



**LAKE**SIDE  
S C H O O L

**MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM GUIDE**  
2016-2017





# CURRICULUM GUIDE 2016-2017

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# LAKESIDE SCHOOL MISSION

The mission of Lakeside School is to develop in intellectually capable young people the creative minds, healthy bodies, and ethical spirits needed to contribute wisdom, compassion, and leadership to a global society.

We provide a rigorous, dynamic academic program through which effective educators lead students to take responsibility for learning.

We are committed to sustaining a school in which individuals representing diverse cultures and experiences instruct one another in the meaning and value of community and in the joy and importance of lifelong learning.

Lakeside School fosters the development of citizens capable of and committed to interacting compassionately, ethically, and successfully with diverse peoples and cultures to create a more humane, sustainable global society. This focus transforms our learning and our work together.

# INTRODUCTION

The *Middle School Curriculum Guide* describes the division's curricular and co-curricular programs and provides general information about the daily schedule, attendance, advising, and expectations for students' academic performance and growth. Current students receive course sign-up sheets and curriculum guides from their advisors in early spring and, after consulting with advisors and parents/guardians, select classes with the requirements for the next grade level in mind. New students receive course sign-up sheets and curriculum guides during the enrollment process.

We are pleased to offer a rich and varied curriculum that meets the intellectual and developmental needs of students at this important age. In addition to standard subjects, such as math, science and English, every Lakeside student takes a language, a performing art *and* a visual art, a computer class, and a life skills course.

You will see two changes from last year. First, as part of the Curriculum Review related to technology, we are adding a one-day-a-week Digital Life class to eighth grade. Second, drama and choir are now year-long courses in seventh and eighth grades.

The National Middle School Association identifies four essential attributes that must guide a successful middle school: "An education for young adolescents must be developmentally responsive, challenging, empowering, and equitable." We strive to make these attributes come to life every day in our classrooms and in our school. We are pleased to do this work with every one of the young adolescents in our care.

If parents/guardians have questions about individual courses, these can be answered by the appropriate department head, grade level coordinator, Ted Chen, Middle School Assistant Director, or by me. Additionally, any of these individuals would be pleased to discuss with families a student's specific learning need.

Sincerely,



Elaine Christensen '82  
Middle School Director and Director of Professional Development

## GOALS OF A LAKESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL EDUCATION

**What do we want a Lakeside student to have learned, developed, and experienced by the time he/she graduates from the Middle School?**

In 2008, the Lakeside Middle School faculty identified the knowledge, skills, attributes, and attitudes we seek to develop in students by the time they graduate from eighth grade. Drawing from shared readings, knowledge, and experience, the Middle School faculty identified four major areas that we seek to develop in our students through the curriculum, co-curriculum, and school culture:

### I. Cognitive, Creative, and Intellectual Development

- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- Generative capacity
- Aesthetic appreciation
- Curiosity
- Ability to collaborate; make meaning with others
- Mastery and ability to demonstrate understanding of course material

## 2. Social-Emotional Intelligence

- Respect for community and others
- Ethic of inclusivity
- Understanding and respect for boundaries between self and others
- Multicultural and global perspective
- Respect for natural world and natural resources

## 3. Self-Health: Emotional and Physical

- Healthy development of brain and body
- Humor, hope, resilience
- Self-confidence
- Willingness to try new things

## 4. Self-Management and Goal Management

- Time management
- Ability to set goals and achieve them
- Self-advocacy skills and communication skills
- Ability to focus on a task or project

# COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course requirements are met automatically through the required classes at each grade level:

<b>Arts: Performing</b>	4 years	Starting in 6 <sup>th</sup> grade, students choose between Choir, Drama or instrumental music. All 5 <sup>th</sup> graders take Orchestra 5.
<b>Arts: Visual</b>	4 years	
<b>Digital Life/Computers</b>	3 years	Fifth, 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> graders take Digital Life classes. Fifth and 6 <sup>th</sup> graders use school-provided tablet computers. Seventh and 8 <sup>th</sup> graders own their own laptops.
<b>English</b>	4 years	
<b>Global Service Learning</b>	1 year	Eighth graders are required to participate in this program.
<b>Languages</b>	4 years	Students choose from French, Mandarin Chinese, Latin, or Spanish.
<b>Life Skills</b>	4 years	Fifth and 6 <sup>th</sup> graders take Life Skills, 7 <sup>th</sup> graders take Personal Development, and 8 <sup>th</sup> graders take 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Seminars.
<b>Math</b>	4 years	Qualified 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> graders can place into an accelerated class.
<b>Outdoor Program</b>	3 years	Fifth graders do a one-night camping trip. Sixth graders do a two-night camping trip. Seventh graders do a three-night wilderness trip.
<b>Physical Education</b>	4 years	
<b>Science</b>	4 years	
<b>Service Learning</b>	4 years	Fifth- and 6 <sup>th</sup> -grade students perform theme-based service learning in their respective grades. Seventh-grade students perform service learning in small groups based upon a theme of their choosing (for example food, environment, and/or homelessness). All 8 <sup>th</sup> -grade students participate in a required, week-long service learning trip connected to our school-wide Global Service Learning program
<b>Social Studies/History</b>	4 years	

# DAILY SCHEDULE

On school days, the Middle School building and main office open at 7:30 a.m. The daily schedule begins with advisor group at 8:10 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and Community Meetings are held on Wednesdays. The school day ends at 3:05 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday and at 3:10 p.m. on Thursdays. Students should arrive in time to go to lockers first. Students arriving during the advisor period should sign in at the main office before going to advisories and are marked tardy. A Middle School regular schedule follows:

## LAKESIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL REGULAR SCHEDULE

	8:10 -8:25	1 8:30-9:15	2 9:20-10:05	3 10:10-10:55	4 11:00-11:45	5 11:50-12:35	6 12:40-1:25	7 1:30-2:15	8 2:20-3:05	
Mon	Advisory	A	C	D	E	F	G	I	J	
Tue	Advisory	B	D	C	E	F	H	G	I	
Wed	Community Meeting	A	B	D	E	F	J	H	G	
Thursday	Advisory	I 8:30-9:10	2 9:15-9:55	3 10:00-10:40	4 10:45-11:25	5 11:30-12:10	6 12:15-12:55	7 1:00-1:40	8 1:45-2:25	9 2:30-3:10
		D	A	B	C	I Lunch	I Lunch	J	G	H
Friday	Advisory	A	C	B	E	F	H	I	J	

# AFTER SCHOOL

By 3:40 p.m. each day, students should be on the bus, in their carpools, or engaged in an adult-supervised afternoon activity such as sports, clubs, tutoring sessions or study hall. The Middle School main office closes at 4:30 and the front entrance to the building is locked at that time. Parents report to study hall in the library through the upper level to pick up their students. **Students may not stay at school past 6:00 p.m. unless directly supervised by an adult, such as a coach, faculty sponsor for a school activity, or instrumental music teacher. Parents/guardians must be on time to pick up their children after sports practices, after-school study hall, and evening events.**

# FREE PERIODS/STUDY HALL

Students have study halls and free periods as part of their regular weekly schedule. Fifth through seventh graders are assigned study halls, which are supervised by teachers. Seventh and eighth graders also have free periods. Free periods are scheduled to provide students an opportunity to practice taking responsibility for their own learning during unstructured time. During free periods, students may choose to be in the spline or in the library. Students may not leave campus at any time.

## ADVISING

The purpose of our Middle School advisor program is to create a sense of belonging for each student through regular meetings, thoughtful play, and friendly conversation. Advisors serve as a resource for students and families and are the primary liaison between the school and the student's family. We aim to have students feel connected to their advisor group, to care about others in the group, and to see the advisor as a helpful adult whom they can trust and approach with questions.

Each student at Lakeside has a designated advisor who is responsible for monitoring the academic experience and personal growth of that student. In the Middle School, advisor groups of approximately eight students meet four days each week from 8:10 to 8:25 a.m. In the fifth grade, advisories consist of ten to twelve students.

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

The academic responsibilities of advisors are outlined below.

- Thoroughly review each student's comments at the end of each marking period.
- Meet one-on-one with advisees four times during the school year to review mid-term and end-of-term reports.
- Write advisor comments two times a year that reflect the students' responses to their end-of-term reports, service-learning activity, and general contribution to school life. Advisor comments also reflect concerns advisors might have or successes students have experienced.
- Facilitate students' and/or parent/guardian conversations with teachers if an advisee is having academic difficulty or there is some other concern.
- Advise students and families during the course sign-up process. This implies thorough knowledge of the course offerings as well as a sense of the students' abilities, interests, and goals.

### COMMUNICATION

- Call all advisees' parents/guardians prior to the start of the school year.
- Meet with advisees' parents/guardians during conference week in November to build on the initial telephone contact and develop clear and open communication between advisors and families.
- Communicate concerns to parents/guardians when appropriate. Advisors' primary responsibility is to the students, but they also serve as the initial point of contact for parents/guardians.
- Refer concerns to the Director of Student Support, Middle School Counselor, Head of Student Support and the Brain & Learning Lab, or Middle School Assistant Director, when appropriate.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

### HOMEWORK

Students should generally expect to have nightly homework assignments for each of their academic classes. Teachers at each grade level endeavor to coordinate daily assignments, long-term projects, and tests in order to maintain a balanced homework load. As a rough guideline, fifth graders can expect to have about one hour of homework per night; sixth graders about one hour and 20 minutes; seventh graders about one hour and 40 minutes; and eighth graders about two hours.

Teachers and advisors seek feedback from students (and sometimes from parents/guardians) regarding the approximate time spent on homework per class and in the aggregate. Teachers who get frequent feedback that their assignments are too long will adjust expectations accordingly. Students who consistently need more time to complete assignments should confer with their teachers or advisors.

## **DAILY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

We know that middle school is a time during which students learn to study and start to recognize how they learn best just as much as they learn specific concepts, subjects, and critical thinking skills. Learning to study effectively involves many skills, including planning ahead, breaking large projects into smaller chunks, and managing one's time. Teachers assist students in learning these skills in a number of ways, including posting all homework assignments to their Haiku web page no later than the end of the school day. At a minimum, students should be able to end the day knowing precisely what their homework assignments are for the next class period and having all the materials they need to complete their assignments. Additionally, all assignments and materials such as handouts, study questions, or project instructions, are available online. Most teachers post assignments one week in advance so that students may plan ahead and schedule their homework time. Because of email's unreliability, students will not receive assignments via email. Additionally, we want students to know they can go to just one place - their teachers' Haiku sites - to access their assignments. We encourage students to use email as a way of contacting their teachers in the evening or on weekends should they have questions.

## **HOLIDAY HOMEWORK POLICY**

Teachers and administrators recognize that periods free of assigned schoolwork have value for our students. Young adolescents benefit from family time, leisure time, and time to explore their own interests and passions. In light of this value, teachers are asked to respect the policy - both in letter and in spirit - of not assigning homework over the following holiday breaks: Thanksgiving, winter break, midwinter break, and spring break. This means that no homework is due on the first class period after a holiday break. The policy applies regardless of whether the first class period is or is not the first day back after a holiday break. Thus, if the first day back is a Tuesday and the first class period is a Wednesday, the policy still applies. This policy also means that nothing is due in the first week after break that requires any more preparation than could be completed in the amount of time classes have been back in session. For example, homework due the fourth class day back can require no more than three days of preparation.

## **SNOW DAY HOMEWORK POLICY**

As with the Holiday Homework Policy above, the Lakeside Middle School policy is meant to keep snow days free of homework as follows:

1. Work that was assigned before the snow day, but is due on a snow day, will be due on the first day that the class meets following the snow day/days.
2. Work assigned before a snow day, but due on days following a snow day, will have deadlines extended, unless there is a low-impact, reasonable way to maintain the deadline as is.
3. Work that was to be assigned on a snow day, will not be assigned until the first day that the class meets following the snow day/days and deadlines will be extended accordingly.

## **REPORTS AND GRADING**

Teachers write mid-term and end-of-term reports for the benefit of parents/guardians. Teacher reports are divided into two sections. The narrative comment describes the quality of a student's work and suggests ways in which a student may improve. Comments may speak broadly about effort, character, or other qualities of citizenship, including a student's enthusiasm and participation in class. The Markers for Student Growth provide students with feedback on what the Middle School faculty has identified as fundamental skills needed for success at Lakeside Middle School. These are: Shows respect to others; Shows understanding of course material; Engages in class discussions and activities; Collaborates well; Demonstrates organization and time management skills; Shows willingness to try new things; Exercises self-advocacy and communication skills; and Comes prepared to class.

The Middle School year consists of two semesters. A report of student progress is sent at mid-term and end-of-term. Mid-term reports also include a student reflection. These reflections help students review their work thus far in the term and set goals for the remainder of the semester. Fifth- and sixth-grade students receive narrative comments at each marking period but are not assigned letter grades. Seventh and eighth graders receive both comments and a letter grade for most courses. Grades measure a student's achievement. Parent/guardian-advisor conferences take place between the first mid-term report and the final report for the first term. A student's permanent record contains only the two sets of term-end reports.

## ACADEMIC PROBATION AND ACADEMIC CONCERN

Lakeside School believes that each student will demonstrate academic achievement, as well as comporting him- or herself in a manner considerate, supportive, inclusive and respectful of others. To support and encourage students in realizing these goals, parents/guardians, students, teachers, and administrators must have a clear, common understanding about the terms of academic good standing characteristic of students whose performance indicates intellectual accomplishment and a good-faith, consistent effort toward mastery of curricular goals. On occasion, the academic match between student and school is not realized, and continued enrollment may not be in the best interest of the student or the school. If a student is not meeting academic expectations, he or she will be considered for academic concern or academic probation, triggering an ongoing process involving progress evaluations, probation, communication with the student's family, and consideration by teachers and administrators to determine contributing factors and appropriate next steps.

### GRADES 5 AND 6

In fifth and sixth grades, students receive narrative comments and they are also assessed using Markers of Student Growth. Both are taken into consideration in determining a student's academic standing.

If a student's performance indicates that he or she "needs some improvement" in multiple classes, as indicated by the letter "N" for academic markers in the Markers of Student Growth on a mid-semester or end-of-semester report, then he or she may be placed on "academic concern." The student will meet with the advisor, Head of Middle School Student Support, and the Assistant Director of the Middle School to develop an Academic Action Plan, which will outline the areas of concern and recommendations for improvement in those areas. The student's advisor will work in conjunction with the student, family, and Brain & Learning Lab faculty to follow up on the recommendations and to monitor student progress. If a student qualifies for academic concern for three consecutive marking periods, they may be placed on academic probation status.

If a student's performance indicates that he or she "needs significant improvement" in multiple classes as indicated by the letter "S" for academic markers in the Markers of Student Growth on a mid-semester or end-of-semester report, he or she may be placed on academic probation and a parent/guardian conference will be convened to develop a comprehensive student support plan. The student's advisor will work in conjunction with the student, family, and the Brain & Learning Lab faculty to follow up on the recommendations and to monitor student progress. If a student is on academic probation for two grading periods, it is possible that they will not qualify for reenrollment for the subsequent school year.

### GRADES 7 AND 8

In seventh and eighth grades, students receive letter grades for certain classes as well as narrative comments and Markers of Student Growth. All three are taken into consideration in determining a student's academic standing.

In addition to not meeting expectations in the Markers of Student Growth ("N," "S") for multiple classes, if a student earns multiple grades in the C range (C+, C) on a mid-semester or end-of-semester report, then he or she may be placed on "academic concern." A grade of C- will automatically place the student

on academic concern. The student will meet with his/her advisor, Head of Middle School Student Support, and the Assistant Director of the Middle School to develop an Academic Action Plan, which will outline the areas of concern and recommendations for improvement in those areas. The student's advisor will work in conjunction with the student, family, and Brain & Learning Lab faculty to follow up on the recommendations and to monitor student progress. If a student qualifies for academic concern for three consecutive grading terms, they will be placed on academic probation status.

In addition to not meeting expectations in the markers of student growth (“N,” “S”), if a student earns a grade of D+ or lower or a “NC” on a mid-semester or end-of-semester report, he or she may be placed on academic probation and a parent/guardian conference will be convened to develop a comprehensive student support plan. The student’s advisor will work in conjunction with the student, family, and the Brain & Learning Lab faculty to follow up on the recommendations and to monitor student progress. If a student is on academic probation for two grading periods, it is possible that they will not qualify for reenrollment for the subsequent school year.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **ABSENCES**

Students are expected to meet all appointments (classes, conferences with teachers, class meetings, assemblies, etc.). In the event of illness or absence from a school-sponsored activity, students are responsible for conferring immediately with each of their teachers, who will help them arrange to make up missed work. All students in fifth through eighth grades are expected to be on campus for the entire school day unless they are excused during part of the day for specific reasons, in which case they must have written or phoned-in permission from their parents/guardians and must sign out at the Middle School main office. Any unexcused absence from a class, for whatever reason, is grounds for receiving zero credit on any test, paper, or presentation due for that class. Teachers are neither expected nor required to allow the student to make up the work. Students will not be allowed to participate in any after-school programs, including athletics, arts, and co-curricular activities, if they have an unexcused absence during the day, except in the rare situation that the after-school program is a graded component of an academic class. In such instances, the student’s absence would create an unfair deficit for other students in the class and the student would thus receive some other appropriate consequence in lieu of missing the activity.

Being a Lakeside student includes not only attendance in classes, but regular participation in the life of the school. If a student misses 24 school days, a conference will be scheduled with parents/guardians, the division director, and the student’s advisor to consider how best to support the student’s attendance. If a student misses more than 32 days or classes, it is unlikely that credit will be granted.

The school does not excuse students for early vacation departures, extensions of vacations, or other absences not a consequence of a family or medical emergency. Parents/guardians should understand that students will be held responsible for the material missed and that teachers are under no obligation to give credit or coaching for missed assignments or tests or to make special accommodations or arrangements in the event of such absences.

### **RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

Lakeside is a nondenominational school that is committed to celebrating the rich diversity of its students and families. In keeping with the mission’s spirit of consideration and inclusion and wishing to be sensitive to the traditions of all faiths, the Lakeside School administration will make every effort not to schedule on major religious holidays any all-school event that could be scheduled for a different time. We cannot, however, promise that school events specific to a particular division, grade level, or class will not be scheduled on a religious holiday of one of the faiths found among Lakeside families, though we will try to avoid such days if at all possible. The school understands that students may miss school on major religious holidays and that such absences will be considered excused absences, without consequence. Teachers at

Lakeside are supportive of students who choose to attend religious services on these holidays. When a student does miss school for this reason, and particularly because faith is a private matter for some students, it is incumbent on the student who knows that he or she will miss class to participate in religious holiday services to inform his or her teachers and to arrange in advance to make up any work missed. Teachers are encouraged to help such students get ahead in their studies so that their religious observances are not compromised by schoolwork.

## ILLNESS

A student who is not well should remain at home for speedier recovery. Please be sure to call or email the Middle School (206-440-2877 or [msattendance@lakesideschool.org](mailto:msattendance@lakesideschool.org)) first thing in the morning if you know that your student will be staying home with an illness. If a student becomes ill during the school day, the school will call parents/guardians at home or at work to pick up the student. Students who are sick must be picked up as soon as possible after parents/guardians are alerted. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, the designated emergency contact will be called. Please make sure that the emergency contact information for your child is current.

## ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Attendance is taken in advisory groups from 8:10 to 8:25 a.m., and a student attendance memorandum is emailed to Middle School faculty and staff by 9:00 a.m. Parents/guardians of absent students must call or email the Middle School (206-440-2877 or [msattendance@lakesieschool.org](mailto:msattendance@lakesieschool.org)) by 8:30 a.m. Accurate attendance records are important, and we depend on parents/guardians' support.

If a medical/dental appointment cannot be scheduled for before or after school, or if a parent/guardian-authorized activity necessitates a late arrival or early dismissal, the student must bring a note to the Middle School main office signed by a parent/guardian explaining why the student was late or why he or she will be leaving early. Students must always sign in and out at the Middle School front desk when arriving late, leaving early, or leaving and returning during school hours. Students are not permitted to leave campus at any time without parent/guardian authorization. Students also are prohibited from visiting the nearby 7-Eleven store during school hours or after school hours.

## STUDENT ABSENCES

Advisors can help collect homework assignments for students who are away from school for more than a couple of days because of illness. Students can also access their assignments from teachers' Haiku pages.

For planned absences of one full day or more, students can either pick up a *Student Planned Absence* form from the Middle School office or print the form from the Lakeside website under Parents and Guardians/Helpful Documents. This form must be submitted in advance of a student's absence. The form must be signed by the student's teachers, the parent/guardian and the advisor, then submitted to the main office. The student is responsible for collecting assignments and meeting with teachers regarding expectations for course work missed.

In order to be excused from physical education class for health reasons, a student must provide the teacher with a written excuse from a parent/guardian or physician. The note should include information about the student's condition and the expected duration.

# ARTS: VISUAL AND PERFORMING

Visual art classes focus on elements and principles of design: color, line, value, shape, pattern, and texture. Assignments build and maintain specific skills for both two- and three-dimensional projects. Work grows more sophisticated and challenging as the student matures. Teachers help students to develop a critical vocabulary and demonstrate how to provide constructive critique of their peers' projects. These classes help students to learn about the larger world and to reflect on their own personal process. Students are encouraged, and supported, to take risks and an emphasis is placed on personal growth. Different artists, styles, cultures, and techniques are discussed at all grade levels. Students have a sketchbook to use throughout the year for sketching and planning projects. Students also have the opportunity to work with supervision in the art rooms during free time and lunch periods.

## VISUAL ARTS

### **(A11a) ART 5**

In this course fifth-grade students are exposed to many different media in the realm of drawing, ceramics, and printmaking. Students have a great opportunity to build new skills while expressing themselves creatively. One overarching theme of the year is the observation and use of negative space as a tool for drawing and for designing more interesting compositions and sculptures. In the fall they complete drawing projects with colored pencils, watercolor crayons, colored tissue paper, and learn some basics of color theory and drawing three dimensionally. In the second term they build several clay projects using such techniques as coiling and sculpting by pinching. This is followed with instruction in various styles of glazing their projects. In the third term, they explore the world of printmaking, and experiment with many methods of mono-printing. Cooperation, problem-solving, and appropriate use of tools are emphasized throughout the course.

### **(A12a) ART 6**

The main goal of this course is to expose students to different materials and techniques that they can use to find their own expression. Students begin the year in clay and learn a variety of hand building techniques and tools. This is followed with instruction in various styles of glazing their projects. They then apply these skills into a final project, a large "balloon" animal. During the winter term, students learn how to needle felt to create a felt "painting" that has texture and three-dimensionality. Students then learn traditional drawing and painting techniques, such as shading, observational drawing, creating value, grid work and the basics of color theory are taught. Students draw a series of self-portraits in different styles and collaborate to create a wall-sized painted mural. In the final term, students carve linoleum and experiment with many different printmaking methods during the printing unit. Fundamental principles of design and composition, as well as cooperation and problem solving, are emphasized throughout the course. Students learn about different artists, cultures, and styles throughout the year, as well as the appropriate use of tools in all media.

### **(A13a) ART 7**

This course builds upon what was learned in Art 6, adding more sophisticated approaches to sculpture, drawing, painting, and printmaking. The fall term is dedicated to clay sculptures in which students learn how to build a sturdy structure with coils allowing for a lot of design with negative space. The culminating project in this unit is to make a powerful tall Tiki sculpture that honors one or more of the four elements. This project is glazed using a staining technique that brings out all of their detailed designs. During the winter term, students learn how to needle felt to create a felt "painting" that has texture and three-dimensionality. They work with a reference photo of their choosing. Later in the winter they will learn many techniques with watercolor painting, such as creating different types of washes, texture and layering. They apply their learned skills to a final, large watercolor painting, working from a reference photo. Students then move into drawing, focusing on the basic rules of perspective drawing.

## **(A14a) ART 8**

Eighth-grade art begins with a drawing unit using charcoal. Students learn how to get into a “right brain” mode of thinking to enhance their ability to see. They practice expressive gesture drawing and end with a still-life project of their design. The emphasis of this unit is on seeing and depicting light values and developing more confidence in their ability to advance their skill level. The second unit is ceramics, where advanced coiling skills are added to students’ repertoire of techniques. Students build a cookie jar with a detailed face and then glaze it after experimenting with possible color choices and glaze techniques. The next unit is a brief introduction to linoleum reduction printmaking, using a minimum of three colors. Thinking ahead and problem solving is a critical feature of this unit. The year culminates with an independent art project that has a theme and which can be completed in a number of media: drawing, painting, clay, printmaking and mixed media. This involves conceiving an idea first as well as writing a final artist statement upon completion. Eighth-grade art is celebrated in a big display at graduation.

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

Performing arts classes develop the artistic ability of Lakeside students through the study of music and drama. They support technical development, encourage creative problem solving, deepen self-understanding, and social skills through collaboration. Our performance courses are accessible and engaging for both the beginner and the seasoned performer. The emphasis is placed on personal growth rather than on innate talent, and students are engaged in a feedback-driven process where they learn the importance of experimentation, play, and attention to detail.

### **Indicating Your Choices/Preferences in the Performing Arts**

In fifth grade, all students take orchestra. Starting in sixth grade, students must rank their choices for a performing arts course for that school year. Placement in the first choice is our goal; however, it is not guaranteed. On the course sign-up forms, you will be asked to list performing arts option preferences.

## **DRAMA**

Drama courses at the Middle School seek to introduce students to a wide variety of theatrical forms and experiences. Emphasis is placed on building analytical as well as performative skills—training students to think deeply about art as well as to make it. Theatre classes are places where creative risk-taking is encouraged, failures are celebrated, processed and learned from, and students engage with open-ended questions about art, identity and expression. One to two co-curricular productions will be presented each year and rehearsed in the afternoons, outside of school hours.

### **(A15a) DRAMA/CHOIR 6**

This is a year-long class with two semester components. The drama semester introduces students to the fundamental elements of creating, designing, and performing pieces of theatre. In a safe and trusting classroom atmosphere, students will hone their verbal and non-verbal communication skills, learn how to create characters and develop scenes through improvisation and writing exercises. Major projects include designing and performing a content-less dialogue, adapting a folktale from an oral tradition into a short play, and developing and performing a true personal story. In the choir semester, students learn and reinforce basic music literacy skills as they read, write, and perform music from varied genres and time periods. Students learn the basics of healthy vocal production, choral performance, and musical improvisation. Students in Drama/Choir 6 will give at least one public performance per term.

### **(A19a) DRAMA 7**

In this course, students will deepen their understanding of the fundamental elements of creating, designing and performing theatre. The focus of the year-long class is on translating texts into effective pieces of theatre. Units of study include a contemporary scene study unit, a poetry-based project, and classical solo-performance utilizing monologues from Shakespeare’s plays. Throughout the year, students work

collaboratively to incorporate feedback and practice utilizing professional scene study habits and structures, aiming to communicate clearly the elements of their text: character, relationship, objective, obstacle, setting, mood, tone and theme. Students will also serve as designers, learning fundamental concepts of translating between textual and visual media such as lighting, sound, prop, set and costume design. Students in Drama 7 will participate in at least one public performance during the year.

### **(A20a) DRAMA 8**

This course builds upon the work done in previous classes, helping students hone and expand their skills as theatre makers and interpreters. There is an increased emphasis in Drama 8 on self-evaluation and self-directed learning. Students will have opportunities to choose texts that appeal to them as artists and to take on different roles in the theatrical process such as directing, designing, and producing. Projects and in-class exercises will continue to emphasize collaborative skills, giving and receiving effective feedback, and analysis of both text and performance. Units of study include improvisation, sketch comedy, solo performance, and contemporary short plays. Students in Drama 8 will participate in at least one public performance during the year.

## **MUSIC**

The music program is open to all students regardless of previous experience. Beginning courses allow students to learn the fundamentals necessary to participate in bands, orchestras, and choirs. Seventh and eighth grade courses develop intermediate and advanced skills needed to participate in the Upper School music program, and pursue music at the ninth-grade level. Private lessons are available on campus as an independent study and concerts are an integral component of the educational program.

### **TRAVEL POLICY FOR MUSIC ENSEMBLES**

We are committed to making all curricular activities accessible and affordable. To that end, we keep travel costs below \$250 per year, per student, and financial aid may apply. Please contact Tearon Joseph, Associate Director of Admissions and Financial Aid Programs Director, for more information on financial aid ([tearon.joseph@lakesideschool.org](mailto:tearon.joseph@lakesideschool.org)).

### **Private Lessons for voice and instruments: Available after school, and during study hall and free periods**

On campus private instruction on an instrument or voice is available. Please contact the Arts Program Assistant, Lisa Nelson ([Lisa.Nelson@lakesideschool.org](mailto:Lisa.Nelson@lakesideschool.org)), for more information. The cost of lessons is not included in tuition; however, financial aid may apply.

### **(A15a) CHOIR/DRAMA 6**

This is a year-long class with two semester components. The drama semester introduces students to the fundamental elements of creating, designing, and performing pieces of theatre. In a safe and trusting classroom atmosphere, students will hone their verbal and non-verbal communication skills, learn how to create characters and develop scenes through improvisation and writing exercises. Major projects include designing and performing a content-less dialogue, adapting a folktale from an oral tradition into a short play, and developing and performing a true personal story. During the choir semester, students learn and reinforce basic music literacy skills as they read, write, and perform music from varied genres and time periods. Students learn the basics of healthy vocal production, choral performance, and musical improvisation. Students in Choir/Drama 6 will give at least one public performance per term.

### **(A16a) CHOIR 7**

This is a year-long choir course designed to build upon the performance and musical skills learned in Choir/Drama 6. Students in Choir 7 reinforce music literacy skills and vocal techniques, moving toward intermediate-level musicianship and the performance of primarily two-part choral literature of many

genres. New singers are heartily welcomed. All students receive regular small group instruction with our adjunct vocal coach and perform at least three times per year.

### **(A17a) CHOIR 8**

This is a year-long choir course that builds upon Choir/Drama 6 and Choir 7, though new students with an interest in singing are heartily welcomed. Students practice intermediate-level musicianship skills, intermediate-to-advanced vocal techniques for young singers, and perform repertoire for two, three, and four parts. All students receive regular small group instruction with our adjunct vocal coach and perform at least three times per year.

### **(A91a) ORCHESTRA 5**

This year-long course is required for fifth graders. Students learn to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass through small group instruction and participation in a string orchestra. All ensemble members have the opportunity to work closely with our highly-qualified teaching staff and have access to on-campus private lessons. Students develop an ability to read music notation and compose melodies. No previous instrumental music experience is necessary. For more information, please contact the Orchestra teacher, Erica Johansen (Erica.johansen @lakesideschool.org).

### **(A92a) ORCHESTRA 6**

Open to students in sixth grade, this year-long course is for students with approximately one year of training on the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Students develop technique on their instrument and perform in concerts. Students new to the school enrolling in this course should contact the Orchestra teacher, Erica Johansen, to receive more information (Erica.johansen @lakesideschool.org).

### **(A95a) SENIOR ORCHESTRA 7/8**

This is an advanced year-long course for students with experience on the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Private lessons are encouraged but not required. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to participate in the Upper School music program. Private lessons are encouraged but not required. Students new to the school enrolling in this course should contact the Orchestra teacher, Erica Johansen, to receive more information (Erica.johansen @lakesideschool.org).

### **(A90a) BEGINNING BAND 6**

This year-long beginning instrumental course is for sixth-grade students. No previous experience in instrumental music is necessary. Students are accepted on a space available basis, but preference is given to students new to Lakeside without prior instrumental music training. Students will learn to play a wind instrument through small group instruction. The choice of instrument(s) varies from year to year and is determined in the first week of class and families do not need to make any purchases or plans prior to the start of the school year. Please contact Andrew Krus, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, for more information (Andrew.krus@lakesidesideschool.org)

### **(A93a) BAND 7**

This ensemble provides an opportunity for students in seventh and eighth grades to continue the study of a wind or percussion instrument. Students will develop technical proficiency on their instruments and learn to play a variety of musical styles. This band challenges students through performance of concert band and symphony orchestra music. Students new to the school enrolling in this course should contact Andrew Krus, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, for more information (Andrew.krus @lakesidesideschool.org)

**(A94a) SENIOR BAND 8**

This is an advanced ensemble for eighth-grade students. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to participate in the Upper School music program. Private lessons are encouraged but not required. Students will develop technical proficiency on their instruments and perform as a concert band and full-symphony. They will also learn the fundamentals of jazz and other genres suited to the instrumentation of the ensemble. Students new to the school enrolling in this course should contact Andrew Krus, Director of Visual and Performing Arts, for more information (Andrew.krus@lakesideschool.org)



# DIGITAL LIFE

The goal of Middle School technology education is to ensure that all students have the computer and multimedia skills needed to support their academic work and to provide a strong foundation for future technology use. The Technology and Library departments also ensure that students understand the ethical uses of technology both in and out of the classroom.

Noted below are the computer skills courses offered to students at all grade levels. The focus of these courses is experiential learning and is project based using a variety of tools. The core elements are:

- Digital literacy (find, evaluate, create and share content in digital form)
- Digital citizenship (ethics and best practices for using technology appropriately)
- Multi-media production (video, audio, graphics and images)
- Design Thinking (empathize, define, ideate, prototype, test)
- Computational thinking (algorithmic thinking, problem solving)
- Data visualization (charts, infographics, analysis)
- Responsible and innovative use of technology. Learning how to balance offline and online life.

Most courses include class and homework assignments requiring computer use.

## **(C50) DIGITAL LIFE 5**

The general areas covered in fifth-grade Digital Life include: 1) managing and organizing one's fifth-grade academic life, including systematic use of Lakeside Blended Learning/Haiku class sites; 2) becoming more skillful editing and manipulating media (audio, video, images, animation, text); 3) becoming more adept at finding relevant information via search, including practice using databases and other resources offered through our Library; 4) becoming consistent about citing sources; 5) participating in collaborative projects; 6) using programming to animate and make interactive; and 7) having enjoyable and rewarding experiences doing 1 through 6. Fifth graders will be assigned Windows Tablets with an array of applications, including Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook), Office 365 cloud based applications, Google Apps for Education, WeVideo, TinkerCad, Scratch, LOGO, among others. Fifth graders will each be provided with an individual Lakeside email account to enhance communicating about school-related issues and research. They will also be taught email etiquette and best practices. Students will each have an online keyboarding account to help improve keyboarding speed and accuracy, although the expectation will be that much of the practice time will take place outside of class. All of the above is done in the context of and in compliance with Lakeside's *Computer User Agreement*.

## **(C60) DIGITAL LIFE 6**

The general areas covered in sixth-grade Digital Life include: 1) managing and organizing one's sixth-grade academic life, including systematic use of Haiku CMS class sites; 2) becoming more skillful editing and manipulating media (audio, video, images, animation, text); 3) becoming more adept at finding relevant information via search, including practice using databases and other resources offered through our Library; 4) becoming consistent about citing sources; 5) participating in collaborative projects that will include coordination with assignments from different academic disciplines; 6) learning to create websites using HTML and CSS; and 7) having enjoyable and rewarding experiences doing 1 through 6. In addition, sixth graders will select a technology-related personal goal or goals that they will work on during the beginning minutes of each class. Students will each have an online keyboarding account to help improve keyboarding speed and accuracy, although the expectation will be that much of the practice time will take place outside of class. All of the above is done in the context of and in compliance with the Lakeside's *Computer User Agreement*.

## **(C70) DIGITAL LIFE 7**

The primary purpose of Seventh-grade Digital Life is twofold: 1) to help students acquire and integrate multimedia skills in their academic work, and 2) to introduce computer programming to develop computational thinking and problem solving skills. For the first half of the year, units include editing digital citizenship and safety, digital images, recording and editing digital audio, and creating individual digital videos from the ground up; from storyboarding to filming to digital editing. Digital literacy is also covered, where students learn best practices for finding, evaluating, citing, and sharing digital media in an ethical manner. Multimedia assignments are designed to dovetail with other subjects, and the curriculum has built-in flexibility so that class time can be used to support major projects in other classes. For the second half of the year, the emphasis shifts to programming and computational thinking skills. We start with projects in Scratch 2.0, a graphical programming language, and introduce functional programming concepts such as variables, conditionals, and loops. Projects are specifically chosen to be extensible to meet the wide range of coding backgrounds of students, and to solve problems that they encounter in other subjects such as math or science. Students also have class time to work on personal programming goals, and advanced students may have the opportunity to explore text-based languages such as Javascript or Python if they choose. A number of the resources used in this class are web-based, with special emphasis on Web 2.0 collaborative and cross-platform resources.

## **(C70) DIGITAL LIFE 8**

The Eighth-grade Digital Life class will build on the fundamental skills that students received in earlier digital life courses and allow time for deeper learning based on individual interests. The course will be structured around Guided Inquiry Research and Design Thinking. Each project will include collaboration, innovation, and risk-taking as well as research, documentation and reflection. The first half of the year will be spent working on experiential projects and learning how to use a variety of software and hardware in our lab. Students will learn broadcast journalism skills and participate in field reporting on their GSL trips and create podcasts. Students may research and analyze new solutions to real world problems and use the tools provided for rapid prototyping, testing and development. Additionally, students will revisit copyright and fair use practices and design and curate a digital portfolio. In the second term, students will have the opportunity to work with community mentors and experts to develop a Capstone Project of their choosing.

# ENGLISH

The Middle School English Department is dedicated to nurturing a life-long love of reading and writing. We strive to create a community of readers and writers that inspires students to experiment with a variety of written forms. We believe that developing writers flourish when they have time, choice, and regular feedback. By providing these three important elements, we hope to unleash the authentic voice of each adolescent writer. With the aid of strong models, we teach students to consider the sound and meaning of words and to use language effectively and artistically.

## **(E50a) HUMANITIES 5**

The language arts component of Humanities 5 asks students to consider themselves in relation to their immediate communities—family, friends, and the people at school. Essential questions include, "How does making choices affect me?" and "What responsibilities do I have to my communities?" Such questions frame reading selections, classroom activities, and projects. Writer's workshop provides a structured process for students to brainstorm, draft, revise, edit, publish and celebrate. Students receive feedback about their writing on a regular basis from their teacher, and peer editing is introduced so that developing writers learn how to best give and receive feedback. Students learn to edit for grammar, punctuation and usage. Writing is explored in several genres including personal narrative, poetry, short story, and persuasive essay. Vocabulary building occurs through shared texts as well as supplemental materials. Close reading is emphasized through annotations and group discussion. Texts include *Among the Hidden*, *One Crazy Summer*, *Peak*, and excerpts from *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

## **(E60a) ENGLISH 6**

The sixth grade English program strives to foster a positive community of learners to support the development of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Writing is taught in the writer's workshop format which emphasizes the analysis of mentor texts and the writing process. Reading instruction aims to enhance critical thinking as students delve into and interpret more complex literature. Classroom study involves the analysis of a wide selection of pieces including poetry, personal narratives and memoirs, short stories, myths, and essays. Longer all-class texts may include *Greek Myths*, *Touching Spirit Bear*, and *Habibi*. Additionally, students will participate in at least three reading groups during the year in which they read a selected book, annotate, reflect, and write in order to prepare for a culminating book group discussion. This is designed to broaden reading choices, build vocabulary, create connections with writing, and strengthen reading and discussion skills. Grammar and correct usage are emphasized in conjunction with spelling, capitalization, and punctuation and are taught through a workshop approach with students exploring word formation, sentence structure and paragraph development. Vocabulary is taught on a daily basis through class texts, related words, and supplemental materials.

## **(E70a) ENGLISH 7**

The goal of 7th-grade English is to create confident, fluent writers. At its best, the classroom becomes a community for readers and writers, with students helping each other in drafting, revising, and editing. Writing practices include dialogues, character descriptions, stories, narratives, essays, scripts, and poems. Students learn to edit for accurate grammar, punctuation, and usage and also have formal lessons on organization and sentence fluency. Required readings include fiction, nonfiction, and poetry; accompanying activities include summarizing, annotating, and analyzing. Combined with group discussions and oral presentations, these activities foster close reading skills and deepen the students' understanding of the texts. The readings are also used as models for student writing since authors' styles and strategies are an important part of each discussion. Texts include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Monster* and *Of Beetles and Angels: A Boy's Remarkable Journey from a Refugee Camp to Harvard*.

## **(E80a) ENGLISH 8**

Eighth-grade English uses both ancient and modern texts to explore the general theme of the course: the development of personal identity. Building upon the skills practiced in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, the course helps students become more concise, sophisticated writers and attentive, insightful readers. Reading activities include annotation, interpretive discussions, literary analysis, and vocabulary development. Writing assignments such as personal responses to literature, personal narratives, essays, vignettes, reviews, and several types of poems give students practice with many forms and purposes. Instruction is provided in revising and editing, as well as grammar, punctuation, and style. Using a variety of poems, short stories, personal essays and memoirs as models, in addition to class texts, students study the strategies of excellent writers in developing their own voice and style. Class texts include *The House on Mango Street*, *The Outsiders*, and *The Odyssey*, as well as a choice of contemporary novels for literature circle discussions.

# LANGUAGES

In keeping with Lakeside's mission to prepare students to live in a global society, languages play a prominent role in the Middle School curriculum. Lakeside offers courses in four distinct languages – French, Latin, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish. The purpose of our language program, at both campuses, is language acquisition. In the living languages, classes are conducted in an immersion setting; all instruction is in the target language from the very beginning. Students are supported in acquiring vocabulary and fluency with structures as they build their abilities to speak, read, write and comprehend the language. Significant attention is paid to understanding the cultural context for language as well. The school does not offer courses to support or build on native fluency in a language.

## **Policies for Language Placement for Students Entering the Middle School:**

Second-language acquisition is a spiraling process, meaning that improving proficiency is dependent upon revisiting and practicing the same material until one is able to utilize effectively the vocabulary and grammatical concepts. Finding the level that is the best fit for each student, both linguistically and developmentally, is of utmost importance to us. Because we have immersion classrooms and work at a fast pace, there is often a period of adjustment and transition for students who are new to our language program. Most often, students who have already taken several years of language classes at other schools will still enter our beginning "A" level of their chosen language.

**All sixth graders and incoming seventh and eighth graders who wish to enroll in Level B or higher of a language must arrange to take a placement test with department head, Mirta Blat (206-440-2756 or [mirta.blat@lakesideschool.org](mailto:mirta.blat@lakesideschool.org)). Language placement tests will be given on March 24, 2016 between 3:30 – 5:30 pm in Middle School Room 215.**

## **Policies for Language Placement for Students Going Into Ninth Grade at the Upper School:**

- Any student may begin a new language at the Upper School.
- Students who have completed Level B language courses at the Middle School will be placed in Level I at the Upper School. They will have an excellent foundation and will be well prepared for the fast-paced Level I courses that will lead them through the four-year progression culminating in AP-level language instruction senior year.
- Students who have completed Level C language classes at the Middle School will be placed in Level II language instruction at the Upper School.
- Students who have completed Level D language classes at the Middle School will be placed in Level II at the Upper School. They will be well prepared for and appropriately challenged by the Level II language classes, which focus on polishing student grammar skills and completing all the grammatical topics needed for a successful transition to Level III Introduction and higher level literature and culture courses.

## **(L10a) FRENCH A**

This course is an introduction to the French language and francophone culture. Students begin to communicate effectively in French by practicing functions such as asking and answering questions and describing and narrating in present time. Emphasis is placed on basic oral proficiency as students learn to speak within familiar contexts and situations. Instructional materials include *Bon Voyage I*, a workbook, CDs, and a video program.

### **(L11a) FRENCH B**

This course is a continuation of French A. Students become more skilled in the functions practiced in French A. New functions include narrating in past tense and expressing likes and dislikes within familiar contexts and situations. Instructional materials include *Bon Voyage 1*, a workbook, CDs, and a video program.

### **(L12a) FRENCH C**

This course is a continuation of French B. Students receive additional practice with the functions covered in French A and B. New functions include expressing opinions, comparing and contrasting, hypothesizing, and giving orders. They also learn the future, imperfect, and conditional tenses. Instructional materials include *Bon Voyage 2*, a workbook, CDs, and a video program.

### **(L13a) FRENCH D**

This course is a continuation of French C. Students apply their knowledge of grammatical structures by working with culturally-relevant media in the target language. They discuss literature, movies, and current events. Instructional materials include *Bon Voyage 2*, the accompanying workbook, and a video program. Students will also read an abridged version of *The Count of Monte Cristo*. Students learn about French cooking by researching recipes and making selected dishes. They also research and present cultural themes of their choice.

### **(L20a) LATIN A**

In this introductory course, students begin reading Latin immediately. In the course of their reading, they learn a range of basic grammatical structures, including the nominative and accusative cases and the persons and numbers of present tense verbs. They also explore many different aspects of Roman life, from the nature of the home and the layout of a Roman city to the various types of Roman food and entertainment. As they acquire Latin vocabulary, students examine and assimilate challenging English derivatives and so expand their knowledge of their own language. Through various projects they learn about the Olympian gods and the mythology surrounding them. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Latin website. Instructional materials include *Unit 1 of the Cambridge Latin Course*.

### **(L21a) LATIN B**

This course is a continuation of Latin A. Students learn more advanced grammatical structures, including the dative and ablative cases and the persons and numbers of imperfect and perfect tense verbs, which knowledge enables them to read and translate more complex sentences. They continue to explore aspects of Roman culture, from beliefs about death and the afterlife to the institution of slavery and the nature of education. They continue to add new English derivatives to their repertoire, expanding their knowledge of their own language. Through projects they learn about Greco-Roman demi-gods, heroes and monsters, and the mythology surrounding them. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Latin website. Instructional materials include *Unit 1 of the Cambridge Latin Course*.

### **(L22a) LATIN C**

This course is a continuation of Latin B. Students learn more advanced grammatical structures, including the genitive and vocative cases and the persons and numbers of irregular and pluperfect tense verbs, which knowledge enables them to read and translate ever more complex sentences. They continue to explore aspects of Roman culture, from the British tribal system to daily life in Roman Britain. They continue to add new English derivatives to their repertoire, expanding their knowledge of their own language. Through projects they learn about the history of the Late Roman Republic. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Latin website. Instructional materials include *Unit 2 of the Cambridge Latin Course*.

### **(L23a) LATIN D**

This course is a continuation of Latin C. Students learn more advanced grammatical structures, including the forms of all five declensions and the forms and uses of participles and infinitives, which knowledge enables them to read and translate ever more complex sentences. They continue to explore aspects of Roman culture, from the influence of the Egyptians on Roman culture and beliefs to the role of science in the Roman world. They continue to add new English derivatives to their repertoire, expanding their knowledge of their own language. Through projects they learn about the history of the Early Roman Empire. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Latin website. Instructional materials include *Unit 2 of the Cambridge Latin Course* and *Lingua Latina I*.

### **(L30a) MANDARIN CHINESE A**

In this introduction to Chinese language and culture, emphasis is placed on oral proficiency. At the A level, students begin to acquire the skills needed to communicate effectively in Mandarin. They practice such functions as asking and answering questions and describing and narrating within familiar contexts and situations. They also begin learning the Pinyin pronunciation system and tones, how Chinese characters are built, and how to read and write in simplified Chinese characters, how to use online Chinese-English dictionary and type Chinese characters and Pinyin. Instructional materials, homework assignments and online learning tools, such as stroke animation, Pinyin and tone exercises, and interactive flashcards, are posted on school Chinese website. Students gain an invaluable understanding of Chinese culture through fun and interactive explorations of holiday celebrations, making Chinese food, Chinese GO game, Chinese Tea and calligraphy.

### **(L31a) MANDARIN CHINESE B**

This course is a continuation of Chinese A. Students acquire greater proficiency with the functions introduced in Chinese A within a wider range of topics, vocabulary, and grammar. Students use a computer to type Chinese characters, use online dictionaries, turn in discussion posts and assignments online, do online research for team projects, and create visual and audio presentations using technology. Instructional materials, homework assignments and online learning tools, such as stroke animation, Pinyin and tone exercises, and interactive flashcards, are posted on the Chinese website. Students also watch authentic Chinese movies and TV dramas. Students gain an invaluable understanding of Chinese culture through fun and interactive explorations of holiday celebrations, making Chinese food, Chinese GO game, Chinese Tea and calligraphy.

### **(L32a) MANDARIN CHINESE C**

This course is a continuation of Mandarin Chinese B. Students get additional practice with the functions covered in Mandarin Chinese A and B. Functions emphasized this year include expressing opinions, comparing and contrasting, hypothesizing, and more. Students use a computer to do online research for team projects, turn in discussion posts, assignments and Wiki projects online, and create visual and audio presentations using technology. Instructional materials, homework assignments and online learning tools, such as stroke animation and interactive flashcards, are posted on the Chinese website. Students also watch authentic Chinese movies and TV dramas. The class reads an online story, and practices story narrating. They also watch Chinese movies and TV dramas, hold discussions and write movie summaries. Students gain an invaluable understanding of Chinese culture through fun and interactive explorations of holiday celebrations, making Chinese food, Chinese GO game, Chinese Tea and calligraphy.

### **(L33a) MANDARIN CHINESE D**

This course is a continuation of Mandarin Chinese C. Students learn more complex structures and advanced vocabulary. Writing complex sentences in characters is a daily practice. Students study Chinese and American holidays, the origins and changes of Chinese characters, Chinese etymology-its radicals and sound elements, Chinese dynasty, and they research the culture of various Chinese speaking areas.

Students use a computer to do online research for projects, turn in discussion posts, assignments and Wiki projects online, and create visual and audio presentations using technology. Instructional materials, homework assignments and online learning tools, such as dictionary, character converting tools, and interactive flashcards, are posted on the Chinese website. The class reads an online story, role plays and practices story narrating. Students also watch Chinese movies and TV dramas, hold discussions and write movie summaries. Students gain an invaluable understanding of Chinese culture through fun and interactive explorations of holiday celebrations, making Chinese food, Chinese GO game, Chinese Tea and calligraphy.

### **(L60a) SPANISH A**

In this introduction to Spanish language and culture, emphasis is placed on oral proficiency. Students acquire skills needed to begin to communicate effectively in Spanish. They practice such functions as asking and answering questions and narrating in present and future tense within a variety of contexts and situations. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Spanish website. Instructional materials include *Así se dice 1* workbook and online textbook with audio and video programs.

### **(L61a) SPANISH B**

This course is a continuation of Spanish A. Students become more skilled at the functions practiced in A. New functions include narrating in the past tense and expressing likes and dislikes. Some of the themes are cultural events and summer and winter sports. The students also watch Spanish movies, hold discussions and write movie summaries. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Spanish website. Instructional materials include *Así se dice 1* workbook and online textbook with audio and video programs.

### **(L62a) SPANISH C**

This course is a continuation of Spanish B. Students receive additional practice with the functions covered in Spanish A and B. New functions include expressing opinions, comparing and contrasting, talking about past, present and recent events, expressing conditions, and differentiating between continuous, habitual actions in the past and those completed at a definite time. The students also watch Spanish movies, hold discussions and write movie summaries. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Spanish website. Instructional materials include *Así se dice 2* workbook and online textbook with audio and video programs.

### **(L63a) SPANISH D**

This course is a continuation of Spanish C. Students apply their knowledge of grammatical structures by working with culturally-relevant media in the target language. They discuss literature, movies, and current events. Students will also read an adapted version of *El Lazarillo de Tormes*. Students regularly research and present cultural themes of their choice. Homework assignments, ancillary materials and online learning tools, such as practice quizzes and interactive vocabulary games, are posted on the school's Spanish website. Instructional materials include *Así se dice 2* workbook and online textbook with audio and video programs.

# LIFE SKILLS

The goal of the Middle School Life Skills curriculum is to provide students with the information and skills necessary to successfully negotiate the physical, emotional, and social changes that occur during the middle school years. Drawing on current brain and neuroscience research, this curriculum seeks to foster in students, an understanding of how their choices impact themselves and others and how their own brain structure and function influences their feelings and behavior. Students learn about adolescent development and the types of challenges adolescents face during this time in their lives. The focus is on providing students with the skills required to negotiate these challenges; to obtain, interpret, and understand basic health information, products, and services; and to make healthy decisions. Students explore how knowing their values can impact future decisions - that choices should be influenced by values.

As part of Lakeside School's mission to foster the development of citizens capable of interacting compassionately, ethically, and successfully within an inclusive global society, an integral part of the Life Skills program includes addressing sexuality, gender, and other topics related to sexual diversity across all grade levels. A range of activities and assignments are used that encourage family involvement and open dialogue in a developmentally appropriate sequence. Furthermore, students will consider both their entire academic career and their roles in multiple communities in a holistic way.

## **(G50a) LIFE SKILLS 5**

The fifth-grade Life Skills curriculum is primarily concerned with personal growth in areas of immediate concern for children aged 10 and 11. The course employs a variety of resources to challenge students to use reflection and discussion as a means of communicating their ideas and questions. Topics include:

- Emotional regulation
- Understanding and valuing diversity
- Friendship and conflict resolution
- Introduction to puberty

## **(G60a) LIFE SKILLS 6**

The theme of the year-long sixth-grade Life Skills course is "Understanding Ourselves and Others." Many of the readings, class activities, and discussions are geared towards increasing students' self-awareness and helping them gain the information and skills they need to lead successful, healthy, and fulfilling lives. Additional lessons focus on knowledge and interpersonal skills that will enable students to be capable and comfortable interacting in a multicultural and diverse community. Topics explored in Life Skills may include:

- Organization and study skills
- Mindfulness
- Neuroscience of learning and memory
- Friendship
- Media literacy
- Intoxicants
- Adolescent development, sexuality, and gender

### **(G70a) LIFE SKILLS 7**

The year-long seventh-grade Personal Development course focuses on helping students understand identity, adolescent brain development, and the social, emotional, and physical pressures adolescents face. It also helps them develop the skills needed to negotiate these challenges. Through a variety of activities that encourage metacognition, self-reflection, self-monitoring, and self-advocacy, students learn that they can have more control over their lives and potential. They learn how to apply these approaches to their own learning process and to making healthy life choices. The curriculum includes the following subjects:

- Self-Identity and values
- The adolescent brain
- Mindfulness
- Emotional regulation and communication skills
- Intentional decision making
- Addiction and the effect of chemicals on the brain
- Conflict resolution online and in person

### **(G80a) LIFE SKILLS 8**

The eighth-grade Seminar helps students to identify and understand their individual lenses, cultures and values and explore how their own view affects how they see and interact with the world. One of the major course themes centers on the idea that we see the world as we are, not as it is. Class activities in this year-long course include creating group projects, holding values discussions, watching and discussing films, researching current and relevant topics, and writing personal and analytical pieces. Topics discussed include:

- Media literacy
- Emotional health
- Mindfulness and intentional decision making
- Healthy relationships and sexuality
- Perception, implicit bias and microaggressions
- Systems of oppression and privilege
- Preparing for the transition to high school

# MATHEMATICS

The main goal of the Middle School Mathematics Department's program is to provide a strong foundation in mathematics through challenging courses that are appropriate to the ages, abilities, and needs of our students. We intend that, in addition to being well prepared for the mathematics they may encounter in future schooling or careers, our students emerge from the program impressed with the elegance and scope of the subject and excited by its vast potential for fun and creativity.

We also strive to equip students with the mathematical skills of a competent citizen in today's world, such as being able to model situations mathematically; to estimate and compare magnitudes; to interpret graphs and statistics; to calculate probabilities; to evaluate numerical and spatial conclusions; to solve problems mentally as well as with paper, calculator, and computer; and to communicate effectively in these areas. Finally, while students do much of their class work and homework independently, one of our goals is to foster the skills for and value of doing mathematics cooperatively with others.

The content of the Middle School mathematics courses, grades 5 through 8, is composed of subject matter normally covered in grades 6 through 9 in many other schools. Grades 5 and 6 concentrate on arithmetic skills and the use of numbers and mathematical thinking in a variety of contexts (measurement, data collection, patterns, problem solving, etc.). Grade 7 is a pre-algebra and problem-solving course, which consolidates and advances these skills, adding the conceptual and symbolic framework that will later be used extensively in algebra and geometry. Grade 8 is a first-year algebra and trigonometry course with extensive applications to problem solving using these conceptual structures systematically. In each course in the mathematics curriculum, considerable reinforcement is achieved by returning at a higher level to concepts and skills introduced in previous courses.

**Note on Technology:** The availability of calculators and computers has made it possible to teach certain topics much earlier and in new ways. Particularly useful, are tools such as Excel and Geometer's Sketchpad. Data collection, functions, variables, geometric construction, sequences and series, linear functions, and graphing are a few examples of topics explored through the use of computers in Lakeside mathematics classes. Fifth- and sixth-grade math courses use desktop computers in the computer labs and classrooms; seventh and eighth graders use laptop computers in their math classes.

## **(M50a) MATH 5**

The fifth-grade mathematics course explores the patterns and relationships that lie at the heart of mathematics. Closely integrated with the science course, the math curriculum is organized around interesting mathematical problems derived from real situations or imaginary extensions. Students solve problems, and in so doing, observe patterns and relationships that can then be formalized and tested. Math concepts are used in the fifth-grade science course; scientific experiments are used as examples of math problems and concepts. The classroom environment encourages cooperation, individual questioning, conjecturing, and mathematical reasoning. Fifth-grade mathematics is not organized into ability groups. Variations in experience are addressed as needed via tutoring, remedial work, and enrichment activities in the context of the course itself.

This course includes the following topics: operations on positive numbers; fractions, decimals, percentages; proportional reasoning; rounding and estimating; probability; statistics and data analysis; number theory; place value; graphing and other visualization of data; geometry; polygons; measurement of time, mass, length, volume, temperature; the metric system; calculator use; and Microsoft Excel for data and sorting.

## **(M60a) MATH 6**

The sixth-grade mathematics course extends the fifth-grade experience with patterns and relationships by covering a wide range of topics to develop abstract and logical thinking skills, problem-solving proficiency, and mathematical techniques. The main thread of the course might be called “advanced arithmetic.” It is a thorough building of the real number system and its associated operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, exponentiation, and roots. It reviews basic ideas (fraction arithmetic, ratio and proportion) and also introduces topics that are new to most sixth graders (non-decimal bases, conversion of repeating decimals to rational representation, scientific notation, countability, logarithms). Coursework consists of daily homework, in-class projects, and class presentations, done both as individual work and group tasks. Sixth-grade mathematics is not organized into ability groups. Variations in background are addressed as needed via tutoring, support with basic skills, and extensions of the homework into a wide variety of challenge work, known as “star problems.”

Additional topics in this course not mentioned above include: operations on negative numbers; fractions, decimals, percent; estimation; problem-solving techniques; probability; primes, composites, prime factorization; exponents; scientific notation; square roots; Pythagorean Theorem; coordinate graphing; plane and solid geometry; use of compass and protractor; geometric constructions; measurement; the metric system and U.S. standard system; scientific calculator use.

## **(M70a) MATH 7**

This course includes the following topics: operations on positive and negative numbers; fractions, decimals, percent; percent increase/decrease; ratios and proportions; estimation (order of magnitude, reasonableness); probability; statistics – mean, median, mode; counting techniques (elementary counting principle); number theory (divisibility, composites, primes, prime factorization); exponents; scientific notation; square and other roots; Pythagorean Theorem; pre-algebra topics (linear expressions, linear equations, and higher order expressions); properties of real numbers: commutative, distributive, etc.; coordinate graphing, including  $y = mx + b$ ; plane and solid geometry (area, perimeter, volume, etc.); measurement (unit conversion, precision, metric system; calculator use).

## **(M71a) MATH 7A**

This course is for students with high achievement in their current class, mastery of basic concepts (fractions, decimals, percentages, area, volume, etc.), and strong interest in problem solving. Essentially the same topics are covered as in Math 7, but with greater depth, pace, and expectation of independent work.

**Note regarding Math 7a:** Most students in seventh grade will take Math 7. In addition to this, Math 7a, an advanced section, is offered to qualified students. This section covers the same material as Math 7, but proceeds in greater depth and at greater speed with less time taken to review and reinforce basic material. Accordingly, criteria for course placement are high achievement in the student’s current class, mastery of basic material, and strong interest in advanced work. Placement decisions are considered carefully, taking into account the recommendation of the current teacher, previous grades, standardized test scores, and end-of-the-year placement tests. In late spring of their sixth-grade year, current students are informed of their recommended placement for the following year, with time taken for discussion and review as needed.

**New seventh-grade students who wish to be considered for Math 7a should attach a recommendation from their current math teacher to their *Course Sign-Up Sheet*. Please also see your admissions materials for information about the math placement test taking place at 3:30 pm on March 24, 2016 in Middle School Room 102 (students should bring a pencil and a calculator.) Please contact Math Department Head, Tom Rona, if you have questions ([tom.rona@lakesideschool.org](mailto:tom.rona@lakesideschool.org)).**

### **(M80a) ALGEBRA 8**

This is a standard first-year algebra course, with additional topics and use of computers and calculators to explore the subject of algebra. Topics include operations on positive and negative real numbers (integer, rational, radical); classification of the real numbers (rational, radical, transcendental, etc.); absolute value; algebraic ratios and proportions; exponents, exponential growth and decay; scientific notation; radicals, numerical and algebraic; solving radical equations; coordinate graphing, linear and non-linear; statistics; estimation, problem-solving techniques; probability; relative frequency; absolute value; use of calculators, graphing calculators, and spreadsheets; functions,  $f(x)$  notation; linear, quadratic, and rational algebraic expressions and equations; polynomials; multivariable systems; sums and products of algebraic and complex fractions; factoring; generalized laws of exponents; fractional, negative, and zero exponents; logarithms; and using the Quadratic Formula, the Pythagorean Theorem, and the Midpoint Formula.

### **(M81a) ALGEBRA 8A**

This is a first-year algebra course for highly motivated and talented math students who want a strong focus on mathematics in their eighth-grade year. While including the topics mentioned above under Algebra 8, this course covers the concepts of algebra, graphing, and trigonometry with greater depth, pace, and expectation of independent work and with a special emphasis on challenging word problems and formal application of the constructs of algebra, including ventures into limits and derivatives.

**Note regarding Algebra 8a:** Most students in eighth grade will take Algebra 8. In addition to this, Algebra 8a, an advanced section, is offered to qualified students. This section covers the same material as Algebra 8, but proceeds in greater depth and at greater speed with less time taken to review and reinforce basic material. Accordingly, criteria for course placement are high achievement in the student's current class, mastery of basic material, and strong interest in advanced work. Placement decisions are considered carefully, taking into account the recommendation of the current teacher, previous grades, standardized test scores, and end-of-the-year placement tests. In the late spring, current seventh-grade students will be informed of their recommended placement for the following year, with time taken for discussion and review as needed.

**New eighth-grade students who wish to be considered for Algebra 8a should attach a recommendation from their current math teacher to their *Course Sign-Up Sheet*. Please also see your admissions materials for information about the math placement test at 3:30 on March 24, 2016 in Middle School Room 102. (Students should bring a pencil and a calculator.) Please contact Math Department Head, Tom Rona, if you have questions ([tom.rona@lakesideschool.org](mailto:tom.rona@lakesideschool.org)).**



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The goal of the Middle School Physical Education program is to help students develop a positive attitude towards physical activity which can lead to life-long health and fitness. It is our hope that students adopt a healthy, physically active lifestyle that extends beyond their time at the Middle School.

We use a variety of activities to develop fitness and foster an appreciation for activity. The Physical Education curriculum is progressive, with each grade building on the prior year's foundation. Each class meets four times a week. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes are credit/no credit, while 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes are graded. All students fitness test twice a year using the Presidential Fitness Youth Program. A report is emailed home to families after each testing period.

## **(P50a) PE 5**

Fifth-grade students learn to run, jump, kick, strike, catch, and throw efficiently in order to develop their eye-hand and eye-foot coordination. Lead up games are used to introduce and reinforce these elements. Sports and activities include soccer, football, basketball, volleyball, soft lacrosse, and t-ball as well as scooter games, circus arts, rope skipping, wall climbing, and tumbling. Physical fitness is emphasized and is developed through regular, vigorous activity throughout the year.

## **(P60a) PE 6**

In addition to continuing to develop basic motor skills, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in activities including pickleball, floor hockey, soft tennis, and team handball. Students learn the basic components of fitness: flexibility, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and cardiorespiratory endurance. They learn the skills necessary to set personal fitness goals and develop fitness plans to reach their goals.

## **(P70a) PE 7**

Seventh-grade students participate in activities including ultimate frisbee, flag football, soccer, spikeball, pickleball, Speedminton, volleyball, floor hockey, badminton, and softball. Students are also introduced to erg training. Fitness work is incorporated into every lesson. Students set goals as a result of their fitness test and work towards personal improvement over the course of the year.

## **(P80a) PE 8**

Eighth-grade students participate in activities including soccer, spikeball, pickleball, soft tennis, badminton, ultimate games, Speedminton, volleyball, soft lacrosse, and team handball. Students are also introduced to a number of life-long fitness activities including yoga, plyometrics, medicine balls, agility ladders, and use of the weight room. Students set goals as a result of their fitness test and work towards personal improvement over the course of the year.



# SCIENCE

The Middle School Science Department program is designed to give every student repeated opportunities to participate in hands-on, minds-on science and engineering. We engage students' curiosity and teach methods of scientific investigation by involving students in active learning through experimentation. Students ask questions, design experiments, analyze data, and make conclusions based on their own laboratory work. Students are engaged in project-based learning that allows them to apply their knowledge of physical science, life science, earth science, and space science concepts.

The Middle School Science curriculum contains a focused study of global topics that are revisited every year, including the ocean, disease, and exploration. Each grade level touches on a different aspect of these three topics, allowing each student's understanding to grow along with their deepening understanding of fundamental scientific principles. Technology is broadly integrated into courses for data collection, analysis, and presentation. Students leave the Middle School with a solid sense of the role of science and engineering in global issues, supported by a firm grasp of natural science principles and what it means to have scientific habits of mind.

## **(S50a) SCIENCE 5**

The fifth-grade science curriculum provides a laboratory experience that develops observational, manual, cooperative, and analytic skills. Scientific inquiry is emphasized. Students access the global topics by learning about disease prevention, designing suitable outdoor wear for a cold weather environment, exploring the role of sonar in marine mammals, and investigating the oil industry's search for ocean energy resources. Lab topics include the physical and behavioral aspects of animal adaptation; chemical and biochemical reactions; computer science; and robotics. Fifth-grade science is taught in conjunction with math so that interdisciplinary units are the norm.

## **(S60a) SCIENCE 6**

The sixth-grade science curriculum focuses on developing students' understanding of the way the world works across a broad spectrum of content areas and refines students' understanding of the engineering design process. Sixth graders are encouraged to develop an appreciation for the wonder and interdependence of life on Earth. Students learn about a variety of scientific concepts through investigations into such areas as density, malaria, astronomy, evolution, chemistry, and hydraulic engineering and design.

## **(S70a) BIOLOGY 7**

Seventh-grade students explore the physiology of a wide range of living things, including bacteria, fungi, plants, and animals. Students design experiments to learn how these organisms meet the challenges of being alive, such as obtaining and processing nutrients, excreting wastes, and sensing the environment. Dissection allows students to explore the complexity of living things and understand the relationship between structure and function in both simple and more advanced organisms. Students access global topics by studying vaccinations, designing and building a self-propelled water creature, and imagining the physiological adaptations of an inhabitant of an unusual biome. Focused on human biology, topics include the nervous system, the musculoskeletal system, circulation and respiration, reproduction, digestion, and evolution.

### **(S80a) PHYSICAL AND EARTH SCIENCE 8**

Eighth-grade students learn about energy and matter and then apply this knowledge to the study of geology, meteorology, chemistry, and astronomy. An introductory unit on atomic theory and chemical bonds leads into the study of rocks and minerals. The meteorology unit focuses on how air and water behave, with students designing several experiments and interpreting their results. The astronomy unit focuses primarily on the interaction of the earth, moon, and sun. Students access global topics by writing a blog of tectonic travels, experimenting with different water purification treatments, and studying global winds and currents. Lab activities include earthquake simulations, experiments in physics and chemistry, and investigations with stream tables to study erosion and watersheds.

# SERVICE LEARNING - LOCAL

Through its 5-12 service learning program, Lakeside seeks to develop in each student the ethos of service – of giving back to one’s community. We seek to ensure that as students serve others, they develop a keener sense of justice, empathy, and an appreciation for the unique challenges others face and the positive contributions every individual makes to our world. Students should come away from their service opportunities with the understanding that we all have much to learn from each other; it is never too early to have an impact; and the common good is the responsibility of all.

## **SERVICE LEARNING 5**

Fifth-grade students participate in a variety of service learning activities. Some activities remain the same from year to year and others change in response to topics covered in the curriculum. Examples of past projects include sponsoring a school-wide food drive; preparing special gifts for a holiday party at a youth shelter; clearing a nearby orchard of fallen apples; and preparing the Giving Garden at a public park for the winter freeze. These activities are designed to foster in our students a desire to make the world a better place for people, animals, and the environment as well as an understanding that we can care for and help people outside of our immediate community.

## **SERVICE LEARNING 6**

The service theme for sixth grade is “local community support and enhancement.” Specific activities vary from year to year. Sixth-grade students participate in four full days of service learning within the local Seattle community. The past three years, sixth grade students have partnered with EarthCorps for hands-on environmental service. EarthCorps is a Seattle-based nonprofit with a mission to build global community through local environmental service. Students will learn the following at EarthCorps service projects: a brief history about the parks/natural areas they will be working in, native vs. non-native plant species, basics in environmental restoration, the benefits of healthy urban forests, and why this work is important. Students will learn restoration techniques including invasive plant removal, planting native trees/shrubs and restoration site maintenance. Additional service learning projects include: managing the weekly Middle School recycling program and learning how sustainability on a small local level impacts the broader community.

## **SERVICE LEARNING 7**

Seventh-grade students break from classes four times a year to participate in a full day of service learning at an off-campus location. Students choose a theme for the year that interests them— such as hunger, elders, homelessness, animals, or children—and are placed into smaller service groups of approximately 9 students with a faculty leader. Before the first service outing of the year, students participate in an orientation in which they learn about their topic, the service agency or site where they will be working, and what service learning means at Lakeside. Students work with the same topic and service agency all year and share their experiences with their peers in their advisory groups to help reflect and process their service learning experience.



# SERVICE LEARNING - GLOBAL

Through active service and study, Lakeside's 5-12 **Global Service Learning (GSL) Program** seeks to develop in students an awareness of, respect for, and understanding of diverse cultural communities as well as the common issues facing our local community. Our goal is to inspire and empower students to be agents of change both in their local communities and around the world. The new Middle School GSL program prepares all eighth-grade students for the global GSL locations, which all upper school students can apply to.

The eighth-grade GSL program is mandatory for all students. It takes place during the school year and combines on-site service learning with a cultural immersion experience. By making tangible curricular connections, students gain insight into the dynamics of cultural communities by experiencing them firsthand and appreciating them on their own terms. Eighth-grade students travel to one of six sites within driving distance of Seattle for a week-long, culturally-immersive experience. In each location, students learn from local partners and work alongside community members to gain a holistic understanding of daily life, culture, and complex issues facing each community. The experiences are integrated with the academic curriculum across the disciplines before, during and following the trips. The program serves as a leadership opportunity and a culmination of experiences that students have had in the fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-grade Service Learning and Outdoor Programs.

In spring of seventh grade, students indicate their trip preference of the six different GSL sites. Students are informed about their trip group before the end of seventh grade. Trip preparation begins immediately when students begin in eighth grade. All trips take place September 25 to October 1. Three adult trip leaders (Lakeside faculty and outdoor educators) accompany each group of students.

## **BROETJE ORCHARDS**

Students spend the week immersed in the Broetje Orchard community in Prescott, Washington. Students learn from the orchard employees and their families in the Vista Hermosa community. Students work alongside of a peer group in Vista Hermosa on community-identified projects, connect with youth in the before and after-school program, and spend time at the Jubilee Ranch school. Students also participate in community activities such as soccer games and picnics. After their week in eastern Washington, students will return home with a better understanding of daily life in the orchard community, immigration and migrant farm worker issues, Mexican American culture, and the Spanish language.

## **MAKAH INDIAN RESERVATION**

Students spend the week on the Makah Reservation on the northwest tip of Washington's Olympic Peninsula. Students become involved in the life of the Makah tribe by making connections with community members, including elders and youth. They explore ancient traditions and contemporary issues on the Makah reservation. Students learn about Makah language, storytelling, ethnobotany, crafts, games, and other aspects of folklore from tribal members. Service projects involve working at the Makah Museum, helping out in Neah Bay Elementary School, and cleaning up area beaches. Students will gain an appreciation for the deeply rooted connections between the Makah people and the natural environment of the Olympic Coast, along with an understanding of importance of cultural preservation for the Makah Nation.

## **CLOUDVIEW ECO FARM**

Students will learn about small-scale organic farming and the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) movement at Cloudview Eco Farm in Ephrata, WA. Students will experience all aspects of life on the farm during the week. They will assist farmers with daily tasks such as weeding and harvesting produce and caring for livestock. Students will also help to facilitate farm fieldtrips for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, support elders with a special farm-based community project, and prepare for the weekly shareholder's produce pickup and farmers market. Students will gain an understanding of complex environmental,

economic and social dynamics in the Columbia River watershed as they are immersed in region for the week.

## **ELWHA RIVER**

Students will examine issues relating to the restoration of the Elwha River watershed and the monumental removal of the Elwha Dams on the north shore of the Olympic Peninsula. Students will learn first-hand about the dynamic interactions between Olympic National Park, the US Forest Service, the Klallam tribe, conservationists, the timber industry, and others who have a stake in this undertaking. Students will volunteer with Olympic National Park and connect with Klallam tribal community leaders and youth as part of their experience.

## **TIMBER COMMUNITY**

Students explore the connections between forestry, economics, and culture in the Vernonia, Oregon region. Students learn about issues of sustainability and work on forestry projects with youth and other community members at the Vernonia School, Nehalem River Watershed Council, and the Hyla Woods sustainable forest. Students will gain an understanding of the intersection of various logging, farming, conservation, ecotourism, and educational interests in the region.

## **QUINAULT RESERVATION**

Students travel to Lake Quinault on the southern portion of Washington's Olympic Peninsula. Students connect and work alongside of youth at the Quinault School, a diverse student population including 34.5% Native American and 20% Hispanic students. Students learn about the issues affecting the Quinault tribal community and the relationship between the Quinault Reservation and Olympic National Park. Students will examine topics such as fisheries, logging, and recreation in the Quinault watershed.

# SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY

The primary goal of the Middle School History Department is to prepare students to live in an interconnected world by developing in them an understanding of the past and its relationship to the world today. Teachers encourage learning using a variety of methods, including simulations, projects, presentations, literature, primary documents, films, and guest speakers. Students learn how to acquire, evaluate, and interpret historical information, and to communicate their knowledge and ideas effectively.

## **THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST: A GLOBAL MICROCOSM (GRADE 5)**

The social studies component of Humanities 5 uses global themes such as change, interdependence, diversity, human migration, human rights, quality of life, and sustainability to explore the history of Washington State and the Pacific Northwest. Students learn how the physical and political geography of the region influenced the region's economic and cultural history. They study the roles that the fishing, timber, and technology industries played in shaping the economic and social development of the Pacific Northwest, and their impact upon the region's natural environment and its indigenous cultures. Working individually and in groups, students read historical accounts, analyze historical issues, discuss current events, role-play, create art related to the content, and write persuasive essays on issues that affect their local communities and the region as a whole.

## **THE SILK ROAD: EAST MEETS WEST (GRADE 6)**

Sixth-grade social studies concentrates on the geography of Eurasia and on the cultures that existed along the path of the Silk Road—once an intricate network of trade routes that connected Asia to the Western world. As cultures encountered one another, they established important connections along the Silk Road that enabled the migration of products, languages, inventions, belief systems, and forms of artistic expression. Throughout the school year, students reflect on how these multiple connections relate to their own experiences. The course stresses reading, writing, and interpretive work as students engage in a series of thematic units focused on geography and cartography; archaeology and chronology; trade and economics; religion; daily life; and conflict and conquest. A year-long current events program supplements and extends the historical and cultural curriculum.

## **AMERICAN HISTORY: THE AMERICAN DREAM (GRADE 7)**

According to the standard definition of what became known as the American Dream, the United States is the land of opportunity where people can achieve success and realize their dreams through hard work, education, and talent. In reality, different groups and people have defined the American Dream in different ways. Throughout our nation's history, the pursuit of these various American Dreams often caused social conflict and disunity rather than cooperation and cohesion. Starting with the founding of the thirteen colonies, this course charts how various segments of American society have sought to achieve their visions of the American Dream and what happened when the visions differed.

## **WORLD HISTORY: GLOBAL ISSUES—PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE (GRADE 8)**

The goal of the eighth-grade global issues is to teach students to recognize the connection between what happened in the past to the world that exists today, and to view themselves as participants in the global community who have the knowledge and skills to create a more humane and sustainable world. Students begin by learning about the state of the world today, and about the issues (environment, resources, population, consumption, human rights, conflict, health, and poverty) that humanity faces today. Students also study how societies in the past have succeeded or failed in meeting the challenges they faced. Finally, students work in groups to research particular global issues, and make presentations on how these issues should be addressed. Students learn how to conduct research, to work collaboratively, to communicate effectively, and to analyze and interpret evidence.



# ACADEMIC SUPPORT: THE BRAIN & LEARNING LAB

The Brain & Learning Lab enhances student learning by promoting strategic learning, i.e., purposeful, goal-oriented approaches to learning. We support the development of skills in four competency areas: 1) homework and organization, 2) planning and prioritizing, 3) attention, retention and learning, 4) self-monitoring, self-reflection and self-advocacy. Lab faculty emphasize that learning can be maximized through an understanding of how learning occurs in the brain. Brain & Learning Lab Coordinator, Camilla Calkins (a.k.a. Dr. C), and Brain & Learning Lab Specialist, Sanni Keskimaki, are available to consult with parents, guardians, teachers, and students to support academic performance. Students, parents, and guardians may access department services by coming to the lab or scheduling an appointment.

## **CONTENT SUPPORT & TUTORIAL COORDINATION**

As part of the Middle School student support team, Brain & Learning Lab faculty coordinate student academic support plans. Content support is available on a limited basis. For long-term content support, referrals are made to professional tutors who are available to work individually with students. Professional tutors provide ongoing support and instruction on a fee basis. Space is available in the Brain & Learning Lab for outside tutors to meet with students on campus.

## **SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

When recommendations for assessments by outside professionals are made and/or when there are documented learning challenges, Brain & Learning Lab faculty develop academic support plans, coordinate reasonable accommodations, provide ongoing case management, and act as liaisons between outside professionals and the school and between families and teachers. Lab faculty also provides referrals for educational and other professional assessments.

## **OTHER SERVICES**

In addition to academic and learning support, Lab faculty provides teacher consultation and classroom instruction on topics such as metacognition, executive functions, and learning and the brain. Lab faculty also periodically present seminars and interactive faculty workshops related to teaching and learning. They also coordinate and administer the Comprehensive Testing Program 4 (CTP-IV) completed by sixth and eighth graders.



# CLUBS

The Middle School offers a range of after school clubs. The clubs listed below are those which were offered last year and will most likely be offered again in 2015-2016, though final offerings depend on student interest and initiative. Clubs usually meet one afternoon per week from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Additional clubs may be added once the school year begins. Students may propose new clubs by completing a *Clubs and Activities* form available from the Middle School Assistant Director. This form describes the requirements for initiating a club and guides the student through the application process.

Specific dates and times for the fall/winter clubs and activities listed below will be available in mid-September; information about winter/spring clubs and activities will be available in early February. For an updated listing of activities and meeting schedules, please contact Ted Chen (206-440-2856 or [ted.chen@lakesideschool.org](mailto:ted.chen@lakesideschool.org)).

## **ART CLUB (GRADES 5-8)**

Are you an art lover? Creative students are welcome to drop in as their schedule permits to work on a variety of art projects. Interested artists please join us on Wednesdays, after school. Club is sponsored by Ms. Ziff.

## **THE BUILDERS' GUILD (GRADES 5-8)**

Ever seen chain-mail made of soda can tops or old pennies? Ever seen an ancient Roman shield constructed out of cardboard? Come to room 106 to see these things and even learn how to construct them! This club is dedicated to building "stuff" from cardboard and other "low-tech" materials. It will meet once a week during the lunch periods on Mondays.

## **CHESS CLUB (GRADES 5-8)**

Students at all skill levels in grades 5-8 are welcome to drop in as their schedule permits to play practice games and learn cool openings and strategies. Interested players, including those unable to attend Chess Club, may participate in the monthly Friday afternoon Seattle Middle School Metro Chess League and other local, state and national competitions. No tournament experience or participation is required.

## **COMPUTER PROGRAMMING & ROBOTICS CLUB (GRADES VARY)**

Students have the opportunity to explore programming, physical computing and robotics. This after-school activity, guided by a computer science professional, allows students an opportunity to learn programming in languages that are age/developmentally appropriate. Some may choose to do desktop computing with Scratch, Agentsheets, Python, Processing, Java, C# or C; others may choose to do physical computing with robots or arduino boards. The programming club is open to students of all experience levels in grades 6-8 in the fall term. Beginning in February it will be open to students in grades 5-8. Sometimes we run a separate Computer Science club depending on student interest/ faculty supervision.

## **DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS (GRADES 5-8)**

Do you ever imagine yourself peering through hazy darkness, rough stone walls on either side of you dripping with ooze, gripping a sword in your hand, wondering what eldritch horror lurks around the next corner of a crumbling ruin? Does the notion of stealth, secrecy, and lightning reflexes stimulate your inner Ninja? If so, you might be interested in joining the Dungeons and Dragons Club. The Dungeons & Dragons club is open to grades 5-8.

## **GO & TEA CLUB (GRADES 5-8)**

Go ("weiqi" in Chinese) is an ancient strategy board game for two players that originated in China over 2,000 years ago. The game is rich in strategy, yet simple in rules. Come play, drink Chinese tea, and eat Chinese tea snacks with us. Go club is open to grades 5-8.

### **KNITTING (GRADES 5-8)**

Students in grades 5-8 are invited to bring their knitting projects and spend time together knitting. Beginning knitters may also come to learn some basic skills. Some knitting supplies are provided, but we strongly encourage knitters to bring their own materials.

### **KUNG FU (GRADES 5-8)**

Students will learn traditional Kung Fu techniques in a family-like atmosphere with the goals of improving personal health, developing discipline and self-confidence, and learning self-defense techniques. Kung Fu club is available to grades 5-8.

### **MATH CLUB 5 (GRADE 5)**

Math Club 5 is designed for enthusiastic young mathematicians who want to extend themselves with challenging problems. It is student centered with opportunities for students to work through problems alone or in groups and can be attended on a drop-in basis. There will be very few teacher-led lessons, although a faculty member will be present to provide general hints and advice.

### **MATH CLUB 6 (GRADE 6)**

Math Club 6 is designed for enthusiastic young mathematicians who want to extend themselves with challenging problems. It is student centered with opportunities for students to work through problems alone or in groups and can be attended on a drop-in basis. There will be very few teacher-led lessons, although a faculty member will be present to provide general hints and advice.

### **MATH CLUB 7-8 (GRADES 7-8)**

Gather with like-minded friends to have fun with math. Although much of our time is spent practicing for upcoming competitions, Math Club 7 & 8 is open to everyone; you don't have to compete to participate. It is also just a fun place to explore interesting mathematical ideas and work together on challenging problems. If you have conflicts with other after-school activities, you may pick up materials from Ms. Bueing or Ms. O'Neill. The year will culminate in two major off-campus competitions: MATHCOUNTS in February and a trip to Blaine for the Washington State Math Championships in March.

### **SPANISH CLUB (GRADES 5-8)**

The Spanish Club welcomes all Spanish speakers! We'll converse in Spanish, play games, sing songs, and watch movies. We will learn some traditional dances, and cook dishes from different Hispanic countries. ¡Bienvenidos! This club is open to grades 5-8.

### **STUDENTS TAKING ACTION (STA) CLUB (GRADES 5-8)**

Get ready to change the world around you! STA is a student-founded and student-run club empowering students to join forces with others who want to make a positive difference to improve the quality of life within our school and around the world. STA has run drives, organized awareness efforts such as Day of Silence in the past, and this year plans to organize school wide student activities such as a School Film Night. A club for all grades, STA is offered on Wednesdays, at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch

### **ULTIMATE FRISBEE CLUB (GRADES 6-8)**

In the spring Lakeside sponsors an ultimate Frisbee team, co-ed, which competes in the DiscNW League. Practices are held once a week for the first couple of weeks and after, games are played on the weekends. The season runs approximately March to mid-May. Previous experience is not required – come one, come all! Students can simultaneously participate in a Lakeside spring sport such as track, lacrosse or baseball if they wish.

# INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Middle School participates in the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) sports program and the Boys and Girls Lacrosse Associations. In addition to the required physical education classes, students may elect to participate in our after-school interscholastic sports programs. The primary goal of fifth- and sixth-grade interscholastic sports is for students to have fun and learn skills. At the seventh- and eighth-grade levels, interscholastic sports become more competitive. Students and parents/guardians looking for a highly competitive experience should consider selecting teams outside of or in addition to Lakeside.

Registration for fall sports (cross country, sculling and soccer) takes place during course sign-ups the previous spring. Online registration for winter and spring sports takes place several weeks before each season. Since the CYO places limits on team sizes, our Lakeside Middle School “no-cut” policy means that students who register during the stated timeframe will be assured a spot on a team, while those who do not may be waitlisted and/or denied participation.

When a large number of students sign up for a sport and the numbers warrant a second team, teams will be divided according to the league offerings for that sport. For example, basketball is divided into varsity and junior varsity teams, while soccer is divided into two equally experienced teams. If a player has a regularly scheduled commitment that prohibits him or her from attending the majority of basketball practices or games, he/she will be placed on the junior varsity squad, rather than varsity, regardless of his/her ability.

## **FALL (LATE AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER)**

Coed Cross-Country (Grades 5-8)	Sunday meet days
Sculling (Rowing) (Grades 7-8)	Practices only. Emphasis is on learning to scull.
Girls' Soccer (Grades 5-8)	Saturday games
Boys' Soccer (Grades 5-8)	Saturday games

## **WINTER (EARLY NOVEMBER TO MID-FEBRUARY)**

Girls' Basketball (Grades 5-8)	Saturday and/or Sunday games
Boys' Basketball (Grades 5-8)	Mostly Sunday games

## **SPRING (EARLY FEBRUARY TO MIDDLE OF MAY)**

Girls' Volleyball (Grades 5-8)	Saturday and/or Sunday games
Boys' Lacrosse (Grades 5-8)	Saturday late morning games
Girls' Lacrosse (Grades 5-8)	Saturday and a few Sunday games
Coed Track and Field (Grades 5-8)	Saturday meets
Coed U.S. Crew (Grade 8 only)	Daily practice with weekend regattas. <i>Open to students who have participated in the fall 'Learn to Scull' program.</i>

Most teams practice twice weekly for ninety minutes. All practices conclude by 6:00 p.m.

Student athletes who have late practice must attend after-school study hall until practice begins.

More information about the Interscholastic Sports Program can be found on the Lakeside website ([www.lakesideschool.org](http://www.lakesideschool.org)).

# LIBRARY

The mission of a school library program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users and producers of ideas and information (American Association of School Libraries). The Lakeside Middle School library:

- Provides instruction and support for a comprehensive information literacy program;
- Nurtures the love of reading and the habits of mind of life long readers;
- Leads and collaborates with faculty/staff and students in research, guided inquiry and project-based learning; and
- Develops digital citizens who understand the responsible use of information.

# OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The Middle School Outdoor Program is based on the belief that the skills developed and practiced in the outdoors—if deliberate self-reflection is built into the program curriculum—transfer back to everyday life. Our program seeks to develop in students the following personal attributes and capacities through their participation in the fifth- through eighth-grade outdoor program:

- **Students develop a sense of place in the Pacific Northwest.** Through their participation in the outdoor program, students experience the varied terrains of Washington State, understand its geography and ecology, and develop an appreciation for the immense beauty of our state. The program gives each of our students the opportunity to develop a personal connection with the natural world and our local environment.
- **Students learn how to contribute as members of teams.** Each outdoor trip requires students to work in teams. The success of each team depends on every trip member doing his or her part. Each trip is designed so that students collaborate in performing shared tasks and meeting shared challenges.
- **Students take physical, emotional, and social risks.** In the natural environment, students are pushed outside their comfort zones in safe and productive ways. Such experiences challenge students' physical and emotional limits, thereby pressing them to expand those limits and develop the self-confidence that comes with success.
- **Students practice problem solving.** Each outdoor trip exposes students to situations in which they face significant challenges without predetermined or familiar means of meeting those challenges. In such situations, students learn to adapt and improvise to meet these challenges and predict potential outcomes and consequences. This ability to adapt, improvise, and predict will transfer to students' everyday lives.

Participation in the annual outdoor program trips is required of all Middle School students as part of the Middle School curriculum and educational program. Potential restrictions regarding a student's full participation should be discussed with the Middle School director well in advance of the outdoor program trip dates. Such restrictions must be of a medical nature serious enough to limit a student's participation.

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION 5

In late spring, the fifth-grade class travels together to a Washington state park, camps overnight in tents, and prepares meals family style. In preparation for the overnight stay, students learn to set up tents, plan meals for a big group, pack bags, and organize group games and activities. While in the outdoors, students do a short hike and assist in meal preparation and clean up.

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION 6

In late spring, sixth graders go out in groups of 16 for a two-night, three-day outdoor experience at a group campsite in western Washington. In preparation, students learn to set up tents, put together prepared menus, and pack their own bags. While in the outdoors, students go on two day hikes; assist in meal preparation and clean up; and learn about the geography and ecology of the site.

## OUTDOOR EDUCATION 7

In late spring, seventh graders go out in groups of 10 with two adult leaders for a three-night, four-day wilderness experience. Prior to the trip, students participate in three educational sessions where they learn about outdoor equipment; shelters; packing a backpack; menu planning; safety; and minimum impact camping. Students are physically active over the four days, whether hiking, kayaking, canoeing, or some other outdoor activity. They also tackle at least one high impact activity that, in students' perceptions, poses a challenge or risk. Throughout the trip, students have opportunities to assume leadership roles and to practice group decision making. The seventh-grade outdoor trip locations represent diverse ecosystems in Washington State; students learn about the geography and ecology of their outdoor site.

