

# Neuse River Middle School

## 2021-22 8th Grade Elective Course Descriptions



Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Core subjects (English Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science) are required, but elective courses are unique courses that you can request. **All students will take one semester of Health & PE.** You will select **5** electives from this list. Please **mark 5** choices. In PowerSchool, students will make **6** selections.

**Note:** The availability of elective courses depends upon the school's master schedule and staff. Requesting an elective does not guarantee you will get that class in your schedule.

COURSE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	SELECTION
<b>36 weeks – Year-Long Elective</b>		<b>Mark 5 choices</b>
<b>Advanced Band – 52882Y0A</b>	Students must have taken Intermediate Band to sign up for Adv Band.	
<b>Concert Chorus – 52692Y0E</b> <i>* Audition Required</i>	Students must audition for this advanced music course. Students may represent the school in public and evening performances and may participate in competitions.	
<b>18 weeks – Semester-Long Electives</b>		
<b>Beginning Band – 52862Y0A</b> <b>(Instrumental Music)</b>	This course is an exploratory band course for students who have not taken band. Students will acquire basic musical skills as they learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. No public performances required, and there is no cost involved.	
<b>Chorus – 52692Y0D71</b>	Students will learn and apply correct singing techniques and various elements of musical expression.	
<b>Computer SC Discoveries Explore/Express – BU012YA</b>	This course introduces students to Computer Science and students see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for expression.	
<b>Dance I – 51092Y0B</b>	Students explore different dance genres such as African, Latin, hip hop, ballet, modern, etc. This group will have one required evening concert per semester. See linked video: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/nrmsdanceinfo">https://tinyurl.com/nrmsdanceinfo</a>	
<b>Dance II – 51092Y0C</b> <i>* Previous Dance Experience in 6th and 7th grade or outside of school</i>	This is an advanced version of our Dance II course offering. See linked video: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/nrmsdanceinfo">https://tinyurl.com/nrmsdanceinfo</a>	
<b>Drawing – 54092Y0D</b> <i>* Prior Art Experience Preferred</i>	Advanced art course. Students are taught drawing techniques using various media.	
<b>Exploring Apparel &amp; Interior Design - FC012YC</b>	This module is designed to teach basic skills and techniques needed in Apparel. Emphasis is on clothing choice, the elements of design, and basic construction techniques.	
<b>Exploring Business and Entrepreneurship – BU202YA</b>	Students will learn about orientation in the work world and about career planning with a focus on self- awareness.	
<b>Exploring Nutrition &amp; Wellness – FC012YB</b>	This module is designed to teach basic kitchen techniques, skills, and resources needed to design and make healthy food choices. Emphasis is on essential nutrients, the (USDA) dietary guidelines, basic kitchen tools, meal	

<b>Introduction to Theatre – 53092Y0C</b>	This course introduces students to the beginning aspects of movement, vocal expression, and ensemble work. Class activities include pantomime, improvisation, vocal development, playwriting, and solo/collaborative presentations in acting and theatre production (costumes, lighting, makeup, scenery, and sound). Students will have the opportunity to perform for an audience.	
<b>Music Exploratory – 52092Y0K (Intro to Songwriting and Lyrical Composition)</b>	Students will spend the semester diving deep into their favorite songs and genres (i.e. rap, hip hop, pop, etc.). They will explore what the songs mean, why they were written and what made the song successful. Students will apply what they have learned from their favorite artists to create something all their own.	
<b>Olympics of Science &amp; Math – 30092Y0F (Robotics, Coding and Engineering)</b>	Students will work through challenges and levels in the FUSE studio. Developed by educators at Northwestern University. FUSE is an interactive science lab where students get to choose the project that interests them. Beat making, video game design, and 3D printing challenges are just a few of the challenges you'll get to explore.	
<b>PLTW Magic of Electrons – TP012Y0J</b>	Students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices through hands-on projects. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them. They learn skills in basic circuitry design and use what they know to propose designs such as a burglar alarm for an art museum.	
<b>Pottery/Sculpture – 54092Y0S</b>	Students will create their own work with a wide variety of media such as paper, wood, clay, plaster, paper mâché, or fabric. Students explore various cultures, art history and learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.	
<b>Spanish Beginning 1 Year – 11402Y1 (Intermediate Spanish)</b>	This course continues the study of the Spanish language. <b>*You must have taken Spanish Beginning Less Than 1 year to sign up for this course.</b> This is the <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> course in the Spanish curriculum for High School Credit.	
<b>Spanish Beginning Less Than 1 Year – 11402Y0 (Beginning Spanish)</b> * For students who have not taken Spanish in middle school	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. This is the <b>1st of three parts</b> of the Spanish curriculum toward earning High School Credit.	
<b>Spanish 1 (MS for HS CREDIT) – 11412Y0 (Advanced Spanish)</b> (Must take <b>both</b> Spanish Beginning 1 Year and Span 1 and pass the <b>FINAL EXAM</b> to receive HS credit.)  * Must have taken Beginning Spanish Less Than 1 Year in 7 <sup>th</sup> grade	This course continues the study of the Spanish language. <b>You must have taken Spanish Beginning Less Than 1 Year and Spanish Beginning 1 Year to sign up for this course.</b> This is the <b>last of three required courses</b> in the Spanish curriculum for High School Credit. Students who complete this course successfully and who pass the <b>EXIT EXAM</b> (worth 20% of the overall grade) may take Spanish II at the high school level.	
<b>Understand Personal Finance &amp; Hospitality – FC012YD</b>	This module is designed to teach basic financial literacy and resource management skills. Emphasis is on financial responsibility and decision making, planning and money Management, credit and debt insurance, risk management, savings and investing. EverFi's Vault™ Financial Literacy certification is available.	
<b>Visual Composition II – 54092Y0N</b>	Students develop their technical and artistic skills as they solve problems with their own choice of media. Students are expected to write critical analysis of the work of others and their own.	

\*\* You can find more detailed descriptions in the [WCPSS Middle School Program Planning Guide](#)