Required courses for 8th grade students:

- **Physical Education (year-long):**
  The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which include but is not limited to: Outdoor Pursuits/Aquatics, Individual/Dual Sports, and Alternative/Extreme Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Elective course options for 8th grade students: (select 2)

Band 2 or Band 3:

This full-year course is designed for 6th, 7th, or 8th grade students who have at least one-year prior band experience. They will continue to develop their musicianship while performing at least three times a year. Financial obligations and occasional time commitments outside of school hours are part of this course. There will be a fair share fee for this course which covers uniform shirt, band books, binder, small accessories, reeds, rewards, and other class essentials.

Visual Arts 1 & 2:

This full-year course is designed for 8th grade students to use advanced level techniques to create a variety of 2-D and 3-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, sculpture, and pottery. Students proficiently manipulate the structural elements of art with increasing independence to promote creative risk-taking in their artwork. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works.

Information & Communications Technology (ICT 2):

This course builds on the previous two courses and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills/knowledge to master these concepts. In addition to working with network concepts, students will be provided opportunities to further extend their skills with various software applications by creating more complex documents and using more complex functions and technologies. Students will continue their exposure to computer programming and the creation of more complex computer programs. ***Students will have the chance to pass certification tests.***

Critical Thinking/STEM:

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop learning strategies, critical-thinking skills, and problem-solving skills to enhance their performance in academic and nonacademic endeavors. This course has a high focus on STEM topics.

All students must participate in the STEM Fair the first semester of the year.

Intermediate Spanish:

M/J Exploratory Spanish, Intermediate, is a continuation of M/J Exploratory Spanish, Beginning, and expands on students' knowledge of the target language and its culture. Students will be able

to engage in basic skills in listening and speaking activities. Students will also continue learning basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this semester course.

Note: Students who complete two years in middle school have the option after the 2nd year to convert those two years to ONE high school credit.

Productions Class:

Students will be introduced to the world of digital media using programs created for the design of audio and visual productions. Students in the Production class will gain first-hand experience collaborating on and producing written publications for the school, including, but not limited to a school newspaper. Students will be introduced to the basics of TV production, digital tools used in production, communication, and broadcasting skills. Students in this elective will assist with the creation of the school closed-circuit morning news along with other broadcasting opportunities.

Note: students are chosen by application only. The course will be limited to 22 students.

Production Class Application

Internship:

The purpose of this course is to enable students to explore careers/career clusters and make informed career choices. Activities enable students to increase self-awareness and develop the skills needed to successfully plan for postsecondary education and the workplace.

Note: students are chosen by application only. The course will be limited to 50 students.

Internship Application