

## **Sixth Grade Elective Courses**

### **World Languages**

#### **Exploring French or Spanish**

This is the first level of World Language (French or Spanish). At this level you will learn to speak and write basic conversational French or Spanish. This is a very active class where students are often up and moving around to learn the language, while also utilizing a great deal of technology. We use the Chromebooks for Google classroom, BlendSpace, Quizlet, and a number of interactive sites. The technology is used to reinforce the lessons and to provide students extra time with the information. We do a great deal of moving around as we use games, song, rhymes and play to reinforce the language. Student work is often "project based," but the projects are fun, creative, artistic and make use of the language. Students who take this class will not earn high school credit, but will have good exposure to entry level World Language. Students will receive a good platform for French 1 or Spanish 1, if they decide to take one of these courses in the 7th grade. This is a fun class for students interested in studying either French or Spanish, along with the culture of countries where French and Spanish are spoken. Students interested in learning a language through fun, games, songs and play should consider this class!

### **Physical Education**

#### **Health Education**

Sixth grade students will learn all about nutrition, personal health, puberty, and the challenges that come with this unique developmental stage in teenagers' lives. *Students are required to take this course in order to be promoted to the next grade.*

#### **Physical Education**

Community House Middle School Physical Education classes emphasize fitness, skill development and habits for a lifetime of activity. This curriculum provides students with opportunities to achieve and maintain healthy lifestyles by enhancing levels of physical fitness and increasing each student's knowledge of fitness concepts. The program includes skill development and the application of rules and strategies of increasing complexity in the following areas of movement: cardiovascular endurance; muscular strength; flexibility and body composition; team sports; as well as individual and dual sports. *Students are required to take this course in order to be promoted to the next grade.*

### **Arts Education**

#### **Art**

This course will introduce students to the elements and principles of art through experiences with both two- and three-dimensional materials and techniques. Students will gain 21st century skills through studio projects which challenge them to think critically and solve problems. In addition to gaining proficiency

working with a variety of mediums, students will learn about the history, analysis, and aesthetics of visual art.

## **Drama**

Do you like being in the spotlight? Are you the class clown? Are you shy or never talk in class? If so, drama can be a great way to learn to act, be less afraid in public, be better on stage, and work with others. Let your creativity run wild and express yourself! In this class, students will explore topics such as acting, voice, improvisation, characterization, and theatre history in a fun, safe, and interactive environment.

## **Dance**

This course will introduce students to the elements and principles of dance through experiences with movement, technique and choreography. Students will gain 21st century skills through creative movement exploration which challenge them to think critically and solve problems. In addition to gaining proficiency working with a variety of genres, students will learn about the history, analysis, and aesthetics of dance.

## **Chorus/Music**

This course will introduce students to the elements and principles of music through experiences with written movement, instrumentation and movement. Students will gain 21st century skills through historical and cultural studies which challenge them to think critically and solve problems. In addition to gaining proficiency working with a variety of musical styles, students will integrate all curricular areas in theoretical analysis and aesthetics of music.

## **Band - 6th grade is the ONLY year you may begin Band or Orchestra**

This course is an introduction to instrumental music. Students will learn one of the four basic instruments (Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet or Trombone) each day in class. Instruments can be leased or purchased from local music stores and are not provided by the school. Students will participate in two concerts throughout the school year.

## **Orchestra**

Orchestra is all about learning different kinds of musical styles. We learn about rock, pop, jazz, fiddle tunes, and, of course, classical! No experience is needed if you are a 6th grader. Anyone can learn!

Students in orchestra learn how to play one of the 4 stringed instruments: violin, viola, cello, or bass and perform in a variety of styles. Students form lifelong friendships and special bonds with other musicians in the orchestra and learn how to think in depth and critically. We hope you will join us!

### **Journalism and Debate**

News changes in an instant and how we get our news is changing as well. In this class we will watch and evaluate various broadcast news sources. When we aren't reading or writing, we will be researching and speaking. Debate topics will vary and we will practice debate and procedures. Being aware of current events and being able to speak effectively are both positive traits which help us interact in the world. We will learn the basics of digital photography and create a portfolio of digital pictures.

### **Exploring Global Studies**

Exploring Global Studies helps students understand global issues and sustainability in a way that shows the connections between population, environment, consumption, poverty, conflict, and other global issues. Students will develop a global perspective, learn critical thinking skills, and engage in positive solutions for a sustainable future.

### **Career and Technical Education**

#### **Exploring Careers and Employment**

This course is comprised of two instructional modules designed to provide project-based instruction in self-awareness, understanding the world of work and the career planning process. The two modules covered explore how career choices are influenced by interests, attitudes, values and personalities, as well as learning styles and skills needed for employment success.

#### **Introduction to Office Productivity**

The primary focus is on learning skills needed to earn industry certification in Microsoft Word. Skills include creating and managing documents; formatting text, paragraphs, and sections; creating tables and lists; create and manage references; inserting and formatting graphic elements. Coupled with PowerPoint certification, students may earn high school credit.

#### **Project Lead the Way (PLTW) 3D Design and Modeling**

Project Lead the Way is a "hands-on" engineering based program. In PLTW Design and Modeling, students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and

ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using SketchUp® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. Course is a prerequisite for both PLTW Green Architecture (7th grade) and Automation & Robotics (8th grade).

### **Computer Science Discoveries I**

This course provides students with an introduction to Computer Science which consists of two units; Problem Solving and Computing and Web Development. The first unit focuses on the problem solving process to address a series of puzzles, challenges, and real world scenarios. Students will learn how computers work and process information. At the end of the unit students will design an App that helps solve a problem of their choice. In the second unit students will learn how to create, share, structure and style content on their own web pages using HTML and CSS. By the end of the unit students will have a personal website that they can publish to the Internet.