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# Charles Hackley Middle School



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*Strong Schools, Stronger Communities*

## 2024-2025 Course Guide

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### Mission Statement

The mission of Charles Hackley Middle School is to develop independent, adaptable, motivated, goal-oriented, academically-prepared and respectful young adults.

**Welcome to Charles Hackley Middle School!** This Course Guide will provide families with all of the information pertaining to the classes required of MMS students. This guide allows MMS families to make choices for next school year and beyond based on a student's interests and career goals. It is our intent to provide you with detailed information about timelines and district requirements regarding academic expectations that will lead to a successful transition into Muskegon High School.

**Ms. Okeelah McBride**

*Principal*

**Mr. Gregory Nimitz**

*Assistant Principal*

## **Scheduling Timeline**

The process for scheduling students for the following school year begins in February.

- **8th grade students** will meet with the high school counseling staff to enroll in classes. The MHS counselors will visit the middle school in February to guide 8th grade students through this process.
- **6th & 7th grade students** will use this Course Guide to learn about required and elective offerings at MMS and complete a Course Request Form.
- **5<sup>th</sup> grade students** will request classes for the upcoming school year. The Middle School Counselor will visit each elementary school to guide students through the enrollment process. Students wishing to enroll in the Band, the Choir, or the Orchestra will bring home a *Performing Arts Sign-up Form* that will require a parent's signature. The completed *Performing Arts Sign-up Form* will need to be returned to the Middle School Counselor.

### **Tips to a Good Start at Charles Hackley Middle School**

- Establish a good relationship with your counselor. She is there to help and support you throughout your middle school career.
- Get involved in school-sponsored extracurricular activities. Studies show that kids who are involved in extracurricular activities do better in school.
- You are in charge of your attitude, so come to school with your mind wide open and ready to learn. The more you learn the further you can go.
- Do your best each day. If you find that you are struggling with anything, ask for help.
- Get to school and class on time and come every day.
- Organize your time.
- Set little goals and big goals for yourself. Create a plan to accomplish them. Follow your plan.

# MUSKEGON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Career Pathways Grades 6-12

*Creating tomorrow's future, today*



**STEAM**  
(Science, Technology,  
Engineering, Arts, Math)



**Health &  
Human Services**



**Business &  
Leadership**

Visit  
<https://www.aeeseducation.com/states/michigan/career-clusters> to learn more about these and other career pathways.

Middle School

**6th Grade** Attend a 9-week *Design Thinking* course and introduction to three career pathways of STEAM, Health & Human Services and Business & Leadership.

**7th Grade** Learn from guest speakers in science and social studies classes who work in identified career pathway fields of STEAM, Health & Human Services and Business & Leadership.

**8th Grade** Shadow a Career Tech Center student experience at Career Tech Center (CTC). Create, complete and present a Career Portfolio.

High School

**9th Grade** Attend the College and Career Fair.

The students' chosen Career Pathway guides course selections and internship experiences to develop career-ready graduates.



### STEAM

Examples include:  
Engineer, Welder, Biochemist,  
Technology Professional, Forensics



### Health & Human Services

Examples include:  
EMT First Responder, Teacher, Counselor,  
Nurse, Policeman



### Business & Leadership

Examples include:  
Entrepreneur, Financial Analyst,  
Sales Manager, Accountant, CEO

High School

**10th Grade** Take core classes (math, ELA, science, social studies) and remainder of courses can be taken in the student's chosen Career Pathway.

**11th Grade** Experience Career Pathways through core classes (math, science, social studies, English.) Content is focused on the student's chosen Career Pathway. Examples:



- Algebra II in Construction
- Writing content focused on processes.



- Measurement conversion
- Writing content on social services impact on communities



- Personal Finance
- Writing a business plan.

**12th Grade** Take courses in the student's chosen Career Pathway and as Independent Study or Internship. Continue to experience Career Pathways through core classes.

*Through Career Pathways, Muskegon Public Schools is committed to developing employable citizens, fostering community engagement, establishing soft skills, and building job skills for students. Every student has the opportunity to explore a pathway to a post-secondary career. Enriching experiences at MPS help students make informed, educated decisions leading to credentialed, employable citizens with critical decision-making skills.*

# 6th Grade Scheduling Information

*All Charles Hackley Middle School 6th grade students will be enrolled in an Enrichment Hour, Achievement Hour, Seminar Class, and core academic classes. In addition to some classes offered in “wheels”, the 6th grade students will have the opportunity to enroll in the Band, the Orchestra, or the Choir.*

## **These SIX classes are required of every 6th Grade student:**

### **Enrichment Hour (Year-long)**

This daily class is designed to boost students' Math and Reading proficiency using data gained from 3 Math and Reading diagnostic tests administered each school year. During Enrichment Hour, students will make progress on their personalized iReady pathway, focus on improving core academic skills, and receive targeted support in Math and Reading. The Enrichment Hour aims to help students build a strong foundation for academic success across all subjects.

### **Achievement Hour (Year-long)**

Students do not physically attend Achievement Hour. Achievement Hour constitutes computer-based work completed at home. This work can be done anytime. Students are expected to complete weekly assignments.

### **Seminar (Year-long)**

Seminar class is attended on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. During Seminar, students focus on character education through *Character Strong* lessons, current events, school wide behavior expectations and Xello (College and Career Development). Seminar also allows students to prepare for student-led conferences and the development of a deeper connection with one another and an MMS teacher.

### **Reader's Edge (English Language Arts) (Year-long)**

Students will be instructed using the Success for All (SFA) curriculum. The focus of this program is to place students in classrooms according to their instructional level, simultaneously pushing them towards making reading level growth. The focus of this class will be on both narrative and informational text. Students will be instructed using middle school-appropriate texts that allow practice in the skills and strategies taught within their level.

### **World Studies & Geography (Social Studies) (Year-long)**

Sixth-grade students will explore tools and techniques used by geographers to study contemporary World Geography. This includes human and physical characteristics of people, ecosystems, the cultural mosaic of our world, ways in which humans interact with the environment, as well as inquiry-based investigations into global topics. Students will also learn about governmental systems of various nations and regions, as well as various economic systems within these regions.

### **Science (Year-long)**

Students will complete a study of the physical science, chemistry, life science and earth science disciplines. This will be accomplished by answering the following overarching questions--How can I smell things from a distance? Can I believe my eyes? Where have all the creatures gone? How does water shape our world?

**ONE of the following two Math classes is required of every 6th Grade student:**

**Mathematics (Year-long)**

Students learn the number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportional reasoning, geometry, and probability. The standards for mathematical practice are learned throughout all areas of mathematics. Students should enter knowing basic facts: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

**Honors Mathematics (Year-long)**

Students' learning builds on the 5th-grade lessons in the number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportional reasoning, geometry, and probability. The standards for mathematical practice are learned throughout all areas of mathematics. Based on past performance on iReady and other school assessments, some students will be placed into an 6th Grade *Honors* Mathematics class in lieu of 6th Grade Mathematics

**6th grade students will follow one of the following TWO paths:**

- **PATH #1:** 6th grade students who choose to enroll in the Band, Orchestra, or Choir will additionally be scheduled for four of the Quarter-long "Wheel" classes listed below.
- **PATH #2:** 6th Grade students who do not enroll in the Band, Orchestra, or Choir will be scheduled for eight of the Quarter-long "Wheel" classes listed below.

**Performing Arts Options**

**Band, Orchestra, or Choir (Year-long)**

Through music performance students will learn to read music notation and perform music, produce a characteristic musical sound, develop musical technique with their voice or on an instrument, develop listening skills, and perform a variety of musical styles individually and in an ensemble. Instruction on flute, clarinet, saxophone, brass, and percussion instruments will be offered in the first year of band.

**6th Grade "Wheels"**

**6th Grade students will receive a sampling of any of the following classes to fulfill their "wheel".**

**Design Thinking (Quarter-long)**

This course lays the groundwork for transformative innovation by introducing design thinking methods and mindsets through a series of hands-on design challenges organized around real-world problems. Students learn to frame their thinking around the mindsets of developing empathy, identifying a specific design need, encouraging ideation, and working in a culture of prototyping. A capacity for creative, Innovative thinking will prepare them for the demands ahead in college, career, and life.

**Google Apps Foundations (Quarter-long)**

This course introduces the student to basic Google tools and focuses on collaboration, communication, and productivity through the completion of real world, student-centered activities and projects.

**Physical Education (Quarter-long)**

Students will participate in physical activity (team/individual sports, fitness, and life-long leisure activities) as well as general health and wellness education.

**Intro to Spanish (Quarter-long)**

Introduction to the Spanish Language, culture and history. This course prepares students for the transition to Spanish I.

**Speech (Quarter-long)**

Students will learn the fundamentals of public speaking and will present oral projects to the class.

**Genius Hour (Quarter-long)**

Genius Hour is an approach to learning where students are guided by their own interests, background knowledge, and curiosity to learn. Genius Hour is truly 'open-ended' learning characterized by student self-direction, passion-based learning, inquiry, and autonomy. Students will be creating projects based on their research, interests and curiosity throughout the nine week experience.

**Math Games (Quarter-long)**

Students will practice skills, solve problems, and use logical reasoning all while playing games. Games may be board games, online games, or puzzles. Students will have the opportunity to create their own games as well. This is a fun class to help 6th graders dig into mathematical concepts and reasoning all while playing games!

**Coding: Computer Science Discoveries (Quarter-long)**

Computer Science (CS) Discoveries is an introductory course that empowers scholars to engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. Computer Science Discoveries is appropriate for 6-10th grade scholars and can be taught as a marking period or semester-long introductory course (3-5 hours per week of instruction for 9+ weeks). The course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. The course inspires scholars as they build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices.

**Art (Quarter-long)**

Students will explore a variety of aspects related to the world of art including introductions to collage, color theory, drawing, painting, printmaking, pastels, and digital art with an emphasis on craftsmanship. Students will learn about the history and interpretation of art as it connects to them and their community.

**Placement into Honors Classes**

Students' assessment scores on the iReady Diagnostics, as well as other 5th grade assessments, will be used to determine appropriate placement into any year-long 6th Grade Honors courses.

**Placement into Academic Intervention Classes**

Students who fall below grade level in Reading and Math will be provided with a semester-long Reading & Math Strategies class to support fundamental skills that need to be mastered.



# 7th Grade Scheduling Information

**All Charles Hackley Middle School 7th grade students will be enrolled in an Enrichment Hour, Achievement Hour, Seminar Class, a Reproductive Health class, and core academic classes. Additionally, 7th grade students will be able to enroll in a variety of Elective courses.**

**These SEVEN classes are required of every 7th Grade student:**

## **Enrichment Hour (Year-long)**

This daily class is designed to boost students' Math and Reading proficiency using data gained from 3 Math and Reading diagnostic tests administered each school year. During Enrichment Hour, students will make progress on their personalized iReady pathway, focus on improving core academic skills, and receive targeted support in Math and Reading. The Enrichment Hour aims to help students build a strong foundation for academic success across all subjects.

## **Achievement Hour (Year-long)**

Students do not physically attend Achievement Hour. Achievement Hour constitutes computer-based work completed at home. This work can be done anytime. Students are expected to complete weekly assignments.

## **Seminar (Year-long)**

Seminar class is attended on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. During Seminar, students focus on character education through *Character Strong* lessons, current events, school wide behavior expectations and Xello (College and Career Development). Seminar also allows students to prepare for student-led conferences and the development of a deeper connection with one another and an MMS teacher.

## **Reproductive Health, (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students learn about themselves, their bodies, and potential risk factors associated with sexual intimacy.

## **Reader's Edge (Year-long)**

Students will be instructed using the Success for All (SFA) curriculum. The focus of this program is to place students in classrooms according to their instructional level, simultaneously pushing them towards making reading level growth. The focus of this class will be on both narrative and informational text. Students will be instructed using middle school-appropriate texts that allow practice in the skills and strategies taught within their level.

## **Social Studies (Year-long)**

The theme of *Human Survival* is central to showing how humans in the past came together to create societies. The development of *rights*, *values*, and *community* in ancient societies will be studied to show the choices human descendants made to survive. The evolution of government and rights in the Prehistoric societies of Egypt, Greece, Rome, Africa, and China will be studied as well as world religions and their origin in the societies of focus: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

## **Science (Year-long)**

Students will complete a study of physical science, chemistry, life science and earth science disciplines. This will be accomplished by answering the following overarching questions--How Can I Make New Stuff From Old Stuff? Why Do Some Things Stop While Others Keep Going? What Makes The Weather Change? What Is Going On Inside Me?

**ONE of the following two Math classes is required of every 7th Grade student:**

**Mathematics (Year-long)**

Students' learning builds on the 6th-grade lessons in the number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportional reasoning, geometry, and probability. The standards for mathematical practice are learned throughout all areas of mathematics.

**Honors Mathematics (Year-long)**

Students' learning builds on the 6th-grade lessons in the number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportional reasoning, geometry, and probability. The standards for mathematical practice are learned throughout all areas of mathematics.

**7th grade students will need to choose one of the following TWO options to complete their schedule:**

- **OPTION #1:** 7th grade students may choose to enroll in ONE year-long class (i.e. Band, Orchestra, Choir, or Spanish). 7th grade students will fill the remaining hour in their schedule with one Semester-long class. (*Students may not take the same elective class twice in the same school year.*)
- **OPTION #2:** 7th Grade students may enroll in a mix of Semester-long courses to fill the two elective hours remaining in their schedule. (*Students may not take the same elective class twice in the same school year.*)

**Elective Class Options**

**Band, Orchestra, or Choir (Year-long)**

Through music performance students will learn to read music notation and perform music, produce a characteristic musical sound, develop musical technique with their voice or on an instrument, develop listening skills, and perform a variety of musical styles individually and in an ensemble.

**Spanish I (Year-long)**

This Spanish course is an introduction to the language, culture, and history of the Spanish-speaking countries of the world. This class is intended to introduce the student to the language through music, art, food, books, movies, and technology. A major goal of this class is to test out of the first level of Spanish at the high school as well as applying it in your daily lives when you encounter a Spanish-speaking person.

**Art & Advanced Art (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students experience and explore collage, color theory, drawing, painting, printmaking, pastels, digital art, and hand-building with clay with an emphasis on craftsmanship. Students will learn about the history and interpretation of art as it connects to them and their community.

**Design Thinking (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will have the opportunity to select one of their previous Projects (2, 3 or 4) from this learning course and iterate to improve it. They will begin with The Feedback received at the end of the project unit,



then work through a series of steps to incorporate the feedback and iterate. It is not recommended that students iterate on their Rapid Cycle experience. They will have more details and feedback from Projects 2, 3 or 4 to sustain a quality iteration for their final project.

### **Physical Education (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will participate in physical activity (team/individual sports, fitness, and life-long leisure activities) as well as general health and wellness education.

### **STEAM (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

This semester-long course immerses students in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM). Students will:

- Engage in hands-on, project-based learning
- Explore real-world applications of STEAM disciplines
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Gain exposure to STEAM-related careers

Through diverse activities and collaborative projects, students will deepen their understanding of how STEAM shapes our world and influences future innovations.

### **Theater (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will learn the basics of acting: speaking, body movement, posture, and facial expression. Students will participate in in-class performances as well as performances in front of live audiences.

### **Weightlifting (1 semester, 18 weeks)** *(Students must take Physical Education as a prerequisite for this course.)*

This course is designed for students that want to improve their muscle mass and body tone by doing upper body and lower body workouts and also activities that focus around core body strength.

### **World Music (1st semester, 18 weeks)**

This percussion and ukulele based class will provide middle school students with a fun and engaging learning experience that exposes them to a diverse range of musical traditions and cultures, while also promoting active and authentic learning. Students will learn rhythms on percussion instruments from around the world, and they will learn to play songs on the ukulele. The first nine weeks of instruction will focus on percussion performance skills and the following 9 weeks are based around ukulele performance skills.

## **Placement into Honors Classes**

Students' assessment scores on the iReady Diagnostics, as well as other 6th grade assessments, will be used to determine appropriate placement into any year-long 7th Grade Honors courses.

## **Placement into Academic Intervention Classes**

Students who fall below grade level in Reading and Math will be provided with a semester-long Reading & Math Strategies class to support fundamental skills that need to be mastered.

# 8th Grade Scheduling Information

*All Charles Hackley Middle School 8th grade students will be enrolled in an Enrichment Hour, Achievement Hour, a Seminar Class, and core academic classes. Additionally, 8th grade students will be able to enroll in a variety of Elective courses.*

## **These FIVE classes are required of every 8th Grade student:**

### **Enrichment Hour (Year-long)**

This daily class is designed to boost students' Math and Reading proficiency using data gained from 3 Math and Reading diagnostic tests administered each school year. During Enrichment Hour, students will make progress on their personalized iReady pathway, focus on improving core academic skills, and receive targeted support in Math and Reading. The Enrichment Hour aims to help students build a strong foundation for academic success across all subjects.

### **Achievement Hour, (Year-long)**

Students do not physically attend Achievement Hour. Achievement Hour constitutes computer-based work completed at home. This work can be done anytime before or after school. Students are expected to complete assignments weekly.

### **Seminar, (Year-long)**

Seminar class is attended on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. During Seminar, students focus on character education through Character Strong lessons, current events, school wide behavior expectations and Xello (College and Career Development). Seminar also allows students to prepare for student-led conferences and the development of a deeper connection with one another and an MMS teacher.

### **US History I (Year-long)**

Students learn about America's history from the American Revolution through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Muskegon High School students continue with US History focusing on Industrialization through modern times.

### **Science (Year-long)**

Students will complete a study of the following topics. Why do organisms look the way they do? How is the earth changing? How will it move? How does food provide my body with energy?

## **ONE of the following English Language Arts classes is required of every 8th Grade student:**

### **Reader's Edge (Year-long)**

Students will be instructed using the Success for All (SFA) curriculum. The focus of this program is to place students in classrooms according to their instructional level, simultaneously pushing them towards making reading level growth. The focus of this class will be on both narrative and informational text. Students will be instructed using middle school-appropriate texts that allow practice in the skills and strategies taught within their level.

### **English 9 (High School Credit) (Year-long)**

English 9 focuses on the key components of English Language Arts. Students will work with literature, essential vocabulary, writing strategies, and mechanics. Students are constantly tuned to identifying themselves as learners and as community members. When the course is complete, students will be reflective as they view themselves as thinkers and as problem solvers. Written communication is at the forefront of the course objectives, and a sense of open-mindedness is a theme when viewing the current community and cross-cultural issues. English 9 meets all of the standards and objectives established by the Language Arts staff at MHS, and the national standards regarding English Language Arts (CCSS).

**ONE of the following two Math classes is required of every 8th Grade student:**

**Mathematics**

Students continue to learn number sense, expressions and equations, statistics and probability, and geometry, building on previous years' topics. The standards for mathematical practice are learned throughout all areas of mathematics.

**Algebra I (High School Credit) (Year-long)**

This course builds upon computational fluency and the basic algebraic skills that have been developed in earlier grades. During the first semester, special emphasis is given to solving equations and recognizing linear patterns. Students will be required to write linear equations in various forms. Students will also use symbolic expressions and solve a variety of inequalities, including systems of linear equations. Additional topics include recursive, explicit formulas, and geometric and arithmetic series. During the second semester, students will create, model, and solve quadratic functions. Additional topics will include polynomial functions and bivariate data. This course will stimulate students' analytical thinking and create a genuine interest in applying mathematics to real-world situations.

**Additionally, 8th grade students will need to choose one of the following THREE options to complete their schedule:**

- **OPTION #1:** 8th grade students may choose to enroll in TWO year-long elective classes. Year-long elective classes are Band, Orchestra, Choir, and Spanish.
- **OPTION #2:** 8th grade students may choose to enroll in ONE year-long elective class (i.e. Band, Orchestra, Choir, or Spanish). 8th grade students will fill the remaining hour in their schedule with other semester-long classes. (*Students may not take the same elective class twice in the same school year.*)
- **OPTION #3:** 8th Grade students may enroll in a mix of semester-long courses to fill the two elective hours remaining in their schedule. (*Students may not take the same elective class twice in the same school year.*)

**Elective Class Options**

**Band, Orchestra, or Choir (Year-long)**

Through music performance students will learn to read music notation and perform music, produce a characteristic musical sound, develop musical technique with their voice or on an instrument, develop listening skills, and perform a variety of musical styles individually and in an ensemble.

**Art I (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students experience and explore collage, color theory, drawing, painting, printmaking, pastels, digital art, and hand-building with clay with an emphasis on craftsmanship. Students will learn about the history and interpretation of art as it connects to them and their community.

**Advanced Art (1 semester, 18 weeks) (*Students must take Art I as a prerequisite for this course.*)**

Students further explore mixed media collage, painting, printmaking, pastels, digital art, and advanced techniques in hand-building with clay with a strong emphasis on craftsmanship. Advanced Art students are also introduced to weaving and glass fusing. Students will develop and apply critical thinking strategies through the art making process. (prerequisite: Art I or Introduction to Art).

**Design Thinking (Grades 7/8), (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will have the opportunity to select one of their previous Projects (2, 3 or 4) from this learning course and iterate to improve it. They will begin with The Feedback received at the end of the project unit, then work through a series of steps to incorporate the feedback and iterate. It is not recommended that students iterate on their Rapid

Cycle experience. They will have more details and feedback from Projects 2, 3 or 4 to sustain a quality iteration for their final project.

**Physical Education (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will participate in physical activity (team/individual sports, fitness, and life-long leisure activities) as well as general health and wellness education.

**Spanish I, II, or III (High School Credit) (Year-long)**

This (Year-long) Spanish course is an introduction to the language, culture, and history of the Spanish-speaking countries of the world. This class is intended to introduce the student to the language through music, art, food, books, movies, and technology. A major goal of this class is to test out of the first level of Spanish at the high school as well as applying it in your daily lives when you encounter a Spanish-speaking person.

**STEAM (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

This semester-long course immerses students in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics (STEAM). Students will:

- Engage in hands-on, project-based learning
- Explore real-world applications of STEAM disciplines
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Gain exposure to STEAM-related careers

Through diverse activities and collaborative projects, students will deepen their understanding of how STEAM shapes our world and influences future innovations.

**Theater (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will learn the basics of acting: speaking, body movement, posture, and facial expression. Students will participate in in-class performances as well as performances in front of live audiences.

**Advanced Theater (1 semester, 18 weeks)**

Students will learn the basics of acting: speaking, body movement, posture, and facial expression. Students will participate in in-class performances as well as performances in front of live audiences.

**Weightlifting (1 semester, 18 weeks)** *(Students must take Physical Education as a prerequisite for this course.)*

This course is designed for students that want to improve their muscle mass and body tone by doing upper body and lower body workouts and also activities that focus around core body strength.

**World Music (1st semester, 18 weeks)**

This percussion and ukulele based class will provide middle school students with a fun and engaging learning experience that exposes them to a diverse range of musical traditions and cultures, while also promoting active and authentic learning. Students will learn rhythms on percussion instruments from around the world, and they will learn to play songs on the ukulele. The first nine weeks of instruction will focus on percussion performance skills and the following 9 weeks are based around ukulele performance skills.

**The Food We Eat (1 semester, 18 weeks)** *Not running this course 2024/2025*

Although this class is an elective, it is rich in social studies and science content. It tackles the very real topic of food in our country and the issues surrounding policies and ethical concerns. Students will be active participants in this hands-on class. It is the hope that students will see the need to take a more active role in the agricultural processes of our country to understand where their food comes from and to make informed decisions on the foods they eat.

### **Placement into Honors Classes**

- Students' assessment scores on the iReady Diagnostics, as well as other 7th grade assessments, will be used to determine appropriate placement into any year-long 8th Grade Honors courses (i.e. Algebra I, English 9, etc...).
- If a student's scores place him or her beyond the offerings at Charles Hackley Middle School, the student will take classes at Muskegon High School. In some cases, students take online courses to accrue high school credit; the online course could include foreign language and/or required core classes.

### **Placement into Academic Intervention Classes**

Students who fall below grade level in Reading and Math will be provided with a semester-long Reading & Math Strategies class to support fundamental skills that need to be mastered.

# Extra-Curricular Activities

*Clubs and activities are subject to change.*

## Student Leadership Council

The Student Leadership Council strives to develop and provide opportunities for leadership and service in the local school and in the community. To encourage personal growth and to promote the values that represent good character in all students. All students are required to follow the Charles Hackley Middle School code of conduct. Each year SLC does the canned food drive to help the Salvation Army food pantry. WZZM-TV to help with the donation of toys for all children to have a toy filled Christmas. Leukemia & Lymphoma penny drive to help with blood cancer and then our annual Relay for Life walk to bring awareness to all cancer.

## Athletics

For 7th & 8th grade students, Charles Hackley Middle School offers opportunities to participate on athletic teams. Girls have the opportunity to participate in Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, Competitive Cheer, and Sideline Cheer. Boys have the opportunity to participate in Football, Basketball, Wrestling, and Track. In order to remain eligible for teams, student-athletes must remain in good academic and discipline standing using the following criteria:

1. Maintain a passing grade in at least 3 the 4 core classes
2. Maintain a passing grade in at least 1 of the 2 elective classes
3. Avoid discipline infractions noted in the District Code of Conduct
4. Abide by the MHSAA Guidelines for student-athletes

## Coding Club

Students work with a teacher advisor after school to learn how to create computer programs using materials from Code.org. Students who participate prepare themselves for the ever-changing technology sector because they get to experience making their own “apps,” device applications.

## Food Corps

eCompass staff offers students the opportunity to learn how to cook healthy, and the basics of growing goods. Students work with the raised gardens in the courtyard and the greenhouse.

## Robotics

Students will work within a team setting to learn the fundamentals of robotics and prepare for robotics competitions.

## 21st Century After-School Learning

Students may sign up for this program, which begins after school, Monday through Thursday; it includes tutoring, special classes, supper, and bus transportation.

## E-Sports

MMS E-Sports EliteGamingLIVE (EGL) is a competitive gaming club for grades 6-8 utilizing esports as an avenue to cultivate the next generation of scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians. Players earn LIVEscore points by competing in live Game Day competitions AND by learning about STEM through our online academy -- all to get a shot at becoming an EGL Champion.



In EGL competitions, players earn LIVEscore points by playing video games they already love with their peers AND by learning about STEM and technology pathways through the EGL Academy. The top point earners make it to the EGL Championship where they compete to earn prizes, money, and glory.

Unlike other esports platforms, there is an integrated and innovative learning program, EGL Academy, directly built into the gaming experience. EGL Academy gives students in grades 6-8 the opportunity to learn about STEM and potential STEM career opportunities with career path lessons that will allow students to develop new skills and STEM vocabulary, engage in learning through incentives to earn LIVEscore points, and earn about what they already love, completed at their own pace.

# Educational Development Plan

Students will complete their EDP through our career exploration process. Currently, all Muskegon County schools are utilizing *Xello* as their career exploration tool.

In the month of September, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students log into Xello. They complete an interest inventory and skills questionnaires, along with lessons throughout the year. They also select three occupations of interest. During this session, we also discuss graduation requirements, various careers and trades, and the importance of education, work ethic, and doing well in all of their classes.

In the month of September, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade students log into Xello. They complete an interest inventory, select occupations of interest, and discuss career options with the counselor, as well as completing lessons throughout the year. During this time, we also discuss the importance of education, work ethic, and doing well in all of their classes.

In the month of September, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students log into Xello. They complete an interest inventory, select occupations of interest, and discuss career options with the counselor, as well as completing lessons throughout the year. During this time, we also discuss the importance of education, work ethic, and doing well in all of their classes.

## Student Assistance Policy

Students who are finding life difficult to cope with because of depression, drug or alcohol addiction, family difficulties, or other crisis situations interfering with academic, social, or emotional progress may request assistance through a counselor, administrator, school psychologist, social worker, or teacher. Parents, teachers, or other students may also make a referral for a student whom they know is involved in a situation too difficult to handle alone. All referrals will be handled sensitively and confidentially. Immunity from school discipline will be offered to students who make self-referrals provided they are not violating the school's disciplinary policy at the time of the referral (i.e. not using, possessing, or distributing alcohol or other illegal drugs, drug look-alikes, or paraphernalia.)

## **Enrollment Information**

To enroll as a student at Charles Hackley Middle School you must complete an **enrollment packet** and bring the following information to the Charles Poole Administration Building or register online through the district website:

- Birth Certificate
- 2 Proofs of Residency (Ex: rental/lease agreement or property tax statement, payroll stub, utility bills)
- Parent/Guardian ID
- Immunizations (Please note that students have to be up to date on their immunizations in order to attend classes.)

## **Withdrawal and transfer from another school**

The procedure for withdrawal or transferring is as follows:

1. Secure authorization withdrawal or transfer from your parent or guardian.
2. Return any lent school textbooks, library materials, Chromebook, or athletic equipment.
3. Students will be officially dropped once we have received a request for records from the transfer school.

## **Notice to parents and students**

### *RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHT TO PRIVACY ACT*

The Family Educational Right to Privacy Act (known as FERPA) is a federal law, which governs the maintenance and disclosure of students' educational records in public schools. The FERPA policy of the Muskegon Public Schools is maintained in the Superintendent's Office.

Under FERPA, each parent or eligible student (a student who is 18 years or older), has the following right:

1. To inspect and review the student's educational records.
2. To request the amendment of the student's educational records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.
3. Consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information in the student's educational records, except to the extent that disclosure is permitted by law without consent.
4. File with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning alleged compliance with FERPA.
5. Obtain a copy of the District's FERPA policy.

## **Student assessments**

- *iReady* Assessment three times a year: Fall, Winter, Spring (all students)
- *M-STEP* is a Required State Assessment: April/ May (all students)
- *PSAT*: April State Assessment, Grade 8 students

## **Semester credit**

- All credit is determined in terms of the semester. (.5) credit = 1 semester of work.
- Students transferring into the Muskegon Public Schools will be granted the credit they have earned from the sending school provided they are Carnegie units and not religious credits.

## **Grade Reporting**

The school year is divided into 2 semesters. This aligns with the high school. Credit is earned by the semester in increments of 0.5. *Semester Reports* will be emailed to parents/guardians, we recommend that all parents and students have PowerSchool access to view grades and attendance at any time.

## School-wide grading scale

Courses at MMS are graded on a 60/40 Policy (i.e. 60% of the grade is based on assessments and 40% of the grade is based on classwork). Students are able to go through a “Teach / Retest” opportunity with their teachers should they score below average on an assessment. It is up to students to take advantage of this opportunity after school or during teacher makeup times.

<b>A</b>	<b>94-100%</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90-93%</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>87-89%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>84-86%</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>80-83%</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>77-79%</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>74-76%</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>70-73%</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>67-69%</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>64-66%</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>60-63%</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>0-59%</b>

## Grade Point Average

- Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points earned by the total amount of credit attempted. A student's GPA may range from 0 to 4.0.
- A Cumulative Grade Point Average is the calculation of the average of all of a student's grades for all semesters on courses taken in grades 6-8th grade and begins again when a student enters high school.

### **Chart for Grade Point Averages**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Guidelines for testing out of a class

Students have the opportunity to test out of courses offered at MHS by taking the final exam for the class during the scheduled exam times or the week prior to the beginning of school. Students must earn 77% on the exam to earn credit for the class. a CR (credit) will go on the transcript indicating successful completion of the credit. Students should contact their

counselor or Assistant Principal to make arrangements for testing during the 2nd semester exam week.

### **Credit Earned for High School Courses (Algebra 1, English 9, & Spanish)**

- Credit for high school courses is determined in terms of the semester. (.5) credit = 1 semester of work.
- Online Credit Recovery- Credits will be added to the transcript at the end of each semester or summer school session.

### **Placement into Honors Classes**

Students' assessment scores on the iReady Diagnostic, as well as other assessments, will be used to determine appropriate placement. If a student's scores place him or her beyond the offerings at Charles Hackley Middle School, the student will take classes at Muskegon High School. In some cases, students take online courses to accrue high school credit; the online course could include foreign language and/or required core classes.

### **Guidelines for Testing out of a Required Course ([LINK](#))**

Students have the opportunity to test out of courses offered at MHS by taking the final exam for the class during the scheduled exam times or the week prior to the beginning of school. Students must earn 77% on the exam to earn credit for the class. A CR (credit) will go on the transcript indicating successful completion of the credit. Students should contact their counselor or Assistant Principal to make arrangements for testing by the end of March. Students will be able to test-out of Semester 1 courses during late-May. If a student successfully test-outs of the A version of a course, they may attempt to test-out of the Semester 2 portion during 2nd Semester exam week. All test-out's will be administered with MHS department heads.