



# Middle School

The Middle School offers a unique educational program for middle school students in grades 6 through 8 based on purposeful connections between individuals, communities and the environment. Greenspire is an independent public charter school authorized by Grand Valley State University and is located in the Grand Traverse Commons. Greenspire incorporates the Montessori philosophy with place and project-based, environmentally focused education in a multi-age environment.

## Greenspire: An Overview

2021-2022 Enrollment	132
Full Time Staff	16
Class Sizes	18-19
Student/Staff Ratio	8:1
Certified Staff	9
Calendar Year	September to June
Daily Start & End Times	8:30 am to 3:30 pm
Half Days	8:30 to 11:30 am
Transportation	Not Provided
Food Service	Not Provided

## Greenspire's Weekly Schedule Breakdown

Course / Activity	Meetings Per Week	Hours Per Week
Math	5	3.75
Science	4	3.00
Social Studies	4	3.00
Physical Education	3	2.25
Literature	3	2.25
English Language Arts	3	2.25
World Language	2	1.50
Nature Trail	1	1.50
Health	1	0.75
Environmental Stewardship	1	0.75
Current Events	1	0.75
Northern Naturalists	1	0.75
Speech	1	0.75
Electives	2	1.50
Community Connections	2	1.50

### **Council and Advisory**

Each day begins with either a whole school no-agenda meeting (council) or small group advisories. Both are used to foster a sense of community at Greenspire utilizing different approaches to engage as many students as possible. Councils and advisories play an important role in daily life at Greenspire and provide some of our best memories and most effective teachable moments.

### **Community Connection**

Community Connection time provides our students with an opportunity to directly interact with our greater northern Michigan community on a regular basis. We utilize this time each week to invite guests into school - from speakers to musicians to artists to activists. We also use Community Connection time to engage in service work throughout the area as well as build community on our campus.

### **Electives**

Students can choose up to two (2) 45-minute electives every 9 weeks. Although ever-changing, electives typically include art, cooking/culinary, music, gardening, reading and/or creative writing, wildlife exploration, competitive team sports, hiking, sledding and much, much more.

**If you would like to schedule a tour of our campus for your family, please visit our website at <https://greenspireschool.org/apply-middle-school/> to learn more!**