

EPSOC Elective Course Descriptions for 2018-19

Students will receive an elective selection survey in their student emails on 6/14/18

Color Key

	1st Period Elective Choice Description
	2nd Period Elective Choice Description
	IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE

Project Math (open to all students)	Project math will challenge students to be creative, work with others, follow directions to complete hands on projects, all while using math skills. Students will get to design, create, and enjoy their own projects. This class has a CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) theme.
Reading Intervention (open to all students)	Reading Intervention is a class for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students who are reading below their grade level and want to improve their skills. The class uses the Read 180 curriculum to practice and improve reading skills through whole and small group instruction, independent reading, and use of the Read 180 app on the iPad.
STEAM Q 1 & Q2 (open to 7th,8th only)	For 7th,8th only: A collaborative "maker space" where students will gain hands-on experience with 3D printing, robotics, electronics, coding, and other high-tech (and low-tech) tools.
Reading Intervention (open to all students)	Reading Intervention is a class for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students who are reading below their grade level and want to improve their skills. The class uses the Read 180 curriculum to practice and improve reading skills through whole and small group instruction, independent reading, and use of the Read 180 app on the iPad.
Advanced Dance (open to all students)	Musical Theatre at EPSOC focuses on develop your singing/acting/dance skills in a variety of musical theatre performing styles. The class forms an ensemble performing group that learns and performs songs from a variety of musicals, from Vaudeville to today's Broadway shows. This class will perform once a semester for the Musical Theatre Showcase. Other performance opportunities for this class are also available throughout the school year.
Advanced Theatre (open to all students)	Musical Theatre at EPSOC focuses on develop your singing/acting/dance skills in a variety of musical theatre performing styles. The class forms an ensemble performing group that learns and performs songs from a variety of musicals, from Vaudeville to today's Broadway shows. This class will perform once a semester for the Musical Theatre Showcase. Other performance opportunities for this class are also available throughout the school year.
Keyboarding and Music Technology	(Year-long course - meets daily) In this course, students will use technology to learn music skills, including performance and music theory. Using iPads and digital keyboards, students will advance their piano skills. They will use GarageBand and other apps to create and perform music. Keyboards are available to borrow free of charge for students

(open to all students)	to use for home practice.
Art Exploration (open to 6th ONLY)	Students will explore a variety of art materials, art history, art from other cultures and modern day artists in a hands on approach. This class will also emphasize the artistic process; exploring behaviors and habits used by artists to help develop creative thinking and high quality work.
Chamber Band (open to 7th, 8th ONLY)	Chamber Band is our featured ensemble that performs at a more advanced level, often with one or two members on each part. They are featured at school concerts and assemblies, community events, solo & ensemble showcase, regional contest, and our district festival in June. They combine with orchestra members to form Full Orchestra a few times a year, and then combine forces with 6th Grade Band to form our Sky Warrior Marching Band at parades. Many members choose to perform at Solo & Ensemble Contest in March. A variety of musical genres will be explored and rehearsed, as well as music history topics, notation, composition, and improvisation. Chamber Band members are usually 7th and 8th graders, but others may be invited according to skill level. Chamber Band covers fundamental concepts in Essential Elements Book 2 and meets National Core Arts Standards for 7th and 8th grades. FULL YEAR COMMITMENT
Orchestra (open to all students)	The String Orchestra class offers instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass instruments with a focus on the skills necessary for long-term success. Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of tone quality and music literacy. This class includes required evening performances throughout the year. Students should have at least one year of prior experience. Students with no prior experience should check in with the teacher. FULL YEAR COMMITMENT
Exploratory Media Grades (open to all students)	Students will learn how to use a variety of apps through the collaborative process to assist them in becoming skillful, fluent iPad users. They will use apps to demonstrate what they learn as a result of graphic novel studies, researching topics and issues of interest, etc. They will use photography and videography skills learned in class to present photos and short videos at an end-of-semester final exhibition open to the school.
Leadership (open to all students)	In leadership, students develop communication strategies, understand leadership styles, learn the importance of recycling, work on school, community and global causes. Also learn about group process and self awareness.
Debate with a Science focus on Human Impacts on the Earth (open to all students)	Students will learn the components of creating a convincing and effective argument, while also developing their public speaking and presentation skills. We will be exploring current events and human impacts on the earth so that as a class we are well-informed about the claims we are making. One of the major foci of the class will be on the use of plastic and its impacts on the earth so that we can begin persuading the school to move away from use of plastic water bottles and move towards reusable options.
Project Math (open to 7th, 8th ONLY)	Project math will challenge students to be creative, work with others, follow directions to complete hands on projects, all while using math skills. Students will get to designing, create, and enjoy their own projects.
Dance (open to all students)	Elements of dance will include an emphasis on dance techniques that expand the dancer beyond beginning levels of proficiency. The study of choreography will be introduced and developed as well as a study of the ability to observe, analyze, evaluate and interpret other dance performances. The class will culminate with a dance composition piece of your own choreography.

Technical Theatre (open to all students)	Technical Theatre is a course which provides the opportunity to learn and apply the crafts and technologies of the “backstage” world of the theatre. Students acquire knowledge of all areas of theatre production, set design and construction, lighting design, sound, costumes, props, make-up and management. Students will work on project throughout the quarter related to productions for the school year.
Select Middle School Choir (open to all students)	Grade Level: 6, 7, 8 (Year-long course - meets daily) Students will learn vocal production and technique, music reading skills, sight-singing skills, and performance skills with a varied repertoire including intermediate and advanced level 3-part and 4-part music. Students will need to audition and have permission of instructor to enroll. Choir audition forms are available from instructor, and auditions are by appointment during class for current choir students, or before school, after school, or at recess. FULL YEAR COMMITMENT
Student Choice Art Class Grades (open to 7th,8th ONLY)	Class will choose one art curriculum for the quarter:: 1) Art history, 2) Multi-cultural art, 3) Multi- media art exploration or 4) drawing techniques. At the end of the quarter another vote will take place to decide if students want to continue the curriculum chosen first quarter or switch to another area of art exploration. This class will also emphasize the artistic process; exploring behaviors and habits used by artists to help develop creative thinking and high quality work.
6th Grade Band (open to 6th ONLY)	6th Grade Band empowers students to develop their musicianship and learn the fundamentals. From pitch and tone to pulse and rhythm, 6th graders thoroughly learn the fundamental concepts in Essential Elements Book 1. They are featured at school concerts, Solo & Ensemble Showcase, and combine forces with Advanced Band to form the Sky Warrior Marching Band at parades. 6th grade beginners must receive additional tutoring by the instructor until they catch up with their peers, either before or after school! During winter and spring, a variety of musical genres will be explored and rehearsed, as well as music history topics, notation, composition, and improvisation. 6th Grade Band covers fundamental concepts in Essential Elements Book 1 and meets National Core Arts Standards for 6th grade. FULL YEAR COMMITMENT