



**EMPOWER**

**ACADEMY**

# The Empower Academy



**Taylor  
Wilmas**  
Math



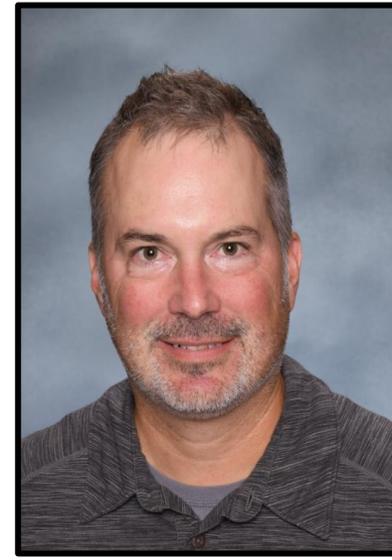
**Melanie  
Lundt**  
ELA



**Courtney  
Varner**  
ELA



**Diane  
Coffey**  
Science



**Bill  
Coats**  
SS



**Stacie  
Beatman**  
Special  
Education

# The Empower Balance

**Empower is perfect for me, there is a lot of flexibility, but also clear goals and topics so I won't get confused or off track."**

–Current 7th Grade Student



# The EMPOWER Mission

Students in the EMPOWER Academy will be...

- Problem Solvers
- Curious Learners
- Effective Communicators
- Thoughtful About Their Learning
- Engaged Community Members
- Empowered Individuals

# EMPOWER Days

## Empower Crew Groups



Students work with an Empower Crew Teacher weekly to work on learning activities, goals and to design projects.

# EMPOWER Days

## Weekly Portfolio Learning Reflections

Focused on themselves as learners...

*Building Better Habits*

*Learning Styles*

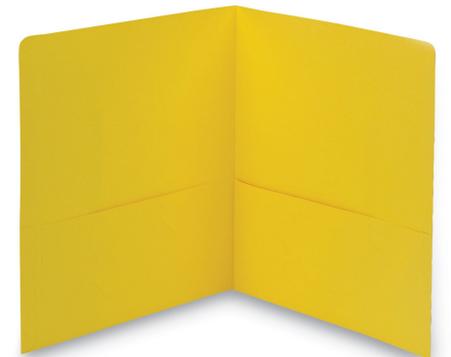
*Test Anxiety*

*etc.*

*Thinking Styles*

*Giving Feedback*

*Study Tips*



# EMPOWER Days

## WOOP Goal-Setting

Focused On:

- *Class Learning*
- *Academic Behaviors*
- *Achievement (NWEA Reflection and Analysis)*
- *Home Communication*



# WOOP

W → Wish → Challenging but feasible  
O → Outcome → positive benefit #1,2,3  
O → Obstacle → what's in your way that's within you  
P → Plan → if...then...

[bitsofselfcare.com](http://bitsofselfcare.com)

# EMPOWER Days

## Leadership Time

- 6th Hour–7th and 8th graders
- Leadership activities
  - Plan field trips
  - Plan team building activities
  - Plan portfolio learning activities
  - Hallway decorations and improvements
  - Etc.!



# EMPOWER Days

## Project Create

Students apply their learning to real-life problems, explore their interests, and make deeper curricular connections:

### **Student designed projects**

- Invention Convention
- Community Service
- SPARK Projects
- National History Day and MLK Day Projects

# EMPOWER Science

Middle school science curriculum is a three year program where students experience different topics in life, physical, and earth science each year. On Empower, all grade levels will learn the same science concepts on a three year rotation. How we approach each depends on each student's level of learning.

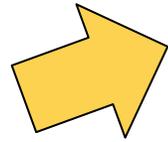
Rotation A	Rotation B	Rotation C
Light and Matter	Chemical Reactions & Matter	Contact Forces
Thermal Energy	Chemical Reactions & Energy	Sound Waves
Weather, Climate & Cycling of Water	Metabolic Reactions	Forces at a Distance
Plate Tectonics & Rock Cycling	Matter Cycling & Photosynthesis	Earth In Space
Natural Hazards	Ecosystem Dynamics	Genetics
Cells & Systems	Earth's Resources & Human Impact	Natural Selection & Common Ancestry

# EMPOWER ELA

<b>6th Grade</b> (only 6th graders in class)	<b>7th and 8th Grade</b> (Mixed grade level classes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Book Clubs</li><li>● Narrative, informative, argumentative writing</li><li>● Structured classes and projects</li><li>● Speaking and listening skill practice</li></ul>	<p>The same general practices as 6th grade, but also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● more choice topics and work products</li><li>● moving toward independence</li><li>● cross-curricular topics and opportunities</li></ul>

# EMPOWER Social Studies

3-Year Rotation



2025-2026: World Geography

2026-2027: Early United States History

2027-2028: World History

## 6th Grade

- Exposure to multiple SS skills, materials, resources.
- Reading Strategies/Primary Sources
- Projects: *guided* options and application
- Range of assessment methods

## 7th and 8th Grade

- More complex SS materials/resources
- Increased Reading Strategies/Multiple Sources
- Projects: increased options/applications/multiple pathways
- Range of assessment methods

# EMPOWER Math

## 6th Grade

- Classes composed of only 6th grade students.
- Lessons will be more structured at the beginning of the year, with a gradual release of responsibility moving towards the end of the year.
- Math 6/7 will be taught using Math 7 curriculum (faster pace).
- Big focus on voice and choice (many activity options to show their learning).

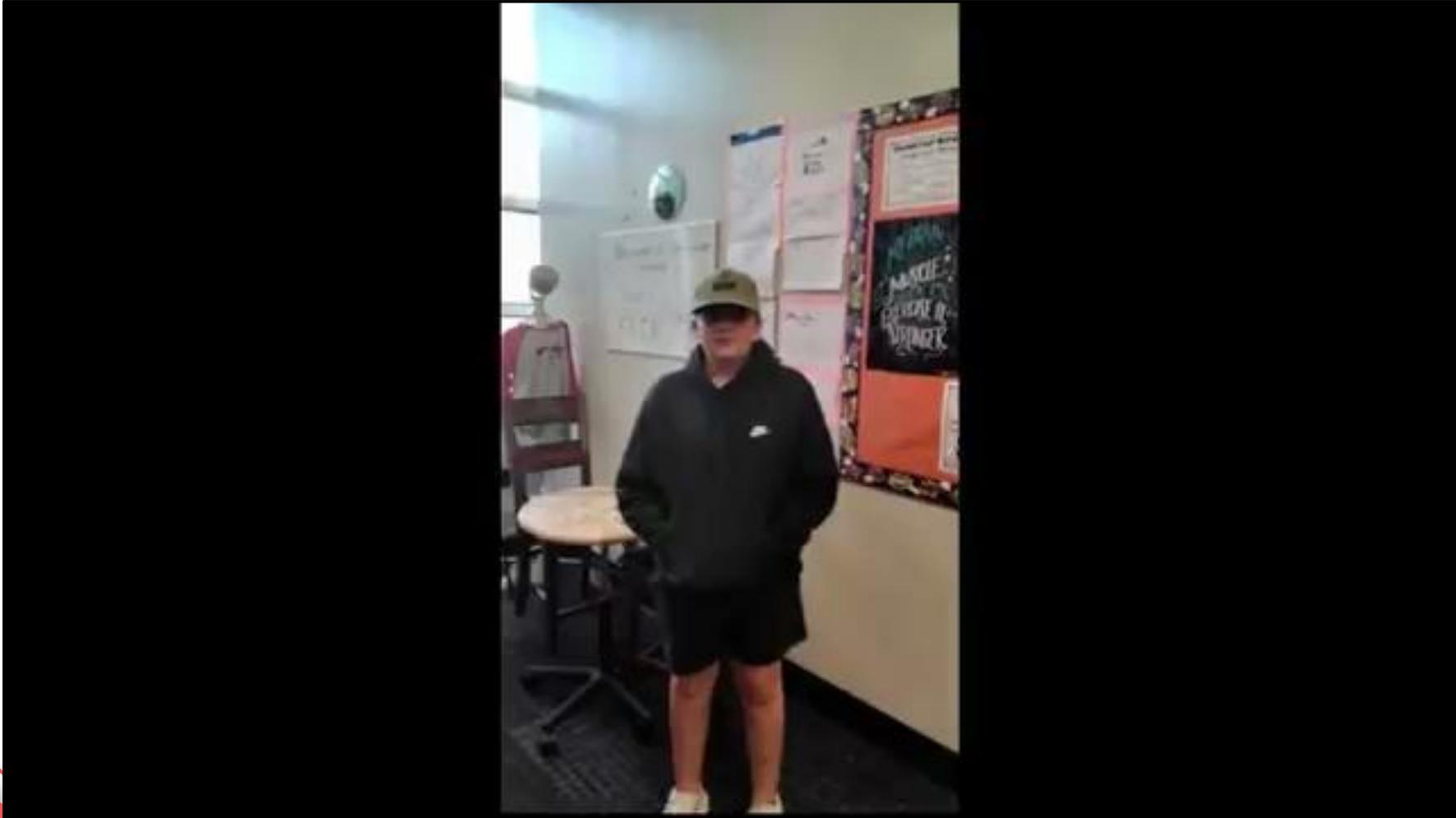
## 7th and 8th Grade

- Classes will be composed of BOTH 7th and 8th graders.
- Students will focus on taking responsibility for their own learning and begin working more at their own pace within a 90 minute period.
- Big focus on voice and choice (many activities options to show their learning).

# EMPOWER might be a good fit if...

- You enjoy open ended learning opportunities with options for student choice
- You welcome and apply constructive feedback (peer and adult)
- You accept challenges and value goal setting towards growth
- You understand the importance of time management and taking responsibility of YOUR learning process
- You are willing to reflect on yourself as a learner, both your strengths and areas for improvement

# Empower to Me...The Student View



# Questions About Empower?

Jolina

Zev

Abby



Thank you!

