



Student Course Selection Information 2017-2018

GRADE 8

STUDENT NAME: _____

Dear Parents/Guardians:

For the 2017-2018 school year, students and parents need to complete this form to select their elective course preferences. Your child must have his/her signed selection sheet turned in to the main office by May 19, 2017. An eighth grader's schedule will consist of four pre-assigned core courses and two elective courses. Per state statute, one semester of PE is required for all middle school students each year. This year, we are requiring all 8th grade students to also take one semester of Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning. This course provides an introduction to service-learning and civic responsibility. Academic, personal, and career skills needed for effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school and/or community needs. Students will actively participate in meaningful service-learning experiences of at least 20 hours' duration. This one semester of PE and one semester of Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning is mandatory for 8th grade students and will count as one elective choice. Please review the choices listed below together with your child to help them choose courses they may be interested in taking next year. Give the top three courses a ranking from 1 to 3. Students must also log on to https://tinyurl.com/FAPBG8 and submit their elective choices. The scheduling system will try to place #1 choices and use the #2 and #3 choices as an alternate. Any students who do not turn in their forms and submit the online form by May 19th, will have electives chosen for them.

Every effort will be made to ensure that students receive their top elective choices; however elective placement is dictated by individual curriculum needs and mandated class size requirements. Middle School promotion and High School graduation requirements supersede elective choices. Additionally, you may notice within your child's student portal a math course that may or may not reflect his or her current math placement. This is a temporary placement that will be adjusted as test scores becomes available.

Required 8th grade courses scheduled by the school based on previous performance and teacher recommendations:

- 1. M/J Language Arts 3 (1001070) or M/J Language Arts 3 Advanced (1001080)
2. M/J Comprehensive Science 3 (2002100) or M/J Comprehensive Science 3 Advanced (2002110)
3. M/J US History (2100010) or M/J US History Advanced (2100020)
4. M/J Math 3/Pre-Algebra (1205070), HS Algebra 1 Honors (1200320), or HS Geometry Honors (1206320)
5. Comprehensive PE 6/7 (1508600) /Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning (0800030)

*Intensive Reading and Intensive Math placement is based on FSA ELA or Math test scores and will replace an elective if required.

ELECTIVE CHOICES: Rank 3 choices - First choice = #1, Second choice = #2, Third choice = #3
All elective courses are full year courses unless indicated.

Beginning Spanish (0708000) - Introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this one-year course.

Intermediate Spanish (0708010) - (Pre-Requisite: Beginning Spanish) A continuation of M/J Beginning Spanish. Students will expand their knowledge of the language and its culture. Students will be able to engage in basic listening and speaking activities. Basic skills in reading and writing, and culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this one-year course.

Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature _____

High School Spanish 1 (0708340) - (Pre-Requisite: Intermediate or Beginning Spanish) The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature _____

Theatre (0400000) - Students learn the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Students practice writing for the theatre and explore various theatre roles and functions. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Public performances

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_____ **STEM Physical Science (2003030)** – A STEM course including an integration of standards from science, math, English and language arts. Topics will include aeronautics, robotics, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering, and Science Fair competition. **Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature** _____

_____ **Multimedia Technology 1 (Personal, Career & School Development Skills) (0500000)** – Interested in using camera and video equipment and learning how to edit photographs and videos on the computer? This course starts your journey with an introduction to photography, artistic Photoshop, and video production.

_____ **Band (1302000)** Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

_____ **Advanced Band (1302010)** Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source. **Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature** _____

_____ **Chorus (1303000)** - Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

_____ **Exploring 2D Art (0101005)** - Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both a historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. Student artists reflect on their own artwork and that of others through critical analysis to achieve artistic goals related to craftsmanship, technique, and application of 21st-century skills. Opportunities are provided for creative decision-making in the context of the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

_____ **Exploring 3D Art (0101035)** - Students learn to translate their two-dimensional skills into three-dimensional forms through the exploration of natural, abstract, and synthetic sculptural forms using materials that may include, but are not limited to, clay, plaster, and mixed media for creative expression. These student artists develop perceptual, creative, technical, and problem-solving skills in a sculptural context as they design and produce works of art with personal expression. Students in M/J Exploring Three-Dimensional Art focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature _____

_____ **Creative Writing (1009000)** - The purpose of this course is to enable students to learn and use writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Emphasis will be on development of a personal writing style. **Teacher approval required. Teacher Signature** _____

_____ **Yearbook (0500000)** - Help the yearbook adviser gather and collect this year's memories into the yearbook.

Administrative approval required. Admin. Signature _____

_____ **Speech/Debate 1 (1007000)** - The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings.

_____ **Speech/Debate 2 (1007010) – (Pre-Requisite Speech/Debate 1)** The purpose of this course is to develop students' expanding awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Teacher approval required.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____