

Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School
6th Grade Course Requests
2015 – 2016

Student's Last Name: _____

Student's First Name: _____

Please check if your student is enrolled in the gifted magnet program: _____

Please read these important notes. Your child will be placed in the appropriate content area classes based on FCAT scores, teacher input, past coursework and grades. Your child may require intensive classes based on FCAT scores, which will limit their elective course options. Students in the gifted Magnet Program will only have one elective class choice. This form is to indicate which elective classes your child is requesting for next year. **Placement into elective courses cannot always be guaranteed because space is limited.** Course selections could change. We will TRY to honor elective choices. Please rank your top four elective choices as follows: 1 (your first choice), 2 (your second choice), 3 (your third choice) and 4 (your fourth choice).

___ AVID (requires application and interview)

___ Band 1

___ Drama 1

___ Chorus 1

___ Orchestra 1

___ Art 1

World Language class: ___ Spanish/French OR ___ Spanish/Chinese

___ Engineering Research 1

___ Dance 1

___ TRAILS

___ Gateway to Technology

I have read this information completely and agree with the choices marked above *(parent signature and phone number)*

Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School **6th grade Course Description Information**

Band 1: This course includes a thorough introduction to music fundamentals and the development of performance skills on wind and percussion instruments. *A limited number of instruments are available for rent from the school and you may qualify for a waiver of the rental fee based on need and instrument availability.*

Orchestra 1: Students will develop performance techniques, ear training, music fundamentals, bowing and posture while performing a variety of string music.

Chorus 1: Chorus introduces the student to beginning level melodic and rhythmic music reading. An emphasis will be placed on appropriate tone production through which the student will discover the range and capabilities of his/her individual voice.

Drama 1: Drama 1 introduces students to the fundamentals of drama. Beginning experiences in acting and stagecraft are included.

Dance 1: The purpose of this course is to train the young artist who has the potential to dance. This course is designed to develop different talents by exposing the dance student to a variety of dance instruction while maintaining a dominant focus in classical ballet. Students will be given opportunities to dance in a group or as a soloist in an atmosphere in which the student can grow technically and creatively. There is no prerequisite for this class.

Art 1: The purpose of this course is to enable students to communicate ideas and concepts through two dimensional media using basic knowledge of drawing, painting and printmaking. It will also include study of graphic arts / photography.

Engineering Research 1: This course is an introduction to fields which relate to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics and Music (STEAMM). It is a year long elective that is taught for one semester in the engineering classroom and one semester in the art classroom.

Gateway to Technology: An activities-oriented course that leads to the Pathways to Engineering Program. Curriculum includes topics such as design and modeling, electrons, science of technology, automation and robotics, flight and space, and energy and the environment.

World Language: This course will introduce students to the study of world languages through simple dialogs, vocabulary items, songs and games taught in the language. Emphasis is placed on listening, speaking and an awareness of the culture of the people of the target language. This course will briefly explore world continents, geography, history, myths, culture and cooking. The target languages will rotate to include French and Spanish or Spanish and Chinese.

TRAILS: TRAILS stands for "Tool for Real Time Assessment of Information Literacy Skills" and the goal of the course is to advance research and information literacy skills. The following are the units of study contained in the TRAILS curriculum: Developing topics for research; Identifying potential sources of information; Developing, using and revising search strategies; Evaluating sources and information; Recognizing how to use information responsibly, ethically and legally.

AVID: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective class that provides support for students in the AVID program through curricular and mentoring activities. This course is designed to enable students to develop fundamental skills aligned with current curriculum.