

RAPID CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #51-4
2013-2014 Middle School
Registration Book
7th Grade



EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL
4860 Homestead Street

NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
1501 North Maple Avenue

SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
2 Indiana Street

SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
4501 Park Drive

WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
1003 Soo San Drive

Adopted by the Board of Education, January 17, 2013

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WELCOME TO RAPID CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

In addition to the selection of course offerings listed in this booklet, the Middle Schools offer opportunities in many co-curricular activities such as sports, clubs, and student government. Each student is encouraged to consider participation in these activities in addition to the courses of the required program.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION

Student registration is extremely important and parental involvement is necessary. Please keep in mind that the classes signed up for are the classes the student will take. This includes alternatives when necessary. The only changes that will be made once school starts will be those deemed necessary by the building principal.

Students are to select their classes from the list of course offerings in this booklet during pre-registration. This will be done during the second semester of the school year and provides the information needed to develop the school's master schedule for the following year. Students are required by policy to enroll in seven classes each semester. The student's schedule will be developed by computer assignment on a random basis.

MIDDLE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Each student will enroll in Math, Science, Social Studies, English, P.E., and Computer. Students may select two of three elective blocks.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses not having sufficient enrollees to justify offering will be discontinued. Course placement will be made on the basis of students' alternative selections.

SPECIAL SERVICES

This department is for students in need of special assistance. Students entering this program may need to be certified as needing special assistance by an appropriate evaluation. An Individual Educational Plan (IEP) will be developed by a placement committee consisting of parents, students, and teachers. Students may be enrolled for all or part of the school day.

GIFTED / ENRICHMENT SERVICES

(Formerly known as Gifted Education Services or TAG)

Our **Vision** is to develop the capacity to provide enriching educational opportunities to prepare high ability and gifted students for the 21st Century to ensure students reach their full potential.

Our **mission** is to provide high ability and gifted students with authentic learning opportunities and a variety of options for academic growth. Students, families and staff will collaborate in order to help students expand their knowledge and begin to think of themselves as leaders, empowering them to become lifelong scholars, innovators, critical thinkers, and global citizens.

*A **High ability student** is defined as any student, who demonstrates through performance or assessments, a need for enriching or extended learning opportunities.

- Early identification of the gifted child shall be accomplished through a multifaceted approach.
- The program should emphasize a differentiated curriculum and instruction as appropriate to the needs and abilities of the students.
- The primary objective of the education program shall be the development of the high ability and gifted child's abilities.
- Active parental involvement is viewed as an integral and crucial ingredient of a quality program. Every effort should be made to foster parental involvement in all aspects of their child's educational program.

The placement and progress of the identified gifted child will be continually evaluated and documented.

GRADE 7

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

1 Year

The language arts curriculum consists of oral communication and speech, written communication including capitalization, punctuation, paragraphs, and compositions, grammar, vocabulary, study skills, and literature.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

1 Year

The seventh grade social studies curriculum is designed to explore the continents of North America, South America, Central America, and Europe. Students will learn the themes of geography and develop geographical skills that will allow them to compare and contrast the various elements of our world nations.

MATH 7 (Inquiry-based)

1 Year

Seventh grade mathematics inquiry-based curriculum is a review and a continuation of material in grade six. Students will continue to use the four basic operations with whole numbers and improve their skills with these operations using both common and decimal fractions. Other areas studied will include powers, solving equations and inequalities, estimation, rules of divisibility, and fraction and decimal equivalents. Problem solving strategies will be stressed.

Students who demonstrate exemplary skills and qualifications in Math 7 or Accelerated Math 7 may be grouped for Integrated Math 1.

Students who demonstrate exemplary math skills and qualifications may be grouped for ACCELERATED MATH 7.

ACCELERATED MATH 7(Inquiry-based)

1 Year

Students will perform operations within the rational number system. Students will form expressions and equations in one variable and use them to solve problems. They will also develop understanding of linear equations, developing the concept of slope. Students will make comparisons of single data distributions to draw conclusions. And finally students will learn geometric concepts such as, similar figures, scale drawings, angles along with area, surface area, and volume of two and three dimensional objects. The accelerated course demands a faster pace for instruction and learning.

SCIENCE 7

1 Year

Science 7 includes life science units on classification, the five kingdoms, and the human body. The elements, chemical reactions, acids and bases, and heat are explored as part of physical science. Rocks, minerals, earthquakes, volcanoes, plate tectonics, and geologic time are units included in earth science.

Inquiry-based teaching methods will include microscopes, dissection equipment, hands-on labs, and multimedia lessons.

READING 7

1 Year

► ***Based on specific building needs, reading may be offered for one semester.***

The seventh grade reading curriculum is a continuation of the elementary school reading program. This course helps students to refine and master reading skills. The course of study includes vocabulary building, study skill improvement, reference material work, reading comprehension development, and listening skill improvement.

REQUIRED COURSES

Taught by Elective Area Specialists

HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH / RECREATION

The program will offer health education and physical education. Health topics taught will include personal hygiene, fitness, tobacco and drug abuse, contagious diseases, and first aid practices. Physical education will include lifetime sports, recreational games, individual and dual games. Weather permitting, outdoor activities will be held both in the fall and spring. Some of the activities may include archery, aerobics, basketball, body conditioning, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, track, volleyball, football, and wrestling.

Class instruction will include study sheets and written evaluations for most units. Students must provide suitable physical education attire including gym shoes.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

An introduction to integrated applications (word processing, data base, spreadsheet, paint and draw), multimedia (sound, graphics, video, etc.), and information access (Internet usage) will be the primary instructional focus. Other areas may include desktop publishing, technology tools, and programming.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Each student will take two blocks; either two exploratory blocks or one exploratory block and one music block.

EXPLORATION BLOCK

1 Year

Each block will include courses from the following list:

1. ART

Students further explore the basic elements of art and principles of design. Instruction will include a variety of media with an emphasis on individual expression, creative thinking skills, visual awareness skills and fine motor development.

2. FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

This course will use computer modules with various hands-on projects to provide students with the opportunity to gain skills in food preparation, sewing, family relationships, nutrition and wellness, housing and interior design, and resource management.

3. TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Students combine skills and knowledge to solve problems, produce products and explore a wide range of subjects that will help them prepare for work in the 21st century. Students work in modular workstations that include practice in solving problems. Students design and build products using hand and power tools in the production areas. While exploring how humans and technology interact, students also learn to read and interpret written directions and how to access, manipulate, and store electronic information.

4. SCHOOL DESIGNED ELECTIVES*

School designed elective offerings enrich and extend the academic subjects. The following are examples of courses:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Mass Media | Leadership | Health |
| Finance | Law Related Education | Wellness |
| Environment | Video Journalism | Sign Language |
| Theater | World of Work / Careers | Technical Communications |
| Free Enterprise | Photography | Think Tank |
| Literature | First Aid and Safety | Game On |
| Mind Your Own Business | Rachel's Challenge | Wolakota (language, culture, and history) |
| Speech | Shakespeare | |
| Language Experience | | |

*Not all the above are taught at all middle schools. They are designed to meet the needs of individual buildings.

MUSIC ELECTIVE BLOCKS

In each music block, performances are scheduled each semester. Participation in performances is required.

BAND

1 Year

Band is a continuation of instruction on any instrument beyond the beginner stage. Students who register for band must presently be in band, have taken summer band, or meet with the approval of the middle school band instructor. Concert performances will be arranged by opportunity and progress of the group.

ORCHESTRA

1 Year

This class is comprised of group and individual work on orchestral instruments. Students must have previous instrumental experience. Grades 7 and 8 may be combined. Performances are scheduled each semester.

CHORUS

1 Year

Chorus is open to both boys and girls. The most important objectives are learning to sight-read, singing in parts, and working together in a group to reach common musical goals. Attitude, enthusiasm, and cooperation play an important role in chorus. Some time is spent in music appreciation which involves reading, study time, and testing. Performances are scheduled each semester.