



Ranch View Middle School



International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme School

7th and 8th Grade
Course Description Guide

2018 - 2019 School Year



Ranch View Middle School
1731 Wildcat Reserve Parkway
Highlands Ranch, Colorado 80129 - (303) 387-2300
<https://sites.google.com/a/dcsdk12.org/ranch-view-middle-school/>



Ranch View Middle School

Tanner Fitch, Principal
Shelley Hyland, Assistant Principal
Ben D'Ardenne, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Ranch View Middle School! We are honored you and your family have chosen to join the Ranch View Wolf pack! Please use this course selection guide as you navigate the many class options available for the upcoming school year. Please keep in mind that this publication was written in December of 2015 and may not reflect any significant events, trends or changes that might have occurred at the district, state or national level.

To assist you in making the most informed decision possible regarding course selection, we have included the following:

- A brief description of the courses required for all 7th and 8th graders
- A brief description of the electives from which students may choose
- A brief description of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

In the fall of 2012, Ranch View Middle School received accreditation through the International Baccalaureate Organization as a World School - Middle Years Programme (MYP). Different than the optional high school IB Diploma Programme, MYP is implemented school-wide. At Ranch View, MYP embodies the practices and most current educational research that combine high expectations and academic rigor while guiding students through developing personal value systems that inform their sense of place in their local and global communities. All RVMS students are students of the International Baccalaureate and are expected to demonstrate moral character, their best efforts toward academic endeavors and the characteristics of an internationally minded life-long learner.

At RVMS we aspire to be a dynamic, engaging, student-centered learning community where members feel safe to build relationships, to take risks, inquire, innovate, think critically, and develop leadership and global competency.

Learning is a partnership at Ranch View where our aim is to develop the whole child while implementing the district strategic plan through the lens of IB. Through the IB framework, students wrestle with World Class Outcomes and Criteria while focusing on learning attitudes and skills such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, global competency and systems thinking that give meaning to real-world issues engaging students in a reflective interdisciplinary approach to learning. We recognize that success in our rapidly changing world requires an ability to apply core concepts in innovative ways; to know where and how to access information; to embrace multiple perspectives and work collaboratively when solving problems.

We hope that at Ranch View you will find a balance of choices in extra-curricular activities, academic electives and core subject areas. Please know our staff is dedicated to the most effective pedagogical practices to support, partner and inspire you along your journey. Please feel free to contact any of us to assist you with concerns, questions or ideas about the educational process. As spring and summer draw near, we will be populating our website and IC portal with updates about the new school year.

Enjoy the remainder of your year. We look forward to having you as a member of the Wolf Pack family and welcome you wholeheartedly!

Sincerely,

Tanner Fitch, Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

WEB SITE ADDRESS: <http://rvms.dcsdk12.org>

FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/RanchViewMiddleSchool>

SCHOOL COLORS: Burgundy, Navy Blue, and Silver

SCHOOL MASCOT: Wolf

SCHOOL MOTTO: *"The strength of the pack is the wolf and the strength of the wolf is the pack."*
-Rudyard Kipling

SCHOOL HOURS: 7:30 A.M. – 2:45 P.M.

NUMBER OF CLASSES PER DAY: Five (5) core classes and two (2) elective classes.

RANCH VIEW VISION: Ranch View Middle School is positive community of learners inspired to make the world a better place through authentic and challenging learning opportunities that foster strong global awareness.

RANCH VIEW MISSION: Ranch View Middle School exists to provide a high-quality International Baccalaureate education that develops inquiring, caring, open-minded, and thoughtful students who demonstrate intercultural understand and respect for all people.



MEDICAL RECORD REQUIREMENTS: It is state law that every middle school student has specific

immunizations:

- **5 DTP**
- **4 Polio**
- **3 Hepatitis B**
- **1 Varicella**
- **1 Tdap during 6th grade, must be complete before being allow to begin 7th grade**

Immunization Exemption: To qualify for exemptions, parents must provide documentation of a medical, religious or personal exemption to be filed with school records.

Proof must be provided to the school at the time of registration. Any student, who does not have these by opening day, **may not attend school.** We ask parental cooperation on this matter.

STUDENT USE OF DISTRICT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Policy JICJ): It will be necessary for every parent/ guardian and student to sign the Acknowledgement Form- Student Rights and Responsibilities Code of Conduct and Discipline. Parents will do this during the online check- in process and students will do this at the beginning of the new school year. **We cannot allow students to use the internet without your permission.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DISCLAIMER: All Physical Education and activities classes are, by nature, classes that include risk of injury to the participants. Injuries may range in severity from minor to long-term catastrophic. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised Physical Education and activity classes, it is impossible to eliminate risk. Students must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems to their teacher, follow classroom rules and procedures, and act responsibly while in the class areas.

DO NOT ATTEMPT ANY STRENUOUS CONDITIONING PROGRAMS UNTIL YOU HAVE CONSULTED A PHYSICIAN. STUDENTS ENROLLING IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION SHOULD HAVE A PHYSICAL.

PLACEMENT ON TEAMS. All student schedules are created through the use of a computer program. Student placement on teams is random.

ALL FEES/CHARGES SHOWN WITHIN THIS COURSE GUIDE ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

FEES: Fees may be changed upon notification from the Board of Education

Textbook Fees: \$15.00 (determined by the Board of Education)

Planner: All students must pay \$5.00 for the student daily planner and assignment guide.

Book Fines: Replacement for lost or severely damaged textbooks is based on replacement purchase price.

First year:	100% of the cost of the book
Second Year:	80% of the cost of the book
Third Year:	60% of the cost of the book
Fourth year:	40% of the cost of the book
Fifth year:	20% of the cost of the book

Elective and Lab Classes: Fees are determined by the materials used.

Library Media: Lost, damaged or defaced materials will be charged at full replacement cost

Athletics: The fee is \$70.00 per sport (subject to change). Fees are set by the Board of Education.

Locks: Each student will need a lock, purchased from RVMS (keying purposes), for daily P.E. lockers. The cost of the lock is \$5.00.

7th Grade REQUIRED Courses

Science

Mathematics

Language Arts

P.E. and Health

Humanities

MYP Science 07 (Life)

In 7th grade, science class encompasses life and earth sciences. The study of living organisms, their systems, and their interrelationships are part of class as well as geologic time, changing life forms, and events related to plate movement. Topics covered include: the cell, cell processes, human anatomy and body systems, genetics, change over time, plate tectonics, and geologic events. Essential skills such as application of scientific method and using measurement tools related to science are infused into the curriculum. The course uses variety of technology and lab oriented investigations to maximize student learning. This course is designed to explore a variety of life and earth science concepts and ideas.

MYP Math 07

Students completing this course will acquire a thorough understanding of proportional reasoning, geometric reasoning, and problem solving skills through project based learning focused on a global view. Each skill will be delivered through 21st Century skills by collaborating, communicating, creating and critical thinking to apply these skills. Students will have a strong foundation based on algorithms, equations, visual displays and statistics.

MYP Mathematics 07 Accelerated

Prerequisites:

- Results on MAPS
- Results on State test
- Teacher recommendation
- Student interest

This course involves rigorous, fast paced preparation for the demands of mastering Algebra I in eighth grade using a world lens. This course is intended for those students who have excelled beyond intermediate standards during their sixth grade year. Students completing this course will develop an excellent foundation in algebra, graphs, geometry concepts, rational numbers, inequalities, transformations, linear equations, polynomials, integers, and real numbers. The general expectation of students placed in advanced math is that they maintain an 85% or higher average.

MYP MS Algebra I

Students are placed into this course. This course builds from Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7. It includes the critical areas from High School Algebra I and contains content from 8th grade Math. Algebra 1 demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The students will master the following critical areas: (1) quantities and rates, including simple linear expressions and equations; (2) interpreting linear and exponential functions given graphically, numerically, symbolically, and verbally, translate between representations, exploring systems of equations and inequalities; (3) using linear models to describe relationships between quantities and analyze the appropriateness of linear models; (4) the laws of exponents to include rational exponents, creating and solving equations, inequalities, and systems of equations involving quadratic expressions; (5) solving quadratic equations; graphing of quadratic functions; comparing the key characteristics of quadratic functions to those of linear and exponential, specialized functions to include: absolute value, step functions, and piecewise-defined functions.

MYP Language/Literature 07

Our language arts courses concentrate on the Colorado Academic Standards for reading, writing, and communicating. Incorporating a variety of 21st century skills, students will work toward proficiency in the following areas: oral expression and listening, reading for all purposes, writing and composition, and research and reasoning. Students are expected to demonstrate grade level proficiency in each of these areas as they exit 7th grade. In addition, this course is guided by the IB MYP fundamental concepts of holistic learning, intercultural awareness, and communication. Students and teachers will use the IB areas of interaction to work toward proficiency in the IB language A aims and objectives.

MYP Advanced Language/Literature 07

Advanced language arts courses concentrate on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) for reading, writing, and communicating. Incorporating a variety of 21st century skills, students will work toward advanced proficiency in the following areas: Oral Expression and Listening, Reading for All Purposes, Writing and Composition, and Research and Reasoning. Students are expected to demonstrate above grade level proficiency in each of these areas as they exit 7th grade. Skills are addressed and practiced through complex and abstract thinking and students read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to help make connections in and among disciplines. A collaborative approach to learning is emphasized with a focus on depth, complexity, analysis, and interpretation. In addition, this course is guided by the IB MYP fundamental concepts of holistic learning, intercultural awareness, and communication. Students and teachers will use the IB areas of interaction to work toward proficiency in the IB language A aims and objectives.

MYP Individuals/Societies 07

7th grade: The 7th grade Humanities curriculum consists of **NO "THE"** students investigating **NO "THE"** historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas and themes within regions of the Eastern Hemisphere **from ancient civilizations through the Middle Ages**. This curriculum is aligned with the four Colorado State Standards - History, Geography, Economics, and Civics, as well as the Grade Level Expectations within each standard. This course is taught through the IB Humanities Objectives of "Knowing and Understanding," "Investigating," "Communicating," and "Thinking Critically."

MYP Integrated Physical Education 07

Expenses: A combination lock is required and provided for the PE locker room. If the lock is lost or damaged the student will be assessed \$5.00.

Clothing: A RVMS t-shirt is required and can be purchased during express check-in or in the main office. Shorts, sweats and sweat shirts will also be needed and can be of any color. Sturdy athletic shoes with laces are required daily.

Curriculum: The major components of physical education in 7th grade are; physical fitness, team sports, individual sports, and activities that promote personal and social responsibility. Activities include but are not limited to; basketball, tennis, volleyball, badminton, softball, flag football, and all fitness activities.

MYP Integrated Health 07

Health Education creates an awareness of, and promotes; positive social, emotional and physical well-being. Through critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity, the students will learn to analyze information and reflect upon global solutions for the 21st century.

8th Grade REQUIRED Courses

**Science
Arts**

Mathematics

Language

P.E. and Health

Humanities

MYP Science 08 (Physical)

Physical Science is designed to serve as a foundation course for high school sciences. This year long course is a study of pre-chemistry principles (matter, atomic structure and periodic table, chemical bonds and reactions) and pre-physics principles (forces and motion, energy and electricity, wave characteristics and behavior including electromagnetic/sound/light waves) as given in the Colorado Grade Level Expectations. Meaningful laboratory investigations are an integral part of this course so that the student may grasp an understanding of the experimental nature of science. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving and the development of critical thinking skills.

MYP Math 08

Students completing this course will develop an excellent foundation in algebra, data analysis, graphs, rational and irrational numbers, percent's, inequalities, linear equations, polynomials, integers, and real numbers. Students will be expected to be proficient in the Douglas County Middle School Standards at the completion of this course.

MYP MS Algebra I

Prerequisite: Students must have completed the advanced 7th grade course with an 85% or better. This course is the equivalent of a ninth grade Algebra I course. This course builds from Accelerated Mathematics Grade 7. It includes the critical areas from High School Algebra I and contains content from Mathematics Grade 8. Algebra 1 demands a faster pace for instruction and learning. The students will master the following critical areas: (1) quantities and rates, including simple linear expressions and equations; (2) interpreting linear and exponential functions given graphically, numerically, symbolically, and verbally, translate between representations, exploring systems of equations and inequalities; (3) using linear models to describe relationships between quantities and analyze the appropriateness of linear models; (4) the laws of exponents to include rational exponents, creating and solving equations, inequalities, and systems of equations involving quadratic expressions; (5) solving quadratic equations; graphing of quadratic functions; comparing the key characteristics of quadratic functions to those of linear and exponential, specialized functions to include: absolute value,

step functions, and piecewise-defined functions.

MYP Geometry:

Students will master the following critical areas: (1) establishing triangle congruence criteria, based on analyses of transformations and formal constructions and using triangle to develop formal proof; (2) identifying criteria for similarity of triangles, using similarity to solve problems, and applying similarity to understand right triangle trigonometry, with particular attention to special right triangles and the Pythagorean theorem; (3) circumference, area and volume formulas and the shapes of cross-sections and the result of rotating a two-dimensional object about a line; (4) using the Pythagorean Theorem and a rectangular coordinate system to verify geometric relationships, including properties of special triangles and quadrilaterals and slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and connecting the geometric and algebraic definitions of the parabola; (5) proving basic theorems about circles, chords, secants, and tangents and using the Cartesian coordinate system to explore circles and parabolas; (6) ability to compute and interpret theoretical and experimental probabilities for compound events, attending to mutually exclusive events, independent events, and conditional probability and using probability to make informed decisions.

MYP Language/Literature 08

Our language arts courses concentrate on the Colorado Academic Standards for reading, writing, and communicating. Incorporating a variety of 21st century skills, students will work toward proficiency in the following areas: oral expression and listening, reading for all purposes, writing and composition, and research and reasoning. Students are expected to demonstrate grade level proficiency in each of these areas as they exit 8th grade. In addition, this course is guided by the IB MYP fundamental concepts of holistic learning, intercultural awareness, and communication. Students and teachers will use the IB areas of interaction to work toward proficiency in the IB language A aims and objectives.

MYP Language/Literature 08 Advanced

Advanced language arts courses concentrate on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) for reading, writing, and communicating. Incorporating a variety of 21st century skills, students will work toward advanced proficiency in the following areas: Oral Expression and Listening, Reading for All Purposes, Writing and Composition, and Research and Reasoning. Students are expected to demonstrate above grade level proficiency in each of these areas as they exit 8th grade. Skills are addressed and practiced through complex and abstract thinking and students read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to help make connections in and among disciplines. A collaborative approach to learning is emphasized with a focus on depth, complexity, analysis, and interpretation.

MYP Individuals/Societies 08

The 8th grade Humanities curriculum consists of the students investigating the historical eras, individuals, groups, ideas and themes from the origins of the American Revolution through Reconstruction and their relationships with one another. This curriculum is aligned with the four Colorado State Standards - History, Geography, Economics and Civics. This course is taught through the IB Humanities Objectives of "Knowing and Understanding," "Investigating," "Communicating," and "Thinking Critically."

MYP Integrated Physical Education 08

Expenses: A combination lock is required for the PE locker room. For keying purposes, the lock must be purchased from Ranch View during express check-in or in the main office for \$5.00.

Clothing: A RVMS t-shirt is required and can be purchased during express check-in or in the main office. Shorts, sweats and sweat shirts will also be needed and can be of any color. Sturdy athletic shoes with laces are required daily.

Curriculum: The major components are; physical fitness, team sports, individual sports, and activities that promote personal and social responsibility. Activities include but are not limited to; basketball, tennis, volleyball, badminton, softball, flag football, and all fitness activities.

MYP Integrated Health 08

- Emotional social wellness
- Violence prevention/risk management
- Signs of suicide
- Disease prevention
- Reproductive health
- Drug prevention/risk management

ELECTIVE Courses

All elective course offerings are based on the number of student requests and available staffing. We hope students will register if interested, but also be flexible should we have to make changes.

The purpose of electives or explanatory;

- *To provide students with variety in class offerings.*
- *To provide opportunities for students to discover and develop their talents.*
- *To provide experiences that compliment and enrich the regular curriculum.*
- *To allow students to identify areas of personal interest.*

Elective fees are determined by the Board of Education after the printing of this guide and **are subject to change without prior notification.**

7th and 8th Grade YEAR-LONG Elective Courses

**Spanish 1A - Spanish 1B - Mandarin Chinese 1A - Mandarin Chinese 1B – French 1A
French 1B- Band - Choir - Orchestra**

Electronic Publishing

Only Open to 8th graders

This is a yearlong course focusing on using a computer and other technologies as a publication tool. The students will learn elements of publishing including page layout, graphic design, digital photography and journalism all with the end goal of creating the school yearbook and other print products. Students will use the Adobe Creative Suite as well as other programs to work independently and collaboratively. Students need to possess the ability to complete projects on deadline, a strong sense of responsibility and be able to produce high quality products. Students will be introduced to

video production for RVMS audience purposes. Students and families also need to be aware that there is an after school commitment for taking photographs and covering sporting events, concerts, dances, plays and other performances.

MYP Spanish 1A

This is a yearlong course for students who have had little or no previous experience with Spanish. Students will learn the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking the target language. Students will also learn about aspects of Hispanic culture. Students are required to pass standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP Spanish 1B

Prerequisite: Spanish 1A Students who passed the 1A standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter of the previous school year may sign up for this course. Students will continue to build upon skills learned in Spanish 1A. Upon successful completion of this course students will be prepared to enter Spanish 2 in high school. Students are required to pass standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP Mandarin Chinese 1A

This is a yearlong course for students who have had little to no previous experience with Chinese. Students will learn language acquisition skills based on International Baccalaureate criteria in the target language. Students will also learn about aspects of Chinese culture. Students are required to pass International Baccalaureate criterion based assessments with proficiency during 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP Mandarin Chinese 1B

Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese 1A

This is a yearlong course for students who passed the 1A standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter of the previous school year may sign up for this course or students who have one or more years of Chinese in school are also eligible to take this course. Students will continue to build upon skills learned in Chinese 1A. Upon successful completion of this course students will be prepared to enter Chinese 2 in high school. Students are required to pass standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP French 1A

This is a yearlong course for students who have had little or no previous experience with French. Students will learn the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking the target language. Students will also learn about aspects of French culture. Students are required to pass standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP French 1B

Prerequisite: French 1A

Students who passed the 1A standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter of the previous school year may sign up for this course. Students will continue to build upon skills learned in French 1A. Upon successful completion of this course students will be prepared to enter French 2 in high school. Students are required to pass standards based assessments with 80% or higher during the 4th quarter in order to progress to the next level the following school year. Study time outside of class is necessary.

MYP Band 07

Beginners are welcome to Band 7

This class is an intermediate level of band instruction designed as a continuation of elementary instruction (students who have played for at least 6 months during their 6th grade year). Emphasis will be placed on learning to read and write musical notation, learning to playing correct articulation, an understanding of dynamics, playing a wide variety of music representing many cultures and styles, listening critically to music, creativity and working together as an ensemble. Classes are performance-oriented: students must attend all concerts. Expected Concert Wear: White long-sleeved shirts, black slacks or black skirts with opaque black tights, black shoes.

Expenses: All woodwind and brass players must provide their own instrument unless arrangements have been made to rent an instrument from the school. The school has tubas, French horns, baritones, bass clarinets, tenor saxes, bari saxes and oboes available for rent. The fee is \$50.00 per semester / \$100 per year. Percussionists will not need their snare drum or bell set at school, but will be required to pay a \$60.00 annual percussion usage fee. All students will also be required to purchase a band method book. The information about purchasing the method book will be available at the beginning of the school year. A band lock is required (\$5.00) and is purchased from the school. Any other equipment needed, such as reeds, valve oil, cleaning kits, neck straps, mutes, etc. must be purchased by the student.

MYP Band 08

*Prerequisite: Prior Band or Director Approval This class will be a continuation of skills built at the 7th grade level or skills developed through private study. Emphasis will be placed on learning to read and write musical notation, playing a wide variety of music representing many cultures and styles, listening carefully and analyzing music, creativity, cooperative work as an ensemble and developing leadership skills through required section rehearsals. Classes are performance-oriented: Students must attend all concerts. There are 3 RVMS Concerts and 1 K – 12 Feeder Area Concert each year. Expected Concert Wear: White long-sleeved shirts, black slacks or black skirts with opaque black tights, black shoes. Opportunities are available to audition for the CU Honor Band, to compete in CHSAA Solo & Ensemble Contest and CHSAA Large Ensemble Contest. Expenses: All woodwind and brass players must provide their own instrument unless arrangements have been made to rent an instrument from the school. The school has tubas, French horns, baritones, bass clarinets, tenor saxes, bari saxes method book. The information about purchasing the method book will be available at the beginning of the school year. A band lock is required (\$5.00) and is purchased from the school. Any other equipment needed, such as reeds, valve oil, cleaning kits, neck straps, mutes, etc. **must be purchased by the student.** **Please note:** In order to try out for the RVMS Jazz Ensemble (an after school activity), students must be enrolled in an RVMS Band class. The only exceptions to this rule are in the case of instruments not found in the traditional concert band, which include the electric bass, electric guitar, drum set and piano.

MYP Choir

No previous singing experience required! Students begin to or continue to develop their skills in singing, music-reading, and ensemble performance. In the course, elements of comprehensive musicianship such as creating music, reading music, singing/playing music and analyzing/describing music are approached through the lens of large ensemble performance. Each class requires two after-school rehearsals and several evening performances. Choir at RVMS provides and develops essential skills for communicating through music.

MYP Orchestra 07

Beginners are welcome to Orchestra 7

Expenses: Students must provide their own instruments (except string bass). There are a limited number of violas and cellos for rent (\$ 50.00 a year). Please see instructor for rental information. The class is a beginner/intermediate level orchestra experience with emphasis on reading, skill development, theory and ear training, and ensemble playing. Several concerts are presented throughout the year both in school and away from school. These performances include festivals and concerts. Attendance is required at all performances. Home practice is required of all students.

MYP Orchestra 08

Prerequisite: prior orchestra or director placement.

This class will be an intermediate level orchestra experience with emphasis on skill development, theory and ear training, and ensemble playing. Several concerts will be presented throughout the year both in and out of school. Performances will include festivals and contests. Attendance at performances is required. Home practice is required for orchestra participation. Expenses: Students must provide their own instruments (except string bass). There are a limited number of violas and cellos for rent (\$50.00 rental fee for the year).

7th and 8th Grade SEMESTER ONLY Elective Courses

Dimensions of Literacy - Dimensions of Math - Art - Drama - Conditioning & Wellness for Life - Family/Consumer Sciences - Digital Design - Multimedia Productions – Exploring World Cultures – E-Media

MYP DIMENSIONS OF LITERACY

Targeted, small group instruction for students who need extra support with their literacy development. This class is designed to increase students' literacy self-confidence and enjoyment of reading and writing through high interest materials on a variety of topics, while remediating topics covered in core language arts classes. Class is limited to students with a READ plan, ore IEP/504/RTI for Language Arts support. Additionally, students who score well below the district average for Language on the MAPS test will be enrolled in DiL.

MYP DIMENSIONS OF MATHMATICS

In this one-semester course designed to target students who struggle with learning mathematics, the students will have opportunities to discover how manipulate, models, sketches, and diagrams bring mathematics to life and enable students to develop the mathematical insights and conceptual knowledge necessary to achieve in mathematics.

MYP Art

Expenses: \$20.00 material fee

Welcome to the world of exploring, problem solving, and creatively expressing yourself. Students will learn to use the visual arts as a form of communication and self-expression. They will investigate the principles of design and elements of art while learning to apply the correct use of materials, techniques and processes. Mediums and experiences may include (but not limited to): processes of drawing, painting, printmaking, clay, sculpture, textiles, art history, crafts, analyzing/evaluating, art appreciation, jewelry, guest artists, and field trip(s) . Students can take this course for 7th and 8th grade as the curriculum will change for each year.

MYP Drama

Students in Drama will learn about the history of theater, pantomime, group work, monologues, and scene work. They will also learn about the audition process, audience etiquette, research, and other relevant areas. They will explore new acting skills, improvisation, and memorization. They will learn self-confidence and get more at ease with public speaking.

MYP Conditioning & Wellness for Life (Elective PE course)

The Physical Education department offers an elective class that gives students an opportunity to enhance their physical conditioning and overall well-being. Students can use this class to achieve their personal fitness goals and/or as a foundation for sports conditioning. All activities in the class will focus on health-related components of physical fitness (cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance and flexibility). Activities and principles covered are lifelong oriented and go beyond the typical team and individual sports and games covered in the Physical Education curriculum. Activities may include, but are not limited to: aerobics, functional fitness, running, weight training, circuit training, fitness games, yoga, interval training, and Pilates.

MYP Innovation and Design Lab

Expenses: \$30.00 material fee.

In a semester, students will rotate to several modules on a 10 day rotation schedule. They can select from the following modules: Lab Manager: Robotics: Lasers: Bridges: Drafting: Widgets and Gadgets: Problem Solving: Flight: Simple Machines / Simple Machines: Rocketry: Drivers Education: Mag Level: Manufacturing: Digital Photography: Embroidery / T-shirt design: Video: Dragsters / COs Cars: Instructional facilitation and structured navigation is used to insure the students read, watch videos and answer questions that relate to their specific module. The curriculum is hands-on in nature because we know that students are engaged when they are using their hands to apply what they have learned. International Baccalaureate core themes have been integrated in to each module to enhance that module's specific content. Students use open-ended projects to develop technological problem solving skills. Students will be evaluated on how they have applied what they have learned to their specific project.

MYP Family/Consumer Sciences

Expenses: \$20.00 material fee.

Family and Consumer Science introduce students to problem solving skills and practical knowledge that they will need to function in the world outside of the school environment. This includes, but is not limited to, introductory cooking skills, financial management, career exploration, community involvement, and basic principles of design. Critical thinking, collaboration, communication and creativity are all integrated into authentic learning tasks that allow students to apply their learning in fun and meaningful ways.

MYP Digital Media

Expenses: \$20.00 material fee.

Digital Design is intended for middle level students to gain an understanding of digital print media. Students will design and create original works using a variety of software in order to communicate, and will learn principal concepts of photography and graphic design. This course will focus on the use of computer technology for the creation of digital print media. Students will use digital photography equipment, photo editing software, graphic design software to demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using digital photography and computer technology. Students will communicate information and ideas effectively using a variety of digital print media.

MYP Multimedia Productions

Expenses: \$20.00 material fee.

This course will focus on the use of computer technology for the creation of multimedia presentations. Students will use multimedia tools such as iMovie, Garage Band and video cameras, microphones and other video editing equipment to demonstrate creative thinking, critical thinking, project planning collaboration, construct knowledge and develop innovative products and processes using technology. Students will communicate information and ideas effectively using a variety of different media, including but not limited to multimedia presentation, audio production, and video production. **Acknowledgement Form is required for this class.**

Academic periods are approximately 52 minutes long for core classes, 45 minutes for elective classes and 30 minutes for Pack Time (ELT- Extended Learning Time). Students are scheduled so that Tuesday-Thursday they go to Pack Time just after period 2. The order may be different per student but could look as follow

MYP E-Media * Prerequisite Multi Media (or teacher approval)

Students will create and produce authentic news video projects with the intent to broadcast to a wider audience by learning to use a variety of broadcasting equipment. Multimedia is a **prerequisite** for this class. Students must know how to edit video before registering for this class.

MYP Exploring World Cultures

In the World Cultures course students will explore components of culture as they relate to various world societies and ourselves. The course focuses on preparing students to participate in an increasingly global society. The students will use research, reflection, discussion and projects to demonstrate understanding of global issues.

Middle School Philosophy At Ranch View

Welcome to the middle school. This age of the young adolescent is very exciting and full of challenges for the parent, child, and educator. At Ranch View, we strive to serve all students and work to provide learning experiences and activities that offer success to each and every individual. We realize that students at the middle level are enduring a great many changes and our staff offers understanding of adolescent issues and at the same time we have high expectations of students both behaviorally and academically.

Ranch View Middle School is a fully accredited Middle Years Programme (MYP) through the International Baccalaureate. One of the reasons why we pursued MYP was that it both honored the research and educational pedagogy that we know is best for the developmental stage of our students. Along with supporting the framework described previously around Middle School Philosophy, MYP takes us one step further with insistence upon high academic rigor and high behavioral expectations while preparing students for a Global Workplace and Economy. We integrated holistic IB core values into classes, our teams, units of study, and daily life each day at RVMS.

Some of the characteristics of our school environment are:

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEACHER TEAMS - Your child will be working with a team of teachers. These teachers work together to provide appropriate and student-centered learning experiences and activities. This offers the advantage of a smaller "community" within the larger school. Teachers also strive to make their learning dependent and integrated with their colleagues so that concepts can be taught and reinforced through multiple means and disciplines.

TEAM PLANNING - Each day the teacher teams plan together. These planning sessions are used to coordinate assignments, plan interdisciplinary units of study, problem solve different student issues, meet with parents for specific reasons, be collegial and share ideas and strategies with teammates.

CONNECTIONS - Most all middle schools have a short time during the day that students link with one adult for the purpose of advisory. Students go to this class the first 18 minutes of the day. It is very important time because this is where the students find out important information; connect with a special teacher to talk over issues, link with other teachers on missed homework assignments, and a variety of other activities that provide a consistent structure for the student.

EXPLORATORY ELECTIVE CLASSES - At the middle level we encourage students to take a variety of electives. This is for the purpose of "exploring" interests, talents, areas of strength, and to try out other learning styles.

POSITIVE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT - We work hard to establish an environment where every person feels safe, accepted, loved and welcomed. An environment where all are invited to participate and many are encouraged to be in leadership roles. We expect each child and adult are treated with dignity and respect.

ASSESSMENT THAT CONSIDERS THE INDIVIDUAL - We record individual academic achievement while providing a variety of assessments in all curricular areas.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT - Parents are welcome and encouraged to be involved with us in the teaching and learning process. Our school will be strong with the collaboration and cooperation between parents and school. Much of our time is spent working with parents to ensure student success.

COUNSELING MISSION STATEMENT: The Counseling Center at Ranch View Middle School will create a warm, caring and accepting environment. The Counseling Center will be committed to helping students develop skills for personal and social competency, to include educational development and emotional well-being. The counselors will serve as a student advocate and will interact with students purposefully with integrity and respect while recognizing the individuality and potential of each student.