



2023-2024 Middle School Elective Course Selection Form ENTERING GRADE 6

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Planning for the 2023-2024 school year has begun. We are excited to offer our students an array of elective options to meet their interests. Please note that every effort is made to ensure that students receive a choice; however, elective placement is dictated by individual curriculum needs, student interests, and mandated class size requirements. There is a possibility students may not receive any of their top three choices. Middle school promotion and high school graduation requirements supersede elective choices. Elective choices are subject to change and will be chosen for students who do not return their selection form.

Required Core Courses

- Language Arts 1 (M/J 1001010)
- Comprehensive Science 1 (M/J 2002040)
- Social Science - World History & Career Planning (M/J 2109015)
- Math (M/J Grade 6 Math 1205010)
- Comprehensive PE (M/J 1508060)

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Speech and Debate 1 (M/J 1007000)

This is an introductory course to the art of speech and debate. This course's purpose is to develop student awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. In addition, students will have the necessary skills to critique, analyze and question speeches and debates delivered by others. The main goal of this course is to build confidence in public speaking and to practice oral presentation skills regularly. Students are encouraged to participate in at least two Speech and Debate District Competitions.

Chorus 1 (M/J 1303000)

Students will grow an appreciation for music through singing with classmates in unison and in harmony. Students with little or no choral experience will develop vocal techniques, critical and creative thinking skills, and knowledge of music theory. Students will begin to learn how to read sheet music. Public performances 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.

Dance 1 (M/J 0300000)

Students will develop dance techniques while growing a love for dance movement. Students will learn different dance genres including Hip-hop, Jazz, Step, and Modern. Dancers will demonstrate performance etiquette, analytical and problem-solving skills, and dance terminology applied through movement. Students will also be able to create their own choreography! 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.

Musical Theater 1 (M/J 0400200)

Student coursework focuses on basic acting, basic vocal performance, basic dance/movement, staging/blocking, and Musical Theatre literature and terminology. Students will survey the current trends in Musical Theatre and explore the unique staging and technical demands of musicals in contrast to non-musical plays. Students will have opportunities to perform monologues, scenes, songs, ensemble numbers from musicals, and much more! Students will not only grow in their acting, singing, and dancing abilities, but they will gain confidence while building a love for Musical Theatre. 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.

Exploration of Technical Design Technology (8600090)

Also called Exploring Technology (Intro to STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math))

Exploring Technology is the middle school entry point to the STEM program. Students will develop safe working habits and skills to make them successful in the engineering labs. Topics include 3D design with CAD, 3D printing, 2D layout and Laser Cutting, introduction to electronics, and programming with micro:Bit as well as experience other hands-on STEM engineering challenges.

This course serves as a foundation for future STEM classes, clubs, and competitions (Marine Robotics, SECME, FTC Robotics, Aerospace, Rocketry, etc.).

Exploring Aerospace Technologies (8600050) & Exploration of Aerospace Technology & Career Planning (8600052)

In this class, students will explore flight and aerospace careers. Students will gain experience flying and programming drones, building, and testing fixed wing aircraft simulators and solid fuel (Estes style) rocketry. This will also include operating aircraft in flight simulators and fully immersive VR environments. Aerospace is a broad field that not only includes pilots but also many supporting positions. Students will learn to be responsible for managing a team, creating marketing material, and presenting their technology. There will be opportunities for developing mechanical and software skills and Computer Aided Design (CAD) skills for laser cutting and 3D printing. This class will require off-campus trips to launch rockets and present field trips to flight schools such as NASA and other Space complexes.

Digital Discoveries (9009600)

This course is intended to help students develop their problem-solving skills and artistry while learning about technology and careers in the Computer Science & Technology Education career cluster. Students will use image-editing software, learn basic programming skills, and creatively apply their skills in technology-based digital arts.

Fitness Grade 6 (M/J 1508000)

This course is designed with the intent of improving many aspects of wellness including cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, mental health, nutrition, and personal safety. This course provides students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness which are critical for students' success. Students must meet or exceed the standards of a Fitness Test (complete a mile in ten minutes), and it is recommended that they are physically active outside of school.

Journalism 1 (M/J 1006000)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.

Creative Writing 1 (M/J 1009000)

This course is an introduction to the art of creative writing. Students will write and revise pieces in many genres including personal narratives, short stories, poetry, plays, comics, and more! Students will have opportunities to work outside to gain inspiration and work with others to help create and revise their writing. Students will have the opportunity to produce artwork (drawing, painting, photography, etc.) to accompany their writing for publication. Students will share their work with others by publishing to The Burrow, reading your writing to your classmates, peers, or younger students. The central focus of the class will be on various processes for creating, using mentor texts as inspiration and models, and learning from feedback. Most important, however, we will be learning to engage in a supportive creative community that empowers individual curiosity, and artistic risk taking.

Science Fair Research 1 (M/J 1700000) Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

This research course provides a curricular framework for students to become proficient in researching modern topics, addressing global needs, and developing solutions for problems within our communities. Each student will learn research skills to further enhance their required science fair project. Various science competitions will also be included during the school year, along with field trips to FAU, aimed at enhancing students' interests and aiding in forming relations with mentors in their field of study.

Introduction to Personal Financial Literacy & Emerging Leaders (M/J 2104060 & M/J 2104040)

This course is offered in two phases: Introduction to Financial Literacy and Emerging Leaders. Phase one provides an understanding of personal financial literacy from an economic perspective. This course provides a basic understanding of economics creating a critical framework to make informed decisions about budgeting, saving, and investing. Emphasis will be placed on economic decision-making and real-life applications using real data. Phase two introduces 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 or community needs. Students will also have the chance to attend field trips and develop entrepreneurship ideas into a business proposal. They will also have the opportunity to visit the Junior Achievement Center and other potential field trips.

Engaging Citizenship through Service Learning 1 & 2 (M/J 2104010 & M/J 2104020)

This course introduces 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. In addition, students will focus on global citizenship, discuss global needs, and work on projects to help address these needs worldwide. Students will also have opportunities to take field trips and engage in community service initiatives.

Law Studies (M/J 2106030)

This elective will examine the principles, functions, and organization of the American legal system, focusing on court procedures and law processes. Students will examine the American legal system through identifying the origin of law, fundamental civil and criminal justice procedures, and different careers in the American legal system. Students in this elective will also apply their knowledge by creating competitive mock trial teams.

World Cultures & Career Planning (M/J 2105020)

The social studies curriculum for this course consists of the following topics: World History, Geography, and Economics. In this course, students will explore various cultural groups from around the world. Content should include but is not limited to the characteristics of a cultural group, the development of cultural societies, and the complexity of global issues. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and primary and secondary historical documents.

Medical Detective: Exploration of Health Science Professions & Career Planning (8400310 & 8400210)

The purpose of this course is to give students initial exposure to the skills and attitudes associated with a broad range of occupations relating to careers in health, including job requirements and tasks performed, to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials, and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

ENTERING GRADE 6

Instructions for Selecting and Ranking 2023-2034 Elective Choices

- Select six (6) choices.
- Students will receive three (3) electives.
- Number your top three (3) choices with a number one (1)
- Number your three (3) remaining choices in sequential order of preference, numbering them two, three, and four (2, 3, and 4)
- Your six choices should be numbered as such: 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 4
- The scheduling system will attempt to place your three number 1 choices first, and then numbers 2, 3, and 4 as alternate choices.

Please be mindful of any prerequisites for course selections and think carefully and thoroughly about your selections. There will be no schedule changes during the first week of school. Schedule changes will need parental and administrative approval and will require a valid reason.

Signed forms are **DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023**

Students can return the signed forms to their homeroom teacher.

2023-2024 ELECTIVE REQUESTS – ENTERING GRADE 6

STUDENT'S NAME (FIRST and LAST): _____

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|---|--|
| _____ Speech and Debate 1 (M/J 1007000) | _____ Intro to Personal Financial Literacy (M/J 2104060) & Emerging Leaders (M/J 2104040) |
| _____ Chorus 1 (M/J 1303000) | _____ Engaging Citizenship through Service Learning 1 & 2 (M/J 2104010 / M/J 2104020) |
| _____ Dance 1(M/J 0300000) | _____ Science Fair Research (M/J 1700000 Research 1) <u>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</u> |
| _____ Musical Theater 1 (M/J 0400200) | _____ Law Studies (M/J 2106030) |
| _____ Intro to STEM: Exploration of Technical Design Technology (8600090) | _____ World Cultures & Career Planning (M/J 2105020) |
| _____ Exploring Aerospace Technologies (8600050) & Exploring Aerospace Technology & Career Planning (8600052) | _____ Medical Detective: Exploration of Health Professions & Career Planning (8400310 & 8400210) |
| _____ Digital Discoveries (9009600) | |
| _____ Fitness Grade 6 (M/J 1508000) | |
| _____ Journalism 1 (M/J 1006000) | |
| _____ Creative Writing 1 (M/J 1009000) | |

Parents:

My signature shows that I have discussed the above choices with my child and approve the selections.

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent Phone#: _____

Date: _____