

5th Grade 2023-24 Elective Course Descriptions

******BE PREPARED TO SELECT A FIRST AND SECOND CHOICE FOR DAY A, AND A FIRST AND SECOND CHOICE FOR DAY B (a total of 4 classes per quarter), AND BE CAREFUL TO NOTE THAT SOME ELECTIVES ARE NOT ALL OFFERED ON BOTH DAYS******

QUARTER 1 ELECTIVES

Outdoor Team Sports A (PE)

The students will be participating in various outdoor team sports. Examples of these sports could include basketball and kickball. These activities will focus on the needed fundamental skills for each sport as well as cooperation and team building activities. This course will take place outdoors. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Health in Sports (PE)

This class will focus on learning the basic fundamentals of nutrition and exercise to help students live a healthy and balanced life. Students will explore proper nutrition and activities they can partake in to keep them living their best life.

Drawing (ART)

This course will introduce students to basic drawing, perspective, and sketching techniques using various media to depict a variety of subjects. Students will create drawings that demonstrate their understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.

Choir (MUSIC) *Day A only*

This performance-based course is designed to focus on singing as a group. Students will focus on learning different types of choral music, sight-reading, correct singing techniques, and performance etiquette. There will be required performances outside of the school day as part of the grade for this course. Additional information will go home on the first day of class in the syllabus. *Due to its nature, Choir is a semester long course.* To participate, students *must* join for quarters 1 AND 2 *or* quarters 3 AND 4. Students *are strongly encouraged* register for Choir for the whole year, though. A one-time course fee of \$20 is required for all performing members, which includes all required supplies and official performance shirt. *Students who register for the whole year will still be able to participate in a second Elective course each quarter.*

Music History - Movie Music & Sound Design (MUSIC) *Day B only*

Students will use technology regularly to explore the origins of today's popular music from stage to screen. Students will explore the basics of modern film scoring through the identification of various styles and motifs throughout movies from the past 100 years. Students will explore the connection between action, emotion, and sound, including the use of various tonalities and techniques to best support specific situations. Students will examine various forms of digital music from movie soundtrack design to video game soundtrack designs. Students will explore the science of sound and sound editing basics. We will learn about how producers and sound designers loop and edit sound/music tracks. This course will end with a collaborative, culminating project incorporating student's new knowledge of sound design related to potential careers within the studied skill set.

Beginning Band (MUSIC) *Day B only*

Students will learn to play a band instrument, read music, play songs, and perform together. Most families choose to rent an instrument from Musical Surprise for about \$30/month. The rental includes the instrument, repair, theft protection, and credit toward future purchase. There will be an instrument rental night at school in August. There are also a small number of instruments available to rent through the school for a cost of \$50 for the entire school year. These instruments are rented on a first come, first served basis each fall. Be aware that students with district instruments who are not active in rehearsal and home practice can have their instrument assigned to another

student and forfeit their rental fee. Band students will be enrolled for the whole school year as one of their two Elective classes each quarter, and will have the opportunity to participate in one other Elective class every quarter. *Band students will be enrolled for the whole school year as one of their two Elective classes each quarter, and will have the opportunity to participate in one other Elective class every quarter.*

Coding *Day A only* (iExplore)

Coding students will learn foundational skills in computational thinking, computing practice, and programming. They will decompose problems into smaller more manageable parts, and create algorithms to solve them. Students will use hands-on learning and the physical environment to explore computing concepts. To write programs, they will use visual (block-based) or text-based programming languages. By the end of the course students will be able to communicate what they have learned about sequence, loops, functions, and conditional statements.

Creative Technology *Day B only* (iExplore)

Students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of programs, websites, and technologies to create a portfolio of creative works, including Morning Announcements!. Units may include, but are not limited to: coding in art and music, 3D design and printing, photo editing, stop motion animation, web design, game design, graphic design, photography and more!

QUARTER 2 ELECTIVES

Outdoor Team Sports B (PE)

The students will be participating in various outdoor team sports. Examples of these sports could include basketball, football, soccer, baseball and kickball. These activities will focus on the needed fundamental skills for each sport as well as cooperation and team building activities. This course will take place outdoors. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Indoor Sports 1 (PE)

The students will be participating in various indoor team sports. Examples of these sports include volleyball, handball, hockey, badminton . These activities will focus on cooperation and team building activities. This course will take place indoors. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Painting (ART)

This course is a survey of various painted media on the traditional surfaces of canvas and paper. The class will offer an overview of the fundamental traditional painting methods. Students will be challenged to create paintings that demonstrate their understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.

Choir (MUSIC) *Day A Only*

This is a continuation of the Choir Elective. If you selected Choir for first quarter, you must also select it for this quarter.

Beginning Band (MUSIC) *Day B only*

This is a continuation of the Band Elective. If you selected Band for first quarter, you must also select it for this quarter.

STEM *Day B only* (iExplore)

Students will work collaboratively and think critically to solve design challenges using everyday materials in a creative way. Students will build on their background knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math to create a prototype that solves a given problem while using Design Thinking and the Engineering Design Process. This elective is great for students who enjoy working with their hands, being creative, and working in groups.

Musical Theatre Performance *Day B only* (MUSIC/ART)

In this performance-based course, students will look at the different performing aspects of Musical Theatre and Broadway. Throughout the course, students will be active in improvisation, singing, and acting techniques. This course is highly recommended for all students interested in participating in next year's school-wide production (which also requires extensive after-school rehearsals between September and February), but is open to all students interested in learning about and preparing for a theatrical production. Students will study and practice the basics of stage performance, develop skills in theatrical acting performance, and learn about the many components and collaborative elements associated with theatrical productions (including set and costume design and stage effects). This Elective will provide additional rehearsal time for the school musical, which will be used as the basis for most instruction. *This course is offered for two quarters, and it is recommended that all students who intend to participate in the school musical register for both quarters it is offered.* While students can choose to participate for only one quarter, the second quarter it is offered will be a continuation of the learning from the first section. *****If taken for both quarters, this course will satisfy both the Music AND Art requirement for the year due to its integration of both performance and artistic design components*****

Creative Technology *Day A only* (iExplore)

Students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of programs, websites, and technologies to create a portfolio of creative works, including Morning Announcements!. Units may include, but are not limited to: coding in art and music, 3D design and printing, photo editing, stop motion animation, web design, game design, graphic design, photography and more!

QUARTER 3 ELECTIVES

Fitness/Strategy (PE)

This course will focus on multiple styles of group fitness training. Students could be introduced to yoga, Zumba, cross-fit, Tabata, HIIT, kickboxing, line dancing and other strength training/conditioning class formats. This class will also include nutrition/health component for a healthy lifestyle. Games and activities in this class will focus on teamwork and communication. Students will engage in various games and activities in which their communication will guide their strategies while competing against each other and other teams. Games could focus on building offensive and defensive skills, throwing and catching drills and conditioning. This course will take place both indoors and outdoors. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Lifetime Sports - Disc Sports, Golf, Kickball, Bowling, Spikeball (PE)

Students will be participating in various lifetime sports. Examples of these sports would include various disc sports, golf, kickball, bowling, capture the flag, and spike ball. We will focus on learning the rules and regulations for these various sports. These activities will focus on cooperation and team building activities. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Ceramics (ART)

Students will gain knowledge and understanding of different media, tools, and processes for ceramic making. They will sketch, design, and practice a variety of skills needed to create a ceramic project. (textures, shapes, attaching, coiling, rolling, smudging) They will learn the techniques of clay molding, firing, and painting the ceramic project.

Creative Technology *Day B only* (iExplore)

Students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of programs, websites, and technologies to create a portfolio of creative works, including Morning Announcements!. Units may include, but are not limited to: coding in art and music, 3D design and printing, photo editing, stop motion animation, web design, game design, graphic design, photography and more!

Choir (MUSIC) *Day A only*

This performance-based course is designed to focus on singing as a group. Students will focus on learning different types of choral music, sight-reading, correct singing techniques, and performance etiquette. There will be required performances outside of the school day as part of the grade for this course. Additional information will go home on the first day of class in the syllabus. *Due to its nature, Choir is a semester long course.* To participate, students *must* join for quarters 1 AND 2 or quarters 3 AND 4. Students *are strongly encouraged* register for Choir for the whole year, though. A one-time course fee of \$20 is required for all performing members, which includes all required supplies and official performance shirt. *Students who register for the whole year will still be able to participate in a second Elective course each quarter. Students who participated in the Choir elective for quarters 1 and 2 are not required to pay the course fee again.*

Robotics *Day A only* (iEXPLORE)

Students will learn fundamental engineering design and programming skills while interpreting code results in real time. They will: design, build, and program robots to investigate solutions and solve problems; work in design teams to collaborate with others and share ideas to investigate, create, and test the best possible solutions; explore real-world scientific questions in topics ranging from earth science to physics; develop and test hypotheses.

Musical Theatre Performance *Day B only* (MUSIC/ART)

In this performance-based course, students will look at the different performing aspects of Musical Theatre and Broadway. Throughout the course, students will be active in improvisation, singing, and acting techniques. This course is highly recommended for all students interested in participating in next year's school-wide production (which also requires extensive after-school rehearsals between September and February), but is open to all students interested in learning about and preparing for a theatrical production. Students will study and practice the basics of stage performance, develop skills in theatrical acting performance, and learn about the many components and collaborative elements associated with theatrical productions (including set and costume design and stage effects). This Elective will provide additional rehearsal time for the school musical, which will be used as the basis for most instruction. *This course is offered for two quarters, and it is recommended that all students who intend to participate in the school musical register for both quarters it is offered.* While students can choose to participate for only one quarter, the second quarter it is offered will be a continuation of the learning from the first section. *****If taken for both quarters, this course will satisfy both the Music AND Art requirement for the year due to its integration of both performance and artistic design components*****

Beginning Band (MUSIC) *Day B only*

This is a continuation of the Band Elective. If you selected Band for first quarter, you must also select it for this quarter.

QUARTER 4 ELECTIVES

Outdoor Team Sports C (PE)

The students will be participating in various outdoor team sports. Examples of these sports could include basketball, football, soccer, baseball and kickball. These activities will focus on the needed fundamental skills for each sport as well as cooperation and team building activities. This course will take place outdoors. Strategies and sportsmanship will be points of emphasis.

Indoor Sports 2 (PE)

Students will be participating in various racquet sports and team games. They will be learning the fundamental skills of sports such as volleyball, handball, hockey, badminton as well as being immersed in gameplay within the quarter. Students will also learn the safety skills that are needed when playing both sports. Finally, sportsmanship will be emphasized within daily activities.

Choir (MUSIC) *Day A only*

A continuation of the Choir Elective. If you selected Choir for the first quarter, you must also select it for this quarter.

2D and 3D Multimedia (ART)

Students will create multi-media compositions in both 2D and 3D forms with a variety of materials, paint, images, found objects, and ink painting. Techniques may include collage, monotype printing, drawing, painting, mixing, assemblage, cutting, pasting, etc. Students will be challenged to create products that demonstrate their understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.

Music History - Movie Music & Sound Design (MUSIC) *Day B only*

Students will use technology regularly to explore the origins of today's popular music from stage to screen. Students will explore the basics of modern film scoring through the identification of various styles and motifs throughout movies from the past 100 years. Students will explore the connection between action, emotion, and sound, including the use of various tonalities and techniques to best support specific situations. Students will examine various forms of digital music from movie soundtrack design to video game soundtrack designs. Students will explore the science of sound and sound editing basics. We will learn about how producers and sound designers loop and edit sound/music tracks. This course will end with a collaborative, culminating project incorporating student's new knowledge of sound design related to potential careers within the studied skill set.

Creative Technology *Day A only* (iExplore)

Students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of programs, websites, and technologies to create a portfolio of creative works, including Morning Announcements!. Units may include, but are not limited to: coding in art and music, 3D design and printing, photo editing, stop motion animation, web design, game design, graphic design, photography and more!

STEM *Day B only* (iExplore)

Students will work collaboratively and think critically to solve design challenges using everyday materials in a creative way. Students will build on their background knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math to create a prototype that solves a given problem while using Design Thinking and the Engineering Design Process. This elective is great for students who enjoy working with their hands, being creative, and working in groups.

Beginning Band (MUSIC) *Day B only*

This is a continuation of the Band Elective. If you selected Band for first quarter, you must also select it for this quarter.

Elective FAQ's

What grade levels get to participate?

Grades 5-8 will have Electives for the entire school year.

Does this replace my Specials time?

Yes. Instead of having to participate in all Specials classes in a rotation schedule, the Specials teachers are offering more personalized classes and students will get to choose which courses they attend.

Who is teaching the classes?

Special Area Teachers - PE, Music, Art, Band, iExplore Lab

What if I still want to go to every special?

Students get to choose 8 Electives for the year. When signing up for classes students can select one from every subject area if they choose.

What does it mean by Day A and Day B?

Each quarter you will get to attend two different Electives. One Elective will be held on Tuesday and Thursdays (Day A), the other Elective will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays (Day B). Mondays will alternate between A and B days.

What courses am I required to take?

During the course of the school year, each student must take at least one PE, one MUSIC, one ART, and one iEXPLORE Elective. There is one exception -- Students who enroll in Choir AND Band *for the full year* are excused from taking an Art course (see "Can I take Band AND Choir" section below for a description of this schedule).

What if I want to take a class more than once?

Even though some Electives are offered more than once, students may only take each Elective once, with the following exceptions: Band, Choir, and Creative Technology. Band is a year-long commitment for all members. Choir requires participation in quarters 1 & 2 or quarters 3 & 4, but students may also choose to sign up for the whole year. Creative Technology includes support and participation in our daily Morning Announcements on video, which benefits from consistency in participation. These are the only Electives that may be taken more than once. *Students who select non-qualifying Electives more than once will lose their selection and be placed in another Elective class of the school's choosing based on class size.*

Can I take Band or Choir all year?

Yes. These are performance-based classes. Band is a required year-long commitment. If you choose Choir, it is required for two quarters in a row (either quarters 1 and 2 OR 3 and 4), but recommended for the whole year (both semesters). Students will still have two other days per week to attend a different elective course each quarter if registered for these semester/year-long courses.

Can I take Band AND Choir?

Yes and no. If you choose to do this you will be in Band all year, and you will be required to take one section of iExplore and one section of PE (in quarters 1 and 2 respectively), and will be able to be in the Choir Elective for quarters 3 and 4.

Why didn't I get all of my top choices?

We do our best to schedule you into all your top choices. Reasons for not getting your selections will more than likely be due to scheduling conflicts and when courses are offered or if a course fills up before you complete your registration. This is why the online registration form will ask for your first and second choices for Days A & B. If you get placed in your lowest choices, it is likely because you did not follow instructions correctly when selecting your classes.

When will I know what my classes are?

You will know your courses when you get your class schedule at the beginning of the school year.

Will I be able to change my schedule later?

No. Once the sign-up process is completed, we cannot offer a schedule change. Please take time to make your decisions carefully and discuss it as a family, as *only school administrators will be able to request changes.*

Can I take all courses in the same discipline (e.g. PE for every class, all year long)?

No, but you can select them for *most* of your choices. For instance, all students are required to participate in one section of iExplore, one Music, one Art, and one PE section during the course of the year (and students have a choice as to which they will take). The remaining four sections are completely of the student's preference.

Is there a cost?

Specials courses do not have a cost with the exception of Band and Choir. Band students will need to provide their own instruments, either through ownership or rental. This will be discussed the first week of school. Choir requires the purchase of a uniform shirt. While there is no cost for the Musical Theatre Elective, there are fees associated with participating in the school musical which rehearses after school.