

6th GRADE 2017-2018 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EXPLORATORY WHEEL (4) QUARTERS

ART 6

1 quarter

The main focus of this class will be on the visual arts. Students will practice basic art techniques, learn about the cultures studied in Social Studies, and learn how to use a variety of art materials. There are fees associated with the projects that the students take home.

COMPUTER SKILLS 6

1 quarter

Students will learn and reinforce computer skills through a project-based learning model. Through fun and meaningful projects, the students will explore word processing, presentation and spreadsheet applications, photo editing, movie making, audio and music editing, 3 dimensional design and coding. As well, there will be a consistent focus on typing, digital citizenship and cloud computing.

LIFE SKILLS

1 quarter

The Life Skills program is based upon the Minnesota Smoking Prevention Program, Ventura Unified School Districts adopted drug education program. This class is designed to help students learn to make positive and healthy decisions in various aspects of their lives with a focus on drug education. Students will also learn effective communication and refusal skills.

WOOD 6

1 quarter

This nine week class will expose students to different types of technology as found in industry. Students will have the chance to gain experience in the following areas: drafting, woodworking, plastics, machine and hand tool usage, etc. **NOTE:** Due to unforeseen equipment failures, materials shortages, and/or curriculum standards, the type and number of projects can vary or change. The proper and safe usage of hand and power tools will be emphasized and enforced. Students must wear safety glasses in the lab while work is going on (safety glasses will be available for sale at school to the student). There are fees associated with the projects that the students take home.

MUSIC

BEGINNING BAND

1 year

Beginning Band is a year-long musical ensemble open to all students who desire to learn a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Emphasis in this course is placed on teaching basic instrumental skills and music reading through a sequential and standards-based approach to music education. Our hope is that students will advance into higher-level ensembles. This group performs three times per year. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is necessary to achieve our goal.

BEGINNING STRINGS

1 year

Beginning Strings is a year-long musical ensemble open to all students who desire to learn the violin, viola, cello or string bass. Emphasis in this course is placed on teaching basic string orchestra instrumental skills and music reading through a sequential and standards-based approach to music education. Our hope is that students will advance into higher-level ensembles. This group performs three times per year. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is necessary to achieve our goal.

CHORUS

1 year

Chorus is open to all students who enjoy and/or would like to learn how to sing. Its purpose is to develop a positive attitude in choral music. Students will develop skills in ensemble singing and an understanding of the nature, structure, and meaning of music. A large focus of the course is on the development of basic to intermediate music skills with an emphasis on performing choral literature of various styles. The chorus may perform in school/community programs and may represent the school in choral festivals. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is necessary to achieve our goal.