

**EAGLE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**Sixth Grade Program of Studies**  
**Required Courses for Sixth Grade Students**

<b>Core Subject</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
Language Arts	This course features reading, writing, and oral communication skills. Students read short stories and novels while expanding their vocabulary, improving comprehension, and developing reading strategies. Emphasized are grammar, punctuation, capitalization, parts of speech, and spelling. Students write for a variety of purposes and learn about sentence structure, multi-paragraph essays, and writing techniques.
General Math 6	Designed to provide a mathematical foundation for students living in a world of rapidly developing technology, this core subject gives students the opportunity to apply and connect old and new knowledge. Students will investigate graphs and statistics, decimal operations, pattern and number sense, fraction operations, geometry, ratio, proportion and percent, area and volume, integers, and be introduced to algebra and probability.
Earth Science	Students will study the structure of Earth systems, Earth's history, weather, and Earth in the solar system. Life and physical science will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the school year. The understanding of scientific process, basic measurement tools, and organization skills are introduced. Basic laboratory and safety skills are emphasized through student centered activities, with emphasis given to practical implications and every day applications that are meaningful to students.
World History/Geography	The focus of this course is on the geography and history of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The geography curriculum includes the use of maps and globes, geographical terms, place locations, climate, latitude, longitude, time zones, the earth's physical features and how they affect human life. World History includes the past and present history, cultures and economies of the area. The foundations of culture, ancient civilizations and how they have influenced modern culture are also studied.
Keyboarding (Semester)	This course will teach the basic alphabetic, numeric and symbol keyboard. The students will be learning to type reports with title pages, references, table of contents and bibliographies, personal business letters, along with other word processing documents as time permits. The work in keyboarding will also help to improve student's language arts skills in spelling, proofreading and punctuation.
Exploratory PE (Semester)	This course is designed to introduce students to basic physical fitness and health concepts that promote total health. Students will participate in a variety of cooperative games, fitness activities, assessments, and team sports.

**Special Education:** Eagle Ridge Middle School offers a continuum of Special Education services designed to meet individual needs while facilitating the development of independent skills.

**Related Art Classes\***

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
Beginning Band (Year Long)	This class is for all students who wish to play a band instrument. No previous experience is necessary to enroll in this class. Students will learn the basics of playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Performance uniforms will be black pants/skirts and a white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. . Some school instruments are available for a fee. Fundraisers may be done during the school year. <b>A class fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Beginning Orchestra (Year Long)	This class is for all students who wish to play a stringed instrument. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn the basics of playing a violin, viola, cello or bass. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. <b>A class fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Mixed Chorus (Year Long)	This course is open to any student who enjoys singing and performing. No previous choir experience is necessary. Students will learn proper singing techniques, basic music reading skills and sing a variety of musical styles. The Chorus students will have the opportunity to go on several field trips throughout the school year. Attendance at concerts and competitions is required. Some fundraising will be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.

## 6th Grade Related Art Classes\*

Course Name	Course Description
Exploratory Drama (Semester)	This class is open to any student who would like to learn more about the performing arts. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn basic singing skills as well as public speaking, dance and acting. <b>Attendance at the performance is mandatory. Some fundraising may be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Exploratory Consumer Science (Semester)	Students will spend the first portion of the semester learning basic hand sewing techniques while working cooperatively together in a group. Each group will produce a crazy quilt baby blanket that will be donated to the LINUS Project after it is placed on display in the school. During the second part of the semester students will learn the basics of cooking while using a variety of cooking tools and equipment. Some fundraising may be done during the school year. <b>There is a \$10.00 lab fee for this class.</b>
Exploratory Spanish (Semester)	This course will give students the opportunity to learn the basics of Spanish, including numbers, colors, vocabulary and conversational Spanish. Students will learn to write in complete sentences. They will learn how to conjugate verbs and use adjective description. Cultural awareness will be explored.
Exploratory Art (Semester)	The art curriculum for this class will emphasize problem solving and understanding of the creative process. The focus will be on the studio experiences that develop drawing, painting and sculpting skills. Students will develop an awareness of art through history and various cultures. The basic elements and principles of design will be taught and practiced.
Pre-AVID (Semester)	Pre-AVID is a one-semester elective designed to prepare students for career and college readiness. The curriculum consists of critical reading and writing strategies, use of inquiry, team building, collaboration techniques and organizational skills that contribute to success in middle school. Additional support is provided to assist students in their classes along with motivational activities to encourage college aspirations. Pre-AVID enrollment is available on a first-come, first-serve basis to students who received average grades in elementary school. It is not an intervention program for students who need additional help to bring their Reading and Math skills up to grade level, nor is it available for Gifted students. Successful completion of Pre-AVID greatly enhances a student's opportunity for enrollment in AVID 7.
Gifted Seminar 6 (Year Long)	The curriculum varies according to each student's needs and interests. Class members are encouraged to work with the teacher to design projects which will allow them to examine their intellectual passions and how they relate to their future goals. Also, group projects are offered to help develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of the importance of valuing everyone's unique perspective. <b>An IEP is required to enroll in this class.</b>
Spanish for Native speakers (Year Long)	This class is designed specifically for those students whose first language is Spanish and that also have some reading and writing ability in Spanish. It is a language arts class that teaches through reading novels, short stories, legends, fairy tales, and other genres of literature. It is designed to complement the home language of Spanish while augmenting reading and writing skills in that language. While these skills are taught, an emphasis on standard Spanish will be used in conjunction with cultural learning of the many Spanish speaking countries throughout the world. This class is designed as preparation to enter into the Heritage Spanish classes in high school and achieving the Bilingual Seal offered by the state of New Mexico upon graduation from high school.

**\*All course offerings are dependent on sufficient funding and staffing.  
Some classes may charge a fee for supplies. Please read descriptions carefully.**

**EAGLE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**Seventh Grade Program of Studies**  
**Required Courses for Seventh Grade Students**

<b>Core Subject</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
English 7	This course concentrates on reading, writing and oral communication. Students strengthen vocabulary and reading skills through short stories, essays, and novels. Expanded use of grammar, parts of speech, and the mechanics of writing are taught. Students apply various writing techniques and develop essays. Opportunities to write for a variety of purposes are given.
General Math 7	This course will expand on skills acquired in sixth-grade and also concentrate on applications with decimals, statistics, and data analysis, applications with fractions, investigations in geometry, surface area and volume, applications with percent, discrete mathematics, probability, functions and graphs.
Life Science	Students will concentrate on the study of nature and methods of science, life structure and function, ecology, animal diversity, and Earth's systems and atmosphere. Earth and physical science will be integrated into the curriculum throughout the school year. The understanding of scientific process, basic measurement tools, and organization skills are introduced. Laboratory and safety skills are emphasized through student centered activities, with emphasis given to practical implications and every day applications that are meaningful to students.
New Mexico History, Latin American and Canada	In this course, students will investigate the geography, history, and cultures of the Western Hemisphere. It begins by focusing on the indigenous groups of Latin America (Mayas, Aztecs, Incas, and Olmecs), and the American Southwest (Pueblo, Apache, and Navajo). It examines these groups from the Pre-Columbian times through their contact with the Europeans. The course continues with European contact, exploration, settlement, and the transition of power from the indigenous groups to the Europeans in the Western Hemisphere, specifically in New Mexico.
PE/Health 7	PE offers students opportunities to participate in a variety of individual and team sports and fitness activities which promote team as well as individual skill development. Health education will focus on decision making for influencing positive attitudes and practices related to being healthy. Major points emphasized are an awareness of boy systems, appreciation of life, stress management, drug education, human growth and development, first aid, and nutrition. <b>Students will be required to wear a uniform. Cost is \$15.00 for a complete PE uniform or \$8.00 for shirt and shorts separately.</b>

**Special Education:** Eagle Ridge Middle School offers a continuum of Special Education services designed to meet individual needs while facilitating the development of independent skills.

**Related Art Classes\***

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
Advanced Band (Year Long)	This class is open to all students who already play a band instrument. Previous musical experience is necessary to enroll. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been made. Uniforms will be black pants/skirts and white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. Fundraisers may be done during the school year to help pay for trips we take during the year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. Placement in this class is through teacher approval only. <b>A fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Advanced Orchestra (Year Long)	This class is open to all students with at least one year of experience with the violin, viola, and cello or bass. Students who play the harp may be admitted upon the recommendation of a private teacher. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. <b>A class fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>

## 7th Grade Related Art Classes\*

Course Name	Course Description
Mixed Chorus (Year Long)	This class is open to any student who enjoys singing and performing. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn proper singing technique, basic music reading skills and sing a variety of music styles. The choir students will have the opportunity to go on several field trips throughout the school year. <b>Attendance at concerts and competitions is required.</b> Some fundraising will be done during the school year. <b>A class fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Gifted Seminar 7 (Year Long)	The curriculum varies according to each student's needs and interests. Class members are encouraged to work with the teacher to design projects which will allow them to examine their intellectual passions and how they relate to their future goals. Also, group projects are offered to help develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of the importance of valuing everyone's unique perspective. <b>An IEP is required to enroll in this class.</b>
AVID 7 (Year Long)	Avid is designed to prepare students for 4-year college eligibility. The curriculum consists of reading and writing strategies, inquiry, team building, collaboration techniques and organizational skills. Weekly tutoring and additional support is provided to assist students in advanced classes along with motivational activities to encourage college aspirations. <b>Acceptance into this program is through an application process.</b>
Intro to Spanish (Semester)	This course will give students the opportunity to learn the basics of Spanish, including numbers, colors, vocabulary, and conversational Spanish. Students will learn to write in complete sentences. They will learn how to conjugate verbs and use adjective description. Cultural awareness will be explored.
Computer Concepts And Applications (Semester)	This computer course focuses on individual and cooperative learning to enable the student to develop functional skills in an assortment of different applications, as well as an understanding of key computer concepts. Some of the applications included in the course are MineCraft, Lego's, Sketchup, Coaster Creator, Prezi, Microsoft Office (Word, Power Point, Excel) and Crime Scene Investigation (CSI). The student will build a foundation in knowledge of common computer software and hardware. These different productivity applications and operating systems will enable the student to leave the class confident and capable of putting computers to practical use in real life settings. The course will help the student to utilize and apply knowledge gained and apply it in high school and the professional world.
Automation and Robotics (Semester)	It is the goal of this program to introduce students to complex problem solving skills utilizing hands-on activities, cooperative groups and computer simulations in a positive and creative learning environment. Improvement of writing skills will also be emphasized. <b>\$5.00 will be charged for classroom fees.</b>
Art (Semester)	This course is designed for both first time art students as well as those students who have had exploratory art. The focus will be on studio experiences that further develop application of art principles and skills. Students will apply an awareness of art through history and various cultures to their own art. The course is designed with a strong emphasis on problem solving and understanding of the creative process. <b>\$10.00 will be charged for class supplies.</b>
Consumer Science (Semester)	Students will learn basic nutritional information, how to read and follow recipes, and how to calculate food costs to the family. This will occur as students learn how to work together in small groups as well as individually. They will plan, assign tasks, prepare recipes and evaluate their own performance. All cooking labs are based on the food groups as they are represented on the food pyramid. There is a <b>\$10.00 lab fee for this class.</b>
Drama (Semester)	This class is open to any student who would like to learn more about the performing arts. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn basic singing skills as well as public speaking, dance and acting. <b>Attendance at the performance is mandatory. Some fundraising may be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Spanish for Native Speakers (Year Long)	This class is designed specifically for those students whose first language is Spanish and that also have some reading and writing ability in Spanish. It is a language arts class that teaches through reading novels, short stories, legends, fairy tales, and other genres of literature. It is designed to complement the home language of Spanish while augmenting reading and writing skills in that language. While these skills are taught, an emphasis on standard Spanish will be used in conjunction with cultural learning of the many Spanish speaking countries throughout the world. This class is designed as preparation to enter into the Heritage Spanish classes in high school and achieving the Bilingual Seal offered by the state of New Mexico upon graduation from high school.

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**EAGLE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**Eighth Grade Program of Studies**  
**Required Courses for Eighth Grade Students**

<b>Core Subject</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
English 8	This course emphasizes and integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening with language and literature. Students will continue to learn the skills, strategies, and processes of reading while also improving their vocabulary, grammar, and research skills. The goals of this course are to challenge students to write for varied purposes and audiences, and to read a variety of literary genre.
General Math 8	Math 8 is a yearlong course that will expand the skills acquired in seventh grade and concentrate on an introduction to algebra (writing and solving one, two, and multiple step equations), integers, rational and real numbers, and applications with proportions, percents, probability, statistics, linear functions and graphing, and two and three dimensional geometry. Evaluation of knowledge will include investigations, problem solving activities, along with formative assessments.
Physical Science	Students will study the teaching of Earth and Physical Science with an emphasis on New Mexico geology, Oceanography, Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry. Skills of measuring and testing the world by working with the concepts of motion, force, and energy will be the under-lying theme. Emphasis is given to laboratory techniques, cooperative work, math analysis and interpretation of data for all students to grow as problem solvers.
American History	This course covers United States history from the age of exploration through the Civil War and Reconstruction. During the first semester key attention will be heeded to the colonization, Revolutionary, and Constitutional eras. Students will learn about the consequences of colonization and the resultant Revolution and creation of a more just government as provided by the US Constitution. The second semester will further develop students reasoning skills and their ability to show evidence of this through writing. Westward expansion, industrialization, immigration, the scourge of slavery, and the causes and consequences of the Civil War will provide the hub that the curriculum will extend from. Throughout this course students should develop their ability to research historical events, interpret these events, and defend their interpretations using fact-based evidence.
Health-HS (Semester)	Course provides knowledge and skills practices in a variety of health topics including the six CDC health risk behaviors and must be aligned with the 9-12 NM Health Education content standards. Health education enables students to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes to achieve optimum health. This course will meet the high school graduation requirements.

**Special Education:** Eagle Ridge Middle School offers a continuum of Special Education services designed to meet individual needs while facilitating the development of independent skills.

**Related Art Classes\***

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Course Description</b>
Advanced Band (Year Long)	This class is open to all students who already play a band instrument. Previous musical experience is necessary to enroll. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been made. Uniforms will be black pants/skirts and white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. Fundraisers may be done during the school year to help pay for trips we take during the year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. Placement in this class is through teacher approval only. <b>A fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Advanced Orchestra (Year Long)	This class is open to all students with at least one year of experience with the violin, viola, and cello or bass. Students who play the harp may be admitted upon the recommendation of a private teacher. <b>Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. A class fee of \$10.00 per semester will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Mixed Chorus (Year Long)	This class is open to any student who enjoys singing and performing. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn proper singing technique, basic music reading skills and sing a variety of music styles. The choir students will have the opportunity to go on several field trips throughout the school year. <b>Attendance at concerts and competitions is required. Some fundraising will be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>

## 8th Grade Related Art Classes\*

Course Name	Course Description
8 Spanish (Year Long)	This course includes basic communication skills in the chosen language and introduces geography and culture (music, film, food) of the countries where the language is spoken. Personalized oral and written projects enrich the course. Students have opportunities to compare the new language and culture with their own and to observe the use of the language in communities beyond the classroom. Students will develop communication skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) for basic situations: greetings and instructions, descriptions of families and friends and daily conversation.
Gifted Seminar 8 (Year Long)	The curriculum varies according to each student's needs and interests. Class members are encouraged to work with the teacher to design projects which will allow them to examine their intellectual passions and how they relate to their future goals. Also, group projects are offered to help develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of the importance of valuing everyone's unique perspective. <b>An IEP is required to enroll in this class.</b>
AVID 8 (Year Long)	AVID is designed to prepare students for 4-year college eligibility. The curriculum consists of reading and writing strategies, inquiry, team building, Collaboration techniques and organizational skills. Weekly tutoring and additional support is provided to assist students in advanced classes along with motivational activities to encourage college aspirations. <b>Acceptance into this program is through an application process.</b>
Automation and Robotics (Semester)	It is the goal of this program to introduce students to complex problem solving skills utilizing hands-on activities, cooperative groups and computer simulations in a positive and creative learning environment. Improvement of writing skills will also be emphasized. <b>\$5.00 will be charged for classroom fees.</b>
Computer Concepts and Applications (Semester)	This computer course focuses on individual and cooperative learning to enable the student to develop functional skills in an assortment of different applications, as well as an understanding of key computer concepts. Some of the applications included in the course are MineCraft, Lego's, Sketchup, Coaster Creator, Prezi, Microsoft Office (Word, Power Point, Excel) and Crime Scene Investigation (CSI). The student will build a foundation in knowledge of common computer software and hardware. These different productivity applications and operating systems will enable the student to leave the class confident and capable of putting computers to practical use in real life settings. The course will help the student to utilize and apply knowledge gained and apply it in high school and the professional world.
Drama (Semester)	This class is open to any student who would like to learn more about the performing arts. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn basic singing skills as well as public speaking, dance and acting. <b>Attendance at the performance is mandatory. Some fundraising may be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.</b>
Art (Semester)	This course is designed for both first time art students as well as those students who have had exploratory art. The focus will be on studio experiences that further develop application of art principles and skills. Students will apply an awareness of art through history and various cultures to their own art. The course is designed with a strong emphasis on problem solving and understanding of the creative process. <b>\$10.00 will be charged for classroom supplies.</b>
Consumer Science (Semester)	Students will learn basic nutritional information, how to read and follow recipes, and how to calculate food costs to the family. This will occur as students learn how to work together in small groups as well as individually. They will plan, assign tasks, prepare recipes and evaluate their own performance. All cooking labs are based on the food groups as they are represented on the food pyramid. <b>There is a \$10.00 lab fee for this class.</b>
Spanish for Native Speakers (Year Long)	This class is designed specifically for those students whose first language is Spanish and that also have some reading and writing ability in Spanish. It is a language arts class that teaches through reading novels, short stories, legends, fairy tales, and other genres of literature. It is designed to complement the home language of Spanish while augmenting reading and writing skills in that language. While these skills are taught, an emphasis on standard Spanish will be used in conjunction with cultural learning of the many Spanish speaking countries throughout the world. This class is designed as preparation to enter into the Heritage Spanish classes in high school and achieving the Bilingual Seal offered by the state of New Mexico upon graduation from high school.
Guitar (Year Long)	Students will learn the skills necessary to perform in classical and pop styles. Students will learn to read standard music notation and lead sheets for chords. We will explore other cultures' music from around the world. Students will learn about the history of music and guitar. Lastly, students will have opportunities to share what they have learned by performing for the community. <b>\$10 fee per semester Covers: Strings, books, tuners, footstools. \$18 polo fee. Supplies: Classical/Nylon string guitar (Can be rented from school for \$50 per semester), footstool (if you want your own), folder and pencil.</b>

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