**MS Social Studies**

***6th -*** The sixth grade social studies program is a study of the first half of United States history. The course begins with the migration of native peoples and continues through the Jeffersonian era. In addition, a unit on the American Civil Rights Era is completed in January or February, to coincide with the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and/or Black History Month. Each unit is viewed from political, economic, and social perspectives and includes concepts of geography and civics. The history of the US is explored through a chronological and thematic approach, and integrates social studies and critical thinking skills. Ongoing attention is given to current events.

***7th -*** The seventh grade social studies program is a survey of United States history from political, economic and social perspectives. Beginning with a study of the Jacksonian Era, the course covers units such as westward expansion, the American North and South, and new social movements, including abolition, women’s rights, and immigration. The course concludes with an examination of the American Civil War. Each unit is viewed from political, economic, and social perspectives and includes concepts of geography and civics. The history of the US is explored through a chronological and thematic approach and integrates social studies and critical thinking skills. Ongoing attention is given to current events.

***8th -*** The eighth grade course covers the study of Civics. Students learn and analyze principles of the United States’ constitutional democracy with a focus on the history and creation of our government. Topics include respect for the rule of law, civic duty, and political tolerance. Geography and/or current events are given ample focus in conjunction with each unit to show relationships between past and present and to shed light on current world issues. Students are continuously challenged to use problem-solving and decision-making skills during the learning process.