

School and Community

A Marshall education encourages students to develop strong academic habits; an ethical framework for responsible decision-making; respect for self, for others and for property; and a commitment to bettering the world. Marshall's Middle School lays the foundation for developing and nurturing these qualities in school and life. Early on, students are encouraged to be confident and independent thinkers by teachers whose energy and caring enrich the school. Small class sizes permit active participation, feedback, and engagement in a rigorous curriculum. Teachers and curriculum are flexible, setting challenging but attainable goals for each individual, and the exploration of unique interests and talents is encouraged. The Middle School community overall develops and reflects kindness, integrity, and respect.

Curriculum

Marshall Middle School offers a comprehensive curriculum in the following areas:

Grade 5

Core

English 5 Science 5 Foreign Language
Math 5 Social Studies 5 PE & Health 5

Workshops & Rotating Courses:

Art (2 times per week)
Performing Arts (2 times per week)
Thinker's Workshop (1 time per week)
Writer's Workshop (2 times per week)
Intramural/Club Activities (1 time per week)
Religious & Ethical Studies (1 time per week)
Technology Workshop (1 time per week)

Grade 7

Core

English 7 Natural Science 7 Foreign Language
Math 7 Social Studies 7 PE & Health 7

Fine Arts - *choose from Band, Choir, Strings or Art*

Rotating Courses:

Integrated Studies - 10 day segments
Technology (Spreadsheets and Writing)
Religious & Ethical Studies
Grammar & Writing

Grade 6

Core

English 6 Science 6 Foreign Language
Math 6 PE & Health 6 Social Studies 6

Workshops & Rotating Courses:

Art (2 times per week)
Band, Choir or String Orchestra (2 times per week)
Writer's Workshop (2 times per week)
Technology Workshop (1 time per week)
Religious & Ethical Studies (1 time per week)
Ecology Workshop (1 time per week)
Intramural/Club Activities (1 time per week)

Grade 8

Core

Geography Lang. Arts 8 Foreign Language
Literature 8 PE & Health Earth Science

Math *one of:* Pre-Algebra, Algebra IA, Honors Algebra

Fine Arts - *one of: Band, Choir, Strings or Art*

Students have the option of taking 1 study hall per day to replace either a fine arts or a foreign language class.



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ADDED CURRICULUM

M.O.R.E

The Marshall Outdoor Recreation and Education Program is an opportunity for students to explore their northern ecological environment, participate in physical challenges, and strengthen their peer relationships.

5th & 6th Grade

Fifth and sixth grade students participate in three days of hands-on, experiential learning at the Audubon Center Of The North Woods in Sandstone, MN. The theme of sustainable living is interwoven with conservation of natural resources throughout every experience, from weighing left over food after a meal to banding birds and discussing the disruption of their migration routes due to loss of wetlands. Different classes are chosen for our students based on how well each class integrates with fifth grade science (study of biomes) and sixth grade social studies (Ojibwe culture and Minnesota history).

7th Grade

Seventh graders participate in a five day winter camp experience north of Ely, Minnesota on Burntside Lake at Camp Widjiwagan. At camp, they learn through educational classes such as tree identification, tracking, wilderness survival skills, and recreational classes such as cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Teachers at Camp Widjiwagan emphasize concepts like conservation as they talk about food waste, and preparation as they talk about layering for the weather. The ECO Hike, an all day outing, builds teamwork while teaching orienteering skills. A traditional Finnish sauna is enjoyed by all!

Advisory

The Middle School advisory program aims to promote a sense of connectedness and belonging among the students and teachers. Students meet three times a month in small groups with a faculty advisor to explore topics important in the life of a young adolescent. The faculty advisor serves as a mentor, guide and advocate for the students in his/her group.

Interfaith Services

Students are given the opportunity to attend regularly scheduled all-faith chapels. Chapels are presided over by the school chaplain and student volunteers who celebrate through prayer, music and inspired readings. Some chapels are all-school, others are exclusive to the upper or middle school. Parents and staff are always welcome to attend and participate.

5th & 6th Grade Musical

Each year Marshall's 5th and 6th grade classes perform a musical based on a children's classic or a unique theme. Students start by learning songs and auditioning for characters. Students

are involved with all aspects of the production including lights, sound, set design, and set construction. The musical is performed each spring. Past musicals include *Treasure Island*, *Macbeth*, and the bilingual English/Spanish *River of Birds*.

7th & 8th Grade Drama Day

Drama Day is held on the last day of classes in the Middle School. Each 7th and 8th grade English class presents a 40 minute play. There is a role for all students who, in addition to acting, serve on committees for costumes, make-up, lighting, stage and set design, props, and sound. Upper School students serve as mentors, choosing and directing some of the plays. Past productions include *The Lottery*, *Our Town*, and *Anybody for Tea?*

Engineering Fair

Marshall 7th graders participate in an annual Engineering Fair. Students meet and listen to engineers from the community talk about their jobs and experience in the field. Students also engage their skills in design to build projects that compete in one of three categories: Bridge Building, Ping-Pong Ball Launching, and Rubber Band-Powered Vehicles. Student projects are evaluated by Upper School physics students.

Multicultural Festival

Every year Marshall 7th graders host a Multicultural Festival. Students spend the day displaying interactive exhibits which teach visitors about a particular culture group they studied. In preparation, students hold small group conversations with local immigrants. Parents also participate by providing an ethnic pot luck lunch. After lunch, students spend the afternoon learning international games and dances.

Middle School Health Fair

Middle School students participate in their own Health Fair, designed just for them by Marshall's 9th grade Health class. The 5th and 6th grade Fair presents age appropriate health topics such as Bus Safety and Hiccups. The 7th and 8th grade Fair presents more advanced topics such as Eating Disorders, Mental Illness, and Steroids. Upper School students are the teachers at this event, with the purpose of educating and engaging Middle School students in their topic.

Interim

Students enjoy a change of pace during the Middle School's Interim program. This annual event is aimed at introducing students to new experiences and gives Marshall the opportunity to partner with parents and other community members. Classes such as ethnic cooking, cake decorating, papermaking, quilting, cartooning, big game hunting, fishing, stress management, knitting, basket weaving, law enforcement and more provide students a rich offering of experiences.