHEMATICS

Mathematics (grade 6) courses typically emphasize skills in numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order); measurement; patterns; simple functions; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6. This class will move at a fast pace.

ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts (grade 6) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 6) courses provide a greater understanding of social studies disciplines, including history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These courses often focus on the history, culture, and government of various specific world societies. Typically, students develop skills used in the social studies disciplines. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 6) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth/space sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

EXPLORATORY/SKILL WHEEL ~ SEMESTER/QUARTER

ART - COMPREHENSIVE

Creative Art-Comprehensive courses provide students the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles. Although Creative Art courses focus on creation, they may also include the study of major artists, art movement, and styles.

GENERAL BAND

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (grade 6)

Physical Education (grade 6) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

LITERACY SKILLS 6 (English Language and Literature-Supplemental)

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

MATH SKILLS 6 (Mathematics-Supplemental)

Mathematics-Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring Mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

DISCOVERING COMPUTERS

This course introduces students to computers and peripheral devices, the functions and uses of computers, the language used in the computer industry, possible applications of computers, and occupations related to computer hardware and software. These courses typically explore legal and ethical issues associated with computer use, as well as how computers influence modern society.

CREATIVE ART ~ PAINTING/DRAWING

Creative Art- Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art-Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP ~ Lifetime Fitness Education

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

DIG'N THE DECADES

These courses have the same aim as general literature courses (to improve students' language arts and critical-thinking skills), focusing on the literature written during or reflecting a particular time period. Students determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works, reflect upon the influence of societal events and social attitudes, and compare the points of view of various authors. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

BRAIN GAMES

This course uses math based games/puzzles to generate organized, logical thinking and writing to help prepare for success in future math/science based core classes.

EXPLORATORY

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

SEMINAR

Seminar courses vary widely, but typically offer a small peer group the opportunity to investigate areas of interest. Course objectives may include improvement of research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

INTERVENTION

This class offers support for individual core classes based on grade level and classes needed. Students will be working on transition skills to help them prepare for high school.

7th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics (grade 7) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions, algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

ACCELERATED MATHEMATICS

Mathematics (grade 7) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions, algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

ENGLISH - LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 7) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 7) courses build on previous years of scientific inquiry and typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

EXPLORATORY/SKILL WHEEL ~ SEMESTER/Quarter

ART - COMPREHENSIVE

Art (grade 7) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 7.

CHORUS

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's, and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

GENERAL BAND

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

LITERACY SKILLS - (English Language and Literature - Supplemental)

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

MATH SKILLS (Mathematics - Supplemental)

Mathematics - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring mathematics skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP (Lifetime Fitness Education)

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

PAINTING AND DRAWING (Creative Art-Drawing/Painting)

Creative Art-Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as Creative Art-Comprehensive courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

ROBOTICS (Exploratory)

Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Introduction to Agriculture courses survey a wide array of topics within the agricultural industry, exposing students to the many and varied types of agriculture and livestock career opportunities and to those in related fields (such as natural resources). These courses serve to introduce students to the agricultural field, providing an opportunity for students to identify an area for continued study or to determine that their interest lies elsewhere. They often focus on developing communication skills, business principles, and leadership skills.

CONSUMER ECONOMICS/PERSONAL FINANCE

Consumer Economics/Personal Finance courses provide students with an understanding of the concepts and principles involved in managing one's personal finances. These courses emphasize lifespan goal-setting, individual and family decision making, and consumer rights as well as topics that are commonly associated with personal finance so that one can become a financially responsible consumer. Topics may include savings and investing, credit, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns and budget planning, contracts, and consumer protection. These courses may also investigate the effects of the global economy on consumers and the family.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (grade 7)

This course typically involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education and healthy lifestyles may also be included.

SEMINAR

Seminar courses vary widely, but typically offer a small peer group the opportunity to investigate areas of interest. Course objectives may include improvement of research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

INTERVENTION

This class offers support for individual core classes based on grade level and classes needed. Students will be working on transition skills to help them prepare for high school.

8th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED COURSES - YEAR

ALGEBRA I

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics (grade 8) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations, measurement, patterns, simple functions, algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

ENGLISH - Language Arts

Language Arts (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 8) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Typically, these courses focus on single disciplines at a time (e.g., state-specific history and government, U.S. history, world history, or civics) to develop discipline-related skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 8) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

EXPLORATORY/SKILL - SEMESTER/QUARTER

ART - COMPREHENSIVE

Creative Art - Comprehensive courses provide to students the knowledge and opportunity to explore an art form and to create individual works of art. These courses may also provide a discussion and exploration of career opportunities in the art world. Initial courses cover the language, materials, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements and principles supporting a work of art. As students advance and become more adept, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic styles. Although Creative Art courses focus on creation, they may also include the study of major artists, art movements, and styles.

GENERAL BAND

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

CHORUS

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's, and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education (grade 8) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

LITERACY SKILLS (English Language and Literature - Supplemental)

English Language and Literature - Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Introduction to Agriculture courses survey a wide array of topics within the agricultural industry, exposing students to the many and varied types of agriculture and livestock career opportunities and to those in related fields (such as natural resources). These courses serve to introduce students to the agricultural field, providing an opportunity for students to identify an area for continued study or to determine that their interest lies elsewhere. They often focus on developing communication skills, business principles, and leadership skills.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS

Computer Graphics courses provide students with the opportunity to explore the ways in which computers can produce visual imagery that communicates information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats. Course topics may include principles and elements of design, image creation, image manipulation, and image types.

FITNESS AND LEADERSHIP (Lifetime Fitness Education)

Lifetime Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.

DYNAMIC DECADES: Influence of 1950's & 60's

This course examines a particular topic in U.S. History, such as particular time periods in the history of the United States, or they may focus on the history of particular U.S. regions rather than provide an overview of the subject.

INTERVENTION

This class offers support for individual core classes based on grade level and classes needed. Students will be working on transition skills to help them prepare for high school.

STUDENT NEWS

Broadcasting Technology courses provide students with the knowledge and skills to produce television broadcast programs. Typically, students prepare and produce short programs, learning the technical aspects of the operation and how to evaluate programming and assess audience reaction and impact.

COMPUTER CODING

This course introduces students to computers, including peripheral and mobile devices; the functions and uses of computer technology; the language used in the industry; possible applications of various computer-based technologies; and occupations related to computer technology hardware and software industries. These courses typically explore legal and ethical issues associated with computer technology use, as well as how changes influence modern society.

SEMINAR

Seminar courses vary widely, but typically offer a small peer group the opportunity to investigate areas of interest. Course objectives may include improvement of research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

BASIC ENGLISH (English Proficiency Development)

English Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

BASIC MATH (Mathematics Proficiency Development)

Mathematics Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

BASIC SCIENCE

Science Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist the students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

BASIC SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist the students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

ENGLISH FUNDAMENTALS

English Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

MATH FUNDAMENTALS

Mathematics Proficiency Development courses are designed to assist the students in acquiring the skills necessary to pass proficiency examinations.

INTERVENTION

This class offers support for individual core classes based on grade level and classes needed. Students will be working on transition skills to help them prepare for high school.

LIFE SKILLS

Life Skills courses provide students with information about a wide range of subjects to assist them in becoming wise consumers and productive adults. These courses often emphasize such topics as goal-setting, decision-making, and setting priorities; money and time management; relationships; and the development of the self. Practical exercises regarding meeting transportation needs, preparing food, selecting clothing are often integral to these classes.

ONLINE COURSES

MICHIGAN VIRTUAL ONLINE SCHOOL

The State of Michigan, under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act, allows parents to request that their student(s), in grades 5-12, be enrolled in no more than two (2) online courses in place of a currently scheduled course. Montague Area Public Schools supports online learning in cases in which students and parents understand the opportunity. See the Counselor or Principal for more information.