

Table of Contents

Greetings from your Administration Team.....2

Welcome to Kuna Middle School.....3

- Introduction
- School Goals
- District Mission Statement
- Middle School Mission Statement
- Report Cards
- Team-based Teaching
- PASS
- Counseling Services
- Library
- Athletics

7th Grade.....5

- Required Courses
- Elective Choices
- Music Elective Choices
- Permission Only Electives
- Extra Curricular Activities

8th Grade.....14

- Required Courses
- Elective Choices
- Music Elective Choices
- Permission Only Electives
- Extra Curricular Activities

Greetings from your KMS Administration Team

Dear Students,

Hello! We are so happy to welcome you to Kuna Middle School. Your years at KMS will be filled with great instruction, interesting activities and opportunities for success. We encourage you to get involved in the many programs, after-school activities and athletic opportunities that we offer.

At KMS we have high expectations for our students and community. We work hard to provide a stimulating, safe, respectful learning environment, and we expect you to work hard in return. We look forward to your participation in this process. Kuna Middle School is a great place!

This manual is a source of information designed to help you pick your classes for next year. There is specific information for each class, as well as general information for all students.

We are looking forward to working with you next year. If you or your parents have any questions, you can call the school and ask for the counselors or the principals. Here's to a great year!

Sincerely,

Deb McGrath, Principal

Brian Graves, Building Administrator

Welcome to Kuna Middle School

Introduction	This booklet is designed to help you in the registration process. You will find descriptions of required, or core, classes as well as elective classes. This will aid in building your class schedule and making the transition between each grade level at Kuna Middle School.
School Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure strong academic achievement for all students2. Sustain the National Middle School Association educational model (research-based, middle school level, best teaching practices)3. Promote and maintain a respectful community4. Maintain a clean and safe school campus
Kuna School District Mission Statement	<i>The Kuna School District inspires each student to become a life-long learner and a contributing, responsible citizen.</i>
Kuna Middle School Mission Statement	“Every person learning and growing everyday” We believe: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All members of our school community are learners: students, staff, parents & partners.▪ Middle school is a transition between childhood and young adulthood.▪ A challenging and relevant curriculum supports academic, personal, social, civic & physical growth.▪ We are all responsible for creating a positive learning environment.▪ Parents are a vital part of the work of our school.▪ Teams accomplish more than individuals.▪ We must model the civil behavior we expect.
Report Cards	Report cards are mailed to parents the second and fourth quarters of the school year, and are given to students to carry home the first and third quarters. Progress reports are handed to students mid-way through each quarter as well.
Team-Based Teaching	Students are scheduled into classes with a team of teachers. Teaming is a research-based teaching and learning strategy which allows a group of students to work with a common core of teachers and addresses several of our goals including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ increasing student success and achievement▪ letting no child “fall through the cracks”▪ increasing home-school communication▪ building a positive school climate▪ supporting teachers and their professional development
PASS	The Kuna School District provides electronic access to student information via the <u>Parent Access Support System</u> (PASS). This system allows you to view your child’s grades from our student database system. To access

this information, family members use the student's ID Number and PIN (Personal Identification Number). For security and privacy, student names are not shown anywhere on PASS pages. To request your PASS Pin, contact our counseling office at 955-0258.

Counseling Services

The middle school years are an exciting time in a young person's life. This period will be filled with new opportunities and challenges to which each student will adapt in their own way. To assist students and parents, guidance and counseling services are provided via a comprehensive program model. Students can talk with counselors about educational, career, or personal social issues. Assistance is available through individual and group counseling, consultation, referral information, as well as individual and class room guidance activities.

KMS Library

The library is open for students and the community during the school day, and Monday through Thursday after school. Three books may be checked out at one time for a two-week period; however, they may be renewed if needed. Students must bring books into the library for renewal. Reference books, excluding encyclopedias, may be checked out overnight and over the weekend. A fine is charged on each overdue book. If a book is lost, the replacement cost is charged; however, if the book is found during the school year the replacement charge will be refunded.

Athletics

Physicals are required for all students participating in athletics. We recommend that students be covered by a current insurance policy. The school does not provide insurance on participating athletes, but there is an insurance policy available that may be purchased from an insurer outside the Kuna School District. Information is available upon request.

The athletic program at KMS offers the opportunity for students to learn physical fitness, sportsmanship, self worth, self-discipline, emotional stability, community responsibility, teamwork, and initiative. Our aim is to provide an enjoyable opportunity for as many students as possible to participate in athletics. At the same time, we desire to keep the program in perspective so that it does not interfere with or detract from the academic program. Sports programs will follow guidelines set forth for secondary grades 7-12.

7th Grade Required Courses

Schedule	<p>Seventh grade students are assigned to a team of teachers. Students receive instruction in seven (7) areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Math▪ Language Arts▪ World History▪ Life Science▪ PE/Health▪ Keyboarding▪ CHOICE OF: Electives and/or Music Elective
Math	<p>Math placement is based on student ISAT scores, previous grades in math, and teacher recommendation. <u>**Special accommodations are made for students who are considerably more advanced in Math.</u></p>
Math 7	<p>Math 7 curriculum includes instruction in solving two-step variable equations, manipulating fractions, ratios, propositions, decimals and percents. Graphing, standard and metric measurement, area and perimeter of shapes, solving word problems and using and describing positives and negatives are also covered.</p>
Pre-Algebra 7	<p>Pre-Algebra 7 is an advanced math course designed for seventh grade students who have already mastered the Math 7 curriculum. Instruction focuses on multi-step equations and inequalities, exponential rules, greatest common factor and prime factorization with variables, slope and word problems.</p> <p><u>This course is a Pre-requisite for Algebra 7</u></p>
Algebra 7	<p>Algebra is an advanced math course which is designed to help students acquire algebraic understanding, and problem-solving strategies for both equations and problems, polynomials, factoring, fractions, ratios and proportions, percent problems, mixture problems, exponents, linear equation and systems, introduction to functions, and graphing.</p> <p><u>Pre-requisite: Pre-Algebra 7</u></p>
Language Arts 7	<p>Language Arts emphasizes the skills of reading, writing, and grammar. Students read teacher-selected and self-chosen short stories, plays, poems and novels. Through these selections, students learn vocabulary, discuss and analyze elements of literature and demonstrate comprehension by answering assigned questions. The writing process is presented and practiced. Students communicate in writing through the following modes: expository, descriptive, narrative, cause and effect, problem and solution and comparison and contrast. Correct punctuation, capitalization, word usage and spelling are emphasized on all writing and required for final drafts. This class familiarizes students with communication strategies for listening and speaking.</p>

World History

Class emphasis is on the historical, geographical and cultural development of the Eastern Hemisphere, Europe, Africa, and Asia. Chronological progress stresses the ancient River Valley civilizations, the medieval, and modern times including the twentieth century's world wars.

Life Science

Life Science curriculum provides practical exposure to biological science. By using the scientific method of discovery, students will develop a better understanding of the function and organization of living organisms.

PE

9-weeks

The purpose of Physical Education is to educate students about living a healthy, active lifestyle and promoting personal fitness. Black shorts and a yellow shirt are required. Students may buy PE clothes from the school or bring their own.

Health

9-weeks

Students will recognize the impact of substance abuse, tobacco use, and alcohol use on personal health. Students will explore the relationship among mental/emotional, physical, and social health as a basis for wellness. Students will understand how to build and maintain healthy relationships.

Keyboarding

9-weeks

Students work on improving their keyboarding skills by touch as well as increasing their speed and accuracy. Students will also learn basic document formatting skills. **Students may take a typing test the first two (2) days of this course and if the student meets requirements, a transfer out may be requested.**

7th Grade Elective Choices

Note *Elective classes may only be offered one nine (9) week period and are dependent upon staff availability, resources, and classroom space.*

While every effort is made to schedule students into their first requested elective choice, it is not possible to ensure that every student will get their first choice. Scheduling is done by computer software, to ensure as many students as possible get their first choice.

Introduction to Art 9-weeks

This class introduces students to the basic elements of art and various styles of art while learning to use a variety of art materials and tools. Drawing, painting, pottery and sculpture will be included.
This course is a Pre-requisite for Advanced Art 8

Basic Art Design 9-weeks

This class offers exploration of the six basic art elements of line, shape, form, texture, color and space. Students explore:

- Variations of line used in artistic compositions
- Developing balance and design using shape and form
- The relationship between positive and negative space
- How texture affects art design and form
- The use of the color wheel and how colors affect value
- Basics of hand-building pottery (coils, scoring, glazing)

This course is a Pre-requisite for Advanced Art 8

Fashion Design 9-weeks

This class introduces students to the fashion industry. Students explore:

- The history of fashion
- Designing fashion
- Fashion merchandising
- Creating a fashion exhibit

Multi-Cultural Art 9-weeks

This class is designed to help students learn about different cultures through art. Students explore:

- Various multi-cultural arts
- Elements of art
- Different art mediums and
- Developing multi-cultural art pieces

Creative Thinking 9-weeks

This class offers a wide range of activities designed to help students learn to:

- Develop the side of the brain that thinks artistically
- Develop the ability to investigate other people's ideas and opinions in a respectful manner
- Develop decision making skills when there are few rules
- Learn to take risks when exploring new learning experiences

Requirements: Respect, Honesty, and Courage

Spanish A
9-weeks

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, with an emphasis on basic conversation and a mastery of vocabulary and grammar necessary for communication in everyday situations. Students will participate in group and course activities, writing assignments, course presentations and conversation. Completion of Spanish A and Spanish B is the equivalent of Spanish 1 at the high school.

Spanish Culture
9-weeks

The intent of this class is to expose students to various cultural aspects of Spanish speaking countries. Discussions include the different countries that speak Spanish, the traditional food of some of those countries, art, architecture, holidays and some basic vocabulary. Students who take this class and wish to take Spanish in eighth grade would take Spanish A.

Industrial Arts
9-weeks

This is a project-based, hands on course that provides all students the opportunity to use hand tools and power tools to create woodworking projects. This class introduces the basic fundamentals of drafting, and proper and safe use of both power tools and hand tools, and can build confidence as well as provide a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Hunters Education
9-weeks

****Sponsored by the Idaho Fish and Game Dept. ****

****8.00 fee covers Idaho State Certification License****

All students have the opportunity to certify in Idaho's Hunter's Education. Safe handling and understanding of firearms is a major emphasis that will benefit both hunters and non-hunters. Students will also learn about wilderness survival, first aid, and conservation. This course is a fun and educational course for those who love and appreciate the outdoors.

7th Grade Music Electives

Band 7 *Year*

This course is designed for the first or second year band student. Instruction is designed to expand on the basics of playing a band instrument through exposure to a variety of music styles. There are five (5) evening concerts and a spring festival performance with this course. Because of the nature of the course, **attendance** at these concerts and the festival is required for establishing grades (exceptions will be made for religious reasons). A concert schedule is available in the fall for the entire school year. Students will need black dress clothes for all performances.

Concert Choir 7 *Year or Semester*

This course is open to all students who enjoy singing. Students will learn general music knowledge, note reading, sight singing and vocal skills. There are five (5) evening concerts and a spring festival performance with this course. Because of the nature of the course, **attendance** at these concerts and the festival is required for establishing grades (exceptions will be made for religious reasons). A concert schedule is available in the fall for the entire school year. Students will need black dress clothes for all performances.

Orchestral Strings *Year*

This course is composed of students playing violin, viola, cello or string bass. Students must have at least one year prior musical experience. Students will learn a variety of music from various periods in an effort to improve their skills. Students will improve their basic reading, intonation skills, and technique to help progress to a higher level on their instrument and to gain a better understanding of the theory of music and how it works to help them in various music fields such as performance and composition. There are at least three (3) evening concerts and a festival performance. Because of the nature of this course, **attendance** at these concerts and the annual music festival (in the spring semester) is required for establishing the student's grade (exception will be made for religious reasons). Students will need black pants, black shoes and socks and a collared white shirt and tie for boys; girls will need to wear a white blouse and black skirt or pants. **Students are responsible for providing and maintaining their own instruments.**

7th Grade PERMISSION ONLY Electives

Signature Required

Permission slips can be obtained in the front office or from your counselor.

Media Production *Semester or Year*

The Media Production class provides a challenging opportunity for students to engage in higher levels of critical thinking, analysis, writing and creativity. Students will utilize journalism techniques through the use of surveys, interviews, photography, inventiveness, and computer applications (Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Publisher). Products include a school newspaper, an annual yearbook, various Power Point presentations, and a variety of creative projects. Students choosing this class need to be able to think “outside the box”, be self-motivated, work independently and go beyond the minimum. This class is for advanced students and requires a teacher signature or recommendation from a previous teacher.

Peer Tutoring *Semester*

Peer tutors assist special needs students with school work and activities. Peer tutors must have the signature of the peer tutor advisor, be proficient in all three areas of their last ISAT, and be recommended by one of their teachers.

7th Grade Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra curricular activities are offered at Kuna Middle School to compliment our academic areas. We encourage students to become involved in our after-school activities as well as our athletic programs.

National Junior Honor Society

The Honor Society is an organization students may be invited to join. Members participate in community service activities for their school and community. Seventh and eighth grade students who achieve a 3.5 GPA or higher, have attended KMS for one (1) semester, and receive an acceptable rating from the faculty evaluation committee in the areas of: loyalty, citizenship, service, character, and leadership may be invited to join. Once a member, students must maintain their GPA each quarter, participate in the following year's induction ceremony, participate in one sponsored service event, and complete 30 hours of community service.

Academic Decathlon Team

Kuna Middle School participates in the Inter-valley League Academic Decathlon competition. A group of fifteen students from the team are chosen to participate each month in the competition. Since the competition uses a wide variety of questions, participating students' knowledge must be general and varied. The criteria for selection to the school's team will be the evaluation by faculty of the following: overall knowledge of facts and issues, interest in team preparation, and desire to be a part of and to cooperate with the team.

Athletics

Physicals are required for all students participating in athletics. We recommend that students be covered by a current insurance policy. The school does not provide insurance on participating athletes, but there is an insurance policy available that may be purchased from an insurer outside the Kuna School District. Information is available upon request.

The athletic program at KMS offers the opportunity for students to learn physical fitness, sportsmanship, self worth, self-discipline, emotional stability, community responsibility, teamwork, and initiative. Our aim is to provide an enjoyable opportunity for as many students as possible to participate in athletics. At the same time, we desire to keep the program in perspective so that it does not interfere with or detract from the academic program. Sports programs will follow guidelines set forth for secondary grades 7-12.

Basketball Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: First week of January to the first week of March. Practice times will be announced. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled for both seventh and eighth grade teams with a tournament following the regular season for seventh and eighth grade "A" teams only. Seasonal games are played during the weekdays at 4:00 p.m. Because of the large turnout, we also have a "B" and "C" program. These teams will normally play five to ten games. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included.)

Basketball
Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Late October through December
Practice times will be announced. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled for both seventh and eighth grade girls. Seasonal games are scheduled during the weekdays at 4:00 p.m. A tournament follows the regular season for seventh and eighth grade girls “A”, “B” and “C” teams. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included).

Cross Country
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: will be from the start of school through the end of September.

The team will be composed of seventh and eighth grade girls and boys. Practice will be immediately after school. The school will supply Meet jerseys. The equipment needed is shorts, shoes and t-shirt.

Football
Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Third week of August to third week of October and includes a playoff game.

Practice times will be announced. Games are scheduled during the week at 4:00 p.m. The heavyweight team will be composed of boys weighing 115 or more. The lightweight team will consist of boys weighing 115 and under. Both teams have five Inter-valley league games. All major equipment is furnished by the middle school (shoes not included).

Tennis
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Early March to mid May.

Practice times will be announced. Tennis is a spring sport offered to all middle school students. The intent of the tennis program is to learn the fundamentals of this lifetime sport while promoting sportsmanship.

Track
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Early March to early May.

Practice times will be announced. There will be four or five track meets that are scheduled at 4:00 to 4:15 p.m. on weekdays. The regular season is followed by the Inter-valley district meet. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (running shoes and sweats not included).

Volleyball
Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Third week of August to third week of October.
Practice times will be announced. Games are scheduled during the week at 4:00 p.m. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled with a league championship tournament following league competition for the seventh and eighth grade top “A” teams. Because of the large turnout, we also have a “B” and “C” program. All major equipment is furnished by the middle school (shoes and kneepads not included).

Wrestling
Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Late October through December.

Practice times will be after school. There will be one team consisting of students from seventh and eighth grades. Nine Inter-valley league matches are scheduled. These matches are scheduled at 4:00 – 4:15 p.m. A tournament follows the regular season. The top two wrestlers in each weight will compete in the district tournament. Weight classes are 79, 85, 91, 97, 103, 112, 119, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, 160, 171, 189, 215, and heavyweight. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included.)

8th Grade Required Courses

Schedule	<p>Eighth grade students are assigned to a team of teachers. Students receive instruction in seven (7) areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Math▪ Language Arts▪ US History▪ Earth Science▪ PE/Health▪ Semester Elective▪ CHOICE OF: Year Elective or 2 Semester Electives
Math	<p>Math placement is based on student ISAT scores, previous grades in math, and teacher recommendation. <u>**Special accommodations are made for students who are considerably advanced in math.</u></p>
Pre-Algebra 8	<p>Pre-Algebra is an introduction to algebra. In general, this means taking an expression entirely formed by numbers and replacing these numbers with letters or variables. These expressions will be solved, graphed, added, subtracted, multiplied, divided, and factored. Throughout the course the students will learn the basic properties that go along with solving equations. Problem solving is an intricate part of the course. This course is for general eighth grade students and is intended to prepare students for algebra in the ninth grade.</p>
Algebra 8	<p>Algebra is an advanced math course which is designed to help students acquire algebraic understanding, problem-solving strategies for both equations and problems, polynomials, factoring, fractions, ratio and proportion, percent problems, mixture problems, exponents, linear equation and systems, introduction to functions, and graphing.</p> <p><u>Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 7</u></p>
Geometry	<p>Geometry introduces logic, reasoning and proof. Students will master the properties of planar and three-dimensional figures. Students will also continue to develop their Algebra 1 skills as they relate them to geometric problem solving. Daily written assignments are required in this course. Placement in Geometry will be determined on an individual basis considering the student's grade in Algebra 8, ISAT scores, and teacher recommendation.</p>
Language Arts	<p>Eighth grade language arts expands and reviews the concepts taught in seventh grade. Students use a variety of genre as a means to read, discuss, and analyze the elements of literature. Students select novels and demonstrate comprehension by answering assigned questions. The single paragraph is reviewed and multi-paragraphed writing is developing. Their writing demonstrates comprehension of ideas from reading, discussions or teacher prompts and understanding of literary elements. Students are taught</p>

to consider the purpose, audience and occasion for which they are writing. Correct mechanics and usage are emphasized.

U.S. History

This class examines U.S. History from colonization through 1900. After an overview of exploration of the New World, the emphasis of the course will be placed on colonization, the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, The War of 1812, The Mexican War and the Civil War, including all aspects of early government, presidents, slavery, reconstruction of the South, and the taming of the West.

Earth Science

This class emphasizes scientific investigation and laboratory experiments that integrate technology, math, summary writing and oral discussion. A mixture of assignments (some project-based) will be performed - some as an individual and others as part of a group. Topics will range from experimental design using the scientific method and SI (metric) measurements, to measurement and estimation using the tools of science. Other areas of study include weather and the atmosphere, energy transfer, plate tectonics, volcanoes and earthquakes, rocks and minerals, weathering and erosion with a strong emphasis on local (Southwest Idaho) geology running throughout the earth science topics.

PE / Health

All students take a semester of Physical Education and Health. An integrated curriculum is used to teach health concepts through activity. Students will be in the classroom as well as the gymnasium throughout the entire semester. The purpose of Physical Education and Health is to educate students about living a healthy, active lifestyle, and promoting personal fitness. Students will also learn basic weightlifting skills and components of fitness. Black shorts and a yellow shirt are required. Students may buy PE clothes from the school or bring their own.

8th Grade Elective Choices

Note *All 8th Grade Electives are semester or year-long classes and are dependent upon staff availability, resources, and classroom space.*

While every effort is made to schedule students into their first requested elective choice, it is not possible to ensure that every student will get their first choice. Scheduling is done by computer software, to ensure as many students as possible get their first choice.

Drama *Semester*

Ever dream of becoming an actor or movie maker? Are you the “Drama Queen” of your friends? Are you shy and would like to get braver about speaking in front of others? This course will develop your acting and speech skills through creative, confidence-building speaking activities, skits and short plays. You will explore pantomime, debate, improvisation, lip syncing and public performance. Students learn to build and paint props and set designs, too!

Design Drawing & Painting *Semester*

This course offers exploration of basic drawing and painting skills.

Students will learn:

- Perspective (vanishing points, measuring, dimensions, and view points)
- Overlapping (objects near appear bigger)
- Shading and value
- Use of primary and secondary colors in painting
- Wet wash and dry wash techniques in painting
- Focal points

Study Habits *Semester*

This course includes instruction and practice in organization, note-taking, test taking strategies and time management. This class emphasizes the importance of keeping an organized locker and binder, and getting class work done on time.

Keyboarding / Computer Applications *Semester*

During the first part of the course, students will review basic keyboarding technique with a focus on increasing speed and accuracy. The second half of the course will emphasize the use of Microsoft Office applications in the formatting of basic documents such as personal business letters, multi-page reports, tables and newsletters.

Industrial Arts *Semester*

This is a project-based, hands on course that provides all students the opportunity to use hand tools and power tools to create woodworking projects. This class introduces the basic fundamentals of drafting, and proper and safe use of both power tools and hand tools, and can build confidence as well as provide a sense of pride and accomplishment.

**Outdoor Ed /
Archery**
Semester

****Sponsored by the Idaho Fish and Game Dept.****

\$18.00 fee covers Idaho State Certification License.

All students have the opportunity to certify in Idaho's Hunters Education and Bow Hunters Education. Safe handling and understanding of firearms is a major emphasis that will benefit both hunters and non-hunters. In this class students learn proper shooting technique for the bow and arrow, as well as being able to spend time practicing. This is a fun and exciting course for those who love the outdoors, as well as those who want to learn about it.

Spanish A
Year

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, with an emphasis on basic conversation and a mastery of vocabulary and grammar necessary for communication in everyday situations. Students will participate in group and course activities, writing assignments, course presentations and conversation. Completion of Spanish A and Spanish B is the equivalent of Spanish 1 at the high school.

Spanish B
Year

This course is a continuation of Spanish A. Completion of Spanish A and Spanish B is the equivalent of Spanish 1 at the high school. Having a year and half to complete 1 year worth of curriculum gives a unique opportunity for in depth experimentation and learning of material. The focus of this course is on a mastery of vocabulary and grammar with an emphasis on communication. Students will produce language through group and course activities, writing assignments, course presentations and conversation.
Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Spanish A.

8th Grade Music Electives

Band 8 *Year*

This course is designed for the second or third year band student. Instruction is designed to expand on what you have already learned in band 7, working on more technical and difficult music, and prepare you for the high school band program. There are 5 evening concerts and a spring festival performance with this course. Because of the nature of the course, **attendance** at these concerts and the festival is required for establishing grades (exceptions will be made for religious reasons). A concert schedule is available in the fall for the entire school year. Students will need black dress clothes for all performances.

Choir 8 *Year or Semester*

This course is open to all students who enjoy singing. Students will expand their knowledge of general music, note reading, sight singing, and vocal skills and will prepare them for the high school choral program. There are 5 evening concerts and a spring festival performance with this course. Because of the nature of the course, **attendance** at these concerts and the festival is required for establishing grades (exceptions will be made for religious reasons). A concert schedule is available in the fall for the entire school year. Students will need black dress clothes for all performances.

Guitar *Semester*

This course is open to everyone who is interested in learning guitar and is designed as a **beginner** course. Course will include music reading, theory, and music history as well as guitar instruction. All students interested in this course are required to provide their own acoustic guitar. **No students accepted on electric guitar.**

Orchestral Strings *Year*

This course is composed of students playing violin, viola, cello or string bass, and who have prior musical experience. Students will learn a variety of music from various periods in an effort to improve their skills. Students will improve their basic reading and intonation skills and gain better understanding of the theory of music and how it works to help them in various music fields such as performance and composition. There are at least three evening concerts and one festival performance. Because of the nature of this course, **attendance** at these concerts and the annual music festival (in the spring semester) is required for establishing the student's grade (exceptions will be made for religious reasons). Students will need black pants, black shoes and socks and a collared white shirt and tie for boys; girls will need to wear a white blouse and black skirt or pants for performances. **Students are responsible for providing and maintaining their own instruments.**

8th Grade PERMISSION ONLY Electives

Signature Required

Permission slips can be obtained in the front office or from your counselor.

**Teacher &
Office Aides**
Semester

Teacher's aides will assist teachers with daily tasks including making bulletin boards, copying, and filing. Office Aides will assist with delivering messages, answering the phone, making copies, etc. Aides are expected to dress and act professionally at all times. All students will be required to attend a 30-minute training regarding issues related to being an aide including: the importance of confidentiality, performance expectations, use of office machines, etc.

Advanced Art
Year

This class is open to eighth grade students who have taken a semester or year of Introduction to Art in seventh grade and have a genuine interest in art. Students must have a written recommendation from the previous art teacher to enroll in this course. Course content will include the continuation of Introduction to Art in fine art production by learning more advanced drawing and painting techniques and styles. Students paint wall murals in addition to learning advertising, illustration, art styles throughout history and other types of art, which could become careers. Actual experiences, guest speakers and a field trip will be included with a sketchbook and portfolio being developed.

Media Production
Semester or Year

The Media Production class provides a challenging opportunity for students to engage in higher levels of critical thinking, analysis, writing and creativity. Students will utilize journalism techniques through the use of surveys, interviews, photography, inventiveness, and computer applications (Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Publisher). Products include a school newspaper, an annual yearbook, various Power Point presentations, and a variety of creative projects. Students choosing this class need to be able to think "outside the box", be self-motivated, work independently and go beyond the minimum. This class is for advanced students and requires a teacher signature or recommendation from a previous teacher.

Peer Tutoring
Semester

Peer tutors assist special needs students with school work and activities. Peer tutors must have the signature of the peer tutor advisor, be proficient in all three areas of their last ISAT, and be recommended by one of their teachers.

8th Grade Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra curricular activities are offered at Kuna Middle School to compliment our academic areas. We encourage students to become involved in our after-school activities as well as our athletic programs.

National Junior Honor Society

The Honor Society is an organization students may be invited to join. Members participate in community service activities for their school and community. Seventh and eighth grade students who achieve a 3.5 GPA or higher, have attended KMS for one (1) semester, and receive an acceptable rating from the faculty evaluation committee in the areas of: loyalty, citizenship, service, character, and leadership may be invited to join. Once a member, students must maintain their GPA each quarter, participate in the following year's induction ceremony, participate in one sponsored service event, and complete 30 hours of community service.

Academic Decathlon Team

Kuna Middle School participates in the Inter-valley League Academic Decathlon competition. A group of fifteen students from the team are chosen to participate each month in the competition. Since the competition uses a wide variety of questions, participating students' knowledge must be general and varied. The criteria for selection to the school's team will be the evaluation by faculty of the following: overall knowledge of facts and issues, interest in team preparation, and desire to be a part of and to cooperate with the team.

Athletics

Physicals are required for all students participating in athletics. We recommend that students be covered by a current insurance policy. The school does not provide insurance on participating athletes, but there is an insurance policy available that may be purchased from an insurer outside the Kuna School District. Information is available upon request.

The athletic program at KMS offers the opportunity for students to learn physical fitness, sportsmanship, self worth, self-discipline, emotional stability, community responsibility, teamwork, and initiative. Our aim is to provide an enjoyable opportunity for as many students as possible to participate in athletics. At the same time, we desire to keep the program in perspective so that it does not interfere with or detract from the academic program. Sports programs will follow guidelines set forth for secondary grades 7-12.

Basketball Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: First week of January to the first week of March. Practice times will be announced. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled for both seventh and eighth grade teams with a tournament following the regular season for seventh and eighth grade "A" teams only. Seasonal games are played during the weekdays at 4:00 p.m. Because of the large turnout, we also have a "B" and "C" program. These teams will normally play five to ten games. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included.)

Basketball
Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Late October through December
Practice times will be announced. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled for both seventh and eighth grade girls. Seasonal games are scheduled during the weekdays at 4:00 p.m. A tournament follows the regular season for seventh and eighth grade girls “A”, “B” and “C” teams. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included).

Cross Country
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: will be from the start of school through the end of September.

The team will be composed of seventh and eighth grade girls and boys. Practice will be immediately after school. The school will supply Meet jerseys. The equipment needed is shorts, shoes and t-shirt.

Football
Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Third week of August to third week of October and includes a playoff game.

Practice times will be announced. Games are scheduled during the week at 4:00 p.m. The heavyweight team will be composed of boys weighing 115 or more. The lightweight team will consist of boys weighing 115 and under. Both teams have five Inter-valley league games. All major equipment is furnished by the middle school (shoes not included).

Tennis
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Early March to mid May.

Practice times will be announced. Tennis is a spring sport offered to all middle school students. The intent of the tennis program is to learn the fundamentals of this lifetime sport while promoting sportsmanship.

Track
Boys & Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Early March to early May.

Practice times will be announced. There will be four or five track meets that are scheduled at 4:00 to 4:15 p.m. on weekdays. The regular season is followed by the Inter-valley district meet. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (running shoes and sweats not included).

Volleyball
Girls

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Third week of August to third week of October.

Practice times will be announced. Games are scheduled during the week at 4:00 p.m. Twelve Inter-valley league games are scheduled with a league championship tournament following league competition for the seventh and eighth grade top “A” teams. Because of the large turnout, we also have a “B” and “C” program. All major equipment is furnished by the middle school (shoes and kneepads not included).

Wrestling
Boys

Seventh and Eighth Grade

Approximate dates: Late October through December.

Practice times will be after school. There will be one team consisting of students from seventh and eighth grades. Nine Inter-valley league matches are scheduled. These matches are scheduled at 4:00 – 4:15 p.m. A tournament follows the regular season. The top two wrestlers in each weight will compete in the district tournament. Weight classes are 79, 85, 91, 97, 103, 112, 119, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, 160, 171, 189, 215, and heavyweight. All major equipment is supplied by the middle school (shoes not included.)