

Some course names have changed. These changes are noted.

All courses are quarter long unless otherwise noted.

Technology Design and Innovation

- **Level A**—Activities for this course include model rockets, bridge building competition, hot air balloons, computer aided design (CAD), and more hands-on projects. This course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Through engaging activities and projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs.
- **Level B**—*Completion of Level A required.* Take your technological design skills to the next level as you increase your knowledge of the design process by planning and engaging in more interactive, advanced projects.

Technological Systems (S)—*Completion of Technology Design and Innovation B required.*

This course focuses on students' understanding of how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. As technology becomes more integrated and systems become increasingly dependent on one another this course gives students a background on the different types of technological systems with specific focus on the connections between these systems. Hands-on activities for this course include CO₂ dragsters, circuit board soldering, alternative agricultural methods, and building and programming NXT robots.

Dance

When necessary all auditions for dance classes must be arranged with the instructor prior to the first day of class. In most cases, this must be done during or prior to the semester registration process.

Magnet Athletes in Dance—Formerly called Intro to Dance: Dance for Athletes. This course applies basic dance techniques to athletics. Students in this course increase their flexibility, strength, coordination, and agility with emphasis on preventing injuries to joints, muscles, and connective tissues.

Magnet Ballet—

- **Level I**—See *Magnet Intro to Dance: Ballet and Modern* below
- **Level II**—*Completion of Level I course required.* This course continues the development of grace, strength, and self-discipline in the field of ballet. The course will provide a more intensive study of ballet terminology, execution of steps, choreography, and performances in the ballet style.
- **Level III (S)**— *Completion of Level II course or audition required.* This course will use the same objectives and essential skills alignment as Level II and increase rigor and breadth of instruction.

Magnet Contemporary & Hip Hop—This hybrid class teaching a non-traditional style of jazz dance to a generation experiencing its evolution. Students study this new style by learning technique, performing and choreographing short contemporary pieces, and studying this dance style's dominance in the present day world. Knowledge of safe dance practices and respect for other styles of jazz that contributed to this modern style will also be part of this course.

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Magnet Choreography (S)—*Previous dance experience required.* In this course, students will study the elements of dance composition. They will use the language of dance to express and communicate through solo and small group compositions. They will gain the “tools” needed to become effective communicators through dance by understanding and applying cross-curricular connections between music, visual arts, and related media. Working independently and collaboratively, students will develop their creativity and originality of expression through learning previously choreographed works by famous choreographers as well as peer works and through their own improvisations. Students will learn the role of concepts such as dimension, path, planes, shape, negative space, tension, relaxation, and more as well as where and how the use of these techniques and/or concepts can be used to tell their dance story.

Magnet Dance Company (Y)—*Audition required.* In this course students develop various techniques including stage presence, ensemble work and an understanding of the relationship between dancer and choreographer. Opportunities are provided for performance in director-selected dance styles such as Modern, Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, and student choreography. These students are those at the highest level and are expected to develop skills and collaboration, leadership, and service to others through their dance opportunities in order to model 21st Century Learning goals at the highest artistic level.

Magnet Dance Ensemble (S)—*Audition required.* This course is designed to challenge the experienced dancer who is not yet ready for Dance Company. It is open to 7th and 8th graders, but is occasionally offered to experienced 6th grade dancers as well. Students explore advanced coursework in Modern, Contemporary, Hip Hop, and Choreography. Students may work with a guest artist during the second semester and performance opportunities are provided. This class often represents the dance program with Dancy Company at Mustang Madness in the spring. This is a semester long class with the opportunity to continue for the year for the dedicated dancer.

Magnet Intro to Dance—The courses below are available to all 6th graders regardless of experience or prior training in dance. Please see course notes for specifics about scheduling. Students explore basic technique, improvisation, and composition as it relates to a particular style of dance. A study of the contributions of early dance pioneers, the global nature of dance, and the relationship between dance and healthful living is included. There are no formal performances for these courses, but a Parent Observation Week is often held at the end of each quarter.

- **Ballet and Modern**—(Combines courses formerly called Ballet I and Modern I) This course is offered first quarter ONLY.
- **Jazz and Tap**—(Combines courses formerly called Jazz I and Tap I) This course is offered second quarter ONLY.

Magnet Jazz

- **Level I**—See *Magnet Intro to Dance: Jazz and Tap* course above.
- **Level II**—*Completion of Level I course required.* This course extends and develops technical and stylistic skills; emphasis will be to expand the dance vocabulary of movement and to extend rhythmic and technical precision.

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- Level III (S)—*Completion of Level II course or audition required.* This course will use the same objectives and essential skills alignment as Level II and increase rigor and breadth of instruction.

Magnet Modern

- Level I—See *Magnet Intro to Dance: Ballet and Modern* course above.
- Level II— *Completion of Level I course required.* This course extends and develops technical and stylistic skills; emphasis will be to expand the dance vocabulary of movement and to extend rhythmic and technical precision.
- Level III (S)— *Completion of Level II course or audition required.* This course continues the study begun in Modern Dance II. Students in this course gain a greater understanding of technique as it relates to Modern Dance and serious exploration of the craft of improvisation is expected. Performance opportunities will be provided. Students will also learn about master choreographers and their contribution to Modern Dance, the early origins and transformation of Modern Dance over time, and connections between Modern Dance and other subjects.

Magnet Swing Dance—Students will learn the movements behind swing dance as well as the history of the dance in this dynamic elective. East and West coast swing will be covered. Students will learn the dance in context of historical connections to what was happening culturally and world-wide and swing grew in popularity. Students will have multiple performance opportunities in small- and large- groups, write reflections about their work, and create their own swing choreography.

Magnet Tap

- Level I—See *Magnet Intro to Dance: Jazz and Tap* course above.
- Level II— *Completion of Level I course required.* This course extends and develops technical and stylistic skills; emphasis will be to expand the dance vocabulary of movement and to extend rhythmic and technical precision.
- Level III (S)— *Completion of Level II course or audition required.* Further your knowledge of tap dance after Tap II! In this course you will continue learning tap dance technique, history, and choreography. You will have the opportunity to learn intermediate tap steps while practicing more advanced rhythms. As you extend your knowledge of tap technique, you will learn to identify those concepts and interpret tap choreography from classic and recent sources. You will have the opportunity to create your own short choreographic compositions based on given criteria. Students in Tap III will gain performance experience through presentations of pieces in the dance concert.

Magnet Zumbatomic—This high energy fitness-through-dance course focuses on the technical elements of dance incorporated into a Zumba fitness program. Students will learn the history and movements of Latin dance rhythms such as the Merengue, Salsa, and Cumbia and will practice these movements daily.

General Studies

Chess

- Level I—Learn the history and rules of chess and gain insight into the nature of competition within the game. Students learn techniques and strategies that challenge the grain to analyze and synthesize information while learning to play chess.