

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

2023-2024

Students and Parents, below are course descriptions for electives for 23-24 school year. You will use the google form link and these course offerings to rank your elective preferences. All students will receive PE all year long on either blue or white days. We will continue to have two elective periods each day. You will have the option of selecting a yearlong focus class as well. In addition to PE all year and your student's yearlong focus class, there are 4 semester electives offered. Please answer the survey completely so we can build your schedule efficiently.

Yearlong/Focus Course Descriptions

Beginning Band (Level I) (Yearlong)

Students will learn the finer art of music reading, instrument assembly and maintenance, correct playing position and sound tone production. Instruction offers focus on the development of tone quality, technique, aural skills, and music literacy.

Rhino Band (Levels II & III) (Yearlong)

Rhino Band is for students who already have a basic understanding of music reading, instrument assembly and maintenance, correct playing position and sound tone production. Instruction offers continued focus on the refinement of tone quality, technique, aural skills, and music literacy.

Art Focus 1 (Yearlong)

2 long-term art projects that focus on the design process: problem, ideation, mockup, and fabrication.

Art Focus 2 (Yearlong)

Marble Roller Coaster: a yearlong project encompassing design themes, craftsmanship, creativity and business. **Please do not select this elective if you've already completed the marble rollercoaster project this school year in Art Focus.*

Enrichment/Drama (Yearlong)

Students with yearlong Enrichment will have more in depth instruction and focus on drama skills, production, and stage mechanics. Students will be introduced to a variety of foreign languages, practice manners and etiquette, and study personal finance.

Library (Yearlong or Semester)

This class will focus on learning a variety of book genres as well as the workings of the library. The students will reinforce alphabetical order, dictionary skills, how to tackle research projects, and self-organization. This class will offer interesting book studies and discussion of the book topics.

Bookshelf to Big Screen (Yearlong)

This elective will compare and contrast books and the movies based on them. We will critically analyze how the storyline was depicted in each representation of the story.

Chorus (Yearlong or Semester)

Students will learn to use their vocal instrument to create a correct and pleasing singing sound. In addition to learning proper vocal production and technique, students will also learn music reading skills, sight-singing skills, and performance skills. Chorus also offers opportunities for students to develop team building and leadership skills. This is a performance-based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

Yearbook (Yearlong)

Yearbook is a challenging course in which students have the unique opportunity to write a book, prepare a publication for printing, run a business, and record history. Students will be required to attend a couple of school events throughout the year to capture the 2023-2024 school year.

Bible as Literature (Yearlong)

This course will examine the Bible specifically from a literary perspective. We'll look at how universal stories, themes, metaphors, and characterizations surface in the Bible and explore the many literary forms and genres found there: poetry, narratives, letters, proverbs, parables, satire, and visionary writing. The course is designed for anyone interested in a literary approach to the Bible, regardless of how well-acquainted they are with Scripture.

Home Economics (Yearlong)

Students will focus on household budgeting, childcare, sewing, food preparation/meal planning, nutrition, interior design, and many other valuable skills throughout the year. *Mandatory Class Fee \$50*

Latin (Yearlong or Semester)

This is an introductory course into the Latin language, culture and civilization. Students will immerse themselves in Roman culture through stories, myths and historical background, while also building and advancing their language skills.

Semester Course Descriptions

Art (Semester Long)

Learn the fundamentals of the most ancient and compelling form of art. The art of storytelling.

Enrichment (Semester Long)

Students in semester Enrichment will be introduced to the following: keyboarding basics, stage/drama, foreign languages including but not limited to: Spanish, Latin and American Sign Language, Manners, and Etiquette, as well as an introduction to financial literacy.

General Music (Semester Long)

Places emphasis on learning through doing. During the students' tenure in general music, they will have the opportunity to play various classroom instruments such as drums, handbells, xylophone, boom whackers and voice. Students will also learn about a variety of composers and study the following musical styles: jazz, blues, classical, musical theater, and rock.

Logic and Seminar (Semester Long)

This elective teaches the basics of formal logic and reasoning. Students will identify fallacies within arguments, learn tools to use for different thinking tasks, and practice inductive and deductive reasoning skills. Students will also do logic games and puzzles. Seminar is an intervention course for math and language arts.

Chorus (Semester Long)

Students will learn to use their vocal instrument to create a correct and pleasing singing sound. In addition to learning proper vocal production and technique, students will also learn music reading skills, sight-singing skills, and performance skills. Chorus also offers opportunities for students to develop team building and leadership skills. This is a performance-based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.

STEM (Semester Long)

Students will problem solve many different situations through hands-on learning using science, technology, engineering and math. Some of the projects planned for this semester-long elective include solar ovens, designing and building structures and models, coding, mini bots, and many more exciting experiments. *Mandatory Class Fee \$25.*

Sports History (Semester Long)

This elective will focus on the history of American sports as well as some international pastimes.

Typing (Semester Long)

Students will learn proper keyboarding position to key with directed reaches from home row to increase speed and proficiency. Additionally, students will learn how to operate Google Drive applications such as Slides, Sheets, and Forms.

Creative Writing (Semester Long)

Students in Creative Writing will write poems, short stories, children's stories, and other types of writing that tap into their creative potential and help them express themselves creatively. Students will also look at writing samples from other writers to help them learn how to analyze their own writing and apply creative techniques that they may or may not have already known.

Leadership (Semester Long)

Students will learn what leadership is all about by learning about leadership styles, developing goal-setting skills, communication skills, decision-making skills, teamwork, and much more.

Teacher Cadet (Semester Long)

This elective allows an opportunity for students to gain a realistic experience with the teaching profession. Teacher-in-training or teacher cadets may help teachers with activities including assisting students individually or in small groups with class work, correcting papers, and possibly preparing and/or presenting portions of lessons to the class.

Gaming Unplugged (Semester Long)

This elective will focus on strengthening problem-solving and strategic skills through challenging strategic games. Backgammon, Monopoly, card games, and chess are some of the games we will use to enhance logic, mental math, and creativity. Social skills will also be developed as students learn good sportsmanship by working through challenges in an appropriate way.

Latin (Semester Long)

This is an introductory course into the Latin language, culture and civilization. Students will immerse themselves in Roman culture through stories, myths and historical background, while also building and advancing their language skills.