

2017-18 ELECTIVE COURSE OPTIONS FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Holly Ridge 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 4 electives and 4 alternates 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: (hollyridgems.wcpss.net)

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 elective	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.
Digital Literacy Semester Elective	This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, basic digital literacy and computer knowledge, and basic word processing and document formatting skills. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced.
Exploring Interpersonal Relationships and Childcare Semester Elective	This 18 week middle school 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, early child care and education, and interior design. Students are eligible to receive the American Red Cross® Babysitter certification. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced.
Introduction to Dance Semester Elective	This course introduces creative movement, improvisation, and choreography through basic modern dance techniques.
Invention and Innovation Semester Elective	This middle school 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, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs.
Music Exploratory Semester Elective	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.

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Newspaper Semester Elective	This course allows students to examine the various types, purposes, and effects of journalistic styles and designs. Students learn different types of journalistic writing, including news stories, feature stories, sports copy, and editorials. Assignments include writing, proofreading, constructing layouts, and using photographs and artwork. Emphasis is on developing creativity, using imagination, and stimulating student interest in the communication media, especially in the area of visual literacy.
Public Speaking and Debate Semester Elective	Students explore the production and reception of oral language through writing, delivering, and critiquing informal and formal speeches. Informational and argumentative public speaking is emphasized as students learn to consider both sides of an issue and move into formal debate. A variety of instructional strategies and resources will be utilized for this course.
Reading Enrichment and Extension Semester Elective	This course is designed for grade level or above readers. Students will have the opportunity to read from all genres to further increase their reading comprehension, vocabulary, and high order thinking skills. There will be opportunities for students to self-select reading materials, both fiction and nonfiction; set individual reading goals; engage in author and genre studies; and read collaboratively in literature circles, reader's theater, or Paideia seminar formats.
Spanish Beginning Semester Elective	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.
Visual Arts Exploratory Semester Elective	This course introduces students to the elements of art through a variety of media that may include: drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed media, pottery, and weaving. Application of these elements to the students' own original art work is the major emphasis while being introduced to art history and critical analysis of master work as well as their own.

