

Northland Pines Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Elective Courses 2018-19

We must have a sufficient amount of students signed up to run each class.

CHORUS – Choir is open to any 7th or 8th grader who is interested in music, singing and performing. We focus on three-part repertoire from many genres, cultures and languages. This group performs at least eight times per year: the Veterans Day Assembly, Winter Concert, Winter Community Tour, Singing Valentines, Solo/ensemble, Large Group Festival, Spring Concert and NPMS assemblies. Students' performances at Solo/Ensemble include solos, duets, trios and large group ensembles. Outside of performances, we study vocal tone, music history and cultures, vocal percussion, music theory, drama activities and African percussion instruments.

7TH GRADE BAND – Students are provided with an opportunity to advance and progress in the development of instrumental performance with an emphasis on technique building, concert music styles (2 days a week), and jazz styles (2 days a week) at the 7th grade level. Students will also have the opportunity to create through music composition and improvisation. Students will also participate in WSMA competitions. Solo/Ensemble Contest and large group Festival begins at this level and carries on into the high school. The 7th Grade Band students perform at the Fall Jazz Concert, 7-12 Winter Concert and middle-school spring concert, in addition to joining other band students at the 4th of July parades. This is a year long course.

8TH GRADE BAND – Students are provided with an opportunity to advance and progress in the development of instrumental performance with an emphasis on technique building, concert music styles (2 days a week), and jazz styles (2 days a week) at the 8th grade level. Students will also have the opportunity to create through music composition and improvisation. Students will also participate in WSMA competitions. Solo/Ensemble Contest and large group Festival begins at this level and carries on into the high school. The 7th Grade Band students perform at the Fall Jazz Concert, 7-12 Winter Concert and middle-school spring concert, in addition to joining other band students at the 4th of July parades. This is a year long course.

ART (7) - This course will give students the opportunity to experiment with a variety of new two-dimensional and three-dimensional mediums. Copper embossing, scratchboard, clay sculpture, wood burning, and linoleum block printing will allow students to learn new techniques while finding unique ways to follow their interests. Creative drawing, painting, and design projects provide many artistic avenues for self-expression. Each new project builds on art skills that were previously learned. This is a semester long class.

ART (8) – This is a semester course. This individualized class will give students the opportunity to expand their experiences in their favorite mediums. In-depth projects will allow time to fully develop the possibilities and interests in their mediums. In-depth projects will allow time to fully develop the creative possibilities and interests of each student. The two-dimensional units give students options to choose their own projects. It is strongly recommended that students have previously taken 7th grades art in order to be prepared for the class, as the sequential projects build on art skills that were previously learned. Emphasis is placed on individual effort and creativity.

SCIENCE OF FOOD - Have you ever played with your food? Have you ever eaten your homework? The Science of Food class will let you do both. This class will let you explore the science behind the flavors and ingredients while learning different cooking techniques. Many local plants and animals will be used in recipes. This hands-on class will allow you to make sausage, cheese, ice cream and maple syrup. Students will harvest wild rice, tend to a honeybee hive and turn sugar into caramel. Learn about science in a whole new way. Let's get cooking 8th graders will be scheduled into this class first. This will be a semester course.

BUSINESS CONCEPTS – Business Concepts is a course designed to assist students in understanding all of the roles that take place in a free enterprise economy. It will provide the basic principles, concepts, and understanding as vital for development of individuals as effective citizens, employees/employers, and consumers participating in the American system. Units which will be studied will include the organization and economic role of business, the impact of computers in business, the rights and responsibilities of consumers in business, managing your money wisely, and government's role in our economy. This is a semester course.

7th GRADE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop and apply key computer science concepts and 21st-Century Skills in a collaborative environment, utilizing tools such as G-Suite's documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and more, plus word processing, desktop publishing, and web 2.0 tools skills. Students will also be introduced to digital photo manipulation, video production, plus review digital citizenship, internet safety, ethical computer use, keyboarding skills, and more! This course will also utilize Code.org's Computer Science Discoveries curriculum, covering topics in basic computer science and web design. Class content will be accessible online through Northland Pines' Schoology online learning management system.

8TH GRADE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop and apply key computer science concepts and 21st-Century Skills in a collaborative environment, utilizing G-Suite's productivity apps and web 2.0 tools skills. Code.org's Computer Science Discoveries curriculum will be utilized extensively, with units in problem solving, coding, web design, game design, and app planning. Students will also explore digital photo manipulation, video production, plus review digital citizenship, internet safety, ethical computer use, keyboarding skills, and more! Class content will be accessible online through Northland Pines' Schoology online learning management system.

8th GRADE DESIGN and MANUFACTURING – This course is designed for 8th Grade students who are interested in the research, design and construction of woodworking projects. During this course students will learn proper measurement, drafting and woodworking techniques. Laboratory activities include research and design, construction of wood projects, proper use of tools and material identification. The course objective is to introduce students to the basic terminology and techniques of drafting and woodworking and to encourage students to use creative thinking skills to design their individual projects. This will be a semester class.

8th GRADE TECH ED

This 8th grade "Hands On" Technology Education course allows students to explore the expanding field of Technology. During this course students will study terminology, processes and careers related to materials and manufacturing, construction, transportation systems, power and energy, and biotechnology. Students will have the opportunity to use multiple digital manufacturing machines such as the Shopbot, Techno Mill, laser printer, and 3D printer. Students will also learn machine safety and woodworking techniques for the completion of unit projects.

8th GRADE GATEWAY

In this engineering based course students will learn the development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students will use the Fischertechnik Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, elevators, and revolving signs (PLTW 2015). This class will build students' knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, and innovation.

INTRODUCTION TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE – Each one a semester course.

Introduction to Spanish – This class is designed to give students an introduction to basic language skills in speaking, comprehension, reading and writing. Students also learn about Latin American culture in order to participate in a global society. This class offers an integrated approach to learning Spanish. Presentation and practice of functional expressions, vocabulary and grammar structures are interwoven with cultural information and language learning tips to facilitate mastery. Students learn to carry on basic conversations with classmates and gain confidence throughout the semester in communicating basic likes, dislikes, interests, hobbies, classes and daily schedules.

Introduction to German – Students will learn simple grammar and vocabulary on a wide variety of topics. They will learn to ask questions and carry on simple conversations in German. This class also explores the culture of Germany and other German-speaking countries. Students learn about Wisconsin's rich German heritage and celebrate some of the traditional holidays. Several hands-on projects will be done during the semester including baking pretzels, singing and playing vocabulary games.