The Middle School Curriculum
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Mission

Success Academy is redefining what’s possible in public education. Our dual mission is to:

- Build exceptional, world-class public schools that prove children from all backgrounds can succeed in college and life, and
- Advocate to change public policies that prevent so many children from having access to opportunity.
School Design

At Success Academy, we constantly ask ourselves: “Would our scholars choose to come to school even if they didn’t have to?” The answer — a resounding yes! — results from setting the bar high while providing meaningful opportunities for scholars to explore, engage, and laugh in our classrooms.

From elementary school through high school, we commit ourselves to the long-term development of our scholars, supporting their ultimate success in college and in life. We teach the core knowledge, critical thinking, independence, and self-advocacy skills that scholars need to excel. We invest in developing their passion for learning, so that they have an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and understanding.
ACTION Values and Building Moral Character

We believe that character development is an important part of schooling, and the middle school grades are particularly vital years, when scholars are growing into themselves as moral citizens and dedicated learners. We continue to guide the development of strong character in all our scholars by upholding our ACTION values, and placing increasing emphasis on academic integrity, a sense of responsibility both on and off school grounds, and understanding the heightened consequences of breaching codes of conduct.
Parent Engagement

At Success Academy, we work hard to ensure scholars achieve the highest levels of academic mastery — but we can’t do it alone. From ensuring that homework is done to emphasizing academic integrity to modeling effective time-management, parents play an essential role in supporting scholars’ academic progress. Your ongoing effort and oversight — and communication with teachers and leadership — are essential to helping your child excel.

Success Academy’s powerful, rich, and comprehensive curriculum — developed, scrutinized, and refined over 12 years — is designed to ignite scholars’ curiosity and love of learning, while cultivating an analytical and investigative mindset. We aim for all scholars to take ownership of their learning and develop keen interests and passions, and encourage you to visit your scholars’ classrooms to observe the curriculum in action. We look forward to working with you to support scholars on this exciting intellectual journey.
Our rigorous and engaging middle school curriculum encourages our scholars to think critically, to develop and debate ideas, and to always support their ideas with evidence. Our classes are intensely hands-on and collaborative; we strive for mastery and believe that inquiry-based learning best enables expertise. Our math, history, and science sequence culminates in the New York State Regents exams in Algebra I, U.S. History, and Chemistry, allowing scholars to enroll directly in more advanced courses once they enter high school.

Our middle schools also offer enriching cocurriculars to serve as critical outlets for creativity, self-awareness, independence, and experiential learning. Scholars can join teams in Chess, Debate, Dance, and Sports, and they can discover new interests through electives and clubs.
Humanities

English Language Arts (ELA)

Scholars who love to read — and who read exceptionally well — develop into lifelong independent learners. It’s crucial that we teach scholars how to read deeply, write passionately, and communicate clearly and confidently so that they can thrive as adults in a fast-paced, dynamic world. Our literacy instruction drives thoughtful engagement with meaningful texts across all subjects.

Our middle school literacy curriculum emphasizes:

- reading and analyzing novels, short fiction, nonfiction, and poetry
- engaging in rich discussions about the big ideas in texts
- expressing ideas clearly, precisely, and authentically in creative, informative, and argumentative writing

Each day, scholars have a double block (100 minutes) of either literature or writing. During each ELA unit, scholars spend two to three weeks studying literature, followed by two to three weeks studying writing.

Literature

In literature, scholars delve into compelling works of fiction, poetry, and literary nonfiction, from both the Western canon and contemporary culture. Helping scholars analyze and interpret the meaning of texts is our utmost priority — we prize critical thinking above all else and ask scholars to consider how an author expresses a central idea with character development and literary technique. Through robust discussion and debate, and in written responses at the end of each class, scholars learn to discern the author’s purpose, draw connections between big ideas in the text, and develop an appreciation for literary style.

Each literature unit focuses on a selected book, read by the entire class. We launch these units with shorter Connected Texts that are relevant to the book’s core themes; these pieces introduce background knowledge and key concepts that will guide scholars in identifying and analyzing the book’s central themes. When our fifth graders dive into *The Watsons Go to Birmingham — 1963*, by Christopher Paul Curtis, for example, they’ll have already read short works about desegregation and race relations during that period, so they can more readily consider how history, culture, and symbolism relate to and are revealed through the text.

We conclude each literature unit with Mastery Text seminars, in which scholars analyze short texts (a poem, a fiction excerpt, or a nonfiction piece) unrelated to the prior unit’s central text. The purpose of Mastery Text seminars is for scholars to apply their analytical skills to unfamiliar texts and demonstrate their ability to use evidence to identify and explain central ideas and themes. By asking scholars to draw on these skills when they read unfamiliar texts, teachers are also able to assess their own success in developing scholars as critical thinkers.
Independent Reading

We’d be hard-pressed to select one component of our curriculum that stands as the most essential, but we always come back to reading. Lifelong readers are lifelong learners, and for that reason, our middle schools are designed to cultivate and grow scholars’ love of reading. Middle schoolers spend a block of time each day reading books of their choice, to inculcate reading habits that will carry them into high school and pave the way for college success. Scholars can choose print books from carefully curated classroom libraries or e-books from Overdrive (our subscription provides thousands of options). All scholars are also given a subscription to Audible.com, so they have on-demand access to thousands of engaging reads. Listening to books read by masterful actors not only immerses scholars in the transfixing power of storytelling but it increases their vocabulary and comprehension by exposing them to books that are more sophisticated and rigorous than what they might read on their own.

Summer SOAR

We support scholars’ continued academic growth when school is out with a summer reading assignment that includes books of the scholar’s choice from a carefully curated list and a required grade-appropriate book that is chosen to both challenge and captivate. Scholars receive copies of the required book so that they’re able to lose themselves, soaring through the summer months rather than sliding backward from inactivity.

One Network, One Book

Summer reading also includes one book that the entire Success Academy network — scholars, staff, and teachers — reads and discusses together in the fall. Past selections have included:

- **One Last Word** by Nikki Grimes (2018–2019)
- **Ghost** by Jason Reynolds (2017–2018)
Writing

As growing writers, our scholars learn how to express rich ideas clearly and powerfully while also upholding high standards of organization and grammar. Throughout the year, scholars strive for vibrant self-expression by writing short pieces (200 to 400 words) in a variety of genres. They begin the year writing short literary essays about their first whole-class novel. Scholars then go on to write op-eds on such topics as gun control. In December, they apply their learning from both literature and history to write creative pieces inspired by the time period they are studying: Eighth graders studying the civil rights movement, for example, write oral arguments about segregation. Scholars finish out the year writing literary analysis and personal essays. The writing program emphasizes the importance of practice and revision. Scholars give one another feedback, and classes frequently end with a group discussion about a classmate's writing. Each week, teachers provide targeted feedback, giving scholars multiple opportunities to revise and improve their grammar, style, vocabulary, and rhetoric. At the end of each unit, scholars have one-on-one meetings with teachers during which they reflect on their progress and set goals.

To become great writers, scholars need to compose sophisticated sentences, and sentence-level instruction is embedded in the Literature and Writing units. We devote the first 10 minutes of each ELA lesson to Art of the Sentence activities, which hone scholars’ capacity to express ideas using clear, complex, and grammatically correct sentences. For instance, scholars learn how to use subordinating conjunctions and appositives to construct more compelling sentences. Art of the Sentence activities are rooted in Literature and History content, simultaneously pressing scholars to think critically about material learned in Literature and History while mastering complex sentence composition.

We also celebrate writing as a joyous activity through Writing Showcases. At the end of each unit, the entire middle school community participates in an afternoon of celebration when scholars share their finished pieces with teachers, peers, and families. These events are an opportunity for scholars to showcase what they've learned, celebrate growth, and continue to develop their passion for writing.
History

Our scholars experience history as the fascinating story of humankind, one that’s extraordinarily relevant to their modern lives. We don’t approach history as a comprehensive checklist of facts and figures. Rather, we lead scholars in investigations of the most pivotal ideas, events, and cultural interactions that transformed history and continue to resonate and shape our world.

In each history lesson, teachers present a question about the past and challenge scholars to draw upon a wide array of primary and secondary sources to answer this question, debating and evaluating the historical evidence presented by their peers. Scholars engage in this type of historical inquiry daily through classroom discussion, analytical writing assignments, and project-based learning, such as drafting political cartoons, painting cave art, and simulating major historic debates.

As they progress through the middle school history sequence, scholars build a strong foundation of historical knowledge, draw connections between the past and present, and develop a deep understanding of historical change and continuity. By the end of eighth grade, scholars are prepared to excel on the U.S. History Regents exam and to tackle Advanced Placement history courses in high school.

GRADE

5

World History to 1550
Scholars begin by delving into the ancient world, starting with the rise of the Egyptians and the world’s first river valley civilizations. Throughout this survey course, scholars study the Classical Age in the Mediterranean and East Asia; the fall of Rome, rise of Islam, and feudal Europe; the medieval period across Afro-Eurasia; and the origins and impact of the European Renaissance.

6

American History I
Scholars pick up where their fifth-grade World History course left off, investigating Europeans’ exploration of the Americas. They study the American native peoples, the consequences of the Europeans’ arrival, the early history of Africans in the Americas, the American Revolution and Constitution, and the development of the new United States. Scholars wrap up the year with the reform era of the 1830s and 1840s, finishing off at one of the biggest cliffhangers of American history: sectionalism and the antebellum United States.

7

American History II
Continuing with U.S. History, scholars focus on understanding the monumental social, political, and economic changes in the century, from the Mexican-American War through the Great Depression. The Civil War and Reconstruction, Western expansion, and the rise of an industrial United States on the brink of becoming a world superpower round out the year.

8

Contemporary History Post-1945
In their final year of middle school, scholars take post-1945 U.S. History. Unlike other history programs, which all too often rush to cover this period in a single unit or neglect it from the study of history entirely, we dedicate an entire year of instruction to understanding this contemporary period so that scholars understand the key individuals, events, and debates that still shape our nation and our world. Throughout this course, scholars analyze the rise and fall of Nazi Germany; the origins, escalation, and end of the Cold War; the civil rights movement; and key moments in recent American and world history. In doing so, scholars grapple with the continuing implications of these events on society and the public discourse today. At the end of this course, scholars take the U.S. History Regents exam.
STEM
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

From a science, math, and technology perspective, our scholars will likely encounter futures that we can’t even imagine; scholars will need the skills to adjust to rapid-fire developments in these fields. Our STEM program empowers all of our scholars to think flexibly and analytically and to systematically follow lines of insightful inquiry when faced with unfamiliar and challenging problems. The middle school science and math sequences culminate in the Regents exams in Chemistry and Algebra I.

Each day, scholars have a STEM block, consisting of two 75-minute sessions of back-to-back science and math.

Math

Our mathematics program develops scholars as confident mathematicians, powerful qualitative thinkers, and productive problem-solvers. Scholars gain a deep understanding of mathematical concepts through contextualized applications, ultimately building an understanding based on reasoning, not just calculation.

Each day, scholars participate in a mini-lesson to strengthen their capacity as flexible problem-solvers. After the mini-lesson, the real fun begins: Teachers present their classes with engaging problems to solve in small groups. Scholars hone their mathematical reasoning abilities as they learn to assess unfamiliar problems, think about what they know and can assume about a problem, and identify the essential information they need to arrive at a solution. They devise a plan of attack and learn to evaluate whether an answer seems reasonable based on their original estimations. They share their answers and strategies with the class and evaluate, critique, and refine these various approaches to problem-solving. In this way, scholars come to understand and use math as a vehicle for thinking critically and strategically about the world around them.
5 Extending the Number System
In fifth grade, scholars establish a thorough understanding of how numbers work in decimal and fraction operations. We leverage visual models to help scholars understand and generalize number patterns and relationships. Scholars build on their foundation in geometry from elementary school, diving deeper into the shape classification of quadrilaterals and triangles and learning volume, which builds on their previous study of perimeter and area. They dig deeper into unit conversions and begin measuring and analyzing data, which they continue to do through high school, as data analysis is an essential life skill that enables scholars to “read” numbers and assess the story they tell.

6 Introduction to Proportional Reasoning
In sixth grade, scholars begin working with negative numbers, realizing that the number line extends beyond zero. After considering the implications of the number system, we’re able to truly launch into expressions and equations, thus laying the groundwork for Algebra I. Most critically, scholars take on ratios and proportions, which elevates their number sense to new levels of understanding. Scholars continue building their foundation in geometry, and their emerging mastery of data analysis from fifth grade is advanced in a statistics and probability unit.

7 Constant Rates and Proportionality
Seventh grade is an essential year in scholars’ development as advanced mathematical thinkers; by the end of the year, scholars know almost all the math that they’ll need for the SAT. Scholars learn to flexibly apply strategies to solve complex equations with decimals and fractions, and they work regularly with percentages. They begin to understand real-world proportional reasoning. For example, scholars investigate if 30 is the new 20 based on our longer life expectancy. As they continue in-depth explorations of such subjects as ratios and proportions, relationships in the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, statistics, and probability, scholars transform into truly sophisticated mathematicians.

8 Algebra I
Eighth-grade scholars take on the challenges of Algebra I, a course that extends and deepens their understanding of algebraic relationships. Scholars learn to create and reason with equations and inequalities and to interpret and build linear, quadratic, and exponential functions through real-world applications. For example, they grapple with minimum wage as they apply their understanding of a constant rate of change.

At the end of the year, scholars demonstrate their mathematical understanding on the Algebra I Regents exam. Having completed Algebra I, scholars will be ready to take on Algebra II in high school and Calculus during their senior year.
Science

At Success Academy, we want all scholars to be truly excited about scientific discovery. Our science teachers are obsessed with sparking curiosity because when scholars experience the joy of discovery, they become better scientists and observant, engaged citizens.

In middle school, we prioritize the development of scholar independence and leadership in scientific inquiry. Each day, science consists of:

- A mini-lesson, during which the teacher engages scholars in an interesting concept or task.
- An investigation or activity, during which scholars design and execute experiments, conduct research, and solve problems to explore and explain scientific phenomena, under the guidance of the teacher.
- Discourse, when scholars discuss and debate their findings and work together to create common takeaways based on that day’s investigation.

Thanks to daily inquiry-based science in Success Academy elementary schools, our entering fifth graders are already extraordinarily capable of thinking like scientists. They have a strong foundation of knowledge and are adept at asking questions, observing, recording, and applying their knowledge to make predictions. In middle school, we push our scholars to dive deeper, dedicating each year to a particular scientific discipline. Our middle school scientists are also exposed to a robust computer science curriculum, building on and extending the coding skills they developed in elementary school.

GRADE

5

Earth Science
Scholars begin their middle school science career by digging into Earth Science. As they consider the essential role of soil in sustaining life, scholars literally get their hands dirty by composing soil mixtures for plants. From the ground beneath their feet to the vast infinity of the solar system, scholars learn about the planet we call home and the universe that surrounds it. We also introduce scholars to the ways humans impact the Earth, exploring the political implications of climate change and the validity of scientific sources.

6

Life Science
In sixth grade, scholars take a deep dive into Life Science. The major themes in biology are approached through several avenues, from directly observing the structures within a cell to modeling the spread of an imaginary zombie virus. Through the study of microbes, cells, and genetics, scholars learn to see themselves and the natural world from an entirely different perspective. Scholars study life systems at every level, from the organization of microscopic cells to the macroscopic organization of entire ecological systems. To conclude the year, they discover the underlying beauty of evolution and the unity and diversity of life on Earth.

7–8

Chemistry
Seventh- and eighth-grade scholars delve into Chemistry in a two-year course that culminates in the Chemistry Regents exam. With extended time to dig into the subject, scholars actively engage in hands-on exploration, experimentation, and modeling to develop sophisticated mastery of core concepts. They study the implications of the atom as the most basic building block for all matter, investigate how atoms combine and interact, and explore how the properties of different materials shape our world. They design their own solutions to real-world problems. In seventh grade, for example, scholars collaborate to develop a filtration system to clean polluted water. At the completion of the course, scholars have a deep understanding of the composition of matter, physical and chemical changes, thermodynamics, and energy conservation, a critical foundation for AP Biology and Chemistry.
Science Exploratorium

Science Exploratorium is Success Academy’s fresh take on the traditional science fair. For one month each year, all middle school scholars complete independent projects and tackle complex engineering challenges, constructing and testing designs that they develop themselves. This unit drives authentic excitement in the application of science knowledge to real-world phenomena, allowing everyone to stretch their wings by completing independent research. We also press scholars on the development of communication and presentation skills and on using technology effectively and creatively.

The Exploratorium culminates in a celebration of projects in front of parents and the school community.

Advisory

Our goal is to prepare scholars to enroll and graduate from a college or university within four years, and middle school is a critical time for establishing lifelong habits in time management, setting goals, and independent learning. Our morning Advisory block addresses and supports these aspects of academic and personal development, providing a dedicated time for scholars to discuss daily challenges and to develop close relationships with their Advisors (who are also teachers). Advisors also bridge the gap between a scholar’s home and school life, serving as families’ point of contact throughout the year and regularly contacting parents about their child’s progress.

Scholars also undertake Independent Reading during the Advisory block and receive Sex Education during this time.
Academic Intervention and Special Education

At Success Academy, we begin with the core belief that disability does not mean inability. We are committed to helping every one of our scholars, including those with special needs, tackle challenging academic work and meet sky-high expectations. Because of this core commitment to every child, we have always deployed techniques typically reserved for special education settings, such as parallel teaching and utilizing manipulatives, in all of our classrooms. We believe that all students learn best by doing and that frequent assessments and study of scholar work move all students forward. We believe that the best way to support children with special needs is not to offer a separate education but to help them close in on the academic benchmarks that we set for all children. So we purposefully expand on our general model for children with learning challenges.

We have two possible settings for students with individual learning needs that require more targeted and robust supports: Integrated Collaborative Teaching classrooms are available at all 15 of our middle schools and 12:1:1 classes (classes with no more than 12 scholars and one or two dedicated teachers) are available at middle schools across each borough.

Our middle school schedule also includes a Zero Period intervention time, during which select scholars receive targeted support to ensure that they meet relevant academic benchmarks.

All of our teachers receive comprehensive training on assessing scholar needs; specialized staff members work with families to navigate the special education bureaucracy and secure necessary services; and our special education teachers receive ongoing training to ensure that they are experienced in the most current research-based practices for supporting students with specialized learning needs.
At Success, we believe that scholars’ emotional health is as important as their academic success and the cocurricular development of their talents and passions. We invest time and resources to ensure that scholars have ample support when they are struggling in this area. All of our schools have at least one school psychologist. Additionally, teachers and leaders are trained to recognize signs of psychological trouble; to address mild forms of sadness, anger, or other disturbances; and to help children develop healthy coping strategies. Whether helping our scholars manage anxiety, teaching healthy ways of coping with difficult emotions, offering resources to parents, or providing time-management support, our school psychologists, teachers, and leaders are truly invested in scholars’ lives.
At Success Academy, we are deeply invested in educating the whole child: We want our scholars to become well-rounded young adults who have interests and capabilities far beyond academics. We have designed our middle schools to give scholars ample opportunity to explore and discover talents and passions and to pursue them at a high level.

Each trimester, scholars choose an elective class, which they study five days a week during the school day, allowing for sustained immersion. Additionally, they can choose to join competitive teams or visual or performing arts clubs, which meet each day during Zero Period (7:20 to 8:45 a.m.). Wednesday afternoons provide another optional opportunity to dive deep into an interest through after-school clubs, as do audition-based network clubs (Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball, Dance, and Chorus) that train or compete on weekends. These opportunities are not considered extras — they're a vital part of the curriculum, serving as outlets for creativity, self-expression, and leadership.

Offerings vary by school and are subject to change at any time based on staffing and facilities, but all middle schools currently offer Fitness, Basketball, Volleyball, and Cross-Country. Most offer Chess, Debate, and Photography; other options may include Computer Science, Journalism, Math Olympiad, Theater, Dance, Robotics, and Visual Arts. During the middle school placement process, top-performing scholars may be invited to participate in selective programs in Soccer, Chess, or Dance, which include more intensive training and competitions and are only offered at select schools.
Visual Arts

In our studios, scholars gain the tools they need to navigate the visual world while becoming careful observers and problem-solvers. As artists, they grow into passionate “meaning makers” by using art to explore and engage with their own ideas, their peers, and the world around them. Through independent and collaborative experimentation in various mediums — including clay, collage, construction, photography, painting, printmaking, and textiles — scholars gain technical skills and confidence in their ability to express themselves visually. Scholars also study the work of great artists and pivotal artistic movements, considering their effects on humanity and on the progression of artistic expression as well as developing scholars’ understanding that these people and events are part of a global artists’ community.

Photography

Success Academy middle school scholars engage in specific studies of the visual arts of Photography and Design. Scholars study famous photographers, discuss prominent works, and develop the skills to take their own meaningful photographs. Photography and Design club scholars go on field studies to observe art in the world, as well as take photography walks in their school neighborhoods. Scholars also learn how to upload and edit their photos to be printed or made into a keepsake book.

Performing Arts

Depending on the school, scholars can study Music, Dance, Drama, or Musical Theater, exploring a variety of genres, styles, influences, and artists. After developing technical and creative facility while telling stories from their imaginations or about their lives and communities through a combination of existing work and original pieces, scholars showcase their work in live performances attended by the entire school community.

Dance

Dance team is a structured time for scholars to reach the next level in their skills through proper training in learning grooves, discipline, and stage etiquette with opportunities to perform. Last year, Success Academy launched a selective middle school Dance program at SA Harlem North West Middle School, where scholars were able to dive deep into the study and practice in a brand-new dance studio. Scholars in the selective program will compete in two competitions and represent Success Academy at various dance performances, including at Barclays Center.

Theater

In Theater, scholars hone their craft as actors and theater artists. A wide variety of units are explored, such as puppetry, mask work, Shakespeare, improv, introduction to acting techniques, and theater performance. Scholars additionally develop ensemble building and creative-thinking skills, setting them up for success across the Success Academy curriculum.
**Chess**

The Success Academy Chess program provides rigorous, engaging, and hands-on chess instruction that gets scholars to fall in love with thinking. Learning and playing chess in middle school continues to sharpen scholars’ analytical instincts and teach them to think strategically, control their impulses, make reasoned decisions, and compete with confidence. Twenty spots in six schools (SA Bed-Stuy MS, SA Bronx 1 MS, SA Harlem East MS, SA Hudson Yards MS, SA Midtown West MS, and SA Myrtle MS) are offered to top-rated scholars who wish to participate in our selective Chess program.

**Debate**

Debate places agency in the hands of our scholars, allowing them to develop as active and engaged citizens both in school and in their own communities. Scholars drive their own learning in these classes, developing and leveraging active listening skills, insightful articulation, and in-depth research techniques. Debate builds flexible and logical thinking by challenging scholars to defend both sides of any topic.

Scholars take on such topics as education reform, voter fraud, global warming, and criminal justice, and they draw on a rich variety of sources and evidence to craft compelling arguments and demonstrate how these issues affect their own communities. Scholars have accumulated numerous awards and honors in Debate on the intramural, local, and national levels, including the top speaker award at a national competition. The Success Academy Debate League is now in its third year and hosts tournaments every month.
Sports and Fitness

In sports, our scholars hone agility and athletic skills, learn the rules of the game, and collaborate as a team. All middle schools offer fitness as an elective option and Basketball, Volleyball, and Cross-Country teams during Zero Period. For the competitive teams, scholars practice together five days a week and represent their school in Wednesday or Saturday competitions against other school teams in our network. Some schools compete externally and have seen outstanding success over the years, including multiple championship wins by SA Harlem 1 and SA Harlem West in the Charter School Association basketball finals.

This year we also launched Basketball and Volleyball Amateur Athletics Union teams. These selective teams will consist of the network’s best players and will represent Success Academy in both regional and national tournaments.

Selective Soccer

Modeled on top European soccer academies, our middle school selective Soccer program offers club-style training and competition that is unprecedented in a New York City public school. Committed and talented young soccer players train year-round, during and after school, on weekends, and in an intensive summer program. Middle schoolers receive personalized evaluations and coaching, and they participate in external league play and tournaments. Scholars are invited to participate in the middle school selective Soccer program based on demonstrated skill and commitment in the SA Elementary Soccer program. Selective Soccer is currently offered at SA Harlem North Central and SA Bed-Stuy middle schools.
We’re old-fashioned in that we believe wholeheartedly in the importance of recess, even in middle school! We don’t compromise on this free time; just like math and science, recess is a critical part of a scholar’s day — and it is not optional. Every day, scholars have 20 minutes outdoors to exercise or socialize with peers.
Essential Logistics

Our middle school scholars and teachers enjoy the benefits of a block schedule format, which leverages extended periods of time to explore content areas in great detail.

Here is a sample schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>TIME (min)</th>
<th>CLASS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival</td>
<td>7:20–8:00 (40)</td>
<td>Early Arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>7:20–8:45 (85)</td>
<td>Teams &amp; Clubs, Scholar Intervention, Study Hall (Sports begin at 7:20 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrival</td>
<td>8:45–9:00 (15)</td>
<td>Full Arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9:00–9:45 (45)</td>
<td>Advisory, Independent Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9:48–12:18 (150)</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12:21–1:06 (45)</td>
<td>Lunch / Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1:09–1:54 (45)</td>
<td>Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1:57–4:27 (150)</td>
<td>STEM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismissal</td>
<td>4:30–4:45 (15)</td>
<td>Closing Routine and Dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zero Period: Zero Period is a daily block of time before school that’s dedicated to study hall, academic intervention, or clubs or sports team practice. Families will be informed if their children are required to attend Zero Period for academic intervention in math or reading. Otherwise, scholars can choose to join a club or sports team that meets daily. Alternatively, scholars are welcome to arrive to school early and use Zero Period to complete homework, independent reading, or other projects. Sports team practice begins at 7:20 a.m.; study hall, intervention, and clubs start at 7:45 a.m. All run until 8:45 a.m.

Trimester: Our middle schools follow a trimester schedule. Trimester 1 ends in mid-November, Trimester 2 ends in early March, and Trimester 3 finishes at the end of the school year in June.