

WILLIAMSBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL

ACADEMIC PLANNING FOR RISING SIXTH GRADERS



Who is Ms. Brenckle?

- Grew up in Arlington
- Former Williamsburg student
- Published author of two children's books
- Been a counselor for 18 years.
- Worked at Carlin Springs for 10 years prior to WMS
- Son went to WMS and is currently at Yorktown

In our time together we will..

- Talk about transition activities
- Get to know information about Williamsburg
- Review 6th Grade courses and course choices
- How to choose courses for next year
- Programs and activities at WMS

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

- School Counselor visit elementary schools - Jan/Feb 2026
- Spring Visits to Middle Schools - April 2026
- Summer tours - dates/times TBD
- PALS Day: Thursday before the first day of school.
Chance to meet teachers.
 - P - PE uniform
 - A - agenda
 - L - locker
 - S - schedule
- Extended TA the first week of school for transition and getting to know each other activities



6th Grade Survival Guide

Information to keep you in the know

Information You'll Receive in August

- Team assignments
 - Teams are assigned randomly and we do not accept team requests.
- Teacher Advisory (TA) Teacher Assignments
- Supply lists for 6th grade are available online
- Schedules available on PALS Day



MIDDLE SCHOOL CHANGES

- Block Scheduling - A, B, & Anchor days
- Students can enter the building at 7:25am – will wait in auditorium until 7:40am bell.
- Lunch is early (11:08am)
- Check-In, PM only
- After school opportunities (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)
- Late buses available for after school clubs/sports

6th Grade Block Schedule

A/B Block Schedule

6th Grade

Period	Start	End
TA	7:50 AM	8:08 AM
1A/2B	8:11 AM	9:37 AM
3A/4B	9:40 AM	11:06 AM
Lunch	11:08 AM	11:43 AM
Wolf Time	11:45 AM	12:19 PM
5	12:22 PM	1:06 PM
7A/6B	1:09 PM	2:35 PM


Anchor Day Schedule

6th Grade Bell Schedule

TA	7:50 AM	8:08 AM
Period 1	8:11 AM	8:58 AM
Period 2	9:01 AM	9:48 AM
Period 3	9:51 AM	10:38 AM
Lunch	10:40 AM	11:15 AM
Period 4	11:18 AM	12:05 PM
Period 5	12:08 PM	12:55 PM
Period 6	12:58 PM	1:45 PM
Period 7	1:48 PM	2:35 PM

WOLF TIME

- Daily 30 minute block for intervention in reading, writing, and math. (only A & B Days)
- Students choose enrichment activities
- Flex teachers available for support in a subject/makeup work



6th Grade Courses

Core and Elective

CORE CLASSES

- 6TH Grade students have 5 core classes:

- Grade 6 English or Grade 6 English Intensified
- Disciplinary Literacy or Disciplinary Literacy, Intensified
- Grade 6 US History or US History Intensified
- Grade 6 Science or Grade 6 Science Intensified
- Math (either Math 6, Math 6 Advanced or Pre-Algebra for 6th graders)

*Students will receive their recommended math course from the APS Math Office early Summer. This placement is based on several end of year data points.

**Students needing additional support in reading based on data from 5th grade will be placed in a Structured Literacy course



Click here to play video!

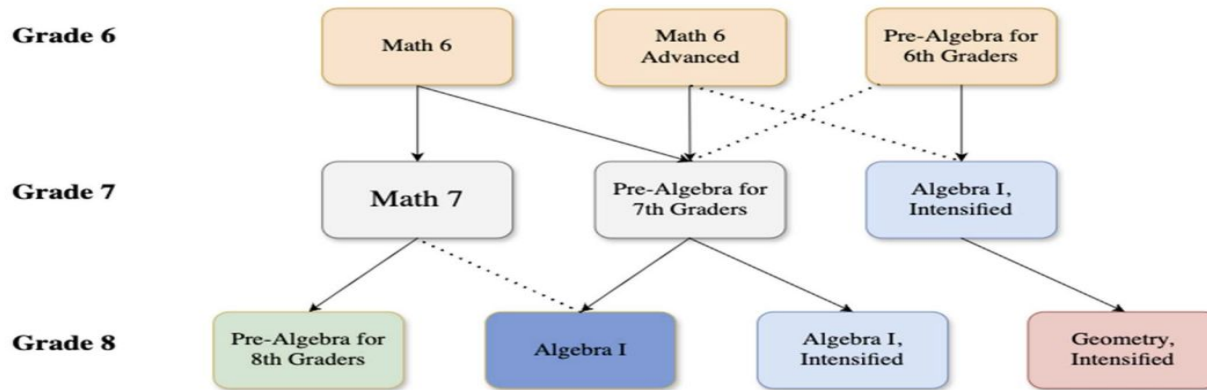
Advanced Academics Information from Ms. Katie Willet

Intensified Classes

- Require intensive reading and analytical skill **across all subject areas.**
- Students need to be able to read complex texts and extract data independently.
- Students will need to think critically and analytically while applying concepts to novel problems.
- Students should have the ability to write and communicate complex thoughts with clear communication.
- Students should be building independent background on a particular topic due to the personal interest in that subject area.
- Intensified classes **are not high school credit classes**.

Middle School Math Progression

Arlington Public Schools Middle School Mathematics Progression, SY 2025 - 2026



- Students needing additional support may be concurrently enrolled in Math 6, Math 7, or Pre-Algebra 8 along with an associated Math Strategies course, where available.

..... *Note:*
Dotted line progressions indicate that these instances are less common.

*Students will receive their recommended math course from the APS Math Office in the summer. This placement is based on several end of year data points.

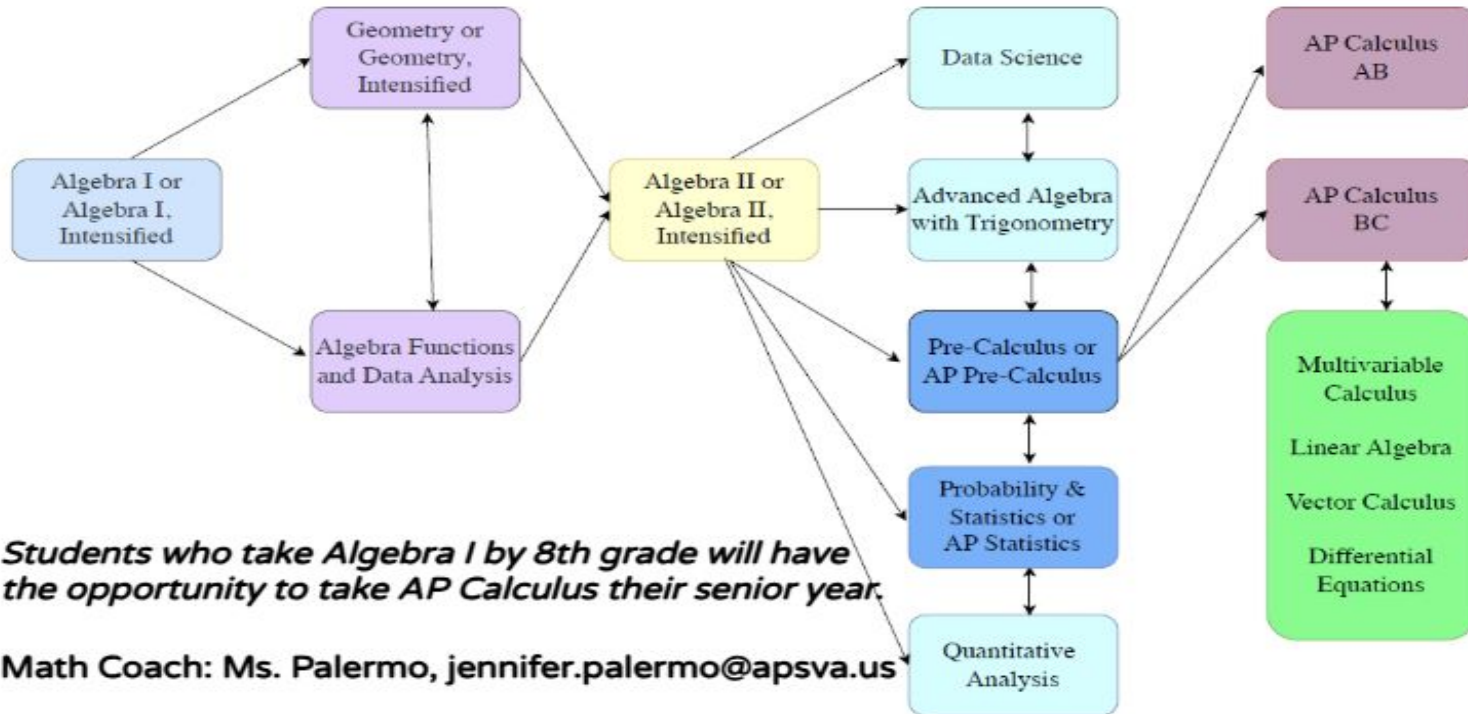
Standard progression of coursework is denoted by the solid line.

Math Coach: Ms. Palermo, jennifer.palermo@apsva.us

High School Math Progression

High School Math Progression

Arlington Public Schools High School Mathematics Progression, SY 2025 - 2026

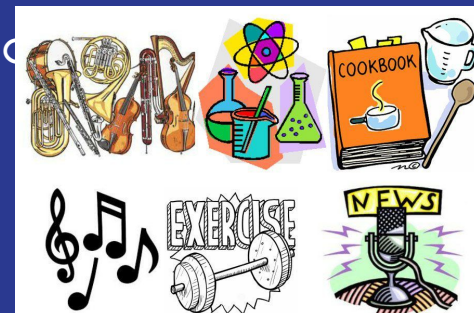


Students who take Algebra I by 8th grade will have the opportunity to take AP Calculus their senior year.

Math Coach: Ms. Palermo, jennifer.palermo@apsva.us

Electives and PE

- All students take Health & PE
 - Each Quarter will have 2 weeks in Health
 - Students must dress out everyday (uniforms can be purchased online in Summer)
- Elective choice
 - Music
 - Band (Woodwind or Brass & Percussion)
 - Orchestra, or Chorus
 - Exploratory Wheel



Exploratory Rotations

Exploratory rotations are 5-6 weeks and
may include: :

- Visual Arts
- Theatre Arts
- Technical Education
- Family and Consumer Science
- Keyboarding
- Journalism



Course Options

CRF Due: _____	Williamsburg Middle School
Name: _____	ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL 2026-2027
School ID: _____	

Grade 6 Course Request Form (CRF)

This Course Request Form (CRF) allows a student and their family to make course selections for the following year. All Grade 6 students are required to take the following courses: *English, Disciplinary or Structured Literacy, Math, Science, Social Studies and Health and Physical Education (HPE)*. Additional courses may also be required based upon the specific program in which the student is enrolled. Description of all courses can be found in the APS Middle School Program of Studies.

Course selections will be made [using a Google Form](#). This document is for planning purposes only. Links to the form can be found by accessing the Rising 6th CANVAS course 5th grade students have been added to, contacting your APS elementary school counselor OR the WMS registrar if you are enrolling for the 25-26 school year.

Directions for Selecting Courses: The left column indicates courses you will be enrolled in. In the right column, please select the level of the listed courses. There is no prerequisite for intensified courses.	
6th Grade Core Courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 6 TA (10206) Math: Math 6, Math 6 Advanced or Pre-Algebra for 6th Graders (<i>Students will receive their recommended math course from the APS Math Department in the summer. This placement is based on several end of year data</i>) Grade 6 Health and Physical Education (17110) 	6th Grade Core Course Selections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ English 6 (11109/10045) ___ English 6, Intensified (11116) Science Course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Grade 6 Science (14105/10048) ___ Grade 6 Science, Intensified (14119) Social Studies Course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ US History to Present (12354/10047) ___ US History to Present, Intensified (12350) Disciplinary Literacy** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Disciplinary Lit (11140) ___ Disciplinary Lit, Intensified (11142)
Support Courses: **Structured Literacy - Based on mid and end of year data, students may be placed in this course in lieu of Disciplinary Literacy. Math Strategies - Enrollment in this course is by recommendation only. This course will replace the elective choice. Notification of recommendation for support courses occurs at the end of the school year. Parents must notify the school in order to opt out of these courses.	

CRF Due: _____	Williamsburg Middle School
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6th Grade Elective Choice: Please choose ONLY one	
Music Choices: ___ Beginning Band: Brass and Percussion (19233) Instrument: _____ ___ Beginning Band: Woodwinds (19234) Instrument: _____ ___ Beginning Orchestra (19237) Instrument: _____ ___ Beginning Chorus (19261)	___ Elective Wheel (19000) <i>(may include a rotation through the following possible classes: Art, Family and Consumer Sciences, Tech Edu, Journalism, Drama, and/or Latin)</i>
ACT II Classes: sign up for these courses are student driven and occur during the school day after the school year has started. Students will receive announcements in the morning and during lunch regarding which classes will be offered, sign up and deadlines.	
Please sign below to acknowledge that you have discussed and reviewed your students' course choices.	
_____ Print Name	_____ Parent/Guardian Signature
_____ Date	

Scan Me to Access 26-27 6th Grade Williamsburg Course Request Google Form

Students can access this Course Options Worksheet on Canvas.

Submitting CRF Via Google Form

1. Course Request Forms will still be available to view and read via PDF in the same format (see previous slide)
2. Submission of course choices must be done virtually with a Google Form.*Please only submit one form, changes to choices should be email to either Ms. Brenckle or Ms. Russo.
3. Google CRF Form can be found on the the Rising 6th Canvas Course students will be added to OR you can request the Google Form from your students elementary school counselor after your students have received their visit from their rising 6th WMS Counselor
4. Students must be logged in to their APS account to submit form.

The screenshot shows a Google Form titled "Williamsburg Middle School 6th Course Request Form (CRF)". At the top is the school's logo, a blue and white wolf head, and the text "Williamsburg MIDDLE SCHOOL". Below the title, it states: "You must complete this form with with a PARENT/GUARDIAN!". Instructions follow: "Please enter a PARENT email address below. You will be emailed a copy of your responses." and "Please read each question carefully and make your reading selection and elective selection for next year:". A pre-filled email address "elise.kenney@apva.us" is shown with a "Switch account" link and a red asterisk indicating it is required. Below this are four text input fields: "Email *", "STUDENT Last Name *", "STUDENT First Name *", and "Student ID *". The "Student ID *" field has a note: "This is also the 'lunch number'". The final section is "Current Elementary School *" with a list of radio button options: "Discovery", "Jamestown", "Tuckahoe", "Arlington Science Focus", "Arlington Traditional", "Virtual Learning Program", "Nottingham", "Campbell", "Taylor", and "Other:". The "Other:" option has a text input field next to it.



PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

AFTER SCHOOL OPTIONS

- The school day ends at 2:35pm
- Mon, Tues, and Thurs After School Periods (ASP)
 - ASP 1: 2:45–3:30
 - ASP 2: 3:30–4:00
- Late buses available Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays



AFTER SCHOOL OPTIONS

- ACT II Classes

- May include Theatre, Art, Technology, and Chorus
- Sign-up announced at lunch
- Counted as an extra class/grade

- Clubs

- Many clubs to join (a great way to get involved)
- If you don't see one you are interested in, you can start your own!

More information on the WMS website under the Activities Tab:

<https://williamsburg.apsva.us/>

SPORTS AT WILLIAMSBURG

Intramurals:

- Do not require a physical
- Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during ASP 1 & 2
- Drop in, no tryouts

Interscholastic:

- Students **MUST have a current physical on file** with the Activities Coordinator (dated after May 1st)
- Student must have APS Athletics Agreement form filled out
- Most sports require tryouts

****Forms can be found on the WMS website**



WMS SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Questions?

Feel free to contact

Madison Wilson

Student Support Coordinator

703-228-5450

madison.wilson@apsva.us

Continuum of Services

Co-taught Integrated Classroom: Taught by a General Education and Special Education teacher or Assistant

Special Education Classroom: Taught by a Special Education Teacher

Countywide Programs: Taught by a Special Education Teacher
- students who require a therapeutic environment designed to foster increased self-regulation, improved self-concept, positive relationship skills, and academic success

Interlude

MIPA Taught by a Special Education Teacher

The **IEP team determines where** in the continuum a student will receive instruction.

Home

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Collaborations

Chat

Google Drive

Bookshelf®

Office 365

Class Notebook

ConnectED

BrainPOP

ThinkCentral HMH

Holt McDougal
Online

Nearpod

APS Library

Rising 6th Transition

**WELCOME RISING
6TH GRADERS!**
We Can't Wait to Meet You

About
WMS

Course
Request
Form

Elective
Videos

Who's Your
School
Counselor

WMS
Website

 View Course Stream

 View Course Calendar

 View Course Notifications

To Do

Nothing for now

Program of Studies

The WMS Middle School Program Of Studies (POS) can be found on the WMS and APS website

(hyperlink is below):

[MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2026-2027](#)

Course Request Google Forms (CRFs) are due to be submitted

NO LATER than **February 20, 2026**

Final Thoughts

- Your child may feel anxiety at some point during middle school.
- 6th graders often struggle with executive functioning skills and may need support with organization.
- There will be good days and bad days.

Home - School communication is key!

Help your middle schooler's superpowers grow! Join us:



WILLIAMSBURG PARENT COFFEE
HOSTED BY THE STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

**GROWING STRONG:
SUPPORTING MIDDLE
SCHOOLERS THROUGH
CHANGE**

LEARN STRATEGIES TO HELP YOUR CHILD

- BUILD CONFIDENCE
- NAVIGATE SOCIAL DRAMA
- OVERCOME CHALLENGES
- DEVELOP THEIR GOALS

**Rescheduled:
to Feb 9th!**

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MONDAY, ~~JAN 26~~, 2026
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
WMS Library

RSVP HERE: 



QUESTIONS? EMAIL: SUSAN.RUSSO@APSV.A.US

QUESTIONS?

Looking forward to seeing you next year!

Exit Ticket

