

Middle School Registration Guide

This registration guide is designed to assist students and parent/guardians in understanding the Hidden Oaks and Twin Oaks Middle School's program of studies and registration process. Course descriptions for spectrum classes, required classes and options that require an application and/or referral process are available on the web site.

Please note the following during this selection process:

- All students, grades 6-8, will take a total of six courses each grading term (1 quarter = grading term).
- Each class is 53 minutes in length.
- The seventh class period is lunch and primetime, which is non-graded.
- Note the length of each course; quarter, semester or year-long.
- Some courses are every day while some are every other day, following a day 1/day 2 schedule.

STEP 1: Carefully review the course descriptions to make your selections.

STEP 2: Please **use the registration form at the end of this packet** to indicate your desired course choices. Parent signature required.

STEP 3: Please submit a written request to your school's guidance office for scheduling needs or special accommodations for your student.

Daily Schedule (Quarter/Semester)

Period 1 7:25 – 8:18 53 minutes

Period 2 8:23 – 9:16 53 minutes

Period 3 9:21 – 10:14 53 minutes

Period 4 or lunch 10:19 – 11:12 53 minutes (30 minutes lunch/23 minutes Primetime)

Period 5 or lunch 11:17 – 12:10 53 minutes (30 minutes lunch/23 minutes Primetime)

Period 6 or lunch 12:15 – 1:08 53 minutes (30 minutes lunch/23 minutes Primetime)

Period 7 1:13– 2:06 53 minutes

Schedule allows 5 minutes passing time to accommodate for street crossing

***Primetime:**

(Every day, before or after lunch)

Primetime provides a group setting for class activities and discussion topics appropriate to middle school level students. Primetime is used as a "check-in" time for students and a time to address personal academic goals, and student progress. Specific days may be reserved for school-wide activities, such as reading day.

6th Grade Schedule

Math Concepts (every day)	Math (every day)	Adv. Math (every day)
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English (every day)	Adv. English (every day)	
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Science (every day)	Adv. Science (every day)	
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Minnesota Studies (every day for semester)	Advanced Minnesota Studies (every day for semester)	
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Health (one quarter) Art (one quarter) FACS (one quarter) Industrial Tech. (one quarter) PE (one semester)		
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Elective choice (every other day):		
Band	Choir	Music Exploration & Digital World
AND/OR		
Spanish A (every other day)	Math Extension (every other day)	
AND/OR		
Reading Extension (every day)		

7th Grade Schedule

Prealgebra Concepts (every day)	Prealgebra (every day)	Adv. Prealgebra (every day)
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English (every day)	Adv. English (every day)	
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Science (every day)	Adv. Science (every day)	
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American History (every day)	Advanced American History (every day)	
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PE (one semester) / Health (one semester) (every other day)		
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Elective choices (every other day):		
Student may choose: 6 semester courses		
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<u>Two Semesters Long:</u>	<u>One Semester long:</u>	
Band 7	Art/Tech & Clay	Design & Modeling
Choir 7	Art & Crafts	Trans & Aerospace
Ext. Rdg (if required)	Keyboarding	Cook-Buy-Sew!
Ext. Math (if required)	Webpage	It's Not Just Cooking
Spanish A	PE BLAST	PE 4 LIFE
Spanish B	So You Think You Can Drum?	

8th Grade Schedule

Algebra Concepts (every day)	Algebra (every day)	Advanced Algebra (every day)
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English (every day)	Advanced English (every day)	
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Earth Science (every day)	Advanced Science (every day)	
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Global Studies (every day)	Advanced Global Studies (every day)	
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Elective Choice #1		
Student may choose: 1 year-long course or 4 quarter courses		
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<u>Year-long options:</u>	<u>Quarter long options:</u>	
Band 8	Keyboarding	Intro to French
Choir 8	Time Travel Art	Intro to German
Spanish I	Photoshop Art & Design	Wall Street
Spanish II	Foods for Entertaining	All Amped Up
German I	Sewing and Fashion for Teens	Automation & Robotics
French I	Medical Detective	Green Architecture
		Health in the Digital World
PE ATTACK (can be chosen 1, 2, 3 or 4 times)		
Personal Training (can be chosen 1, 2, 3 or 4 times)		
Reading Extension or Math Extension (full year)		
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Elective Choice #2		
Student may choose: 1 year-long course or 4 quarter courses		
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(same options as Elective # 1 above)		

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

ADVANCED COURSES

Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools is dedicated to and invested in each student's success. The majority of students in grades 6-12 find appropriate levels of challenge within the general classroom setting and some students desire a more challenging, rigorous academic experience. Advanced Courses are designed to meet the needs of students who are motivated, highly capable and require higher levels of academic challenge.

Advanced Courses in English, Science, Social Studies, History and Math are designed to cover the same outcomes and curriculum as mainstream courses, with variations in pacing, depth and complexity of study, as well as an increased level of expectation regarding student work.

While in middle and high school, it is important that each student be provided with an appropriate level of challenge. This challenge should provide a sufficient amount of rigor with the probability of success and result in academic growth and confidence building. When a student is placed in an advanced course, students are expected to complete the class. To match students' academic readiness and needs with the most appropriate classroom setting, a placement consideration process is used to determine which students would be placed in each Advanced Course sequence. When determining the number and size of advanced course sections, the number of placed students, class size, and staffing are variables that are considered.

Placement screening process for Advanced Courses:

Math	English	Science	Social Studies
*90% MAP Math	*90% MAP Reading	*90% MAP Math *90% MAP Reading	*90% MAP Reading

Note to parents: We recommend you take several factors into consideration when deciding how many Advanced Courses your child will take. Even though s/he may meet criteria for all four Advanced Courses, students are not required to take them. Please consider your child's interest level in the subject area, his/her extracurricular activity schedule and your child's pace when working on homework. If you have additional questions regarding these considerations, please contact the Guidance Office.

EXTENSION COURSES

Prior Lake - Savage Area Schools is dedicated to and invested in each student's success. Some students need more basic level support in the areas of reading and math. Extension courses are designed to meet the needs of students who are performing below grade level expectations.

Extension courses in math and reading are designed to help support students who are struggling with the areas of reading and math. Consideration for placement will include MCA and MAP scores. To match students' academic needs, a placement process is used to determine which students qualify for each program in math and reading. Number of qualified applicants, class size, and staffing considerations are taken into account when determining the number and size of extension classes.

READING EXTENSION – Grades 6, 7 and 8: (Placement by test scores)

(6th grade - Every day, year-long)

(7th grade - Every day, year-long)

(8th grade - Every day, year-long)

This course focuses on students developing their reading skills and practicing strategic reading behaviors used in and out of the classroom. This course is geared to the students who need additional support in reading. It provides opportunities for growth in vocabulary, critical comprehension, and fluency. Researched-based interventions will be implemented. Instruction promotes silent reading and comprehension of informational material, such as textbook reading. Students enrolled in this course will be exposed to a curriculum which emphasizes the skills focused on the MCA III reading test. This class is not an elective and does not replace their required English class.

MATH EXTENSION – Grades 6, 7 and 8: (Placement by test scores)

(6th and 7th grade - Every other day, year-long)

(8th grade – Every day, year-long)

This course is geared to the student who needs additional support in basic math skills. Students enrolled in this course will be exposed to a curriculum which emphasizes the skills focused on the MCA III math test. This class is not an elective and does not replace their required Math class.

6th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH 6

(Every day, all year)

Students will engage in learning experiences, centered on reading and writing and vocabulary study. Students will create an interactive notebook where they will practice critical reading strategies, grammar, vocabulary skills, literary elements and writing. Student work is assigned with the goal of developing and leading a language-rich sixth grade life.

ADVANCED ENGLISH 6

(Every day, all year)

Sixth grade students will engage in rigorous guided and independent practice deepening students' ability to effectively use, analyze and enjoy language and the author's craft. This course extends beyond the required core curriculum and places additional emphasis on independent study and higher order thinking skills. Students need to be highly motivated learners, interested in literature, and established writers. Students are expected to exercise independent and complex thinking, reading, writing, and learning skills through self-initiated and teacher directed areas of study. This course will help students gain strong academic skills, knowledge and academic confidence that will help to prepare them in future courses.

MINNESOTA STUDIES 6

(Every day, semester)

In this semester-long course students will expand their understanding of Minnesota history, civics, geography and economics. Students will engage in historical inquiry and critical thought as they study events, issues, and individuals significant to Minnesota's past and present.

ADVANCED MINNESOTA STUDIES 6

(Every day, semester)

Advanced Minnesota Studies is a semester-long course designed to create a more rigorous academic experience for students with an interest in Minnesota Studies. In this semester long course, students will explore the history, civics, geography, and economics of Minnesota. Students will engage in historical inquiry and critical thought as they study events, issues, and individuals significant to Minnesota's past and present. Students will examine a variety of primary and secondary sources in their studies, thus helping them gain a deeper and more meaningful understanding of people and events that helped shape our state.

SCIENCE 6

(Every day, year-long)

Students will study Engineering through a variety of topics such as Matter and Energy, Motion and Forces, the Atom, Interactions of Matter, Introduction to the Periodic Table, Waves, and Sounds and Light. In addition to reading technical writing for content, students will work to learn and improve their scientific vocabulary both in practice and practical use. In addition to the technical reading and taking notes, students will engage in scientific inquiry labs where students ask questions, develop and carry out investigations, make predictions, gather evidence, and propose explanations.

ADVANCED SCIENCE 6

(Every day, year-long)

This course is designed for a rigorous and a more in depth differentiated classroom instruction and will concentrate on developing essential foundational skills and concepts. It begins with an extensive introduction to the scientific method and measurement techniques as a basis for the next three years of science study. Lab experiments and lab reports develop an understanding of the scientific method. Observation, the collection of data, and the interpretation of that data are stressed throughout the course. Students will study Engineering through a variety of topics such as Matter and Energy, Motion and Forces, the Atom, Interactions of Matter, Introduction to the Periodic Table, Waves, and Sounds and Light.

MATH CONCEPTS 6

(Every day, year-long)

This course is tailored for the student who needs additional arithmetic review while learning new concepts and skills in the areas of algebra, geometry, and data analysis & probability. Problem solving strategies are interwoven throughout the course. Topics are presented in a variety of ways, at a slower pace, in order to accommodate different learning styles.

MATH 6

(Every day, year-long)

This course is a continuation of arithmetic skills. Students will also review and learn new material in the areas of algebra, geometry, and data analysis & probability. Mathematical concepts are taught and studied through application and practice problems, providing opportunities to develop skills and to understand the importance of mathematics in everyday life. Problem solving is interwoven throughout the course.

ADVANCED MATH 6

(Every day, year-long)

Students will be held to a higher and more rigorous academic level. Students will study math in greater depth and at a more challenging pace. In this class, students will learn concepts about rational numbers, their operations, and their algebraic representations by using number lines and rulers as well as physical and verbal models. Students will also apply their skills to problem – solving situations and use estimation to check reasonableness. Other topics of study include: equations and functions, geometry, square roots, and probability

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6

(Every day, one semester)

In this class the students have the opportunity to participate in team sports, lifetime activities and individual skill development. There is an emphasis on teamwork through demonstrating good sportsmanship and respectful behavior. Physical education units vary due to the seasons.

HEALTH 6

(Every day, one quarter)

This course is designed to focus on the prevention of unhealthy behaviors and the promotion of attitudes and behaviors that can lead to lifelong health practices. Central themes are focused around the National Health Standards. Included in the course are the acceptance of personal responsibility for lifelong health; respect for and promotion of the health of others; an understanding of the process of growth and development; informed use of health-related information, products and services.

ART 6

(Every day, one quarter)

This class will explore a variety of different media, including units in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculptures and ceramics (clay). Students will continue to develop their knowledge of the vast art world as well as continue to develop their individual skills in each unit of art. Each project incorporates the art elements and principles of design ensuring a finished final project.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE 6 (FACS)

(Every day, one quarter)

Students are introduced to Family and Consumer Science in 6th grade. Students will study self-esteem, friendship, anti-bullying topics, child care and home alone safety. Students will learn about healthy eating during the nutrition unit. Students enjoy the cooking labs, learning preparation techniques while making healthy snacks. Hand sewing will be taught through the design and construction of a stuffed pillow.

IT 6 (Industrial Technology)

(Every day, one quarter)

This class consists of a measurement and drafting unit, and a clock construction unit. In the measurement and drafting unit, students will learn to read a ruler and use basic drafting tools to create simple mechanical drawings. The students will create a clock plan and use their plan to construct a clock. Prior to building the clock, machine safety will be covered. All students must pass the safety tests with 100% accuracy before they will be allowed to use the machines.

SPANISH A

(Every other day, year-long)

In this course, the students will be introduced to the basics of Spanish language and culture through speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Students will be encouraged and expected to use Spanish for communication and self-expression. Students who are required to take an additional reading or math course will not be taking the Spanish course.

MUSIC 6 OPTIONS:

(Every other day, year-long)

Band

Learning to play an instrument is a fun life skill! Students enrolled in 6th Grade Band will begin developing skills by performing music from rock to pop and classical to jazz. Students will also learn the basics of music theory and notation (pitch and rhythmic), concepts of musical expressivity, and rehearsal/performance etiquette. Additionally, 6th grade band students will meet weekly for small group lessons and every other day for full concert band rehearsal. They will perform in their first band concerts! Fun activities include Band Olympics, rhythm bingo, and A.M.P. ceremonies (kids love this!). Connect with a middle school band director if there is concern about acquiring an instrument. Most students participate in the Community Education beginning band program the summer before 6th grade.

Choir

Students enrolled in 6th Grade Choir will learn musical skills and vocal technique through studies of music from a variety of different styles and genres of repertoire. Students will also learn basics of music theory and notation (pitch and rhythmic), concepts of musical expressivity, and rehearsal/performance etiquette. Assessment of these items will occur both informally (via daily class instruction) and formally (via public concert performances).

Music Exploration/ Digital World

Music Exploration: (Every other day, one semester paired with Digital World)

Students enrolled in "Music Exploration" will be exposed to a variety of musical experiences and opportunities as students learn about musical cultures from America and around the world. Students will learn through hands-on musical study including world music drumming and beginning guitar instruction. They will also learn basics of music theory in addition to a brief study in music history and musical theater.

The Digital World: (every other day, one semester paired with Music Exploration)

Want to learn your way around the computer? Type assignments more quickly? Organize your files and evaluate web sites? Develop or expand your use of Word, Excel, Power Point, and Publisher? Protect yourself against identity theft and viruses? Create a blog, use digital pictures and add audio? Then this is the class for you. You'll discover computer skills to use at school and at home valuable for the rest of your life. Whether you have very little or a lot of experience with computers, there is more to learn in the digital world.

7th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH 7

(Every day, all year)

Students will read a variety of novels, short stories, poetry, and non-fiction selections. Students will expand vocabulary, apply the elements of fiction, and evaluate various forms of literature. They will use the writing process to form works of informative, expressive and persuasive writing for a variety of audiences and purposes.

ADVANCED ENGLISH 7

(Every day, all year)

Advanced English extends beyond the required core curriculum and places additional emphasis on independent study and higher order thinking skills. As there will be both extensive outside reading and summer reading required, students need to be highly motivated learners, interested in literature. Students are expected to exercise independent and complex thinking, reading, writing, and learning skills through self-initiated and teacher directed areas of study. Advanced English is designed to challenge and nurture students who are skilled in Language Arts. Students will be guided through rigorous independent coursework with a focus on academic writing and an intensive study of a variety of texts. This course will help students gain strong academic skills, knowledge and academic confidence to prepare them in future Advanced English courses.

AMERICAN HISTORY 7

(Every day, all year)

American History Seven is a course focused on studying our nation's history from 1800's to the 1900's. This course will also feature a strong component of citizenship, Government, Economics and Geography. This course will analyze major events that helped shape our nation's history and how these events have impacted how people live, work, and function in society.

ADVANCED AMERICAN HISTORY 7

(Every day, all year)

Advanced American History Seven is a course designed to create a more rigorous academic experience for students with a more in-depth interest in American history from the 1800's to the 1900's. Throughout this course, students will be asked to think and analyze historical events as actual historians would do. Students will be asked to analyze primary and secondary source documents to gain a deeper and more meaningful understanding of events that have shaped our nation's history.

LIFE SCIENCE 7

(Every day, all year)

Students will discover the wonders of life through problem solving and activity-based learning. The course covers the exploration of cells and life processes, classification of organisms, viruses/monerans/protists/fungi and plants, and ecology. The students will also demonstrate knowledge of interactions and interdependence of living systems by understanding heredity, reproduction, behavior, and regulation of plants, animals, and microorganisms. Hands-on lab activities include making observations with microscopes, studying bacteria, dissecting animals, and insect studies. .

ADVANCED LIFE SCIENCE 7

(Every day, all year)

The accelerated course for grade 7 Life Science is a rigorous instructional program that incorporates knowledge acquisition through guided experimentation and application of content knowledge to an understanding of current scientific issues. The course is designed for academically advanced students to foster their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Students will be challenged to acquire skills in observation, data analysis, and effective communication. They will use these experiences as a bridge to achievement in more advanced science courses. Students will utilize supplemental reading materials in addition to a textbook that differs from the one used in the general course. This provides advanced students with resources appropriate for in-depth understanding of the curriculum.

PRE-ALGEBRA CONCEPTS 7

(Every day, all year)

This course is tailored for the student who needs additional arithmetic review while learning new concepts and skills in preparation for algebra and geometry. Problem solving strategies are interwoven throughout the course. Topics are presented in a variety of ways, at a slower pace, in order to accommodate different learning styles.

PRE-ALGEBRA 7

(Every day, all year)

This course is a transition from arithmetic to algebra and geometry. Students will study mathematical concepts through applications and practical problems, providing opportunities to develop skills and to understand the importance of mathematics in everyday life. Problem solving is interwoven throughout the course.

ADVANCED PRE-ALGEBRA 7

(Every day, all year)

Advanced Pre-Algebra will hold students to a higher and more rigorous academic level. Students will study Pre-Algebra in greater depth and at a more challenging pace. Pre-Algebra skills and concepts are integrated in a study of geometry, measurement, probability, statistics, equations, and graphing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7

(Every other day, one semester - required)

In this class the students have the opportunity to participate in team sports, lifetime activities and individual skill development. There is an emphasis on teamwork through demonstrating good sportsmanship and respectful behavior. Physical education units vary due to the seasons.

HEALTH 7

(Every other day, one semester - required)

This course is designed to focus on the promotion of attitudes and behaviors that can lead to good lifelong health practices with emphasis on the prevention of unhealthy choices. Central themes are focused around the National Health Standards. Included in the course are units focusing on fitness, nutrition, personal health and chemical health.

PE B.L.A.S.T. 7

(Building Leaders through Athletics, Strategy, and Teamwork)

(Every other day, one semester – Can be chosen one or two times per year)

Get ready for BLAST off! This elective class provides students with an opportunity to participate in a Physical Education class (in addition to the required class, Physical Education 7) with an increased level of fun and competition. Each semester students in PE BLAST will participate in team and individual activities while promoting positivity and teamwork.

PE 4 LIFE 7

(Every other day, one semester – Can be chosen one or two times per year)

This elective class gives students the chance to participate in individual activities and team sports. Focus will be on development of health, lifetime activities, and enjoyment of being physically active. A variety of fitness based activities and challenges will be available to PE 4 Life Students based on the season and weather...

WORLD LANGUAGE 7 OPTIONS:

(Every other day, year-long)

For students who are not required to take an additional reading or math class, two world language tracks are available.

SPANISH A

(Every other day, year-long)

In this course, the students will be introduced to the basics of Spanish language and culture through speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Students will be encouraged and expected to use Spanish for communication and self-expression. Students who are required to take an additional reading or math course will not be taking the Spanish course. Please note: students taking Spanish A as seventh graders will not be eligible to move on

to Level II as eighth graders. If Spanish is chosen in eighth grade, students will be placed in Level I (year-long, every day).

Spanish B

(Every other day, year-long)

(Prerequisite: C minimum in Spanish A)

In this course, the students will acquire and expand upon the basics of the Spanish language and culture through speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Students will begin to use more complex grammar and sentence structures. Students will be encouraged to use Spanish for communication and self-expression. An assessment will be given to students prior to registration for 8th grade to help determine the appropriate level should a student decide to continue in Spanish II for 8th grade.

ART, TECHNOLOGY & CLAY 7

(Every other day, one semester)

Want to learn more about your creative superpowers? In this class, students will create projects exploring imagination and personal interests as they discover new techniques – and amazing new ways to express themselves! Drawing skills (perspective and portraiture), hand-building with clay, and an introduction to the many possibilities of Adobe Photoshop combine with thoughtful content and critical awareness to deepen understanding of art and the varied technologies used in its making. Digital artworks and cool clay – this class has it all!

WORLD ART & CRAFTS 7

(Every other day, one semester)

Does an exotic trip around the world sound like a great idea? In this class, you will travel the world as you explore how artists in many different cultures express themselves and the world around them. Using a wide variety of media (painting, clay, printmaking and sculpture), students will “visit” the Australian Outback, central Mexico, sub-Saharan Africa, the tomb of Chinese emperor Qin Shi Huang, and lots more - no passport required!

COOK IT, BUY IT, SEW IT, TAKE IT! 7

(Every other day, one semester)

If you like variety then this is the class for you! Students will become better consumers learning about budgeting and advertising. Students will learn about resources to help make better consumer decisions. Students will also apply their consumer and decision making skills while cooking in the kitchen. Students will be comparing and evaluating a variety of foods to make informed food choices. An example would be comparing pre-made chocolate chip cookies, homemade chocolate chip cookies and healthier chocolate chip cookies. Other possible comparisons include homemade and packaged macaroni and cheese, homemade and packaged pizza or snack foods. Students will also have fun in the sewing unit making a project using the sewing machine. Possible sewing projects are pajama pants and/or pillow cases.

IT'S NOT JUST COOKING 7

(Every other day, one semester)

Learning to cook involves more than just cooking. Students will explore food trends, nutrition, food labels, food packaging and food safety. Students will examine the foods and cultures from around the world. Cooking and baking knowledge and skills will be expanded through the participation in a variety of labs. Some of the labs may include pancakes, quesadillas, Asian lettuce wraps, parmesan knots, muffins, cookies and snack foods. We also have a few taste tests throughout the units for students to try and learn about new foods.

DESIGN AND MODELING – PLTW 7 (Industrial Technology)

(Every other day, one semester)

In Design and Modeling students will learn about technology, engineering and the design process by creating three dimensional (3-D) computer drawings. Most of the class activities will be project based and involve creating 3-D drawings on the computer using a software design program called Autodesk Inventor. Some of the exciting projects that students will learn how to create on the computer include Lego parts, a peg board, mechanical arm as well as other interesting projects. This is a great class for students who are interested in computers and learning about drawing, design and basic engineering concepts.

TRANSPORTATION AND AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY 7 (Industrial Technology)

(Every other day, one semester)

In Transportation and Aerospace Technology students will learn about a variety of different aerospace and transportation topics. Some of the projects students may create include a model dragster, solar powered car, wind turbine, model airplane or a rocket. In addition to these topics students will learn about the applications of flight and transportation technology. The class instruction will focus on project based learning where students will spend time creating and working on projects associated with the course topics.

KEYBOARDING 7

(Every other day, one semester)

Keyboarding is a skill that is utilized in many facets of daily life. This course provides introductory development of basic keyboarding skills. Students will use the typing program Typing Club to proceed from basic alphabetic keyboarding through keyboarding skill builder. Emphasis is on developing touch control of the keyboard using proper keyboarding techniques and building basic speed and accuracy. In addition to learning to type by touch, students will also learn the basic features of Google Drive.

WEB PAGE DESIGN 7

(Every other day, one semester)

This course will introduce students to basic web site design. Student will use Dreamweaver CS6 and basic html code to create personal and informational web sites. Students will learn how to plan a web site. They will consider web page design basics, web page background, effective text placement, hyperlinks; utilize website colors, and graphics.

BAND 7

(Every other day, year-long)

Continuing to learn to play an instrument is a fun life skill! Students enrolled in 7th Grade Band will further develop their skills by performing music from rock to pop and classical to jazz. Students will also learn basics of music theory and notation (pitch and rhythmic), concepts of musical expressivity, and rehearsal/performance etiquette. Additionally, 7th Grade Band students will experience marching band for the first time. 7th Grade Band students will have the opportunity to audition for and participate in extra-curricular instrumental music ensembles including 7-8 Jazz Band and 7-8 Honor Band. *Prerequisite: One year of band or director approval required.

CHOIR 7 (Girls – Dolce Choir, Boys – Cambiata Choir)

(Every other day, year-long)

Students in 7th Grade Choir will continue to develop appropriate vocal technique and skill in an effort to understand and develop their changing voices. Basic skills in music theory will be taught during this course as they apply to the music being taught. Students will also develop or enhance their performance skills by participating in concerts throughout the year. This is a gender based choir; boys and girls meet separately in choir classes.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DRUM? 7

(Every other day, one semester)

"So You Think You Can Drum?" is a course that is open to students who wish to have an in depth study of world music drumming. In this course, students will focus largely on ensemble playing and will experience a variety of drumming styles from around the world including but not limited to Caribbean, Latin, and West African drumming styles and traditions. Students will learn to play a variety of instruments throughout the course of this class and will demonstrate their knowledge through class and, when available, public performances. Students will be graded via class participation, performance exams (playing tests) and demonstration of skills and/or technique.

8th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH 8

(Every day, all year)

This course consists of various types of writing, novel studies, short stories, poetry, reading strategies, public speaking, grammar and vocabulary. The student will demonstrate the ability to comprehend and evaluate complex information in fictional and non-fictional reading and communicate effectively through speaking and writing.

ADVANCED ENGLISH 8

(Every day, all year)

Advanced English is designed to challenge and nurture students who are skilled in Language Arts. Students will be guided through rigorous independent coursework and with a focus on academic writing and an intensive study of a variety of texts. English extends beyond the required core curriculum and places additional emphasis on independent study and higher order thinking skills. As there will be both extensive outside reading and summer reading required, students need to be highly motivated learners, interested in literature. Students are expected to exercise independent and complex thinking, reading, writing, and learning skills through self-initiated and teacher directed areas of study.

EARTH SCIENCE 8

(Every day, all year)

Students will demonstrate understanding of the composition, structure, and processes of Earth systems, including the geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere. The concepts of change and constancy in Earth's history, theories of origin through evidence found in fossils, rock layers, land forms, and natural events will also be studied. Students will also learn the relative position and motion of objects in the solar system including moon phases, tides, seasons, eclipses, and planetary motion. Students will discuss and study the Earth's resources, environment, and weather. Current events related to the Earth sciences will be introduced as they occur. Skills needed to gather information, perform lab experiments, and understand science will be emphasized throughout the year.

ADVANCED EARTH SCIENCE 8

(Every day, all year)

The accelerated course for 8th grade Earth Science integrates content knowledge with guided experimentation, critical thinking and current issues in science. Students will be challenged to acquire skills in observation, data analysis, communication and problem-solving. The course is designed to prepare students for accelerated science courses at the high school level. Topics of study throughout the year include earth materials, plate tectonics, astronomy and meteorology. Environmental issues and topics will also be addressed throughout the course. Students will use the same text as the general 8th grade Earth Science classes.

GLOBAL STUDIES 8

(Every day, all year)

Students in Global Studies explore the regions of the world using geographic information from print and electronic sources. They will analyze important trends in the modern world including cultural characteristics, economic development and trade, population and migration, and human interaction with the environment. Students will be learning about the following regions: Canada and the United States, Latin America, Europe and Russia, Africa, Southeast and Central Asia, Monsoon Asia, and Oceania and Antarctica.

ADVANCED GLOBAL STUDIES 8

(Every day, all year)

Students in Global Studies will explore the regions of the world using geographic information from print and electronic sources. They will analyze important trends in the modern world including cultural characteristics, economic development and trade, population and migration, and human interaction with the environment. Students will be learning about the following regions: Canada and the United States, Latin America, Europe and Russia, Africa, Southeast and Central Asia, Monsoon Asia, and Oceania and Antarctica. This course will help to develop the necessary background and skills for students to transition into high school A.P. Social Studies courses.

ALGEBRA CONCEPTS 8

(Every day, all year)

This course is tailored for the student who needs more processing time when learning new concepts. Students who enroll in this class begin the Algebra I text in grade 8 and complete the text in grade 9. The course focuses on the aspects of linear algebra including representing functions in four forms, properties of numbers, solving linear equations, rules of exponents, graphing and linear systems of equations. Students learn through application and practical problems to understand the importance of mathematics in everyday life. Assignments will be given almost daily.

ALGEBRA 8

(Every day, all year)

This course is intended for the average math student who has successfully completed Pre Algebra. This Algebra Course focuses on the following units, but is not limited to: representing functions in four forms, properties of numbers, solving linear equations, rules of exponents, graphing and linear systems of equations, slopes, polynomials, systems of equations, and quadratic equations. Students learn through application and practical problems to understand the importance of mathematics in everyday life. Assignments will be given almost daily.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA 8

(Every day, all year)

Advanced Algebra will hold students to a higher and more rigorous academic level. Students will study Algebra in a greater depth and at a more challenging pace. Algebraic concepts relating to real life situations are taught through equations, inequalities, graphing, geometry, probability and statistics. This course is geared to the top students of the class. Students taking this course should find math challenging, enjoy working through complicated problems, and be highly motivated.

HONORS GEOMETRY

(Every day, all year)

*This course is equivalent to the Geometry Honors Course offered at the high school.

This course will include the study of points, lines, angles, polygons, circles, surface area, volume, methods of proof, transformations, congruence and similarity. The overall goal of the Honors level courses is to continue to develop students' problem solving abilities and critical thinking skills by extending the content and concepts being covered. The Honors class will have more focus placed on the use of higher level thinking skills and investigating higher level questions. This course will be listed on the student's high school transcript and will not affect their high school credits or high school grade point average.

HEALTH IN THE DIGITAL WORLD 8

(Every day, one quarter)

This class is designed to educate students about health concerns at the middle school level, high school level and beyond. Student choice will guide this technology-driven, creative project-based, age-appropriate curriculum and assessment. Engaging content includes lessons in Chemical Health, Growth and Development, Disease Prevention, and training in CPR and First Aid skills. Completion of this course will meet the new MN requirements (effective in 2014) that all students 7-12 will receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillators.

MEDICAL DETECTIVES 8

(Every day, one quarter) – 8th Grade Health Elective

You will play the role of a real-life medical detective as you analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." You will solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health. This Project Lead the Way course, is an introduction to the biomedical sciences, and is a perfect fit for anyone who is interested in health, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, forensic science (as featured in television shows like "CSI", "Bones", "NCIS", and "Law and Order"), and veterinary medicine.

PE A.T.T.A.C.K. 8 (Advanced Training, Teamwork, Athletics, Competition and Knowledge)

(Every day, one quarter - Can be chosen 1, 2, 3 or 4 times)

Prepare for the ATTACK! This elective class provides students an opportunity to participate in daily Physical Education at an advanced level. Students will participate in team and individual activities with an emphasis on applying skills and strategy at a higher level of performance. Each quarter this class will offer a variety activities and sports based on the season with an emphasis on fun. Students will have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of a competitive setting that promotes positive peer interactions.

PERSONAL TRAINING 8

(Every day, one quarter - Can be chosen 1, 2, 3 or 4 times)

Train hard every day! Through technology and hands on experience, students will study different muscles in the body, how the different muscles work together, and learn specific exercises on how to train different muscle groups. After analyzing personal fitness goals, students will develop a personal weight training program to fit their individual needs. This class is primarily in the weight room at Twin Oaks with the use of other facilities to help students achieve their goals.

TIME TRAVELLING ARTISTS 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Have you ever wished you could go back in time? In Time Travelling Artists, you can do just that as you create art inspired by some of the world's greatest civilizations and artists in history. Students in this class will complete projects using clay, oil pastels, and paint, among other possible media while learning about history in a fun and exciting way. If you consider yourself an artist (and even if you don't), this class is a must!

PHOTOSHOP DESIGN AND ART 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Explore the world where art and technology merge. Learn how to master Photoshop and discover how it can be used to create exciting artwork as you create digital drawing projects and see how graphics are used to communicate ideas to a specific audience. Projects include designing your own CD cover, inventing your own drink label, manipulating photographs, and more.

KEYBOARDING 8

(Every day, one quarter)

This class will emphasize keyboard review, microcomputer terminology, speed development, word processing applications, and PowerPoint activities. Students will review and explore Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Google Drive will also be utilized for applications throughout the trimester. Students will apply their improved typing skills directly to their academic work by satisfying some of their 'My Life' requirements during class time.

WALL STREET 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Investing is the topic of this class—not only in the Stock Market, but also in you. Students will build a strong foundation for making intelligent, lifelong, personal finance decisions. Students will also have a chance to assess their personal skills and interests, explore career options, and learn job-hunting skills. Daily activities and hands-on experiences are used to help students understand the economics of life. Junior Achievement Finance Park curriculum will be used in this class.

FOODS FOR ENTERTAINING 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Students will explore the art and creativity of cooking while enhancing their nutrition and cooking knowledge. A variety of cooking skills will be taught while students participate in cooking labs. Labs are designed around meals, appetizers, snacks and desserts. Some possible food labs are scrambled eggs/omelets, muffins, chicken and vegetable wraps, pastas dishes, fruit salad, twice baked potatoes, cookies and cakes.

FASHION AND SEWING FOR TEENS 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Explore the fields of fashion, design and sewing. Students will explore the principles and elements of design and how they apply to fashion and sewing. There are a lot of fun, hands on projects in this class! Some sewing projects may include tote bags, mittens, pajama pants, pillows and blankets. There may also be an opportunity to complete service hours and make a project to donate to a non-profit organization.

GREEN ARCHITECTURE - PTLW8 (Industrial Technology)

(Every day, one quarter)

In a world of reduced resources and environmental challenges, it is important to present the concept of “being green” to the next generation of designers and builders. In this class, students are introduced to architectural plans, construction styles, alternative materials and processes, dimensioning, measuring and architectural sustainability. Students use a 3D architectural software program to create an environmentally friendly home using shipping containers.

AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS – PLTW 8 (Industrial Technology)

(Every day, one quarter)

In Automation and Robotics students will learn how to build, program and operate robots through a rigorous study of hands-on learning projects. The classroom robotics projects will be constructed using Fischertechnik, which are model construction and component parts used to create machines and mechanisms. In addition to using and building automated robots, students will learn about energy transfer by constructing mechanical gears and also complete research on automated machines. Additionally, students can expect to learn how to problem solve and troubleshoot an automated system. This will be an exciting project based class where students can expect to be challenged academically while at the same time learning about and constructing exciting robotics projects.

CHOIR 8 (Girls – Bel Canto Choir, Boys – Laker Choir)

(Every day, all year)

Students in 8th Grade Choir will continue to develop technique and skill in a continuation of what was taught in 7th grade choir, though students who have not been in choir before are welcome to join as 8th graders! Basic skills in music theory will be reinforced during this course as they apply to the repertoire being taught. Students will also develop or enhance their performance skills by participating in concerts and public performances (as available) throughout the year. This is a gender based choir; boys and girls meet separately in choir classes.

BAND 8

(Every day, all year)

Play music with your friends every day; rule the school as an 8th grade band student! There's something for everyone in 8th grade band. The band performs at pep fests, parades, and off-site locations (field trip!). Students enrolled in 8th Grade Band will further develop their skills by performing music from rock to pop and classical to jazz. Students will learn many facets of musicianship, including music theory, notation, musical expression, music history, and rehearsal/performance etiquette. 8th Grade Band students will further develop marching band skills and participate in the 8th Grade Memorial Day Marching Band Experience. Additionally, 8th Grade Band students will have the opportunity to audition for and participate in extra-curricular instrumental music ensembles including 7-8 Jazz Band and 7-8 Honor Band. This course is the prerequisite for 9th grade band, which fulfills the PLHS fine arts graduation requirement. *Prerequisite: Two years of band or director approval required.

ALL AMPED UP 8

(Every day, one quarter)

Students enrolled in "All Amped Up" will spend one quarter learning and developing basic to intermediate guitar skills. Students in this course do not need to have previous experience on guitar as this course begins with basic technique, information, and music theory concepts. Throughout the duration of the course, students will study and learn to play a variety of musical styles including but not limited to rock, blues, jazz, and ensemble playing. There will also be study of improvisation, accompaniment, classical guitar playing, and

different types of guitars (i.e.--acoustic vs. electric). Students will be graded via class participation, performance exams (playing tests) and demonstration of skills and/or technique.

SPANISH I

(Every day, year-long)

This course introduces the students to the Spanish language through active participation and the textbook, *Avancemos 1*. The student develops skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as a beginning understanding of basic grammar. The student will demonstrate an introductory knowledge of Hispanic cultures and customs. This is a high school level course, therefore providing a more academically rigorous workload. Students who successfully complete the entire year may enroll in Level II Spanish in 9th grade. This course will be listed on the student's high school transcript but will not affect their high school credits or high school grade point average.

SPANISH II

(Every day, year-long)

Prerequisite: C minimum in Spanish A, B and score of 75% or higher on placement test)

This course builds on the Level I introduction to the Spanish language through active participation and the text *Avancemos 2*. Much of the class is conducted in Spanish, challenging students to move beyond simple patterns and increasing the four language skills of communication. The student will develop intermediate grammar skills and demonstrate knowledge of Hispanic culture and customs. Students who successfully complete the entire year may enroll in Spanish 3 in 9th grade. Note: Students will be placed in the appropriate Spanish class based on previous performance and teacher recommendation. This course will be listed on the student's high school transcript but will not affect their high school credits or high school grade point average.

FRENCH I

(Every day, year-long)

This course introduces the students to the French language through active participation and the textbook, *Bien Dit*. The student develops skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing as well as a beginning understanding of basic grammar. The students will demonstrate an introductory knowledge of French speaking cultures and customs. This is a high school level course, therefore providing a more academically rigorous workload. Students who successfully complete the entire year may enroll in Level II French in 9th grade. This course will be listed on the student's high school transcript but will not affect their high school credits or high school grade point average.

GERMAN I

(Every day, year-long)

This course introduces students to the German language through comprehensible input and storytelling. Our method is based on the research of Dr. Stephen Krashen and Blaine Ray. It is called Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS). The students will acquire German by listening and reading for comprehension. They will demonstrate their understanding through writing and retelling of stories. The students will acquire an introductory knowledge of German speaking cultures and customs through the content of the stories.

While, this is a high school level course, therefore providing a more academically rigorous workload – most of the work happens during class. A high level of engagement and participation during class is expected. Students who successfully complete the entire year may enroll in Level II German in 9th grade. This course will be listed on the student's high school transcript but will not affect their high school credits or high school grade point average.

INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH

(Every day, one quarter)

This class will introduce students to the French language and culture of French speaking countries. It is designed to help students attain an introductory level in four basic areas. We will cover speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will be encouraged to use French for communication and self-expression. Topics will include greetings, numbers, dates, body parts, clothing, and leisure-time activities.

INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN

(Every day, one quarter)

This class will introduce students to the German language and culture of German speaking countries including music, food, sports and famous people. The class is designed to help students attain an introductory level in four basic areas. We will cover speaking, listening, reading and writing through different materials and the textbook, Exploring German. Students will be encouraged to use German for communication and self-expression.

6th GRADE REGISTRATION FORM 2016-2017

STUDENT INFORMATION:

STUDENT'S NAME (Please Print): _____ Gender (Circle): M F

PARENT/GUARDIAN (Please Print): _____

PRIMARY CONTACT PHONE # _____

Will your 6th grader have a sibling attending middle school for 2016-2017? (circle one): Yes No

Sibling(s) name _____ Which School?(circle one): TO HO

Would you like the siblings placed in the same building? (circle one) Yes No

Is your student a multiple (e.g. twin, triplet, etc.)? (circle one) Yes No

If yes, would you like your multiple siblings placed at the same school? Yes No

MARK ONE CHOICE IN EACH CATEGORY:

Full course descriptions can be found on our website:

MUSIC (every other day with Spanish or Math Extension):

- _____ A) BAND
_____ B) CHOIR
_____ C) MUSIC EXPLORATION/DIGITAL WORLD

We are usually able to meet the scheduling needs of our students, however, we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing.

SIGNATURE:

As you are reviewing these selections and making decisions with your child, please be aware that we are making a contract together. By making these selections you are agreeing to participate in these classes. The school determines staffing needs in response to these requests.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

For information regarding criteria used in course placement, please see the complete registration guide on our website:



7th GRADE REGISTRATION FORM 2016-2017

Please return this to your
teacher by: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION:

STUDENT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT): _____

GENDER (circle): M F

PRIMARY CONTACT PHONE # _____

MARK ONE CHOICE IN EACH CATEGORY:

Full course descriptions can be found on our website:

SEMESTER	SEMESTER
REMEMBER TO WRITE A YEAR-LONG COURSE IN BOTH SEMESTER BOXES.	REMEMBER TO WRITE A YEAR-LONG COURSE IN BOTH SEMESTER BOXES.
Day 1 (required): PE 7 #7531	Day 1 (required): Health 7 #7541
Day 2 (elective 1):	Day 2 (elective 2):
Day 1 (elective 3):	Day 1 (elective 4):
Day 2 (elective 5):	Day 2 (elective 6):

ALTERNATES (Please list in order of preference):

We are usually able to meet the scheduling needs of our students; however, we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing.

(7) _____

(8) _____

(9) _____

(10) _____

SIGNATURE:

As you are reviewing these selections and making decisions with your child, please be aware that we are making a contract together. By making these selections you are agreeing to participate in these classes. The school determines staffing needs in response to these requests.

Student: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

For information regarding criteria used in course placement, please see the complete registration guide on our website:



Place sticker here

Possible Spectrum Elective Choices	Course Number	YES	MAYBE	NO
Art Technology & Clay	7843			
World Art & Crafts	7842			
Keyboarding	7810			
Webpage Design	7813			
It's Not Just Cooking	7822			
Cook it! Buy it! Sew it! Take it!	7821			
Transportation & Aerospace	7832			
Design & Modeling	7831			
Spanish A (year-long)	6901 and 6902			
Spanish B (year-long) if completed Spanish A	7971 and 7972			
Choir (year-long)	7721 boys 7731 girls			
Band (year-long)	7701			
So You Think You Can Drum?	7741			
PE B.L.A.S.T. or PE 4 LIFE	7511 or 7521			
PE B.L.A.S.T. or PE 4 LIFE	7512 or 7522			

Your top choices are not guaranteed. All other spectrum classes will be used as alternatives and we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. Requests for changes, other than those necessary for educational reasons or errors, will not be granted.

Full course descriptions can be found on our website:

EXAMPLES:

SEMESTER	SEMESTER
Day 1 (required): _____ PE 7 _____	Day 1 (required): _____ Health 7 _____
Day 2 (elective 1): _____ BAND _____	Day 2 (elective 2): _____ BAND _____
Day 1 (elective 3): _____ ART, TECHNOLOGY & CLAY _____	Day 1 (elective 4): _____ DESIGN & MODELING _____
Day 2 (elective 5): _____ PE BLAST _____	Day 2 (elective 6): _____ PE BLAST _____

SEMESTER	SEMESTER
Day 1 (required): _____ PE 7 _____	Day 1 (required): _____ Health 7 _____
Day 2 (elective 1): _____ CHOIR _____	Day 2 (elective 2): _____ CHOIR _____
Day 1 (elective 3): _____ SPANISH B _____	Day 1 (elective 4): _____ SPANISH B _____
Day 2 (elective 5): _____ KEYBOARDING _____	Day 2 (elective 6): _____ It's Not Just Cooking _____

SEMESTER	SEMESTER
Day 1 (required): _____ PE 7 _____	Day 1 (required): _____ Health 7 _____
Day 2 (elective 1): _____ WORLD ART & CRAFTS _____	Day 2 (elective 2): _____ WEBPAGE DESIGN _____
Day 1 (elective 3): _____ Transportation & Aerospace _____	Day 1 (elective 4): _____ Cook it-Buy it-Sew it-Take it! _____
Day 2 (elective 5): _____ PE 4 LIFE _____	Day 2 (elective 6): _____ PE BLAST _____

8th GRADE REGISTRATION FORM 2016-2017

Please return this to your
teacher by: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION:

STUDENT'S NAME (PRINT): _____ Gender (circle): M F

PRIMARY CONTACT PHONE # _____

MARK COURSE CHOICES:

Full course descriptions can be found on our website:

****List your class choices in order of preference.**

****Write all year-long courses four times.**

****Examples can be found on the back of this form.**

QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER
1) _____	2) _____	3) _____	4) _____
5) _____	6) _____	7) _____	8) _____

ALTERNATES: Your top choices are not guaranteed. We reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. List four alternate classes you would register for if we are unable to offer the courses you selected above.

Please list courses both quarter and year-long only once in the order of preference.

(9) _____ (10) _____ (11) _____ (12) _____

SIGNATURE:

As you are reviewing these selections and making decisions with your child, please be aware that we are making a contract together. By making these selections you are agreeing to participate in these classes. The school determines staffing needs in response to these requests.

Student: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

For information regarding criteria used in course recommendations, please see the complete registration guide on our website:




8 th GRADE Registration	Course Number	YES	MAYBE	NO
Time Travel Art	8841			
Photoshop Design and Art	8842			
Keyboarding	8811			
Wall Street	8812			
Fashion and Sewing for Teens	8821			
Foods for Entertaining	8822			
Green Architecture	8832			
Automation & Robotics	8829			
Choir (year-long)	8721 boys and 8731 girls			
Band (year-long)	8711			
All Amped Up	8741			
PE A.T.T.A.C.K. or Personal Training	8521 or 8531			
PE A.T.T.A.C.K. or Personal Training	8522 or 8532			
PE A.T.T.A.C.K. or Personal Training	8523 or 8533			
PE A.T.T.A.C.K. or Personal Training	8524 or 8534			
Health in the Digital World	8514			
Medical Detective	8540			
Introduction to French	8970			
Introduction to German	8980			
French I (year-long)	8971, 8972, 8973, 8974			
German I (year-long)	8981, 8982, 8983, 8984			
Spanish I (year-long)	8951, 8952, 8953, 8954			
Spanish II (year-long)	8965, 8966, 8967, 8968			


Your top choices are not guaranteed. All other spectrum classes will be used as alternatives and we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. Requests for changes, other than those necessary for educational reasons or errors, will not be granted.

Full course descriptions can be found on our website:


EXAMPLES:

Two Year-Long Courses 

QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER
BAND	BAND	BAND	BAND
SPANISH I	SPANISH I	SPANISH I	SPANISH I

One Year-Long Course
Four Quarter-Long Courses 

QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER
Foods for Entertaining	Time Travel Art	Keyboarding	Fashion & Sewing
CHOIR	CHOIR	CHOIR	CHOIR

Eight Quarter-Long Courses 

QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER	QUARTER
Health in the Digital World	Automation - Robotics	All Amped Up	Intro French
Medical Detective	Personal Training	PE ATTACK	PE ATTACK