
Peter Kiewit
Middle School



Curriculum Guide
2009-2010

Spring, 2009

Dear Kiewit Students and Families:

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome parents to Peter Kiewit Middle School. Our middle school curriculum is designed to meet the needs of a special group of students -- the 10 to 14 year olds. It is academic, but also exploratory. While basic skills are emphasized in the teaching teams, exploratory experiences expose students to additional areas to help them develop new interests, appreciate the fine and applied arts, and expand their talents. The scholastic curriculum is complemented by our advisement and activities program.

This is an excellent time for parents/guardians to visit with their children about current goals and future aspirations. Today's world offers many challenges, and students have many career fields to consider. The effort and dedication students devote to their present studies will affect their educational performance in the future. We want you, as parents of middle level students, to be aware of the graduation requirements in the Millard high schools.

The current Millard Public School's graduation requirements indicate that all students must earn 225 credits to graduate from high school. Millard Public Schools has also established competency standards for the Essential Learner Outcomes (ELO) in reading, mathematics, science, social studies, and writing. These assessments are administered to 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students at the secondary level. Student performance is measured against preset determinations of competency. These assessments are district developed and are made up of curriculum related materials. ELO assessments are administered throughout the school year. All students must meet the cut scores of ELO assessments in order to graduate from the Millard Public Schools.

During the three years that students attend Kiewit Middle School, a number of assessments are administered for the purpose of evaluating their academic progress. In sixth grade these assessments include the Terra Nova standardized test in late March, Reading and Math Essential Learner Outcome (ELO) tests in April. The seventh grade assessments include analytical writing (January-February), Terra Nova, reading comprehension (April), and mathematics (April). In the fall, all eighth graders will participate in the science and social studies ELO's. In January they will take the State Writing Assessment, and finally they will take Math and Reading ELO's in April. The results will be mailed to parents as soon as the tests are scored and we receive the results. Students who do not meet the Essential Learner Outcome assessments standards will be given opportunities to be retaught and retested.

Kiewit looks forward to working with parents to help your children move successfully and happily through these transitional years. Adolescents require understanding, love, and patience from their parents, teachers, and other adults in their lives. This handbook is designed to acquaint you with middle school curriculum. We hope it will answer your questions and give you insight as you join us in helping your children make the incredible journey from childhood to adolescence.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lori Jasa, Principal
Mr. David Hemphill, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Pat Meeker, Assistant Principal

**PETER KIEWIT MIDDLE SCHOOL
2009-2010**

Principal: Lori Jasa
Assistant Principal David Hemphill
Assistant Principal Pat Meeker

6th grade Counselor: Karol Godsey
7th grade Counselor: Nancy Brugger
8th grade Counselor: Monica Lawson

Address: 15650 Howard Street
Omaha, NE 68118

Phone: 715-1470
Fax: 715-1490

Web Site: <http://mps.kms.schoolfusion.us/>

Parent Access Website: www.campus.mpsomaha.org/campus/portal/millard.jsp
(Grade Book)

School Starts: **August 12, 2009**

Mission Statement:

Peter Kiewit Middle School guarantees that each students will master the academic skills and develop the positive character traits necessary for personal excellence and responsible citizenship in an ever-changing global society. We will foster learning and challenge all students to maximize their potential through engaging instructional practice and diverse programs.

(Pending approval April, 2009)

S.H.A.R.E. (Skills Help Adolescents Reach Excellence)

The SHARE program at Peter Kiewit Middle School is specifically designed to facilitate the district life skills program for the social growth of the students. It is based upon the premise that early adolescents benefit from a close personal relationship with an adult during this period. The SHARE program is delivered during the homeroom period prior to the start of the academic/exploratory day.

Throughout the year, homeroom teachers as well as all staff support the acquisition and practice of life skills via instruction, curriculum, and daily interactions. As part of their goal-setting instruction, students will develop a SMART Goal each trimester. These goals will be monitored by the homeroom teacher and shared with parents during student led conferences.

TEAM CONCEPT

The Kiewit Middle School program is designed to promote success. Each student is assigned to an academic team composed of two to five teachers. The team serves several purposes. Team teachers are responsible for teaching English, math, science, social studies, and reading. The team affords flexibility in scheduling. In addition, the team provides a smaller unit within the school to allow for more personalized instruction and interaction between teachers and students and/or students and teammates.

Common planning times enable team teachers to work closely to plan appropriate behavioral and instructional strategies for students. Planning time also provides a time to conference with parents and/or resource personnel regarding special learning and behavior needs of individual students.

Through a total team effort, the Kiewit staff will work to provide each student with opportunities for growth in academic areas, life skills, and acceptance of responsibilities. Self discipline is probably the most important aspect to student success at Kiewit. Our team work is focused on helping each student develop a sense of personal responsibility and respect for self and others.

GRADING

Grades reflect the educational growth of the student in relationship to his/her ability and achievement. The following grading scale is used.

- 1 = 93% - 100%
- 2 = 85% - 92%
- 3 = 77% - 84%
- 4 = 69% - 76%
- 5 = below - 68%

Grades are based on daily work, projects, tests, quizzes, student participation, demonstrations, and effort. Physical education and music classes are graded classes.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Student schedules are built based on required courses, course availability, and prioritized elective selections made by students in the spring of each year; therefore, changes are not made in the student's electives. When academic achievement warrants a change in a math class, this change is honored but may require a cross teamed schedule. Band, orchestra, and or chorus, may be dropped if the request is made at the end of a Trimester. If the request to drop band, orchestra and/or chorus is received after the start of a new Trimester, the student must complete that Trimester and will receive a grade for that marking term. Note, however, that when 8th grade students drop band and/or orchestra the student's schedule will be adjusted by dropping any previously scheduled study halls.

MILLARD ESSENTIAL LEARNER OUTCOMES

- CITIZENSHIP • CONSUMER ECONOMICS • FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS • HUMAN RELATIONS
 • LITERACY AND COMMUNICATION • MATHEMATICS • READINESS FOR WORK • READINESS FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING
 • SCIENCE • SOCIAL STUDIES • TECHNOLOGY • WELLNESS

ACADEMIC SKILLS AND APPLICATIONS	LIFE SKILLS AND PERFORMANCES
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Students will demonstrate proficiency on these twelve indicators by meeting established standards on District-wide assessments. This proficiency, along with the successful completion of 225 credits for the class of 2004 and beyond, is used for diploma granting or denial. Students in the Millard Public Schools will:

LITERACY AND COMMUNICATION

1. Demonstrate competencies in reading to understand and evaluate a variety of texts.
2. Demonstrate competencies in writing in a variety of modes.

MATHEMATICS

4. Represent numbers and relationships between numbers, compute fluently, and make reasonable estimates.
5. Understand and use attributes of geometric figures and systems of measurement.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of and use coordinate systems and algebraic concepts.
7. Select, organize, display and analyze data.
8. Apply appropriate mathematical strategies to solve problems.

SCIENCE

9. Use scientific processes to understand the unifying concepts of the natural world.
10. Demonstrate understanding of life, physical, earth and space sciences.

SOCIAL STUDIES

11. Demonstrate understanding of structure, operations and relationships among local, state, national and international governments.
12. Demonstrate practical knowledge of history, economics and geography.
13. Understand global interdependence.

Course outcomes and assessments will determine program and building accountability in the areas of clarity (what is to be taught), competence (what is to be learned), consistency (among buildings), continuity (articulation) and communication (among teachers and with parents). The following indicators are not used for diploma-granting or denial.

LITERACY AND COMMUNICATION

3. Demonstrate appropriate speaking and listening skills for a variety of settings.

CONSUMER ECONOMICS

- Demonstrate skills in managing money.
- Make sound financial choices by using appropriate resources.

HUMAN RELATIONS

- Understand ethnic and cultural differences.
- Understand human differences.

TECHNOLOGY

- Obtain information electronically and organizes it successfully.
- Convey information using technology.
- Use a variety of technological resources to solve problems.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

- Experience and evaluate a variety of music, art, or drama.

WELLNESS

- Understand human growth and development.
- Identify the values of good nutrition and physical activity.
- Evaluate the impact of addictive substances and behaviors.

Within the school setting, students in the Millard Schools will:

READINESS FOR WORK

- Demonstrate the ability to manage time.
- Demonstrate the ability to follow directions.
- Solve problems by processing available information pertinent to a given situation, making decisions as appropriate.
- Develop ability to work with others to accomplish tasks/goals.
- Demonstrate essential knowledge of good work habits.
- Demonstrate responsibility.

READINESS FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING

- Demonstrate ability to set and pursue short term and long term goals.
- Obtain, organize and evaluate information successfully.
- Develop the attributes of:
 - integrity,
 - self-discipline,
 - positive attitude,
 - perseverance.

CITIZENSHIP

- Participate in community and/or school organization.
- Respect diversity.
- Respect the rights of others.
- Treat others in a considerate and non-demeaning manner.

Revised: Strategic Planning
 December 5, 1996
 T-Chart Approved: Millard Board of Education
 January 13, 1997

Rule Adopted: May 3, 1999
 Revised: June 18, 2001; July 21, 2003; December 4, 2006

Millard Public Schools
 Omaha, NE

SIXTH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

0650 Reading 6

1 Year

Students will learn to use comprehension strategies to apply while reading a variety of narrative, informational, and non-print texts. Students will develop their fluency, word analysis and vocabulary skills, and demonstrate comprehension of text. This course prepares students for Reading 7.

0600 English 6

1 Year

Students will read, write, and communicate through a variety of media, with diverse purposes and audiences. Students will refine the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish by analyzing both fiction and nonfiction models and examples. This course focuses on expository writing and speaking, and prepares students for English 7.

MATHEMATICS

2600 Math 6

1 Year

Students will study addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals and fractions; measurement; graphing; statistics; geometry and problem solving. Students are also introduced to percents, ratio and proportion, and one-step equations.

2610 Challenge Math 6

1 Year

Students will study addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals, fractions and integers. They will also study one-step equation solving, problem solving, statistics, ratio, proportion, percent, and 2- and 3-dimensional geometry. This course consolidates the arithmetic of previous grades and prepares students for Pre-Algebra.

Prerequisites: Qualifying test scores on Orleans Hanna test, Terra Nova scores, and other factors are considered.

2620 Pre-Algebra

1 Year

Students will study number theory, operations with rational numbers, scientific notation, solving one-step and multi-step equations and inequalities, statistics, ratio, proportion, percent, geometry and coordinate graphing. This course prepares students to take Algebra.

Prerequisites: Qualifying test scores on Orleans Hanna test, Terra Nova scores, and other factors are considered.

SCIENCE

3600 Science 6

1 Year

Students will use scientific inquiry to investigate the natural world and understand the connections among physical, life, and earth sciences. Students will also explore the role of science in society. Concepts included in sixth grade science are light and sound, the structure of earth, diversity and adaptation of organisms, and the structure and function of living systems including plants.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4600 Social Studies 6

1 Year

Students will study cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere from Pre-history through the Middle Ages incorporating geography, history, culture, government and economics. Geography and current events will be included throughout the year.

WORLD LANGUAGE

1600 World Language Survey

Alternate Days, 1 Year

World Language Survey gives students a brief, unique opportunity to learn about three languages: French, German and Spanish. This class, consisting of three 12-week segments, meets on alternate days and provides a basic introduction to each language. Students participate in activities related to the language and customs of each culture. As with any language course, some memorization is necessary. Students will demonstrate learning through various activities and projects.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8600 Physical Education 6

Alternate Days, 1 Year

The sixth grade physical education program is co-educational. This course provides students opportunities to gain knowledge and skills necessary to maintain lifelong participation in physical activities. Sixth grade physical education emphasizes continued development of skills and lead-up games in a variety of lifetime activities with a concentration on individual physical fitness.

ART

7650 Art 6

6 Weeks

Sixth grade art is an introductory course designed to give students an overview to the elements of art: shape, line, color, value, texture, space, and form. Included in this course are two-dimensional and three-dimensional experiences, some of which may be painting, drawing, and sculpture. Students will explore the influences of art from other times and cultures.

MUSIC

Required

7610 General Music 6

6 Weeks

This is a required, non-performance music course. Areas to be explored include vocal technique, music theory, history and cultures, and listening techniques. These studies will prepare and assist in developing the student's musical abilities for future music ensembles and his or her role as a music consumer.

Elective

In addition to General Music 6, students may choose one or more of the following electives. Administrators and music teachers will assist with the most appropriate scheduling options for each student. The following courses are electives offered in conjunction with Guided Study.

Band 6 (1 Year)

Orchestra 6 (1 Year)

Chorus 6 (Trimester or Year)

7600 Band 6

1 Year

Sixth grade band is a continuation of the instrumental music studies begun in 5th grade. In addition to improving individual playing skills, students will begin to learn group-playing techniques. Every band student will learn proper rehearsal behavior (attentiveness, respect, good posture, etc.), three major and three minor scales, the chromatic scale, fundamentals of music theory, tone production, breath control, and the importance of practicing for improvement. Percussionists will also learn 12 rudiments. Students are required to turn in weekly practice records and perform at all scheduled concerts.

7620 Orchestra 6

1 Year

Students will study music from various cultures and historical periods. Students will build on previously learned skills by learning techniques such as shifting, vibrato, and bowing styles. Students will also experience playing in an ensemble with other instruments. Students are required to perform in evening performances.

7630 Chorus 6

Trimester or Year

This is a performance-oriented course which includes required concert participation. This class develops the student's ability to sing two-part choral literature. Students will be introduced to vocal technique, theory and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 6 is a firm building block for successful participation in Chorus 7 and lifelong involvement in music.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Students will take one of the following courses in 6th grade and the other in 7th grade.

5610 Foods, Nutrition & Family Living 6 weeks

Students will learn food preparation skills to prepare snacks and simple meals. Students will use consumer skills and nutrition information to select snacks and meals for busy teens. Students will learn safe practices to stay alone or to care for younger children.

5620 Textiles, Clothing & Design 6 weeks

Students will learn skills to care for clothing and home environments. Students will learn to operate sewing equipment to complete a project.

HEALTH

8610 Health 6 6 weeks

This course provides an introduction to the promotion of good health and well-being. Activities emphasize the positive choices one makes related to personal health, nutrition, fitness, safety and first aid, drugs, environmental health, and human growth and development.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

2660 Computer Applications 6 6 Weeks

This course provides students with an exploratory experience in the world of computers. It provides a review of keyboarding skills; work with an integrated software package incorporating word processing, database, and spreadsheet; use of the internet; e-mail; and multimedia software that integrates text, graphics, sound, and video. Ethical use of computer systems and software is stressed at all times.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

6600 Industrial Technology 6 6 Weeks

Students will be introduced to several areas of technology. Each area is called a Mission. Twenty-one missions are offered (see list below). Paired students work for three days on a Mission. Each day students complete a “hands on” activity. Creative problem solving is taught through Discovery Day activities that occur between Missions.

Sixth Grade Missions

Architecture	Electrifying	Resources
Automation	Engineering	Robotics
Balloons	Hang Gliding	Rockets
Communications	HoverCraft	Simulation
Computer Drafting	MagLev	Transportation
Desktop Publishing	Manipulation	Visual Communications
Drafting	Processing Plastics	Wall Construction

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Recommended by student's Individual Educational Plan

9610	Essentials of English 6	1 Year
9615	Essentials of Reading 6	1 Year
9620	Essentials of Math 6	1 Year
9630	Essentials of Science 6	1 Year
9640	Essentials of Social Studies 6	1 Year

RETEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

Millard Public Schools provides many opportunities for students to be successful in their courses and on district and state assessments. In order to provide additional learning opportunities for middle level students, there may be times when a student schedule is adjusted for additional instruction within the school day. Communication between teachers, parents and students will occur prior to schedule changes due to the addition of a reteaching course.

HOW TO READ YOUR SIXTH GRADE SCHEDULE

	HEX 1	HEX 2	HEX 3	HEX 4	HEX 5	HEX 6
HR	HMRM-42 Homeroom Davis, D Rm:115					
1	3800-10 Science 6 Einstein, A Rm: 115					
2	6800-23 Soc. St. Lincoln, A Rm: 114					
3	2800B-30 Math 6 Logic, M Rm: 111					
4	0800B-40 English Payer, B Rm: 113					
5	1730-50 Reading Staff, M Rm: 211					
6	TM6B-64 Study Hall Hall, S Rm: 115					
7	8800-36 (A Day) Phys Ed 6 Shorts, J Rm: Gym		8800-36 (A Day) Phys Ed 6 Shorts, J Rm: Gym		8800-36 (A Day) Phys Ed 6 Shorts, J Rm: Gym	
	1600-50 (B Day) German Staff, M Rm: 211		1600-50 (B Day) Spanish Staff, M Rm: 211		1600-50 (B Day) French Staff, M Rm: 211	
8	7830-44 Music Minor, A Rm: Chorus	2660-44 Computer System, B Rm: 221	7830-44 Health 6 Bonebrake, Dr. Rm: 312	6800-44 Itech Goodwrench, T Rm: 511	7850-45 Art Picaso, P Rm: 501	5840-46 Textiles Stress, S Rm: 701

On the top left portion of the schedule you would find the school name and address. On the top right portion of the schedule you would find your ID number, name, mailing address, number of enrolled courses and your grade. Your locker number will appear directly above the Hexter 1 heading.

The actual schedule part contains all of the information about your classes:

- You will see everything in grid form, with hexter headings at the top and periods on the left side
- The first class for all students is SHARE. This is the homeroom and you will see course and section code, teacher name and room number.
- Classes that stretch across the page are year-long courses and you will have that class every day all year.
- If you notice 8th period above, you will see 6 different classes. This is because they are each one- hexter long. A hexter is 6 weeks long.
- If you notice 7th period you will see two classes listed during that period. Your schedule will have PE and a World Language class. These two classes will alternate every other day for the entire year. You will change teacher and room for a total of 3 different World Language classes (French, German, and Spanish)
- Look at 6th period on the schedule. This is your study hall. We call them Guided Study Period (GSP). If you choose to be in band, choir or orchestra, it would come during this class period. So some days you may not have a GSP class.

You may want to keep your schedule with you so the teachers and staff can help you if you need it.

SEVENTH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

0750 Reading 7

1 Year

Students will learn to use comprehension strategies, word meanings, critical thinking skills and to develop and enjoyment of reading. Emphasis will be placed on active reading and practicing strategies independently through a variety of text.

0700 English 7

1 Year

Students will read, write, and communicate through a variety of media, with diverse purposes and audiences. Students will refine the writing process to plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish by analyzing both fiction and nonfiction models and examples. This course focuses on persuasive writing and speaking, and it will prepare students for English 8.

MATHEMATICS

2700 Math 7

1 Year

Students will study addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals, fractions and integers. They will also study one-step equation solving, problem solving, statistics, ratio, proportion, percent, and 2- and 3-dimensional geometry. This course consolidates the arithmetic of previous grades and prepares students for Pre-Algebra.

2710 Pre-Algebra

1 Year

Students will study number theory, operations with rational numbers, scientific notation, solving one-step and multi-step equations and inequalities, statistics, ratio, proportion, percent, geometry and coordinate graphing. This course prepares students to take Algebra.

Prerequisites: Challenge Math

2720 Algebra

1 Year

Algebra is a course designed for those students who have mastered the basics of arithmetic and pre-algebra, and who understand mathematics in a more abstract form. This is a typical first-year algebra course.

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra

SCIENCE

3700 Science 7

1 Year

Students will use scientific inquiry and technology to demonstrate an understanding of the unifying concepts and processes of the natural world. Students will identify the relationships among the personal, social, and historical aspects of science. Concepts included in seventh grade science are motion and forces, energy and energy transfer, geological processes, and the structure and function of living systems with emphasis on cells and human body systems.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4700 Social Studies 7

1 Year

This course helps students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students will investigate the physical geography, climate, economy, political systems and demographics of countries in the Western Hemisphere, South Pacific and Western Europe. The importance of current events will be emphasized throughout the year.

Students select Success Strategies or one of the following world languages.

WORLD LANGUAGE

1710 French I-A

Alternate Days, 1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the French-speaking countries. This course begins in seventh grade, meeting on alternate days, and will continue every day in French I-B in eighth grade. French I-A/I-B is a two-year course and equivalent to French I taught in high school.

1730 German I-A

Alternate Days, 1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the German-speaking countries and explore the rich German heritage within the United States. This course begins in seventh grade, meeting on alternate days, and will continue every day in German I-B in eighth grade. German I-A/I-B is a two-year course and equivalent to German I taught in high school.

1720 Spanish I-A

Alternate Days, 1 Year

In Spanish I, students will express basic needs, courtesies, descriptions, likes and dislikes, agreement and disagreement. Also, they will make and respond to simple requests, questions, and instructions. They will read and respond to developmentally appropriate material. Students will identify and react to cultural perspectives and practices in the culture studied. Additional practice and review will be required. This course begins in seventh grade, meeting on alternate days, and will continue every day in Spanish I-B in eighth grade. Spanish I-A/I-B is a two-year course and equivalent to Spanish I taught in high school. Move-in students who did not have the opportunity to take Spanish I-A in seventh grade may take first semester of Spanish I in High School Summer School in order to be prepared for Spanish I-B in eighth grade.

SUCCESS STRATEGIES

0710 Success Strategies

Alternate Days, 1 Year

Students will explore strategies for success. Discover facets of study skills, skills to help with memorization, test-taking skills, note-taking, vocabulary development, and ways to determine your own learning styles.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8700 Physical Education 7

Alternate Days, 1 Year

This co-educational course is designed to expose students to a variety of team and individual activities. The purpose of the 7th grade program is to provide students continued opportunities to develop skills and individual fitness through physical activity.

ART

7750 Art 7

6 Weeks

The elements of art will be used to develop an understanding of the principles of design: balance, rhythm, movement, contrast, emphasis, repetition, and unity. Included in this course are two-dimensional and three-dimensional experiences, some of which may be painting, drawing, and sculpture. Students will continue to explore the influences of art from other times and cultures.

MUSIC

Required

7710 General Music 7

6 Weeks

This is a required, non-performance music course and is a continuation of General Music 6. Students will explore vocal technique, music theory, history and cultures, and listening techniques. These studies will prepare and assist in developing the student's musical abilities for future music ensembles and his or her role as a music consumer.

Elective

In addition to General Music 7, students may choose one or more of the following electives. Administrators and music teachers will assist with the most appropriate scheduling options for each student. The following courses are electives offered in conjunction with Guided Study.

Band 7 (1 Year)

Orchestra 7 (1 Year)

Chorus 7 (Trimester or Year)

7700 Band 7

1 Year

Seventh Grade band is open to students who have successfully completed the objectives of sixth grade band or the equivalent, possess a desire to play band literature, and improve their level of musical performance. Students will continue to develop basic music skills: music theory, notation, sight-reading, rehearsal procedures, and practicing for improvement. Students are required to learn a minimum of five major scales, five minor scales, and the chromatic scale. Percussionists are also required to learn a minimum of 15 rudiments. Students are required to turn in home practice/assignment cards and perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level.

7720 Orchestra 7**1 Year**

Students will study intermediate level repertoire from the string orchestra literature. The students will also study intermediate music theory and music history concepts and build artistry and skills in individual and group settings. Students enrolled in this class will be required to participate in several public performances with the group, most of which take place in the evening.

7730 Chorus 7**Trimester or Year**

This is a performance-oriented course, which includes required concert participation. This class develops the student's ability to sing two-part and/or three-part choral literature. Students will continue their studies of vocal technique, theory and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 7 is a firm building block for successful participation in Chorus 8 and lifelong involvement in music.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Students will take one of the following courses in 6th grade and the other in 7th grade.

5710 Foods, Nutrition & Family Living**6 weeks**

Students will learn food preparation skills to prepare snacks and simple meals. Students will use consumer skills and nutrition information to select snacks and meals for busy teens. Students will learn safe practices to stay alone or to care for younger children.

5720 Textiles, Clothing & Design**6 weeks**

Students will learn to care for clothing and home environments. Students will learn to operate sewing equipment to complete a project.

HEALTH**8710 Health 7****6 Weeks**

This course helps students develop and maintain healthy lifestyles. Emphasis is placed on information and the positive choices they can make to promote good health, now and throughout their life. Health class focuses on personal wellness, stress management, diseases, nutrition, physical fitness, drug misuse and abuse, and body systems.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS**2760 Computer Applications 7****6 Weeks**

This course provides students with an exploratory experience in the world of computers, building on previously acquired skills. Students will experience a variety of digital processes used with computers. The course includes work with an integrated software package incorporating word processing, database, and spreadsheet; use of the internet; and multimedia software that integrates text, graphics, sound, and video. Ethical use of computer systems and software is stressed at all times.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

6700 Industrial Technology 7

6 Weeks

Students will continue to explore technology through “hands on” activities. There are 27 courses, called Modules (see list below). Paired students work for seven days on a Module. In addition to the “hands on” Module activities, students complete a pre-test, 12 research challenges and a post-test. Each student will be assessed three times during each Module, demonstrating to the instructor concepts learned and projects completed. Creative problem solving strategies are taught during Discovery Days, which occur between each Module rotation.

Seventh Grade Modules

Alternative Energy	Digital Transportation	Interior Design
Applied Physics	Digital Video	Music & Sound
Audio Broadcasting	Electricity	Personal Finance
CADD	Electronics	Practical Skills
CNC Manufacturing	Energy Power & Mechanics	Production
CNC Milling	Engineering Bridges	Research & Design
Computer Graphics & Animation	Engineering Towers	Robotics
Creative Solutions	Engines	Rocketry & Space
Digital Design	Flight Technology	Weather

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Recommended by student's Individual Educational Plan

9710	Essentials of English 7	1 Year
9715	Essentials of Reading 7	1 Year
9720	Essentials of Math 7	1 Year
9730	Essentials of Science 7	1 Year
9740	Essentials of Social Studies 7	1 Year

RETEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

Millard Public Schools provides many opportunities for students to be successful in their courses and on district and state assessments. In order to provide additional learning opportunities for middle level students, there may be times when a student schedule is adjusted for additional instruction within the school day. Communication between teachers, parents and students will occur prior to schedule changes due to the addition of a reteaching course.

EIGHTH GRADE

LANGUAGE ARTS

0800 English 8

1 Year

Students will continue to improve their reading, writing, speaking, and multiple literacy skills. Students will continue to use the six traits of writing (ideas, organization, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, and conventions) to improve their academic and personal writing. This course prepares students for the State Standard Descriptive Writing Assessment, Speaking Assessment, and English 9.

MATHEMATICS

2800 Pre-Algebra

1 Year

Students will study number theory, operations with rational numbers, scientific notation, solving one-step and multi-step equations and inequalities, statistics, ratio, proportion, percent, geometry and coordinate graphing. This course prepares students to take Algebra.

2810 Algebra

1 Year

Algebra is a course designed for those students who have mastered the basics of arithmetic and pre-algebra, and who understand mathematics in a more abstract form. This is a typical first-year algebra course.

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra

2820 Geometry

1 Year

Students will learn traditional geometric facts, applications of those facts, and the axiomatic method used to derive those facts.

Prerequisites: Algebra

SCIENCE

3800 Science 8

1 Year

Students will learn the connections among physical, earth, and space sciences. Students will explore the concepts of electricity and magnetism, the solar system, and properties and changes in properties of matter. Students will demonstrate their understanding of these concepts through scientific inquiry and the use of technology.

SOCIAL STUDIES

4800 American History 1776-1914

1 Year

Eighth grade American History consists of a chronological approach emphasizing the social and political impact on the development of the United States. This course begins with a review of English colonization, the American Revolution and the United States Constitution. A detailed study of the United States from 1776 through 1914 then follows. Included within appropriate context will be units of study about Nebraska history and Native Americans. Special emphasis will be placed on geographical concepts, current events, writing and interdisciplinary units. In the ninth grade, students will continue the study of the United States from 1914 to the present.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

8800 Physical Education 8

3 Hexters

The 8th grade physical education program is designed to expand the student's exposure to team and individual activities with a concentration on individual fitness. This program emphasizes application of skills and sport knowledge through game participation.

HEALTH

5880 Know Your Self

6 weeks

This required class gives students the opportunity to learn more about themselves in units covering personality/self-concept, communication, family, friends/cliques, eating disorders, and human sexuality. The unit on human sexuality focuses on seven basic values: equality, honesty, respect, responsibility, promise-keeping, self-control and social justice. The theme throughout the human sexuality unit is abstinence.

Students select Success Strategies or one of the following world languages.

WORLD LANGUAGE

1810 French I-B

1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the French-speaking countries. This course meets daily and is a continuation of the French I-A course begun in seventh grade. French I-A/I-B is a two-year course. Students who want to take French I in middle school must begin in seventh grade.

1830 German I-B

1 Year

Students will acquire the vocabulary and structures needed for listening, speaking, reading and writing at an introductory level. Students will learn about and experience cultural practices relating to the German-speaking countries and explore the rich German heritage within the United States. This course meets daily and is a continuation of the German I-A course begun in seventh grade. German I-A/I-B is a two-year course. Students who want to take German I in middle school must begin in seventh grade.

1820 Spanish I-B

1 Year

In Spanish I, students will express basic needs, courtesies, descriptions, likes and dislikes, agreement and disagreement. Also, they will make and respond to simple requests, questions, and instructions. They will read and respond to developmentally appropriate material. Students will identify and react to cultural perspectives and practices in the culture studied. Additional practice and review will be required. This course meets daily and is a continuation of the Spanish I-A course begun in seventh grade. Spanish I-A/I-B is a two-year course. Students who want to take Spanish I in middle school must begin in seventh grade.

1822 Spanish I**1 Year**

In Spanish I, students will express basic needs, courtesies, descriptions, likes and dislikes, agreement and disagreement. Also, they will make and respond to simple requests, questions, and instructions. They will read and respond to developmentally appropriate material. Students will identify and react to cultural perspectives and practices in the culture studied. Additional practice and review will be required. The outcomes of this course are the same as the two-year Spanish I-A/I-B that begins in seventh grade; however, because this eighth grade course is taught in just one school year, some content will be condensed.

This course is designed for students joining Millard Public Schools late in the seventh grade year or those new to eighth grade. Students not successful in Spanish I-A during seventh grade may take this course in eighth grade with administrator approval.

SUCCESS STRATEGIES**0810 Success Strategies****1 Year**

Students will explore strategies for success. Discover facets of study skills, skills to help with memorization, test-taking skills, note-taking, vocabulary development, and ways to determine your own learning styles.

ART**7850 Drawing****6 Weeks**

Students will explore the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, concentrating on a variety of drawing skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Materials include, but are not limited to, pencils, pen and ink, oil pastels, chalk and charcoal. Assignments vary from still life, portraits, landscapes, perspective, and creative compositions.

7860 Painting**6 Weeks**

Students will explore the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, concentrating on a variety of painting skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Materials include, but are not limited to, oil pastels, watercolors, tempera and acrylic paintings. Assignments vary from still life, portraits, landscapes, perspective, and creative compositions.

7870 Pottery/Sculpture**6 Weeks**

Students will explore the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, concentrating on a variety of Pottery/Sculpture materials which include, but are not limited to clay, plaster, wood, papier mache, cardboard and wire. Assignments vary from pinch, coil and slab clay construction, carving and assemblage.

7880 Printmaking/Fibers**6 Weeks**

Students will explore the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, concentrating on a variety of Printmaking/Fiber skills and techniques to further their cultural and historical visual arts awareness. Printmaking/Fiber materials include, but are not limited to yarn, jute, linoleum blocks, styrofoam, fabric, stamps and found objects. Assignments vary from tie-dye, batik, weaving, basket coiling and various printmaking methods.

MUSIC

7800 Band 8

1 Year

Eighth grade band is open to students who have successfully completed the objectives of seventh grade band or the equivalent, possess a desire to play advanced band literature, and improve their level of musical performance. Students will continue to develop basic music skills: music theory, notation, sight-reading, rehearsal procedures, and the importance of practicing for improvement. Students are required to learn a minimum of seven major scales, seven minor scales, and the chromatic scale. Percussionists are also required to learn a minimum of 18 rudiments. Students are required to turn in home practice/assignment cards and perform at all scheduled concerts. Additional opportunities such as solo/ensemble clinics and honor bands exist for students at this level.

7820 Orchestra 8

1 Year

Students will study intermediate level repertoire from the string orchestra literature. The students will also study intermediate music theory and music history concepts as well as building artistry and skill in individual and group settings. Students enrolled in this class will be required to participate in several public performances with the group, most of which take place in the evening.

7810 Chorus 8

Trimester, Semester or Year

Eighth grade Chorus is a performance-oriented course, which includes required concert participation, develops the student's ability to sing three-part and/or four-part choral literature. There will be a continued emphasis on vocal technique, theory and sight-reading. Participation in Chorus 8 is a firm building block for successful participation in the various high school choral ensembles and lifelong involvement in music.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

5810 Food for Teens

6 weeks

Students will use new food preparation techniques and equipment to prepare a variety of foods. Students will explore nutrition, food decision-making and cooking skills

5840 Super Sewing

6 weeks

Students will learn to use a pattern and the latest technology in sewing machines and sergers to make simple apparel. Learn to make consumer decisions related to clothing.

5830 Designing Spaces

6 weeks

Students will use elements and principles of design to create a bedroom floor plan. Create crafts and accessories to decorate a room. Explore textile, design and housing related careers.

5820 Career Planning

6 weeks

It's never too early to think about future career goals. This course will assist students in making decisions regarding educational career choices that will prepare them for their future. Students will identify interest areas, explore clusters of occupations, practice interviewing, learn positive job skills, and interview members of the community about their careers. Exploring a variety of career options will assist students as they develop their educational plans for high school and beyond.

5850 Managing Money **6 weeks**
 Students will prepare for life’s financial realities. Students will explore the relationship between earning money and spending it. Smart consumer behavior will be discussed. Students will be introduced to managing a checkbook, creating a budget and planning for large expenditures. Students will apply math skills through the calculation of discounts, taxes, interest income and more.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

6800 Industrial Technology 8 **6 Weeks**
 Students will continue to explore technology through “hands on” activities. The Modules and Module activities offered are the same as 7th grade; however, eighth graders cannot take the same Modules covered in seventh grade. Creative problem solving strategies are taught during Discovery Days, which occur between each Module rotation.

Eighth Grade Modules

Alternative Energy	Digital Transportation	Interior Design
Applied Physics	Digital Video	Music & Sound
Audio Broadcasting	Electricity	Personal Finance
CADD	Electronics	Practical Skills
CNC Manufacturing	Energy Power &	Production
CNC Milling	Mechanics	Research & Design
Computer Graphics &	Engineering Bridges	Robotics
Animation	Engineering Towers	Rocketry & Space
Creative Solutions	Engines	Weather
Digital Design	Flight Technology	

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

2861 Web Design **6 weeks**
 Students will apply design elements to create web pages with computer graphics.

2863 Graphic Design **6 weeks**
 Students will apply design elements to create animated and still multimedia products.

2860 Desktop Publishing **6 weeks**
 Students will design and create printed or electronic publications.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Recommended by student's Individual Educational Plan

9810	Essentials of English 8	1 Year
9815	Essentials of Reading 8	1 Year
9820	Essentials of Math 8	1 Year
9830	Essentials of Science 8	1 Year
9840	Essentials of Social Studies 8	1 Year

RETEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

Millard Public Schools provides many opportunities for students to be successful in their courses and on district and state assessments. In order to provide additional learning opportunities for middle level students, there may be times when a student schedule is adjusted for additional instruction within the school day. Communication between teachers, parents and students will occur prior to schedule changes due to the addition of a reteaching course.

CURRICULUM OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO PARENTS

In a diverse society, there may be occasional situations when parents are uncomfortable with the use of a particular book or unit in their child's school. If you should find yourself in this position, you should be aware that the Millard School District has a long-standing policy that, at the request of parents, students may be excused from using such materials. When such a request is made, the teacher will provide alternative materials for the student. Parents should contact their child's teacher and/or principal if they have questions about this policy.

OTHER PARENT INFORMATION

High Ability Learners (HAL) Program

The HAL Program is designed to both challenge and provide opportunities for identified Kiewit HAL students. It is a collaborative program involving the entire Kiewit staff including a full-time HAL Facilitator. Its opportunities range from differentiated classroom instruction to pull out seminars and workshops. The HAL link from the Kiewit website (<http://mpsomaha.ishareinfo.org/cguthrie1/>) shows a calendar of events, documents with general information and pictures of activities that have occurred in the past.

Student Led Parent Teacher Conferences

Each year, Kiewit provides two separate opportunities for parents to visit our school to receive information on their child's academic, social, and behavioral development. Fall conferences are held in October, while spring conferences are conducted in February. Students compile a portfolio to share their accomplishments in core classes, and all teachers are available to conference with parents.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB)

The IB program is a rigorous pre-university course of study offered at Millard North High School. Although Kiewit Middle School is not officially recognized as an IB middle school, Kiewit does offer all the necessary course options for any student to qualify for the International Baccalaureate tract at Millard North High School.