



**2022–2023**  
**Middle Level Elective Course**  
**Options**

**Grades 7–8**

# Grade 7–8 Electives

## Fine Art – Music (Instrumental)

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### Beginning Band

Course Code: MUS670      Grade: 7-8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Beginning Band is for students who want to learn to play a band instrument such as flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, and percussion. Students interested in playing alto saxophone should begin on clarinet and add the saxophone when ready. Students interested in the French horn, euphonium or tuba should speak with the band director about whether that would be a good choice for them. Focus is placed on playing with proper instrumental technique, developing a good sound and learning to read music. No prior music experience is necessary.

### Intermediate Band

Course Code: MUS780      Grade: 7-8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Intermediate Band is for students who have completed beginning band or have made equivalent progress on their instrument. Students learn to read more complex rhythms, play in more keys and perform more challenging, fun music. Students may move to another instrument such as oboe, bassoon, tenor saxophone, French horn or tuba. Focus is on continuing to develop technique, tone and music reading ability.

### Advanced Band

Course Code: MUS781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Advanced Band is for students who have completed both beginning and intermediate band or who have significant prior experience on their instrument. Focus is placed on advanced instrumental techniques as well as preparing the students to play advanced concert band music. Students will need to audition if they have not previously completed intermediate band.

### Beginning Orchestra

Course Code: MUS671      Grade: 7-8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Beginning Orchestra is for students who are interested in learning to play violin, viola, cello or string bass. Focus is placed on learning to read music and proper playing technique. Students will study a wide variety of music. No prior music experience is necessary.

### Intermediate Orchestra

Course Code: MUS782      Grade: 7–8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Intermediate Orchestra is for students in grades 7-8 who have completed Beginning Orchestra or 6th grade students with prior experience playing violin, viola, cello or string bass. The focus of this class continues with proper fundamental techniques while more advanced concert music is introduced. Students will study a wide variety of music.

### Advanced Orchestra

Course Code: MUS783      Grade: 7–8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Advanced Orchestra is for students who have completed both Beginning and Intermediate Orchestra or who have significant prior experience on their instrument. Focus is placed on advanced instrumental techniques as well as preparing the students to play advanced concert band music. Students will need to audition if they have not previously completed Intermediate Orchestra. Depending upon course enrollments Intermediate and Advanced Orchestra may be in the same class.

## Beginning Guitar

Course Code: MUS206      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 2

This semester long course is designed for the beginning to intermediate guitarist or bassist. Beginning guitarists will learn basic musical concepts including melody, harmony and rhythm. Beginning bassists will learn chord structure, bass lines, rhythm, style and chord structures. At the end of the class, students will be able to play basic chords, simple melodies and supporting bass lines. The course allows for individualizing to meet student needs with a focus on beginning instruction. Sotwork and small ensemble work, such as duet and trio music will be explored. Open to students in grades 7-8.

**Students provide their own acoustic guitar for use in this course.**

### *Note for All Music Classes*

*There is typically specific concert wear for performances. 6<sup>th</sup> grade band students and all choir students will need to purchase a shirt specific for their groups. More information about the attire for each individual program will be shared with parents and students at the start of the school year.*

### *Note for Instrumental Music Classes*

*School Instrument Use: In most cases, students who do not own an instrument will need to rent one and purchase a music book from a music store. However, we have a limited supply of school instruments available for student use. Some of these are the larger brass (euphonium, tuba) and woodwind (bass clarinet) instruments which are very difficult to get back and forth to school. We also have some standard, smaller instruments that are available to students currently in financial need. Please contact your child's director if you need financial help in acquiring an instrument, as we want every child to be able to play who would like to do so. More information about acquiring an instrument will be given out at the beginning of the school year.*

## Fine Art – Music (Vocal)

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### Choir 7-8

Course Code: MUS703      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

In this course, students will begin to further develop their vocal skills in a one semester choir experience. Students will experience skill work in basic 2 and 3 part choral singing and some music theory. Music studied will include a variety of styles. Students are expected to perform at the quarterly concerts and purchase a choir T-shirt for performances. This semester class is open to students in grades 7-8

### Advanced Choir

Course Code: MUS701 MUS784      Grade: 7–8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

In this course, students wanting a more advanced experience in vocal music will develop their choral skills through 2 and 3 part singing. Music theory includes rhythm reading, sight reading and music notation. The class emphasizes group singing in a variety of styles with opportunities to audition for solos. Students are expected to perform at the quarterly concerts, district choir festival and the league choir contest. Students need to purchase a choir T-shirt for performances. This course is open to grades 7-8.

# Fine Art – Drama and Theatre

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## Intro to Theatre Arts

Course Code: DRA780      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

Intro to Theatre Arts is a one semester course in which students learn acting skills. This is a beginning class where movement is used to teach the physical skills of acting. Students learn different vocal skills to strengthen acting abilities through given circumstances. Scene work, games, and activities strengthen skills and build ensemble. This course is open to students in grades 7-8.

## Intro to Acting and Film

Course Code: DRA781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 2

In this course, students will learn how actors prepare and deliver lines in front of a camera. Students will learn how actors prepare for a character who is realistic and lifelike. Techniques used by actors who act in movies and television will be practiced. Students will be filmed doing audition pieces and prepare and act in a commercial.

# Fine Art – Visual

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## Intro to Art 2-D

Course Code: ART 781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

This semester art course has an emphasis on building skills and techniques through a variety of 2 dimensional art forms. Basic elements of art and principles of design are explored through painting, drawing, ink, watercolors, tempera and other media. Students increase their understanding of line, value, shape, color, space, pattern and balance. This course is open to students in grades 7-8.

**Course Fee: \$10 for art supplies**

## Intro to Art 3-D

Course Code: ART 782      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

This semester art course has an emphasis on building skills and techniques through a variety of 3 dimensional art forms. The basic elements of art and principles of dimensional design and modeling will be explored through a variety of mixed media. Students will develop an increasing understanding of visual balance, form, proportion, texture and movement. This course is open to students in grades 7-8.

**Course Fee: \$10 for art supplies**

## Intro to Art – Digital

Course Code: ART 783      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1

This semester art course emphasizes building skill and technique through a variety of digital art formats. Students learn to take advantage of the growing capabilities we have with technology to create. This will include use of presentation software, digital photography, digital media design and multimedia. Students begin to develop an electronic portfolio of their work and engage in peer and self-critique. This course is open to students in grades 7-8.

# Health & Fitness

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## Cross Conditioning

Course Code: PED 780      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

Activities including CrossFit, aerobics, and yoga are represented in this fitness and weights program to assist students in developing concepts of muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. This one semester elective course is open to grade 7 and 8 students.

## Indoor/Outdoor & Leisure Activities

Course Code: PED 782      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

Health and fitness concepts will be applied through popular outdoor activities including fitness walking, biking, orienteering, Frisbee golf, whiffle ball, kickball, softball, canjam, and bocce ball. This one semester elective is open to grade 7 and 8 students.

## Team Sports

Course Code: PED781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

Health and fitness concepts will be applied through participation in cooperative games and team sports. Activities include net games like pickleball, badminton, volleyball to develop skills and strategies unique to these sports. One or more invasion sports such as basketball, soccer, football, floor hockey, team handball, lacrosse and ultimate Frisbee will also be included. This one semester elective is open to grade 7 and 8 students.

## Walking for Fitness

Course Code: PED783      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

Students will set goals, apply health and fitness concepts, improve cardiovascular fitness and wellness through walking, as well as other core and aerobic activities. This class will often be outdoors so students need to be prepared with clothes and footwear for outdoor activities on different types of terrain appropriate to the weather each day. This one semester elective is open to grade 7 and 8 students.

## Tahoma Flow

Course Code: PED785      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0

This is a group fitness class where students will explore different fitness activities such as, yoga, pilates, fitness walking, self-defense/martial arts, circuits, resistance training, aerobics, core, rock climbing, rhythmic and more.

## Leadership

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### Student Leadership

Course Code: ELE781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1-2

This semester class gives students an opportunity to grow and develop their leadership skills through school and community service projects. Students will be key participants in planning, implementing and assessing a variety of student-run school activities, such as assemblies, community support drives, and events that unite the whole building. Class members will be advocates for increasing inclusion of all students through these activities. Character-based lessons will be taught and reviewed in class. Elected ASB Officers are highly encouraged to take this elective for both semesters.

# **Business & Marketing**

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## **Business Fundamentals & Entrepreneurship**

Course Code: ELE780      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 0-1

This semester class gives students an opportunity to explore how to build their wealth, start a business, and gain an understanding of how the economy works. Students will be working collaboratively with peers in group and partner projects and simulations, such as the Amazon Marketing Project, Stock Market Simulation, Flip or Flop home remodel project, Shark Tank Simulation, and more.

## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)**

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### **Energy and the Environment & Green Architecture**

Course Code: VIN781      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1–2

In the first part of this class, Energy and the Environment, students think toward the future exploring sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigating the impact of energy on our lives and the world. They design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption. In the second part of the class, Green Architecture, students learn how to apply sustainability concepts to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural stability to design affordable housing units using Autodesk's 3D architectural design software.

### **Medical Detectives & Flight and Space**

Course Code: VIN780      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1–2

In the first part of this course, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health. In the second part, the exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students delve into the history of flight and space, discover the science behind aeronautics, and explore traveling and living in space. Students are then challenged to use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil.

### **3D Modeling and Design & Robotics**

Course Code: VIN700      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1-2

In the first part of this course, students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy. In the second part, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

### **Introduction to Audio Video (A/V) Technology and Film**

Course Code: VID100      Grade: 7–8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1-2

Students will explore the elements of storytelling through the principals of audio and video production. They will explore the 3 stages of production: pre-production, production, and post-production. Students will utilize video cameras and edition software to bring their visions to life. In addition to technology skills students will enhance their knowledge of expressing themselves through sound, image, action, and movement. They will use their imaginations and creativity to conceptualize and problem solve, expanding their time management skills in this project based curriculum.

# World Languages

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## Exploratory Spanish

Course Code: WLG780      Grade: 7-8      Length: Semester      Homework Hours Per Week: 1–2

Exploratory Spanish is a one semester course for 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students that is an introduction to a world language and culture. The course will focus on vocabulary, simple sentence structure and broad themes that will be taught in greater detail in first year Spanish. This course is intended to provide students with a 'jump start' into the process of learning a foreign language.

## Spanish I-II

Course Code: WLG100      Grade: 8      Length: Full Year      Homework Hours Per Week: 2.5-3

**The class is intended for honors level students who are serious about their studies and students may earn high school credit. The course content is high school Spanish I-II.**

Students develop basic skills necessary for oral and written communication in Spanish. Students will use Spanish in familiar authentic situations, demonstrate understanding of grammatical rules, comprehension of the spoken language. In addition, students will read and write about general topics and appreciate general attitudes and customs of the Spanish culture.

*High School credit option available. See Appendix A.*