

**Technology Electives:** Each fulfills the computer requirement

**21Things4Students**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

21things4students allows students to complete fun projects using different Web 2.0 tools. Students will increase their technical proficiency in many different areas through these projects.

**Computer Science Discoveries 1**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Computer Science Discoveries 1 is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. Computer Science Discoveries 1 is designed to be an accessible and engaging course for all students, regardless of background or prior experience. It provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover problem-solving and computing, web development, and animations and games.

**Computer Science Discoveries 2**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: grade of D- or higher in Computer Science Discoveries 1

Computer Science Discoveries 2 is a computer science course that builds on Computer Science Discoveries 1, continuing to empower students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving and fun. The course provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover the design process, data and society, and physical computing.

**Everyone Can Code & Create**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Everyone Can Code introduces students to core coding concepts using the Swift programming language. Students use real Swift code to solve puzzles and create projects. Everyone Can Create is designed to introduce students to the skills they need to better express themselves through music, video, photography, and drawing on the iPad.

**Minecraft: Education Edition**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

A game-based learning platform that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment. Through project-based lessons, students build critical 21st-century skills like collaboration, creative problem solving, and digital citizenship.

### **Project Lead the Way (PLTW): Automation and Robotics**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Students trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics© platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

**Physical Education Elective:** This fulfills the physical education requirement.

### **Physical Education 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course focuses on improving students' fitness levels. Students will engage in daily fitness and team sport activities in order to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance and flexibility. This course will provide students with information about finding and tracking their heart rate, as well as basic health and nutrition information. Regular class discussion will include self-motivation, self-pacing, teamwork, fair play and related topics. *May be taken more than once during the school year.*

### **Fine and Performing Arts Electives:**

#### **Band 7**

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Previous band experience or director approval

Students in this class will continue to develop their ensemble skills. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students must be willing to practice at home on a daily basis and must bring their instrument to class.

#### **Beginning Band 7**

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: no prior band experience/limited band experience

This class is designed for students interested in band who have limited or no experience with band instruments. Students will be learning alongside other new band students giving them the best change for success without feeling they are behind.

#### **Full Year Advanced Choir 7**

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Credit in Vocal Music 6 and permission from/audition with Ms. Micik or Mr. Sharp

This course is designed for students serious about becoming better singers through performance. This class focuses on the basics of vocal production, professional performance practices, self-confidence, and learning to read music. Full Year Advanced Choir will perform 3-5 concerts per school year. **Audition and/or teacher permission required.**

### **Visual Art 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Building upon skills we have learned, we will continue to work on different art mediums while focusing on the elements and principles of art and design.

### **Advanced Art**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: passed a previous art class with a 70% or above, or have special permission from the art teacher

This is a semester-long class in which we build upon the skills we have learned up to this point. The first quarter has a strong focus on drawing, and painting in different art styles. The second quarter is heavily focused on design through sculpture and 3D models.

**Foreign Language Elective:** This will fulfill one year of the required two years foreign language graduation requirement.

### **Spanish I 7**

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: C average or better in ELA and/or teacher recommendation

In this course students will learn the vocabulary for classroom objects, numbers and information related to the calendar, greetings, likes and dislikes, school subjects, and how to tell time. They learn about the culture of Latin American countries and simple conversations related to the vocabulary learned in the classroom as well as writing short sentences in Spanish.

### **Core Enrichment Electives:**

#### **Creative Writing**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Creative writing is a class that teaches proper writing strategies through fun, creative topics. Students are allowed to write about anything they wish, as long as it is within the stated guidelines and is school appropriate. Emphasis will be on the use of proper grammar, proper use of punctuation, and how to write conversations. The objective of the class is to further prepare the middle school students for high school writing, and to help start preparing for the essay that is needed for future college application essays. A large percent of the student's ability to write improves from 2-3 paragraphs to several pages of typed material.

#### **Health 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This class focuses on the following health topics during the marking period: Communicable diseases; Nutrition and Exercise; Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs; Social and Emotional Health; Understanding HIV and other STI's. Students will explore these topics through partner discussion, group discussion and skits, whole class discussion, real life examples, and video usage for examples. Most work is done in class, but there will be a few assignments to be completed at home. Physical activity is also a portion of the student's grade. Participation is required.

### **iSocial Studies 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course will engage students in learning Social Studies in an online and traditional environment. Students will be learning about: current events, civics, economics, geography and history. Part of the focus of the course will be to prepare students for future social studies classes and curriculum. Students must feel comfortable using the computer and have grade appropriate skills

### **Japanese Language and Culture I**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

In this class you will be introduced to basic information about Japanese language and culture. Activities can include describing yourself, family and friends using Japanese language. In addition you will learn to read simple Japanese sentences written in Hiragana letters and partially in Katakana letters by using the Japanese alphabet tables. ***This does not satisfy a high school foreign language requirement.***

### **Japanese Language and Culture II**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Completion of Japanese Language and Culture I with a final grade of C+ or better

In this class you will build upon concepts and skills learned in Japanese Language and Culture I. This can include describing hobbies, habits and activities using the Japanese language. In addition you will compare products, practices and perspectives of Japanese-speaking cultures with those of your own. You will also have the opportunity to read Japanese sentences written in Hiragana letters and partially in Katakana and Kanji letters. ***This does not satisfy a high school foreign language requirement.***

### **LMS Yearbook**

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: A grade of B or better in Language Arts

This class will focus on publishing to the internal digital bulletin board, create a school newsletter including short narratives about middle school events and work on the 2021-22 yearbook.

### **Math Mania 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: C or better in regular mathematics class

This course will focus on topics including algebra, graphing and geometry. The curriculum consists of mathematical tasks and questions designed to stimulate mathematical thinking and to promote discussion among students. Students will

explore mathematical relationships, and further develop and explain their own reasoning of mathematical concepts. Concepts will be taught through a variety of motivating games and activities that address concepts and reinforce communication in math, computation skills, and key math strands.

### **Science Adventures 7**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course focuses on exploratory skills and information in the subject of science. This course may include: Astronomy, Anatomy, Environmental Issues, Forensic Science, Ecology and Green Energy.

### **Theater Arts**

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

If you like to work with your classmates to prepare and perform skits and plays, this class is for you! All that is required is a willingness to try new things and the ability to work well in a group.