ELECTIVE COURSE OPTIONS FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Pine Hollow 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 3 electives from this list. Your elementary school will support your child in entering their selections in our system. You can find out more information at http://www.wcpss.net/pinehollowms

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.

Course	Course Description
Beginning Band (Year Long)	The 6th Grade Beginning Band at Pine Hollow is comprised of students in their first year of playing an instrument. This band is divided into two classes, woodwinds and brass. Students will be allowed to select one instrument from the follow choices: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, and trombone. Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic musical skills as students learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Band classes prepare several concert compositions that are performed for an audience. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.
Visual Arts Exploratory (semester-long)	This course is designed to challenge every student at his/her own level to create various 3-D and 2-D artworks using various media whether or not the student has previously taken art classes. This semester-long course is designed to introduce students to the elements and principles of design while increasing the student's skills and experience with various media and techniques. Based on the time and student cooperation, each student will experience painting, perspective drawing, clay, papier-mâché, bookmaking, colored pencil/graphite drawing and participate in a group art project that will displayed in the school. Each grade level may experience the same media but will be challenged to learn new media techniques and create different art projects based on their grade level.
Music Exploratory (semester-long)	Students are introduced to the skills necessary for singing and playing music with accuracy and expression while interpreting the sound and symbols of music. Through the study of various genres and cultures students will analyze, evaluate and understand the music and concepts from other areas.
Beginning Spanish (semester-long)	This course begins the study of the Spanish language and culture and is the first part in the Spanish curriculum series for high school credit. Major topics include greetings, conversation questions, telling time, classroom objects, asking for help, the parts of the body, infinitive verbs, expressing

	likes and dislikes, definite and indefinite articles, adjectives, subject pronouns, the present tense of “ar” verbs, and the plurals of nouns and articles. Students who successfully complete this course should continue the Spanish curriculum series for high school credit by taking Intermediate Spanish.
Computers Skills & Applications I (semester-long)	This course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, digital literacy and computer knowledge, and basic word processing and document formatting skills. English language arts and Mathematics are reinforced.
Exploring FACS—Family Focus (semester-long)	This course is composed of instructional modules covering: interpersonal relationships, nutrition and wellness, child development and education. Students are eligible to receive the American Red Cross® Babysitter certification.
Exploring Engineering and Design I (semester-long)	In this course, students learn all about the nature of technology and problem solving. Students have opportunities to study the scope of technology and its impacts on society. They learn about the core concepts of technology and about the various approaches to solving problems, including engineering design and experimentation. Students participate in engineering-design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. Students also develop skills in researching for information, and communicating design information.