

EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVES 2020–2021

Symphonic Winds (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Trimester)

Symphonic Band is designed for woodwind and brass players in their third year of playing their instrument. Students who do not have as many years of playing may audition for this ensemble at the end of the first trimester. Participation in three evening concerts and a large ensemble festival is required. In addition, in-school assemblies and evening performance opportunities are provided. Band students should plan for FLEX rehearsals in the weeks leading up to concerts. Students are expected to participate all 3 trimesters. Travel fee \$20

Percussion (1st, 2nd and 3rd Trimester)

Percussion class is designed for percussion students in their 2nd and 3rd year, however, anyone is welcome to join in the first and second trimester. Students will perform as members of the symphonic band in combination with the symphonic winds class, and will also learn their own percussion ensemble music. Participation in evening concerts as scheduled throughout the year and a large ensemble festival in the third trimester is required. Percussion students should plan for FLEX rehearsals in the weeks leading up to concerts. Students are expected to participate all 3 trimesters. Travel fee \$20

Intro to Music (1st Trimester)

Introduction to Music is open to anyone and everyone interested in learning about music, but may not be able to commit to a music ensemble quite yet. Here you will learn the elements of music and how to read, play, and even write your own music. You do not need to own an instrument, all materials will be provided in class.

Beginning Band (2nd Trimester)

Open to any and all, Beginning Band is open to any students who may be interested in joining the band in the 7th or 8th grade. We will get caught up as quickly as possible so that students can transfer into the 7th or 8th grade band in the 2nd trimester. Students will start on one of the following instruments: trumpet, trombone, euphonium, flute, clarinet, or saxophone. Each student will need an instrument and *Elements of Music* book 1 for their instrument. Participation in one evening concert is required.

Jazz Band (3rd Trimester)

Jazz Band is a study of the history, theory, and style of jazz music as applied to playing in a jazz big band. Students wanting to be a member of the jazz band should be enrolled in Symphonic Winds, Concert Winds, or Percussion as well. Participation in one evening concert is required.

Intermediate Orchestra (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Trimester)

Students that took Beginning Orchestra last year or have played an orchestra instrument before are encouraged to sign up for this class. Students will continue to strengthen skills playing a stringed orchestra instrument through various selections of orchestra music and will have opportunities to perform throughout the year.

Beginning Guitar (1 Trimester)

This class will focus on beginning guitar techniques including various strum patterns, alternating bass, finger picking, and simple note reading. Each student will need to provide his or her own acoustic or classical guitar for this class.

Beginning Ukulele (1 Trimester)

This class will focus on beginning ukulele techniques including basic chords and strum patterns, playing individually and with a group.

MVMS Choir (2nd and 3rd Trimesters)

This 7th and 8th grade intermediate course will focus on a wide variety of songs in 2 - 3 part harmony. Since choir is a progressive class, students are highly encouraged to take choir for two or more trimesters. Students will be required to perform at various concerts, assemblies, and festivals.

Bel Canto Choir (2nd and 3rd Trimesters)

This is an auditioned treble group and requires instructor permission to register. This class meets 2nd and 3rd trimester. For your audition, you must sing alone without any accompaniment. This is a fun, talented group who will be competing, performing, and traveling. Even if you don't think you can make it, COME TRY OUT! It's good practice for the year you DO make it!

Publications Production/Yearbook (1 Trimester) Eighth Grade Only**Prerequisite: GPA/Teacher Approval**

Students wanting to take this class will need to have a recommendation from a core class teacher. This class will create the yearbook for the current school year. Students will take pictures of events and groups that will be featured in the yearbook. Students will study the elements of graphic design and complete pages for publication. Students will be expected to spend time outside of class taking pictures at after school events. Emphasis will be placed on design and hitting a deadline for publication.

Foods I (1 Trimester)

Foods I is an elective where students learn to create delicious foods, such as fruit smoothies, grilled cheese sandwiches, twice-baked potatoes, fruit pizza, biscuits, muffins, many different kinds of cookies and tacos. As this is a "Foods" class, not just a "cooking" class, we also study kitchen safety and sanitation, basic nutrition, kitchen equipment and vocabulary, manners and table setting. Students will have at-home cooking assignments, in addition to worksheets, study guides and tests. No "fee" is charged to take Foods, however donations to help purchase lab supplies are very welcome.

Foods 2 (1 Trimester)**Eighth Grade Only****Prerequisite – Foods 1**

Foods 2 is an elective where students who have already completed Foods I expand on that class and learn to prepare banana bread, donuts, cinnamon rolls, beef, chicken and pork, learn to bake pies and experience cake decorating. Consumerism, nutrition and meal management are also covered with at-home assignments, worksheets and tests. No "fee" is charged to take Foods 2; however, donations to help purchase lab supplies are very welcome.

Sewing I (1 Trimester)

Sewing I is an elective where students learn about clothing care, doing laundry, using sewing equipment, a sewing machine and using a commercial pattern. Students construct a pincushion, locker caddy, duffel bag, a jumbo foot-shaped pillow and pajama pants. Choosing your own fabrics and supplies is encouraged, however, no “fees” are charged to take Sewing I. Grades are based on limited “bookwork,” a weekly class participation score and completed projects.

Sewing-Crafts (1 Trimester)

Sewing-Crafts is an elective where students learn basic hand-sewing stitches and how to use a sewing machine. Projects constructed in this class include a pincushion, a bordered pillowcase, a lap quilt, a stuffed animal using a commercial pattern and a tote bag. Students are encouraged to choose their own fabric and supplies, however, no “fees” are charged to take Sewing-Crafts. Grades are determined by some “bookwork,” a weekly class participation grade and completed projects.

GOOGLE in Education (1 Trimester)

An introduction to all GOOGLE applications (Drive, Gmail, Docs, Calendar, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Maps, Drawings, Classroom). You will learn how to use the applications and which application to use in any given situation. In addition, you will create a digital portfolio over the course of the trimester.

Basic Coding (1 Trimester)

An introduction to coding/programming. In this class you will learn how to “think” like a person that creates computer applications. You will be introduced to a variety of online coding applications. Although you do not need to be an “expert” in math, you should be comfortable solving basic math problems and puzzles. Other skills required: ability to accept failure as nothing more than a step towards mastery, willingness to try new things with a positive attitude.

Drama 1 (1 Trimester)

Drama 1 is a performance-based class where students work individually and in small groups to develop skills in using basic vocabulary of the theatre, improvisation, and performances based on scripts. Three plays will be analyzed throughout the trimester to introduce the students to the world of theatre production. The course also includes storytelling, monologue performances, reading and performing from scripts, and script writing. Students learn basic technical aspects of production, including set, props, costuming, light, sound, and stage management. Interested students should have self-discipline and be willing to memorize lines and perform.

Drama 2 (1 Trimester)

Drama can be taken for multiple trimesters, but higher quality is expected from returning students in their individual and group work, their performances and their script writing. Different plays are analyzed each trimester to expand their experiences with great works of theatre. These students will be asked to take more leadership roles than they were in their first trimester of drama.

Sculpture (1 Trimester)

Students will learn about the importance of form, balance, shape, light and shadow as they explore different methods of three-dimensional art. Projects vary, but may include papier-mâché, kinetic sculpture, bas-relief carving, assemblage, stabiles, mobiles, and an introduction to clay. Students will keep their projects at the end of the term. No “fee” is charged to take Sculpture; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Art 1: Drawing (1 Trimester)

An introduction to the Elements of Art. Students will learn the basics of drawing while developing techniques to see and draw more accurately. Following the completion of 7 one-week drawings, which focus on the elements of art, students will create larger images which include a linear perspective landscape and realistic portrait. No fee is charged for the class; however, there is a short supply list of materials, many of which students will already have from other classes.

Art 2: Painting (1 Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite: Art 1

Students will apply techniques learned in Art 1 to complete more complex two-dimensional artwork. Projects will include Modern Art studies that will lead to larger scale acrylic paintings. No fee is charged for the class; however, there is a short supply list of materials, many of which students will already have from other classes.

Printmaking (1 Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite: Art 1

Students will further apply techniques learned in Art 1 to create works of art while experimenting with several printmaking processes. Students will produce multiples of images using the Principles of Design as guidelines. Projects may include carving relief blocks, dry-point etching, found object collagraph, watercolor monotypes, stenciling, screen-printing and more.

PE (1st or 3rd Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

This year eighth grade students will be able to take PE as an elective. Depending on the trimester and the weather, activities will be determined on what is available.

Office/Counseling/Library Aide

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite: GPA/Attendance/Office Approval

Student aides perform tasks assigned to them each day. Students should be able to answer phones, run notes and/or packages to classes, alphabetize, and do other random jobs asked of them by those in the office and library.

Classroom Aide

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite: GPA/Attendance/Teacher Approval

Classroom aides' work with a certain teacher or teachers to perform tasks assigned to them each day. Students should be able to follow directions, be self-motivated when work alone, and do other random jobs asked of them by the classroom teacher.

(Safety glasses are required for all technology/shop classes. Glasses can be purchased at the school for \$4.00)

Woods I (1 Trimester)

This course is designed for students to learn the basics of woodworking. Students will be given the opportunity to work on projects like wooden toys, candleholders, birdhouses, and scroll saw projects. No “fee” is charged to take Woods I, however donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Woods 2 (1 Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite- Woods 1

This course is for students who have successfully completed Woods 1. This course offers more advanced wood working projects such as; breadboxes, finger boxes, and /or back massagers. No “fee” is charged to take Woods 2; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Construction Trades (1 trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite-Woods 1 and 2

This class is offered to 8th grade students only. The students will construct a variety of projects that are involved in construction. Drafting and constructing a 2 or 3 room model and hydraulics, if time allows, are examples of different projects the students can do.

Tech & Design 1 (1 Trimester)

This hands-on class will teach students the design process by exploring a large variety of technologies. Projects include 3D Modeling with Google Sketchup and 3D Printer, LEGO Robots, Maglev vehicles, catapults, water rockets, and more! No “fee” is charged to take Tech & Design 1; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Tech & Design 2 (1 Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite - Tech & Design 1

This class takes Tech & Design 1 to the next level. Many of the activities build on projects done in Tech & Design 1, including a second unit in 3D modeling with an emphasis in 3D printers and another unit in Robotics. New topics will also be introduced, such as Flight, Engineering, Solid Fuel Rockets and **DRONES!** No “fee” is charged to take Tech & Design 2; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Small Engine Repair (1 Trimester)

In this hands-on class, students gain first-hand experience with small engines. Students will build a working model engine and get to disassemble, reassemble, and troubleshoot 4 stroke engines while learning about the technology behind them and how and why they work. Each student can bring a personal engine to work on in class. No “fee” is charged to take Small Engine Repair; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Metals I (1 Trimester)

This class will study the processes of sheet metal working and welding. Students will become skilled in measuring and marking in order to make a variety of useful and artistic projects with provided designs or their own ideas. No “fee” is charged to take Metals I; however donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.

Metals II (1 Trimester)

Eighth Grade Only

Prerequisite: Metals I

Metals II goes deeper into welding and metalworking. Each student will develop welding and layout skills to make a working model steam engine. We will also introduce manual and computer controlled machining principles and practices as part of the projects students get to build. No “fee” is charged to take Metals II; however, donations to help purchase supplies are very welcome.