6,7 & 8th Grade Elective Description Guide 2020-2021

Avid is an elective class that encourages students to think about their destiny. We look to partner with students who want to grow in their student skills and academics. Students are required to maintain a good GPA and good behavior standing on campus. We aim to hold students accountable through grade checks, organization, behavioral support, and tutorial sessions. We inspire students to dream about going to a four-year university. To participate in AVID, students must complete an application and interview with the AVID site team who will evaluate their enrollment in the AVID program.

Spanish 1A - This course will help students establish a basic foundation for learning the Spanish language as well as developing a better understanding of the target language culture. In this course, students will learn about the relationship between nouns and gender as well as how to discuss topics such as the weather, likes and dislikes, the days of the week, months of the year, how to tell time, describing people including family and friends, and discussing leisure activities such as sports and pastimes.

Spanish 1B - Spanish IB is the course students take after they've completed Spanish IA. Students will continue to establish basic foundations of the Spanish Language. The book that is used in this course is "Como te Va?" Green level. Throughout this course, students will compare and contrast the Spanish Speaking Culture to their own in terms of food, music, clothing and traditions.

Spanish 1C-Native Speakers - This course is designed specifically for native/heritage speakers of Spanish who already have some oral language proficiency. The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in Spanish by providing them the opportunity to listen, speak, read, and write in a variety of contexts and for a variety of audiences including the family, school, and the immediate community. The course will allow students to explore the cultures of the Hispanic world including their own and it will enable students to gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired.

Music

Beginning Strings: Students want to learn to play violin, viola or cello, no experience needed (Open to grades 6-7-8).

Beginning Band: Students want to play a band instrument: flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon saxophone, trumpet, trombone. No experience needed. Percussion by audition or teacher recommendation only (Open to grades 6-7-8).

Orchestra: Experienced string players. Students MUST have 1 school year of violin, viola, or cello instruction, or must audition (Open to grades 6-7-8).

Concert Band: 7th and 8th grade wind players who were in band last year with Mrs. Combs', or by audition if new to Columbia (7-8).

Beginning Classical Guitar: Limited to 24 students (strict limit due to room size) Students learn the basics of classical guitar (6-7-8).

Choir: Students with or without experience who want to sing and perform on stage—you don't have to be a great singer already, you just have to want to improve (6-7-8).

General Music: Students want to learn an instrument, but not orchestra strings or wind instruments, or just aren't sure which area of music they want to pursue. Students learn to read music and play rhythms and melodies on simple instruments (6-7-8).

Computers:

Web Design/Digital Photo: The class broadens and strengthen communication abilities by enhancing visual and graphic communication. (**Web**) Students will learn general design ideas helping students learn how the eye follows the page and how to catch user interest; content will be developed by using Weebly.com for website building. (**Photo**) Students will learn the basics of photo composition, how to use a DSLR camera, incorporate genres of landscape and macro photography while learning how to edit with PhotoShop.

Coding/Robotics: The class introduces students to technologies where robotics and coding will fit in their lives and to what could become a great career. (**Coding**) Uses the Techsmart website to guide students through the basics of the Python programing language. This type of coding is used in phone apps, robotics, gaming and more. (**Robotics**) This is a hands on introduction to the growing role of robotics in our society and the mechanical aspects of robotics. The class focuses on the operation of a specific type of robot and a 3D printer by utilizing a TinkerCAD account learning how to design in 3D.

Video Production: The class presents several video editing techniques including simple editing, chroma key, stop action, voice over, and more. Students also learn the basics of script writing, interviewing and storytelling. Students create individually and in a group to produce videos. The skills learned in this class could inspire students to create YouTube content or pursue a career in video or movie production.

Business / Computer Concepts and Applications - Computer Concepts and Applications typically cover topics such as computer concepts, word processing, spreadsheet, database and presentation software applications. Business - Computer Concepts and Applications present students with the opportunity to learn advanced principles associated with information processing.