



Los Alamos Middle School

2024-2025

Course Catalog

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<https://lams.laschools.net/>

Dates to Remember

01/29/24
Course Catalog Available Online

02/05/24
Future Hawk Day at LAMS

02/05/24
5:30pm-7:00pm
Hawk Sampler
Parents & Students Welcome

02/05-02/09/24
Elective Request Window

08/00/24
First Day of School

Front Office Information

Attendance.....663-2376
Registrar/PowerSchool.....663-2407
Counselors.....663-2375
Administration.....663-2398

NEW COURSES!

COURSE SELECTION STEPS

1. Carefully review course offerings and requirements as listed in the Course Catalog.
2. Complete the **Electives Worksheet**

(Page 19).

3. Discuss your completed worksheet with your student.
4. Go to PowerSchool, click on the Class Registration



icon, and follow the instructions.

GATE Information

Monday, February 5th from 5:45pm to 7:00pm.
Parents of 6th grade students currently in the GATE program are invited to hear about the gifted program at LAMS. **This will NOT be a formal meeting. It will be on a drop in basis using the GATE room 244. Families can drop in between 5:45-7 pm during the Hawk Sampler.**

Special Education Information Meeting

Monday, February 5th from 5:00pm to 5:30pm.
Parents and students will have the opportunity to ask questions about the Special Education program at LAMS. The meeting will take place in the LAMS Cafeteria.

Hawk Sampler

Elective Course Selection Information

Monday, February 5th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm
Students and families can come to LAMS to learn about all of our elective offerings. Families will have the opportunity to meet LAMS elective teachers and learn about their programs.

COURSE/ELECTIVE REQUESTS AND SCHEDULING

The courses/electives requested by every student will be processed in PowerSchool and used to build the 2024-2025 master schedule in a manner that will produce the fewest number of conflicts for the greatest number of students.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year will occur during late spring and summer via PowerSchool. You will receive an email at that time to register your student for 2024-2025. Both PowerSchool

course/elective requests and PowerSchool registration will need to be completed for the student to attend LAMS.

LAMS Administration and Counselor will visit the Elementaries on January 24th through January 26th.

Course catalog will be available online January 29th

- Barranca, January 24, 9:00-10:00 am
- Aspen, January 24, 10:30-11:30 am
- Mountain January 24, 11:45-12:45 pm
- LAOLA, January 25, 9:00am
- Chamisa, January 26, 9:00-10:00 am
- Pinon, January 26, 10:30-11:30 am

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LOS ALAMOS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dear LAMS Families,

On behalf of the staff of Los Alamos Middle School (LAMS), we extend a sincere welcome. We are excited about you becoming members of the Los Alamos Middle School family/community. After a rewarding elementary education, you are ready to take a giant step forward in preparation for your student's future!

The LAMS staff members are committed to providing the best possible education. We have developed our academic programs to meet the needs of young adolescents who typically experience tremendous growth and development during this period of their lives.

The academic program at LAMS is an integrated approach that provides the student an opportunity to develop his or her intellect, communication, problem solving, and creative skills. In order to accomplish these objectives, each student is placed on an interdisciplinary team. Each team is composed of language arts, social studies, science, math, electives, and resource specialist teachers. Also, we strongly believe in providing a diverse set of electives to assist your child in their learning and future goals.

The LAMS staff believes the team approach of working with students in a collaborative atmosphere will better prepare our students for their future. Teams provide the basic delivery of curriculum. The teachers on the teams provide guidelines for homework, grading policies, and classroom rules. They also plan activities and community service projects together.

All team teachers meet regularly to discuss the academic needs of students on their team. Each interdisciplinary team has a common meeting time during the school day. If needed, your student's counselor, case manager, or GATE case manager can schedule parent conferences during these times.

For updates on current middle school happenings throughout the year, please refer to the LAMS homepage at <https://lams.laschools.net/> or the Daily Bulletin in PowerSchool.

If you have any questions regarding the course selection and registration process, please contact LAMS at 505-663-2375.

Elective Request Window, Monday, February 5th to Friday, February 9th.

Students request courses for school year 2024-2025 online via PowerSchool, <https://laps.powerschool.com/public/home.html>. Changes to the courses selected can be made any time during the open window by logging into PowerSchool and re-submitting with the new selections. After **February 9th**, the PowerSchool request portal will be closed and changes can only be made by contacting Holli Gonzalez at 505-663-2407 or h.gonzalez@laschools.net.

The Course Catalog is available online on the LAMS webpage. Course descriptions are located in this document, divided by grade. 7th grade electives are on pages 5-10, and 8th grades electives are on pages 13-18.

Thank you,
LAMS Administration



OVERVIEW OF THE LAMS PROGRAM

GENERAL INFORMATION

The course catalog contains information needed to request courses as a 7th and 8th grade student at LAMS for the 2024-2025 school year. The 2024-2025 master schedule and number of course sections offered are based on the results of this course request window. Please consider carefully the choices you and your child make. Online course requests for LAMS will be made in PowerSchool at <https://laps.powerschool.com/public/home.html>.

CURRENT 6th and 7th GRADE STUDENTS

In order to request electives online, a PowerSchool password and ID are required. If you do not know your PowerSchool login credentials, please contact the LAMS Registrar at h.gonzalez@laschools.net or 505-663-2407.

Because of the time required to complete staffing, scheduling, and student placement, online elective requests will be conducted from **February 5th to February 9th**. Unfortunately, some staffing decisions that impact course availability cannot be made at this time, therefore, some changes may occur before the start of the new school year. **Elective classes DO have required minimums in order to be offered.** Classes with insufficient requests may be dropped from the master schedule. Some electives are taught by core teachers, which limits enrollment to sections of the class.

Elective assignment is NOT based on a first-come, first-served basis. Elective requests do **NOT** reflect a student's final schedule.

Every effort is made to give each student the electives they prefer, however, scheduling conflicts and budget constraints may prevent a student from receiving their elective choices. **Los Alamos Public Schools reserves the right to not offer all courses listed in this course offering.** Actual courses offered are dependent on sufficient requests to fill a class section.

Students should expect an average of 70 minutes of homework per night in the core classes combined. Classes or activities such as foreign language, advanced math, band and orchestra require additional homework time. Students struggling to meet homework requirements are offered assistance through help sessions during lunch or after school.

7th GRADE REQUIRED CURRICULUM

REQUIRED CLASSES FOR THE 7th GRADE

Physical education is a required semester class. Language arts, social studies, science, and math are the required core classes.

Physical Education 7

This required semester class stresses physical fitness, adolescent development skills, and specific team and individual skills. Efforts are directed toward the development of positive attitudes involving physical activities that will continue throughout life. Each activity is



presented in a manner that allows for skill development, participation, and competition.

Language Arts 7

This course is designed to build on skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. It prepares students for success in high school, college, careers, and life. To develop independence in comprehension and critical thinking skills, students are challenged with a variety of complex literature both fictional and informational. Frequent writing assignments in various genres provide students the opportunity to hone their analytical and problem solving skills, while gaining mastery over vocabulary and the conventions of the English language.

Social Studies 7

Students study New Mexico History and World Geography and identify important people and events concerning the history, geography, economics, and government of New Mexico and the Americas. Students apply the five themes of geography across the curriculum in learning both the content and skills of the seventh grade social studies program.

Science 7

The seventh grade life science curriculum includes investigations in the areas of structure and function of living things, genetics, natural selection and ecology. A 3-dimensional, inquiry based approach to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will be used. Units begin with a phenomena about which students collect evidence to make sense of why and how the phenomena occurs. This is an intensive, hands-on, skill-building experience, some of which includes, microscope use, modeling, laboratory dissections, scientific readings, experimental designs that are carried out, and collaborative discussions. Throughout the year, students engage in many thought provoking activities and explore the ways in which scientific discoveries influenced and are influenced by individuals and societies.

Math Courses

7th graders are assigned to math classes according to their performance on district standardized tests. **If a student does not show adequate progress during the school year in a math class, they may be placed in a more appropriate math class before the start of the next quarter.**

Math 7

The curriculum for this course is based on the Common Core State Standards for 7th grade math. Topics include: practicing operations with fractions; solving mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations; analyzing proportional relationships; drawing, constructing and describing geometrical figures; solving problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume; using random sampling to draw inferences about a population and drawing informal comparative inferences about two populations; investigating probability models. All of the standards and concepts are studied in the context of solving real-life and mathematical problems.

Accelerated Math 7

Prerequisite: Placement score based on placement exam and a B or better on their report card. Topics include: practicing operations with fractions; solving mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations; analyzing proportional relationships; drawing, constructing and describing geometrical figures; solving problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume; using random sampling to draw inferences about a population and drawing informal comparative inferences about two populations; investigating probability models. approximating irrational numbers with rational numbers; working with radicals and integer exponents; connecting proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations;



analyzing and solving linear equations; defining, evaluating, and comparing functions; modeling relationships between quantities with functions; exploring congruence and similarity of polygons; applying the Pythagorean Theorem; investigating patterns of association in bivariate data; solving problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres. All of the standards and concepts are studied in the context of solving real-life and mathematical problems. This class covers 7th and 8th grade standards in one year. **Students who qualify for advanced math courses but underperform may be recommended to be placed in a more appropriate class after the school year starts.**

Algebra I (Grade Level 7)

Prerequisite: *Placement score based on placement exam and a B or better on their report card.* This course is equivalent to the accredited high school Algebra I course. This course skips the two years of middle school math curriculum, Math 7 and Math 8. To be successful in this class, students should be proficient in those skills and content. **Grades received in Algebra I will appear on the Los Alamos High School transcript** as Algebra I and count as one of the four required math credits.

Topics include: describing patterns; investigating the real number system and its properties; finding percents; solving linear and absolute value functions and inequalities; solving systems of equations; evaluating functions; graphing linear and exponential equations; using rules of exponents; factoring and other operations with polynomials; exploring quadratics, rational functions, and radicals; simplifying rational and radical expressions; solving quadratic equations; introduction to statistics. **Students who qualify for advanced math courses but underperform may be recommended to be placed in a more appropriate class after the school year starts.**

7th GRADE ELECTIVES

Staff, scheduling conflicts or low student requests may prevent ANY of the following courses from being offered.

There are numerous choices of electives at LAMS. We are proud to offer a variety of options from which students may choose. Middle school is an excellent time for students to explore new things they may not have realized would be interesting and that can become lifelong passions.

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVE COURSES (0.5 credit each)

Academic Success Lab

This course will focus on building organization, communication skills, structural components of note-taking, enhancing self-esteem, practice creative problem solving, build executive function skills, and positive relationships. Students will explore a variety of career options plus develop their own career plan. A variety of post-high school opportunities will be discussed to help students make and achieve college and career goals.

Advanced Engineering Design With Shop Tools

(Prerequisite: Engineering Design With Shop Tools or Intro to Tech) This hands-on course immerses students in a variety of projects aimed at solving problems across engineering disciplines: mechanical, environmental, structural and industrial. Students will develop drafting skills for more sophisticated projects. Activities include designing sheet metal projects, hydroponics, toolboxes, fire mitigation and programming CNC (computer numeric control) router. ***Students must demonstrate responsibility and the ability to follow directions carefully.***



Art 1

In this semester-long class, you will learn the elements and principles of art and practice creative problem solving in order to explore self-expression in your artistic creations. You will also participate in a variety of studio art projects and practice art techniques. We will cover drawing, painting, sculpture, art history, art concepts, pastel, mixed media, and clay. As a final, students will create a digital portfolio that will prepare them for future course work in the arts.

Beginning Computer Concepts

We are excited that for the 2023-2024 school year, we will be reviewing how a computer works, cybersecurity, cyberbullying, exploring Python coding with CS CMU, and 3D printing with Tinkercad.

Crafts

This class is designed for those who enjoy working with a wide variety of art materials and trying new things! With an emphasis on hands-on activities and some basic instruction in drawing and painting, we will work with fabric arts, weave, sculpt, build, print, and glue to create a number of fun projects!

Drama

This one semester class is a *very basic* introduction to drama. Students will learn to write and act in a comedic skit and a mystery skit. They will also learn how to use their voice and body to create characters. The semester concludes with a pre-written on-stage performance.

Drawing

Do you enjoy drawing? Or maybe you have never tried it! Even if you think that you are not an artist or lack creativity, you can learn to draw. Drawing is a skill that can be learned, just like reading, cooking, or playing a sport: the more

you practice, the better you will become. This course will teach basic drawing techniques in a variety of mediums: pencil, charcoal, chalk pastel, oil pastel, and pen & ink, among others. Some drawings will focus on the realistic style, while others will push students to experiment with abstraction and using their imagination.

Engineering Design with Shop Tools

Students will use hand tools in the shop to create prototypes in this STEM-oriented class. Using a project-based learning approach, students will develop models to address problems and challenges, perform tests and make improvements. Sketching and drafting necessary for the design process are introduced. Due to the hands-on nature of this class, the ability to follow directions and shop safety rules is critical. Learning outcomes: Students will use iterative thinking and develop teamwork skills needed for the 21st century workplace.

Introduction to Ceramics and Sculpture

Art is so much more than flat paintings and drawings! Students will go beyond the canvas and into the third dimension with basic sculpture and ceramic handbuilding techniques. Students will create artwork by modeling, carving, and joining materials such as clay, wood, plaster, wire, and found objects.

Introduction to Computer Science

This is the second level of the three computer classes offered at LAMS. Projects are designed around the micro:bit microcontroller and its inputs, outputs, and makecode programming. If you like makerspaces and innovating technology, this class is for you. Content comes from [Micro:bit.org](https://microbit.org) **This course is a prerequisite for the next level class: Pre-Engineering/Robotics.**

Introduction to Forensics

Interested in solving crimes? Going beyond what you see on TV? Let's see what forensics is really like. How about learning the ways of a CSI? This



course will cover the basic techniques of forensic science to determine the circumstances surrounding criminal acts- the who, why, and how of what transpired. Students can expect hands-on and lab group projects that focus on fingerprints, handwriting analysis, shoe print analysis, blood spatter, crime scene photos/sketches cases, etc. Those who wish to take this course should have a high interest in working with others, researching, being creative, as well as a strong interest in Science overall. Seeking those with strong work ethic, and the capacity to conduct themselves in small or large group settings.

Introduction to Photography

This course introduces students to the basics of photography. Topics include camera functions, photo composition, lighting and much more. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph with a range of subjects. Students will also learn to use basic photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of settings and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

LAMS Leadership

(Offered as a semester and year-long course. Recommendation form REQUIRED, see page 29 Due February 16th by 3pm.)

Do you want to help LAMS soar to its potential? If so, join LAMS Leadership. In this class, students will participate in Student Council activities such as planning dances, pep rallies, spirit weeks, and community service events. Students will work on developing leadership skills, community building, and becoming role models at LAMS. If you want to be an officer in the Student Council, you need to choose the year-long elective.

Lifetime Fitness and Games

This course is designed to prepare students

with the knowledge and skills to lead a physically active and healthy lifestyle. Students who are enrolled in the Recreation Sports course will participate in various lifetime sport activities; including practicing yoga, team sports, individual workouts, weight-lifting, cardio, and other games.

Makerspace & LEGO Machines

This semester course includes two courses in one. Students will explore Hawk Makerspace for one quarter and Simple and Powered Machines with LEGOs in the other quarter. In Simple and Powered Machines with Legos students first learn about levers, pulleys, gears, and inclined planes. Then students use variations and extensions of those simple machines to create more complex builds as they expand their knowledge base. Students will develop teamwork skills essential to success throughout their careers and other relationships. In the Hawk Makerspace, students will collaborate in making everything from high-tech to no-tech projects. Students could build a robot or create a duct tape wallet or anything in between.

*This class builds foundational skills for high school robotics and supports the robotics certification pathways through early college(LAECCA).

Recreational Reading

Students read for pleasure in this elective. They may select fiction, nonfiction, novels, graphic novels, comic books, newspapers, or magazines. All reading material must be approved as school appropriate by the teacher. This class is not a study hall, but time for students to explore more books in their favorite genres.

Speech

Speech is a one-semester course that focuses on developing self-expression, thinking ability, advocacy, critical thinking, self-confidence, and



oral presentation skills. Students will use what they learn about listening, nonverbal communication, effective language and delivery, to create speeches that inform, persuade, and entertain. Students interested in continuing to improve their abilities in humorous or dramatic speeches, or who would just like to gain confidence in speaking, are encouraged to take this class. **This course is a prerequisite for Hawktalkers Speech and Debate.**

Yoga

This course will offer students time in their day to work on their flexibility, stress relief, and physical fitness. Yoga will allow opportunities for self-reflection, the practice of kindness and self-compassion, and continued growth and self-awareness. Students will learn mindfulness and meditation skills to use in stressful situations. They will also be learning about the anatomy associated with asanas, and some sanskrit (language) terms. Mats are provided or students may purchase and use their own.

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE COURSES (1.0 credit each)

Academic Success Lab For ELL

As part of the EL program, EL students are entitled to extra support in their English development and core academic subjects. The goal of this course is to improve the completion and quality of the students' homework in all core subjects through individual/small group tutoring and develop their study skills to help them meet WIDA ELL standards for exiting the EL program. Another goal is to learn and assess the EL needs of the students and help their core classroom teachers create viable accommodations to ensure their success. The enrollment in this class requires the EL case manager's recommendation.

Band

All band students with previous experience need to register for this year-long course.

Students will be placed into 1 of 3 different bands based on an audition process that takes place in regular band classes in the Spring. The three groups are: **Hawk Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band.** Contact the teacher for audition information. All LAMS Bands perform no less than 6 out-of-school (evening) concerts including Music Performance Assessment (MPA) in March. There is a band retreat in the fall that all students are encouraged to attend. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for honor groups, play in small ensembles, and perform along with members of the LAHS Topper Band.

French I Part 1 (High School Credit)

(This course is a prerequisite for French I Part 2.)

This course provides the student with a broad introduction to the French language and culture. The four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing provide the foundation for this class. Students will acquire vocabulary and learn simple grammatical structures needed to communicate in real-life situations.

Students who successfully complete both French I Part 1 and French I Part 2 (both year-long courses) will receive one foreign language credit at Los Alamos High School. The year-end grades from these two courses will appear in the LAHS transcript, and will be included in the student's high school GPA.

Expectations and daily study:

- ❖ Approximately 15 minutes of vocabulary and grammar outside of class.
- ❖ **The student's end of year grade must be 80% or higher in order to advance from French I Part 1 to French I Part 2.**

This is a high-school credit level class. Successful completion of this course is a prerequisite for French Part 2.



Hawk Strings

This year-long course expands students' playing ability and technique on their string instrument. This class provides students with learning and performance opportunities on violin, viola, cello, and bass. The primary focus is the development and expansion of basic skills learned in 6th grade orchestra, which are necessary for effective instrumental music performance. The orchestra has several evening and daytime performances throughout the year. Other opportunities include Honor Orchestra, Solo and Ensemble, small ensembles, private lessons and Fiddle Fest. This class requires student individual practice for playing tests and concerts.

Introduction to Band

(No Previous Band Experience)

Join our award winning band program! Intro to Band is a beginning level class for any students interested in starting their journey on a band instrument. There is no prerequisite that students have any previous musical instrument experience. Students will choose an instrument, learn how to play, and perform in concerts. This is just the start and students will have many opportunities in the future to continue on their musical path.

Jazz Band

This course will meet at "Zero Hour" before school starts. **Co-Requisite:** Students playing band or orchestra instruments in Jazz Band must be enrolled in a band or orchestra class. Intro to Band students may not register for this course. Experienced students playing piano or guitar do not have to be enrolled in band or orchestra. Placement auditions will take place the second week of school, and students will be placed into separate ensembles. All ensembles will meet before school 2-3 times weekly. The LAMS jazz bands perform multiple times a year in a variety of venues. All students enrolled will have the opportunity to travel for an overnight retreat, compete in the Albuquerque Jazz Festival, and more.

LAMS Leadership (year-long)

(Offered as a semester and year-long course. Recommendation form REQUIRED, see page 29 Due February 16th by 3pm)

Do you want to help LAMS soar to its potential? If so, join LAMS Leadership. In this class, students will participate in Student Council activities such as planning dances, pep rallies, spirit weeks, and community service events. Students will work on developing leadership skills, community building, and becoming role models at LAMS. If you want to be an officer in the Student Council, you need to choose the year-long elective.

Spanish I Part 1 (High School Credit)

(This course is a prerequisite for Spanish I Part 2)

This course provides the student with a broad introduction to Spanish. The emphasis is on the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students acquire a base vocabulary and learn simple grammatical structures needed to communicate in real-life situations. The cultures of Spanish-speaking countries are also explored.

Daily study (~15 minutes per day) of vocabulary and grammar outside of class is required.

Students who successfully complete both Spanish I Part 1 and Spanish I Part 2 (both year-long courses) will receive 1 foreign language credit at Los Alamos High School. The year-end grades from these two courses will appear in the LAHS transcript, and will be included in the high school GPA calculation.

The student's end of year grade must be 80% or higher in order to advance from Spanish I Part 1 to Spanish I Part 2.

This is a high-school credit level class.

Unity Choir

This choir is open to all students who enjoy singing and wish to improve their musical skills. Emphasis is placed on learning good vocal



technique, singing in parts, basic music theory and sight reading. Choral music from a wide variety of musical styles and periods will be studied. Unity choir presents several concerts throughout the year, as well as special performances within the community.



8TH GRADE REQUIRED CURRICULUM

REQUIRED CLASSES FOR THE 8th GRADE

Physical education and health are required electives. Language arts, social studies, science and math are the required core classes.

Physical Education 8

In this class physical fitness and specific team and individual skills are stressed. A major component of this class is learning about muscular/skeletal systems, and physical fitness. Efforts are directed toward the development of positive attitudes in physical activities that will carry on throughout life. Each activity is presented in a manner that allows for skill development, participation, and competition.

Health

This course concentrates on the student's responsibility to maintain his or her own health. Medically recognized health risks are identified, and students develop an understanding that the risks can be reduced by healthy lifestyle choices. Adolescent growth and development, intra- and interpersonal relationships, peer and family relations, stress management, exercise, fitness, and identification of available health resources in our community are explored.

Language Arts 8

Designed to build skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. This course continues the preparation of students to become successful in high school, college, and in their careers. To develop independence in comprehension, evaluation, and argument construction, students are challenged with a variety of complex texts, including both literature and informational texts. Frequent writing assignments and research projects provide students the opportunity to build their skills in critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving,

while facilitating mastery in vocabulary and conventions of English.

Social Studies 8

The social studies curriculum covers American history from early exploration of the Americas, Colonization through Reconstruction. Common themes that are developed throughout the units include the growth of democracy, civil rights and liberties, economic and geographic development, conflict and cooperation, the influence of technology, cultural diversity, and the role of the U.S. in world affairs.

Science 8

A disciplined approach to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will be used. 8th grade science addresses the basic science disciplines with an emphasis on physical science. Students will study matter and energy, earth science, atomic structure, force and motion, electricity and magnetism, and wave phenomena. Students will use the scientific method/engineering design process to question, design, and conduct experiments in the study of all sciences. Emphasis is placed on learning appropriate lab techniques while analyzing, synthesizing, and developing critical thinking skills to problem solve. In eighth grade science, there is a greater emphasis on writing lab reports, keeping a lab notebook, and communicating conclusions with supporting evidence and reasoning.

Math Courses

8th graders are assigned to math classes according to their performance on district standardized tests, their seventh grade teachers' recommendations, and may be subject to administrative discretion. **If a student does not show adequate progress during the school year in a math class they may be placed in a more appropriate math class before the next**



quarter begins. Eighth graders are placed into one of the following math levels:

Math 8

The curriculum for this course is based on the Common Core State Standards for 8th grade math. Topics include: approximating irrational numbers with rational numbers; working with radicals and integer exponents; connecting proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations; analyzing and solving linear equations; defining, evaluating, and comparing functions; modeling relationships between quantities with functions; exploring congruence and similarity of polygons; applying the Pythagorean Theorem; investigating patterns of association in bivariate data; solving problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres.

Algebra I 8th

Prerequisite: *TEACHER RECOMMENDATION*

This course is equivalent to the accredited high school Algebra course. **Grades received in Algebra 8th will appear on the high school transcript** and count as one credit of the four required math credits for graduation in the state of New Mexico.

Topics include: describing patterns; investigating the real number system and its properties; finding percents; solving linear and absolute value functions and inequalities; solving systems of equations; evaluating functions; graphing linear and exponential equations; using rules of exponents; factoring and other operations with polynomials; exploring quadratics, rational functions, and radicals; simplifying rational and radical expressions; solving quadratic equations; introduction to statistics.

MS Geometry - Grade 8

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra I with a grade greater than B-.* This course is equivalent to the accredited high school Geometry course. Grades received in Geometry **will appear on the high school transcript** and count as one credit of the four

required math credits for graduation in the state of New Mexico. This course is a study of Euclidean geometry and includes: dimensional objects (lines, planes, polygons, circles and polyhedrons), angular measurement, congruency, similarity, deductive and inductive reasoning, formal proofs, relational computations (perimeter, area, volume), right triangle trigonometry, and practical applications. Algebraic concepts and techniques are integrated and emphasized throughout the course to aid in the understanding of geometric concepts and applications, and to reinforce proficiency in algebraic skills.

8th GRADE ELECTIVES

Staff, scheduling conflicts or low student requests may prevent ANY of the following courses from being offered.

There are numerous elective choices at LAMS. We are proud to offer a variety of options from which students may choose. Middle school is an excellent time for students to explore new things they may not have realized would be interesting and that can become lifelong passions.

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVE COURSES (0.5 credit each)

Academic Success Lab

The course will focus on building organization, communication skills, structural components of note-taking, enhancing self-esteem, practice creative problem solving, build executive function skills, and positive relationships. Students will explore a variety of career options plus develop their own career plan. A variety of post-high school opportunities will be discussed to help students make and achieve college and career goals.



Advanced Engineering Design With Shop Tools

(Prerequisite: Engineering Design With Shop Tools or Intro to Tech) This hands-on course immerses students in a variety of projects aimed at solving problems across engineering disciplines: mechanical, environmental, structural and industrial. Students will develop drafting skills for more sophisticated projects. Activities include designing sheet metal projects, hydroponics, toolboxes, fire mitigation and programming CNC (computer numeric control) router. *Students must demonstrate responsibility and the ability to follow directions carefully.*

Art 1

In this semester-long class, you will learn the elements and principles of art and practice creative problem solving in order to explore self-expression in your artistic creations. You will also participate in a variety of studio art projects and practice art techniques. We will cover drawing, painting, sculpture, art history, art concepts, pastel, mixed media, and clay. As a final, students will create a digital portfolio that will prepare them for future course work in the arts.

Astronomy

(This course is ONLY offered to 8th Grade students)

This course will have students investigating a diverse array of observable phenomena in the first half of the semester such as star positions and motion, moon and sun patterns and auroras. The second half of the semester explores more cosmic phenomena such as star and planetary formation, astrophysics of blackholes and the future of space travel. This course will include frequent hands-on labs and projects. Interested students should have a sound work ethic, a passion for science, strong interest in science

coursework, and an overall enthusiasm for astronomy and related topics.

Beginning Computer Concepts

We are excited that for the 2023-2024 school year, we will be reviewing how a computer works, cybersecurity, cyberbullying, exploring Python coding with CS CMU, and 3D printing with Tinkercad.

Crafts

This class is designed for those who enjoy working with a wide variety of art materials and trying new things! With an emphasis on hands-on activities and some basic instruction in drawing and painting, we will work with fabric arts, weave, sculpt, build, print, and glue to create a number of fun projects!

Drama

This one semester class is a *very basic* introduction to drama. Students will learn to write and act in a comedic skit and a mystery skit. They will also learn how to use their voice and body to create characters. The semester concludes with a pre-written on-stage performance.

Drawing

Do you enjoy drawing? Or maybe you have never tried it! Even if you think that you are not an artist or lack creativity, you can learn to draw. Drawing is a skill that can be learned, just like reading, cooking, or playing a sport: the more you practice, the better you will become. This course will teach basic drawing techniques in a variety of mediums: pencil, charcoal, chalk pastel, oil pastel, and pen & ink, among others. Some drawings will focus on the realistic style, while others will push students to experiment with abstraction and using their imagination.

Engineering Design with Shop Tools

Students will use hand tools in the shop to create prototypes in this STEM-oriented class. Using a project-based learning approach, students will



develop models to address problems and challenges, perform tests and make improvements. Sketching and drafting necessary for the design process are introduced. Due to the hands-on nature of this class, the ability to follow directions and shop safety rules is critical. Learning outcomes: Students will use iterative thinking and develop teamwork skills needed for the 21st century workplace.

Hawktalkers Speech and Debate Team
(8th grade students only. Offered as semester and year-long course)

Taking Speech as a 7th grader is a PREREQUISITE for this class. This co-curricular course, offered as either a semester-long or year-long class, builds on the foundation of the lessons learned in Speech. Students learn the foundations of debate, then choose either Lincoln-Douglas or Public Forum debate to hone and practice in at least two tournaments in the fall semester. They will have multiple opportunities to compete in tournaments in both the spring and fall semesters. Students often ask what the advantages to taking the year-long course vs the semester-long class are. According to students who have taken the year-long class, “it gives you a more solidified course to be able to engage with the content and your peers in speech and debate. It's a great elective to be able to understand the basic speech and debate events, while additionally getting a wider view about global and national politics. The year-long class also gives you time in class to work on debate cases in the Spring (if you are in the semester class, your debate case work will all be done on your own time), it's easier to get extra help before tournaments, fun Spring semester projects, field trips after tournament season is over and getting closer to the rest of the team, almost like a family. If you enjoy speaking, theater, presenting in front of people, or have a message you want to share, speech and debate is perfect for you!” There is a class fee - please see the Hawktalker Handbook or Mrs. Bublitz,

Hawktalkers' coach, for more information on fees and expectations for this class. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance.

Introduction to Ceramics and Sculpture

Art is so much more than flat paintings and drawings! Students will go beyond the canvas and into the third dimension with basic sculpture and ceramic handbuilding techniques. Students will create artwork by modeling, carving, and joining materials such as clay, wood, plaster, wire, and found objects.

Introduction to Computer Science

This is the second level of the three computer classes offered at LAMS. Projects are designed around the micro:bit microcontroller and its inputs, outputs, and makecode programming. If you like makerspaces and innovating technology, this class is for you. Content comes from [Micro:bit.org](https://microbit.org) **This course is a prerequisite for the next level class: Pre-Engineering/Robotics.**

Introduction to Forensics

Interested in solving crimes? Going beyond what you see on TV? Let's see what forensics is really like. How about learning the ways of a CSI? This course will cover the basic techniques of forensic science to determine the circumstances surrounding criminal acts- the who, why, and how of what transpired. Students can expect hands-on and lab group projects that focus on fingerprints, handwriting analysis, shoe print analysis, blood spatter, crime scene photos/sketches cases, etc. Those who wish to take this course should have a high interest in working with others, researching, being creative, as well as a strong interest in Science overall. Seeking those with strong work ethic, and the capacity to conduct themselves in small or large group settings.

Introduction to Photography

This course introduces students to the basics



of photography. Topics include; camera functions, photo composition, lighting and much more. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph with a range of subjects. Students will also learn to use basic photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of settings and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

LAMS Leadership

(Offered as a semester and year-long course. Recommendation form REQUIRED, see page 29 Due February 16th by 3pm)

Do you want to help LAMS soar to its potential? If so, join LAMS Leadership. In this class, students will participate in Student Council activities such as planning dances, pep rallies, spirit weeks, and community service events. Students will work on developing leadership skills, community building, and becoming role models at LAMS. If you want to be an officer in the Student Council, you need to choose the year-long elective.

Lifetime Fitness and Games

This course is designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills to lead a physically active and healthy lifestyle. Students who are enrolled in the Recreation Sports course will participate in various lifetime sport activities; including practicing yoga, team sports, individual workouts, weight-lifting, cardio, and other games.

Makerspace & LEGO Machines

This semester course includes two courses in one. Students will explore Hawk Makerspace for one quarter and Simple and Powered Machines with Legos in the other quarter. In Hawk Makerspace students will create STEAM projects and crafts. This class will include building catapults, making jewelry and making various

contraptions with straws. Simple and Powered Machines with Legos enables students to work as young scientists, engineers, and designers providing them with settings, tools and activities that promote engineering design, science and mathematics. Students will develop teamwork skills essential to success throughout their careers and other relationships.

Pre-Engineering/Robotics

(Prerequisite: Introduction to Computer Science. 8th grade students only.) From simple machines to more complex automated and mechanical systems, we will work in pair teams to develop and advance our understanding of basic engineering and robotics, and possibly prepare for a competition. Content comes from VEX EXP Stem Labs and Robotic Competitions. Class fee for VEX Robotics equipment and maintenance.

Recreational Reading

Students read for pleasure in this elective. They may select fiction, nonfiction, novels, graphic novels, comic books, newspapers, or magazines. All reading material must be approved as school appropriate by the teacher. This class is not a study hall, but time for students to explore more books in their favorite genres and participate in the Battle of the Books.

Speech

Speech is a one-semester course that focuses on developing self-expression, thinking ability, advocacy, critical thinking, self-confidence, and oral presentation skills. Students will use what they learn about listening, nonverbal communication, effective language and delivery, to create speeches that inform, persuade, and entertain. Students interested in continuing to improve their abilities in humorous or dramatic speeches, or who would just like to gain confidence in speaking, are encouraged to take this class. **This course is a prerequisite for Hawktalkers Speech and Debate.**



Yoga

This course will offer students time in their day to work on their flexibility, stress relief, and physical fitness. Yoga will allow opportunities for self-reflection, the practice of kindness and self-compassion, and continued growth and self-awareness. Students will learn mindfulness and meditation skills to use in stressful situations. They will also be learning about the anatomy associated with asanas, and some sanskrit (language) terms. Mats are provided or students may purchase and use their own.

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE COURSES (1.0 credit each)

Academic Success Lab For ELL

As part of the EL program, EL students are entitled to extra support in their English development and core academic subjects. The goal of this course is to improve the completion and quality of the students' homework in all core subjects through individual/small group tutoring and develop their study skills to help them meet WIDA ELL standards for exiting the EL program. Another goal is to learn and assess the EL needs of the students and help their core classroom teachers create viable accommodations to ensure their success. The enrollment in this class requires the EL case manager's recommendation.

Band

All band students with previous experience need to register for this year-long course.

Students will be placed into 1 of 3 different bands based on an audition process that takes place in regular band classes in the Spring. The three groups are: **Hawk Band**, **Concert Band**, and **Symphonic Band**. Contact the teacher for audition information on how to audition. All LAMS Bands perform no less than 6 out-of-school (evening) concerts including Music Performance Assessment (MPA) in March. There is a band retreat in the fall that all students are

encouraged to attend. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for honor groups, play in small ensembles, and perform along with members of the LAHS Topper Band.

Concert Strings

Concert Strings 8th Grade Orchestra is the Middle School's most advanced performing ensemble for students playing stringed instruments. This class is a continuation of Hawk Strings and builds and expands on the techniques introduced in that class: position work, shifting, tuning in 5ths, vibrato, bowing styles, music theory, and audition experience. More advanced literature is studied. The orchestra performs several evening and daytime performances.

French I Part 2 (*High School Credit*)

(Prerequisite: Completion of French I Part 1 with minimum of 80% end of year grade.)

This course extends and improves the student's knowledge of French from French I Part 1. Students continue to acquire vocabulary and learn grammatical structures for real-life situations (restaurants, travel, shopping, etc.).

Daily study (~15 minutes per day) of vocabulary and grammar outside of class is required.

Students who successfully complete each year of French I Part 1 and French I Part 2 (both year-long courses) will receive 1 foreign language credit at Los Alamos High School. The year-end grades from these two courses will appear in the LAHS transcript, and will be included in the high school GPA calculation.

For placement purposes, the student's end of year grade in French I Part 2 *must be an average of 80% or higher* in order to advance from French I Part 2 to French 2 at Los Alamos High School.

This is a high-school credit level class.



Hawktalkers Speech and Debate Team

(8th grade students only. Offered as semester and year-long course)

Taking Speech as a 7th grader is a prerequisite for this class. This co-curricular course, offered as either a semester-long or year-long class, builds on the foundation of the lessons learned in Speech. Students learn four types of debate, practicing at least one at competitive tournaments throughout the year. There is a class fee - please see the Hawktalker Handbook or Mrs. Bubnitz, Hawktalkers' coach, for more information on fees and expectations for this class. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance.

Introduction to Band

(No Previous Band Experience)

Join our award winning band program! Intro to Band is a beginning level class for any students interested in starting their journey on a band instrument. There is no prerequisite that students have any previous musical instrument experience. Students will choose an instrument, learn how to play, and perform in concerts. This is just the start and students will have many opportunities in the future to continue on their musical path.

Jazz Band

This course will meet at "Zero Hour" before school starts. **Co-Requisite:** Students playing band or orchestra instruments in Jazz Band must be enrolled in a band or orchestra class. Intro to Band students may not register for this course. Experienced students playing piano or guitar do not have to be enrolled in band or orchestra. Placement auditions will take place the second week of school, and students will be placed into two separate ensembles. Both ensembles, Jazz Band 1 and Jazz Band 2, will meet before school 2-3 times weekly. The LAMS jazz bands perform multiple times a year in a variety of venues. All students enrolled will have the opportunity to travel for an overnight retreat, compete in the Albuquerque Jazz Festival, and more.

Journalism/Yearbook

(8th grade students only. Recommendation form REQUIRED, see page 28 Due February 16th by 3pm) This is a year-long course with a limited enrollment of 20 students, open to 8th graders ONLY due to the Federal stipulation on the age children can have accounts on-line. Students will learn the basics of photojournalism, how to work collaboratively, and the necessary steps in creating the LAMS yearbook. Students will also create our monthly e-newspaper for publication in the school and possibly on the LAMS homepage. All students desiring enrollment in this course must have a teacher complete the attached recommendation form and have that teacher email it or place it in Ms. Harlow's box by February 16th. Additionally, students must type a one-paragraph explanation of why they would like to take this class, emphasizing their skills and abilities in the areas of potential, work ethic, and attitude. This should be turned in to Ms. Harlow or the office by February 16th, also. Students will be expected to behave at all times in a responsible and respectful manner in order to remain in the class.

LAMS Leadership (year-long)

(Offered as a semester and year-long course. Recommendation form REQUIRED, see page 29 Due February 16th by 3pm)

Do you want to help LAMS soar to its potential? If so, join LAMS Leadership. In this class, students will participate in Student Council activities such as planning dances, pep rallies, spirit weeks, and community service events. Students will work on developing leadership skills, community building, and becoming role models at LAMS. If you want to be an officer in the Student Council, you need to choose the year-long elective.

Spanish I Part 2 (High School Credit)

(Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish I Part 1 with a minimum of 80% end of year grade.)

This course extends and improves the student's knowledge of Spanish from Spanish I Part 1.



Students continue to acquire vocabulary and learn grammatical structures for real-life situations (restaurants, travel, shopping, etc.).

Daily study (~15 minutes per day) of vocabulary and grammar outside of class is required.

Students who successfully complete each year of Spanish I Part 1 and Spanish I Part 2 (both year-long courses) will receive 1 foreign language credit at Los Alamos High School. The year-end grades from these two courses will appear in the LAHS transcript, and will be included in the high school GPA calculation.

For placement purposes, the student's end of year grades in Spanish I Part 1 and Spanish I Part 2 *must average to be 80% or higher* in order to advance from Spanish I Part 2 to Spanish 2 at Los Alamos High School.

This is a high-school credit level class.

Unity Choir

This choir is open to all students who enjoy singing and wish to improve their musical skills. Emphasis is placed on learning good vocal technique, singing in parts, basic music theory and sight-reading. Choral music from a wide variety of musical styles and periods will be studied. Unity choir presents several concerts throughout the year, as well as special performances within the community.

ONLINE ELECTIVE SIGN-UP WORKSHEET

Explanation: Each student will first request their primary elective choices, or the electives they really want. If the student selects too many/too few credits, there will be an error message "**Request Submission Failed**". The student will have to enter the correct number of elective choices before the elective selection process can be completed.

DO NOT MAKE THE ALTERNATE ELECTIVE CHOICES THE SAME AS THE PRIMARY

ELECTIVE. If alternate electives are the same, the student will get a primary elective choice that s/he may not like if an alternate has to be used. The online registration process requires at least four (4) alternate elective choices. If for some reason, one of your primary elective choices will not work, we will attempt to give you the alternate elective.

7TH AND 8TH GRADE ELECTIVES WORKSHEET

Use this worksheet to help plan which electives you want to take during your 7th/8th grade years at LAMS. Every effort is made to give each student the courses he or she prefers; however, scheduling conflicts and budget constraints may prevent a student from receiving his or her elective choices.

DO NOT MAKE THE ALTERNATE ELECTIVE CHOICES THE SAME AS THE PRIMARY ELECTIVE.



7th Grade Required: Language Arts 7 Social Studies 7 Math Science 7 Physical Education(Semester)	8th Grade Required: Language Arts 8 Social Studies 8 Math Science 8 Physical Education(Semester) Health(Semester)
Electives: 5 semester courses or 2 year-long courses and a semester course (or any combination) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ Alternates: _____ _____ _____ _____ Notes:	Electives: 4 semester courses or 2 year-long courses (or any combination) _____ _____ _____ _____ Alternates: _____ _____ _____ _____ Notes:

HOW TO REQUEST COURSES USING POWERSCHOOL FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

1. Create a list of the electives you will request using the “Online Elective Sign Up” handout in the registration packet. Electives are the only classes requested by students, all other core classes (language arts, social studies, math, science, PE, and health (8th grade) are added by the registrar.
Request first the classes the student most wants under electives, with classes the student least wants on the bottom under alternate electives.
2. Log in to PowerSchool at <https://laps.powerschool.com/public/home.html> or go to the laschools.net webpage and click on PowerSchool. Sign in using the parent or student’s login credentials. Either account will work. If you need help with PowerSchool, please contact the registrar at h.gonzalez@laschools.net or 663-2407.



PowerSchool

Student and Parent Sign In

[Sign In](#) [Create Account](#)

Select Language English ▾

Username

Password

[Forgot Username or Password?](#)

[Sign In](#)

3. Once you log in, you will see the following menu. Click on “Class Registration”.

Navigation

- Grades and Attendance
- Grade History
- Standards Based Report Card
- Standards Based Report Card
- Student Transcript
- Attendance History
- Teacher Comments
- School Bulletin
- Class Registration
- Balance
- My Schedule
- School Information
- Message Sender

District Code
SXHB

Welcome to the LOS ALAMOS MIDDLE SCHOOL Class Registration System for 2020-2021

You must select 2.5 credits of elective classes to complete your 7th grade schedule.

You may take two (2) year-long electives and one (1) semester elective,
OR one (1) year-long elective and three (3) semester electives,
OR five (5) semester electives.

The course catalog is available at the Middle School webpage, <http://laschools.net/lams>.

Alternate course choices need to be different from the primary courses chosen.

Contact the LAMS registrar if you have questions at 663-2407 or r.schmitz@laschools.net.

Course selection is not first come first serve. You can select electives any time between January 30 and February 7 by returning to this page and submitting your new selections. After February 7th, contact the registrar to make changes.

[View course requests](#)

ELECTIVES REQUESTS	Click the edit button to request a course ➡	
Please choose 3 to 5 electives by clicking the "pencil" icon located on the right side of the screen.		
The sum of credits for all Elective Choices needs to equal 2.5.		
Number of requests to generate : 1		
ALTERNATE ELECTIVES REQUESTS	Click the edit button to request a course ➡	
Select at least four (4) alternate electives, different than the primary courses chosen.		
Number of requests to generate : 1		
Additional Requests	Click the edit button to request a course ➡	
Requests that are currently not associated with any requirement group.		
Requires 2.5 credit hours.		
Requesting 0 credit hours.		
Requesting 0 additional credit hours.		

4. Read the registration page before beginning.



5. Click the Pencil icon to request a course or modify an existing request. The red exclamation mark indicates a requirement has not been met.



- A green Checkmark icon indicates the request listed satisfies the requirements of the course group or the entry is not required.

6. Do not select a class more than once. A student can take a class only once in a school year.



ELECTIVES REQUESTS							
☐	CREATIVE WRITING	603B	Creative Writing Do you love writing? This course is designed to give students the opportunity to think and write creatively. The goal of the course is to encourage students to love writing. This class is about exploring the different writing genres: poetry, freelance writing, storytelling or whatever you choose to explore in your writing.	0.5			
☒	CULTURAL LANGUAGE	602A	Cultural Language This course gives the students an opportunity to explore several languages. The students will also learn world geography as well as information about different customs and traditions from various countries around the world. Some of the cultural components may include art, music, food, national holidays and celebrations, travel and tourism, currency, and history.	0.5			
☐	DRAWING	697DR	Drawing Do you enjoy drawing? Or maybe you have	0.5			

7. Scroll down to view more courses. Use the navigation buttons to view courses in the other pages.

☐	UNITY CHOIR	708	This choir is open to all students who enjoy singing and wish to improve their musical skills. Emphasis is placed on learning good vocal technique, singing in parts, basic music theory and sight reading. Choral music from a wide variety of musical styles and periods will be studied. Unity presents several concerts throughout the year, as well as special performances within the community.	1		
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<< first < prev 1 2 3 4 next > last >>

✔ You may select 1 course. You have selected 1 course(s).

Cancel Okay

8. Click **Okay** at the bottom of the screen to select the electives. Or click the “Cancel” button to return to the main screen without submitting the class.

9. When classes are correctly submitted, the red exclamation mark will change to a green check mark. A white box with the course name selected (i.e. Drawing), the course number (i.e. 697DR), and the number of credits the class is worth (0.5) will appear next to the title of the elective choice.



10. Repeat steps 4-9 for the alternate electives choices. **DO NOT MAKE THE ALTERNATE ELECTIVE CHOICES THE SAME AS THE PRIMARY ELECTIVE.** If alternate electives are the same, the student will get a primary elective choice that s/he may not like if an alternate has to be used. Essentially, if we can get the student into her/his primary elective choice, we will.

ELECTIVES REQUESTS Please choose 3 to 5 electives by clicking the "pencil" icon located on the right side of the screen. The sum of credits for all Elective Choices needs to equal 2.5. Number of requests to generate : 1	CULTURAL LANGUAGE 602A - 0.5 credits This course gives the	CREATIVE WRITING 603B - 0.5 credits Do you love writing/ This	FINE ARTS 683 - 1 credits How do you create art from	DRAWING 697DR - 0.5 credits Do you enjoy drawing? Or	
ALTERNATE ELECTIVES REQUESTS Select at least four (4) alternate electives, different than the primary courses chosen. Number of requests to generate : 1	RECREATIONAL READING 615R - 0.5 credits Students read for pleasure	MUSIC EXPLORATION 703 - 0.5 credits In this fun semester class,	UNITY CHOIR 708 - 1 credits This choir is open to all	SPEECH 755 - 0.5 credits Speech is a course that	
Additional Requests Click the edit button to request a course ➡					
Requests that are currently not associated with any requirement group.					
Requires 2.5 credit hours. Requesting 2.5 credit hours. Requesting 0 additional credit hours.					

Submit

11. Scan the page to make sure there are no red exclamation marks. Once you have no red exclamation marks, scroll down to the bottom of the screen and click submit. **Submit** The credit hour at the bottom of the screen counts only primary elective choices, not alternates.

12. The courses requested plus the courses the registrar has added are visible. To make changes, click on the "Class Registration" icon and repeat the steps above. Requests can be edited online any time until **February 14th**. After this date, please contact LAMS at 663-2407 or email h.gonzalez@laschools.net to make changes. This screen is in order by course number, not by preference.

Crs Num	Course	Type	Cr Hrs	Prerequisite Notes
1. 602A	CULTURAL LANGUAGE	Elective	0.50	
2. 603B	CREATIVE WRITING	Elective	0.50	
3. 683	FINE ARTS	Elective	1.00	
4. 697DR	DRAWING	Elective	0.50	
Total Credit Hours Requested			2.50	
1. 615R	RECREATIONAL READING	Alternate	0.50	
2. 703	MUSIC EXPLORATION	Alternate	0.50	
3. 708	UNITY CHOIR	Alternate	1.00	
4. 755	SPEECH	Alternate	0.50	This class is a prerequisite for Hawktalkers Speech & Debate.
Total Alternate Hours Requested			2.50	



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SCHEDULES

The middle school gives an opportunity to **explore and sample different interest areas and broaden students' horizons.**

Students are scheduled based on the availability of the courses requested. Because LAMS is only able to offer one section of some of the elective classes, enrollment may be limited. Every effort is made to give each student the courses he or she prefers, however, scheduling conflicts and budget constraints may prevent a student from receiving his or her elective choices. Los Alamos Public Schools reserves the right to not offer all courses listed in this course offering. Actual courses offered are dependent on sufficient requests to fill a class section.

Scheduling conflicts occur which may prevent a student from getting his or her first choice of the electives. Therefore, students need to provide four alternate choices of interest.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

No elective changes will be made after the first week of the semester. Changes to a student's schedule may only be made for the following reasons:

1. Case manager-initiated changes via the IEP process.
2. Teacher-initiated content level changes (e.g. Algebra to Math 8).
3. Computer error.
4. Balancing the classes.

HAWK TEAMS

There are six Hawk teams on campus: Silver Hawk 7, Sky Hawk 7, Atomic Hawk 7, Black Mesa Hawk 8, Lightning Hawk 8, and Thunder Hawk 8. All LAMS students are assigned a team for their core subjects (ELA, Social Studies, Math, Science). Hawk teams are randomly assigned.

SPORTS PROGRAMS

LAMS offers an interscholastic sports program that requires practice after school. Students should anticipate a 2-hour minimum practice commitment per night. Students must comply with New Mexico Athletic Association (NMAA) rules for eligibility. Completed SchoolMint Registration including the Athletic tab and physical exam are required prior to participation (including tryouts). Athletes must have a physical after April 1 in order to participate in sports for the following school year. Parents are strongly encouraged to schedule athletic physicals in May, June, or July, as local medical offices can be very busy in mid to late August.

STUDENTS NEW TO THE DISTRICT

In order to enroll your son/daughter in the Los Alamos School District, bring any pertinent academic reports and provide the following: Rental/Lease/Mortgage/Closing Agreement, Los Alamos County Utility Bill, Birth Certificate, Immunization Records. The registration link on the LAMS home page <https://lams.laschools.net/> has all the information for new students and all formal registration forms.

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

According to Los Alamos School Board Policy 5127, a LAMS student record of high school level math and foreign language will become a part of the student's high school transcript. If a LAMS student completes Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish I Part 1/Part 2, French I Part 1/Part 2 at LAMS, the high school credit will be



recorded in his/her LAHS transcript. Courses must be taken at LAMS to receive credit in the LAHS transcript. LAHS will not accept credit outside of LAMS.

ONLINE CREDIT

LAMS does not offer credit for online courses.



SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION FOR LAMS

All placements should be based on the least restrictive environment as stated in the PL94-142 and are based on individual needs and IEP goals as determined by eligibility and IEP teams.

General Education-Mainstream:

Mainstream support is provided in the General Education setting with provision of accommodations outlined in the IEP. Students are expected to progress with general education curriculum with minimal support. Specialized instruction is not generally provided and there is not a need for content area IEP goals. A student that is receiving mainstream support is demonstrating grade-level abilities or abilities that are approaching grade level.

General Education- Inclusion:

In the inclusion setting, students who are on IEPs attend classes that are supported by special education staff members in the general education classroom. Students have access to large group, small group, and 1:1 instruction as appropriate in this setting. Students have accommodations and IEP goals in that content area. Students may need work and tests modified to show mastery of grade-level standards.

Academic Enrichment Course (AEC):

Academic Enrichment Course (which is an elective) can be provided to support students who have IEPs. Lessons related to behavioral, executive function skills, and academic IEP goals will be taught within the Academic Enrichment Course. Students **may** receive support on beginning their academic assignments (approximately one class period per week). A teacher with Special Education certification will provide support in the Academic Enrichment Course. Students who demonstrate academic skills that are approximately one-year to one-and-a-half-years below grade level or who demonstrate grade level skills but need support to participate in the general education classroom are appropriately supported through the Academic Enrichment Course. Ancillary services could be provided during this class also. Grades in AEC will be based on participation, agenda checks, etc. This is not a study hall but a class that focuses on teaching specific skills.

Self-Contained Support:

Self-contained supports are provided by a qualified Special Education teacher. Class sizes are generally smaller. Curriculum is modified and instruction is specialized to support progress with academic and functional goals outlined in the IEP. Self-contained supports are provided to students who demonstrate a need for significant academic support and who demonstrate academic skills that are two or more grade levels below, as demonstrated by a combination of classroom data and summative assessments. Self contained students need major modifications of work to be successful. Self-contained supports are provided for Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science content. This is not based upon student effort or work completion/refusal to work.

Positive Support Program:

All students must have an IEP and a Behavior Plan with significant behavioral needs. Students may need a self-contained setting provided by the PSP teacher, or they may be in the self-contained or regular ed classroom with support.

**Life Skills Program:**

The Living Skills Classroom at LAMS is a very busy place. Students placed in this program are served through individualized, specialized instruction. These students qualify for/need intensive support in order to develop functional life skills. Lessons are based on Individual Education Plans (IEP) and focus on progress toward meeting goals and objectives. Educators (teachers, IA's and therapists) work together to provide an exciting, safe and fun environment filled with opportunities to learn. Academic skill development focuses on functional and practical application of skills.

All students are given an opportunity to participate in electives daily as part of the school community. When appropriate, students will be included in as many self-contained core classes as possible outside the Living Skills classroom.

Related Services:

All related services (Speech/Language, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Vision and Mobility) are based on educational qualifications, and students will have a goal in their IEP in the area of need. Related services could be a range of: consult services, in-class support, individual/group setting, or a combination.

Clinical Counseling: Students must have an emotional, social, mental health impairment which negatively impacts their ability to access their education. Students must have an IEP goal in this area.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION (GATE)

GATE Information During the Hawk Sampler

Monday, February 6th from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm in Room 247. Parents of 6th grade students currently in the GATE program are invited to hear about the gifted program at LAMS.

GATE Through Math: - Students identified with higher ability in math will be placed in accelerated classes, differentiated by level. Therefore, students may receive GATE services through math acceleration.

GATE Through English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science:

Students will have the opportunity to receive GATE services through cluster grouping of at least five GATE students in a core class. These students will be enriched by being in a GATE supported class.

GATE Through Art, Music, Foreign Language, and Other Electives: Students also have the opportunity to register for electives to meet their gifted needs. *Students are encouraged to choose electives that fit their area of strength.*

Exiting the GATE program:

A student and their parent may elect for the student to exit the GATE IEP program if it is felt that the regular education program or the above options offer sufficient enrichment and challenge and additional activities are not necessary at this time. If a student chooses to exit the GATE IEP, the student will no



longer receive GATE services through an IEP. They may re-enter the program by requesting an IEP at any time.



LAMS HAWK YEARBOOK STAFF RECOMMENDATION FORM

STUDENT NAME _____

GENDER M F

Please write a one-paragraph explanation of why you would like to take this class, emphasizing your skills and abilities in the areas of potential, work ethic, and attitude.

TEACHER COMPLETING RECOMMENDATION _____

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate this student in the following areas:

	<u>Work Ethic:</u> student's ability to complete work assigned correctly and on time without excuses or whining; student's ability to work with others as a team	<u>Responsibility:</u> student's ability to be accountable for actions, attitudes, work, and assignments, and to be reliable in completion of tasks assigned in all classes	<u>Respect:</u> student's ability to maintain courtesy toward others, particularly when entering/exiting a class in session	<u>Attitude:</u> student's overall outlook toward school, teachers, and peers	<u>Potential:</u> student's promise and drive in the areas of work ethic, responsibility, respect, and attitude
1 = Exemplary; Enthusiastic					
2 = Very Good; Cooperative					
3 = Good; Neutral					
4 = Fair; Uncooperative					
5 = Poor; Disruptive					

OTHER COMMENTS THAT WILL HELP THE SELECTION COMMITTEE DECIDE:



LAMS LEADERSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM
(Please return to c.wadlington@laschools.net when completed.)

STUDENT NAME:

TEACHER COMPLETING RECOMMENDATION:

Please note that creating the LAMS Leadership is a big commitment. Your honesty in filling out this form is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate this student in the following areas:

	<u>Work Ethic:</u> student's ability to complete work assigned correctly and on time without excuses or whining; student's ability to work with others as a team.	<u>Responsibility:</u> student's ability to be accountable for actions, attitudes, work, and assignments, and to be reliable in completion of tasks assigned in all classes.	<u>Respect:</u> student's ability to maintain courtesy toward others, particularly when entering/exiting a class in session.	<u>Attitude:</u> student's overall outlook toward school, teachers, and peers.	<u>Potential:</u> student's promise and drive in the areas of work ethic, responsibility, respect, and attitude.
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COMMENTS THAT WILL HELP THE SELECTION COMMITTEE DECIDE:

