

**RAPID CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #51-4
2013-2014 Middle School
Registration Book
6th 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.

Sixth grade students will be assigned to the classes listed in this booklet during pre-registration which takes place during the second semester of fifth grade. Registration provides the information needed to develop the school's master schedule for the following year. Students are required by policy to enroll in all seven classes each semester. The student's schedule will be developed by computer assignment on a random basis.

MIDDLE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Students will be assigned to a grade level team and enrolled in seven academic classes each semester.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Support for students in need of special assistance is available at all Middle Schools. Students entering a special services 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 in special services 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 6

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED ACADEMIC COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS 6

1 Year

The language arts curriculum consists of oral and written communication and emphasizes the essential skills of grammar, vocabulary, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and composition. Students will learn these skills through a variety of methods which include interviews, class presentations, experience with different writing genres, reading various authors and learning about different literary styles.

SOCIAL STUDIES 6

1 Year

The sixth grade social studies curriculum includes the study of the history of ancient civilizations. Students explore the influence of geography, social, political, and economic development, and how various civilizations influenced the major western and non-western civilizations.

MATH 6

1 Year

The mathematics inquiry-based curriculum consists of a review and mastery of the four basic operations with whole numbers and the use of these operations with both common and decimal fractions. Other area studies will include powers, solving equations and inequalities, estimation, rules of divisibility, proportions, ratios, and geometry. Students who demonstrate exemplary math skills and qualifications may be grouped for instruction.

READING 6

1 Year

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

SCIENCE 6

1 Year

The 6th grade science curriculum is a general science course which may include units of astronomy, biology, meteorology, aerospace, environmental science, physics, and chemistry. The scientific method emphasizes process and inquiry as a focal point of instruction.

EXPLORATION BLOCK/SKILL BLOCK
REQUIRED COURSES

Taught by elective area specialists

All sixth grade students will take two periods of electives each day. One will be an Exploratory Block exposing students to all the major elective areas or Band/Orchestra. The second required Skill Block combines Physical Education, Vocal Music, and Computer. These subjects will be scheduled throughout the year, keeping students actively involved.

EXPLORATION BLOCK

EXPLORATION BLOCK

1 Year

ART

Sixth graders will be introduced to art elements and principles through activities incorporating color, space, form, line, texture, and value. Instruction will include exploration and experimentation with two and three dimensional design using a variety of media. Art appreciation is an integral part of the course.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

In this Family and Consumer Science course, students will explore the fields of food and nutrition, self development, baby-sitting, and basic sewing. With this background, the student will be ready for a more in-depth 7th grade exploratory block.

OTHER OFFERINGS

Courses will vary from school to school depending on student interest, core size, and teaching personnel.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Technology 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 a modular workstation environment that aids in solving problems. Students design and build products using hand and power tools in the production area.

SKILL BLOCK

Courses will vary from school to school depending on student interest, core size, and teaching personnel.

HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION / RECREATION

The program will offer health education and physical education. Health topics 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

Proper use and understanding of keyboarding skills will be the primary emphasis of the 6th grade computer class. This class will also include an introduction to the operating systems and an introduction to word processing skills.

GENERAL MUSIC

The music curriculum in grade 6 is designed to expose students to the world of music and to gain an appreciation for music in all its forms. Students are exposed to music theory, singing in parts, and working together to reach common music goals.

ELECTIVES COURSES

Students may choose to take Band / Orchestra. Refer to individual school information sheet for details

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. Preferably, students should have previous instrumental experience, lessons, or a conference with the orchestra instructor before enrolling in class.