

8th Grade Electives

Art I - One semester \$ 15 fee

Art I is a prerequisite for the other art classes, which can be taken in any order. Art I course includes basic instruction in painting, drawing, ceramics and various media (printmaking, paper mache, repurposed art, etc). Students gain knowledge and learn new skills through engaging, hands-on experiences as they express individual creativity and make original works of art. Each studio project is inspired by a brief study of specific artists or artworks (past and present), art styles, aesthetics, and/or processes and techniques. Lessons align with State and National Core Visual Arts Standards and often include cross-curricular connections with core academic areas. *No prerequisites or skill/experience levels required.*

Art II - One semester \$ 15 Fee

Art II course offers students a learning experience similar to the Art I course (see description), with increased levels of artistic and academic expectations. Lessons provide an in-depth progression into drawing, painting and printmaking. Art II students are challenged to build on current artistic knowledge and skill levels. *Art I is a prerequisite.*

Art III - One semester \$ 15 Fee

Art III course offers students a learning experience similar to the Art I course (See description), with increased levels of artistic and academic expectations. Lessons provide an in depth progression into sculpting and ceramics. Art III students are challenged to build on current artistic knowledge and skill levels. *Art I is a prerequisite.*

AVID - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

*Subject to acceptance into the AVID program

AVID is a teacher approved elective course. In the AVID elective class, students learn organizational study skills, work on critical thinking, asking probing questions, get academic help from peers and college/adult tutors, and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Students in AVID will be enrolled in one or more rigorous classes, such as honors math, science, social studies, reading or writing. As students progress in AVID, their self-images improve, and they become academically successful leaders and role models for other students.

Family and Consumer Science I - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

In this course, FACS will be a semester elective. Students will learn cooking fundamentals, nutrition, hand sewing techniques, which includes a sewing project, family dynamics, interior design and life skills. (QCMS and NBMS only)

Family and Consumer Science II - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

In this course, FACS will be a semester elective. Students will learn cooking fundamentals, nutrition, hand sewing techniques, which includes a sewing project, family dynamics, interior design and life skills.

Drama I - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

This course is designed to inspire the student who wishes to develop an appreciation of the theater. Students will be provided with basic theater skills, such as improvisation, pantomime, musical dance theater, basic acting and public speaking. Students will also be introduced to the mechanics of theater including, make-up, set design, costume design, lighting design and sound. The course includes two student performances. The goals for this course are to offer a creative outlet and produce well-rounded performers.

Drama II - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

Prerequisite: Drama I

This course is designed to encourage an appreciation of the theatre in students who have already been introduced to the performing arts. Students will first review skills learned in Drama I. Students will then move to the more advanced skill of monologue and debate. Students will practice the mechanics of theater, including, make-up, set design, costume design, lighting design and sound; in the production of a one act play. The course includes two student performances. The goals for this course is to offer a creative outlet and produce skilled and well-rounded performers.

Future Health Professionals - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

Students will be exposed to the technical skills and soft skills associated with a broad range of occupations relating to the Health Science career cluster, including job requirements and tasks performed, to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals. The course includes, but is not limited to, relevant history, medical terminology, applied technologies, and career opportunities. Students enrolled in this course will be able to apply skills learned in the student organization, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA). Students will learn the following through HOSA: collaboration with peers, leadership, speaking and listening skills such as presenting in front of a panel of judges, medical terminology, reading, annotating, and responding to rigorous medical reading comprehension materials.

Media Interactions in the 21st Century - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

In this course, students will be exposed to a variety of communications and technology experience. Students will work on maintaining school social media pages, learn how to develop their own website, explore the world of blogging, and work on relaying school and community events in a variety of mediums! This course is perfect for anyone interested in communication and technology.

Automation and Robotics - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

Students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.

Student Leadership - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

** Limited positions available per grade level

Students choosing to be involved in student leadership and developing strong skills do not want to pass up this opportunity to get involved! Sixth, seventh and eighth graders will work together to study famous leaders, develop leadership and communication skills, provide community service opportunities, run school events, and implement projects from beginning to end! Students interested in being student council class ambassadors, class representatives or officers must register for this course!

Spanish I - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Newell Barney and Queen Creek Junior High School students may receive high school credit for Spanish I by successfully completing both semesters with a "C" or higher. Credits will be recorded onto the students' high school transcript with NBMS/QCMS/EHS letter grades attached. These grades will be counted into the students' cumulative grade point average.

Students will learn basic vocabulary related to people, places, things and actions close to their own lives. They will express themselves in phrases, short sentences and memorized material exhibiting an emerging control of the most common basic grammatical forms and structures. Their written language will reflect what they can say. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the diversity of language and cultures.

Journalism - One Semester \$15 Course Fee

This course creates a volume of student school memories. Students in this class are creative, original, and hardworking. Photographers, graphic artists, and budding writers are encouraged to apply. Competent writing skills and computer literacy are preferred. Students in this class will gain an understanding of layout and design.

Physical Education - One Semester \$15 Uniform Fee

Lockers and locks are provided by the school. There is a \$5.00 lock replacement fee for lost locks.

This course covers basic skills, which are taught through individual and team activities. Emphasis is placed on lifetime physical fitness through a daily exercise and fitness program. Areas of emphasis include responsibility, sportsmanship, character, socialization, rule knowledge and more. Active participation and appropriate dress are required daily. PE uniform is mandatory.

Fitness/Weights - One Semester \$15 Uniform Fee

This course is designed to teach students the knowledge and skills that are necessary to create and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Students will explore a variety of activities including weight-training, aerobic activities, and team sports that will promote fitness and can be used in achieving life-long wellness. PE uniform is mandatory.

Dance/Fitness - One Semester \$15 Uniform Fee

In this course, students will be taught different dance techniques, including eight counts to a variety of music. Areas of emphasis include choreography, cooperation, teamwork, leadership, character development, responsibility, and more. Students will also be involved in Fitness units that will show how to incorporate fitness into their daily life. We will work on muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility. PE uniform is mandatory.

Cadet Band - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

A training-oriented performance ensemble made up of standard band and percussion instruments. This ensemble is recommended for students that are still new to an instrument or students who would like to learn a new instrument. Fundamental playing and technical skills and music theory will be studied. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be outside school hours. Students will be required to provide their own instrument and concert attire. Attendance is required at all scheduled performances.

Symphonic Band - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

Advanced band is a performance-oriented ensemble made up of a select group of 8th grade band students.

Rehearsals focus on advanced musical concepts and playing techniques to meet the needs of the advanced band student. The Advanced Band will perform at several concerts, community functions and festival performances throughout the year. Attendance for these performances is mandatory. Students will be required to provide their own instrument and concert attire.

Concert Band - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

A training-oriented performance ensemble for junior high school school students with at least one-year experience playing a band instrument. Fundamental playing and technical skills specific to instrument families (brass, woodwind, percussion) and music theory will be studied. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be outside of school hours. Students will be required to provide their own instrument and concert attire. Attendance is required at all scheduled performances.

Concert Percussion - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Concert Percussion is an intermediate level class for the junior high school student with at least one year of playing a percussion instrument. Fundamental playing and technical skills and music theory will be studied. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Students will be required to provide their own instrument and concert attire. Attendance is required at all scheduled performances.

Advanced Percussion - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

Advanced band is a performance-oriented ensemble made up of a select group of 8th grade percussion students.

Rehearsals focus on advanced musical concepts and playing techniques to meet the needs of the advanced percussion student. The Advanced Band will perform at several concerts, community functions and festival performances throughout the year. Attendance for these performances is mandatory. Students will be required to provide their own instrument and concert attire.

Guitar I - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Intro to Guitar is class for beginning instrumentalists with little to no experience playing an instrument. The course will cover basic note reading skills, music theory, chords and playing techniques associated with guitar. Students will be required to provide their own instrument.

Guitar II One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

The course will build off instrumental skills learned in Guitar 1. The course will cover advanced note reading skills, music theory, chords and playing techniques associated with guitar. Students will be required to provide their own instrument. *Guitar I is a prerequisite.*

Choir - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

This ensemble is open to all singers. Students will learn basic vocal technique, music reading skills and performance techniques while studying a variety of choral repertoire. Participation in concerts and performances outside of the school day will be required.

Cadet Orchestra - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

This course is designed for students who would have very little or no experience in orchestra. This course will cover note reading, posture, performing individually and in a group, as well as a survey of music in context to today. Students are expected to provide their own instruments. Cello and bass players are expected to have an instrument at home to practice but will be allowed to play a school cello or bass during class. Performances will be twice a semester, with occasional rehearsals outside of the school day. All students are required to be at rehearsals and performances.

Performance Orchestra - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Prerequisite: One Year of school orchestra and/or audition required

This course is designed for students who would have one to two years of experience in orchestra. Students should be able to fluently read their notes on the A and D Strings. This course will cover note reading, posture, performing individually and in a group, as well as a survey of music in context to today. In addition, this course will involve shifting and scales that are one and two octaves. Students are expected to provide their own instruments. Cello and bass players are expected to have an instrument at home to practice but will be allowed to play a school cello or bass during class. Performances will be at least twice a semester, with occasional rehearsals outside of the school day. All students are required to be at rehearsals and performances.

Symphonic Orchestra - One Year = 2 Semesters \$20 Course Fee

Prerequisite: Must pass performance orchestra with a B or better, or by audition

This course is designed for students with two to three years of playing experience. This orchestra is the showcase orchestra for the school. They will travel and perform at festival and at the high school. Students in this course will be expected to perform their music with high quality and in a shorter amount of time than that of the intermediate orchestra. Students are expected to provide their own instruments. Cello and bass players are expected to have an instrument at home to practice but will be allowed to play a school cello or bass during class. There will be four to five concerts per year. All students are required to be at rehearsals and every performing opportunity.