

2025-2026 Middle School Elective Course Selection Form

ENTERING GRADE 8

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Planning for the 2025-2026 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 at least one of their choices; 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 3 choices. Middle school promotion and high school graduation requirements supersede elective choices. Elective choices are subject to change. Courses will be chosen for students who do not return completed selection forms. **Please be mindful when requesting high school courses (marked by an asterisk*), as grades earned are permanent and will be reflected in the student's high school transcript, which will be shared with future high schools and universities.**

Required 8th Grade Core Courses

- English: Language Arts 3 (M/J 1001070)
- Science : Comprehensive Science 3 (M/J 2002100)
- Social Studies: - US History & Career Planning (M/J 2100015)
- Mathematics: Pre-Algebra (M/J 1205070), *Algebra 1 Honors (*1200320),
*Algebra 2 Honors (*1200340), *Geometry Honors *1206320
- Physical Education: Comprehensive PE (M/J 1508070)

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

Speech and Debate 1 (M/J 1007000)

This is an introductory course on 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.

Speech and Debate 2 (M/J 1007010)***Prerequisite: Speech-Debate 1 (M/J 1007000)***

This course provides instruction and practice in the art of public speaking and debate. Students will have the freedom to choose speech or debate competition events throughout the school year. Speech events will focus on building characters and making characters and pieces come to life in interpretive events. Debate events will focus on case-writing, rebuttals, cross-examination skills, analytical thinking, and political and moral philosophy. Rigor is also infused by students reading increasingly complex texts throughout this course. Students are encouraged to participate in at least two Speech and Debate District Competitions.

Speech and Debate 3 (M/J 1007020)***Prerequisite: Speech-Debate 2 (M/J 1007010)***

This is an advanced course in speech and debate. This course is for serious competitors in our Speech and Debate District circuit which consists of about 6 competitions per year. These students will work on perfecting their competition events in either speech or debate and will have the opportunity to be leaders and mentors in their chosen event. Students are required to participate in at least two Speech and Debate District Competitions throughout the school year as part of their course grade.

Chorus 1, Chorus 2, or Chorus 3: (M/J 1303000) (M/J 1303010) (M/J 1303020)***Prerequisite for Chorus 2: Chorus 1 (M/J 1303000)******Prerequisite for Chorus 3: Chorus 2 (M/J 1303010)***

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, Dance 2, or Dance 3: (M/J 0300000) (M/J 0300010) (M/J 0300020)***Prerequisite for Dance 2: Dance 1 (M/J 0300000)******Prerequisite for Dance 3: Dance 2 (M/J 0300010)***

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, Musical Theater 2, or Musical Theater 3:

(M/J 0400200) (M/J 0400205) (M/J 0400210)

Prerequisite for Musical Theater 2: Musical Theater 1 (M/J 0400200)

Prerequisite for Musical Theater 3: Musical Theater 2 (M/J 0400205)

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.

***Film and Media Production:**

***Film 1 (0107410) (High School Credit)**

This new high school level course introduces students to the artistic vision of filmmaking. Students will produce digital media through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, mics, digital video cameras, graphic tablets, mixed media, and other emerging technologies. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their work and that of their peers to measure artistic growth. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and the consumption of art materials. Students will learn about podcasting, video and film editing. Students will engage in critical film analysis, by evaluating them through a professional lens, examining key aspects such as themes, cinematography, narrative structure, and character development.

***Dream It, Build It: The da Vinci Way**

***Experimental Science 1 Honors (*2002340) (High School Credit)**

In this new high school course, you will explore the genius of Leonardo da Vinci through hands-on projects that blend art, history, and engineering. Get ready to sketch the past, analyze and redesign it with modern ideas, and tackle life's big questions. End the year by showcasing your original work in a student symposium. Think boldly. Create fearlessly. Innovate like da Vinci!

Growing Green:

Exploration of Green Construction & Architecture (8600094) Semester 1

Intro to Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources/Career Planning (8011110) Semester 2

Students are challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our agriculture and energy needs. This course serves as the introductory course for the Agricultural Biotechnology Pathway. They use innovative growing methods such as hydroponics and aeroponics while gaining valuable insight into the world of robotic agriculture. They design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

Medical Detectives:

Exploration of Health Science Professions (8400310) Semester 1

Exploration of Health Science Professions & Career Planning (8400210) Semester 2

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose diseases. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, and investigate disease outbreaks.

Land and Ocean Explorations:

Coastal Science 1 (M/J 2001100)

Explore the world of the land and ocean through interactive lessons and activities. Explore topics such as how hurricanes form and how they are tracked. Technology is used to discover and explore the depths of the ocean, terrestrial and marine life and how to protect them. Learn new ways to enhance our global food supply through exploration of modern agricultural techniques. Learn about our local Floridian environment and how it can be enhanced and protected. Quarterly field trips will be offered to explore the themes and see how we learn about the world around us.

Law Studies 1 & Law Studies 2

Law 1: Law Studies (M/J 2106030)

Law 2: Comprehensive Law Honors (*2106375) *Prerequisite: Law Studies M/J 2106030 (High School Credit)

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



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Archaeology: Detectives of the Past:

World Cultures (M/J 2105020)

Uncover the mysteries of the past in this new elective! Students will explore how archaeologists use artifacts, fossils, and ancient texts to piece together human history. Through interactive case studies and hands-on activities, students will learn excavation techniques, analyze cultural discoveries, and examine the impact of archaeology on our understanding of the past. The course also covers site preservation, ethical issues, and the role of archaeology in protecting history through utilizing the on-campus archaeological dig site. Join us in digging up the past to better understand the present!

Individual/Dual Sports (M/J 1508050)

Students will develop their skill competencies, participate in Individual/Dual sports and work towards achievement of personal fitness levels. An emphasis is placed on the factors that influence health and wellness, particularly individual behaviors. Students participate in self-assessments that provide information about their health and wellness behaviors and their overall health status. Students must meet or exceed the standards of a fitness fest (complete a mile in ten minutes). It is recommended that students are physically active outside of school.

ENTERING GRADE 8

Instructions for Selecting and Ranking 2025-2026 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, or 4 as alternate choices.

ELECTIVE COURSES MAY NOT BE REPEATED. DO NOT SELECT A COURSE YOU HAVE ALREADY TAKEN. Some courses do not have a follow-up course and may not be repeated. Others may have a prerequisite. Please pay close attention to the prerequisites listed in each course description.

Please be mindful when selecting advanced courses (marked by an asterisk*), as grades earned are permanent and they will be reflected on the student's high school transcript, which will be shared with future high schools and universities.

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 and completed forms are **[DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025](#)**

Students can return the signed and completed forms to their history teacher, Ms. Justin or Ms. Pillitteri.

2025-2026 ELECTIVE REQUESTS – ENTERING GRADE 8

(Choose 6 electives, numbering them 1,1,1,2,3,4. Do not choose previously taken courses.)

STUDENT'S NAME (First and Last): _____

_____ Speech and Debate 1 (M/J 1007000)

_____ Speech and Debate 2 (M/J 1007010) *Prerequisite: Speech-Debate 1 (1007000)*

_____ Speech and Debate 3 (M/J 1007020) *Prerequisite: Speech-Debate 1 & 2 (1007000, 1007010)*

_____ Chorus 1 (M/J 1303000)

_____ Chorus 2 (M/J 1303010) *Prerequisite: Chorus 1 (1303000)*

_____ Chorus 3 (M/J 1303020) *Prerequisite: Chorus 1 & 2 (1303000, 1303010)*

_____ Dance 1 (M/J 0300000)

_____ Dance 2 (M/J 0300010) *Prerequisite: Dance 1 (0300000)*

_____ Dance 3 (M/J 0300020) *Prerequisite: Dance 1 & 2 (0300000, 0300010)*

_____ Musical Theater 1 (M/J 0400200)

_____ Musical Theater 2 (M/J 0400205) *Prerequisite: Musical Theater 1 (0400200)*

_____ Musical Theater 3 (M/J 0400210) *Prerequisite: Musical Theater 1 & 2 (0400200, 0400205)*

_____ *Film and Media Productions (*0107410) Film 1 (High School Credit)

_____ Land and Ocean Explorations (M/J 2001100) Coastal Science 1

_____ *Dream It, Build It: The da Vinci Way (*2002340) Experimental Science 1 Honors (High School Credit)



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Entering Grade 8 (continued)

- _____ Growing Green: Ex Green Constructions & Architecture/Intro to AG & CP (8600094 & 8011110)
- _____ Medical Detectives: Exploration of Health Science Professions & Career Plan (8400310 & 8400210)
- _____ Archeology: Detectives of the Past (M/J 2105020) World Cultures
- _____ Law Studies (M/J 2106030)
- _____ *Comprehensive Law Honors (*2106375) *Prerequisite: Law Studies M/J 2106030* (High School Credit)
- _____ Individual / Dual Sports Grade 8 (M/J 1508050)

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

Student's Name: _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent Signature : _____

Parent Email : _____

Parent Phone# : _____ **Date :** _____

Signed and completed forms DUE APRIL 18, 2025. Students can return the signed and completed forms to their history teacher, Ms. Justin or Ms. Pillitteri.