

# SOUTH POINTE MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ELECTIVES 2019-2020

The purpose of electives is to allow all students to discover and pursue their passions and talents while developing skills in leadership, empathy and teamwork helping them to grow as global humans and prepare for their future.

Most students will receive their FIRST elective choice. However, there are times when their second choice is the only one that works in their schedule. Please select DIFFERENT first and second choices.

**Are you in the Mandarin Dual Immersion Program?** You will automatically be enrolled in either 0-period PE or 0-period Mandarin. Please select your elective. Please speak with your SSRA if you have any questions.

**New Student (only) to the Walnut Unified School District** who do not have a WVUSD gmail account are to complete the section on page two and turn into the school office.

### **SEMESTER ELECTIVES**

Students will be enrolled in each elective for one-semester

#### **LANGUAGE SAMPLER & ROBOTICS**

- **Language Sampler 7/8:** ¡Hola! Bonjour! Students in a language sampler class get to learn French the first half of the semester and Spanish the second! Both languages are learned through natural conversational activities, total physical response storytelling (TPRS), music and games. Students learn to speak on a variety of topics and are able to tell fun stories in French and Spanish. You will be amazed at how much you will be able to say and understand. ¡Olé! Allons-y!
- **Robotics:** Students will learn the mechanical and electrical functions of robots. Students learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, clawbots, and robots designed for competitions.

#### **DIGITAL ART I & STEAM II**

- **STEAM II:** This class is an integration of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math in a fun, creative, and innovative way. Students learn about digital citizenship, google apps commonly used in the classroom, coding, electronics, robotics, and creating 3-D images much more than in STEAM 1. This class gives you an opportunity to create with your imagination. Students will also be involved in multimedia projects that include information and communication skills such as creating storyboards, learning camera angles, writing scripts, and editing stop motion animation and short stories with iMovie.
- **Digital Art I:** This class is designed to review and continue the student's' knowledge that was gained in Intro to Art. All information that was covered throughout Intro to Art will be reviewed again at the beginning; so don't worry if you have not taken Intro to Art. The students will work on the Principles and Elements of Design through a series of projects and art lessons. This class is designed to show that art is the common thread to all other subjects. The students will begin to create complex 2D artworks, use paint, watercolor and learn how to work in groups, etc. If you enroll this coming year as a 7th grader, this class may be taken again in 8th grade.

#### **INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART I**

- **Culture Class:** Understanding culture is sometimes just as powerful as knowing a language. In this class, we will study various customs and values from different Spanish speaking countries. Children will learn facts, cultural customs and experience food from the countries they study. Students may experience music, art or even food from the cultures studied.
- **Art I:** This class is designed to review and continue the student's' knowledge that was gained in Intro to Art. All information that was covered throughout Intro to Art will be reviewed again at the beginning; so don't worry if you have not taken Intro to Art. The students will work on the Principles and Elements of Design through a series of

projects and art lessons. This class is designed to show that art is the common thread to all other subjects. The students will begin to create complex 2D artworks, use paint, watercolor and learn how to work in groups, etc. If you enroll this coming year as a 7th grader, this class may be taken again in 8th grade.

## YEAR LONG ELECTIVES

### BAND

**8th Grade Band:** This ensemble is comprised of ALL 8th grade students in the South Pointe music program. 8th Grade Band is an in-depth approach to instrumental music making. Students wanting to try band for the first time should contact Ms. W to pick an instrument. There are 14 different instruments to choose from. Students will learn how to read and write music, as well as perform and express musical thoughts through their chosen instrument. Students will work in small groups with professional players to help to promote their accelerated proficiency and will perform on several concerts throughout the year. This group performs at Disney's California Adventure, high school football games, festivals and more.

### CHOIR

- **Chamber Singers:** Intermediate/advanced choir made up of 7th and 8th grade students. Will sing 3-4 part harmony. Intermediate to advanced levels of vocal production including concert choir, folk, pop, accapella, jazz and musical theater. This group takes part in the Thriller concert and several other performances. Will travel with Showtime to festival 2nd semester and possible Disneyland 1st semester. Past destinations include San Francisco, San Diego Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm and Universal Studios. We also sing at other schools in the district.
- **Showtime:** 8th grade, (with some 7th grade) *audition only choir*. Performance and dance skills are a must along with excellent vocal production. Music is Broadway and Pop in nature with 2 and 3 part harmony and easy to intermediate choreography. Students must have great stage presence! This group will go on an overnight trip and festival with Chamber Singers. Competitive dancers are encouraged to be a part of this group so we can feature your craft and skills!

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**Spanish 8:** Eighth Grade Spanish at South Pointe follows the same curriculum as Diamond Bar High School and Walnut High School. The language is learned through natural conversational activities, Total Physical Response Storytelling (TPRS), music and games. Students learn to speak by learning stories and creating their own. You will be amazed at how much you will be able to say, read and write.

*\*Students earning an "A," or a "B," may enter Spanish 2 as freshman. Many students test into Spanish 2 honors.*

### TECHNOLOGY

- **8th Grade PLTW (Engineering PLTW, Science PLTW, Geometry PLTW):** Project Lead the Way is a hands-on project based curriculum that integrates math, science, engineering, arts, and technology. Student will learn about the different types of engineering careers and how the design process is used for projects to develop solutions to problems through such fields like aerodynamics and flight. The students will learn to use technology like a Computer Aided Design program to create 3D objects and design their own playground/obstacle course. Students will be exposed to the world of robotics by creating mechanical gears and coding their own robots to complete certain tasks. In addition to learning code for robots, students will develop and code apps for Android devices. Must also be enrolled in PLTW Science (Advanced) and Geometry. Students may also enroll in a "0" period class.
- **Robotics (Tech-STEAM III)** - This is for 8th graders only and is similar to Project Lead the Way but will require to be blocked with your science class. This class is a hands-on project based curriculum that integrates math, science, engineering, arts, and technology. This is a year long class where students will learn to use a Computer Aided Design program to create 3-D objects, coding language for program apps, and overall, focus on Automation and Robotics where students will learn the mechanical and electrical functions of robots.

### VISUAL ARTS

**Honors & Digital Art (Advanced Art) year-long:** This is an application class that will offer advanced art students the opportunity to explore the creative and critical thinking approach to art through lectures, projects and field trips. This class is design for the students who have a great interest in the field of art. This class will focus fine art and have the opportunity to explore computers as a medium through a introduction to Photoshop and Illustrator. The students will be given projects

that will challenge their drawing, computer and thinking abilities, while exploring mediums and techniques that will help them to create a portfolio ready piece. The main emphasis will be on problem solving and art experimentation. This class is available to 7th and 8th grade students.

**STUDENT AIDE/TEACHER ASSISTANT**

**Student Aide/T.A. SSRA (requires application from your SSRA):** In this course the student is the student aide for the office helping to file and organize papers, create charts and bulletin boards and further supplement office tasks. Independence, accuracy, maturity and responsibility are of the utmost importance for success in this course. Due to the limited number of spaces, not all students who indicate an interest will be placed. Students must complete an application which includes teacher recommendations.

**ZERO PERIOD ELECTIVES & PE (7:09 Start Time)**

0 period is offered to 8th grade students to allow them to choose an extra elective or allow for enrollment in specialized classes. There is no double dosing in the same category (ie. two art classes or two band, two language or technology classes).

- **KSPS Morning News:** Create and broadcast a live daily morning news show using state of the art equipment and a green screen similar to ones used for live studios. This is a 0-Period class requiring an interview.
- **Physical Education:** Students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade wishing to have two electives may choose to take their physical education class during 0 period. Please be advised 0 period PE is subject to approval. Good attendance is required.
- **Wind Ensemble:** This is a zero period class, which students must audition for. Wind Ensemble is an advanced instrumental music ensemble open to all woodwind, brass and percussion students with outstanding musical skills and understanding. Audition requirements include proficiency in all major scales, a full range chromatic scale and a short solo piece on their instrument. The South Pointe Wind Ensemble has been to Carnegie Hall in New York several times over, Boston, Chicago Symphony Hall, Florida, Seattle and Europe and has won numerous awards for their musical endeavors. Students may need to be studying privately to maintain the technical demand of this group.

**NEW Students to WVUSD Only: (for new students who do not have a WVUSD gmail account)**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

1- First Choice                      2 - Second Choice                      3 – Third Choice

- \_\_\_ LANGUAGE SAMPLER & ROBOTICS
- \_\_\_ DIGITAL ART I & STEAM II
- \_\_\_ INTERNATIONAL CULTURE & ART I
- \_\_\_ BAND (Year Long)
- \_\_\_ CHOIR (Year Long)
- \_\_\_ FOREIGN LANGUAGE (Year Long)
- \_\_\_ TECHNOLOGY (Yearlong)
- \_\_\_ VISUAL ARTS Honors and Digital Art (Advanced Art) year-long
- \_\_\_ STUDENT AIDE / TEACHER ASSISTANT

**ZERO PERIOD ELECTIVES (7:09 Start Time)**

\_\_\_ KSPS Morning News Zero Period (interviews required)                      \_\_\_ Physical Education Zero Period

\_\_\_ Wind Ensemble Zero Period (by audition)