

# Davis Drive Middle School

## 2025-2026 6<sup>TH</sup> Grade Elective Course Options

The elective courses listed below are available options for 6th-grade students. Each student's schedule will include four, year-long core classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and a year-long Health/PE course. In the past, all students were required to take a year-long Health/PE Course. For the 2025/26 school year, we have decided to allow students who take a year-long elective, like Band, to take Health/PE in a semester. This allows for students to take an additional 2 electives from the Exploratory Elective Experience list.

Please note:

- New state legislation requires all students to take an Arts credit to graduate from a NC High School. All students will need to take this Arts credit at some point from Grades 6-12. For 6th-grade students, only band counts towards the graduation requirement.
- Elective availability depends on the school's master schedule. Selecting an elective does not guarantee placement in that course or that it will be offered. Students who do not complete registration by the provided deadline will be placed in electives based on availability.

Students will select either:

- Band and 2 primary electives and 1 alternate, (defaults to semester Health/PE) **or**
- Band and no other elective (defaults to year-long Health/PE). **or**
- Choose 2 Primary and 1 Alternate from each category (CTA and Fine Arts) to pair with year-long Health/PE

Beginning Band (Year-long Elective)	
<b>Band</b>  <a href="https://tinyurl.com/davidshrivband">https://tinyurl.com/davidshrivband</a>	<p>Beginning Band is an introductory course where students learn to play an instrument, develop music-reading skills, and work together as a group. No prior experience is necessary—just an interest in learning and making music.</p> <p>Beginning Band students will perform at least twice a year, giving them the chance to share their progress and experience playing in an ensemble. This course is a great way to build musical skills, be part of a team, and explore the world of music.</p> <p>Sixth grade is the <b>recommended</b> time to join the band. It is challenging for students to begin band in 7th or 8th grade, and will require approval from the band director. All students start on flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. Later in the year, with the director's recommendation, some students may have the opportunity to switch to other instruments.</p>

Career and Technical Education Options (Choose 2 Primary and 1 Alternate)	
<b>Keyboarding and Word Processing</b>	This course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, basic word processing, and document formatting skills (i.e. paragraph, tables, and business letter formatting). Learning to type is recommended during middle school because it is not taught in high schools.
<b>Exploring Child Care</b>	This course is designed to help students develop essential babysitting skills. Participants will build leadership abilities, learn how to start and manage a babysitting business and understand how to keep themselves and the children safe. The course covers child behavior management, basic child care, and basic first aid. Students will also explore key topics like accident prevention, toy safety, and positive guidance. Successful completion will earn Red Cross Babysitting Certification, preparing students for responsible babysitting and future roles in child care.

**Engineering: Exploring Technology I**

In this course, students will discover how to create new ideas, inventions, and innovations. They will learn about

important steps like problem-solving models, the engineering design

	<p>loop, and the Universal Systems Model of technology. Using these steps and building their critical-thinking skills, students will tackle different challenges. They will solve fun brain teasers and even take part in an engineering design competition. Students will also explore how science, technology, and engineering work together to invent and innovate. Additionally, they will learn how to 3D print items they design, following specific guidelines and limitations.</p>
<b>Coding in Minecraft - Introductory</b>	<p>This fun and engaging introductory computer science course is perfect for middle school students! In this class, students will work together to solve exciting puzzles and create their own animations and games. They'll learn how computers handle information by exploring how they input, output, store, and process data. Using simple programming concepts, students will get hands-on experience designing interactive art, animations, and games. The class will use popular platforms like Minecraft Education and code.org to make learning even more enjoyable!</p>

<b>Fine Arts Options (Choose 2 Primary and 1 Alternate)</b>	
<b>Introduction to Dance</b>	<p>Step into the world of dance! Whether you're a seasoned mover or stepping onto the dance floor for the first time, this exciting 9-week Introduction to Dance course is designed to inspire, challenge, and energize students of all levels. In this non-performing class, you'll explore a variety of dance styles, from jazz and hip-hop to contemporary and cultural dance forms, while learning the fundamentals of movement, rhythm, and expression. With no pressure to perform, this class provides a welcoming and supportive environment where students can freely explore dance, build skills, and develop an appreciation for movement. Join us for an unforgettable journey of creativity, self-expression, and fun. No experience is necessary—just bring your enthusiasm, and let's dance!</p>
<b>Exploratory Language (Spanish)</b>  <a href="http://bit.ly/ExploreSpanishDDMS">http://bit.ly/ExploreSpanishDDMS</a>	<p>This course is an exploratory elective designed to introduce students to the importance of studying a second language along with beginning Spanish topics, and of course, the Spanish culture. Students will do a lot of hands-on activities and projects. Students will also experience both the language and culture of Spanish speakers through technology, games, and communicative activities.</p>
<b>Visual Arts Exploratory</b>  <a href="http://bit.ly/VisualArtsDDMS">http://bit.ly/VisualArtsDDMS</a>	<p>This course will introduce students to the elements of art through a variety of media. Students will work in a sketchbook/composition notebook and will experiment with drawing painting, and sculpture projects. Introduction to art history and critical analysis of masterworks as well as their own. To learn more about the DDMS Visual Arts program, please visit the <a href="#">DDMS Art Website</a> and the <a href="#">DDMS Artsonia Website</a>.</p>

You can find out more information, including elective course videos, on our school's Rising-6th grade website:

<https://sites.google.com/wcpss.net/ddmsstudentservices/registration/rising-6th-grade-registration> -OR  
[www.wcpss.net/davisdrivems](http://www.wcpss.net/davisdrivems) → Students → Student Services → Registration → Rising-6th