



Clear Fork Middle School
Course Offerings
2024-2025

Mrs. Jennifer Klaus, Principal
Mr. Randy Pore, Director of Student Services
Mrs. Angie Peterson, Secretary

Clear Fork Middle School
987 State Route 97 E.
Bellville, Ohio 44813
419- 886-3111 or 1-877-915-3111
Fax: 419-886-4749

Clear Fork Valley Local Schools Mission Statement:
Striving to Exceed Expectations

Clear Fork Middle School Theme:
CATCH OUR SPIRIT, BE A COLT!



6th Grade Course Offerings

Sixth Grade Classes:

Core Classes	Exploratory Classes	Other Periods
Math	Music (Band/Choir)	Lunch
ELA (English Language Arts)	Art (12 weeks)	Intermission
Science	Technology (12 weeks)	Silent Reading
Social Studies	Physical Education (12 weeks)	Advisory
Literature (Reading)		

Course Descriptions:

Advisory: This is a period for Advisory teachers to connect with students. Teachers are expected to mentor students, review study skills, provide time for homework, provide specific help with homework, help with time management, and regularly connect with families. During Advisory, the homeroom teacher will review the assignments for the day and encourage the students to write them in their school-provided planners. Students may be participating in activities which focus on Social Emotional Learning Standards both during Advisory and Intermission.

Art: Sixth Grade Art is an introduction to the foundations of art. We learn about styles of art, functions of art, and the elements of design. This is taught through vocabulary and studio lessons. This is a 12-week class.

ELA: 6th grade ELA focuses on the writing process and is specifically geared towards essay writing. Additionally, grammar and spelling are reinforced daily.

Intermission: This is a midday break for students if they are all caught up with their work. During this time, students may get recess, play board games, have a study hall, participate in class meetings, do social emotional learning activities, etc. Intermission concludes with a 16-minute silent reading time.

Lifewise: Lifewise is a Christian-based faith course that meets once a week during lunch. Students leave the building for the lunch period and return to their normal schedule after the class. Students/Parents must choose to participate in this course.

Literature: In this class, students will study both fictional literature and informational text through the reading of novels, short stories, poetry, and non-fiction articles. Students will experience literature

through whole group instruction and small group collaboration, and they will also be expected to read independently on Accelerated Reading (AR) goals.

Math: Math 6 applies the skills taught in elementary in ways that positive rational numbers are used. Explorations with integers, rational numbers, algebraic expressions, and problem solving will also build base knowledge for middle and high school level mathematics.

Music:

- Band- Band class offers the students an opportunity to learn to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument for an entire academic year. The goal of the class is to give the students the fundamental skills needed to continue their development of their instrument. Students are expected to participate in concerts and other performances which are part of their grade in band class.
- Choir- The 6th Grade Choir enables students to learn the basics of vocal technique as well as lessons in reading choral music. Students perform in two parts (soprano and baritone). This ensemble performs at least two concerts per year. Students may enroll in both band and choir.

Physical Education: Middle School Physical Education leans towards improving students' overall physical fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance). The students will also learn how to play many lifelong activities that can be used with friends and family throughout their life.

Science: Sixth grade science explores physical, earth, and life sciences through a variety of topics, such as: scientific inquiry; rocks, minerals, and soil; cells; and matter and motion. These topics are explored through hands-on activities such as labs and experiments.

Silent Reading: This is a 10 to 20 minute time each day where students are asked to read silently in the classroom.

Social Studies: In sixth grade social studies, students learn about world geography, world governments, world religions, and international trade. Following Christmas break, students dive into the ancient river civilizations of Ancient China, the Indus Valley, Mesopotamia, and Ancient Egypt!

Technology (STEM): This class is an introduction to problem solving strategies and project based learning with a focus on programming, 3-D modeling, and robotics. This is a 12-week class.



7th Grade Course Offerings

Seventh Grade Classes:

Core Classes	Exploratory Classes	Other Periods
Math	Music (Band/Choir/General Music)	Lunch
ELA (English Language Arts)	Art (12 weeks)	Advisory
Science	Technology (12 weeks)	
Social Studies	Physical Education (12 weeks)	
	Health and Wellness (18 weeks)	
	Modern Ag (18 weeks)	

Course Descriptions:

Advisory: This is a period for homeroom teachers to connect with students. Teachers are expected to mentor students, review study skills, provide time for homework, provide specific help with homework, help with time management, and regularly connect with families. During Advisory, the homeroom teacher will encourage the students to use their school-provided planners. Students who have all school work complete will be allowed to participate in extension activities.

Art: Students will use their knowledge of the art foundations to complete studio lessons and learn new concepts and techniques. This is a 12-week class.

ELA: This course includes the study of grammar, usage, spelling, speaking, reading, and challenging vocabulary. This class may require students to prepare daily assignments, complete outside reading, and present speeches.

Health and Wellness: Health and Wellness discusses the various aspects of maintaining and promoting social, physical, and mental health & well-being. Throughout the course, students learn about all the components that go into being healthy including the different types of exercise as well as their benefits, nutrition, mental health, and so much more. This is an 18-week class.

Life Skills: Middle school can be challenging times for a student. Switching classes, more responsibilities, growing bodies, relationship/friendship dynamics, growing independence, school athletics, and on and on. It can be difficult to navigate on your own. This class offers tools and everyday practices that can help with the adversity that is experienced during the teen years. This is an elective course that can be taken in place of a music option and has limited availability.

Lifewise: Lifewise is a Christian-based faith course that meets once a week during lunch. Students leave

the building for the lunch period and return to their normal schedule after the class. Students/Parents must choose to participate in this course.

Math: Math 7 covers content related to the number system, expressions & equations, ratios & proportions, statistics & probability, and geometry.

Math- Advanced: Advanced Math 7 covers 7th grade content related to the number system, expressions & equations, ratios & proportions, statistics & probability, and geometry. It also covers 8th grade content related to these same areas that are required learning for Algebra 1. Students may only take this class with a recommendation from the 6th grade math teacher which is based on grades, assessments, and ability to handle advanced curriculum.

Modern Ag: Modern Agriculture 7 covers a variety of topics related to food, animal, and plant sciences. Students will do hands-on labs while learning about many science topics and careers. Topics include: beekeeping, genetics, hatching chicks, livestock judging, ag technology, water quality, yogurt making, and many more. This is an 18-week class.

Music:

- Band- Band- Band class offers the students an opportunity to learn to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument for an entire academic year. The goal of the class is to give the students the fundamental skills needed to continue their development of their instrument. Students are expected to participate in concerts and other performances which are part of their grade in band class.
- Choir- The 7th Grade Choir enables students to learn intermediate vocal technique as well as intermediate lessons in reading choral music. Students perform in three parts (soprano, alto, and baritone). This ensemble performs at least two concerts per year. Students may enroll in both band and choir; however, students who enroll in both band and choir will not be able to be a part of the jazz band due to scheduling conflicts.
- General Music- General Music enables students an opportunity to learn about the academic side of music. Lessons emphasize music history as well as music literacy. Students enrolled in this course will engage in discussion about music rather than performance of music.

Physical Education: Middle School Physical Education leans towards improving students' overall physical fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance). The students will also learn how to play many lifelong activities that can be used with friends and family throughout their life. This is a 12-week class.

Science: 7th grade Science consists of weather, moon phases, water cycle, periodic table, biomes, photosynthesis, and many cool labs including worm and grasshopper dissection.

Silent Reading: This is a 10 to 20 minute time each day where students are asked to read silently in the classroom.

Social Studies: All 7th grade students will be learning about different ancient civilizations throughout the world. The students will cover their culture, government, and religion. The students will learn how these civilizations have impacted the rest of the world and the way we live today.

Technology (STEM): This class reinforces the skills introduced in 6th grade. In addition to strengthening 3-D modeling and programming, students will work on game design/creation, web design and computer-assisted drafting. This is a 12-week class.



8th Grade Course Offerings

Eighth Grade Classes:

Core Classes	Exploratory Classes	Other Periods
Math	Music (Band/Choir/General Music)	Lunch
ELA (English Language Arts)	Art (12 weeks)	Advisory
Science	Technology (12 weeks)	
Social Studies	Physical Education (12 weeks)	
	Health and Wellness (18 weeks)	
	Modern Ag (18 weeks)	
	Advanced Ag	
	Spanish	
	Advanced Art & Tech (18 weeks each)	

Course Descriptions:

Advanced Ag: Advanced Ag is for students that would like to be in the FFA Club. They will learn content in small groups and do bigger projects such as woodworking, parliamentary procedure, community service, and dendrology. Clear Fork has been top ranking in contests such as Equine Judging, Milk Products, Poultry Judging, Livestock Judging and other events related to public speaking. Mrs. Kline will develop their leadership and public speaking skills while helping them get a head start in FFA. Prerequisite: Students will pay membership dues (\$21).

Advisory: This is a period for homeroom teachers to connect with students. Teachers are expected to mentor students, review study skills, provide time for homework, provide specific help with homework, help with time management, and regularly connect with families. During Advisory, the homeroom teacher will encourage the students to use their school provided planners. Students who have all school work complete will be allowed to participate in extension activities.

Algebra: Algebra 1 covers 9th grade level math content and counts for High School credit. The associated state test is a graduation requirement. Students can only take this course with teacher recommendation from Advanced Math 7, which is based on assessments and ability to handle advanced content.

Art: In Art 8, the studio lessons build upon the concepts and techniques taught in 7th grade. This is a 12-week class.

ELA: English Language Arts (8th grade) is a yearlong course covering all four strands of language arts: reading, writing, language, and speaking/listening skills. Students will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts along with choice independent reading.

Health and Wellness: Health and Wellness discusses the various aspects of maintaining and promoting social, physical, and mental health & well being. Throughout the course, students learn about all the components that go into being healthy including the different types of exercise as well as their benefits, nutrition, mental health, and so much more. This is an 18-week class.

Lifewise: Lifewise is a Christian-based faith course that meets once a week during lunch. Students leave the building for the lunch period and return to their normal schedule after the class. Students/Parents must choose to participate in this course.

Math: 8th grade math focuses on 4 areas: Equations & Expressions, Functions, Two & Three Dimensional Space and Figures, and the Number System which includes irrational numbers, integer exponents, and scientific notation.

Modern Ag: Modern Ag 8 covers a variety of topics related to food, animal, and plant sciences. Students will do hands-on labs while learning about many science topics and careers. Topics include: beekeeping, genetics, hatching chicks, livestock judging, ag technology, water quality, yogurt making, and many more. This is an 18-week class.

Music:

- Band- Band- Band class offers the students an opportunity to learn to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument for an entire academic year. The goal of the class is to give the students the fundamental skills needed to continue their development of their instrument. Students are expected to participate in concerts and other performances which are part of their grade in band class.
- Choir- The 8th Grade Choir enables students to learn advanced vocal technique as well as advanced lessons in reading choral music. Students perform in three parts (soprano, alto, and baritone). This ensemble performs at least two concerts per year. Students may enroll in both band and choir; however, students who enroll in both band and choir will not be able to be a part of the jazz band due to scheduling conflicts.
- General Music- General Music enables students an opportunity to learn about the academic side of music. Lessons emphasize music history as well as music literacy. Students enrolled in this course will engage in discussion about music rather than performance of music.

Physical Education: Middle School Physical Education leans towards improving students overall physical fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance). The students will also learn how to play many lifelong activities that can be used with friends and family throughout their life. This is a 12-week class.

Science: 8th Grade Science introduces students to physics as well as earth and life sciences. Students will work in collaborative groups to explore genetics, forces, and how the earth works.

Silent Reading: This is a 10 to 20 minute time each day where students are asked to read silently in the classroom.

Social Studies: Eighth grade social studies explores the formation of the United States from the Age of Exploration to Reconstruction. Principles of Geography, Economics, History, and Government are all explored. Human systems are examined to increase understanding of how we all live together.

Spanish: This introductory course is designed to acquaint students with the basic elements of the Spanish language. Much emphasis will be placed on learning key phrases and expressions in order to enable students to begin to understand and speak Spanish in actual situations. In order to take this high school credit course, students will need to qualify. (Reading level of 9th grade or higher, a GPA of 3.5 or higher, all A's and B's in ELA)

Technology (STEM): This course uses CTE (Career Technical Education) Standards. It includes extensive programming, CAD, and computer fundamentals. This is a capstone course seen as a culmination of the middle school STEM program. Students will leave with a portfolio showcasing their skills and projects.



Other Course Offerings and Interventions

Course Descriptions:

Intervention Study Hall 7, 8: This is an additional time for students to complete school work during the day. This course is recommended for students who need additional support in prioritizing assignments, focusing on assignments, or just completing their work. In order to add this study hall, an elective must be dropped.

Reading Comp 6: Reading Comp Class is a small group intensive class which helps students who are 2 or more years behind in reading to learn and practice reading strategies that improve reading comprehension with the goal of being able to read and understand grade level text by the end of the course. Prerequisite: recommendation from intervention specialist or reading specialist.

Rewards Reading 6, 7, 8: This is a reading program utilized when students are struggling with specific concepts in reading. It is a short-term intervention. From the company, “The REWARDS suite is a powerful, research-validated and specialized program for adolescent students who struggle reading long, multisyllabic words and comprehending content-area text. With explicit, teacher-led instruction, this intervention gives students new skills to become successful readers.”

Title Reading Intervention 6, 7, 8: Title I Reading is an intervention program provided to students reading below grade level. Students will work in small groups or one-on-one with the middle school Title Reading teacher, who will provide supplemental reading instruction to strengthen and improve students’ reading skills. Students will still receive regular classroom instruction from their grade level ELA teacher(s).

Wilson Reading Class 6, 7, 8: Wilson Reading is a small-group, intensive, non-graded, multi-year class for students who need intensive reading intervention specifically with word reading, comprehension, and spelling needs. This course is taught by a Wilson Reading certified instructor with at least certification of Dyslexia Practitioner. Prerequisite: recommendation from intervention specialist or reading specialist.

Word Study 6, 7, 8: Word Study class is a one-year structured literacy course using Just Words (Wilson Reading). This course helps students with word reading and spelling deficits to learn and practice skills and strategies to become better readers and spellers. In this course, students learn and practice strategies and skills to decode and spell multi-syllable words. Students also practice applying what they are learning to accurately and fluently read passages of 200 words or more, and accurately write sentences. Prerequisite: Recommendation from intervention specialist or reading specialist.

Writer’s Workshop: Writer’s Workshop is a small-group intensive writing class to improve paragraph and essay writing skills. This class meets twice a week for the year in conjunction with Physical Education, which students will attend 3 days a week. Prerequisite: recommendation from teacher.



Other Extension Activities For CFMS Students

Extension Activities Offered During Advisory:

Art Club: Students who would like to do extended art lessons can focus on new concepts and techniques while completing a variety of projects.

Colts Echo and Colts Harmony: Students will have the opportunity to sing additional repertoire in a volunteer ensemble that meets during Advisory. Colts Harmony includes those who sing soprano/alto. Colts Echo includes those who sing baritone. Students must be a full-time member of the choir or band (or a member of both) to participate.

Project Support: Project Support is a student organization that has a goal to provide students with disabilities more opportunities to interact with their peers. This goal can include joining the Cross-Categorical Class to help students with homework, playing games, and going on field trips.

Robotics Club: Robotics club is for 7th/8th students and focuses on Vex robotics, and other STEM-based competitions.

Possible Clubs and Activities for the School Year:

<u>Clubs and Organizations:</u>	<u>Activities:</u>	<u>Sports:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Academic Challenge ● Anti Bully Club ● Art Club ● Coding/Robotics Club ● Colts Echo ● Colts Harmony ● Drama Club ● FFA ● Nerd Hour ● Power Of The Pen ● Project Support ● Purple Star ● Student Ambassadors ● Student Council ● Ski Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Career Readiness Activities ● CFMS Dances ● Counseling ● Field Trips ● Homework Help ● Pep Assemblies ● Small Skills Groups ● Spirit Week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cheerleading ○ Cross Country ○ Football ○ Volleyball ● Winter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Basketball ○ Cheerleading ○ Wrestling ● Spring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Track