8th Grade Forecasting 2020-2021

Student Name _____   Student ID# _____

All 8th grade PCMS students will take 7 courses: **Science, Language Arts, Social Studies ("Community Block"),** PE/Health, Math, 2 elective choices. (Course descriptions on back page) *Extra support classes such as Math or Reading Lab may be required for some students & would take the place of one or more of the student's electives. These would be assigned by a student's case manager and not open to everyone.*

STEP 1:
Choose a TOTAL of 2 credits

	COURSE TITLE	COURSE ID#	CREDITS	SELECT ✔
Max 1 Choice	French 1 or French 2	FL208SMS or FL205SMS	1	
	Japanese 1 or Japanese 2	FL501SMS or FL503SMS	1	
	Spanish 1 or Spanish 2	FL303SMS or FL304SMS	1	
Max 1 Choice	Concert Choir	FA310SMS	1	
	Orchestra	FA505SMS	1	
	Band	FA205SMS	1	
	Advanced Band (only if experienced)	FA211SMS	1	
Max 2 Choice	Art 103	FA104SMS9	.5	
	Technology Design	AA353SMS9	.5	
	Advanced Design & Modeling	AA308SMS9	.5	
	Leadership	MD204SMS9	.5	
	Computer Science 1	AA320SMS9	.5	
	TOTAL CREDITS		**MUST = 2** ➡	

STEP 2:
Choose 3 alternative choices. Due to scheduling conflicts & teacher availability students **may not always get their first elective choices**. Please note that every effort will be made to meet student requests based on class size & availability.

ALTERNATE COURSE TITLE & COURSE NUMBER
#1 choice
#2 choice
#3 choice

STEP 3:
"I have reviewed with my guardian(s) & commit to participate in the outlined elective choices for the 2020-2021 school year"

Student Signature_____   Parent Signature_____

☐ My child participates in MBSEF. (We cannot guarantee scheduling around this out of school activity)

*Students will need this form to do online forecasting at school March 18th &19th

French 1 The four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) will be included in this course. Students will be expected to communicate at a novice level on topics such as self, classroom, family, calendar, time, weather, friends, activities and food. Students will also explore a variety of topics related to the French-speaking world.

French 2 Prerequisite: C or better in French 1. This course includes a review of the material covered in French 1. It will aim at improving conversation skills and will expand vocabulary. Students will continue to explore their appreciation of the cultures of the French-speaking world.

Japanese 1 In the first year of Japanese, students will learn the language required to talk about themselves, their school and community, their family life and the geography of Japan. They will learn the first alphabet (hiragana) of the Japanese writing system and will be exposed to cultural aspects through participatory activities in calligraphy, origami and Japanese cuisine. Fifty kanji (Chinese) characters will also be taught. Guest speakers will be invited to lead discussions on subjects ranging from business and school life to travel.

Japanese 2 Prerequisite: C or better in Japanese 1 This course will be a continuation of the goals and course work introduced in Japanese 1. Increasingly complex language forms will be introduced to create more realistic and natural communication styles. The reading and writing will be entirely in Japanese (i.e., hiragana, katakana and kanji). Additional kanji will be taught. There will be a continued focus on cultural aspects introduced in Japanese 1.

Spanish 1 The four language skills (listening, reading, writing and speaking) will be addressed. Students will be working toward understanding and communicating about familiar topics. These topics include self, family and friends, school and community. Students will also be exposed to the many cultures in the Hispanic world.

Spanish 2 Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish 1 This course includes a review of the material covered in Spanish 1. Topics will include home, clothing, leisure activities, places/community, parties and celebrations, travel, and entertainment. Students will continue to expand their knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic cultures.

Concert Choir is open to all students with or without previous singing experience. A wide variety of music is studied and performed. Emphasis is on skill and character development. Attendance at all performances of this group during and outside the school day is required.

Advanced Band Prerequisite: at least one year of playing your instrument Advanced band works on the same core concepts as beginning band: quality of sound, technique, and musicality, with an emphasis on
band literature as our teaching model. We will pull music from different nationalities, genre, and tonalities, and increase our proficiency on our core concepts. We will break down our core concepts to include tone, intonation, blend and balance, articulation, rhythm and precision, facility, dynamics, phrasing, interpretation, and style. **Beginning band is also open to all grade levels.

Advanced Orchestra Prerequisite: at least one year of playing your instrument. Advanced Orchestra is an upper level orchestra. Students must be proficient in note reading and comfortable in first position on all 4
strings. Students will explore different styles of music, while learning more advanced skills on their instruments. There are concerts and festivals scheduled throughout the year. **Beginning orchestra is open to all grade levels.

Art 103 (Semester-Long Course) is an accumulation of ideas and skills. Students will be asked to look at art outside of the traditional box by exploring various materials and conceptual themes. They will continue to learn how to "read/decode" a work of art to better understand how other artists use visual language to communicate. Artists will create their own conceptual artworks and be able to defend their artistic choices.

Advanced Design and Modeling (Semester-Long Course) This course builds on the skills learned in DM 102. Students apply the design process to larger scope real-world problems. Students participate in various design challenges in preparation for a long-term project where teams may design solutions for the empty lot in front of PCMS or create a project of their own. Along with learning increasingly advanced skills on the CAD program AutoDesk Inventor, students gain exposure to the industry standard AutoDesk architectural CAD program called Revit. Our design process this term is based off of Stanford University's d.School (design school) model. Students work more closely with the user/stakeholder to empathize, define the problem, ideate, prototype and test their solutions. Students also document in greater detail the iterative nature of the design process. Collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity and compassion are all continually practiced throughout the term.

Leadership (Semester-Long Course) This course teaches students to be positive change agents. Students will explore the essential question: How do leaders effectively communicate? Through this course students will gain a better understanding of their true leadership potential by focusing on goal setting and exploring the influence and potential of effective communication. Students will also help to lead service learning projects in order to promote a positive and productive school climate. Throughout the course, students will participate in class activities that will demand their best effort. Students are required to complete ten hours (10) of community service during the semester. These hours must be completed outside of the regular school day.

Technology Design (Semester-Long Course) is an exploration of the artistic characteristics and tools of modern digital media. In Technology Design students will use the Principles of Design and creative problem solving as they develop a foundation in the practical applications of photography, videography, computer graphics, and animation. All students will participate in design cycle projects such as photo editing, movie production, community service projects, PSA's, and research projects.

Computer Science 1 (Semester-Long Course) Students who participate in Computer Science 1 will learn the foundational concepts and skills they will need for success in high school Computer courses. Although learning to code and program is a central task, the course is designed to introduce students to ALL of the concepts of Computer Science through engaging activities that are both on and off the computer. They will solve real world problems that require both hard and soft skills both individually and in groups. The course will strengthen their ability to communicate, collaborate, critically think and be creative through various projects that depend on their willingness to persevere and work accurately.