

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School



2026-27
6th Grade
Course Registration Packet

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Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School

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We Care and Challenge with Character . . . Kinard Character

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School

SAMPLE 6th GRADE SCHEDULE

	ODD DAY (Periods 1, 3, 5, 7, ELO)	EVEN DAY (Periods 2, 4, 6, 8, ELO)
Period 1/2 8:15 a.m. - 9:33 a.m.	Math	Math
Period 3/4 9:38 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Band	Art (sem 1) / PE (sem 2)
Period 5/6 11:05 a.m. - 11:42 a.m.	English	English
Lunch 11:42 a.m. - 12:17 p.m.	Lunch	Lunch
Period 5/6 12:22 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	English	English
Period 7/8 1:05 p.m. - 2:25 p.m.	Science/ Social Studies	Science/ Social Studies
ELO 2:30 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.	Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) or World Language (French or Spanish)	Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) or World Language (French or Spanish)

SIXTH GRADE 2026–2027

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

LA610 English/Language Arts 6 Core Knowledge

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

The English component of this course addresses Core Knowledge topics, in combination with the four main Colorado Reading, Writing, and Communicating Standards (Oral Expression and Listening, Reading for All Purposes, Writing and Composition, and Research and Reasoning). This class will include topics in alignment with Core Knowledge: Latin and Greek words, vocabulary acquisition and use, poetry, *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, *Julius Caesar*, other Core Knowledge texts, classical mythology, and literary terms. Students will apply correct grammar, mechanics, and spelling to all genres of writing. Students will be exposed to and analyze various levels of poetry. In addition, they will use critical reading skills, applying those skills to different genres. Outside reading is also a requirement for this course. For students who consistently demonstrate interest and ability to manage advanced work in Language Arts, advanced level options will be made available on a case-by-case basis.

The technology component of this course will focus on 21st century computer skills necessary for students to be successful in middle school and beyond. Students will learn proper citation, word processing, Google applications, Internet safety, online collaborative applications, and multimedia presentation skills integrated with the core curriculum as well as other various technology-based skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SS630 Social Studies 6 Core Knowledge

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

The 6th grade curriculum begins with a study of ancient civilizations introduced in earlier grades in the Core Knowledge Sequence. Topics include the civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome, Indigenous peoples of the Americas, the Enlightenment and American Revolution, and the French Revolution. The focus in 6th grade is on the legacy of enduring ideas from these civilizations – ideas about what makes a civilization succeed or fail, how geography affects people, and how resources impact a society positively and negatively. 6th grade social studies emphasizes skills such as reading and analyzing texts and maps, applying critical thinking strategies, and using evidence to support claims. For students who consistently demonstrate interest and ability to manage advanced work in social studies, advanced level assignments, expectations, and assessments will be made available on a case-by-case basis.

SIXTH GRADE 2026–2027

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SCIENCE

SC628 Science 6 Core Knowledge

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

Core Knowledge topics are integrated with state science standards in this class. Students will begin by reviewing scientific processes and methods with hands-on activities and labs. Next, a unit on geology will explore the rock cycle, earth's layers, plate movements, volcanoes, earthquakes, and evidence of long-term movement of the earth's plates. Following geology will be a unit on the concepts related to climatology, including the water cycle, weather, climate, seasons, and climate change. To end the year, students will delve into astronomy, paying particular attention to the role of gravity in our solar system, stars, moon phases and eclipses, and galaxies. For students who consistently demonstrate interest and ability to manage advanced work in science, advanced level assignments, expectations, and assessments will be made available on a case-by-case basis.

MATHEMATICS

MA640 Math 6

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

Math 6 is based on the 6th Grade Colorado Academic Standards. These standards define what students should understand and be able to do. The 6th grade standards focus on five critical areas: (1) understanding and applying ratios, rates, and proportional relationships; (2) area, surface area and volume of 2D and 3D shapes; (3) extending an understanding of rational numbers, including all operations, comparing, ordering and graphing; (4) writing, interpreting, and solving expressions, equations and inequalities; and (5) developing an understanding of statistical thinking. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Math 7 or Math 7/8 (with supporting data and teacher recommendation).

MA745 Math 7/8

Year Long

Prerequisite: Math 6 and teacher recommendation based on data and observations

Math 7/8 is based on the 7th Grade and approximately half of the 8th Grade Colorado Academic Standards. These standards define what students should understand and be able to do. The standards focus on the following critical areas: (1) understanding and applying ratios, rates and proportional relationships; (2) operating with rational numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and solving expressions, equations and inequalities; (4) solving problems involving scale drawings, informal geometric constructions and angle properties; (5) extending knowledge of two-and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving similarity, area, surface area, and volume; (6) Pythagorean Theorem and roots; (7) working with integer exponents and scientific notation; (8) writing, graphing and interpreting two variable linear equations. Upon successful completion, students will progress to Math 8 or Algebra 1 (with supporting data and teacher recommendation).

SIXTH GRADE 2026–2027

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THE ARTS

2570 Beginning Band 6

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

The 6th grade Core Knowledge Music requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in band. Instruments taught in the summer music program and at the beginning of the school year are limited to: flute, clarinet, trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, and percussion. Interested students are selected to play bass clarinet, saxophones, oboe, or bassoon later in the school year.

*Band Instrument Tryouts will occur in the afternoon/evening on **Thursday, February 19, 2026.***

More information on how to sign up for your 90-min. timeslot will be sent via email in mid-February.

2649 Choir 6 Core Knowledge

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

The 6th grade Core Knowledge Music requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in choir.

2580 Beginning Orchestra 6

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

The 6th grade Core Knowledge Music requirements of both elements of music and music history will be taught through performance in orchestra. Instruments taught in the summer music program and in 6th grade orchestra are violin, viola, cello, and string bass.

*Orchestra Instrument Tryouts will occur on either **Tuesday, February 17, or Friday, February 20, from 6-8 p.m. at***

Preston Middle School (both events are the same; choose the one that best suits your schedule).

More information on this process will be shared soon via email.

1089 Visual Arts 6 Core Knowledge

Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students come to Kinard from many elementary schools. Our goal in 6th grade is to give all students a common base of art knowledge and skills. The 6th grade visual arts class focuses on the fundamentals of art: elements of art (line, shape, space, form, color, value, and texture) and principles of design (balance, rhythm, unity, emphasis, movement, pattern, and contrast). Students will relate the visual arts to cultural and historical events through the Core Knowledge Sequence.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

3587 6th Grade Comprehensive Health & Physical Education

Semester

Prerequisite: None

Students will deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Colorado State Health and Physical Education standards which include: (1) movement competency and understanding, (2) physical and personal wellness, (3) social and emotional wellness and (4) prevention and risk management. Physical Education will focus on utilizing a variety of resources and strategies for physical and social wellness goals by realistic goal setting, cooperation, and movement strategies for simple games. Comprehensive Health will concentrate on what it takes to be healthy, by focusing on the following topics: goal setting, conflict resolution, personal healthcare, decision making, dealing with emotions, and injury prevention.

SIXTH GRADE 2026–2027

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

WORLD LANGUAGE *(optional)*

4708 French 1A

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 6th (requires application- see page 12 for directions) & 7th

French 1A provides students with an introduction to the French language and Francophone culture, with an emphasis on communication in the target language. Students are introduced to a variety of everyday topics and foundational structures during this year-long course. Activities include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

Application due on or before Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

4728 Spanish 1A

Year Long

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 6th (requires application- see page 12 for directions) & 7th

Spanish 1A provides students with an introduction to the Spanish language and cultures, with an emphasis on communication in the target language. Students are introduced to a variety of everyday topics and foundational structures during this year-long course. Activities include conversation, novice readings, listening, and written communication. The study of a world language prepares students to be a part of a global community!

Application due on or before Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

Please contact Leslie Husted, World Language Department Leader, at lhusted@psdschools.org if you have specific World Language placement questions.

6th GRADE MATH PLACEMENT INFORMATION

For current PSD (in-district) students, placement is determined using the following tools:

- 5th grade math placement
- 5th grade spring math MAPS score
- 4th grade math CMAS score
- 5th grade Accelerated Math Readiness Test score (given in the spring as needed for additional information)
- Data, observations, and recommendations from current math teachers (gathered by Kinard staff)

For out-of-district students ONLY, Kinard staff will contact families in the spring of 2026 to determine placement. Additional assessments and dates will be communicated at this time.

Please contact David Meuret, Math Department Leader, at (970) 488-5478 or dmeuret@psdschools.org if you have a specific math placement question. Parents will be mailed their child's math placement in May.

Poudre School District Mathematics Course Sequence

Elementary	Kindergarten				
	1 st Grade				
	2 nd Grade				
	3 rd Grade				
	4 th Grade				
	5 th Grade				
Middle School	6 th Grade	Math 6		Math 7/8 (Accelerated) 7 th Grade and Half of 8 th Grade Standards	
	7 th Grade	Math 7	Math 7/8 7 th Grade and Half of 8 th Grade Standards	Math 8	Algebra 1 High School Algebra 1 and Half of 8 th Grade Standards
	8 th Grade	Math 8		Algebra 1 High School Algebra 1 and Half of 8 th Grade Standards	Geometry
	May be taken concurrently with Geometry 				Algebra 2
High School	Algebra 1				
	Geometry				
	Algebra 2				
	College Algebra				
	College Trigonometry				
	AP Calculus AB & BC (Calculus I and II)				
	Concurrent Enrollment: Calculus III				
	Concurrent Enrollment: Statistics				

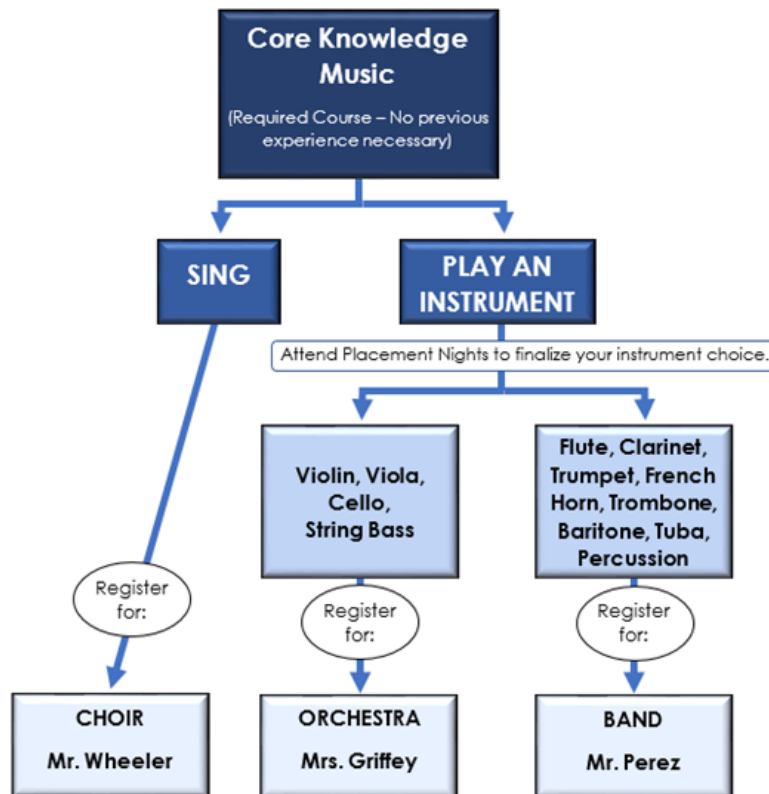
6TH GRADE MUSIC PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Philosophy: At Kinard, art and music are part of the core curriculum along with English, history, math, and science. All 6th and 7th grade students are required to take art and music.

"The arts are not a peripheral part of the curriculum, but an essential part of the knowledge children should learn in the early grades..."

...Through attaining a basic knowledge of the arts, children are not only better prepared to understand and appreciate works of art, but also to communicate their ideas, feelings, and judgments to others. A good understanding of the arts grows out of at least three modes of knowledge- creative (i.e., directly making artworks), historical, and analytical. Early study in the arts should embrace all three modes with special emphasis on creativity and active participation." - *The Core Knowledge Sequence Content Guidelines*

Music: Music is required at Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School. Students who want to sing should join the Beginning Choir; students who want to learn to play a musical instrument should join the Beginning Band or Beginning Orchestra. Placement events will be held in the spring to help students choose a musical instrument. Students interested in saxophone must start on clarinet. Percussion will have an individualized audition time for assessing placement.



Band and Orchestra Instrument Tryouts

Instrument tryouts are fun and informative evenings for students and parents. Students will play all instruments available to them at Kinard and select their top choices. For students interested in Orchestra, the Orchestra placement event is on either Tuesday, February 17, or Friday, February 20, from 6-8 p.m. at Preston Middle School (both events are the same; choose the one that best suits your schedule). Band placements will be in the afternoon/evening on Thursday, February 19, and families will sign up for a 90-minute time slot that works best for their schedule. More information will be sent via email directly from Mrs. Griffey and Mr. Perez about instrument tryout events.

6TH GRADE MUSIC PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Summer Music Information (Band and Orchestra)

The summer music program is a vital part of our program, and it is very important for your students to attend as much of the program as possible. The summer music program is where your students learn how to assemble, play, and properly care for their instruments with instruction from professional music teachers.

Summer music classes are an hour in length, occur in the mornings, and run mid-July to early August. Visit the PSD Summer Music website at <https://sites.google.com/a/psdschools.org/psd-summer-music/home> for more specific dates and information.

Music Contact Information

Mike Perez (Band): mperez@psdschools.org

Leanne Griffey (Orchestra): lgriffey@psdschools.org

Scott Wheeler (Choir): swheeler@psdschools.org

Frequently Asked Questions

- *My child cannot decide which music class is right for them. What should we do?*
Have your child attend both the band and orchestra placement nights to see how they like playing instruments. This typically helps students decide if they want to sing or play in the orchestra or band.
- *My child has been taking private lessons and is not a beginner. For which class should we register?*
All 6th graders must register for 6th grade band, choir, or orchestra. Because of our schedule, all 6th graders take encore classes while 6th grade teachers have a planning period. Students will have opportunities for advanced placement in 7th and 8th grade. Please inform Mr. Perez or Mrs. Griffey via email if your 6th grader has prior experience playing a band or orchestra instrument.
- *My child has played piano and studies it privately. What options are there for piano?*
Piano players can choose to learn a second instrument in the band or orchestra or to sing in the choir. Piano players tend to become our best instrumentalists and singers because of their prior training. Occasional piano playing opportunities may exist within the music department.
- *My child has played guitar and studies it privately. What options are there for guitar?*
In 6th grade, guitar players can choose to learn a second instrument in the band or orchestra or to sing in the choir. Many guitarists choose to play a new instrument in the orchestra because of the similarities between stringed instruments.
- *My child would like to play the saxophone. Is it true they need to start on clarinet?*
Yes, all students interested in playing saxophone will start on clarinet. Select students will then switch to saxophone halfway through their 6th grade year.

6th GRADE WORLD LANGUAGE PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Do all students take a World Language course in 6th grade?

- In 6th grade, World Language is optional and by application only (see page 12). Notification of World Language Acceptance will occur by April 24, 2026 by email.
- In 7th grade, World Language is required. Every student who has not already begun a World Language will do so in 7th grade.

Which World Language courses are available for 6th grade students?

- Incoming 6th grade students may select either Spanish 1A or French 1A. All World Language courses are full year courses.
- There is an application process to be completed; see page 12 for directions.

All applications due on or before: Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at Kinard.

What is available for 6th grade students who do not start a World Language?

- Students that are not taking a World Language will be in an Extended Learning Opportunity class (ELO). Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) is similar to an advisory or study hall period; students are given opportunities for homework completion, peer tutoring, individualized work time, enrichment, and additional teacher support.

Please contact Leslie Husted, World Language Department Leader, at lhusted@psdschools.org if you have specific World Language placement questions.

For additional information regarding Graduation Requirements and PSD Policy, please review the district policy at: <https://www.psdschools.org/sites/default/files/PSD/policies/IKF-2025.pdf>.

For information regarding the opportunity to earn a PSD Seal of Biliteracy on a student's high school diploma, go to the PSD Seal of Biliteracy website at:

<https://sites.google.com/psdschools.org/psdsealofbiliteracy/home>

KINARD CORE KNOWLEDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

6TH GRADE 1A WORLD LANGUAGE APPLICATION

DUE DATE: On or Before Tuesday, March 10, 2026

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- The Kinard 6th grade team (teachers) will process all applications that are submitted.
- To be considered for acceptance into this class, students must meet all the requirements listed below, complete **all parts** of the application, and submit the completed application on or before Tuesday, March 10, 2026. *The 6th grade WL application is completely online this year.*

TO COMPLETE THE 2026-2027 WL APPLICATION, GO TO:

<https://bit.ly/WLapp2026>

CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE INTO THE 6TH GRADE 1A WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM

1. **Standardized Test Scores:** To be eligible for the 6th grade 1A program, all students **must be** proficient or advanced on all of the standardized tests in the areas of reading, writing, and math: **CMAS, MAPS, DRA 2, and /or SRI**. You **do not** need to provide test scores; Kinard World Language teachers will verify 4th grade test scores prior to acceptance into the program. 5th grade test scores will be reviewed in August of 2026. If a student was originally accepted to the World Language program based on their 4th grade test scores but is no longer proficient in reading and writing based on their 5th grade test scores, they may be placed in an ELO class in the fall to better support him/her in all content areas. ***If you are not currently a PSD student***, please attach a copy of your most recent Standardized Test Scores to the online application, such as CMAS, MAPS, DRA 2, SRI, etc.
2. **Transcript/1st Trimester Report Card:** Please provide a copy of your most recent report card as an attachment to the online application.
3. **Statement of Interest:** Student should respond to the prompts in the online application to indicate why you would be a good candidate for the 6th grade 1A World Language course.
4. **Teacher Evaluation:** Please have your fifth-grade teacher complete the *confidential* teacher recommendation form. The teacher recommendation form can be found at <https://bit.ly/WLrec2026>. To request that your teacher complete the form, please send him/her an email using the template below.*

*For an easy copy and paste option of this email, see the last section of the online student application.

"Dear _____,

I am applying at Kinard Middle School to take World Language in 6th grade. Part of the application process requires a confidential Teacher Recommendation. Would you be willing to complete the Recommendation Form in the link below? This link will take you to a Google Form that once submitted will go directly to the World Language department at Kinard Middle School.

LINK TO TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM: <https://bit.ly/WLrec2026> Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

"

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School
6th Grade Course Request Form
2026 – 2027

**TO SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION,
 COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING GOOGLE FORM:**

<https://bit.ly/KIN6thcourses26-27>

on or before Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

Use the graphic organizer below for your records and planning. Classes on the left will be automatically entered.

FOR REVIEW ONLY: Students are automatically enrolled.	Use Google form (linked above) to choose <u>one</u> music option:
<u>ENGLISH</u> LA610 English/Language Arts 6 Core Knowledge <u>SOCIAL STUDIES</u> SS630 Social Studies 6 Core Knowledge <u>SCIENCE</u> SC628 Science 6 Core Knowledge <u>ART</u> 1089 Visual Art 6 <u>PE/HEALTH</u> 3587 Physical Education/Health 6	<u>MUSIC (year long)</u> ___2649 Choir ___2570MS Band ___2580MS Orchestra Placement information on pages 9-10
<u>MATHEMATICS</u> Students will be <u>placed</u> in a math class based on the placement criteria on page 8. MA640 Math 6 MA745 Math 7/8	*OPTIONAL COURSE
	<u>WORLD LANGUAGE</u> ___4708MS French 1A ___4728MS Spanish 1A

For questions, contact our counselors:

Patti Young (student last names A-G) – pyoung@psdschools.org, (970) 488-5406

Karen Irvine (student last names H-Z) – kirvine@psdschools.org, (970) 488-5408

Google Form Due Date: on or before Tuesday, March 10, 2026