

**ADDISON MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE
DESCRIPTION GUIDE 2026-2027**

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Vision Statement

The vision of Addison Community Schools is to prepare confident students in making positive contributions to the global society and the community in which they live.

Mission Statement

The mission of Addison Community Schools is to provide a well- balanced curriculum and learning environment, supplemented by enriching experiences in order for all learners to be successful.

Beliefs

- A strong, well-rounded academic and extracurricular program is imperative for high student achievement.
- A safe, orderly, and predictable environment that is also enjoyable promotes learning.
- Having a balance between maintaining a solid foundation of technology with being on the cutting edge promotes high student engagement in learning.
- Building a culture of collaboration and providing frequent and timely communication among all stakeholders will create meaningful partnerships between the school and community.
- All children and families have the right to effective instruction, and the responsibility to learn, progress, and experience success.

Valuable Websites for Careers and Education

www.collegeview.com

This site contains a college search, career information, and financial aid possibilities.

www.mois.org

This site is the Michigan Occupational Information System which reviews over 2000 careers.

www.careermag.com

This site contains up-to-date information on careers, career searches and articles relating to finding and keeping a good job.

www.finaid.com

This site contains a variety of information on calculating costs, scholarships and grants, scams, and other searches.

www.fafsa.ed.gov

Official site of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This site contains frequently asked questions and a guide to completing the form. The document can be downloaded and filed electronically.

www.petersons.com

This site is the Peterson's Education Center. It contains general information about colleges, careers, and distance learning.

www.MI-StudentAid.org

This site is the MI-SEARCH guide for searching for scholarships and financial aid.

www.ed.gov/funding.html

This site is a student guide to education funding.

www.ed.gov/inits/hope

This site provides information about HOPE and lifetime learning tax credits.

www.msfaa.org

This site offers information on financial aid, links to state and federal aid, and links to Michigan colleges and universities.

Information for Student Planning (EDP)

An Educational Development Plan, (EDP), helps students identify career goals, lists the interests and skills needed to meet those goals, and documents the experiences, education, and accomplishments needed to successfully attain them.

Local schools in the Hillsdale-Jackson-Lenawee Intermediate School Districts use the web-based EDP to facilitate career planning and course selection. Students are able to complete and update their EDP to facilitate career planning and course selection. Students are able to complete and update their EDP anywhere via the Internet. This online tool is confidential and secure because students must enter personal student ID's and passwords to access the system. No personal information is entered. Students may print out a copy of their EDP to review at any time.

Xello.com

Xello is the application we use to help students identify potential careers and education opportunities. All students will update their information on a yearly basis to revise their resume, add additional interests, perform career inventory surveys, and review post-secondary opportunities.

Login information: Students must contact Mrs. Haag.

English

English 6

Applicable Grades: 6

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Students will be reading, writing and discussing many genres of the language, including grammar, short story, poetry, drama and others to allow students to meet benchmarks identified for 6th grade students.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

English 7

Applicable Grades: 7

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Students will be reading, writing and discussing many genres of the language, including grammar, short story, poetry, drama and others to allow students to meet benchmarks identified for 7th grade students.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

English 8

Applicable Grades: 8

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Course: Required

Students will be reading, writing and discussing many genres of the language, including grammar, short story, poetry, drama and others to allow students to meet benchmarks identified for 8th grade students.

Credits: MS

Type of

STEAM

Cardboard Design

Applicable Grades: 6

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on design basics, including math skills.

Medical Detective

Applicable Grades: 8

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on basic forensics.

WINN in Math/Science

Applicable Grades: 7-8

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on applying math and science skills to hands on activities.

Careers

Applicable Grades: 7

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on providing an introduction to career paths.

Art

Applicable Grades: 6

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on providing students the opportunity to expand their skills in various techniques in the field of art.

Computer Coding

Applicable Grades: 7

Credits: MS

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Focus will be on developing a basic understanding of computer coding.

Fine Arts

Art 6

Course Length: 1-2 Semester

Credits: MS

A foundation level class structured to introduce students to the visual elements and principles of design, art history, and careers in art at a 6th grade level.

Art 7

Course Length: 1-2 Semester

Credits: MS

A foundation level class structured to introduce students to the visual elements and principles of design, art history, and careers in art at a 7th grade level.

Art 8

Course Length: 1-2 Semester

Credits: MS

A foundation level class structured to introduce students to the visual elements and principles of design, art history, and careers in art at an 8th grade level.

Band

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Credits: MS

This course is designed to give each band member a chance to perform publicly in an environment conducive to learning, growing, and music making.

Chorus/Choir

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Credits: MS

This course is designed to help students learn to sing in group and solo setting. The class will have the following general purposes: To help students learn to sing and perform as a group. To help increase students' knowledge in a variety of choral styles. To increase knowledge of note reading and sight singing. To increase knowledge of music theory and music history. To improve students' performance skills.

Mathematics

Math 6

Applicable Grades: 6

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Type of Course:

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to mathematics to meet 6th grade benchmarks.

Math 7

Applicable Grades: 7

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Type of Course:

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to mathematics to meet 7th grade benchmarks.

Math 8

Applicable Grades: 8

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Type of Course:

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to mathematics to meet 8th grade benchmarks.

Physical Education and Health

Gym 6

Applicable Grades: 6

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Required

Participation is a major portion of the grade. Testing is a smaller portion of the grade and includes skill, strength, endurance, and knowledge testing. The major philosophy is to provide individuals with the skills, knowledge, and opportunity to be successful in some type of activity. This course is based on a philosophy of choosing life-long wellness. Students will develop an appreciation of the impact of their heredity, their environment, and their choices upon their personal wellness.

Physical Education 7

Applicable Grades: 7

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Required

Class builds on the skills learned in Gym 6. Participation is a major portion of the grade. Testing is a smaller portion of the grade and includes skill, strength, endurance, and knowledge testing. The major philosophy is to provide individuals with the skills, knowledge, and opportunity to be successful in some type of activity. This course is based on a philosophy of choosing life-long wellness. Students will develop an appreciation of the impact of their heredity, their environment, and their choices upon their personal wellness.

Physical Education 8

Applicable Grades: 8

Course Length: 1-2 Semesters

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Required

Course builds on the skills learned in Gym 7. Participation is a major portion of the grade. Testing is a smaller portion of the grade and includes skill, strength, endurance, and knowledge testing. The major philosophy is to provide individuals with the skills, knowledge, and opportunity to be successful in some type of activity. This course is based on a philosophy of choosing life-long wellness. Students will develop an appreciation of the impact of their heredity, their environment, and their choices upon their personal wellness. Course includes a section on health topics.

Science

Integrated Science 6

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Get ready to discover how science connects to the world around you! Students will explore a variety of exciting topics like light and optical illusions, how to keep food warm or cold, what causes different weather patterns, how Earth's surface changes, and how our bodies heal. This hands-on course combines physical, earth, and life science topics in fun and meaningful ways. Students will work on creative projects like designing a weather safety plan, building a model volcano, or testing materials to make the best insulator. Along the way, students will also learn about how humans impact the environment and how to make responsible choices for our planet.

Applicable Grades: 6

Type of Course:

Integrated Science 7

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Students will explore the exciting connections between physical, life, and Earth sciences. Through hands-on labs, projects, and group activities, students will investigate how matter changes, how our bodies use energy, how plants cycle matter, and how humans impact the planet. This course focuses on real-world science problems, ethical discussions about environmental issues, and creative projects like designing community action plans or public awareness campaigns. Students will build models, conduct experiments, and work together to solve scientific challenges.

Applicable Grades: 7

Type of Course:

Integrated Science 8

Credits: MS

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

This integrated science course engages 8th-grade students in exploring concepts from physics, earth science, life science, and space science within real-world contexts. Students will investigate forces, waves, genetics, Earth's place in space, and natural selection through hands-on labs, engineering challenges, and collaborative projects. The course emphasizes the connections between scientific disciplines and how they apply to everyday life. Assessments include class projects, lab work, and standardized tests aligned with NGSS.

Applicable Grades: 8

Type of Course:

Social Studies

World Geography 6

Applicable Grades: 6

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to history and geography to meet 6th grade benchmarks.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

World History 7

Applicable Grades: 7

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to history to meet 7th grade benchmarks.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

United States History 8

Applicable Grades: 8

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Required

Develop students' core knowledge and skills relating to history to meet 8th grade benchmarks.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Recovery, Online Credits

Online Learning

Applicable Grades: 6,7,8

Course Length: 1 Semester

Elective

Requirements: Principal Approval

Students enrolled in this class will enroll in an online subject area course needed for grade promotion. An online instructor is assigned to the course who grades and monitors student progress. An Addison teacher facilitates the learning program at the school site. Students must be able to work independently and at a steady pace in order to be successful in an online learning environment. Principal permission is required. Online learning may be utilized for course completion of required courses needed for credit recovery.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Independent Study**Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: 1 Semester****Elective****Requirements: Principal and Instructor Approval**

Students enrolled in this class will enroll in an independent course. Independent study courses may be any course offered in the course catalog. Students will follow a personalized syllabus and student progress will be monitored and grades will be provided. Students must be able to work independently and at a steady pace in order to be successful in an independent study course. Principal and instructor permission is required.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:****Project Lead the Way****Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: Year****Elective**

Introduction to engineering basics to develop entry level skills and allow students to explore interest levels in high school level PLTW courses.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:****App Creator****Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: Year****Elective**

Introduction to develop entry level skills and allow students to explore interest levels in computer science skills.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:****Plants and Animals****Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: Year****Elective**

Course allows for hands on opportunities to learn more about plants and animals.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:****Food Science****Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: Year****Elective**

In this course students will learn about the science behind cooking and baking. They explore topics such as food chemistry, nutrition, and food safety. Students will also have the opportunity to experiment with different ingredients and recipes to create culinary masterpieces.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:****Study Skills****Applicable Grades: 6,7,8****Course Length: Year****Elective**

Helps students develop positive study habits while learning organizational skills, time management, note taking and other study skills.

Credits: MS**Type of Course:**

Study Skills and Current Events

Applicable Grades: 6,7,8

Course Length: Year

Elective

Helps students develop positive study habits while learning organizational skills, time management, note taking and other study skills. This class will also incorporate current events and civic literacy.

Credits: MS

Type of Course:

Seminar

Applicable Grades: 6,7,8 Credits: MS

Course Length: Year Type of Course: Elective

Provides an individualized opportunity for students to work with a teacher to develop study habits, accountability and organizational skills to properly identify their educational needs. Students will have the opportunity to regularly check their grades, meet with teachers in areas that need additional development and build positive relationships.

Tutorial

Applicable Grades: 6,7,8 Credits: MS

Course Length: Year Type of Course: Elective

Provides an individualized opportunity for students to work with a teacher to develop study habits, accountability and organizational skills to properly identify their educational needs. Students will work directly with a teacher or paraprofessional to meet their specific educational goals in each class with coursework tailored to their learning style.

Novel Experiences

Applicable Grades: 6,7,8

Course Length: 1 Semesters

Elective

Course will allow students to choose 3 literary works to read and complete assignments on. This course may be repeated as long as students do not repeat the same novels. This course may be completed utilizing online learning platforms.

Credits: 0.5

Type of Course:

Edmentum

Edmentum's catalog is comprised of more than 500 courses, including core subjects, courses for the use with Advanced Placement exams, career and technical education (CTE) offerings, electives, and world languages. Please use this link to explore the possible courses. [Edmentum Catalog](#)