Welcome to Swanson!

Chrissy Reardon - Rising 6th Grade Counselor
Blandine LiGuidi - Rising 6th Grade Administrator

Quick Facts

- School colors
  - Maroon and White
- School mascot
  - Admiral
- Current enrollment
  - ~900 students

Current Schedule

- 7:50-2:24
- Swanson uses a “Block Schedule”
- A day, B Day, Anchor Day

*subject to change

A Day	B Day	Anchor Day
Period 1	Period 2	Period 1
Period 3	Period 4	Period 2
Period 5	Period 5	Period 3
STAR	STAR	Period 4
Lunch	Lunch	Period 5
Period 7	Period 6	STAR
		Lunch
		Period 6
		Period 7

STAR

- Homeroom class
- Team-building activities
- Organizational support
- Academic/Reading time

*Some students with an IEP may be assigned to an Instructional Studies STAR for additional organizational/academic support. This is an IEP team decision.

6th Grade Courses

All 6th grade students take:

- English
- Reading (full-year OR half-year paired with a language)
- Science
- Social Studies
- Math (recommendations made in June)
- Health & PE
- Elective

6th Grade Language Classes (optional)

- Semester (half-year) Language paired with semester Reading
  - Could be 1st or 2nd semester
- Introduction to a language
- **NOT** for high school credit
- Language options:
  - Intro to French
  - Intro to Latin
  - Intro to Spanish
  - Spanish for Fluent Speakers for 6th Grade

6th Grade Electives - CHOOSE 1

- Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus
- Admiral's Wheel
  - Rotation of elective classes (approx. 6 weeks per class)
  - Typically includes Art, Drama, Technology Education, Keyboarding, Family & Consumer Science, etc.
  - Courses change each year based on staffing

Choosing 6th Grade Courses

- Google Form
- You will only be choosing **TWO** things:
  - Reading - full year or half-year paired with language
  - Elective
- You will **NOT** be choosing a math course at this time (recommendations made in June)
- Submit Google Form by March 7

Course Request Process

- You will receive the Google Form from your child's elementary school in February
- The Google Form will ask for a **parent** email address - you will receive an electronic copy of your submission at that email address
- If you need the submission sent to an additional parent email address, contact Christine.Reardon@apsva.us
- Complete the form **ONLY ONCE!** If you need to make changes later, email Christine.Reardon@apsva.us
- Submit form by March 7

Course Request Google Form

Rising 6th Grade 22-23 Course Request Form

This Course Request Form (CRF) allows a student and their family to make course selections for the following year. All Grade 6 students are required to take the following core courses: ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, READING, and HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION. Additional core courses may also be required based upon a specific program in which a student is enrolled. Descriptions of all courses can be found in the Middle School Program of Studies.
https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Middle-School-POS-2021-22.pdf

Reading/Language (Choose 1) *
Lectura/idioma (elige 1)

- ◯ Full-Year Reading (11106)
- ◯ Semester reading (11108)/Semester Intro to Spanish (15501)
- ◯ Semester reading (11108)/Semester Intro to French (15101)
- ◯ Semester reading (11108)/Semester Intro to Latin (15301)
- ◯ Semester reading (11108)/Semester Spanish for Fluent Speakers 6th grade (15503)

Elective (Choose 1) *
Electivo

- ◯ Admiral's Wheel/Exploratory (19000)
- ◯ Beg. Band (19233/19234)
- ◯ Beg. Orchestra (19237)
- ◯ Beg. Chorus (19261)

After School Activities

- Clubs
- Sports
- Act II Classes
- Check-In (Extended Day)
- There is a late bus at 4:15 for students who receive bus transportation

Clubs

- Club offerings change each year depending on staffing and student interest
- Most clubs meet 1 day per week after school from 2:30-3:30
- Clubs are considered “drop-in” - students do not have to attend every meeting
- Students can start a new club by talking to Mr. Holland!

Recent Club Examples:

French Club	Game Club	Anime Club
BoyzIIMen	Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA)	Wavelength (Literary Magazine)
Sisterhood	Math Counts	Talking About Books (TAB)
Latina Youth Leading at Swanson (LYLAS)	Swanson Young Activists	Pep Band
Magic: The Gathering Club	Technology Student Association	...and more!

Sports

- Soccer*
- Tennis*
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Cheerleading*
- Basketball*
- Wrestling
- Swimming
- Track & Field

* = tryout required

- Students must have an up-to-date (within a calendar year) Sports Physical on file before participating in a Swanson athletic team
- Sports Physical Form: https://swanson.apsva.us/athletics/forms/
- Teams have practice/games 4-5 days per week during the season

Act II Classes

- Weekly elective class
- 1 day per week - after school
- Attendance is taken and students receive a grade
- Offerings change each year based on staffing availability
- Recent classes have included Core Plus (study skills & organization) and Band

Check-In (Extended Day)

- After-school care from 2:24-6:00 PM
- Register through APS Extended Day office for a fee
- Activities are self-directed
- Students can participate in sports, clubs, ACT II classes, and other activities during this time.
- Fee information and registration process can be found here: https://www.apsva.us/extended-day/

Transition Activities

- Rising 6th Grade Parent Information Night
- Counselors will visit elementary schools present to 5th grade students in late January/early Feb.
- 5th graders will visit Swanson in early April
- Summer Tours/Info Sessions - Dates TBD
- Rising 6th Grade Open House in August

Contact Information

- Chrissy Reardon - 6th Grade Counselor
  - christine.reardon@apsva.us / 703-228-5512
- Blandine LiGuidi - 6th Grade Assistant Principal
  - blandine.liguidi@apsva.us / 703-228-5504
- Laura Partridge - Math Coach
  - laura.partridge@apsva.us
- Cindy Chiu - Reading Specialist
  - cynthia.chiu@apsva.us

Additional Information

Presentations on these topics can be found on the Swanson website (https://swanson.apsva.us)

- Math Curriculum & Placement
- Reading 6 & World Languages
- World Languages for 7th & 8th Graders
- Gifted Services
- Special Education

Questions?