

Powell Middle School
6th Grade Class Descriptions

School Hours – 8:30-3:30
Building opens at 7:30

Academic Classes (60-65 minutes)

Math: In grade six, your child will learn the concept of rates and ratios and use these tools to solve word problems. Students will work on quickly and accurately dividing multi-digit whole numbers and adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing multi-digit decimals. Students will extend their previous work with fractions and decimals to understand the concept of rational numbers. Students will also learn how to write and solve equations and apply these skills in solving multi-step word problems.

Module topics will include:

- Computational fluency with decimals and fractions
- Ratio, rates, and percent
- Extending the number system and the coordinate plane
- Algebraic expressions
- Equations and inequalities
- Understanding and analyzing data
- Geometry

English/Language Arts: This is a text heavy class where students learn to implement reading strategies to improve their understanding of the topics at hand. Students learn to closely read texts and examine the craft of writing. Students apply this knowledge in various ways, including through discussion, projects, and writing. Students will hone their writing skills in various styles, including narrative, argumentative, expository, and analytical responses.

Science: In this class, students will study three main topics: Life Science and Ecology, Earth Science, and Physical Science. Life Science and Ecology will include interaction between living things, food production, energy adaption, and biological changes. Earth Science will include the planets, eclipses, and causes of seasons, days, and years. Physical Science will include the study of energy and motion. There will also be some emphasis on environmental problems of our present day society.

Social Studies: Students will study world cultures with emphasis being placed on ancient civilizations and specific social studies skills. Students will cover topics such as Egypt, Greece, Rome, etc., as outlined in their texts. Geography and map skills are integrated within each module of study. In addition, a limited number of projects relating to these topics will be assigned. Social Studies classes have a class set of textbooks to use in class however there is access to a textbook online.

Honors classes will be offered in all academic areas. Honors criteria can be found in the Knox County Schools Middle School Progression Plan on the Knox County Website.

Related Arts Classes: (45 minutes)

Students take two Related Arts classes every day. Each class is 40 minutes long. For one of their classes, students will rotate between health, P.E., art, music, and/or library every 9 weeks. For the other related arts class, students must choose Advanced Art, band, or chorus. Once this class is chosen, the students are committed to it for the **ENTIRE** school year. **If students are recommended for Math and/or Reading RTI, that will take the place of one of their related arts classes.**

Health: The students will learn the stages of human development from birth to adolescence and explore the factors that influence behavior. The students will examine the courses and treatments of various kinds of diseases.

Physical Education: All physical education students are taught a variety of individual and dual sports, team games and rhythmical activities for both indoors and outdoors. The emphasis is on participation, effort, sportsmanship, and attitude. The only dress requirement is athletic shoes.

Art: Students will be introduced to basic drawing skills, basic design problems, basic color theory and basic painting skills. Art history will also be incorporated into the curriculum.

Music: The music curriculum covered during the nine weeks class will include beat and tempo, hearing rhythms, review note names, basic rhythm notation, and melody.

Yearlong Related Arts Class Descriptions:

Advanced Art: Advanced Art is a great opportunity for children who are interested in visual arts. The purpose of the class is to encourage the students with interest in art to develop their skills using different media. This class is limited in size and students benefit from a recommendation from their elementary art teacher.

Band: The sixth grade band student will develop a tone quality characteristic of the instrument while also developing an understanding of basic rhythms. Students will also be introduced to key signatures, dynamics, and simple articulations. Students need **no** prior musical experience.

Chorus: Units will include rhythm, melody, harmony, tone color, form, and style. All units will include singing, musical activities, and listening skills. Second semester focuses on unison and two - part choral singing and performance skills.

Math RTI: Math Intervention is designed to help strengthen number sense, computation, geometry, and word problems. This program uses direct whole/small group instruction and using technology. Placement is determined by RTI Coaches and Administrators based on: teacher recommendation, academic grades, TCAPs, Aimsweb tests, and other data.

Reading RTI: Reading RTI: The Reading Intervention class is designed to support students who have been designated as needing additional help in reading fluency and/or comprehension. There are 2 different levels of reading intervention provided to general education students, Tier 2 and Tier 3. Both Tiers receive small group instruction, along with online support through Language! Live. The teachers in reading intervention focus on the individual needs of the students to maximize their learning while in these 45-minute classes. Placement is determined by RTI Coaches and Administrators based on: teacher recommendation, academic grades, TCAPs, STAR tests, and other data.