



FAYETTE ACADEMY

Inspiring Minds for Learning and Hearts for Christ

Curriculum Guide 2025-2026
Middle School

Curriculum Map

This map shows the yearly curriculum plan for each grade level.

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Language Arts	English Reading	English	English
Mathematics	Math	Math	Pre-Algebra or Algebra I
Science	Science	Life Science	Physical Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	Tennessee History	U.S. History
Fine Art (choice)		Art Audio and Production Band Performing Arts STEM	Audio and Production Band Performing Arts STEM
Foreign Language	Spanish (quarter)	Spanish (semester)	Spanish
Other Required Courses	Computer(quarter) STEM (quarter) Physical Education (quarter)	Physical Education (semester)	

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The following courses may be offered at Fayette Academy for the 2025-2026 school year. Please review the items on the following pages to better understand the course descriptions and requirements.

6th Grade Curriculum

ENGLISH

The sixth grade English class is a fundamental requirement in which objectives will range from developing strong grammar mechanics to the mastery of various writing processes and composition. Students will demonstrate proficiency in sentence structure, fluency, and conventions through application. Students are expected to write in a variety of modes and genres, including, descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, literary response, personal expression, and imaginative. Students will initially begin by organizing ideas into essays consisting of introductions, developing detailed paragraphs with appropriate transitions, and conclusions while simultaneously incorporating grammar skills. At the conclusion of the course, students will be required to write a research paper using primary and secondary sources.

READING

This is a literature course that offers a variety of literary genres. Students are required to logically analyze both novels and short stories using analytical skills. They will recognize and differentiate literary elements (setting, plot, character, conflict, theme) within each story/novel. Students are required to apply content specific vocabulary within context to strengthen both comprehension and writing skills. Students will master concepts such as chronological order, cause-effect, comparison-contrast, and problem-solution. Assessment is reinforced through the use of Accelerated Reader, selection and vocabulary tests, projects, and essays.

MATHEMATICS

Abeka Math is the curriculum used for Sixth Grade Math. The text presents a series of daily lessons, each followed by "in class practice" and homework practice. Each problem set reviews lessons that have been previously taught. Continual practice allows fundamental skills and concepts to be reviewed throughout the year. As a result, students achieve a deeper understanding and better retention of the material. This is an important bridge year, taking the student from emphasis on calculation in elementary to a more "applications approach" in preparing them for higher levels of mathematical thinking.

SOCIAL STUDIES

In 6th Grade Social Studies, the focus is to expand students' understanding of history through the study of people and events before the era of European exploration and settlement. This study focuses not only on the significance of geography in the development of human history, but also on the everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of the people and their roles in developing social, economic, and political structures of the major civilizations.

SCIENCE

Sixth grade science is a study of the ever-changing dynamic natural world surrounding us. Students will explore the interconnections among the sciences, develop scientific literacy, and use the scientific method of inquiry to gather information and solve problems. They will use these practices to study living things and ecosystems, Earth and its cycles, and matter and energy.

COMPUTER BASICS

This course teaches 6th grade students to smoothly transition from iPads to MacBooks for productive classwork.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course will require students to perform body-weight exercises to improve overall health and self-esteem. They will also be improving cardiovascular health through running, walking, and other fun activities.

SPANISH

This engaging introductory course is designed for 6th grade students with no prior Spanish experience and aims to expose them to the Spanish language and Spanish-speaking cultures through a nine-week rotation. Students will learn the language through engaging activities that emphasize the three modes of communication: listening, speaking and writing at the introductory level. Students will learn basic concepts such as the alphabet, calendar, classroom objects and commands, numbers, colors, greetings, family vocabulary, and body parts, etc. The course also fosters an appreciation for Spanish-speaking cultures. This foundational experience will help students build confidence and prepare them to continue their Spanish studies in 7th and 8th grade.

STEM

The 6th grade STEM course provides students the opportunity to learn to create games using Scratch, a fun and interactive block-based coding language and to join STEM building projects when time allows.

7th Grade Curriculum

ENGLISH

The focus of English is grammar, literature, composition, and understanding prefixes and suffixes in vocabulary. Parts of speech, phrases, usage, and mechanics encompass the grammar while the emphasis in literature is short stories, poems, and novels. Interspersed within the grammar and literature units are various writing assignments, focusing on different kinds of writing as well as the style and mechanics of writing.

MATHEMATICS

This course will place a strong emphasis on the continued study of integers, order of operations, variables, expressions, and equations. Students will solve and graph equations and inequalities, write and solve proportions, and explore geometry, statistics, and graph concepts. Problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course.

SCIENCE

Life Science is an introduction to biology. The course includes a study of the three domains and six kingdoms of living things and all of the characteristics that identify organisms in each kingdom and domain. In addition, the course will include an introduction to the concepts of genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, human physiology, laboratory technique and safety, and the metric system.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Students will examine the history of Tennessee, including the cultural, geographic, economic, and political influences upon that history. Students will discuss Tennessee's indigenous peoples as well as the arrival of Euro-American settlers. Students will analyze and describe the foundation of the state of Tennessee. Students will identify and explain the origins, impact, and aftermath of the Civil War. Students will discuss the rise of a manufacturing economy. Finally, students will examine and discuss the Civil Rights Movement and Tennessee's modern economy and society.

SPANISH

The 7th grade Spanish course moves beyond basic vocabulary and grammar, fostering a deeper understanding of the Spanish language and its cultural context, while equipping students with practical communication skills. It is designed as an introduction to Spanish with a focus on communicative skills such as speaking, reading and writing. Students will learn various introductory topics to communicate in the Spanish language at a novice-beginner level. 7th Grade Spanish: Begins with a review of concepts from 6th grade, and introduces new material to promote novice mid-level skills. Students will develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment through the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Students will understand and exchange information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes supported by memorized language. Students will continue to explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the Spanish-speaking world via the use of authentic resources. Students are expected to perform consistently at the Novice High level by the end of the course and will participate in regular performance assessments.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course is designed to provide physical education for the students. The class will teach students about different sports and the benefits of a physically active lifestyle such as how it improves their health, wellness, heart health, physical health as well as combating obesity, heart disease, diabetes and other ailments.

STEM

The 7th grade STEM class is designed to inspire students through an engaging Problem/Project Based Learning (PBL) approach. In this hands-on environment, students will explore the Engineering Design Process to create innovative solutions for real-world challenges. Participants will acquire valuable skills in CAD software, enabling them to design and 3D print their own creations, which enhances both technical skills and creativity. Additionally, students will collaborate with peers on hands-on projects using paper, cardboard, and various basic materials, fostering teamwork and imaginative problem-solving.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART

Seventh grade art focuses on developing students' basic fundamentals of the building blocks of creating art. Students explore drawing, painting, sculpture and other types of media through hands-on projects. Students typically engage in individual and group projects that encourage experimentation and personal expression. This structure aims to foster a supportive environment where students can express themselves and grow.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

The Middle School Instrumental Music program provides students with the opportunity to learn how to play an instrument and perform in an instrumental ensemble. Students will learn the fundamentals of music and how to apply them in practice and performance. Middle School Band students (7th and 8th grade) also have the opportunity to perform with the High School Band at football games, basketball games, pep rallies, concerts, and the local Christmas parade. In Band, students will experience a spirit of family and camaraderie through instrumental music performance. Band students are expected to practice at home, and private lessons are encouraged. This academic and performance-based program meets the needs of all students interested in studying and performing on a musical instrument during grades 7-8.

PERFORMING ARTS

This class teaches the disciplines of music, vocal performance, dance (tap, jazz, modern and hip hop), theatre and performance at the entry level. The class will perform a musical production each school year. This class requires a simple audition, dance shoes and a costume fee.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This course is designed to provide physical education for the students. The class will teach students about different sports and the benefits of a physically active lifestyle such as how it improves their health, wellness, heart health, physical health as well as combating obesity, heart disease, diabetes and other ailments.

8th Grade Curriculum

ENGLISH

The focus is threefold: grammar, literature, and composition. The elements of grammar (parts of speech, phrases, clauses, usage, and mechanics) are linked closely to composition where students apply what they've learned. The main emphasis in literature is analysis, taught primarily through a wide selection of short stories. Writing assignments complement literature, as well. Students explore texts with depth and respond through meaningful, well-crafted writing.

PRE-ALGEBRA

This foundational course serves as an essential stepping stone for students preparing for high school algebra. Pre-algebra introduces key mathematical concepts, including integers, fractions, square roots, decimals, and linear equations. Students will learn to solve basic equations using variables and understand important topics such as factors, multiples, ratios, percentages, and exponents. By mastering these concepts, students will develop a strong mathematical foundation necessary for success in Algebra 1 and Algebra 2.

ALGEBRA I

Students continue to build upon the foundation of math skills previously learned. Problem solving skills and abstract thinking skills are emphasized to help the students master any problems they may encounter. Algebra I is the building block for the remaining high school math classes and college math classes. Basic math operations are reviewed using more complicated problems to help the students and the teacher identify any weaknesses the students may have with these operations. A high emphasis is placed on the students' ability to solve for an unknown number and on the students' ability to apply rules and properties to a given problem. Requirements: Teacher recommendation, 90+ /A in 7th grade mathematics

SCIENCE

This course is an introduction to chemistry. We will study concepts involving the structure of the atoms, various chemical reactions, the periodic table, the gas laws, acid bases, and solutions. We will also review a brief history of the scientists who contributed knowledge to the evolution of science. The second semester will be an introduction to physics. The concepts studied in the course include energy and force and forces that act upon matter.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Eighth grade students will study the European exploration of North America, along with the geographic features that influenced early settlements and colonies. This course will emphasize the development and maturation of the British colonies, and the political, cultural, and economic influences that led to the American Revolution. The major events and outcomes to the American Revolution will be analyzed, along with the individuals that played influential roles in the development of the new nation. Students will follow the development of the United States and its government, continuing through the early nineteenth century. The impact of the expansion of the United States will be analyzed, including implications on domestic and foreign policy. Policies that affected the American Indians will also be studied. The events leading up to the Civil War will be examined, along with the individuals and events that were significant during the war. The history, people, government, and geography of Tennessee will be emphasized in order to illustrate the role our state has played in American history. Reconstruction and the development of the American West will conclude this course. Appropriate primary sources and information texts will be included in order to enhance understanding of the content.

SPANISH

Includes a review of concepts from the sixth and seventh grade Spanish and covers new material that includes both novice-high and intermediate low skills. Students will continue to develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment through the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Students will understand and exchange information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes supported by memorized language. Students will continue to explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the Spanish-speaking world via the use of authentic resources. Students are expected to perform consistently at the Novice High level by the end of the course and will participate in regular performance assessments.

STEM

The 8th grade STEM class is designed to inspire students through an engaging Problem/Project Based Learning (PBL) approach. In this hands-on environment, students will explore the Engineering Design Process to create innovative solutions for real-world challenges. Participants will acquire valuable skills in CAD software, enabling them to design and 3D print their own creations, which enhances both technical skills and creativity. Additionally, students will collaborate with peers on hands-on projects using paper, cardboard, and various basic materials, fostering teamwork and imaginative problem-solving.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND

The Middle School Instrumental Music program provides students with the opportunity to learn how to play an instrument and perform in an instrumental ensemble. Students will learn the fundamentals of music and how to apply them in practice and performance. Middle School Band students (7th and 8th grade) also have the opportunity to perform with the High School Band at football games, basketball games, pep rallies, concerts, and the local Christmas parade. In Band, students will experience a spirit of family and camaraderie through instrumental music performance. Band students are expected to practice at home, and private lessons are encouraged. This academic and performance-based program meets the needs of all students interested in studying and performing on a musical instrument during grades 7-8.

PERFORMING ARTS

This class teaches the disciplines of music, vocal performance, dance (tap, jazz, modern and hip hop), theatre and performance at the entry level. The class will perform a musical production each year to showcase the skills they have acquired throughout the year. This class requires a simple audition. There are special dance shoes needed each year and a costume fee.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDIO AND PRODUCTION

This class teaches theatrical production elements. Students learn how to make playbills, posters, props, and set pieces. They will learn the inner workings of the middle school production. This includes front of house and backstage work. Admission to this class requires a paragraph about audio and production.