

Hutchinson

Middle School

Math, Science & Technology

Magnet





20-21 Course Catalog





Hutchinson Middle School offers a variety of exciting & challenging courses to meet the needs and interests of all of our students. This course catalog is designed to help students, parents and Hutchinson staff program students into courses that will challenge and motivate them.

All students will be enrolled in six (6) courses each year:

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- Language Arts
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Science
 - Physical Education
 - Elective
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Zero Period

Students may take a zero (0) period course and choose two (2) elective classes during the regular school day. Zero Period begins at 7:35 am Monday-Friday. Priority is given to students in our Magnet Program who require Math Enrichment or are enrolled in Band, Orchestra, AVID 7 or AVID 8. Students will be enrolled in seven (7) courses if they take Zero Period. Limited space is available. Requests for Zero Period are made on the Magnet Application.

Stay Connected

Get the most up-to-date information about Hutchinson's events and important dates on our website: www.hutchinsonhawks.org

Facebook: [hutchinson math science technology engineering](https://www.facebook.com/hutchinsonmathsciencetechnologyengineering)

Twitter: [@hutchprincipal](https://twitter.com/hutchprincipal) or [@APHutchinsonMS](https://twitter.com/APHutchinsonMS)

Technology

As a Technology Magnet, Hutchinson is at the forefront of utilizing technology in every class to enhance our students' education. The Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District's 2020 Learning Initiative equips all students with an iPad device. Our incoming 6th graders will receive iPads before the 20-21 school year begins, during an Orientation session with their parents. At the end of the school year, our 6th graders will check their devices in to the library for the summer and check them out at the beginning of the each subsequent school year as 7th & 8th graders.

After-School Athletics

Hutchinson's after-school athletics program provides our students with the opportunity to participate in a practice season culminating in a district-wide tournament in the following sports:

Football
Volleyball
Cross Country
Basketball
Softball
Soccer
Track & Field
Cheerleading

Clubs

Hutchinson offers a variety of clubs to enrich the middle school experience:

Academic Pentathlon
BotBall Robotics Tournament
Cal Poly Femineers
UC Davis Snap the Gap
National Junior Honor Society
Jazz Band

WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) – 8th Grade (Application required)

PowerSchool Parent Portal

Parents and students are able to stay informed of academic progress through our PowerSchool Parent Portal. The PowerSchool app can be utilized on cell phones, iPads and tablets. Our teachers update students' current grades and assignments regularly.

Incoming 6th graders will receive their individual PowerSchool Portal access code during the iPad Orientation.

6th Grade

Welcome to Middle School – an important transition in your educational career! Here at Hutchinson, we have an exciting and inclusive environment in which you will instantly feel at home.

At Hutchinson, we challenge our students to be successful in everything you do. In addition to the rigorous coursework in all core classes, we also offer Honors courses in English/Language Arts & Mathematics. Enrollment in our Honors courses is based upon state/district assessment scores and a recommendation from your 5th grade teacher. You will be informed of your placement before the beginning of the school year.

All of our 6th grade students participate in Hutchinson's exceptional **WEB ("Where Everybody Belongs") Program**. Each student is partnered with an 8th grade WEB Leader who mentors him/her throughout this first year of middle school. As positive role models, WEB Leaders guide the 6th graders to discover what it takes to be successful at Hutchinson. WEB kicks off with a half-day Orientation for all incoming 6th graders before school starts in August. The students participate in a series of introduction & team-building activities and campus tours to help alleviate their fears about middle school and meeting other students.



7th Grade

You have successfully completed your first year of Middle School! Seventh grade will provide you with more responsibility and independence with your core classes as well as your electives.

You have the opportunity beginning in your 7th grade year to enter Hutchinson's Honors Program, in which you can be enrolled in Language Arts 7 Honors, Accelerated Math 7, Science 7 Honors and/or Social Science 7 Honors. All Honors courses require a recommendation from your 6th grade teacher(s). Placement into Accelerated Math 7 is based on state assessment score, district placement test score, Math 6/Math 6 Honors grade as well as teacher recommendation. You will be informed of your placement before the beginning of the school year.

You are also able to take advanced electives such as Leadership, Yearbook, etc.

8th Grade

This will be your last year of Middle School! Our goal this year is to prepare you for success in high school. Your core classes will provide opportunities for you to excel and feel confident in your transition to high school.

All Honors courses require a recommendation from your 7th grade teacher(s): Language Arts 8 Honors, Accelerated Math 8, Science 8 Honors and/or Social Science 8 Honors. If you are enrolled in Honors courses in 7th grade, continuing in our Honors program is based on high achievement in these classes. You will be informed of your placement before the beginning of the school year.

Hutchinson Middle School is committed to college and career readiness and we give our eighth graders real-world experience in their Volunteer Project and Exit Interviews. These programs are unique to Hutchinson and support the development of the written and verbal communications skills of our young men and women.



Volunteer Project

In order to prepare our students for the requirements of high school and to become more service-oriented, all 8th grade students complete a volunteer project. Our students complete the project with a minimum of 20 service hours and present their project in April. Our teachers support students throughout the school year during the completion of this project.

Exit Interviews

At the end of their middle school career here at Hutchinson, our 8th graders participate in Exit Interviews that encapsulate their experiences over the past three years, giving them real world experience. Our students showcase a portfolio collection of their best work & accomplishments during one-to-one interviews with industry professionals & district administrators and describe the progress they made in middle school. This is a long-standing tradition at Hutchinson that we have been proud to offer for the past 12 years.

HONORS PROGRAM

Hutchinson's courses offer challenge for all students and our Honors Program provides further enrichment and rigor for gifted, GATE and motivated students.

6th Graders have the opportunity to be enrolled in Language Arts Honors and Honors Mathematics, based on state assessment scores, iReady assessment scores and a recommendation from your 5th grade teacher.

In 7th grade, you have the opportunity to enter Hutchinson's Honors Program if you were not enrolled in 6th grade, in which you can be placed in Language Arts 7 Honors, Accelerated Math 7, Science 7 Honors and/or Social Science 7 Honors. All Honors courses require a recommendation from your 6th grade teacher(s). Placement into Accelerated Math 7 is based on state assessment score, district placement test score, Math 6/Math 6 Honors grade as well as teacher recommendation. The Accelerated Math program allows students to complete three years of mathematics in two years, thus enrolling in Geometry in 9th grade.

In 8th grade, you may continue in the Honors Program, based on 7th grade success in Honors courses and teacher recommendation. Students have the opportunity to enter Hutchinson's Honors Program if you were not enrolled in 7th grade, in which you can be placed in Language Arts 8 Honors, Science 8 Honors and/or Social Science 8 Honors. All Honors courses require a recommendation from your 7th grade teacher(s).

Students will be informed of Honors placement before the beginning of the school year.

Students are expected to consistently earn 80% or higher in Honors courses to remain enrolled in the Honors Program. Benchmarks are determined throughout the year.



LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 6

This course is built around the CA standards for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language in grade 6. Students are introduced to a wide range of authors and topics and practice citing text evidence in their verbal and written responses to texts. Organization and clarity of ideas are emphasized in writing assignments. Digital literacy skills are taught and students have frequent opportunities to use technology to demonstrate understanding and collaborate with classmates.

Language Arts 7

This course is built around the CA standards for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language in grade 7. Students are exposed to a range of informational and literary texts and are provided with daily opportunities to build their reading stamina and analysis skills. Evidence-based writing is strengthened and students engage in revision of their work. Students further develop their digital literacy skills and have regular opportunities for online research. Collaboration is a core part of the curriculum.

Language Arts 8

This course is built around the CA standards for reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language in grade 8. Students read multiple genres that address a topic or theme and write in response to those texts. Strengthening writing through peer feedback and revision processes is emphasized. Digital literacy skills are expanded and both research and presentation skills are refined. Collaborative structures and individual goal setting promote student independence in preparation for high school courses.

ELD

This course is for students who have been identified as English Learners. It is designed to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for everyday and academic purposes. Instruction focuses on communicative and academic skills based on the California ELD Standards.

Language Arts 6, 7 & 8 Honors

Placement in 6th grade Language Arts Honors class is based on state/district assessment scores and teacher recommendation. Continued enrollment in the Honors Program is contingent upon success in the class.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6

The course is based on the CA literacy standards for History/Social Studies (HSS) and content area standards for grade 6. Students explore civilizations and geography of the ancient world. Units of study include early humans and ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Hebrews, India, China, and Rome. Students look for patterns in the development of societies and learn about the development of political institutions as well as the birth and spread of religions and philosophies. Concepts of trade, expansion, migration, conquest, and the diffusion of goods and ideas are developed. Students read both primary and secondary sources, begin to distinguish points of view, and include evidence in both informational and argument writing. Access to technology deepens student understanding of far-removed locations and ancestors and promotes further inquiry.

Social Studies 7

The course is based on the CA literacy standards for History/Social Studies (HSS) and content area standards for grade 7. Students explore the medieval and early modern periods in world history. Students gain understanding of the rise and fall of empires, the diffusion of religions and languages, and significant movements of people, ideas, and products. Concepts of population growth, technological advances, cultural exchanges, interconnectedness, kingdoms and empires, and human impact on environments are developed. Students read a broad range of texts, continue to discern between fact, opinion, and judgment, and develop greater reasoning in their writing about historical topics. Technology integration includes building skills in both researching and presenting.

Social Studies 8

The course is based on the CA literacy standards for History/Social Studies (HSS) and content area standards for grade 8. Students explore United States history through of growth and conflict. Units of study include the significant events that led to independence and American democracy, the principles and powers of the Constitution, the foundations of our political systems, the early struggles of the nation, and the divergent paths of American people in the major geographical regions of the U.S. The course concludes with the Civil War and Reconstruction along with the industrialization of the era. Concepts of liberty, equality, economics, compromise, ideals, and civics will be developed. Students strengthen close reading skills, analyze multiple perspectives on events, and produce expository and argument writing related to topics to study.

Social Studies 7 Honors & Social Studies 8 Honors

Placement in Social Studies Honors class is based on teacher recommendation. Continued enrollment in the Honors Program is contingent upon success in the class.

MATH

Math 6

This course is designed to provide students with a strong mathematical foundation to meet 6th grade Common Core math standards. Areas of focus include: 1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division, and using concepts of ratios and rates to solve problems; 2) understanding division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers; 3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; 4) developing an understanding of statistical thinking. Placement in Accelerated Math 7 & 8 is based on success in Math 6, state assessment score, district placement test score, & teacher recommendation.

Math 6 Honors

Placement in Math 6 Honors is based on state/district assessment scores & teacher recommendation. Placement in Accelerated Math 7 & 8 is based on success in Math 6 Honors, state assessment score, district placement test score, & teacher recommendation.

Math 7

This course is aligned to 7th grade Common Core math standards and will prepare students to take future higher level math courses. Areas of focus include: 1) ratios and proportional reasoning; 2) percentages; 3) integers and rational numbers; 4) expressions, equations, and inequalities; 5) area and volume of geometric figures; 6) probability and statistics.

Math 8

This course will help students develop higher order thinking skills and build fluency around the 8th grade Common Core math standards. Areas of focus include: 1) understanding real numbers; 2) solving equations in one and two variable functions; 3) interpreting and graphing functions; 4) understanding triangles using the Pythagorean Theorem; 5) understanding transformations, congruence, and similarity; 6) volume and surface area of geometric figures; 7) Data Analysis.

Accelerated Math 7

This is the first course of a two-year accelerated math program. This fast-paced course encompasses 100% of the 7th standards and 60% of the 8th grade standards. The coverage of grade 8 standards will allow students to take Integrated Math I during their 8th grade year. Successful students in this course are self-motivated, mathematically prepared, and demonstrate perseverance in solving complex problems. Focus areas for both grade level standards include: 1) ratios and proportional relationships; 2) number systems; 3) expressions and equations; 4) geometry; 5) statistics and probability.

Placement in Accelerated Math 7 is based on success in Math 6/Math 6 Honors, state assessment score, district placement test score, & teacher recommendation.

Accelerated Math 8 ** *High School Credit*

This course is for students who have successfully completed Accelerated Common Core 7 math. Accelerated Math 8 is the second course of a two-year accelerated math program. This fast-paced course encompasses 100% of the high school Integrated Math 1 standards. Successful students in this course are self-motivated, mathematically prepared, and demonstrate perseverance in solving complex problems. Focus areas include: Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics with probability. Specifically, in the Algebra units, instructional time will focus on (1) Seeing structure in Expression, (2) Creating Equations, and (3) Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities. In the Functions units, this course will be on (1) Congruence and (2) Expressing Geometric Properties with Equations. In the Statistics and Probability units, the concentration will be on Interpreting Categorical and Quantitative Data.

Students earn 5 high school credits for this course and enroll in Geometry in 9th grade.

Math Enrichment: 6th, 7th or 8th Grade

This course is designed as an intervention to provide support and remediation of math concepts and skills. This course is taken in place of an elective course. Students enrolled in a math enrichment are concurrently enrolled in a grade level math course. Enrollment in this course is based on state/district assessment scores & teacher recommendation.



SCIENCE

Science 6

The focus of 6th grade science is Earth science. Included in this curriculum are the earth's structures, plate tectonics, the shaping of the earth's surface and energy in the earth's system. Physical science is integrated through the study of the flow of heat energy. Life science is integrated through the study of ecosystems.

PLTW Computer Science for Innovators and Makers curriculum is embedded in this course, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills.



Science 7

The focus of 7th grade science is life science. Included in this curriculum are cell biology, genetics, evolution and structure and function of living things. In their study of cell biology, students will learn cell structure and function.

PLTW Computer Science for Innovators and Makers curriculum is embedded in this course, allowing students to further develop computer science skills.

Placement in Science 7 Honors is based on achievement in Science 6 and teacher recommendation.

Science 8

The focus of 8th grade science is physical science. This course covers units including chemistry, physics, astronomy, and individual investigation and experimentation. Basic problem solving skills, scientific inquiry and the use of general laboratory equipment will be emphasized. Placement in Science 8 Honors is based on achievement in Science 7/Science 7 Honors and teacher recommendation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The award-winning Physical Education Program at Hutchinson includes an emphasis on physical fitness to meet state and national standards and lifetime activities. Each week, students participate in fitness stations & fitness runs to improve cardio-respiratory fitness, endurance, strength, and agility.

PE 6

The emphasis at grade 6 is on the application of movement and motor skills.

PE 7

The emphasis at grade 7 is on individual and dual physical activities as well as the state fitness-gram assessment.

PE 8

The emphasis at grade 8 is on team activities and fitness.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ELECTIVES (FULL YEAR COURSES)



Beginning Band

This is the first step of the band program. Students enter with little or no previous musical training. After being introduced to all of the band instruments, students and the band director will choose the best instrument to learn to play. Beginning Band students will be exposed to different types of music as well as basics in music theory and music history. Beginning Band will perform in concerts for parents and families.

Intermediate Band

The intermediate band is the next step of the band program. Students in Intermediate Band have completed Beginning Band or other adequate musical training and will be allowed to enter with the approval of the band director. These students will continue to add to their knowledge and skills. They will be working with more complex and demanding music and will perform regularly at concerts.

Advanced Band

The advanced band is the next step above the Intermediate Band. Students in Advanced Band have completed Beginning Band or other adequate musical training and will be allowed to enter with the approval of the band director. These students will be challenged by a still greater variety of musical styles and difficulties. They will listen to, analyze, and perform music of many styles and historical periods. Advanced Band will operate with a greater emphasis on ensemble performance and perform regularly at concerts, festivals, and other events and combine with the Wind Ensemble.



Wind Ensemble

This is the top concert band at Hutchinson. This band is for the students who have shown excellent progress in the past and want to develop those skills to the utmost of their ability. Through the efforts of these young musicians, this band will develop into a fine performance ensemble. These students will be challenged by a still greater variety of musical styles and difficulties. They will listen to, analyze, and perform music of many styles and historical periods. Wind Ensemble will operate with a greater emphasis on ensemble performance and perform regularly at concerts, festivals, and other events.

Orchestra

This is the first step of the string program. Students enter with little or no previous musical training will be combined with students with one year of string training. After being introduced to all of the string instruments, students and the band director will choose the best instrument to learn to play. Beginning Orchestra students will be exposed to different types of music as well as basics in music theory and music history. Orchestra will perform in concerts for parents and families.

Guitar

This class is open to all students who would like to learn the basics of guitar including note reading, chords, and fundamentals of music. Students will be responsible for individual practice, participating in group instruction, and performing. By the end of the course, motivated students will be able to play a variety of styles – classical, blues, folk and basic pop/rock.



STEM MAGNET PROGRAM **(FULL YEAR COURSES)**



Project Lead the Way

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a nationally recognized computer science and engineering program. It provides transformative learning experiences by engaging students in hands-on activities, projects, and problems; empowering them to solve real-world challenges and inspiring them to reimagine how they see themselves. The skills that our students develop here at Hutchinson Middle School align with La Mirada High School's Engineering and Biomedical Science Pathways.

6th Grade: Environmental Engineering

This is a project-based course that offers students an opportunity to go deeper into science topics related to the environment. This course utilizes Whitebox Learning for our students to design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

APPLICATION REQUIRED

**Download from our website & turn in to the main office
Magnet Application is turned in separately from your Registration form**

7th Grade: PLTW Applications & Robotics and Structural Engineering

This is a project-based Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Automation and Robotics class in which students will focus on the engineering, mechanisms, development, building, and programming of robotics including behaviors, systems, control sensors, and feedback using PLTW. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths and robotic arms. The Structural Engineering course uses Whitebox Learning as a curriculum to create scale model structures and real-life applications for engineering principles.

APPLICATION REQUIRED if not enrolled in 6th grade Environmental Engineering

Download the Application from our website & attach to Registration form





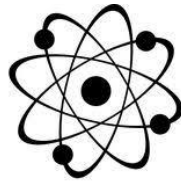
*Hutchinson offers four PLTW courses for our 8th grade Magnet Elective.
Choose the two semester-long courses that best fit your interests.*

8th Grade: PLTW Design & Modeling and Medical Detectives (Option #1)

This year-long course consists of 2 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) modules: Design & Modeling and Medical Detectives. Design & Modeling focuses on the elements of engineering design including geometric shapes and form, perspective drawing, and scale and proportioning. Using AutoDesk design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

In the Medical Detectives course, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs.

**APPLICATION REQUIRED if not enrolled in 7th grade
PLTW Automation & Robotics and Structural Engineering
Download the Application from our website & attach to Registration form**



8th Grade: PLTW Magic of Electrons and Flight & Space (Option #2)

This year-long course consists of 2 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) modules: Magic of Electrons and Flight & Space. The Magic of Electrons curriculum explores electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms and sensing devices. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them. Flight & Space explores the exciting world of aerospace. Students delve into the history of flight and space, discover the science behind aeronautics, and explore traveling & living in space. Students are then challenged to use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil.

**APPLICATION REQUIRED if not enrolled in 7th grade
PLTW Automation & Robotics and Structural Engineering
Download the Application from our website & attach to Registration form**



8th Grade: Engineering Essentials ** High School Credit & Honors Course

This year-long course is students' first exposure to high school PLTW Engineering. In this course, students explore global engineering challenges and sustainability goals, the impact of engineering, and the variety of career paths available to them.

Students who maintain a C or better will receive 10 high school elective credits. This course is given Honors weight for 8th grade.

LEADERSHIP ELECTIVES – 7th & 8th Grade only
(YEAR-LONG COURSES)

ASB/ Student Council

Students who are elected or appointed as student body officers, and students who want to help plan and implement school activities have the opportunity to participate in the Student Council Program. Student Council members will be responsible for planning and running school dances, lunchtime activities, student council meetings, monthly spirit days, and publicizing activities and fundraisers. *Application is required - See the ASB Advisors: Ms. Naulls or Mrs. Leon.*



Yearbook

Students write, design, and produce the school's yearbook as well as update the school's website. Skills emphasize in the course include journalistic interviewing and writing, desktop editing and publishing, computer skills, graphic arts, photography, and design. *Application is required - See the Yearbook Advisor: Mrs. Milward*

Teen Leadership: 7th Grade only

Students develop positive personal leadership, self-awareness, motivation and social skills in this course. Students build skills in goal setting, public speaking and communication. *Application is required – See Mrs. Istamboulian.*

Spanish A & B: 7th & 8th grade 2-year course ** High School Credit

This is a 2-year course consisting of Spanish 1 high school curriculum, which is a general introduction to the Spanish culture & Spanish language: vocabulary, pronunciation and grammar. Students who continue in Spanish B in 8th grade and maintain a C or better in both Spanish A & B will receive 10 high school world language credits. This will fulfill 1 year of world language a-g CSU/UC requirement and students can enroll in Spanish 2 in high school.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) **(YEAR-LONG COURSES)**

AVID is college readiness elective course that cultivates time management and goal-setting behaviors, and empowers students with leadership, academic, career, and life skills. Students learn systematic note-taking and study techniques that apply to all classes, participate in enrichment field trips such as visiting local colleges, and interact with college tutors in the AVID classroom.

Avid 7 or AVID 8

Application and interview are required before the end of the 20-21 school year. See Ms. Min if you are interested.



ELECTIVE WHEEL 6th, 7th & 8th Grade

AVID: 6th or 7th Grade (Semester)

This exploratory course of AVID strategies focuses on organizational skills, goal setting, note taking, listening strategies, and independent study strategies for short and long-term assignments. It is an exploratory course will offer an opportunity for students to learn AVID strategies and focus on short and long term goal-setting. No application necessary.

Speech and Debate: 6th, 7th & 8th Grade (Semester)

The study of speech is based on the assumption that one's ability to communicate in an effective manner is vital to successful human interaction. This course will focus on interpersonal and intrapersonal communication, small groups, communication, public speaking, informative and persuasive speeches, mass communication, and effective oral and written communication.

