



MAUMEE VALLEY

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL



**MIDDLE
SCHOOL**
Grades 4-8

mvcds.org/middleschool



EMBRACING GROWTH & CHANGE

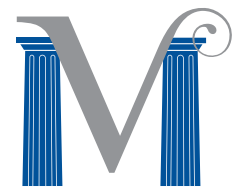
The Middle School's supportive community is a place where students can be themselves and explore passions. A safe and caring learning environment encourages them to grow and take risks. And our faculty inspire them through a curriculum that supports these interests.

OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE



The mission of the Middle School is to provide an environment that encourages independence while valuing the time and development of every student.

Students construct their own knowledge through flexible instruction, self-initiated activities, and the process of learning how to learn. We are a diverse community that fosters mutual respect and social responsibility, enhanced by a strong partnership between home and school.



Highlights of the Middle School

PREPARING YOUNG MINDS: The middle school years (approximately ages 9-14) are a time of tremendous growth and change. In our supportive community, students in grades 4-8 can be themselves and explore their passions. Students are regarded as individuals and the Maumee Valley faculty strive to meet their unique educational and social-emotional needs.

Rigorous academics are combined with character education and high levels of creativity. This successful combination ensures all Middle School students strike a balance between academic achievement and personal well-being. The 16:1 student-to-faculty ratio allows teachers to make working one on one with students a daily priority. These interactions have an impact beyond the classroom by encouraging students to become productive citizens.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: Our core curricula includes courses in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and world language. Technology is integrated into all core courses, providing students with opportunities

to become proficient and responsible digital citizens. Through these courses and a variety of elective experiences, Maumee Valley prepares students for success in their future years of study.

In continuity with our Lower School and aligned with the Upper School's learning goals, the Middle School academic program is designed to provide students with developmentally appropriate experiences that prepare them to be successful in 9th grade and beyond. Upon completion of 8th grade, students will have the foundation of content and skills necessary—in addition to a diverse portfolio of experiences—to enroll in a rigorous course of study in the Upper School.

PILLARS: The Middle School Pillars of **Kindness, Respect, Responsibility,** and **Participation** are integral to every student's learning experience. Advisors are devoted to making sure students represent the pillars and that they succeed. Class participation, social events, and community service also give students time to work on these areas.

Grades 4 & 5

NURTURING LEARNERS, BUILDING FOUNDATIONS



Maumee Valley teachers understand that no two minds learn in the same way. Class sizes are small so teachers have time to develop a deeper understanding of each student's needs and learning styles.

Classrooms are intentionally designed to nurture young learners through cozy reading spots, flexible seating options, and a focus on exploration. Students learn how to learn, engage confidently with teachers and peers, and build a strong foundation in literacy, mathematics, social-emotional skills, and critical thinking.

Our mixed age-group setting in these grades is the foundation for cultivating thinkers, leaders, and problem-solvers. Students build skills and explore concepts through student-led inquiry, real-world challenges, and a connection to the community. We believe social-emotional learning and character development should be built alongside foundational understandings of core academic concepts. We prepare students to be empathetic stewards for an environmentally conscious world with profound love and respect for nature and their wider community.

4th & 5th grades at a glance:

- 16:1 student-to-teacher ratio
- Small group instruction
- Special courses in Spanish, art, music, physical education, technology, and library
- Flexible seating and learning environments
- Student-led conferences
- Cross-curricular courses



Statement of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

At Maumee Valley, we recognize and embrace our responsibility to foster an inclusive, equitable, safe, and respectful community. We cultivate a community in which students, faculty, staff, and families feel genuinely welcome and are encouraged to learn from, with, and about one another. We honor the uniqueness of each individual and embrace diverse backgrounds, values, learning styles, and points of view to build a strong inclusive community. At Maumee Valley, we want all community members to know: We hear you. We see you. We value you.

Grade 6

A PERFECT PLACE TO GROW

Visit our 6th grade classrooms and you will see small groups of students engaged in learning, solving, debating, collaborating, and investigating together.

STEM and intensive immersion and simulations in social studies challenge students to see themselves within a larger world. They learn to identify and understand the key events and forces shaping society.

A gentle transition from earlier grades in the Middle School's model of instruction provides daily opportunities for 6th graders to refine their communication skills through intensive writing instruction, novel studies, book clubs, and long-term research projects.

Through daily language arts and STEM blocks, students learn the critical importance of a growth mindset, responsibility, and self-direction.

Teachers guide students to develop good study habits and be successful in demonstrating mastery within assessments and more complex projects. Students are guided through a process in which they learn to identify strengths and opportunities to grow as learners.

6th grade at a glance:

- STEM blocks integrate math and science
- Developing responsibility and ownership of their learning
- Student-led conferences
- Special courses in Spanish, art, music, physical education, technology, and library
- Development of a deeper understanding of strengths and passions
- Math Mates program to build fluency and math mindsets (grades 4 & 6)
- Little Buddies program with PreK/JK students



Grades 7 & 8

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Maumee Valley teachers realize their students are capable of achieving far more than a great test score.

Students are capable of conjuring entire worlds with nothing more than a pen and paper, or creating a computer program based on a simple observation of need. Teachers provide students the enriching experiences to help them become independent minds and thoughtful individuals.

Required and elective Middle School classes enhance and emphasize critical thinking and creative problem-solving. A rigorous schedule keeps 7th and 8th graders engaged, motivated, and challenged throughout each day. Active and thoughtful lessons are the norm, and students are expected to collaborate with their teachers and peers daily. Speeches, interdisciplinary science, and society research presentations as well as small, seminar-style classes further prepare students for Maumee Valley's Upper School.

Advisee system

The Middle School advisee system allows for relationships to be nurtured by fostering kindness, respect for self and others, participation, and responsibility. Advisors mentor small groups of 7th and 8th graders, allowing them to get to know each student well. The advisee system builds an encouraging environment with a strong community of learners; advisees get to know each other on a more personal level than they would have normally in the classroom. These advisee/advisor relationships often continue beyond the middle school years.

Intensives

The Middle School recognizes the importance of introducing students to a variety of learning experiences. In addition to an engaging core course of study, the annual Intensives program offers personalized education through choice, the pursuit of passion, and exploration of various interests. Intensives allow for deep learning on topics of student interest such as computer programming, graphic novels, photography, or music creation.

X-Block

Students in grades 7 and 8 can further explore their passions during eXtended-Block (X-Block). Students conduct research, connect with professionals outside of the school, and meet with on-campus mentors to learn more about a topic in which they are interested. Information and insights collected by students are then shared with the school and community through projects, proposals, and presentations.



Clubs and extracurriculars

Middle School is an ideal time for students to explore and expand upon their individual interests. Our student body is a melting pot of backgrounds, strengths, and creative abilities.

We help students hone their passions and serve as facilitators for their imaginations. The majority of clubs are student-proposed so they serve as an accurate reflection of peer demand. If a student has a particular interest or skill that isn't served by a current club, they can work with an advisor to create one.

A SAMPLING OF MIDDLE SCHOOL CLUBS

- Alternate History Club
- Art Club
- Chess Club
- Coding & Computer Science
- Juggling & Magic
- Literature Club
- MATHCOUNTS
- Robotics
- Student Council



Athletics

Our athletic program focuses on the participation and development of student athletes. We believe athletic opportunities help to supplement the great education students receive in the classroom. Our coaches work to build teamwork, sound scheme, strategy, and skill but also to develop real-life tools through sport. Student athletes can take these skills with them as they move beyond the walls of the Middle School. Students can participate in:

- Fall: Cross country, soccer, and field hockey
- Winter: Basketball
- Spring: Track and field



COME VISIT US!

See for yourself how MV can help your child blaze a unique trail.

Parents interested in the Middle School can call 419-381-1313.

To submit an online inquiry, please visit

mvcds.org/apply

VISION

Personal. Experiential. Global.

MISSION

Maumee Valley Country Day School cultivates an inclusive community of intellectual excellence where learners creatively explore their passions and boldly inspire positive change in the world.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

We create an environment of freedom and responsibility to Think, Speak, Explore, Choose, Connect, Be You.

About Maumee Valley

As Maumee Valley approaches the 140th anniversary of its founding, it remains the preeminent educational institution in northwest Ohio. It is the only accredited, coeducational, nonreligious, and independent school in the area and attracts families from northwest Ohio, southeast Michigan, and nations around the world. Enrollment is about 470 students from PreKindergarten through 12th grade. Preparing students for global citizenship and admission to prestigious universities, Maumee Valley Country Day School cultivates an inclusive community of intellectual excellence where learners creatively explore their passions and boldly inspire positive change in the world. We are known for our outstanding faculty and academics, high test scores, beautiful campus, global opportunities for experiential learning, and personal bonds between students and teachers.

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