

PGMS Connections Class Information for the 2019-2020 School Year
“Embrace Opportunities, Unlock Potential, Inspire Excellence!”

General Connections Offerings (Grades 6, 7, 8)

Students will be enrolled in the General Connections Classes unless there are specific course requests for the elective courses listed below. Every effort is made for students to be exposed to each of these courses throughout the year and during the three years that students are enrolled at Piney Grove. Each of the General Connections Classes runs for one quarter and fills one period of a student’s schedule.

Art	Engineering/Technology
Journalism	Business and Computer Science
Health/Personal Wellness	Marketing
Physical Education (Multiple segments throughout the school year)	

Connections Offerings - Elective Classes

Elective classes are chosen by students as a part of their course requests. All efforts are made to satisfy requests for these courses, though class size limits and teacher recommendation/placement may impact a student’s ability to enroll in these courses. Courses may be quarter-long, semester-long or year-long.

<p><u>Band – Year-Long (Grades 6, 7, 8)</u> Students will be placed in band sections based on auditions and/or instrument-alike groupings. Auditions and performance evaluations will be conducted for students joining band after 6th Grade. Performances outside of the regular school day may count as a portion of the student’s overall grade.</p>
<p><u>Chorus – Year-Long (Grades 6, 7, 8)</u> Auditions/performance evaluations will be conducted for students joining chorus after 6th Grade. Performances outside of the regular school day may count as a portion of the student’s overall grade.</p>
<p><u>Drama (Intro to Musical Theater) – Semester-Long (Grades 6)</u> Students in 6th Grade Drama will be introduced to the fundamentals of acting and stage performing, including character development, improvisation, pantomime, audition techniques and preparation, stage movement, and performing in an individual, small group, and large group setting. Students taking this course will also assist with some aspects of the annual PGMS musical and prepare for their involvement in the production as 7th & 8th graders. Participation in this class is open to all PGMS 6th grade students with no audition required.</p>
<p><u>Drama (Musical Theater) – Year-Long (Grades 7, 8)</u> Students in Musical Theater will build upon and improve their skills in acting and stage performing, character development, stage movement, audition techniques, and tech theater to prepare and present a large ensemble musical for an audience. Auditions / Performance Evaluations are required for participation in this course and performances outside the regular school day may count as a portion of the student’s overall grade.</p>
<p><u>Junior Leadership Core (Peer Leaders) – Quarter-Long (Grades 6, 7, 8)</u> Piney Grove is host to several Specialized Instruction Classrooms, serving students with a wide range of physical and intellectual disabilities. Students who register for Junior Leadership Core will have the opportunity to work with students in our Mild/Moderate Intellectual Disability and Severe/Profound Intellectual Disability classrooms, providing valuable generalization opportunities for those students to work with their grade-level typical peer students. These Peer Leaders are also among the first to attend field trips, including Community Based Instruction and Special Olympics with their peers. This course is a Non-Graded Elective course, and additional parent permission may be required.</p>
<p><u>Video Production – Semester-Long (Grades 7, 8) – APPLICATION REQUIRED</u> Students in Video Production will work to create daily morning announcements, and should expect to spend time both in front of and behind the camera.</p>
<p><u>Yearbook – Year-Long (Grades 7, 8) – APPLICATION REQUIRED</u> Students in Yearbook will work to create the PGMS Yearbook for the 2019-20 School Year.</p>
<p><u>Weight Training – Quarter-Long (Grades 6, 7, 8) – ADDITIONAL PARENT PERMISSION REQUIRED</u> Students who earn roster spots on the PGMS Football Team are encouraged to register for Weight Training. Students in Weight Training will not be scheduled for General Physical Education segments. Students who elect to take Weight Training will be scheduled for multiple segments during the year.</p>

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Students have the opportunity to request/register for Elective Connections classes. These classes are part of larger programmatic offerings, and are not a part of our general Connections offerings. Students who are participating in these courses in the current school year will not be automatically enrolled in the same courses for next year. Families must make these elective choices during the online registration window. **Directions are available via the PGMS Website > Counseling > Online Course Registration.**

Students **may** select UP TO TWO courses, and may only choose ONE from each column. Placement determinations for connections classes may be made by teachers (i.e. Band placements for instrument fittings, audition results for Chorus or Musical Theater), and student schedules will be adjusted accordingly. In the event of schedule conflicts, efforts will be made to fulfill student requests where possible. Students may only register for courses offered at their grade level. If an error is made at the point of registration, it may not be possible to satisfy course requests.

8th Grade Courses	First Connections Period	Second Connections Period
	Chorus 88150	Drama (Musical Theater) 88160y
	8 th Grade Band – Concert Band 88110	8 th Grade Band – Symphonic Band 88110
	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 85300	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 85300
	Junior Leadership Core 89010	Junior Leadership Core 89010
	Yearbook 89142	Video Production 87105s

7th Grade Courses	First Connections Period	Second Connections Period
	7 th Grade Chorus 78150	Drama (Musical Theater) 78160y
	7 th Grade Band – Concert Band 78110	7 th Grade Band – Symphonic Band 78110
	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 75300	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 75300
	Junior Leadership Core 79010	Junior Leadership Core 79010
	Video Production 77105s	Yearbook 79142

6th Grade Courses	First Connections Period	Second Connections Period
	6 th Grade Chorus 68150	6 th Grade Drama 68160s
	6 th Grade Band (Brass) 68110	6 th Grade Band (Woodwind) 68110
	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 65300	Advanced PE (Weight Training) 65300
	Junior Leadership Core 69010	Junior Leadership Core 69010