Surline Middle School **6th Grade** Educational Development Plan (EDP) & Course Description

I. All 6th graders will have the following courses:

- English/Language Arts--*This course will target students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, mechanics, listening, speaking, discussion, reflection, and viewing. Our primary focus in language arts class will be reading texts critically and using those texts as a springboard for various writing styles, demonstrating the rules of grammar, and oral expression. This year you can expect to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction including novels, short stories, dramas, poetry, and essays. These writing pieces will model the different writing styles we will be working on ourselves. Writing assignments will include timed responses, performance tasks, journal writing, essays, critiques, and creative pieces. Vocabulary, spelling, and grammar assignments will also be an important part of this class.*
- Social Studies--*World Geography: where things are and why they are there. Topics include; map skills, cultural features like economics, government, populations, languages, food and religions. Also studied are physical features such as climate, land-forms, natural disasters, and human environment interaction.*
- Math--*On a daily basis, students use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking. Under teacher guidance students learn in collaboration with others while sharing information, expertise, and ideas. The course helps students to develop multiple strategies to solve problems and to recognize the connections between concepts. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to: Collect, organize, and display data in multiple ways, Analyze data using measures of central tendency, Represent data sets using various methods and analyze how changes in data impact the representation, Represent and compare quantities using manipulatives, diagrams, and number expressions, Represent multiplication using rectangular arrays, Represent integers on number lines and with manipulatives, Make sense of multiple representations of portions (decimal, fraction, percent) and convert from one form to the other, Compare fractions and generate equivalent fractions, Recognize ratios in tables and graphs and solve corresponding problems, Use ratios to describe relationships with similar plane figures and other situations, Use models and standard algorithms for computations with fractions and decimals, Simplify variable expressions by combining like terms and using the Distributive Property, Evaluate variable expressions and solve simple equations and inequalities, Solve distance, rate, and time problems, Solve percent problems including those with discounts, interest, and tips, Compute area, surface area, and volume of rectangular solids, Represent solids using nets.*
- Science--*The focus is on life science with topics including: ecosystems, interdependence among organisms, biodiversity, natural selection and adaptations, photosynthesis, evolution, cells, interactions with stimuli in our environment, genetics, and heredity.*
- Falcon Focus:
  - *Academic Strategies: Students learn focus, study, and testing tips, as well as get individualized help in how to be successful.*
  - *Social Emotional Learning: All students participate in weekly social emotional learning lessons. We follow the Choose Love Movement curriculum, which consists of four units- Courage, Gratitude, Forgiveness, and Compassion in Action. Choosing love means having the courage to be grateful when life isn't easy, to forgive even when the person who hurt you isn't sorry, and to step outside your own pain to help someone else. It's an empowering lesson that love is a choice. For more information on Choose Love go to: chooselovemovement.org*

- Special Education--- *If students require special education support, they will receive support from the special education teacher and parapros within the regular education classrooms as indicated on their IEP.*

II. All 6th graders will have an academic rotation (rotates every marking period or 6 weeks):

- Personal Computing---*This course serves as a foundation for students as they move into middle school. Topics covered include email, calendar, hardware, software, storage, digital footprints, and Office and Google application uses.*
- Wonder Workshop---*Inquiry learning encourages students to be curious, to wonder, to have choice, to problem solve, to collaborate. Students take their learned reading, writing, and math skills and use them with learning that matters to them. The skills learned in the content areas will now be put to use on a 'wondering' they have, a question they need to answer, something they want to explore, or a project they want to create, making their learning more meaningful and authentic.*
- Math Builder---*Geometry topics are covered in this course starting with plotting points on the coordinate plane and identifying types of lines (parallel, perpendicular and intersecting). Then moving into measuring and constructing types of angles and identifying types of triangles. The class ends with an exploration of the characteristics of various polygons and how to annotate them. Math problem solving puzzles are also utilized.*
- Character Ed---*Students will engage in lessons and activities that promote social emotional learning skills. The novel, Wonder by R.J. Palacio 2012, will be used as a foundation text to introduce concepts and encourage discussion. Reading, writing, language, and speaking listening standards will be addressed to support the English Language Arts curriculum. Students will also have the opportunity to compare and contrast text and film versions of the novel.*
- Communication/Debate---*The focus is on effective communication, improving communication skills, and habits to avoid while communicating. Students will work collaboratively to present and debate various topics.*
- Literature Circles---*Students develop small groups of readers and writers who gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth.*
- Study Skills (Intervention)---*(Administrator or Interventionist recommendation only) Study Skills is a class that is tailored to students that can benefit from extra support with organization, re-teaching of content from all core classes, study strategies, test taking strategies, and a time for students to regroup and prioritize during the school day. It is teacher driven and directed with the intent of helping students with their individual needs. Parents will be notified if their child is eligible.*

II. All 6th graders will have an elective rotation (rotates every marking period or 6 weeks):

- 6 Band---*6th graders have the option of taking Beginning Band: Students attend band 3 days a week- grouped by woodwind or brass/percussion section. The other 2 days a week they attend the elective classes outlined in section II. Band is a fun, exciting class that gives you the opportunity to play an instrument and continue learning about music. It is a full year commitment. Students will have two concerts during the year to perform for their friends and family. Please contact Mr. Andersen for rental information or to talk to him about available school instruments to use if needed. Come and play in the Band!!* ***Those taking band will not take Music FUNdamentals, but will have an extra elective choice.***
- Spanish 6 --*This course will provide the students with a general introduction to the Spanish language through the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will also gain a basic understanding of vocabulary and Hispanic culture. Successful completion of Spanish 6 & 7 fulfills the*

foreign language requirement of the MI Merit Curriculum for high school graduation.

- Music FUNdamentals---*This course is a continuation of the introduction our 5th graders receive. Students will develop their music skills using notation, creation and composition. They will continue to build their skills in reading music and experiment with composing music. Those taking band are not required to take music.*
- Engineering:STEM---*STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines: science, technology, engineering and mathematics- in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Rather than teach the four disciplines as separate and discrete subjects, STEM integrates them into cohesive learning units based on real-word applications.*
- The last three elective rotation classes will be based on student choice:

  Included is a list of the elective classes available to 6th grade students. Students may choose which classes they would like to enrich their education with. Fill out, and return, the last page to designate your selections. Although all of these classes are being offered we will base which classes are scheduled on student selections, and not all of the classes will end up on the schedule. Do not base course preferences on current teacher assignments, as these may change.

COMPUTER SCIENCE and STEM OPTIONS

1. Robotics, Programming, and Coding: Web Design

   Students learn to create websites using HTML and CSS (coding languages) inside Code.org's Web Lab environment. Throughout the unit, students consider questions of privacy and ownership on the internet as they develop their own personal websites.
2. Robotics, Programming, and Coding: Microbit Mania

   Students use Code.org's App Lab environment, in conjunction with the Adafruit (hardware) Circuit Playground, to explore the relationship between hardcore and software. Throughout the unit, students develop prototypes that mirror existing innovative computing platforms, before ultimately designing and prototyping on their own.
3. Gaming: App Design

   Students apply the problem solving process to the problems of others, learning to empathize with the needs of a user and design solutions to address those needs. During the second half of the unit, students form teams to prototype an app of their own design, first on paper and eventually in Code.org's App Lab environment.
4. Gaming: Interactive Animations and Game Making

   Students learn fundamental programming constructs and practices in the JavaScript programming language while developing animations and games in Code.org's Game Lab environment. Students end the unit by designing their own animations and games.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION OPTIONS

1. Health 101

   Students will address major youth health risk behaviors at every grade level, with age-appropriate instructional activities.
2. Winter Sports

   Students will learn interpersonal skills to develop teamwork and sportsmanship in a variety of physical activities that promote lifelong health. Sports include pickleball and volleyball.
3. Spring Sports

   Students will learn interpersonal skills to develop teamwork and sportsmanship in a variety of physical activities that promote lifelong health. Sports include soccer, flag football, lacrosse and field hockey.

ART OPTIONS

1. Fundamentals of Art

   Students will develop foundation skills in the visual arts, utilizing a variety of materials and tools to create individual projects based on Color, Composition, Value, Form, Shape, Brushwork, and Perspective. These principal art fundamentals constitute concrete visual components that work together as they overlap and influence each other.
2. 2D Drawing and Use of Color

   Students will develop visual arts skills, utilizing a variety of materials and tools to create individual projects based on drawings, paintings, prints, and digital printouts. These can be created using a variety of mediums, such as pencil, oil pastels, charcoal, ink, watercolors, and tempera paints.
3. Storytelling through art

   Students will examine the history of storytelling and tell stories in a variety of ways through art. These lessons will build students' awareness of how stories can be told visually and how artists use color, line, gesture, composition, and symbolism to tell a story. Students will interpret and create narratives based upon a work of art and apply what they have learned to create works of art that tell a story.
4. Art Expression

   Students will explore art and experiment with various forms of art as a way to identify, express and manage emotions.
5. Ceramics 1

   Students will develop skills in the use of clay as a medium in creating a variety of forms such as Pinch Pot, Coil Pot, Slab Vessel, Subtractive Tile, Mask, Wall Vase

PERSONAL GROWTH OPTIONS

1. Home Economics

   This fun foundational class allows students to develop important life skills. Students will learn about kitchen and food safety, cooking skills, nutrition, etiquette, hand sewing, and much more as they grow their independence!

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS

1. Intro to Woodshop through Arts and Crafts

   Students will learn basic woodshop skills including safe and proper use of electric sanders, band saw, scroll saw, drill and a variety of hand tools to create small projects such as holiday decorations, key racks, hat racks, etc. ***2 Marking Periods.***

_____ _____

(STUDENT LAST NAME) **(STUDENT FIRST NAME)**

23-24
6

Band: Please complete the following <u>if you will participate in Beginning Band.</u>

_____I will participate in Beginning Band.

The instrument that I am planning to play is: _____

ELECTIVE CHOICES

List your elective choices in order of most wanted:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Signing indicates that we have read, discussed and understand the 6th grade classes at SMS. We agreed with the preferences that have been marked on this paper.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

RETURN THIS PAGE TO YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER BY: MONDAY, MAY 22

Questions:
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