

# Antioch Upper Grade School



*Inspiring a Passion for Personal Excellence*

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming 6th Grade Students,

We are excited to welcome your child to 6th grade at AUGS! The purpose of this letter is to communicate about the Encore options available to your child for this coming school year. Additional details about other elements of the schedule at AUGS will be communicated as we move forward in our planning. The scheduling process requires a great deal of coordination between AUGS, the 5th grade teachers, and parents. For this reason, we start the process early and try to communicate all the necessary information clearly.

Course **requests** for incoming 6th graders occur in multiple steps. In May, students request their choices of Encore classes in the computer labs at their buildings. This Encore process is separate from placements for core content and intervention classes. Student schedules will be created in June and July after placement for core and intervention classes has been completed. Parents will then receive a complete student schedule electronically (if there is an email address on file) or by mail in August.

Students and parents have the opportunity to **request** the student's top four interests. **We will try to honor as many requests as possible. If you select a full year music Encore (Band, Choir, Orchestra) this will be a top choice.** Included in this packet is information about the options available to 6<sup>th</sup> graders as well as a worksheet to prepare you and your student for the upcoming course request process. Within the next few days, students will be making their Encore class **requests** on a computer-based survey, so please return the Encore Request Worksheet with your child to help expedite the process.

**Curious as to what this will potentially look like for your child?**

**Here is a "generic" sample (organization of classes will vary by grade level):**

Trimester 1	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5	Encore
Trimester 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5	Encore
Trimester 3	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Period 7	Period 8
	Core 1	Core 2	Encore	Lunch/Success	Core 3	Core 4	Core 5	Encore

**\*\*Trimester classes change each trimester**

Sincerely,

AUGS Administrative Team

## 6th Grade Encore Classes for the 2019-2020 School Year Full Year Encore Classes

### Full Year Music

#### **BAND: Full Year**

**6th Grade Band:** 6th grade Band is an Encore course for students who have participated in band during their 4th/5th grade year. This is the last year to sign up as a new band member. Any new 6th grade members will need to get instrument choice approval from the 6th grade director. New members will work with the 7th/8th grade director, Mr. Frank, with lessons until they are ready to join the large band. 6th grade band students will perform 5 concerts per year, and are encouraged to participate in Solo & Ensemble Contest in February. A detailed study of rhythms, scales, percussion rudiments, and musical concepts will be applied in this course. Band grades will be determined by weekly lesson attendance, practice chart completion, and attendance at required performances outside of the regular school day.

#### **ORCHESTRA: Full Year**

**6th Grade Orchestra:** Orchestra is an Encore course for students who have participated in orchestra at least during their 4th & 5th grade years. Previous experience is required. 6th Grade Orchestra students will perform 4 concerts per year, 2 school wide assemblies and are encouraged to participate in Solo & Ensemble Contest in February. A more detailed study of rhythms, scales, string techniques and musical concepts will be applied in this course. Orchestra grades will be determined by weekly lesson attendance, practice chart completion, projects and attendance at required performances outside of the regular school day.

#### **CHOIR: Full Year**

**6th Grade Choir:** Choir students will sing two to three part music in many genres such as classical, folk, holiday, jazz, rock, musical theatre, and pop. The emphasis will be on developing a good singing tone, building musicianship, reading music, sight-reading and voice part independence. Choir students have the option of participating as soloists or in small groups in Broadway Showcase, the Solo and Ensemble Festival and the Art Crawl. This choir is open to any 6th grade student who wishes to be a part of a vocal performing group. The choir performs at least four concerts per year in the evening. Choir grades will be determined by lesson attendance, music theory worksheets, projects and attendance at required performances in the evenings.

## 6th Grade Trimester Encore Classes (12 weeks)

### Computer Applications

Students enrolled in the Computer Applications classes are exposed to all of the International Society for Technology Education Standards. Each grade level has a different focus. Students will think creatively and problem solve while they practice technology skills. Students will also spend the first part of the period everyday typing as they increase their accuracy and speed. Each course has been created to be engaging and fun, while they learn valuable 21st century skills.

**6th Grade** - Students will learn basic computer applications while learning about Internet safety through project-based learning - Cyber CSI: AUGS!

### Foreign Languages – (2 class choices)

#### **German**

##### **6th Grade (12 week class)**

German is a 12-week Encore class that introduces students to the basic vocabulary, sounds and grammar of German. At the end of 12 weeks students can:

- Have a basic conversation
- Count to 100
- Name colors and foods
- Say the days of the week/months
- Recite the alphabet
- Explain noun gender
- Use the verbs *to be called (heißen)*, *to have (haben)* and *to be (sein)*

#### **SPANISH**

##### **6th Grade (12 week class)**

Spanish 6 is a 12 week Encore class that introduces students to the basic vocabulary, sounds and grammar of Spanish. At the end of 12 weeks students can:

- Have a basic conversation including classroom-type commands plus talking about free time activities, shopping and travelling
- Count to 100
- Name colors, foods and drinks, classroom objects, rooms in a house, family members, jobs, animals, body parts and clothes
- Say the alphabet, days of the week, months, weather, seasons and time
- Describe themselves using physical and personality adjectives plus things they like to do

## **General Music - (2 class choices)**

### **Acoustics (Guitar)**

Acoustics class is an introductory course in playing the acoustic guitar. Students in acoustics will learn basic melodies, the tuning process, how to identify and play basic chords and how to apply chords to song structure. Class is aligned to National Association for Music Education.

### **World Music**

Students will learn about music and dance traditions of other cultures. This 12 week course will focus on countries in Europe, Africa and Central/South America. Students will play penny whistles, drums, make pan flutes, learn dances and complete research on different cultures. Class is aligned to National Association for Music Education.

### **Global Journalism**

Students will enhance their writing and researching skills while exploring global topics. The course will include a research project of an influential journalist, writing a personality profile, and a final feature story about a global issue. During this trimester class, students will learn the features of a newspaper; write using a journalistic style, newsworthiness, and analyzing author's' work.

In all grade levels, students are meeting the language, reading, and writing Common Core State Standards in a 21st century learning environment.

### **Adobe Illustrator (Graphics Arts) – Element Art Works and Virtual Reality Illustrations**

Students will learn the Elements of Design to create various artworks using the program Adobe Illustrator. The objective of this class will allow students to learn the technical aspects of drawing on the computer using the program Adobe Illustrator and allow students to be made aware of the universal art language of the Elements of Design. Students will be introduced to basic concepts that build the foundation for how art is made and demonstrate their understanding through creative art works. Furthermore, some students will have the opportunity to use the HTC Vive virtual reality system to create 3-Dimensional drawings in virtual space.

### **Creative Writing/Interactive Language Arts**

Students will explore and produce poetry, drama, and fiction writings. Students will apply aspects of theatre, presentation, and storytelling skills using original and existing creative writing pieces.

The course will include attention to dramatics, audience analysis, speaking opportunities, research, organization, and critical thinking. Students will gain an appreciation of speaking through an understanding of the components, terms, personnel, history, styles, and techniques of theatre and public speaking. Students will study and practice developing character traits and will be introduced to improvisation and dramatic stage performances.

In all grade levels, students are meeting the speaking, listening, reading, and writing Common Core State Standards, National Core Arts Standards, ELA communication standards in a 21st century learning environment, as well as Social Emotional learning standards.

**6th Grade:** Analyze & create original poetry using figurative language. Create and manipulate original puppets and present a final puppet show skit with a group of peers.

## **Art (Visual Fine Art)**

In addition to their intrinsic value, the arts contribute to children's development and enrich the quality of life. The Visual Art Curriculum aligns with Illinois State Standards for the Fine Arts.

Students participating in 6th Grade Visual Fine Art, will learn and utilize the basic elements of art; line, shape, color, value, texture, form and space in their 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional work. They will demonstrate these concepts in a variety of activities that include drawing, painting, and working with sculpture. Using their imagination, or through observation, students create work from both representational and/or non-representational images. The Visual Fine Art curriculum incorporates related art history and culture.

## **6th Grade Project Lead the Way (PLTW) - (2 class choices)**

### **Design and Modeling PLTW (Engineering)**

For 2019- 2020 sixth grade students will use PLTW Design and Model Unit. PLTW is a "hands-on" engineering-based program that incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Students experience rigorous and relevant experiences through activity, project, and problem-based learning. They use technology to solve problems while gaining skills in communication, collaboration, higher level critical-thinking, and creativity.

This engineering and building course is called Design and Modeling. Students will learn the design process, measurement, sketching, Computer Aided Design and small tool use.

Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a orthosis and toys for special needs individuals capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Students create isometric and orthographic sketches of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

### **Magic of Electrons/Electronics (PLTW)**

Magic of electrons is a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) class from Project Lead the Way (PLTW). This class studies electricity with hands on activities. Conduction, current, voltage, magnets and electrical engineering will be taught.

#### **Students will:**

- *Build an electromagnet and a simple DC motor and electrical circuits.*
- *Identify the characteristics of series, parallel, and combination circuits.*
- *Calculate and measure resistance values and distinguish between different types of resistors..*
- *Construct, sketch, test electrical circuits.*
- *Integrate DC sources, lamps, switches, diodes, light emitting diodes, resistors, and capacitors into electrical circuits using Snap Circuit Kits.*
- *Measure voltage, current, and resistance using a multimeter and applying OHM's Law.*
- *Work on Digital Electronics and Electrical engineering.*



**2019-2020 6<sup>th</sup> grade Encore Request Worksheet**

Return this worksheet to your homeroom teacher. A representative from AUGS will visit your class to guide you in the electronic request procedure.

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Student First and Last Name (Print):

Select your current school:	<b>AES</b>	<b>Oakland</b>	<b>Petty</b>
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	<b>Encore Class Name</b>
Encore Request	
Encore Request	
Encore Request	
Encore Request	

\*\*Students taking Band and Orchestra must communicate with their music teachers for approval.

\*\*All Encore class schedules are based on the number of request and class availability.

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Student Signature

Date

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Parent Signature

Date