



8th Grade Electives

Cascade Middle School

ADVANCED BAND (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: minimum of two years prior instruction on instrument.

Students develop technical music skills and participate in performances throughout the school year. Advanced Band students play traditional concert band music including marches, overtures and movie themes.

JAZZ BAND (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: students must also participate in Intermediate or Advanced Band

Students explore improvisation techniques and perform popular music such as jazz standards and pop/rock. Jazz Band is open to students who play standard Jazz Band instruments.

ADVANCED ORCHESTRA (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: minimum of two years prior instruction on instrument.

Students perform a variety of music from cultural to classical and participate in concerts throughout the year. Emphasis is placed on performance quality and developing fundamental skills on string instruments.

CONCERT CHOIR (Year-long, 1 credit)

Students learn how to read music, sing with joy and expression and perform with poise and confidence. Concert Choir students perform several concerts, participate in festivals and find a creative outlet in the inclusive environment of Cascade Choir.

BEGINNING ART (Semester-long, .5 credit)

In this studio art class students explore art through many different projects: sculpture, drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, mixed media and ceramics. Students are challenged to think creatively and develop their own unique artistic voice while learning about art from various cultures and different artists.

INTERMEDIATE ART (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Prerequisite: must have earned a C or higher in Beginning Art with Mrs. Carroll.

Students interested in continuing their studio art practice will experiment with many two and three dimensional art forms. A variety of materials and processes are explored together with appropriate reading, writing and vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on the art elements and principles of design throughout the course.

ADVANCED ART (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Prerequisite: must have earned a C or higher in Intermediate Art with Mrs. Carroll.

Students explore art with more in-depth projects and creative thinking. Students should be prepared to talk about art, problem solve through a variety of mediums and challenge themselves to grow as an artist.

FOODS 1 (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Working cooperatively as a team, students take part in weekly cooking labs as they explore making tasty and healthy meals, snacks and deserts. Topics include equipment use, measuring, baking, frying, international foods, sanitation, recipe reading and much more.

FOODS 2 (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Prerequisite: must have earned a C or higher in Foods 1 with Mr. Faurot.

Taking a more focused approach to learning culinary skills, students expand their menu and increase the complexity of meals, baked goods and appetizers/snacks. Culinary students will additionally explore menu selection, knife skills, nutrition, culinary job opportunities and look to answer the question "What is the story of your food?"

DRAMA/THEATRE (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Students will explore various aspects of theater both on stage and behind the scenes. Literature, improvisation, music and parody are some of the theatrical styles used. In addition, students will have creative license to compose scripts as well as design and construct sets and costumes.

BROADCAST JOURNALISM (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Prerequisite: Must be responsible with audio visual equipment.

Broadcast students cover the news, events and happenings in and around CMS. Students work to a deadline and explore topics of accurate reporting, filming and communication.

YEARBOOK (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: Must maintain a GPA of 2.5 (C+) or higher.

Yearbook students are given the opportunity to document and capture Cascade's history. Students learn all aspects of publishing a yearbook including reporting, writing, photography and design. Students are also tasked with the responsibility of producing documentary videos such as the 5th grade step-up day video and the 8th grade graduation video.

SPANISH 1A (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Students learn how to speak, read, listen and write about themselves, their friends, family and classes.

SPANISH 1B (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: Must have earned a C or higher in Spanish 1A or pass a competency test.

Students learn to communicate about what they eat, activities they do around town, describe the body and weather. Earning a C or higher in Spanish 1b allows you to petition for high school credit as a freshman and continue into Spanish 2.

SPANISH 2 (Year-long, 1 credit)

Prerequisite: Must have earned a C or higher in Spanish 1B or pass a competency test.

Students learn to communicate in a restaurant and describe their home, clothing, community and entertainment. Earning a C or higher in Spanish 2 allows you to petition for high school credit as a freshman and continue into Spanish 3.

COMPUTER SCIENCE/CODING (Semester-long, .5 credit)

This course is designed to introduce students to ALL of the concepts of computer science through engaging activities that are both on and off of the iPad. Students will transition from being the consumers of technology to the creators of technology and they will explore using the power of coding, creativity and computers to solve big, real-world problems.

NEW! TECHNOLOGY DESIGN (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Students learn how to use technology to enhance their creative art and design process. Using the iPad as an artistic tool students learn the basics of photography, videography, computer graphics and animation.

NEW! DIGITAL DESIGN & 3D MODELING (Semester-long, .5 credit)

Students interested in design and engineering will learn how to solve problems using digital design tools and 3D printing. Students build skills in engineering and technology in order to design, prototype and test new creations.

NEW! WEIGHT TRAINING/CONDITIONING (Semester-long, .5 credit)

This class is designed for students to work on their strength and cardiovascular training. Students will have the opportunity to learn and create strength and cardio programs to meet their personal fitness goals

