



2025-2026

Middle School Course Catalog

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Important Contact Information	3
General Contacts	3
Administration	3
General Information	4
Grading Information	4
Weighted & Unweighted Grades	4
Incomplete Grades	5
Honor Roll	5
Add/Drop Procedures	5
Middle School Multi-Year Plan	7
Middle School Block Schedule	8
Middle School Elective Options	9
English Electives	12
Math Electives	14
STEM Electives	17
Music & Performing Arts Electives	19
Art Electives	20
PE Electives	22
Additional Electives	22

Important Contact Information

General Contacts

Main Office	970-833-5190
Fax Number	970-833-5188
Attendance Line	970-833-5191
Address	810 Automation Drive, Windsor, CO 80550
School Hours	8:15 a.m. to 3:21 p.m.
Office Hours	7:35 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Administration

Name	Position	Email @windsorcharteracademy.org
Dr. Rebecca Teeples	Executive Director	rebecca.teeples@
Kelly Seilbach	Director of Middle School Education	kelly.seilbach@
Valerie Perciante	Middle School Assistant Principal	valerie.perciante@
Shaun Fitzpatrick	Dean of Students	shaun.fitzpatrick@
Lydia Boyes	Counselor	lydia.boyes@
Chris West	Athletic Director	chris.west@

General Information

Windsor Charter Academy's (WCA) vision is to ensure that our schools are a place "where students are educated, empowered, and equipped to reach their highest potential." This guide is designed to help you and your parents plan your coursework at Windsor Charter Academy Middle School. It is important to seek the help of parents, teachers, counselors, and administrators in planning an educational program to fit your needs. Each student should strive to get the best preparation out of his or her time in middle school in order to be successful at WCA's Early College High School.

Grading Information

Weighted & Unweighted Grades

A cumulative GPA is calculated for all middle school level courses based on the number of credits received utilizing a 4.0 (unweighted) and 4.5 (weighted) scale.

- Middle school courses are calculated on a 4.0 scale.
- Honors courses are calculated on a weighted 4.5 scale

WCA MS 4.0 Scale					WCA MS Honors 4.5 Scale				
Score	Name	Minimum %	GPA Value	GPA Unweighted Value	Score	Name	Minimum %	GPA Value	GPA Unweighted Value
A	A	90	4	4	A	A	90	4.5	4
B	B	80	3	3	B	B	80	3.6	3
C	C	70	2	2	C	C	70	3.1	2
D	D	60	1	1	D	D	60	2.7	1
F	F	0	0	0	F	F	0	0	0
PS	Pass	0	0	0	PS	Pass	0	0	0
FL	Fail	0	0	0	FL	Fail	0	0	0
I	Incomplete	0	0	0	I	Incomplete	0	0	0
NG	No Grade	0	0	0	NG	No Grade	0	0	0
WF	Withdrawal Fail	0	0	0	WF	Withdrawal Fail	0	0	0

*A student in a middle school course may receive pass/fail grading only as approved on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the student's counselor and school administration. A student must achieve the equivalent of 60% grade work in order to pass a course that is graded pass/fail.

Incomplete Grades

A grade of I (Incomplete) is assigned when, due to extenuating circumstances, a student has not completed sufficient coursework for the teacher to assess student work and assign a grade reflective of the student's achievement (e.g. due to extended illness or recent enrollment in the class). It is not an alternative to a grade of F, which reflects failure to achieve.

Assignment of a grade of I requires the approval of the student's counselor and academic administrator. The teacher is responsible for converting a grade of I to a regular letter grade no more than three weeks after the end of the grading period. Additional time requires administrator approval. If a student does not complete missing assignments by this deadline, each missing assignment receives a score of zero percent and the grade calculation for the applicable grading period will be made on this basis.

Honor Roll

Students at WCA will receive academic recognition each quarter based on the following criteria:

Honor Roll	High Honor Roll	Dean's List
3.60 - 3.79	3.80 - 3.94	3.95 - 4.00+

Add/Drop Procedures

The master schedule is created from the course selections students make during registration in the spring. Staffing of these courses is then assigned accordingly. It is explained and impressed upon students that schedule changes are very difficult to make. Consideration of course selection is a very important and serious process. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to formulate class schedules together, as course changes and drops are restricted.

The last day to add or drop a class is before the completion of 15% of the course. Typically, this is about a week and a half for semester-long courses.

Schedule changes are made for reasons of: class conflicts, failing a core class, school error, imbalance of class size, or incomplete schedules.

Students who drop a class after the add/drop deadline will be issued a grade of WF (withdraw fail), which will be recorded on the student's transcript. This grade impacts the student's cumulative grade point average (GPA) and the WF calculates the same as an F.

Middle School Multi-Year Plan

Grade	Language Arts	Mathematics		Social Studies	Science	PE/Spanish	Art/Music	Electives
6th	ENG 6	MAT 6		HIS 6	SCI 6	PE/SPA 6	ART 6	See course descriptions for elective options 1 and 2
						PE/STEM 6	MUS 6	
7th	ENG 7	MAT 07	Pre-Algebra	HIS 7	SCI 7	PE/SPA 7	ART 7	
						PE/STEM 7	MUS 7	
8th	ENG 8	MAT 30	MAT 08	HIS 8	SCI 8	PE/SPA 8	ART 8	
						PE/STEM 8	MUS 8	

Middle School Elective Options

Course Offerings That Fulfill Elective Requirements			
Course #	Course Name	Quarter/Semester/Year	Fee Per Semester
ELE 01	Creative Writing	Q	\$0
ELE 08	Speech & Debate	Q	\$0
ELE 09	Book Club	Q	\$0
ELE 15	Math Games	Q	\$0
ELE 17	Young Entrepreneurs	Q	\$0
ELE 18	Stock Market Game	Q	\$0
ELE 19	Journalism	Q	\$0
ELE 23	Graphic Novels	Q	\$0
ELE 24 A	Computer Science Discoveries I	Q	\$0
ELE 25	3D Printing	Q	\$15
ELE 26	Science in Movies & Media	Q	\$0
ELE 29 A	Circuits	Q	\$5
ELE 31	Beginner Lego Robotics	Q	\$0
ELE 32	Mastering Chess	Q	\$0
ELE 33	Brain Pad Arcade	Q	\$0
ELE 35	Yearbook	Q	\$0
ELE 38	Household Engineering	Q	\$10
ELE 40	Concert Band	S	\$30
ELE 41	Choir	S	\$20
ELE 42	Drama	S	\$20
ELE 44	Symphonic Band	S	\$30
ELE 47	Theater	S	\$30

Course Offerings That Fulfill Elective Requirements			
Course #	Course Name	Quarter/Semester/Year	Fee Per Semester
ELE 49	VEX Robotics	Q	\$10
ELE 50	DIY Crafts	Q	\$0
ELE 52	Film Studies - Sports Edition	Q	\$0
ELE 53	3D Art	Q	\$20
ELE 55	Digital Photography	Q	\$20
ELE 56	Film Studies	Q	\$0
ELE 58	Comics & Zines	Q	\$25
ELE 59	Origami	Q	\$5
ELE 64	Dance	Q	\$0
ELE 67	Influence of Music	Q	\$0
ELE 68	Film Through History	Q	\$0
ELE 69	Stationary and letter-writing	Q	\$30
ELE 71	Problem Solving & Games	Q	\$0
ELE 73	Study Skills	S	\$0
ELE 74	Elementary School Teacher's Aide	Q	\$0
ELE 75	Project Based Learning	Q	\$20
ELE 83	Literacy Lab	Q	\$0
ELE 87	Advanced Studio Art	Q	\$20
ELE 92	6th Grade Everyday Math	Q	\$0
ELE 93	7th Grade Everyday Math	S	\$0
ELE 94	8th Grade Everyday Math	S	\$0
ELE 95	Everyday Integrated Math	S	\$0
ELE 96	Poetry	Q	\$0
Course Offerings That Fulfill Elective Requirements			

Course #	Course Name	Quarter/Semester/Year	Fee Per Semester
ELE 99	Cup Stacking	Q	\$0
ELE 101	Introduction to Cybersecurity	Q	\$0
ELE 103	WCA 101	Q	\$0
ELE 104	Competitive Sports & Games	Q	\$0
ELE 105	Success Principles for Teens	Q	\$14
ELE 108	Screenwriting	Q	\$0
ELE 109	Coding	Q	\$0
ELE 110	Disney Engineering	Q	\$10
ELE 111	Japanese Culture & History	Q	\$10
ELE 112	2D Art	Q	\$20
ELE 113	Advanced Painting	Q	\$20
ELE 114	Vintage Card & Board Games	Q	\$5
ELE 115	French Culture	Q	\$10
ELE 116	CPR/First Aid	Q	\$0
ELE 117	World Cultures	Q	\$10

English Electives

Creative Writing		
Course #	ELE 01	This course is for students who love to write! Students will learn how to play Dungeons and Dragons, a tabletop role-playing game that incorporates vocabulary building, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, listening, storytelling, and imagination growth. Students will utilize their creative writing skills to build character backstories, and also create a small Dungeons and Dragons campaign.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Speech and Debate		
Course #	ELE 08	Speech and Debate is for students who want to learn more about styles of speech and debate. Students will write their speeches and practice them in class to receive feedback to prepare for class competitions.
MS Credit	0.25	

Length	Quarter	
---------------	----------------	--

Book Club		
Course #	ELE 09	Book Club is designed for students who enjoy reading, discussing books, and exploring diverse titles and genres. All levels of readers are invited to join the Book Club. The teacher will facilitate small group discussions to support students as they explore personal interests.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Journalism		
Course #	ELE 19	This course is designed for students who enjoy writing and are interested in journalism. We will cover the foundations of news writing, the importance of freedom of the press, and the different types of written journalism. Students will learn to conduct interviews and write news stories, editorials, and features.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Graphic Novels		
Course #	ELE 23	This elective will focus on the exploration and creation of graphic novels as both literature and artwork. Students will read and analyze acclaimed graphic novels, and write and illustrate their own original stories.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Yearbook		
Course #	ELE 35	Students who want to be involved in helping to design and put together the middle school yearbook should join this class! Students will receive practical experience in layout design, writing, editing, desktop publishing, and basic photography as they help produce the yearbook. This course is offered Q1, Q2, and Q3.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Film Studies		
Course #	ELE 56	Film Studies is designed for students who love film and wish to analyze it for its literary merit. Students will use high-level critical thinking skills as they view and analyze some of the most impactful films in history.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Stationary & Letter Writing		
Course #	ELE 69	In this course, students will explore the making/crafting of stationary writing sets, bookbinding, postcards, writing letters, wax seals, and calligraphy.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Literacy Lab		
Course #	ELE 83	Literacy Lab is for students who need additional support in reading and writing. Students will have the opportunity to work with a reading interventionist who will offer extra support in language arts. Students may also be placed in the class based on a teacher's recommendation.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Poetry		
Course #	ELE 96	Reading, writing, and exploring poetry will be the focus of this course. Students will read and analyze the famous works of classic Core Knowledge authors such as William Shakespeare, Langston Hughes, Emily Dickinson, Edgar Allan Poe, Robert Frost, and many more. Not only will students read and analyze these famous poems, but they will compose their own original poems. If you are a lover of poetry or want to learn more about it, this creative elective is for you!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Success Principles for Teens		
Course #	ELE 105	In this course, students will read <i>The Success Principles for Teens: How to Get From Where You Are to Where You Want to Be</i> by Jack Canfield and Kent Healy. Students will explore 23 of the most important success strategies used by thousands of exceptional young people throughout history.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Screenwriting		
Course #	ELE 108	Students will learn about the different aspects of screenwriting, and create a short film script.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Math Electives

6th Grade Math Lab		
Course #	ELE 10	Math Lab is an intervention course that remediates gaps in student knowledge and skills and supports students in their current math class. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

7th Grade Math Lab		
Course #	ELE 11	Math Lab is an intervention course that remediates gaps in student knowledge and skills and supports students in their current math class. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

8th Grade Math Lab		
Course #	ELE 12	Math Lab is an intervention course that remediates gaps in student knowledge and skills and supports students in their current math class. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Math Games		
Course #	ELE 15	In Math Games, students will have fun playing games while learning math skills! Students will make geometric art, play math games like Sudoku and Set, tackle logic problems, and participate in other fun and engaging math activities.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Young Entrepreneurs		
Course #	ELE 17	Students will learn about what it takes to create a business, including: generating ideas for a business, conducting market research, writing business plans, pitching to investors, and launching a company.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Stock Market Game		
Course #	ELE 18	The Stock Market Game is a real-time online simulation that advances student academic achievement in the core academic disciplines. This exciting program empowers students to manage their own virtual \$100,000 investment portfolio. Students work in teams to invest in stocks, mutual funds, bonds, and commodities on U.S. and international exchanges.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

6th Grade Everyday Math		
Course #	ELE 92	Placement in 6th Grade Everyday Math will be based on a teacher's recommendation. This course will align with 6th Grade Core Math. During 6th Grade Everyday Math students will receive extra instruction and support on the lessons for that week, which will provide extra time with a teacher to practice math skills through completing homework and other mini-lessons. This additional practice will prepare students to gain greater confidence in mathematics, give them skills to continue to progress in their current math course, and allow them to be successful in future math classes and on college entrance exams. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

7th Grade Everyday Math		
Course #	ELE 93	Placement in 7th Grade Everyday Math will be based on a teacher's recommendation. This course will align with 7th Grade Core Math. During 7th Grade Everyday Math students will receive extra instruction and support on the lessons for that week, which will provide extra time with a teacher to practice math skills through completing homework and other mini-lessons. This additional practice will prepare students to gain greater confidence in mathematics, give them skills to continue to progress in their current math course, and allow them to be successful in future math classes and on college entrance exams. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

8th Grade Everyday Math		
Course #	ELE 94	Placement in 8th Grade Everyday Math will be based on a teacher's recommendation. This course will align with 8th Grade Core Math. During 8th Grade Everyday Math students will receive extra instruction and support on the lessons for that week, which will provide extra time with a teacher to practice math skills through completing homework and other mini-lessons. This additional practice will prepare students to gain greater confidence in mathematics, give them skills to continue to progress in their current math course, and allow them to be successful in future math classes and on college entrance exams. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Everyday Integrated Math		
Course #	ELE 95	Placement in Everyday Integrated Math will be based on a teacher's recommendation. This course will align with 8th Grade Core Math. During 8th Grade Integrated Math students will receive extra instruction and support on the lessons for that week, which will provide extra time with a teacher to practice math skills through completing homework and other mini-lessons. This additional practice will prepare students to gain greater confidence in mathematics, give them skills to continue to progress in their current math course, and allow them to be successful in future math classes and on college entrance exams. <i>Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation</i>
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

STEM Electives

Computer Science Discovery I

Course #	ELE 24 A	This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of computer science using Code.org's Computer Science Discoveries curriculum. Throughout the program, students will explore the field of computer science through hands-on activities, collaborative projects, and interactive lessons to develop a solid foundation in computational thinking.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

3D Printing

Course #	ELE 25	Dive into the exciting world of 3D printing and discover how to turn creative ideas into real, tangible objects! In this elective, students will learn the basics of 3D modeling software to design their own projects, explore how 3D printers work, and gain hands-on experience in bringing their designs to life. From keychains to custom prototypes, this class encourages problem-solving, creativity, and innovation. Along the way, students will also explore real-world applications of 3D printing.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Science in Movies & Media

Course #	ELE 26	Do you ever wonder if your favorite movies could really happen? In this elective, we will look at the science behind movies and discover if the movie could actually happen or if it is too far-fetched for current science.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Circuits

Course #	ELE 29 A	How does electricity work? What is the difference between a motor and a generator? What is a resistor? What is basic electricity? What are circuits? Students will explore current, voltage, resistance basics, and parallel and series circuits. This course requires math skills.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Beginning LEGO Robotics

Course #	ELE 31	In this course, students learn robotics concepts and build robots with LEGO hardware and programming. Students will build and program robots that need to accomplish specific tasks based on the LEGO Robotics competition theme.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Brain Pad Arcade		
Course #	ELE 33	In this course, create your own 2D video games with Microsoft MakeCode Arcade! This beginner-friendly course teaches coding concepts like loops and sprites through fun, hands-on projects. Test your games on BrainPad devices and build creativity, problem-solving, and programming skills—no prior experience is needed!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Household Engineering		
Course #	ELE 38	Do you love science? Can you make a paper bridge that can transport a golf ball? What about a medicine ball? How many textbooks can you support with 30 toothpicks? Separating truth from fiction can be tough! In this elective, students will endeavor to find the truth as they investigate claims using research and the scientific method.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

VEX Robotics		
Course #	ELE 49	VEX Robotics is ideal for students who enjoy hands-on construction activities. In VEX Robotics, students plan, design, and build competitive robots to engage in a variety of activities. Students develop their creativity, problem-solving, collaboration and engineering skills.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Project Based Learning		
Course #	ELE 75	
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Introduction to Cybersecurity		
Course #	ELE 101	This course provides students with the basic concepts needed to identify and protect themselves against common cyber threats and attacks, as well as educate them on basic cybersecurity principles.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Coding		
Course #	ELE 109	Students will explore coding, robotics, and algorithmic thinking as they master programming the Sphero RVR robot using block-based languages, with a focus on enhancing their computational thinking skills.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Disney Engineering		
Course #	ELE 110	This course will draw inspiration from The Walt Disney Imagineers by studying the purpose and history of the Imagineers, and learning about their process and creations. We will explore the technology used and discovered by the team and apply it to design our own concepts. This course is destined to be a magical journey of creativity, meeting technology with a hint of math and science.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Music & Performing Arts Electives

Concert Band		
Course #	ELE 40	Concert Band is for students who are interested in playing or currently playing an instrument. Students explore a variety of song styles. This course is open to beginners or experienced players. Please note, that there is an additional fee if students are renting a school instrument.
MS Credit	0.50	
Length	Semester	

Choir		
Course #	ELE 41	Choir is for students who are interested in singing, even if they have no prior choir experience. Students will enjoy singing a variety of music from standards to show-stopping numbers.
MS Credit	0.50	
Length	Year	

Drama		
Course #	ELE 42	In this course, students will learn all about the process of putting on a play from auditions, acting, lighting, sound, props, costumes and more. The class will perform a public play at the end of the spring semester.
MS Credit	0.5	
Length	Semester	

Symphonic Band		
Course #	ELE 44	This instrumental elective ensemble is open to students who have successfully passed an audition. Students who are selected will be encouraged to advance their skills into new styles. Students in 7th and 8th grade will be admitted by audition only, or instructor recommendation. Please note, there is an additional fee if students are renting a school instrument.
MS Credit	0.50	
Length	Year	

Musical Theater		
Course #	ELE 47	In this course, students will learn all about the process of putting on a musical from auditions, acting, lighting, sound, props, costumes, singing, and dancing. The class will perform a public musical at the end of the fall semester.
MS Credit	0.5	
Length	Semester	

Influence of Music		
Course #	ELE 67	In this course, students will trace the development of popular music genres, including jazz, rock, hip-hop, and pop, and explore their social and cultural impacts. The course will also discuss the role of music in social movements, cultural expressions, and personal identity throughout history.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Art Electives

DIY Crafts		
Course #	ELE 50	Students will develop different skills such as sewing, scrapbooking, design elements, basket making, repurposing old items and other seasonal crafts.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

3D Art		
Course #	ELE 53	In 3D Art, students will explore art in its three-dimensional form. Students will work with a variety of mediums including textiles, ceramics, paper mache, sculpture, and more.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Digital Photography		
Course #	ELE 55	This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts of digital photography. Budding photographers will learn about camera functions, composition, and lighting. This course will also cover various types of photography, including portraiture, still-life, night photography, landscape, and fine art.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Comics & Zines		
Course #	ELE 58	While understanding its place within art history, students will ideate and create their own comics/zines and manga. By the end of the quarter, students will create a group-published zine (magazine) that will be released for free throughout the school.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Origami		
Course #	ELE 59	In this course, students will learn the history of origami and how to fold various types of animals and more traditional types of origami art.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Advanced Studio Art		
Course #	ELE 87	Advanced Studio Art is for 7th and 8th grade students who have already taken Introduction to Art. Artists will complete a variety of advanced art projects consisting of painting, drawing, and sculpture.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Japanese Culture & History		
Course #	ELE 111	In this course, students will take lessons on Japanese language, culture and history, including anime and video games.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

2D Art		
Course #	ELE 112	Are you interested in drawing? The course offers students a variety of experiences built on the elements and principles of art.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Advanced Painting		
Course #	ELE 113	This class is for students who have taken Introduction to Painting. In Advanced Painting, we will go beyond learning techniques and apply the knowledge learned in the introductory course to new canvases. Projects may include canvases, murals, masks, and self-portraits. This class is designed for students who want to continue expanding their creativity and knowledge through more challenging projects.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

PE Electives

Film Studies - Sports Edition		
Course #	ELE 52	In this course, students will dive into the awesome world of sports and its correlation to life. Throughout the quarter students will be shown iconic sports movies and thought-provoking ESPN 30 for 30 documentaries where they will explore the correlation between sports and life, storytelling, and culture. From the adrenaline-fueled triumphs to the heartfelt narratives of perseverance, each film offers a unique lens through which to examine the human experience. Through critical viewing, lively discussions, and reflective analysis, students will gain a deeper understanding of the power of film to inspire, entertain, and provoke meaningful dialogue about the role of sports in society. Get ready to be captivated, challenged, and inspired as we journey through the amazing world of sports!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Dance		
Course #	ELE 64	Step into the rhythm and discover the joy of dance! This elective introduces students to a variety of dance styles, including contemporary, hip-hop, jazz, and cultural dances from around the world. Students will learn fundamental techniques, explore choreography, and develop their creativity through movement. Beyond learning dance, students will improve coordination, confidence, and teamwork, while having fun and expressing themselves in a supportive environment.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Cup Stacking		
Course #	ELE 99	In Cup Stacking, students learn to increase their hand/eye coordination. In addition, research has shown that speed stacking improves bilateral coordination, fitness levels, reading scores, and reaction time.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Competitive Sports & Games		
Course #	ELE 104	This course is for competitive individuals who would like to play traditional and nontraditional games. Students should be prepared to get a workout by the end of class!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Additional Electives

Mastering Chess		
Course #	ELE 32	This elective course is designed for students interested in exploring the fascinating world of chess, from beginners to intermediate players. Through a combination of guided lessons, hands-on practice, and strategic exercises, students will develop a deeper understanding of chess principles, including opening theory, tactical motifs, positional play, and endgame techniques. Key topics covered will include: • Chess Fundamentals: Basic rules, notation, and movement of pieces. • Tactics and Combinations: Pins, forks, skewers, discovered attacks, and other tactical devices. • Strategic Planning: Evaluating positions, controlling the center, and pawn structures, and creating a long-term plan. • Endgames: Techniques for converting advantages into wins, including basic checkmates and pawn endgames. • Chess Psychology: How to think critically, manage time, and adapt under pressure during competitive play. In addition to theoretical lessons, students will have opportunities to engage in friendly matches, participate in mini-tournaments, and analyze famous games played by grandmasters. By the end of the course, students will have the skills to play at a higher level, whether for fun, competition, or further study.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Film Through History		
Course #	ELE 68	In this course, students will discover the evolution of cinema, from silent films to modern blockbusters, and understand the cultural and historical contexts that shaped them. The course will also explore film genres, storytelling techniques, and student filmmaking.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Problem Solving & Games		
Course #	ELE 71	This course is designed to provide students an opportunity to play a variety of fun board (not computer) games! It's also an opportunity for students to work with peers who they might not otherwise work with. <i>Stratego</i>, <i>Upwords</i>, <i>Mastermind</i>, and <i>Settlers of Catan</i> are just some of the games that will be available for this elective. We can also discuss and add some other games based on student interest. Let's have old-fashioned, non-electronic fun and have a blast playing games!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Study Skills		
Course #	ELE 73	In this course, students will take an in-depth look at effective study skills and strategies. Specifically, students will work through setting goals, time management, organization, note-taking, studying for assessments, and much more.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Elementary School Teacher's Aide		
Course #	ELE 74	Students will have the opportunity to develop skills and behaviors essential for employment, with emphasis on careers in education. Teacher Aides will walk to the elementary school and work under the direction and supervision of the assigned classroom teacher. The course is capped at 15 students.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

6th Grade AVID Leadership		
Course #	ELE 76	In this year-long course, students receive the additional academic, social, and emotional support that will help them succeed in rigorous courses and in college. Areas of focus are writing, organization, collaboration, inquiry, and reading skills. Students must complete an AVID Application and complete an interview process to be enrolled in the elective. AVID Leadership will also build student leadership skills and offer a variety of leadership experiences. Students will be responsible for planning and participating in projects and activities. Students will be involved with school culture activities including preparation for spring and fall dances, school events, and other activities.
MS Credit	1.0	
Length	Year	

7th Grade AVID Leadership		
Course #	ELE 77	In this year-long course, students receive the additional academic, social, and emotional support that will help them succeed in rigorous courses and in college. Areas of focus are writing, organization, collaboration, inquiry, and reading skills. Students must complete an AVID Application and complete an interview process to be enrolled in the elective. AVID Leadership will also build student leadership skills and offer a variety of leadership experiences. Students will be responsible for planning and participating in projects and activities. Students will be involved with school culture activities including preparation for spring and fall dances, school events, and other activities.
MS Credit	1.0	
Length	Year	

8th Grade AVID Leadership		
Course #	ELE 78	In this year-long course, students receive the additional academic, social, and emotional support that will help them succeed in rigorous courses and in college. Areas of focus are writing, organization, collaboration, inquiry, and reading skills. Students must complete an AVID Application and complete an interview process to
MS Credit	1.0	

Length	Year	be enrolled in the elective. AVID Leadership will also build student leadership skills and offer a variety of leadership experiences. Students will be responsible for planning and participating in projects and activities. Students will be involved with school culture activities including preparation for spring and fall dances, school events, and other activities.
---------------	-------------	---

WCA 101		
Course #	ELE 103	WCA 101 is a 1st quarter course for students new to our school. In this course, students will learn AVID practices, The 8 Keys of Excellence, how to organize school planners, and use technology. This course provides an opportunity for new students to thrive at our school!
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

Vintage Card and Board Games		
Course #	ELE 114	Students will learn how to play vintage card games like Spades, Hearts, War, Phase Ten, and Uno. Players will also learn traditional board games and domino games. Players will be expected to learn and play by the rules of the games, as well as keeping score.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

French Culture		
Course #	ELE 115	The French elective is an introductory course to French language and culture. We'll learn basic conversation, how to order at a café, how to ask for directions, and more! Incorporating songs, maps, and crafts, it's a journey filled with croissants, berets, and a sprinkle of French magic.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

CPR/First Aid		
Course #	ELE 116	In this course, students will learn basic CPR and first aid skills using the Red Cross and American Heart Association curricula. We will go through the basics of adult, child, and infant CPR and first aid so you can be confident in any situation. If a student is able to correctly perform chest compressions on a dummy, an optional certification card is available for \$6.
MS Credit	0.25	
Length	Quarter	

World Cultures		
Course #	ELE 117	In World Cultures, we'll explore the amazing diversity of our world by diving into a different country each day! Together, we'll learn about each country's geography, family life, famous festivals, language, music, and
MS Credit	0.25	

Length	Quarter	dance. Through fun activities, videos, and hands-on projects, you'll discover unique traditions, try a few new phrases, and maybe even move to some new beats. Get ready to become a global explorer and celebrate the people, places, and cultures that make our world so exciting and diverse.
---------------	----------------	--