



<u>Middle School Electives Course Description</u> <u>Catalog 2024 - 2025</u>

Electives by Category:

Sixth Grade Elective Choices

Seventh Grade Elective Choices

Eighth Grade Elective Choices

- Below are grade level elective choices. Please look at the grade you will be going into for the school year 2024-2025 and use **your new grade level Elective Planning Sheet for 2024-2025.**
- Choice selections are by Quarter. If you are selecting a class that is year long (Spanish IA, Spanish IB, Choir, Orchestra, Band, Advanced Band, VEX IQ, VEX EDR) please put the number down two times. (See example on worksheets)

Sixth Grade Elective Choices

Fine Arts

6th Grade: MS Art 6 6605Q

Quarter Course

Description: Explore the world of mark making on flat surfaces.

- Subjects that may be covered
 - Drawing
 - Painting
 - Printmaking
 - Photography
 - Digital Art

6th Grade: MS Drawing and Painting A1622Q

Quarter Course

Description: This studio art course emphasizes learning foundational drawing techniques along with basic design skills. Learning activities are designed to help students develop confidence, while building skill in a variety of techniques.

- Subjects that may be covered
 - Connections to Art History
 - Design principles and the elements of art
 - Sighting and Seeing
 - Contour and gesture drawing
 - $\circ \quad \mbox{Value pencil, ink, charcoal}$
 - Still life drawing
 - Self Portraiture
 - Perspective
 - Basic Color Theory

6th Grade: MS Photography 1626Q

Quarter Course

Description: Students in Photography will develop and expand their skills in producing artistic style photographs using the iPad.

Students learn basic composition principles and elements of photography such as Rule of Thirds, leading lines, framing, and lighting.

6th Grade: MS iPad Art: A1611Q

Quarter Course

Description: In this course, you'll explore this special genre of art found in everything from advertising to animation to photography and beyond. Learning activities will give students an introduction into a variety of careers in the art field.

- Subjects that may be covered
 - Graphic Design/Logo Making
 - Animation
 - Career Exploration

Music and Theater

6th Grade: MS Drama 6 PA6690Q

Quarter Course

Description: Drama students practice, demonstrate and analyze the multidisciplinary aspects of the entire theatrical experience through games, exercises and performance projects. Students will learn acting techniques and performance techniques, such as facial, physical and vocal expression. Students will learn acting skills through games, creativity and improvisation. Students will perform monologues, scenes and skits in class. Students will perform regularly in class and learn how to give constructive feedback to their peers. Students will create characters, scripts and scenes alone and with others.

6th Grade: MS Music Exploration MU1652Q

Quarter Course

Description: Music Exploration is a class designed to expose students to the world of choral and instrumental music. Every student who is taking Music Exploration will be expected to participate in all class activities. This is a more academic look at music, so students will be expected to read, write and draw in this class. Below are some of the skills and areas of knowledge that we will focus on in this class:

- Develop music reading skills (note names, counting, etc.)
- Learn about scales, arpeggios.
- Participate in reading, writing, creating and technology related to music.
- Performance etiquette
- Listening and group performance skills (analyzing, problem solving, teamwork)
- Examine the world through music (cultures, folk songs, dances etc.)

6th Grade: MS Introductory Choir - "Una Voce" MU1673.1 & MU1673.2

Year Long Course

Description: Introductory choir students will use their voice to create music alone and with others. Students will learn proper vocal production and technique. Students will learn beginning sight-singing, music reading and performance skills. This is a performance- based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required. Students will create using a variety of tools and techniques to show off their skills.

6th Grade: MS Beginning Orchestra 6 MU6683.1 & MU6683.2

Year Long Course

Description: Introductory orchestra (strings). Students will learn to play their individual instrument through routine and practice. Students will learn how to read music while learning proper tone and technique on their chosen instrument. This course is designed for students with little to no experience on an instrument.

6th Grade: MS Beginning Band 6 MU6664.1 & MU6664.2

Year Long Course

Description: Introductory band (brass and percussion). Students will learn to play their individual instrument through routine and practice. Students will learn how to read music while learning proper tone and technique on their chosen instrument. This course is designed for students with little to no experience on an instrument.

Computer Science, Robotics and Technology

6th Grade: Intro to Robotics CS1390Q

Quarter Course

Description: Description: This course is an introduction to the design, construction of VEX IQ robots. Students will work in teams to design and build robots that can navigate obstacles, manipulate objects, and complete a variety of challenges. Through hands-on projects, students will develop skills in engineering design, problem-solving, and teamwork.

In this introductory course, students will explore robotics.

- Students will discover how robots function to sense, think and act.
- Students will learn the basics of computer science and how to program robots to complete autonomous tasks.
- Students will use the design thinking process to create robotic systems to complete a variety of challenges.
- Students will learn proper documentation techniques needed for the industry.

6th Grade Programming: Beginning Computer Science/Coding with Minecraft CS1711Q

Quarter Course

Description: Coding with Minecraft is specially designed computer science content for students in Lower Secondary/Grades 6-8/Ages 11-14. Students will learn, practice, and apply relevant computer science skills and concepts as well as literacy skills in both unplugged and digital experiences. The lessons are designed to provide students with an opportunity to build knowledge of the concept(s) in an unplugged version (i.e., demonstrate the concept on paper), practice the concept with the direct support of their teacher in the Minecraft world, and then finally by completing the task independently.

<u>6th Grade Cybersecurity: Intro to Cybersecurity/Digital Citizenship Code HS</u> <u>CS1370Q</u>

Quarter Course

Description: As our world becomes increasingly dependent on technology, it is essential that we help students learn how to behave safely and ethically online. This course prepares students with crucial skills to be responsible citizens in a digital future. Students will explore topics related to digital citizenship and cyber hygiene all through the CodeHS web-based platform. Students will complete a culminating course project where they will create a public service announcement. This is not a coding intensive course, but rather students will learn the basics of internet etiquette, the importance of online safety and security, and skills related to information literacy.

6th Grade Technology 6 CS6730

Quarter Course

Description:This is an opportunity for students to investigate the world of technology and experience multiple platforms and uses of the digital world.

Advanced Robotics: CS1391.1 & CS1391.2 (IQ)* Year long (enter each number twice) VEX IQ Competitive

Year Long Course

Prerequisite: Complete the <u>Competitive Robotics Team Application</u> Selected students will be sent the link for the registration Contact Mr. Nesbitt with guestions

Description: This course is designed to give students an introduction to competitive robotics. You will be committing to joining the Soaring Heights Robotics team for the 2023-24 school year. We will be hosting after school practice once a week and up to three, regular season tournaments on Saturdays in Colorado. This is an introductory level team and requires no background experience with robotics.

You will work in design teams of 3-5 students to plan, build, and program robots ready for competition! Beyond science and engineering principles, a Robotics project encourages teamwork, management and efficiency will be key components to your team's success. We will also explore the history of robotics and take a look at possible career paths. No experience is necessary and any student interested in joining competitive robotics is welcome to take this class.

Physical Education

6th Grade: Physical Education: PE 6 PE6505Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. In this class students participate in physical activities that allow them to develop an understanding of their own physical abilities as well as others. Students continue to develop the social, physical, mental, and emotional benefits of physical activity through participation.

Examples of units can include:

- Team Sports soccer, rugby, ultimate frisbee, flag football, soccer and more
- Net and Wall Sports Volleyball, badminton, pickleball, and more
- Fitness, nutrition, and health
- Individual games and activities Track and Field, golf, disc golf, fitness planning, and more

6th Grade: Team Sports: PE1525Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. We will dive deep into each specific skill needed for each specific sport through fun activities and lead-up games, culminating each unit with full games. This course will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition. Examples of sports played are:

- Invasion games soccer, basketball, flag football, floor hockey, rugby, and more
- Net and Wall games badminton, volleyball, pickleball, and more
- Striking and Fielding games baseball, softball, kickball, cricket, and more
- Chasing and Fleeing games various tag games, capture the flag, and more.

Seventh Grade Elective Choices

Fine Arts

7th Grade: MS Art 7 A7605Q

Quarter Course

Description: Explore the world of mark making on flat surfaces.

- Subject that may be covered
 - Drawing
 - Painting
 - Printmaking
 - Photography
 - Digital Art

7th Grade: MS 3D Art 7 A7612Q

Quarter Course

Description: Explore building 3D forms.

- Subject that may be covered
 - Origami
 - Bookmaking
 - Needle Felting
 - Cardboard Sculpture
 - \circ Jewelry
 - Clay

7th Grade: MS Drawing 7 A7621Q

Quarter Course

Description: A more indepth exploration of drawing and painting.

7th Grade: MS Ceramics 7 7610Q

Quarter Course Suggested Prerequisite: 3D Art or permissions from teacher **Description:** Adventure into the world of clay and creating Sculptural form.

Music and Theater

7th Grade: MS Music Tech MU1653Q

Quarter Course

Description: Students will learn the fundamentals of music using Garageband and other similar Digital Audio Warehouses. Students will use pre-made music as well as create music of their own. Students will complete various projects using music and other multimedia tools.

7th Grade: MS Drama 7 PA7690Q

Semester Course

Description: Drama students practice, demonstrate and analyze the multidisciplinary aspects of the entire theatrical experience through games, exercises and performance projects. Students will learn acting techniques and performance techniques, such as facial, physical and vocal expression. Students will learn acting skills through games, creativity and improvisation. Students will perform monologues, scenes and skits in class. Students will perform regularly in class and learn how to give constructive feedback to their peers. Students will create characters, scripts and scenes alone and with others.

7th Grade: MS Drama 7 7690S

**Semester Course - Spring Only (Spring Musical)

Suggested Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that students have at least one semester of choir before taking this class.

Description: Students will learn and perform a musical.

Students will learn musical performance skills including acting, dancing and singing and showcase them for a public performance. Students will learn acting techniques that include facial, physical and vocal expression. Students will learn advanced solo singing techniques. Students will audition for their role in the performance. Participation in after school rehearsals and weekend performances outside of regular class hours is required.

7th Grade MS Intermediate Choir - "Intermezzo" MU1675.1 & MU1675.2

Year Long Course

Description: Intermediate Choir students will use their voice to create music alone and with others. Students will learn proper vocal production and technique. Students will learn intermediate sight-singing, music reading and performance skills. This is a performance- based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required. Students will create using a variety of tools and techniques to show off their skills.

7th Grade: MS Band 7 MU7664.1 & MU7664.2

Year Long Course

Suggested Prerequisite: Beginning Band or teacher approval **Description:** Advanced band (brass/percussion and woodwinds). Students will continue to develop their individual skills on instruments through routine and practice. Students will build upon skills learned in beginning band, developing advanced skills in preparation for transition into advanced band.

7th Grade: MS Orchestra 7 MU7682.1 & MU7682.2

Year Long Course

Description: Intermediate orchestra (strings). Students will continue to develop their individual skills on instruments through routine and practice. Students will build upon skills learned in introductory orchestra, developing skills in preparation for transition into advanced orchestra.

Computer Science, Robotics and Technology

7th Grade Robotics: Advanced Robotics/VEX Coding Focus CS1391Q

Quarter Course

Description: This course is a continuation course teaching the design, construction, and programming of VEX IQ robots. Students will work in teams to design and build robots that can navigate obstacles, manipulate objects, and complete a variety of challenges. Students will learn to program their robots using VEXCode blocks, a programming language designed specifically for robotics. Through hands-on projects, students will develop skills in engineering design, programming, problem-solving, and teamwork.

7th Grade Cybersecurity: Intro to Cybersecurity/Sphero CS1370Q

Quarter Course

Description: Our increasingly digital society puts the world at our fingertips, allowing us to learn practically anything, communicate and collaborate with people on the other side of the globe, and innovate solutions to our biggest challenges. Unfortunately, the digital world opens us up to an entirely new and scary set of threats. The demand has never been greater for a robust cybersecurity workforce and citizens with a strong understanding of computer ethics and how to protect their digital lives. The Sphero BOLT Cybersecurity Labs aim to address this challenge by bringing cybersecurity concepts to life through hands-on learning experiences. BOLT simulates and models concepts that are often hidden deep inside computers, networks, and code so that middle school students can visualize, discuss, and fully understand them.

<u>7th Grade Intermediate Computer Science: Minecraft Programming with</u> <u>Python CS1712Q</u>

Quarter Course

Description: Programming with Python is specially designed computer science content for students in Upper Secondary. Students will learn, practice, and apply relevant computer science skills and concepts as well as literacy skills in both unplugged and digital experiences. The lessons are designed to provide students with an opportunity to build knowledge of the concept(s) in an unplugged version (i.e., demonstrate the concept on paper), practice the concept with the direct support of their teacher in the Minecraft world, and then finally by completing the task independently.

7th Grade: Wired Creativity STEM CS1362Q

Quarter Course

Description: This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to physical computing using micro:Bits and little:Bits, and culminates in an end of quarter project where students create their own arcade games. Through hands-on activities and project-based learning, students will learn how to program and interface with various input and output devices, such as LEDs, buttons, and sensors. They will also explore basic electronics concepts, such as circuits and power, as well as the principles of game design. By the end of the course, students will have developed their skills in programming, electronics, and game design, and will have created a fully functional arcade game that they can showcase to their peers. The course emphasizes creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork, as students will work in groups to brainstorm ideas, design, and build their games.

<u>7th Grade Advanced Robotics CS1391.1 & CS1391.2 (IQ)* VEX IQ</u> Competitive

Year Long Course

Prerequisite: Complete the <u>Competitive Robotics Team Application</u> Selected students will be sent the link for the registration (Registration Fee \$300) Contact Mr. Nesbitt with questions

Description: This class will combine what you learned with Introductory Robotics. You will work in design teams of 3-5 to complete a given task and be ready for district competition that will include both autonomous and driver control. You will also be working to meet a deadline so time management and efficiency will be key components to your team's success.

You will work in design teams of 3-5 students to plan, build, and program robots ready for competition! Beyond science and engineering principles, a Robotics project encourages teamwork, management and efficiency will be key components to your team's success. We will also explore the history of robotics and take a look at possible career paths

Physical Education

7th Grade: MS PE 7 7506Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. In this class students participate in physical activities that allow them to develop an understanding of their own physical abilities as well as others. Students continue to develop the social, physical, mental, and emotional benefits of physical activity through participation.

Examples of units can include:

- Team Sports soccer, rugby, ultimate frisbee, flag football, soccer and more
- Net and Wall Sports Volleyball, badminton, pickleball, and more
- Fitness, nutrition, and health
- Individual games and activities Track and Field, golf, disc golf, fitness planning, and more

7th Grade: Team Sports 7 PE7520Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. We will dive deep into each specific skill needed for each specific sport through fun activities and lead-up games, culminating each unit with full games. This course will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition. Examples of sports played are:

- Invasion games soccer, basketball, flag football, floor hockey, rugby, and more
- Net and Wall games badminton, volleyball, pickleball, and more
- Striking and Fielding games baseball, softball, kickball, cricket, and more
- Chasing and Fleeing games various tag games, capture the flag, and more.

7th Grade: Fitness: PE7510Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. In this class students focus on their personal health and nutrition. Students will create SMART goals and complete fitness assessments to track improvement. Students will also participate in both team and individual activities and games that incorporate teamwork, sportsmanship, cardiovascular endurance, and muscular endurance.

- Creating SMART goals
- Creating and implementing student workouts
- FitnessGram testing: Mile run, pacer test, pushups, curl ups, pullups
- Demonstration of both health and skill related fitness concepts

World Language & Leadership

7th Grade Spanish 1A 1836.1 & 1836.2

Year Long Course

Description: Spanish 1A is a full-year introduction to Spanish language and culture. The objective of this class is to develop basic communication skills in Spanish. We will engage in speaking, reading, listening, and writing activities in order to gain proficiency in Spanish. Also, grammar is part of this language component. We will complete interactive projects that help build communication skills in a variety of contexts. In addition, we will be exploring the cultural aspects of many Spanish speaking countries.

Spanish 1A is the prerequisite for Spanish 1B.

7th Grade Leadership: Pride Time 1879Q

Quarter Course

Description: Students will learn about the basics of leadership principles.

• Students will learn about leadership traits, skills and take a personal inventory of their personality traits that will help them work with others.

Eighth Grade Elective Choices

8th Grade: 3D Art 8: A8615Q

Quarter Course

Description: Explore building 3D forms

- Subject that may be covered
 - Origami
 - Bookmaking
 - Needle Felting
 - Cardboard Sculpture
 - \circ Jewelry
 - Clay

8th Grade Ceramics: A8610Q

Quarter Course

Description: Adventure into the world of clay and creating Sculptural form

8th Grade Advanced Art: A1606Q

Full Year Course

Description: In this class you will hone your artistic skills and voice. Learning more about being an artist in the modern world.

8th Grade Multimedia 8: CS8745Q

Quarter Course Suggested Prerequisite: Multimedia 1 **Description:** iPad Filmmaking using iMovie Unit 1: Documentary Unit 2: Mobile Reports Unit 3: Special Effects Unit 4: Short Film

Music and Theater

8th Grade Concert Choir - "Soaring Heights Chamber Singers": MU1677.1 & 1677.2

Year Long Course

Description: Concert Choir students will use their voice to create music alone and with others. Students will learn advanced vocal production and technique. Students will learn advanced sight-singing, music reading and performance skills. This is a performance-based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required. Students will create using a variety of tools and techniques to show off their skills. This class is designed so that specific vocal pedagogy and technique can be addressed specifically for students in 8th grade.

8th Grade: Drama 8: PA8690Q

Quarter Course

Description: Drama students practice, demonstrate and analyze the multidisciplinary aspects of the entire theatrical experience through games, exercises and performance projects. Students will learn acting techniques and performance techniques, such as facial, physical and vocal expression. Students will learn acting skills through games, creativity and improvisation. Students will perform monologues, scenes and skits in class. Students will perform regularly in class and learn how to give constructive feedback to their peers. Students will create characters, scripts and scenes alone and with others.

8th Grade Advanced Drama: PA1111S

Semester Course - Spring Only

Suggested Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that students have at least one semester of choir before taking this class.

Description: Students will learn and perform a musical.

Students will learn musical performance skills including acting, dancing and singing and showcase them for a public performance. Students will learn acting techniques that include facial, physical and vocal expression. Students will learn advanced solo singing techniques. Students will audition for their role in the performance. Participation in after school rehearsals and weekend performances outside of regular class hours is required.

8th Grade Percussion Ensemble: MU1556

Quarter Course

Description: Introductory percussion. Students will learn to play their individual instruments through routine and practice. Students will learn how to read music while learning proper tone and technique on their chosen instrument. This course is designed for students with little to no experience on an instrument.

8th Grade Advanced Band: MU1694.1 & MU1694.2

Year Long Course

Description: Advanced band (brass/percussion and woodwinds). Students will continue to develop their individual skills on instruments through routine and practice. Students will build upon skills learned in intermediate band, developing advanced skills in preparation for transition into high school band classes.

8th Grade Orchestra 8: MU8682.1 & MU8682.2

Year Long Course

Description: Intermediate orchestra (strings). Students will continue to develop their individual skills on instruments through routine and practice. Students will build upon skills learned in introductory orchestra, developing skills in preparation for transition into advanced orchestra.

Computer Science, Robotics and Technology

8th Grade Robotics: Design: Advanced Robotics: CS1395Q

Quarter Course

Description: This course is a continuation course teaching the design, construction, and programming of VEX IQ robots. Students will work in teams to design and build robots that can navigate obstacles, manipulate objects, and complete a variety of challenges. Students will learn to program their robots using VEXCode blocks, a programming language designed specifically for robotics. Through hands-on projects, students will develop skills in engineering design, programming, problem-solving, and teamwork.

8th Grade Programming: Advanced Computer Science: CS1713Q

Quarter Course

Description: Sphero Computer Science Foundations is designed for students who have some experience with Sphero Edu and are ready to dive right into block programming. We'll quickly review beginning Block Canvas topics, advance into intermediate blocks and then touch on JavaScript programming. Students will use their Sphero robots to learn and practice empathy, game design, and storytelling. And by the end of the course, students will demonstrate a mastery of block programming by manipulating sensors, loops, conditionals, variables, and functions. They will also understand block to text transitions.

8th Grade Programming Video Game Design: CS1363Q

Quarter Course

Description: This course will have students apply their skills from previous programming courses to build games using various platforms and languages. Students will explore and create platformer, RPG and physical computing games using the Microsoft Makecode Arcade platform.

8th Grade STEM: Mars and Beyond: SC1385Q

Quarter Course

Description: This course is designed to engage students in a fun and challenging learning experience by exploring robotics, programming, and rocketry using the popular novel "The Martian", Sphero RVR robots, little:Bits electronics, and the space flight simulator Kerbal Space Program. Students will learn how to program Sphero RVR robots, use littleBits to design and build circuits and sensors, and apply engineering and design principles to build rockets that they will launch using Kerbal Space Program. The course also integrates key concepts from the novel such as survival skills, problem-solving, and teamwork, to engage students in real-world scenarios. By the end of the course, students will have gained skills in robotics, programming, and rocketry, as well as an understanding of the importance of collaboration and problem-solving skills in the context of space exploration.

8th Grade VEX EDR Competitive Design: Advanced Robotics: CS1395.1 & CS1395.2 (EDR)*

Year Long Course

Prerequisite: Commitment to competitive robotics team- Contact Mr. Nesbitt for registration (Registration Fee \$300)

Description: This class will combine what you learned with Introductory Robotics. You will work in design teams of 3-5 to complete a given task and be ready for district competition that will include both autonomous and driver control. You will also be working to meet a deadline so time management and efficiency will be key components to your team's success.

Physical Education

8th Grade: Physical Education: PE 8: PE8505Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. In this class students participate in physical activities that allow them to develop an understanding of their own physical abilities as well as others. Students continue to develop the social, physical, mental, and emotional benefits of physical activity through participation.

Examples of units can include:

- Team Sports soccer, rugby, ultimate frisbee, flag football, soccer and more
- Net and Wall Sports Volleyball, badminton, pickleball, and more
- Fitness, nutrition, and health
- Individual games and activities Track and Field, golf, disc golf, fitness planning, and more

8th Grade: Team Sports 8: PE8520Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. We will dive deep into each specific skill needed for each specific sport through fun activities and lead-up games, culminating each unit with full games. This course will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition. Examples of sports played are:

- Invasion games soccer, basketball, flag football, floor hockey, rugby, and more
- Net and Wall games badminton, volleyball, pickleball, and more
- Striking and Fielding games baseball, softball, kickball, cricket, and more
- Chasing and Fleeing games various tag games, capture the flag, and more.

8th Grade: Fitness 8: PE8510Q

Quarter Course

Description: As an important part of the educational and learning system physical education will be offered to all grade levels. In this class students focus on their personal health and nutrition. Students will create SMART goals and complete fitness assessments to track improvement. Students will also participate in both team and individual activities and games that incorporate teamwork, sportsmanship, cardiovascular endurance, and muscular endurance.

- Creating SMART goals
- Creating and implementing student workouts
- FitnessGram testing: Mile run, pacer test, pushups, curl ups, pullups
- Demonstration of both health and skill related fitness concepts

World Language, Leadership & EHS Engineering

8th Grade Spanish 1B: WL1837.1 & WL1837.2

Year Long Course

Prerequisite: Spanish 1A or equivalent Spanish language skills.

Description: Spanish 1B is a full-year continuation of Spanish 1A.

The objective of this class is to develop further communication skills in Spanish using the four skills: *reading, writing, listening and speaking.*

By building on the foundation of Spanish 1A, we will learn more of the structure of the Spanish language, as well as participate in more interactive cultural projects such as skits, video presentations, and traditional hispanic celebrations.

8th Grade Leadership/Pride Time 8: MS8885Q

Quarter Course

Description: Students will apply principles of service leadership by organizing school events and improving school culture.

• Activities the group will be planning for will include dances, spirit week, community service projects.