

# Pine Hollow Middle School

2020-21

## Elective Selections – Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Graders



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Track: \_\_\_\_\_

Math Class for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

All eighth graders will take language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and healthful living. In addition, they will take two semester-long electives or one year-long elective.

The WCPSS Middle School Program Planning Guide for 2020-21 is available online ([www.wcpss.net](http://www.wcpss.net)) by clicking the “academics” tab at the top of the page, then “middle.” This guide provides more detailed information regarding the middle school program and course descriptions. A brief description of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade electives can be found on the back of this form.

**Please choose:**

**2 primary electives (Mark with P)**

**&**

**2 alternate electives (Mark with A)**

**\*Please note we are not ranking preferred choices in order 1-4\***

<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>SELECTIONS</u>
<b>Advanced Band</b> (year-long)- <i>prerequisite required</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Must have taken Intermediate Band in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or audition with band director.</li></ul>	
<b>Spanish I MS for HS Credit</b> (year-long)- <i>prerequisite required</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This is the Advanced Spanish course.</li><li>Must have taken Intermediate Spanish in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.</li></ul>	
<b>Chorus</b> (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The study of vocal music and its relationship to other cultures.</li></ul>	
<b>Visual Composition II</b> (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This course focuses on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design.</li></ul>	
<b>Office Productivity Applications</b> (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This is a Computer Skills &amp; Applications course.</li></ul>	
<b>Exploring Business and Entrepreneurship</b> (semester-long)- <i>prerequisite required</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Must have taken Computer Skills &amp; Applications course as a prerequisite.</li><li>This is an Exploring Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship course.</li></ul>	
<b>Exploring Careers and Employment</b> (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This is an Exploring FACS—Career Exploration course.</li></ul>	
<b>Technological Systems in the Designed World</b> (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This is an Exploring Technology Systems course.</li></ul>	

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Students should return completed and signed registration forms to their current school counselor by the date assigned by your school. **We will make every effort to honor the choices listed above, but choosing an elective does not guarantee it will appear in your child’s final schedule. Final decisions regarding elective class offerings are subject to change based on student enrollment and staff availability.**

**Pine Hollow Middle School**  
**2019-20 Eighth Grade Elective Course Descriptions**  
**Arts**

**Advanced Band** (year-long) *Prerequisite: Intermediate Band or audition for band director.*

All eligible 8th grade band students are members of the 8th Grade Symphonic Band. *Students in this ensemble completed two years of playing (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Beginning Band AND 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert Band).* This ensemble represents Pine Hollow Middle School in the North Carolina Music Performance Adjudication every spring. Technical drills, scale studies, rhythm studies, and sight reading exercises are used to advance the student's skills, knowledge, and reading ability in music. A wide variety of band literature is studied to give the students experience in various musical styles. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

**Visual Composition II** (semester-long) *No prerequisite is required for this course.*

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 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 be 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.

**Chorus** (semester-long) *No prerequisite is required for this course.*

Students will continue to apply correct singing technique, study vocal health issues and various elements of musical expression through developmentally appropriate and historic vocal literature. Students learn how to use traditional notation in order to learn music, and to respond correctly to conductors' gestures both in rehearsal and public performance. Students will study vocal music and its relationship to other cultures.

**Foreign Language**

**Spanish I MS for HS Credit** (year-long) *Prerequisite: Beginning & Intermediate Spanish*

This is the Advanced Spanish course. This course continues the study of the Spanish language and culture, refining grammatical and vocabulary topics. Major topics include the rooms in a house, making comparisons, the superlative, stem-changing verbs, affirmative commands, the present progressive tense, clothing, demonstrative adjectives, and the preterit of verbs. Students who complete this course successfully and who pass the exit exam (worth 20% of the overall grade) may take Spanish II at the high school level.

**Career and Technical Education**

**Office Productivity Applications** (semester-long) *Prerequisite: Computer Skills and Applications*

This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to provide hands-on instruction in digital literacy and software applications. The software applications include word processing, presentation software, and spreadsheets, desktop publishing, and databases. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced.

**Exploring Business and Entrepreneurship** (semester-long) *No prerequisite is required for this course.*

This is the Exploring Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship course. This middle school course is designed to explore the nature of business in an international economy and to study related careers in fields such as entrepreneurship, financial services, information technology, marketing, office systems technology, public relations and promotion, and travel and tourism. Emphasis is on using the computer while studying applications in these careers along with problem solving and thinking skills. This course contributes to the development of a career development plan. English language arts, mathematics, and social studies are reinforced.

**Exploring Careers and Employment** (semester-long) *No prerequisite is required for this course.*

This is the Exploring FACS—Career Exploration course. This middle school course provides an orientation to the world of work. Emphasis is placed on self-awareness, understanding the world of work, and the career planning process. Based on the National Career Development Guidelines, skills learned in this course include, but are not limited to, communication, personal management, and teamwork. English language arts are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include business/industry field trips and job shadowing. Student participation in Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**Technological Systems in the Designed World** (Systems in the Designed World & Maintaining Technological Systems) (semester-long) *No prerequisite is required for this course.*

Technology Systems in the Designed World is designed for students to explore technological systems in more depth. The course provides opportunities for design and development of technological systems. Students engage in activities and experiences where they design systems with criteria and constraints and then evaluate their designs through testing for functionality. The goal is to give students the opportunity to be creative, collaborate, communicate with one another, and develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills through engineering and design activities. Students will participate in activities about Electronic Systems, Mechanical Systems, Robotics & Manufacturing Systems, Energy and Power Systems, Information Systems, Computer-Aided Design, Tool and Machinery Use in Technological Systems, System Testing for Functionality, and Troubleshooting Technological Systems.