



## 6th Grade Elective Course Descriptions 2021-2022 School Year



Please note: Elective offerings are subject to change, based on staffing, interest, etc. Every effort will be made to accommodate students' choices; however, there is no guarantee that all requests will be met.

### Beginning Band (Year)

Are you talented, creative and hardworking? Do you want to be successful and have fun? Learning to play a musical instrument engages every area of the brain at once and decades of research have shown that students who can play an instrument are among the most successful students in high school, college, and life in general. Beginning Band is a year-long class where students will learn to play flute, clarinet, trumpet trombone, bass clarinet, tuba, or possibly saxophone. Students will be able to audition for one of our percussionist positions after our Winter Concert. Students will experience concert performances, recording sessions, and marching opportunities. There will be Winter and Spring concerts that you will be expected to participate in, but they are really fun and a great experience. In addition to our Winter and Spring concerts, we will march in the Town of Windsor Parade, and may perform at the Windsor Town Green and for other schools in the Windsor Unified School District. Participation in music classes has been shown to increase performance in math and language arts, and prepare students with 21<sup>st</sup> century job skills.

### Beginning Strings-Overture (Year)

No experience necessary. A year-long entry level learning community for students who are interested in developing their beginning level skills on violin, viola, cello, or bass. This is a great opportunity to learn music, be a part of a team, and perform in public! In this class we will: learn to read music, learn an instrument, learn songs, start and develop technique, and develop ensemble playing skills. Consistent attendance and excellent classroom behavior is a must for a positive and progressive learning environment in this very challenging class. Concepts are moved through with some pace. Excellent organization skills are required. There will be Winter and Spring concerts that you will be expected to participate in, but

they are really fun and a great experience. Participation in music classes has been shown to increase performance in math and language arts, and prepare students with 21<sup>st</sup> century job skills. Music, specifically playing an instrument, has been proven to enhance many aspects of brain activity and development, such as imagination, problem solving, creativity, critical thinking, self direction, and collaboration.

### Beginning Chorus (Year)

No experience necessary. A year-long entry level learning community concentrating on vocal skills and techniques. The 2nd semester explores choir choreography. We will sing music from a wide variety of cultures, languages and styles. In addition to our Winter and Spring Concerts- **ATTENDANCE AT CONCERTS IS MANDATORY**, we will perform at the Town of Windsor Tree Lighting Ceremony and there are opportunities for small group performances in the community (Farmer's market, Christmas Caroling, sr. center performances). Participation in music classes has been shown to increase performance in math and language arts, and prepare students with 21<sup>st</sup> century job skills. If you've always wanted to sing, but never had the nerve or the opportunity, this is your chance! There will be some written homework and practice is required..

### Art

Students will explore basic art media and techniques such as drawing, painting, calligraphy, as well as exploring craft projects. Art aesthetic, art history, and principles and elements of design are also incorporated.

### Film Studies

In this course, we will watch various movies that are either of the same genre or theme. For instance, we may watch movies based on the theme of "The Hero's Journey," themes of friendship, perseverance, etc. Students will answer questions about the movie as it's being watched and will then take a quiz and/or do a culminating activity. Attendance is very important for this class, as movies are not available to take home to catch up.