

Middle School Elective Courses

8th Grade Electives

Art

This course dives deeper into the Elements of Arts and Principles of Design. Throughout the drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture units, we still discuss and practice these elements and principles of art, but work more on extracting ideas from within. This class has more freedom to choose subject and image content pertaining to each student's individuality and looks for more reflection on student's personal ideas.

Spanish- Year Long or Semester Long

Students do a brief review of the information learned in the 7th grade and then move into the textbook Paso A Paso where their knowledge of vocabulary in combination with AR ending verbs is expanded. Students are able to create oral dialogues and written cartoons forming complete sentences in Spanish. Spanish passages from the text are used to help students begin to synthesize the Spanish language. Homework, oral Spanish presentations, quizzes, power points, and tests are used to check for understanding.

Band

Eighth grade band provides an opportunity to continue the study and mastery of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments that are traditionally scored for a wind band setting. Students are required to participate in two concerts and a massed band festival during the school year.

Prerequisite: Participation in 7th grade band or audition for the instructor.

Technical Education

This class contains modules on CO2 dragsters, winged flight, hot air balloons, robotics, solar, electronics, bridge building (triangular strength, load vs weight efficiency, compression vs tensile factors and how to balance them, careers in civil engineering, etc.). The CO2 dragsters modules main lessons are aerodynamics, drag, and a small amount of automotive and transportation knowledge. Also incorporated in this module is proper and safe use of selected tools in the woodshop. In Lego Robotics students use problem solving skills, once they learn the basics, they are given various challenges in design, engineering, and programming to make an autonomous robot complete a specific task.

Choir

Choir provides the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's & women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts

JMG- Jobs for Montana Grads

JMG helps students see themselves, others and the community in a different light. Students build confidence and gain skills that will last them a lifetime. By determining the direction of the class, learning to work together as a team, and exploring options for their future, students find themselves completely engaged. JMG benefits all staff and students as JMG students provide a strong leadership role within the school. The class provides an opportunity for students to experience a class that truly makes a difference- today and tomorrow.

Middle School

GOALS: The three (3) major goals of a JMG Middle School Program are:

- Students will stay in school and transition into high school.
- Students will improve their academic performance, school behavior, attendance, participation and self-esteem.
- Students will improve their skills in leading and being an effective member of a team.

8th Grade Goals

- Dreamwork
- Lifestyles
- Negotiations
- Career-Based Learning
- Leadership Development
- High School Transition
- Daily Journaling/ Class Discussions