

Elective Descriptions – 3rd & 4th Quarter: 2024–2025

AIG:

4th/5th Choice:

AIG - Chess: This course is designed for students who are knowledgeable about the fundamentals of chess and wish to improve/increase their skills. In addition to sharpening playing skills, students will study the history of chess, learn about chess champions, and learn how to make notations.

Dance:

K/1st AND 2nd/3rd Choice:

1, 2, 3, 4, Tap, Tap, Tap: Did you know that anyone can tap dance? If you like to make noise and can count to four, you can learn too! Students will learn how to recognize and demonstrate basic tap dancing techniques. At the same time, this class will reinforce primary math skills such as patterning, and spatial and number sense.

Tap I: In this tap course students will be given the opportunity to explore rhythms and the perception of different rhythms, focusing on coordination and balance.

Exploring Dance Styles: In this introductory course to the basic movement principles that pertain to all dance styles, students will begin to develop strength, coordination, and flexibility.

4th/5th Choice:

Tap II: In this tap course students will be given the opportunity to explore rhythms and the perception of different rhythms, focusing on coordination and balance.

Dance Forms: This introductory course in dance will provide each student with the opportunity to explore a wide variety of dance forms. These forms may include creative rhythms, dance improvisations, clogging, ballet, tap, folk, ethnic, social, square, and modern dance. A historical perspective of dance and its relationships within our society will be examined.

Drama:

K/1st Choice:

Mime: This course will involve students in the art of dramatics through mime. Students will learn pantomime techniques, enact popular and original stories, and participate in student performances.

Theater Games: Through hands-on activities students will participate in improvisational theater activities to build concentration, stage presence, communication skills, self-confidence, and cooperative skills.

2nd/3rd Choice:

Creative Dramatics: Through use of the senses, voice, and body, students will learn to expand their own creativity. This course builds a good self-image and confidence for further study in theater.

Acting: In this course, students will participate in role-playing, scripted study, improvisation, and characterization. Teacher-guided study in voice, body movement, and concentration techniques will develop the actor's tools.

4th/5th Choice:

Wacky Make-Up & Costumes: This course is an introduction to the basic skills of making costumes and creating "makeup" for theater. Students will learn how creativity can take them beyond the boundaries of a makeup kit and sewing machine.

Behind the Scenes: Students will explore a variety of technical aspects of the theater: makeup, costumes, sound, properties, scenery, and stage crafts. They will work on scenes for Annie.

Media/Technology/ELA/Math/Science:

K/1st Choice:

Technology Wizards: Calling all techies! This course is designed to introduce students to the parts of the computer and their functions. Students will learn Internet Safety as well as respect for the technology equipment. Students will become technology wizards by learning basic keyboarding skills, drawing and word processing programs, and presentation skills.

Computer Critters: Animals, animals, animals everywhere! Become an animal expert by exploring and researching the different animal groups such as mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, insects, and birds. Sharpen your computer skills and confidence while learning the fascinating facts and unique characteristics of each animal group. As an animal expert, you will complete computer art, math, science, and language arts activities using a variety of computer programs. Come join the animal adventure!

2nd/3rd Choice:

We Do Robotics-LEGO Robotics: In this elective, students will program and control animal robots that they build themselves using specially created software and Lego building materials. They will begin by following step-by-step instructions in order to build and program a simple robotic model.

Computer Webmasters: Students will learn how to write and create their own personal web page. Students will use the computer to write stories, poems, imaginative narratives and personal narratives on a variety of topics for their web page projects. Dialogue will be created during the review process to make sure that high quality web pages will be posted to the Internet. Students will learn how to insert photos, graphics and drawings into their web pages.

4th/5th Choice:

School News - WPLA: The primary purpose of this elective is to produce WPLA (our school news program) & The Powell Planet (our digital newspaper) to share important school information, events & interesting topics. Students who participate in this elective will study concepts of presentation: speaking, diction, personality, celebrity, marketing, branding and advertising. Focus areas include: research, interest-based writing, editing, and reporting as well as incorporating new technologies to produce each program.

World Language:

K-5th Choice:

Exploring Spanish: Hola! Join the Spanish elective to learn basic Spanish vocabulary, common phrases, and some silly songs. Play games, dance and create while learning about famous people, places, and the beautiful culture of Spanish speaking people.

Music:

K/1st Choices:

Orchestra I (year-long): Students will be pre registered for their year-long electives..

Music We Can Play & Sing: Through a sequential, vocal/instrumental approach, children will be introduced to music reading skills and concepts. Students will learn to become independent musical thinkers experiencing a rich variety of folk and classical music, playing musical games and instruments.

Storytime for Young Listeners: Through a variety of integrated arts activities, students will hear and study famous classical compositions, their stories/origins, and their composers. Books and stories will be used in creative ways to teach the elements of music.

There's Magic in Music - Carnival of Animals: Students will discover the magic of music through the humorous musical suite "Carnival of Animals." Students will join in singing, chanting, dancing, and playing as they become tuneful (able to sing in tune), beatful (able to keep a steady beat), and artful (appreciate many types and forms of music).

2nd/3rd Choices:

Orchestra I/II - (year-long): Students will be registered for their year-long electives.

Band I - (3rd Graders ONLY - year-long): Students will be pre registered for their year-long electives..

Making the Classics Connect: Roll over Beethoven! This course is designed to make learning about classical music exciting while using props and everyday objects (like paper plates, flashlights, stretchy bands, etc.) Students will learn fundamental musical concepts and about master composers while participating in classical music in fun and playful ways!

Orffestra: Students will participate in a variety of activities (singing, chanting, rhymes, dancing, keeping a beat, and playing instruments) that will enhance their natural way of learning music. Students will play barred instruments such as xylophones and metallophones in an ensemble setting.

4th/5th Choices:

Orchestra II - (year-long): Students will be pre registered for their year-long electives.

Band II - (year-long): Students will be pre registered for their year-long electives.

Music Through a Variety of Sound Sources: Students will play various instruments such as piano keyboards, ukuleles and xylophones. Students will learn about traditional orchestral instruments as well as investigate and create new instruments and sound sources (such as buckets, cans sticks, etc.)

P.E./Health:

K/1st Choice:

Rhythms, Ropes, Hoops & Chutes: This course is designed to improve basic locomotor and manipulative skills in K-1 students while also improving total body coordination. Students will work with a variety of equipment to work on group cooperation with emphasis on sharing and teamwork. Rhythms and ropes will also be introduced to increase rhythm competency.

Lifetime Sports: This course is designed for the student who is interested in investigating & developing skills in a variety of lifetime sport activities. Students will learn the basic skills, rules & regulations, game play & strategies associated with sports that can be played at any age.

2nd/3rd Choice:

3-5 Track & Field* (3rd graders only): Students will be involved in a training program that will help them learn and develop the basic skills & techniques needed to perform a variety of track & field events. Students will compete at the WCPSS Magnet Track Meet held at Southeast Raleigh High School, March 21st.

Team Sports: For the student who is interested in investigating and developing skills in a variety of team sports. Emphasis will be placed on skills, drills, rules, care of equipment, lead-up activities, and game situations. Good sportsmanship and team cooperation will be stressed.

4th/5th Choice:

3-5 Track & Field*: Students will be involved in a training program that will help them learn and develop the basic skills & techniques needed to perform a variety of track & field events. Students will compete at the WCPSS Magnet Track Meet held at Southeast Raleigh High School, March 21st.

Team Sports: For the student who is interested in investigating and developing skills in a variety of team sports. Emphasis will be placed on skills, drills, rules, care of equipment, lead-up activities, and game situations. Good sportsmanship and team cooperation will be stressed.

Visual Arts:

K/1st Choice:

All Together: Students will explore a variety of art media to build their skills of drawing, cutting & pasting, and sculpting.

The Feel of Things: Using a variety of art media, students will develop skills in creating visual and tactile textures.

2nd/3rd Choice AND 4th/5th Choices:

Drawing and Painting: Exercises in drawing techniques will be experienced with an emphasis on the human figure, still life and objects from nature. In painting, color theory will be emphasized. Students will incorporate their drawings into paintings.

Astounding Artists: Through a study of astounding artists' lives & works, students will create their own "masterpieces" using a variety of art media & methods. Observing works of art by Vincent Van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Salvador Dali, Faith Ringgold & more will enable students to see and understand each artist's unique style

You Gotta Have Art I: This basic art survey course will include drawing, painting, cutting and pasting, modeling, and constructing.

***Teacher Recommendation Encouraged**

