

**Upper Darby School District
Middle School
Elective Course Catalog
2024 - 2025**



UPPER DARBY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Section 1: Grade Level “Wheel” Electives

Chapter 4 of the Pennsylvania School Code outlines the academic standards and assessment for public schools in the Commonwealth. In section § 4.22, curriculum and instruction in the middle-level program must be standards-based and focus on mastery of academic subjects, the development of critical and creative thinking, information literacy, good health, and encourage active participation in the school and community. Therefore, all students will take grade-level electives in the areas outlined below. Students participate in each of their grade-level electives for 45 days.

	Business, Computer Applications & Information Technology (BCIT)	Physical Education	Health	Computer Science (6) & Technology (8)	Art	Music
6th-grade	x	x		x		x
7th-grade		x	x		x	x
8th-grade	x		x	x	x	

Grade Level Electives Descriptions

Business, Computer, & Information Technology (BCIT)

6th Grade Business, Computer, & Information Technology

This course introduces students to computer applications in Google Suite. Students focus on using Google Suite tools and features by completing various projects related to digital citizenship and information and media literacy. Students will also utilize effective communication strategies by reflecting on projects and forming opinions on content through personal reflection. Finally, this class focuses on typing practice to become fluent typists.

8th Grade Business, Computer, & Information Technology

In this course, students will apply knowledge of computer applications in Google Suite. Students complete projects and assignments relating to basic business and finance concepts. Students will also utilize effective communication strategies by reflecting on projects and forming opinions through reflection questions. Finally, this class focuses on typing practice to become fluent typists.

Physical Education

6th Grade Physical Education

Students will participate in various traditional and non-traditional games where they will develop the technical skills, principles, tactical strategies, systems of play, and rules for each game. Some of the activities offered are soccer, football, lacrosse, Frisbee, mat ball, handball, and various tag games.

7th Grade Physical Education

Building on the foundation of 6th-grade Physical Education, students participate for 45 days in traditional and non-traditional activities. Students will engage in activities such as football, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, handball, tag games, and frisbee. Students are expected to learn the rules and regulations of each sport/game, proper technique, and sportsmanship. Skills introduced in 6th grade will be further developed in this course.

Health

7th Grade Health

The 7th-grade Health course focuses on basic information about the physical, mental, emotional, and social changes that occur during adolescence, including the roles and functions of the endocrine and the male and female reproductive systems. The course also focuses on diseases - what causes disease and how we can protect ourselves from various pathogens, including sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV.

8th Grade Health

The 8th-grade Health course centers on addiction and nutrition. During the unit on addiction, students learn basic information about tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and how addiction affects society. During the unit on nutrition, students learn about the role of nutrients in maintaining good health and receive the skills and tools necessary to help them make good food choices.

Computer Science & Technology Education

6th Grade Computer Science

This course offers students an introduction to computer science aligned to the Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) standards. The standards focus on the 5 core concepts of algorithms and programming skills, computing systems, data & analysis, impacts of computing, and networks and the internet.

8th Grade Technology

This course introduces students to various Engineering and Technology concepts focusing on problem-solving using the Technical Design Loop. Through collaborative, computer-based, and hands-on activities, students will gain experience with structural engineering, 3D design, and architecture.

Art

7th Grade Art

The seventh-grade art program strengthens students' confidence in their ability to successfully apply the Elements and Principles of Art and Design to creative experiences. The students improve upon the skills and techniques needed to communicate original ideas visually.

8th Grade Art

The eighth-grade art program strives to have students value their personal ideas, symbols, and subject matter while encouraging refinement of the skills and techniques learned in the past grades. Emphasis will be on continuous improvement and utilization of fundamental skills and thinking processes to help prepare the student for a more specialized curriculum in high school.

Music

6th Grade Music

Students build upon the fundamentals of music theory through both study and practice. Students will engage with three major units throughout the nine-week course: 1) Fundamentals of Music, 2) Keyboard Lab, and 3) American Musical Theater. Students will explore both classical and contemporary music throughout the course.

7th Grade Music

In 7th Grade, General Music students explore the works of historical composers, including Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart. Students will also learn music theory and keyboarding skills.

Section 2: Additional Elective Offerings

Drexel Hill Middle School and Beverly Hills Middle School Administration will offer courses based on student interest and academic eligibility. Eligibility is assessed using data points. While all students will initially choose elective courses, the final roster may be adjusted based on academic eligibility. Courses in this catalog are teacher and schedule-dependent. Elective offerings may differ between Drexel Hill Middle School and Beverly Hills Middle School.


Students cannot roster for the same elective multiple times during their middle school career. The electives have been designed for grades 6-8 unless otherwise noted due to a pre-requisite offering.

Students in the 8th grade who qualify for a full-year world-language course will have the opportunity to earn high school credit but will only be able to roster two 90-day electives and the full-year world-language course.

Building-level administration, in coordination with the Central Administration, will set the maximum number of students allowed per course. The Principal or Principal Designee will approve all lesson planning and resources and must include learning objectives, essential questions, PA Core Standards, assessment(s), and resources and materials.

It is important to note that the electives listed in this catalog combine classes designed by the Upper Darby School District and from other middle schools nationwide.

PLEASE NOTE: The following key will be used throughout section 2 of this guide.

	This icon indicates the course is offered only in person. Students electing this course must participate in the building and not have the option to participate synchronously online or asynchronously.
	Full-Year Course: These courses meet every day during the school year.
(90 Days)	These courses meet every other day for the whole year for a total of 90 days. These courses will alternate on an A/B rotation.

English and Language Arts

CREATIVE WRITING (90 Days)-6th-grade

Express yourself! Through this course, you'll discover and refine various writing styles that will allow your thoughts to come alive! Polish your writing skills and make them more effective, lively, descriptive, and cohesive. This course is for the undiscovered writer in all of us!

CREATIVE WRITING (90 Days)-7th-grade

Flex your creative muscles! Use your imagination to entertain, persuade, or inform your audience. You'll greatly improve your communication and storytelling skills with an emphasis on narrative craft, character development, and figurative language.

CREATIVE WRITING (90 Days)-8th-grade

Find your voice! Through this course, you'll get the opportunity to apply various course content in your writing. As you go through the elements of a story, master texts, and prompts, you will begin to master the craft of writing as you find and employ your unique voice.

FOLKTALES AND MYTHS (90 days)

Explore folktales and myths from Africa, Asia, and America. This elective focuses on critical thinking, reading comprehension, cultural differences, and understanding of literary elements of mythical forms.

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS (FY)

In-Person
Only



Experience the transformative power of playwriting! *Young Playwrights* will give students an opportunity to practice writing-based literacy skills while performing true-to-life authentic tasks. In this course, students are the center of their own learning while they develop critical 21st-century skills like creativity, communication, and collaboration. The class will reach students of diverse backgrounds and abilities as well as engage their families and communities in the creation and production of theater.

IT'S HILARIOUS (90 days)

Develop your "funny bone" through this course! Knowledge of the elements, levels, and forms of humor throughout history areas are explored through an analysis of creative productions. Appreciate the need and usefulness of humor and develop your awareness of appropriate humor for different audiences.

SPORTS FEVER (90 days)

Crazy about sports? Increase your reading and vocabulary skills by reading about sports. Magazines, newspapers, books, and other sports media will be used to help students write descriptions, action stories, sports facts, and rules of the game.

MYSTERY & SUSPENSE (90 days)


The class will focus on short stories, films, and writings of some of the most famous mystery writers. Students will learn the elements of suspense by studying these works and developing original products incorporating those elements, including writing an original mystery.

TECHNOLOGY IN LANGUAGE ARTS (90 days)

Students will be asked to use a variety of technological tools to enhance their literary skills, including demonstrating mastery of identifying key ideas, craft and structure, vocabulary, figurative language, and writing skills.

Social Studies

In-Person Only BRAIN GAMES (90 days)

 Create quiz-bowl and Jeopardy-type questions based on challenging logic and word puzzles that relate to the Language Arts and/or Social Studies curriculum. Create puzzles for other students to solve and participate in computer-created quiz bowls.


CIVIL WAR (90 days)

Explore the causes and effects of the war, its repercussions on modern culture, and the social, cultural, and global concerns during that time period. Battles specific to Pennsylvania will be a focus. Interactive activities will help students personalize this important time in our state and national history.

YOUTH AND THE LAW (90 days)

How does the law affect you? Through “peer simulations” of trials, video examples, and guest speakers, you’ll get a taste of the legal system’s different aspects. Learn about civil and criminal law, the court system, youth rights and responsibilities, and the consequences of actions or decisions.

In-Person Only YOUTH COURT (FY)

 Youth Court will allow students to learn about the Judicial System in the United States by implementing a Youth Court Program in their school. Students will run all aspects of the courtroom and will have the opportunity to act as judge, student advocate (attorney), prosecutor, and jury to their peers who commit an infraction to the code of conduct.

THE SIXTIES (90 days)

Immerse yourself in a time of great change for our country. This turbulent, transitional, exciting decade will be explored through primary sources, Internet research, art, and music. Students will work together to create projects based on major historical events of the 1960s.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES (90 days)


Contemporary Issues studies worldwide issues that impact and relate to American culture. Students analyze the impact of local, state, and national issues on their lives. The class will also make use of newspapers and electronic media. The evaluation assesses general knowledge of local, national, and international events, effective analysis skills in discussion and debating exercises, information literacy, and writing skills to conduct research assignments.

WAR AND PEACE (90 days)


Was it possible for the United States to maintain neutrality during WWI? Was the Great War inevitable? Did the United States’ foreign policy during the 1930s help to promote WWII? Was the United States in a position to prevent the war? Could the United States have helped to prevent the Holocaust? To what extent were the Cold War years a time of peace, prosperity, and progress for Americans? Did the United States win the Cold War? We discuss questions as we explore what War and Peace meant during and after WWI.

Math


GRAPH IT (90 days)

 Work with range, mean, median, and mode to construct, interpret, and apply an understanding of picture, bar, line, and circle graphs, as well as histograms. Additionally, coordinate graphs are constructed and analyzed.

MATH ART (90 days)

 Explore and enjoy math through artistic projects. Students will use knowledge of symmetry, angles, fractions, 2D and 3D shapes, and spatial reasoning to create a variety of fantastic and imaginative designs. Projects include tessellations, knotwork, mazes, and labyrinths.

PROBLEM-SOLVING GAMES (90 days)

 Strengthen your problem-solving and strategic skills through challenging math-related games and activities. Number Games, Spatial Games, and Games of Risk and Reward enhance logic, mental math, and creativity.

STOCK MARKET (90 days)

Study the process and considerations of investing in the stock market. Students choose a company, track its stock for gains and losses, and present their findings to the class. Current economic indicators and their effects are discussed. Students also explore financial literacy and the skills necessary to set themselves up for a healthy financial future.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES? *Probability and Statistics* (90 days) 7th and 8th Grade

Learn the concepts of probability and statistics the fun way through games that depend on chance!

PERSONAL FINANCE - *The Way to Wealth* (90 days) 7th and 8th Grade

In this introductory finance course, students will learn the basic principles of economics and the best practices for managing their finances. Topics will include making responsible choices about income and expenses, money management, spending, and credit, as well as saving and investing. Students will design personal and household budgets utilizing checking and savings accounts, gain knowledge in personal finance, debt, and credit management, and evaluate and understand insurance and taxes.

FANTASY SPORTS MATH (90 days)

Do you like sports, statistics, and math? In this course, you will analyze and forecast players from professional sports. You will study their statistics, conduct an in-class player draft, and follow your fantasy team for nine weeks. Students will look up box scores and compute their team's points earned daily, utilizing various math concepts. You will also display your team's progress by making graphs.

CHALLENGE MATH (90 days) 6th

Offered to students enrolled in 6th-grade math who are not recommended for a math intervention.

Students will dig deep into 6th-grade standards to use ratios to solve real-world problems, extend their understanding of rational numbers and algebraic expressions, and reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities.

CHALLENGE MATH (90 days) 7th

Offered to students enrolled in 7th-grade math who are not recommended for a math intervention.

Students will better understand 7th and 8th-grade standards by analyzing proportional relationships and applying their knowledge of rational and irrational numbers. Students will analyze and solve linear equations and use functions to model relationships between two quantities.

CHALLENGE MATH (90 days) 8th

Offered to students enrolled in 8th-grade math who are not recommended for a math intervention.

Students will expand their understanding of the number system to include rational and irrational numbers and expressions with radicals and integer exponents. Students will understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem and analyze sets of data displayed in multiple representations.

Science

ANIMAL SCIENCE-*The Pet Vet* (90 days)

Come journey into the science of our most loved pets. Explore the habitats, adaptations, relationships, and care of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, aquatic life, and insects. Learn the classification system scientists use to study these fascinating creatures. Conduct your own research using books, the Internet, and live animals. Discover animal careers and the challenges and joys they bring. If you love animals, this is the place for you!

ASTRONOMY (90 days)

In this class, students will travel through space learning about planets, comets, black holes, shooting stars, the Milky Way galaxy (where we live), and other galaxies millions of light-years away. Students will use their own imagination and creativity to design and present their own theories and beliefs about space, stars, and the unknown.

ENVIRONMENTAL ECOLOGY (90 days)

Explore ecological concepts and environmental choices relating to using and protecting air, land, food, and waterways. Experiments and simulations are used to learn about the local environment. This may also be taught as a focus area, such as freshwater ecology or land/soil ecology.

OCEANOGRAPHY (90 days)

Examine the structure and function of marine life, organism interactions, and specific ecosystems such as coral reefs, estuaries, and lagoons. Investigate the history of ocean exploration, topographical features, water circulation, and marine life. Concepts will be reinforced through hands-on activities.

EARTH SCIENCE (90 days)

In this class, students will expand their knowledge of earth and space middle school standards. Topics of study will include the Earth's cycles and atmosphere, the Earth's water system, and geological processes. Students will also explore renewable and non-renewable energy resources.

Health and Physical Education


In-Person Only PERSONAL FITNESS (90 days)




Designed for middle school students interested in an overall fitness program. Focus areas include muscle strength and endurance, flexibility, aerobic endurance, body composition, and proper nutrition. Students

will learn the benefits of maintaining a lifestyle based on wellness. The students will develop a fitness plan for a healthy lifestyle.


 **ROCKWALL AND ADVENTURE GAMES (90 days)**

 The Adventure portion of this class will provide activities that challenge students yet allow for a sense of achievement and encourage maximum participation. Students will be offered a diverse range of cooperative, non-competitive, and competitive activities, emphasizing the long-term development of skills. Students will be challenged by choice to develop a sense of safety and promote confidence in their abilities as well as confidence between classmates. Students will participate in aerobic and anaerobic exercises while learning how frequency, intensity, and exercise time can improve overall fitness levels. Finally, students will gain the knowledge, attitudes, and skills needed to maintain involvement in activity for the long-term acquisition of a healthy lifestyle.

 **FITNESS AND GAMES (90 days)**

 Students will participate in a combination of fitness and games. The fitness unit will include both aerobic and anaerobic exercise. Students will learn the FITT principle and how to apply the skills learned to improve their overall fitness level. The games unit will include cooperative and competitive activities emphasizing skill development. Students will use the challenge-by-choice model to develop a sense of safety and promote confidence in their abilities. Students will participate in various traditional and nontraditional style games to develop tactical strategies, technical skills and principles, systems of play and rules, and umpiring/refereeing for each game.

 **MIND BODY WELLNESS (90 days)**

 This course will encompass multiple areas of wellness, including music as a therapeutic medium, yoga, self-esteem, confidence and character building, nutrition, and various aspects of physical fitness. The purpose of this course is to offer students tools and practices to infuse into their lives to foster physical and mental health and stability, as well as, to provide an environment of peer-to-peer encouragement and cooperative learning, which can form the basis for future cooperative relationships.


NUTRITION AND FITNESS/WELLNESS (90 days)

This course greatly emphasizes developing and maintaining personal fitness. Students will gain an awareness and knowledge of health concepts and practices that will enable them to live a healthy lifestyle. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of assuming responsibility for personal health behaviors. Topics such as fitness, nutrition, mental health, and wellness will be the focus using a multi-instructional approach.

STRESS MANAGEMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH (90 days)

The focus of this course is to make one aware of the impact stress has on one's health and well-being. Most importantly, discovering ways to control and manage stress in one's life will be explored. The class will emphasize the need for multiple to achieve optimal health. A holistic approach to stress management will be taken, which will combine exercise, meditation, relaxation, yoga, nutrition, and cooperative learning. Many diseases and mental disorders will be discussed and researched. The course will use activities, audio-visual materials, speakers, and group work to assist the participants in thinking about stress and taking constructive steps to reduce its effects on their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.


 **YOGA (90 days)**

 This course is designed to provide students with a broad and personal journey into a daily yoga practice. Students will explore the history and styles of yoga, as well as the physical, mental, and personal benefits of yoga through practice and journal reflection. Students will learn how to practice yoga safely and with


awareness, exploring the proper alignment and limitations of each body. Students will explore the relationship between yoga and other aspects of life, such as stress management, sports, relationships, self-awareness, self-confidence, self-esteem, and general health and well-being.

Technology, Computer Skills, Career, and Application


In-Person Only TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING (90 days)

 This course is a holistic study of technology through the lens of manufacturing. Students will complete a 90-day course consisting of subject matters from all areas of the technological world. Students will be required to complete CAD projects, a manufacturing project, design projects, and an electronic course portfolio. This course embodies the modern STEAM model of education.

In-Person Only AEROSPACE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING (90 days)

 Aerospace Design and Engineering is a 90-day advanced 6th, 7th, or 8th-grade level elective course requiring students to examine the steps of Aerospace Design and Testing. In this course, students will work through basic physics and engineering concepts to design and test aircraft within a professional simulation program. Students will use 3D printers to create and test their airfoil designs in a live wind tunnel. Students will create live models to test theories in Aerospace Engineering. ADE is a course that follows the layout and rigor of the Delaware County Community College STEM, Fly-to-Learn course. This will provide each Middle School with one of its first mid-level college prep courses.

In-Person Only ENGINEERING (FY) 7th and 8th grade

 A full-year course dedicated to the Future Cities® competition. Students will also practice skills and produce projects in various fields of engineering. This class requires the completion of the Engineering Class Application and selection process.

COMPUTER SKILLS AND APPLICATION I (CSA) (90 days)

Are you interested in learning the nuts and bolts of how websites get designed, built, and maintained? This is an entry-level course involving Web Applications. This course will give you the basic background, terminology, and fundamental concepts in utilizing web applications for classroom use across their curricular studies. Students will understand how to use drag-and-drop tools on the web to design various projects. Students will use online web development tools like Adobe Express, Padlet, Voki, Google Drawings, PowToon, and more!

COMPUTER SKILLS AND APPLICATION II Prerequisite: CSA I (90 days) 7th and 8th grade

This course is composed of instructional modules designed to provide hands-on instruction in digital literacy and software applications. Software applications include word processing, desktop publishing, presentation software, spreadsheets, and databases.

COMPUTER SKILLS AND APPLICATION III Prerequisite: CSA II: (90 days) 7th and 8th grade

This advanced-level course is composed of instructional modules designed to provide advanced instruction on digital literacy concepts and the use of software applications. Advanced concepts include web page design, word processing, desktop publishing, graphic design, presentation software, spreadsheets, and databases. Take this class to extend your skills and launch yourself firmly into the digital world!

EXPLORING CAREER DECISIONS (90 days)


What do you want to do when you enter the working world? This class will help you begin to find out through career exploration. Students will consider their interests and skills and how they match up with various careers.

They will also develop an understanding of the skills needed to be a successful employee. Guest speakers from a variety of careers will be included as part of the class.


MARKETING (90 days)

This course will emphasize and build on the student's knowledge of marketing and business operations. The students will learn how companies operate, discover what it takes to develop a product and bring that product to market, and gain a full understanding of the different components of the marketing plan. Students will explore the different types of marketing, such as fashion, sports, and brands.

In-Person Only TECHNOLOGY DESIGN & INNOVATION A (90 days)

 Activities for this course include model rockets, a bridge-building competition, hot air balloons, CAD (Computer-Aided Design), and more hands-on projects. This course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs. Students develop skills in researching information, communicating design information, and reporting results. Activities are structured to integrate physical and social sciences, mathematics, English language arts, and art.

In-Person Only TECHNOLOGY DESIGN & INNOVATION B

 **Prerequisite: Technology Design & Innovation (90 days) 7th and 8th grade**


Take your technical design skills to the next level as you increase your knowledge of the design process by planning and engaging in more interactive projects.

In-Person Only TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

 **Prerequisite: Technology Design & Innovation A and B (90 days) 7th and 8th grade**

This course focuses on students understanding how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. As technology becomes more integrated and systems become dependent upon each other, this course gives students a general background on the different types of systems, with a specific concentration on the connections between these systems. Art, English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science are reinforced. Hands-on activities for these courses include CO2 dragsters, circuit board soldering, alternative agricultural methods, and building and programming NXT robots.

In-Person Only PODCASTING 101 (90 days)

 This course will extend students' interest in social media and enhance their communication skills using multimedia resources. Students will work collaboratively using Google Docs, create a website portfolio and Glogster, and produce a podcast on subjects of interest to them.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: CS DISCOVERIES by CODE.org (90 days)

CS Discoveries is an introductory Computer Science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. CS Discoveries is designed from the ground up to be an accessible and engaging course for all students, regardless of background or prior experience.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: CS DISCOVERIES 2 by CODE.org (90 days)


Prerequisite: CS Discoveries 1 7th and 8th grade

CS Discoveries 2 is the second half of the Computer Science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. CS Discoveries 2 will focus on Innovation and Impact through the design process, data, and exploration of

hardware and software.

Art

ADVANCED ART 1:

 **Prerequisite:** *Approved by the middle school art teacher (90 days) 7th and 8th grade*

Art 1 is a beginning-level course where students will develop basic skills and an understanding of art-making and creative expression, aesthetic valuation, the historical and cultural context of art, and studio habits of mind. The Elements and Principles of Art and Design serve as a foundation for the class. Assignments will be in a variety of two and three-dimensional media, including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture.

ADVANCED ART 2:


 **Prerequisite:** *Approved by the middle school art teacher (90 days) 7th and 8th grade*

Art 2 is a class offered to students who have completed Art 1 and wish to continue in art. Students will work to increase their skills and understanding of art-making and creative expression, aesthetic valuation, the historical and cultural context of world art, and studio habits of mind. The Elements and Principles of Art and Design serve as a foundation for the class. Assignments will be in a variety of two- and three-dimensional media, including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture, as well as more challenging materials.


ART HISTORY - JOURNEY THROUGH TIME (90 days)

Journey through time and place while examining some of the greatest masterpieces created. In this course, students will explore world regions and study the unique art and architecture that define prehistoric through contemporary periods. From Leonardo da Vinci to the Taj Mahal, participants will learn the fundamental concepts of art and how to evaluate art using hands-on activities, discussions, written assignments, and objective assessments.

DRAWING AND PAINTING (90 days)

 This is an introductory course that will focus on the elements of art and principles of design, providing students with a solid foundation in the fundamental techniques and concepts of drawing and painting. Students will experiment and refine technical skills using a variety of media. In the first 45 days, the emphasis will be on compositional drawing, using techniques such as stippling, shading, cross-hatching, and value scale. The emphasis during the second half of this course will be painting with water-based paints, using a variety of brush techniques and manipulation, which will provide the basic foundation and knowledge of color theory and color mixing. This 90-day course will focus 45 days on Drawing and 45 days on Painting. This course will engage critical thinking and problem-solving skills through art criticism and aesthetics while focusing on studio production.

PRINTMAKING (90 days)

 Basic applications and techniques of printmaking and surface design are introduced, using cardboard, Styrofoam, wood, linoleum, stencil, and screen. Strong drawing skills are a plus. Projects may include monoprints, bookmaking, fabric pattern design, and stationery.

MASK MAKING (90 days)

Students design and construct masks using a wide range of materials, including clay, paper mache, paper, and wire. Many different types of ancient and contemporary masks and cultures are introduced.

In-Person Only **ADVANCED DESIGN 2-D (90 days) 7th and 8th grade: Teacher recommendation only**

👤👤 This course will allow students the opportunity to explore the principles and elements of design to achieve strong composition. Work will feature multiple approaches to creative problem-solving.

In-Person Only **ADVANCED DESIGN 3-D (90 days) 7th and 8th grade: Teacher recommendation only**

👤👤 This course will emphasize the principles and elements of design with a three-dimensional focus. Work will feature multiple approaches to creative problem-solving using a variety of mediums, including clay, wire, and paper mache.

In-Person Only **PRINTMAKING & SCULPTURE (90 days)**

👤👤 This course will focus on the elements of art, principles of design, and the fundamental techniques and concepts of Printmaking and Sculpture. Students will become aware of the differences and theories of the additive and subtractive processes. Traditional and alternative approaches to printmaking may be introduced and transitioned into sculpture. In the second part of this course, we will focus on creating 3-dimensional forms using various media. With an emphasis on studio production, this course will challenge critical thinking and problem-solving skills through art criticism and aesthetics.

In-Person Only **DRAWING (90 days)**

👤👤 This introductory class provides students with a solid foundation in drawing. Working with a variety of materials such as pencil and charcoal, students learn to use value, gesture, and perspective, helping them develop the ability “to see” as artists. The class works with subjects such as still life, nature, and landscape. Participants may repeat this course up to two times.

PAINTING (90 days)

In this painting fundamentals course, students will study color theory, experiment with various brush techniques, and use water-based paints. This course provides a solid foundation, allowing students to develop confidence in the medium.

In-Person Only **POTTERY (90 days)**

👤👤 This course is an introduction to the versatile, organic material of clay. Students will build functional and decorative pots using traditional hand-building techniques, such as pinch, coil, and slab. Pots will be glazed and fired in a kiln. A study of local craft traditions will also be included.

In-Person Only **SCULPTURE (90 days)**

👤👤 Create three-dimensional forms using a wide variety of media such as paper, wood, clay, wire, plaster, paper mâché, or fabric. Basic design principles and art history are incorporated throughout the course.

Dance


In-Person Only **CHOREOGRAPHY (90 days)**

👤👤 This course will expose students to various genres to give students optimal opportunities to create products using dance skills and choreographic processes with real-world applications.


In-Person Only **MODERN Dance 6 (90 days) 6th Grade Only**

👤👤 Students explore basic improvisation and composition as it relates to modern dance. The skills of the early pioneers of modern dance are also part of this elective.

In-Person Only MODERN Dance 7 (90 days) Prerequisite-Modern Dance 6 - 7th Grade Only


 This technique course offers a more intensive study of the skills introduced in Modern I. Students will explore musical theater and hip-hop during this course with numerous performance opportunities throughout the course.

In-Person Only MODERN Dance 8 (90 days)-Prerequisite-Modern 7 - 8th Grade Only


 This semester-long course is a continuation of Modern Dance 7. Serious exploration of the craft of improvisation and collaboration is expected. This course builds upon Global Connections themes and encourages dancers to explore dance as a social phenomenon with the power to bring people of diverse backgrounds together for a common purpose. Performance opportunities are provided for this and all upper-level dance courses.

Theatre

In-Person Only INTRODUCTION TO ACTING (90 days)

 Students learn the fundamentals of acting and improvisation while gaining performance experience. Audition techniques, plot structure, short scenes, and the production of a one-act play are included. *No after-school rehearsals are required.*

In-Person Only TECHNICAL THEATRE (90 days)


 Students are trained in the behind-the-scenes work in theatre, including, but not limited to, stage lighting, sound, and scenic design. This is an exploratory-level course.

In-Person Only THEATRE PRODUCTIONS (Formerly TECHNICAL THEATRE II) (90 days) 7th and 8th

 (Prerequisite is Intro to Acting or Technical Theater)

Students research and design productions, and the final project is the mounting and running of an actual production. Students have further opportunities to study stage lighting, scenic design, and sound in depth. *Some after-school rehearsals may be involved.*

In-Person Only VIDEO PRODUCTION & NEWS/INTRODUCTION TO BROADCAST JOURNALISM (90 days)

 Students engage in hands-on experiences as they learn the basics of filmmaking, including pre-production and post-production. Students will develop skills in planning, organization, script writing, interpersonal communication, broadcast journalism, team building, and media literacy. Students participate in every aspect of video production, including filming videos, making sound recordings, editing, and on-screen talent. Students produce video projects in the form of narrative/dramatic, informational/documentary, promotional/persuasive, and creative/music videos. Equipment used includes desktop computers, online movie-editing software, and cameras. *It may be repeated by administrative approval only.*

Music

EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN MUSIC (90 days)

Through creating, performing, moving, reading, analyzing, and comparing, students will immerse themselves deeply into various genres and styles of music throughout the decades of American History. Students enrolling in this course will use various media to engage in and create music in various styles, including Western Classical, Musical Theater, and American Popular Music. Students will also use various musical instruments

and technology to create and perform musical works while also expanding skills in music theory, reading, composition, and notation. Students interested in all styles of music who wish to apply such knowledge by enhancing their music reading skills, performance abilities, and overall musicianship should take this course.

 In-Person Only

MUSIC THEATRE (90 days)



Students will learn the origins of Musical Theater, the names of other art forms on which some musical theater stories are based, how to work together in a cooperative setting to perform an example of musical theater, how to create and perform musical theater enhance other areas of a person's life, and what are the criteria we can use to evaluate works in musical theater.

 In-Person Only

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY & GARAGEBAND (90 days)



Students will learn about music technology through various GarageBand projects and listening activities. Each project will isolate and develop the various skills needed to record, edit, critique, arrange, and produce your own music. Students will create a Loop, Voice, Podcast, Video / Commercial, and Radio Broadcast project.

WORLD MUSIC (90 days)

World Music is an exploration of musical history and traditions from around the world. Through using various instruments and technologies, students will create, perform, study, analyze, and dance to music from different cultures.

World Languages

EXPLORATORY SPANISH (45 days) 6th-grade

Exploratory Spanish is meant to develop a student's exposure and interest in the Spanish culture and language. *Paired with Exploratory French.

INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH (90 days) 7th or 8th grade

Introduction to Spanish is designed to further advance a student's interest, proficiency, and confidence in the language. (Exploratory Spanish is not required)

SPANISH I (full year) 8th grade

Spanish I is a rigorous full-year course where a student may earn a high school credit upon successful completion of the class. **Teacher recommendation needed.**

EXPLORATORY FRENCH (45 days) 6th-grade

Exploratory French is meant to develop a student's exposure and interest in the French culture and language. *Paired with Exploratory Spanish

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH (90 days) 7th or 8th grade

Introduction to French is designed to further advance a student's interest, proficiency, and confidence in the language. (Exploratory French is not required)

FRENCH I (full year) 8th grade

French I is a rigorous full-year course where a student may earn a high school credit upon successful completion of the class. **Teacher recommendation needed.**

INTRODUCTION TO MANDARIN (90 days) 7th and 8th grade

Introduction to Mandarin is meant to develop a student's exposure and interest in the Mandarin culture and language.

Leadership

STUDY SKILLS (90 days)

Develop life-long success skills through this engaging elective. Improve your organization and build better study habits and test-taking strategies. Learn and practice effective ways to collect data, develop research projects, take notes, and review material.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY SUCCESS (90 days)

This program is designed for students who have the determination to succeed in school. It helps students succeed in future academic endeavors by teaching them strategies for successful organization, time management, and study skills. Students will use components of the Naviance software to plan for high school and goal setting for Post-Secondary success.