

2017-18 ELECTIVE COURSE OPTIONS FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Davis Drive Middle School

Elective courses are not required subject areas like reading and math, but are optional courses that may be of interest to your child. Each middle school offers unique elective courses that your child can choose to take. The elective courses listed below are options for 6th grade students. Your child will select **2 electives** from this list. Your elementary school will support your child in entering their selections in our system.

You can find out more information on our school's website: www.wcps.net/davisdrivems

It is important to note that the availability of elective courses is dependent upon each school's master schedule, and choosing an elective does not guarantee it's availability in your child's individual schedule. **Students choosing a year-long elective course should also choose Digital Literacy. Students choosing two semester elective courses should not choose Digital Literacy as most students will be automatically enrolled in Digital Literacy during 6th grade.**

Year-Long Courses	Course Description
Beginning Strings	This course is designed for students who have little or no experience playing one of the four string instruments: violin, viola, cello and bass. In this class students will learn the basics about their instrument and many solo and ensemble pieces of music. They will perform in two concerts throughout the year, one in the fall and one in the spring. No experience is necessary for this class. Students will also rotate through Digital Literacy on an A/B elective day schedule to develop computer skills. Please email Emily McLawhorn at emclawhorn@wcpss.net regarding instrument choice.
Intermediate Strings	This course is designed for students with at least 1.5-2 years playing experience. This class is selected by teacher pre-approval only to ensure the appropriate level of the class. Students will learn intermediate techniques that are similar to those learned in 7th grade strings. Students will perform in 2-4 concerts throughout the year. They will typically perform anytime the 7th and 8th graders do. Students will also rotate through Digital Literacy on an A/B elective day schedule to develop computer skills. Please email Emily McLawhorn at emclawhorn@wcpss.net regarding which instrument the student plays.
Beginning Band	This course is for first year players with little or no prior experience. Instrument choices are flute, clarinet, trumpet and trombone. Students will learn to read music notation and the fundamentals of playing instruments. Some students will be selected in the second semester to switch to various "background" instruments to help achieve complete instrumentation, which may include alto saxophone, oboe, bassoon, french horn, euphonium, tuba and percussion. Anyone wishing to be considered for switching to Saxophone must start on Clarinet. The majority of class time is devoted to working from the method book to develop technique and musicianship. The Beginning Band performs two concerts per year. Students will also rotate through Digital Literacy on an A/B elective day schedule to develop computer skills. Please email Chris Forgione cforgione@wcpss.net regarding instrument choice.

Semester Courses	Course Description
Digital Literacy	This course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, digital literacy, computer knowledge, and basic word processing and document formatting skills. Digital Literacy (9 weeks) is linked with Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing (9 weeks) as part of the entire Computer Skills and Applications (18 weeks) elective course.
Exploring Interpersonal Relationships and Childcare	This course is composed of instructional modules designed to explore basic Family and Consumer Sciences foundations and skill sets. The modules that are covered in this course are interpersonal relationships, nutrition and wellness (includes food labs), and early child care. Upon successful completion of the early childcare module, students are eligible to obtain the American Red Cross® Babysitter Certification. Exploring Interpersonal Relationships and Childcare (9 weeks) is linked with Nutrition and Wellness (9 weeks) as part of the entire Exploring FACS Family Focus (18 weeks) elective course.
Understanding Personal Finance and Hospitality	This course is composed of instructional modules designed to explore basic Family and Consumer Sciences foundations and skill sets. The modules that are covered in this course are personal finance and resource management, food service and hospitality, apparel and interior design. Students are eligible to obtain the Everfi Vault™ finance certification and the NC eFoodhandler™ certifications. Understanding Personal Finance and Hospitality (9 weeks) is linked to Exploring Apparel and Interior Design (9 Weeks) as part of the entire Exploring FACS Consumer Focus (18 weeks) elective course.
Exploring Engineering and Design/Project Revive	This course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria and constraints affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs. Students develop skills in researching information, communicating design information, and reporting results. Project Revive (9 weeks) is linked with Exploring Technology (9 weeks) as part of the entire Exploring Engineering and Design Part 1 (18 weeks) elective course.
Introduction to Dance	This course is a dance technique and choreography class. All students will perform in an evening show. Section A is designed for students with little or no current dance experience. Section B is an advanced level course designed for students who currently have taken 2-3 years of Jazz or Ballet in a dance studio. If you are interested in taking Section B, please email Shana Winans at swinans@wcpss.net.
Exploratory Language	This course is an exploratory elective designed to introduce students to the importance of studying a second language (Spanish) along with beginning Spanish topics, and of course, the Spanish culture. Students will do a lot of hands on activities and projects. Students will also experience both the language and culture of Spanish-speakers through technology, games, and communicative activities.
Visual Arts Exploratory	This course will introduce students to the elements of art through a variety of media. Students will work in a sketchbook/composition notebook and will experiment with drawing, painting, sculpture, and weaving projects. Introduction to art history and critical analysis of master works as well as their own.