

Redmond Middle School

7th & 8th Grade Electives

2021-2022



Culinary Arts

In this class you will prepare an impressive variety of foods. Students exhibit initiative, organization, creativity, independence, and personal responsibility. Topics covered include use of small and large appliances, lab planning and food preparation skills, time management, measuring/mixing equipment skills, teamwork, leadership, and organizational skills. Areas of study include: Food and kitchen safety, nutrition, food preparation, food industry careers, and foods from various cultures.

Leadership 1

Leadership 1 is a foundational class designed to help students become school leaders and in our greater community. Curriculum will include skill building related to the LWSD Leadership Power Standards: problem solving, goal setting, critical thinking skills, team-work skills (listening and cooperation) and communication. It will also include an introduction to servant leadership through meeting the needs of others, and character development through the Eight Essential character traits of leaders. The course culminates in the completion of a service learning project designed to help build a positive school culture.

Leadership 2

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Leadership 1. An advanced course designed to build upon the foundations built in Leadership 1, students will continue to grow and develop skills related to the LWSD Leadership Power Standards. problem solving, goal setting, critical thinking skills, team-work skills (listening and cooperation) and communication. Students in Leadership 2 are responsible for helping to develop a safe, kind, and welcoming school culture through the planning and implementation of service projects and events for our community. Projects examples include assemblies, fundraising, after-school social events, school culture building activities, and service projects. This class challenges all students to serve as leaders and role models within our school community and to work to embrace and engage their own leadership why. Important Note: Certain projects or events may require committing to work outside of class time before/after school as needed.

Peer Mentoring

Peer Mentoring is for students interested in being mentors for the Transitions classroom. In this class, student mentors will learn about different disabilities and related careers and work with transition room students. Application form is required and is available in the Student Services Office.

Yearbook 1 (Spring Semester)

This class is focused on learning the components that go into creating a student designed yearbook, which students will do in Yearbook 2. Students will learn the importance of themes as well as become skilled with utilizing publishing software. They will also learn how to write content, including the development of open-ended interview questions and becoming comfortable with the art of interviewing, and using journalistic style writing to report on events around the school. Technical editing, digital photography and communication skills will also be taught. school year. Important Note – The follow up to this course will be Yearbook 2 during the fall semester of the following school year.

Yearbook 2 (Fall Semester)

This class is focused on creating a student designed yearbook for the current academic year. Students will learn how to develop themes and use publishing software. They will also learn to write content, including interview techniques, using Journalistic style. Technical editing, digital photography and communication skills will also be taught. Important Note: After the 1st semester, students will be expected to attend an afterschool meeting once a week through April and/or continue to work on pages assigned, as needed, to complete the Yearbook. Time and/or day of meetings will be determined based on class needs.

Art and Design

In this Art/CTE class students will gain a deeper understanding of the elements and principles of art and design while creating art in multiple media including drawing, painting, ceramics, design and more. Projects give students practical experience with art techniques while exploring and expressing their own ideas and artistic visions and having fun making art! We will also explore the work of artists from various eras and cultures and learn about each other through art. Students will explore creating a digital portfolio of their work, investigate art-related careers and learn how working artists publicize and market their own work.

Choir

This class is designed for to study and appreciate different styles of music. Develop a strong sense for musical excellence and be a member of an ensemble that performs at school events and in the community.

Comics And Cartooning

In this art class students will explore all aspects of comics and cartooning, from creating stories and characters to editing and coloring using computer technology. Topics will include the history of visual storytelling, the elements and principals of art and design, drawing and inking techniques, developing characters, digital editing, and coloring, and preparing art for reproduction. Students will explore different genres and styles, and will get to tell stories which are important and meaningful to us.

Drama 1 & 2

Drama is a high-energy, interactive class - get ready to be on your feet! Together we will build group dynamics and increase our performance skills and self-confidence. We will explore pantomime, tableaux, character work, script writing, vocal skills, creative interpretation of the written word, monologue, short scenes, longer scenes, and improvisation. We will also look at some different types of media where your dramatic skills could be applied in the 21st century.

Cadet Band

This class is open to students with two years of experience, primarily 6th grade, but also for students that do not have previous playing experience but would like to learn a band instrument. Music reading, and instrumental rehearsal and performance skills are improved by focusing on several method books and appropriate literature in various musical styles. We will work out of Essential Elements 2000 Book 2, along with appropriate concert band literature. Skills are assessed through Standards Based Grading. Students also evaluate recorded performances of themselves and others through written concert reviews, developing writing skills. We have an evening concert each quarter and will also participate in one festival each year. Requirements: Provide own instrument or rent from music store or school. Not all instruments are available from the school. A small maintenance fee is charged to use the school-owned instruments. Participation in evening concerts is required.

Concert Band

This class provides continued focus on developing reading strategies and performance skills through intermediate literature, solo and chamber music, and numerous performance opportunities. We will work out of Essential Technique by Rhodes, Bierschenk and Lautzenheiser and will have completed the common scales. Performance evaluations through written reviews and standards-based assessments help students develop selfevaluation and strategize for improvement. Important Notes: Provide own instrument or rent from music store or school. Not all instruments are available from the school. A small maintenance fee is charged to use the school-owned instruments. Students will also participate in at least one festival each year. Participation in evening concerts and festivals is required.

Symphonic Band

This class provides continued focus on developing reading strategies and performance skills through increasingly advanced literature, solo and chamber music, and numerous performance opportunities. Students work out of I Recommend by James Ployhar, and other repertoire. Performance evaluations through written reviews and standards-based assessments help students develop selfevaluation and strategize for improvement. Important Notes: Provide own instrument or rent from music store or school. Not all instruments are available from the school. A small maintenance fee is charged to use the school-owned instruments. Students will also participate in at least one festival each year. Participation in evening concerts and festivals is required.

Jazz Band

6:40 – 7:30 A.M. 5 days per week Prerequisite: 1-2 years of Band experience, and must be in another performance class This class is an extension of performance skills developed in the larger band class. Instruments involved include saxophone, trumpet, trombone, bass, drum set, piano, and guitar. Piano and guitar skills needed are usually more advanced and students should have had at least 3 years of study on those two instruments. Students learn jazz performance skills and improvisation,

and become familiar with the styles of Jazz, Latin, Rock, and Funk. Performances include evening concerts, some school assemblies, and two jazz festivals. Important Notes: Student must provide own transportation and provide own instrument. This is a graded credit class. Participation in evening concerts and extracurricular festivals is required.

Introduction To Guitar

This class is for the beginning guitarist. It is not intended as an advanced course for experienced players. The student will learn how to apply basic musical concepts such as harmony, rhythm, and melody to the guitar. We will cover basic techniques, scales, note reading, chords, strum/accompaniment patterns. The overall objective of this program is to introduce the guitar to the student and then continually improve the students' performance abilities on the instrument, improve their selfdiscipline, and their abilities to work within a group. This will be done through group rehearsals, performances, assigned responsibilities within the class, and specific expectations of the students. At the end of the class you will be able to read and play basic chord symbols and melodies. You will also be introduced to some of the important personalities that have made the guitar the most popular and widely used instrument that it is. Students need to provide their own acoustic guitar and the book Essential Elements for Guitar, by Will Schmidt. A few basic models of guitars are available for students who may be unable to afford an instrument.

Foundations Orchestra

This class is for anyone who has played a violin, viola, cello, or bass for a year or less, or wants to start playing. Students will spend most of the time on learning and refining how to play an instrument. Students are expected to practice almost every day. The class will perform at multiple concerts throughout the year, including a some that are off campus. The equivalent playing level for this class is String Explorers, Book 1, Units 1-11.

Cadet Orchestra

Designed for more advanced musicians, this class meets every day to play and learn new techniques, such as shifting, more bowing styles, and tougher rhythms. Regular practice is required. We perform at multiple concerts throughout the year, including a couple offcampus. Equivalent playing level is String Explorers, Book 1, Units 12-End and most of Book 2.

Premiere Orchestra

Intended for mostly 7th graders who have completed Foundations or Cadet Orchestra, this group will dive into more complex musical concepts and fine-tune playing techniques. Students will also play through more music than prior years. The class will perform at multiple concerts throughout the year. Students can also audition and participate in events such as Jr. All-State and Honor Orchestra.

Advanced Orchestra

Prerequisites: Two years of orchestra at RMS or teacher permission. In this group, students spend a lot of time focusing on ideas about musicality and interpretation. This group participates in many concerts and even some field trips. Students will be expected to practice every day and the music will be quite challenging.

Computer Literacy

Computer Literacy is an entry level technology course that is designed to develop computer knowledge while increasing technology access opportunities for students. This course will encourage students to use computer technology in research, to communicate ideas and design projects using the software that is on students' laptops. Typing skills are reinforced through an online keyboarding curriculum. Additional creative and organizational applications may also be introduced to students depending on student pace and needs to allow for classroom differentiation.

Digital Mixed Media

This course is designed for students with some computer experience. Students learn the fundamentals of digital design using Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator and work their way to creating original animations. The class also covers essential photo and movie editing and a review of basic computer use. Each project gives student the opportunity to create a piece of work that coincides with their experience level.

Design And Modeling

This unit uses solid modeling software (a sophisticated mathematical technique for representing solid objects) to introduce students to the design process. Utilizing this design approach, students understand how design influences their lives. Students also learn sketching techniques and use descriptive geometry as a component of design, measurement, and computer modeling. Students brainstorm, research, develop ideas, create models, test and evaluate design ideas, and communicate solutions. The Gateway to Technology (GTT) program features a project-based curriculum designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. The knowledge that students gain and the skills they build from GTT create a strong foundation for further STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning in high school and beyond. Throughout GTT, students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork and innovation as well as explore STEM careers.

Exploring Robotics

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 and more. Participate in a variety of robotic projects as you experience the jobs of a Mechanical, Electrical and Computer Engineer. Apply the design process as you use industry-leading technology, learn sketching techniques, measuring, dimensioning, and computer modeling fundamentals necessary to solve an engineering problem. Design mechanical and automated systems that meet desired needs within realistic constraints.

Design And Modeling

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. Demonstrate and expand your skills in leadership, critical thinking and problem solving. Students learn about engineering, manufacturing, 3D printing workplace readiness skills while incorporating academic concepts and the process of design and developments. Instruction includes sketching, measurement, safety, and use of 3D printing machinery.

Woods Technology I

Woods Technology I will provide you with the basic skills needed to produce quality woodworking projects. From classic chess boards to Adirondack chairs, we'll make a variety of projects while safely using hand and power tools. Students will gain essential understandings of personal safety, basic woodworking, orthographic projection, planning and following instructions and working as a team to manage a shop. Major assignments and projects include machine safety, 1'x4' project, whistle, cell phone holder and independent projects.

Woods Technology II

Prerequisite: Woods Technology I A continuation of Woods Technology I, this course is a student driven class. Students are expected to demonstrate their learning and be model examples to Woods Technology I students. Students will work individually or in small groups to plan and produce finely crafted projects. Students will continue to demonstrate their essential understandings of personal safety, woodworking, drafting, planning and orthographic projection. Major assignments and projects include a Joiner-E project, machine safety, project plan, advanced woodworking projects and a woodworking portfolio.

French

Students will develop a beginning level of proficiency in listening, speaking, read and writing. Students will develop and awareness and appreciation for French-speaking people and cultures.

Japanese

The student will develop an elementary level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. First semester we will learn Hiragana and second semester we will learn Katakana. At the end of the year, we will be introduced to the first Kanji. We will learn the polite form of speech the first year. We regularly use Japanese media to learn about popular culture and hear the language in natural contexts.

Spanish

Students will develop a beginning level of proficiency in listening, speaking, read and writing. Students will develop and awareness and appreciation for Spanish-speaking people and cultures.