# Sixth Grade Scheduling Form

**PLEASANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
2014-2015 SIXTH GRADE SCHEDULING FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAST Name</th>
<th>FIRST</th>
<th>Student ID #</th>
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## Father/Guardian

- Name: ___________________________________________________
- Home phone: _____________________________________________
- Cell: __________________________ Work: __________________
- E-mail: _______________________________________________

## Mother/Guardian

- Name: ___________________________________________________
- Home phone: _____________________________________________
- Cell: __________________________ Work: __________________
- E-mail: _______________________________________________

Elementary school (please circle)  
A    D    F    H    L    M    VV    VH    WG  

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**Fifth Grade Teacher's Name**

### Sixth Grade Schedule

*(see Student Scheduling Handbook on Pleasanton Middle School's website for course descriptions: [http://www.pleasantonmiddleschool.org](http://www.pleasantonmiddleschool.org))*

- Language Arts
- Language Arts
- History
- P.E.
- Math
- Science
- Exploration Wheel:  
  - Art 6, World Language 6, Computer 6, Exploring Teach 6, Consumer and Family Studies 6, Quest 6

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**LAPTOP PROGRAM**

If you are interested in applying for the Laptop Program, please attend an informational meeting for parents on **Wednesday, February 26, 2014 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** in the Multipurpose Room at Pleasanton Middle School. Application forms will be available at the meeting, as well as in the PMS counseling office, and on our website.

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**BEGINNING BAND**

We are exploring student interest in offering a Beginning Band class. Students interested in this class do not need to have any prior band experience OR did not take BAND in 5th grade. (Piano is not considered a BAND instrument.)

- NOTE: This does NOT include Beginning Strings
-   - Yes, I am interested in taking Beginning Band

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**CONTINUING BAND/STRINGS**

- Yes, my child will be continuing in BAND or STRINGS and has prior band/strings experience (select one below)
  - Intermediate Band
  - Strings I
  - Indicate instrument: ___________________________

Students who choose to take band or strings will have “A” period PE.

“A” Period PE meets outside of the regular school day from 7:35-8:31 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.

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**GATE PLACEMENT**

Parents of GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) students should review the information below:

Our counseling office has been notified regarding the GATE testing results for your child. This information includes the area of giftedness which resulted in GATE identification. Depending upon the other classes your child selects, every effort will be made to place your child in a GATE cluster class (language arts or science) that best matches your child’s identified area of giftedness.

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**PLEASE RETURN SCHEDULING FORM TO YOUR 5TH GRADE TEACHER BY Friday, February 7, 2014**

Parent/Guardian Signature: ________________________________  Date: ________________
6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LA/HISTORY BLOCK - The three period humanities block consists of two periods of language arts and one period of history. For most students, the humanities block is taught by a single teacher. The sixth grade yearlong English Language Arts course is based on the CA State English-Language Arts Content Standards. Students will progress through the domains of reading, writing, oral and written English conventions, and listening and speaking. In order to meet state standards, teachers will use a variety of optional activities and instructional strategies. Assessments will be given in areas of reading, writing, and speech. The History portion of the block focuses on the development of mankind, including geographical, political, economic, cultural, and social structures of the ancient world.

MATH COURSE I, SEQUENCE I - This class prepares students for Course 2 which centers on pre-algebra skills. Main concepts include: patterns and relationships; solving equations; understanding integers; apply integers; number theory; understanding fractions; adding and subtracting fractions; multiplying and dividing fractions; operations with decimals; ratios, rates, and proportions in geometry; understanding percents; applying percents; displaying and analyzing data; collecting data; understanding probability; lines and angles; polygons; perimeter, circumference, and area; volume and surface areas; multi-step equations; and inequalities.

MATH COURSE II, SEQUENCE II - This class prepares students for Algebra. Main concepts include: expressions and integers; solving equations; operations with rational numbers; equations and rational numbers; solving multi-step equations; solving inequalities; exponents; roots; ratios, rates, and proportions; similarity and scale; percents; applying percent; functions; graphs; plane geometry; congruence and transformations; perimeter and area; circles; volume and surface area; collecting, describing, and displaying data; probability; introduction to polynomials; and polynomial operations.

SIXTH GRADE SCIENCE - Course content includes the fundamental principles of geology, plate tectonics, oceanography, meteorology, evolution, classification, and the responsible stewardship of our natural environment and its limited resources. Emphasis is placed on developing basic science and critical thinking skills through the use of the scientific method, the metric system of measurement, and formal lab write-ups.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Sixth grade students participate in a wide variety of physical activities designed to develop motor skills and promote endurance, agility, and coordination. Unit activities emphasize integrity, responsibility, cooperation, good sportsmanship, and the improvement of individual skills. The activity units will focus on personal fitness and also include lead up games, cooperative activities, and line and social dance. Special emphasis is given to understanding and accepting differences. Self management will be emphasized. Sixth graders will chart their motor skill development in specific activities and events and learn to calculate their individual heart rate for exercise. The Physical Education Department is requesting a voluntary donation of $20 to offset the costs of providing equipment, supplies and instructional materials. PE uniforms will be provided to all students.

EXPLORATION - All sixth grade students take one period of exploration. Over the year students will rotate through six classes. Those classes are Quest (required), Consumer and Family Studies (required), Art, Computer 6, Exploring Technology and World Languages. Grading for all Exploration classes is Pass/No Pass (P/NP).

Art 6 - Students are introduced to the Elements and Principles of Design and encouraged to expand their creativity using a variety of art materials, techniques and reflective practice. Examples of artworks are examined and discussed.

Computer 6 - This class provides instruction in basic computer literacy, keyboarding, and desktop publishing. Students are exposed to the development of logical solutions for a wide range of problems and acquire a basic working knowledge of a variety of software programs. Students will also learn to access, use, and understand the Internet.

Consumer and Family Studies/Health 6 - Students will learn about health and nutrition, food preparation, baby-sitting safety, clothing care, and sewing. Each student will learn to operate a sewing machine and complete a simple sewing project.

World Languages 6 - The goal of this course is to develop an interest in languages, and to gain an understanding of different cultures and ways of communicating. Students get a brief introduction to Spanish, French and Japanese and receive guidance in selecting a world language for further study.

Exploring Technology 6 - Students are introduced to the study of communication, construction, manufacturing, power, energy, and transportation by using hands-on activities and computers.

Quest 6 - Quest is a life skills curriculum that teaches problem solving, conflict resolution, decision making, communication, substance abuse prevention and positive character development.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC ELECTIVES

INTERMEDIATE BAND - This class provides experience and training for students who have had one to two years playing experience. Emphasis will be on music notation, rhythm, and basic instrumental techniques. Student placement is determined by the band instructor. There is a graded performance requirement in this class. Percussionists are expected to play mallets in addition to drums.

STRINGS I - This class provides extensive training for students to play violin, viola, cello or string bass. Students must have a minimum of one year prior experience and must demonstrate a basic knowledge of music notation and instrumental technique. Training will be provided in a variety of orchestral styles and different levels.

Complete class descriptions and details can be found on the Pleasanton Middle School Website: www.pleasantonmiddleschool.org. Those without any access to the computer and internet may come into the Counseling office to pick up a course description book.

Nondiscrimination

The District's programs and activities shall provide equal access to and shall not unlawfully discriminate based on actual race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics and against students who are members of special populations. Special populations include, but are not limited to, students with disabilities; students from economically disadvantaged families, including foster youth; students preparing for nontraditional fields; single parents and single pregnant females; displaced homemakers; and students with limited English proficiency.

(20 USC 2302, 2354, 2373)
(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)