



Required Sixth Grade Courses

- English, Math, Social Studies, Science
- Survey of World Language - 1 quarter of each (Spanish, French, and Latin) *or* ESL *or* Academic Skills
- Wellness (3 quarters of Physical Education and 1 quarter of Health)
- Music (Band, Chorus, or Orchestra) – Full Year Course
- Art (1 quarter)
- Digital Citizenship (1 quarter)
- Environmental Science (1 quarter)
- Literary Analysis (1 quarter)
- Word Study (1 quarter)

Digital Citizenship

(Quarter Course)

All sixth grade students will take this course as part of their transition to middle school. Units of study will focus on Internet safety, digital citizenship, digital footprint, and basic research. Students will understand responsible use of technology for educational purposes and explore issues related to technological literacy.

Environmental Science

(Quarter Course)

This quarter course will be an inquiry-based course, with fieldwork and lab work emphasized. Issues of social and civic responsibility will be stressed. Students will study a variety of global environmental issues, with emphasis on resources and human impact on those resources close to home.

Literary Analysis

(Quarter Course)

Literary Analysis is a required quarter course for all 6th graders, in which students will be introduced to the elements of literature. Students will read, analyze, and write about literature as they examine various types of literary devices and genres.

Word Study

(Quarter Course)

Word Study 6 is a required quarter course for all sixth graders. This course allows students to explore and interact with language (conventions, knowledge of language, and vocabulary) in order to communicate effectively. Emphasis will be placed on acquiring vocabulary; “solving” unknown words using root words and context, understanding idioms, and the introduction of 6th grade grammar skills.

Ridgewood Public Schools offers three music choices for 6th grade students: Band, Chorus, or Orchestra. In addition to our regularly scheduled classes, Band and Orchestra class participants will have small group lessons, which are scheduled on a rotating basis (approximately once every ten days). Instrumental lessons are 30 minutes in length (half of a class period).

Please circle your choice for 6th Grade Music.

Band	Chorus	Orchestra
------	--------	-----------

Name of current instrument _____

Student's Name _____

Current School _____

Parent Signature _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SWITCHING INSTRUMENTS

If your child is considering switching his/her current instrument, you must contact the appropriate Band or Orchestra teacher to discuss this issue **PRIOR** to selecting a music class. It is also recommended that any student who switches an instrument takes lessons over the summer, so he/she doesn't enter the 6th grade ensemble as a beginner. Below is the contact information for the instrumental music teachers.

Benjamin Franklin Middle School Instrumental Music Teachers

- **Band:** Mr. Jason Curcio; jcurcio@ridgewood.k12.nj.us; 201-670-2700 ext. 30642
- **Orchestra:** Ms. Carol Sharar; csharar@ridgewood.k12.nj.us; 201-670-2700 ext. 30608

George Washington Middle School Instrumental Music Teachers

- **Band:** Mr. Brian Brown; bbrown@ridgewood.k12.nj.us; 201-670-2700 ext. 40654
- **Orchestra:** Ms. Janelle King; jking@ridgewood.k12.nj.us; 201-670-2700 ext. 40642

Fine and Applied Arts Supervisor

- Mr. Chris McCullough; cmccullough@ridgewood.k12.nj.us

Following is a list of the instruments that are offered at the middle schools.

Band Instruments

Trumpet	French Horn	Trombone	Baritone Horn/Euphonium
Flute	Clarinet	Bass Clarinet	Oboe
Bassoon	Alto Saxophone	Baritone Saxophone	Tenor Saxophone
Tuba	Percussion: <i>All percussionists will play bells, concert snare drum, bass drum and timpani.</i>		

Orchestra Instruments

Violin	Viola	Cello	Bass
--------	-------	-------	------