

**Sixth Grade
Academic Success Book**

EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY



**Glenwood City Middle School
2019-2020**

Sixth Grade Contact Information

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Ms. Minor, Language Arts & Math

Phone: (715)265-4266, ext. 7845

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Mr. Score, Social Studies

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Mr. Patrick Gretzlock, Principal

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Please feel free to call or email us with any questions or concerns you may have.
We are looking forward to embarking on this partnership with you and your child.

August 26, 2019

Dear Parents,

It's that time of year once again—BACK TO SCHOOL! We hope each of you and your families experienced an exciting and healthy summer. Most likely your son or daughter is anxiously anticipating their first day of school at Glenwood City Middle School.

Thank you for entrusting your child's education to us. We promise to do our very best every day to be your child's companion in learning. You are a valuable asset in your child's education. Together, we can help make this year enjoyable and successful for him or her.



If you are interested in what your child is working on throughout the year, please feel free to check out our webpage. It can be located on the following link:

[6th GRADE WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS](#)

Communicating with you is very important to us. Please call any of us as you have questions or concerns utilizing the contact information on the next page. We look forward to working with you in helping your child reach his or her greatest potential this year!

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,
Glenwood City 6th Grade Team

Sixth Grade Schedule

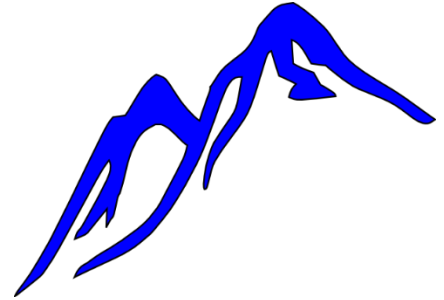
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays










1 st hour	8:20-9:10	Exploratory Class
2 nd hour	9:14-10:04	Math or Science
3 rd hour	10:08-10:58	Math or Science
4 th hour	11:02-11:52	COMPASS/Band/Choir
HR	11:56-12:21	HOMEROOM
	12:21 – 12:51	LUNCH
5 th hour	12:55 - 1:45	Language Arts or Social Studies
6 th hour	1:49 - 2:37	Language Arts or Social Studies
7 th hour	2:41 - 3:30	Literacy Lab

Tuesdays & Thursdays

1 st hour	8:20 – 9:13	Exploratory Class
2 nd hour	9:17 – 10:10	Math or Science
3 rd hour	10:14 – 11:07	Math or Science
4 th hour	11:11 – 12:04	COMPASS/Band/Choir
	12:07 – 12:37	LUNCH
5 th hour	12:41 – 1:34	Language Arts or Social Studies
6 th hour	1:38 – 2:32	Language Arts or Social Studies
7 th hour	2:36 - 3:30	Literacy Lab

How to be Successful in Sixth Grade



-  **RECORD ASSIGNMENTS IN YOUR PLANNER DAILY.** Write your task down at the end of each class period and check it off once you have completed it.
-  **BE PREPARED FOR CLASS.** Have your assignment, book, pen/pencil, paper, and planner with you daily.
-  There will be an assignment almost every day. Typically, time will be given to complete the assignment in class. If this time is used wisely, you will be able to return it on time.
-  Reports of grades and missing work will be handed out periodically. Check your progress and missing work. Also, remember you can always check your grades on Family Access.
-  Complete all assignments in an appropriate manner as discussed in class.
-  Follow the behavioral expectations for each area in our school to help create a positive learning environment and enjoyable place for us all.
-  Bring silent reading material with you to class each day.
-  Read at home, on the bus, in the car---devote time to developing a daily reading habit.
-  **BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE!**

“To help yourself, you must be yourself. Be the best that you can be. When you make a mistake, learn from it, pick yourself up and move on.”

- Dave Pelzer (American Author)

“A dream doesn’t become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.

- Colin Powell (American Statesman)

“Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm.”

- Winston Churchill (British Prime Minister)

English/Language Arts

Students will practice several reading and writing skills in 6th grade. Students are expected to come to class with a positive attitude and always do their best.



Reading

Throughout the course of the year, students will read multiple novels. As we read, the focus will be on identifying story elements and themes, making inferences, defining unknown vocabulary, and summarizing the material. Reading skills will be practiced as a whole class, in small groups, and independently through various activities. Each semester, students will choose a novel for independent reading approved by the teacher, and complete a variety of assignments relating to the book. In addition to novels, students will be exposed to other texts (informative, persuasive, etc.) where they will learn and practice different comprehension and critical thinking skills.

Writing

Students will practice multiple forms of writing ranging from descriptive to research essays. Students will receive teacher-led instruction as well as peer and teacher feedback during writers' workshops. They will focus on proper capitalization, punctuation, and spelling as well as correct sentence structure. Students will learn to support their claims with textual evidence and literary examples.

Grading

Students will receive grades for in-class activities, projects, and assessments. Late work will be accepted; however, a zero will be entered into the gradebook until the assignments are complete.

Materials

Students should come to class each day with their ELA binder, notebook and writing utensils.

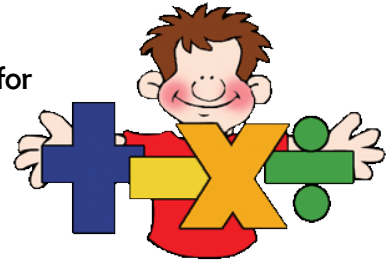
Ms. Minor, English/Language Arts

Phone: (715)265-4266, ext. 7845

Email: minoremi@gcsd.k12.wi.us

Math

To learn and master the 6th grade Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, students will work through the Connected Math 3 textbooks. Units include:



- Factors and Multiples
- Ratios
- Fractions
- Two-Dimensional Measurement
- Decimals and Percents
- Variables and Patterns
- Data

Activities:

In addition to working through the practice problems in the textbook, students will engage in hands-on activities- utilizing manipulatives, rotating through station activities, and completing various projects. The ultimate goal is for students to connect real-world experiences to the content and skills that they are learning in class.

Grading

Students will be graded on in-class activities, projects, quizzes/tests, and homework. Students will be given time during class to complete practice problems. Those who do not finish during class will be asked to complete the assignment at home. I expect students to give an honest effort, but I am happy to answer questions and clarify misunderstandings the following day.

Resources:

Students will create an interactive notebook in which notes will be taken daily. Students are encouraged to look back at their notes as they work through problems. They may also look back at examples in their textbook or utilize online resources such as You-Tube and Google Classroom.

Materials:

Students should come to class each day with their math binder, notebook and writing utensils.

Ms. Minor, Math

Phone: (715)265-4266, ext. 7845

Email: minoremi@gcsd.k12.wi.us

Science

Sixth graders will be studying both Life Science and Physical Science through the course of the year. Students can find out what we will be studying next by using the “Curriculum Map” on the wall in the science room.



The main topics currently planned for sixth grade include:

- Kingdoms of Life
- Microbiology
- Plant Classification
- Animal Classification
- Cell Parts and Processes
- Human Anatomy and Organ Systems
- Properties and Changes in Matter
- Atoms and Elements
- Compounds and Reactions
- Solutions, Acids, and Bases

Some of the activities/projects that we do during the year:

- Bug Collecting Project
- Learning to use microscopes and make slides
- Modeling how proteins are made in cells
- Learning about how your body fights disease
- Atom Models
- Exploring Chemical Reactions
- And much, much, more!

Because your binder and the notes and handouts in it will act as your main textbook, we will be learning about how to keep an organized binder. We will make dividers and tabs together in class, and show you specifically how to organize the handouts you are given. Replacements for lost handouts are available in class from the “Extras” pile. If you need a new copy printed, please let Mrs. Anderson know. Most of the handouts are easy to access and reprint, or even e-mail to you.

We will also work on using different study skills (flashcards, study guides, concept maps, and online study tools) to help you master the material presented. Comprehensive semester and final exams are usually new for 6th graders, so we will model the process of preparing for a larger exam, and explore some useful strategies for reviewing before tests.

Ms. Anderson, Science

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Email: anderann@gcsd.k12.wi.us



Social Studies

Throughout the units of Social Studies we will be attempting to relate how people before us lived and shaped the world we live in today. We will focus on the Geography, Cultures, Government, Environment, and Economics of our units.

Unit 1 Mapping and Geography- How do I use a map/GPS?
Project- Map Packets

Unit 2 Prehistory- What were humans doing before big cities?
Project(s) - Cookie Excavation/ My Migration Paper/ Time Capsule/ Comic Strip

Unit 3 Mesopotamia- How did they organize so many people?
Project - PowerPoint Presentation

Unit 4 Egypt- How did they build so many amazing things?
Project - Research Paper

Unit 5 China and India
Project - Group Presentation

Unit 6 Greece- How did they come up with ideas we still use today?
Project - Debate (Athens vs. Sparta)

Unit 7 Rome*- How did they copy/improve on Greek ideas?
Project - Essays- Rome's Contributions to my Life

*Time Permitting

To Be Successful- I ask that you are on time, with all materials needed, put in effort, and turn in your work. I know that much of this will be new to my students, but if you come prepared it will be a fun and successful year exploring the history of our world!

Mr. Score, Social Studies

Phone: (715)265-4266, ext. 7842

Email: scorejak@gcsd.k12.wi.us

Exploratory Classes



Art

The 6th Grade Art Curriculum is designed to continue the study of the Elements and Principles of Art, explore a variety of techniques and media and to continue learning about art history and critique.

Keys for Success

- Come to class prepared. When the bell rings students must be in their seats, ready to begin class with any required materials for the day.
- Complete all artwork, assignments and rubrics by the previously set due date.
- Be respectful of your classmates, your teacher, the classroom and all art materials.
- Come to class with a willingness to learn and try new things.
- Maintain a quiet, clean and creative atmosphere for productive work time.
- Give your best efforts, every day, every project, every assignment.
- Never measure your success by comparing your artwork to another artist. No two artists are the same, and success must be measured by the amount of effort and the creativity of each individual.

Ms. Johnson, Art

Phone: (715)265-4266, ext. 7837 or ext. 7838

Email: johnsbre@gcsd.k12.wi.us

General Music

This course is designed as a non-performance based music class that will expand on material covered in elementary school. The focus of the curriculum is to create, perform, connect and respond to music.



Keys for Success

- Come prepared for class each day. Must have a pen or pencil each day.
- Be respectful of your classmates, teacher, and classroom.
- Bring your best attitude and effort each day.

Mr. Lamb, Music

715-265-4266 ext. 7618

lambmat@gcsd.k12.wi.us

Keyboarding

The curriculum for Keyboarding is designed to teach 6th graders proper keyboarding technique and increase student efficiency when typing on the computer. The students will work towards keying 15 words per minute with 90% accuracy while using correct finger strikes and maintaining proper positioning.



Course Outline

- Homerow Keys and Reaches
- All Letter Keys and Special Characters
- Caps Lock and Punctuation Marks
- Numeric Keypad
- Practice Library w/Numbers and Symbols

Mr. Maes, Marketing/Business Education

Phone: (715)265-4266 ext. 7537
maesjac@gcsd.k12.wi.us



Physical Education

The 6th Grade Physical Education Curriculum is designed to provide the student with activities that will increase cardiovascular activity through sports, lead up games and individual fitness activities.

Students will be provided with a PE locker/lock.

Keys for Success

- Work-out clothes - tennis shoes, shorts, t-shirt, hoodie, deodorant, etc.
- Come to class on time and prepared for activity.
- Have a positive attitude and good work ethic.
- Give your best effort and enjoy Physical Education

Mr. Hierlmeier, Physical Education

Phone: 715-265-4266 x. 7608 or x. 7685
hierlgor@gcsd.k12.wi.us

Sixth Grade

Grading and Homework Policy

Grading Scale	
100-94	A
93-91	A-
88-90	B+
87-84	B
83-81	B-
80-78	C+
77-74	C
73-71	C-
70-68	D+
67-64	D
63-61	D-
Below 61	F

Grading

You will be graded on the following items:

- 1) Formative assessments (quizzes, daily checks, etc.)
- 2) Summative assessments (unit/chapter tests)
- 3) Homework
- 4) Projects
- 5) Presentations

Homework

Homework provides you an opportunity to practice and refine your skills and develop the base for content knowledge. It is your responsibility to return assignments when they are due.

Grades are reviewed by the middle school principal three times a week; students who record an "F" in a core content class (ELA, math, science or social studies) will be assigned to Academic COMPASS. (More information about COMPASS can be found on the school website.)

Retake Policy

All students will have the opportunity to retake a test or a portion of the test for an improved grade.

To be eligible for a retake, the following requirements must be met:

- ✓ Students will set an appointment with the appropriate teacher to prepare for a retake and schedule a test time.
- ✓ Students have a 1-week window from the date the test is recorded in Skyward to schedule a retake.
- ✓ Students will be required to complete all assignments that are assessed on the test prior to retaking the test.
- ✓ End of semester grades are final.

Planner

You will be expected to fill out your planner at the end of each class period; this is your record of what needs to be completed before the next day. This is a communication tool which provides parents with information about your homework, upcoming tests, and projects you may be completing. The planner also helps to practice and develop the life-long skill of planning.

Class Materials Needed Daily:

- 1) Planner
- 2) Textbook and/or supplemental materials
- 3) Pencils
- 4) Designated class folder
- 5) Loose-leaf notebook paper
- 6) Assignment for the day
- 7) Silent reading material

Skyward Family Access

Access to student information via a secure Internet connection



What can parents see?

- *Grades
- *Daily Assignments
- *Report Cards
- *Attendance
- *Class Schedules
- *Emergency Contact/Student Address Information
- *Health Records
- *Food Service Balance
- *Discipline
- *Graduation Requirements
- *Test Scores

Secure login and password

Login information can be obtained by contacting the middle school office.

To begin using your Student Access account:

1. Go to the [District Website](#)
2. Choose "Student/Parent" in the left-hand column (you may want to bookmark this address or create a shortcut for quick and easy access in the future).
3. Click on the Skyward Family Access icon
4. Enter your Login ID and Password

----- (Clip & Save) -----

Student Skyward Family Access Login

Login ID _____

Password _____

Parent Skyward Family Access Login

Login ID _____

Login ID _____

Password _____

Password _____