

Scarlett Middle School

IB World School Middle Years Programme

Dear 5th Grade Students, Parent(s), Guardian(s), and Families!

This handout provides you with the exceptional educational experiences and details about the courses your student will receive at Scarlett Middle School, an International Baccalaureate (IB) Candidate World School.

“Scarlett Middle School is the most diverse middle school in the State of Michigan.”
(niche.com)



Scarlett Middle School Embraces: **Why students and adults thrive @ Scarlett?**

- School wide **social-emotional**, holistic approach to teaching and learning that creates a learning environment to guide students in becoming responsible, caring, and open-minded citizens.
- **Culturally relevant** pedagogy and curriculum that honors diversity and multiple perspectives.
- Critical thinking and creative problem-solving through inquiry-based, **student-centered** practices.
- High academic standards and rigorous learning objectives in which student success and meaningful assessments encourage **mastery** of learning.
- Highly collaborative and **interdisciplinary** approach to teaching and learning.
- **Data driven** decision-making to inform instruction and intervention that supports all students.
- Diversity, the importance of **international mindedness** and English Language learners.
- A partnership with the University of Michigan, School of Education to promote effective, **research-based** teaching and learning strategies.
- Extracurricular **Athletics & Clubs** such as, Basketball, Cross-Country, Soccer, Synchronized Swimming, Competitive Swimming, Tennis, Track, Volleyball, Wrestling, Jazz Band, Academic Games, Black Student Union, Student Council, Yearbook, Archaeology, Coding, Art, Debate, and more.

International Baccalaureate in Ann Arbor: **Why the Middle Years Programme @ Scarlett?**

Families who want an exceptional educational experience for their children choose Scarlett because it includes:

- **Inquiry** = students are engaged in asking questions and searching for answers.
- **Global Awareness** = students connect to local, state, national, and international communities.
- **Action & Service** = learning by doing; making a positive impact on the community.
- **World Languages** = students become fluent in multiple languages.
- **Access & Equity** = intentional development of curriculum and support, recognizing that students learn in different ways and at different rates.



Scarlett Course Descriptions for 6th Grade

Creating Community through Advisory (CCA): Students learn best when school meets them where they are developmentally, and when they have regular opportunities to know each other, practice important social skills, and stay engaged in their learning. This is achieved through a daily circle of power and respect (CPR) that includes four components: Greeting, Sharing, Activity, and Daily News.

Individuals & Societies: In IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) schools, social studies is called Individuals & Societies. In this course students will learn about geography, history and contemporary global issues using an inquiry style of teaching and learning. Students will make connections between past and present, and themselves and the world.



Language Acquisition: Students will randomly rotate through 12 weeks of 3 out of 4 of the languages below and then select one language for continuous study beginning in 7th grade for the duration of your MYP studies at Scarlett/Huron.

- **American Sign Language (ASL)** This course will allow students to explore sign language and Deaf culture. Students communicate in sign language with their peers and teacher. Students create signing videos and complete a mini Deaf culture project focused on famous Deaf people. Students play many games to help internalize and master vocabulary.

- **Arabic: مرحبا** This course is designed to develop language learning through the use of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students will examine the target culture to develop a cross cultural understanding and appreciation. Students learn about Arabic letters/alphabet, numbers, days of the week, colors, and culture. Students will experience the language and be able to say certain dialogues in Arabic. Students will be able to introduce themselves, say their age, and where they live.

- **French: Bonjour** This course will allow students to explore the French language and French-speaking cultures. Students are provided opportunities to communicate in French with their peers and teacher. In addition, they will understand their own culture better as they learn to appreciate different aspects of French-speaking cultures. Focus is mainly on communication, allowing the students to become comfortable speaking at a beginning level of French.

- **Spanish: Bienvenidos** This course will allow students to explore the Spanish language and diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. There will be an emphasis on interpersonal spoken communication. We will cover the following topics: greetings, Spanish-speaking countries, alphabet, numbers, food and basic conversational phrases. Learning is mastered through group and partner conversation practice, music, note-taking, videos, creative reflection, interactive presentations, and games.

Language & Literature: In IB MYP schools, English Language Arts is called Language & Literature. Students will read, write, speak, listen, and study language through inquiry. Students will identify, analyze, and inquire via whole-class and independent models, demonstrations, and individual practice.



Mathematics: This course will provide students a foundation for their future educational learning and an opportunity to connect universal themes within a global environment by applying math concepts and skills to real-world situations. These concepts will include ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, statistics, and probability. There is an emphasis on problem-solving in a team setting.

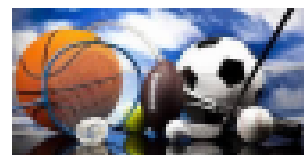


Scarlett Course Descriptions for 6th Grade

Performing Arts: 6th graders must choose one of the following performing arts music classes, Band, Choir, Orchestra, or Culture through Music. Students choosing band or orchestra are expected to continue the instrument they started in 5th grade. Choir is open to all who love to sing or are interested in improving their singing! In Culture through Music class, students will experience elements of various cultures from around the world through musical experiences. Units may include: film music, music technology, songwriting, music notation, drama, etc.



Physical Education & Health: In Physical Education, students will develop a strong fitness foundation through a wide array of physical skills, sports, and activities including; team and individual sports, international sports, swimming, and invasion games. In Health, students will participate in an anti-bullying unit. Learning is mastered through individual, partner, and group activities, discussions, and creative reflection. Additionally, students will have an opportunity to show growth in the class by participating in the Fitnessgram assessment.



Project Lead the Way - Design & Modeling: Middle school is the perfect time to explore and learn that there is more than one way to reach a solution to a problem or opportunity. AAPS has partnered with Project Lead the Way to provide engineering curriculum for middle school students that challenges, & inspires. A FUN, rigorous, and relevant experience with project-based learning. Using industry-leading technology (3D Printers) to solve problems while gaining skills in communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. Students apply the design cycle to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives.



Strategies for Success: Simply put, the goal of this class is growth. Everything we do will be centered on unlocking the potential and motivation to grow as a learner. Students will be introduced to a number of successful strategies surrounding growth mindset, grit, curiosity and self-control. These strategies will be utilized while working to master foundational math, reading, and writing skills. By taking our egos out of learning and giving up on perfection we will follow the slow, taxing, mistake-filled, and yet fully worthwhile path of becoming better.

Science: This course, which incorporates multiple scientific disciplines, will encourage students to investigate topics through research, observation and experimentation. Students will work both independently and collaboratively to solve real-world problems.



Visual Arts: Building on the foundation provided in the elementary art program, students will have opportunities to expand their understanding of art concepts and processes through foundational drawing. Assignments will focus on learning how artists have expressed ideas and beliefs, discover ideas for personal expressions, and develop confidence to express their imagination. Experiences in foundational drawing, painting and design will be selected.



If after reading this update you have questions or feedback, please call or email one of the following:

- Ms. Griffin, Office Professional
- Mrs. Winston, Office Professional
- Mrs. Micou, Counselor
- Mrs. Kellar, Counselor
- Ms. Kimmey-Watson, Counselor

griffins@aaps.k12.mi.us
winstonm@aaps.k12.mi.us
micou@aaps.k12.mi.us
kellar@aaps.k12.mi.us
watson@aaps.k12.mi.us