



Sixth Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Elective Courses Options – The following descriptions are for the elective courses are listed on your child’s Request Verification Form, and/or the Sixth Grade Core and Elective Registration Form. **We will do our best to give you the requested course; however, we cannot guarantee that the course chosen will be available.**

Art - The purpose of this full-year course is to introduce students to the rigor and routine of the art production process including: planning, producing, and reflecting on art. With an emphasis on studio arts, students explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery, and sculpture. Students develop technical skills, foster their expressive abilities and employ the use of the elements of art throughout the production process.

Beginning Band - This full-year course is designed for students who have no previous musical training, where they will develop their musicianship while performing music in a concert band setting. Financial obligations and occasional time commitments outside of school hours are part of this course. There will be a fair share fee for this course. Before making this selection, parents are encouraged to visit a typical middle school band website for more information:
<http://teachers.stjohns.k12.fl.us/zentz-1/>

Creative Writing – The purpose of this full-year course is to enable students to learn and use grade 6 writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Emphasis will be on development of a personal writing style. **Students in this elective will assist with the creation of a student newspaper and the school yearbook. Students will also work on applicable aspects of the school website.**

Drama – The purpose of this full-year course is to introduce students to the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Students practice writing for the theatre and explore various theatre roles and functions. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend and assess learning in the classroom.

Leadership - In this full-year course students will be immersed in a participatory experience that builds personal responsibility and leadership skills through role plays, group activities, speeches, and projects. Curriculum topic examples include: Principle-based decision-making, Personal responsibility, Goal-setting, Resisting peer pressures, Public speaking, and more.

TV Production – The purpose of this full-year course is to introduce students to the basics of TV production, digital tools used in production, communication, and broadcasting skills. **Students in this elective will assist with the creation of the school closed-circuit morning news along with other broadcasting opportunities. (One teacher recommendation will be required- details forthcoming.)**

Elective Courses – all 6th grade students –

Physical Education (Year) - This fitness course is designed for 6th grade students. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness, which are critical for students' success including educational gymnastics and dance sequences in a variety of settings. "Educational" gymnastics is intended to have an emphasis on body awareness, body management, maximum participation, high success rates, and open-ended responses from students. Integrating fitness throughout the content is critical to the success of the course.

Critical Thinking/Digital Tools– The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic knowledge and skills in the research process with emphasis on determining and refining research questions and problem solving skills. Topics will also include instruction in digital tools, digital citizenship, multi-media and word processing. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a lab setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.