# Middle School Elective Course Descriptions 6<sup>th</sup> grade

# **Required Courses**

Physical Education Health

# **Year Long Courses**

Band Chorus

# **Semester Long Courses**

#### Art

Explores fundamental art from flat work to 3 dimensional. Students study the work of different artists during this course.

# Introduction to Music (ELMS, NLMS, and WLMS only)

Introduction to Music focuses on students' understanding the elements and styles of world music. In this course, students will learn basic music theory and will study music as a reflection of the culture and historical time in which it was created.

#### **Business**

#### **Keyboarding and Word Processing**

Students develop a foundation for effective technology use by learning to type. The curriculum covers topics and skills including keyboard layout, ergonomic strategies, and keyboarding proficiency. Students also learn to use word processing software for basic document creation, design, editing, collaboration, and problem solving.

# **Technology Education**

# **Engineering: Meeting Technology (STEM)**

In this course, students learn about the nature of technology and problem solving. Students are involved in activities and experiences where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs.

# Middle School 7th grade Elective Course Descriptions

# **Required Courses**

Physical Education Health

#### **Year Long Courses**

Band Chorus

# **Semester Long Courses**

#### Art

Explores fundamental art from flat work to 3 dimensional. Students study the work of different artists during this course.

# **Introduction to Music (ELMS only)**

Introduction to Music focuses on students' understanding the elements and styles of world music. In this course, students will learn basic music theory and will study music as a reflection of the culture and historical time in which it was created.

#### **Business**

# **Computer Science Discoveries I**

Students will use a problem-solving process to address a series of puzzles, challenges, and real-world scenarios. They will learn how computers input, output, store, and process information to help humans solve problems. Students will also learn how to create and share the content on their own web pages using HTML and CSS. They will also practice valuable programming skills such as debugging, using resources, and teamwork

# **Introduction to Office Productivity**

Students learn a foundational understanding of computer operations. Students learn to harness technology as a tool to create, problem solve, and collaborate with others. The curriculum covers topics and skills including computing basics, responsible usage, spreadsheet basics, presentation basics, and multimedia design.

# **Keyboarding and Word Processing**

Students develop a foundation for effective technology use by learning to type. The curriculum covers topics and skills including keyboard layout, ergonomic strategies, and keyboarding proficiency. Students also learn to use word processing software for basic document creation, design, editing, collaboration, and problem solving.

# **Technology Education**

# **Technological Systems and the Designed World**

In this course, students are prepared to address specific challenges within different types of technical systems. Systems included in this exploration include Communications, Construction, Manufacturing, Biomedical, and Power and Energy. Students engage in activities and experiences where they build and evaluate the designed world.

Middle School 8th grade Elective Course Descriptions

#### **Required Courses**

Physical Education Health

#### **Year Long Courses**

Band Chorus

#### **Semester Long Courses**

#### Art

Explores fundamental art from flat work to 3 dimensional. Students study the work of different artists during this course.

# Introduction to Music (ELMS only)

Introduction to Music focuses on students' understanding the elements and styles of world music. In this course, students will learn basic music theory and will study music as a reflection of the culture and historical time in which it was created.

#### **Business**

# **Computer Science Discoveries I**

Students will use a problem-solving process to address a series of puzzles, challenges, and real-world scenarios. They will learn how computers input, output, store, and process information to help humans solve problems. Students will also learn how to create and share the content on their own web pages using HTML and CSS. They will also practice valuable programming skills such as debugging, using resources, and teamwork.

# **Computer Science Discoveries II**

Students will build on their coding experience as they program animations, interactive art, and games in Game Lab. The course starts off with simple shapes and builds up to more sophisticated sprite-based games, using the same programming concepts and the design process computer scientists use daily. Students will also investigate the broader social impacts of computing. Through a series of design challenges, they will learn how to better understand the needs of others while developing a solution to a problem.

#### **Digital Literacy**

Students learn critical digital literacy skills including how to evaluate content for accuracy, perspective, and motive. Students are helped to acknowledge the benefits of online communities and resources while guiding them to successfully navigate potential pitfalls in their digital lives. Through digital responsibility lessons, students take practical steps to protect their privacy and safety online.

#### **Exploring Careers and Employment**

Students experience an orientation to career planning and future employment success.

Emphasis is placed on understanding the world-of-work, skills needed for employment success, and the career planning and preparation process. Based on the National Career Development Guidelines, skills reinforced include, but are not limited to communications, personal management, and teamwork.

#### **Technology Education**

# **Exploring Engineering and Design**

Students will gain an understanding of design and engineering. Students apply the design process in the inventions or innovation of new products, processes, or systems.