

2021-2022 6th GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Durant Road Middle School

Elective courses are not required subject areas like reading and math, but are optional courses that may be of interest to your child. Each middle school offers unique elective courses that your child can choose to take. The elective courses listed below are options for 6th grade students at DRMS. Your child will select either year-long or semester-long Healthful Living/PE. From there, there are various options for either band or 4 courses to comprise the exploratory wheel (along with alternate choices). The wheel consists of four 9 week courses (keyboarding is mandatory for all 6th graders, with the exception of band students). We also offer semester-long Spanish for students who are interested in accelerated Spanish in Middle School. You can find more information about the course curriculum in the Wake County [Middle School Program Planning Guide](#). Your elementary school will support your child in entering their selections in our system. You can find out more information on our school's website: (www.wcpss.net/durantroadms). It is important to note that the availability of elective courses is dependent upon each school's master schedule, and choosing an elective does not guarantee its availability in your child's individual schedule.

Course	Course Description
Beginning Band (year-long)	Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic musical skills as students learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Band classes prepare several concert compositions that are performed for an audience. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.
Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing	This middle school course is designed to provide hands-on instruction in basic keyboarding and word processing skills. English language arts is reinforced.
Music Exploratory	Students are introduced to the skills necessary for singing and playing music with accuracy and expression while interpreting the sound and symbols of music. Through the study of various genres and cultures students will analyze, evaluate and understand the music and concepts from other areas.
Arts Exploratory	This course introduces students to the elements of art through a variety of media that may include drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, pottery, and weaving. Application of these elements to the students' own original artwork is the major emphasis while being introduced to art history and critical analysis of master work as well as their own.
Introduction to Dance	This course introduces creative movement, improvisation, and choreography through basic modern dance techniques. Students will build kinesthetic awareness, flexibility, and strength by applying principles of dance technique. They will also develop a basic understanding of dance history, elements, creation, performance, and anatomy. These objectives will be accomplished with the use of daily lessons, journals, quizzes, tests, projects, and viewing activities.
Exploring Social and Emotional Skills	This course will allow students to understand the value of effective communication skills, characteristics of self-awareness, strategies for self-management, how to make responsible decisions, social awareness, and interpersonal relationships.

<p>Project Revive (Engineering and Design Project)</p>	<p>This middle school course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs. Students develop skills in researching information, communicating design information, and reporting results. Activities are structured to integrate physical and social sciences, mathematics, English language arts, and art.</p>
<p>Beginning Spanish Less than 1 Year (semester-long)</p> <p><i>*This course is one of the curriculum series for high-school credit.</i></p>	<p>This course is the first in a multi-course sequence for high school Level I credit. In this course, students will learn the foundations of the language's vocabulary and structures in order to communicate in simple, memorized, sentences related to basic necessary skills in the target language. Classes are conducted primarily in the target language with a strong focus on comprehensible input at a level appropriate for novice learners. Activities focus on students' abilities to perform in the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication. Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate Novice Low proficiency and should enroll in the Intermediate course to continue the HS Level I credit curriculum.</p>

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES

- **English/Language Arts 6**
- **Math 6 OR Math 6 Plus**
- **Science 6**
- **Social Studies 6**
- **Healthful Living 6 -- year-long or semester-long**

**Placement in Math courses is determined by county data points as well as 5th grade teacher recommendations.*