

# A GUIDE

*for*

# SIXTH GRADE



**2018-2019**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Wilson County Schools is to provide an educational environment which creates success for all students through the community working together.

## ***FOREWORD***

The middle school years are important in the academic development of our children. In middle school, children are making the transition from elementary school to high school. These years are very important years academically, yet often very challenging as children enter the adolescent years. The middle school program in Wilson County is designed to help our students develop physically, emotionally, and academically.

Our curriculum is strong and is constantly improving to meet the changing needs of our middle school students. This guide is designed to provide parents an overview of the academic program to which their children will be exposed.

Our middle schools have been continuously improving, and you should expect our schools to continue to get better and better. We are glad to have your child in one of our middle schools. We expect it to be a great experience for your child in preparation for high school.

## **Wilson County Middle Schools**

## **Phone Numbers**

David Lyndon (Executive Director of Secondary Education) .....	399-7779
Daniels Learning Center .....	399-7900
Darden Middle .....	206-4973
Elm City Middle .....	236-4148
Forest Hills Middle .....	399-7913
Speight Middle .....	238-3983
Springfield Middle .....	237-4250
Toisnot Middle .....	399-7973

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

### Component I: Report Card

Students are expected to pass all four core area subjects (language arts, mathematics, social studies and science).

### Component II: End-of-Grade Tests (Reading & Mathematics)

Students are expected to score Level III, IV, or V on the reading and mathematics End-of-Grade Tests.

### Component III: Attendance

Students are expected to be in attendance a minimum of 90 % of the school year.

## CORE AREA SUBJECTS

### GRADE 6 MATHEMATICS

**Grade Six Mathematics** is designed to teach these **major concepts**:

- Understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems
- Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions
- Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples
- Apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the system of rational numbers
- Apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions
- Reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities
- Represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area, and volume
- Develop understanding of statistical variability
- Summarize and describe distributions

### GRADE 6 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**Grade Six English Language Arts** is designed to teach these **major concepts**:

#### READING

- Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from text
- Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas
- Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text
- Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning and tone
- Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text relate to each other and the whole
- Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text
- Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words
- Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence
- Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take
- Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently

#### WRITING

- Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence
- Write informative / explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content
- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences
- Use digital tools and resources to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation
- Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism

## *CULTURAL ARTS ELECTIVES*

### **GRADE 6 SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Grade Six Social Studies** is designed to teach these **major concepts**:

- Use historical thinking to understand the emergence, expansion and decline of civilizations, societies and regions over time
- Understand the political, economic and/or social significance of historical events, issues, individuals and cultural groups
- Understand geographic factors that influence the emergence, expansion and decline of civilizations, societies and regions over time
- Apply tools of a geographer to understand the emergence, expansion, and decline of civilizations, societies and regions
- Understand how the physical environment and human interaction affected the economic activities of various civilizations, societies and regions
- Understand the development of government in various civilizations, societies and regions
- Explain how the behaviors and practices of individuals and groups influenced societies, civilizations and regions

### **GRADE 6 SCIENCE**

**Grade Six Science** is designed to teach these **major concepts**:

- Understand the properties of waves and the wavelike property of energy in earthquakes, light and sound waves
- Understand the structure, classifications and physical properties of matter
- Understand the characteristics of energy transfer and interactions of matter and energy
- Understand the earth / moon / sun system, and the properties, structures and predictable motions of celestial bodies in the Universe
- Understand the structure of the earth and how interactions of constructive and destructive forces have resulted in changes in the surface of the Earth over time and the effects of the lithosphere on humans
- Understand the structures, processes and behaviors of plants that enable them to survive and reproduce
- Understand the flow of energy through ecosystems and the responses of populations to the biotic and abiotic factors in their environment

### **GRADE 6 BEGINNING BAND**

This course is for students who have had little or no experience in playing an instrument but have a strong desire to be a part of a band and willingness to practice many hours the skills taught in class. Students are expected to provide their own instruments.

### **GRADE 6 CHORUS**

This course is designed for students who have had a limited amount of formal choral experience. Vocal technique studies and music reading will be emphasized. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of roles related to music, and opportunities will be provided to explore ways of participating in musical activities.

### **GRADE 6 ART**

This class is available to students who desire an exposure to art. Skills will be developed in areas such as drawing, painting, designing, printmaking, sculpture and crafts. Students will be encouraged to broaden their perception and appreciation of art and to formulate opinions and judgments based upon their experiences. Throughout the course, associations will be made between the students, their environments and man and his dependence on art.

## *OTHER ELECTIVES*

### **GRADE 6 HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Grade six health instruction presents a foundation learning experience designed to help students develop proactive health behaviors such as stress management, conflict resolution, protecting self/others and nutrition/weight management. Sixth grade physical education includes personal fitness skills, sports skills, recreational dance skills and developmental gymnastic skills.

## **GRADE 6 CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

The Wilson County Schools middle school program offers several electives in the Career and Technical Education area. Programs represented vary across the district and include:

- Technology Design and Innovation
- Exploring Family and Consumer Science
- Exploring Business, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship
- Exploring Career Decisions
- Computer Skills and Applications
- Exploring Biotechnology - Health Science
- Exploring Biotechnology - Agri-Science
- Exploring Agricultural Science

Individual schools may offer additional elective courses as student interest warrants.

**To view a complete listing of course objectives, visit  
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/>**