

Rocky Mountain Middle School

Elective Core Course Catalog



"Home of the Grizzlies"

Elective Courses

6th Grade Elective Classes: Students will be able to select 2.5 credits in electives. At least .50 credit must come from Art or Music Elective.

7th Grade Elective Classes: Students will be able to select 2.5 credits in electives. At least .50 must be an Art or Music Elective.

8th Grade Elective Classes: Students will be able to select 2.5 credits in electives. At least .50 credit must be an Art or Music Elective.

1.0 Credit= Full Year Course

0.5 Credit= ½ Year Course

ARTS

Woodwind (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: Class is for beginning students wanting to learn to play the Flute, Clarinet, and Saxophone. Students will be required to provide their own instruments, with exception of larger saxophones. Advanced students can also learn the oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, which instruments can be rented from the school.

Brass wind (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: This class is for beginning students wanting to learn to play the Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, or Tuba. No prior experience is needed in music. Students will learn how to play simple songs using a Band Method Book. Many students will be required to provide their own instruments, exception is Baritone and Tuba which can be rented from the school. Learning to play the trumpet can also lead to playing French Horn.

Intermediate Concert Band (7th and 8th Grade) 1.0 credit class: *Prerequisite- 1 year of woodwind, brass wind, or instructor approval.* Instruments taught include: flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, baritone, and tuba. Students are to provide their own instruments. The school has a small inventory of secondary instruments that can be lent to students depending on needs. Students perform alone and in large and small ensembles. Practice and performances are required outside of class time and private lessons are recommended.

Percussion (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 1.0 credit class: *Prerequisite- 1 year of band, one year of orchestra, one year of piano, or approval by the instructor.* Do you want to learn to play on a drum set, develop skills needed for drum line ensembles, or play vibraphone in Jazz bands? This class will help achieve those goals. In this one-year class, students will learn basics in pitched keyboard and un-pitched percussion, sticking mechanics, technique, note reading, and musicianship. Students will perform with concert band, alone, and in small percussion ensembles. Students will provide their own collection of sticks, mallets, method book, and

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practice drum pad (estimated cost \$110-\$130). Practice and performances are required outside of class time and private lessons are recommended.

Advanced Symphonic Band (7th and 8th Grade)- 1.0 credit class: *Prerequisite - 2 years of school band, or instructor's approval.* Do you want to be a part of something great, play challenging and fun music, learn more about music history and theory? This class is for serious minded musicians who want to perform at the highest level. Instruments taught include: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, baritone, and tuba. Students are to provide their own instruments. The school has a small inventory of secondary instruments that can be lent to students depending on need. Students play and perform alone and in large and small ensembles. Practice and performances are required outside of class time. Private lessons are strongly encouraged.

Jazz Band (7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: *Prerequisite - 2 years of school band, or instructor's approval.* Class is for more advance students performing on Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Drum set, Guitar, Bass Guitar, and Piano. Class performs basic to intermediate jazz band music, learning styles, articulations, and improvisation consistent with jazz and rock music. Audition only, approval by teacher. Auditions will be in May.

Beginning Orchestra (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: This class is for beginners or students who would like to start over from the beginning.

Intermediate Orchestra (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: This class is for students who have successfully completed Beginning Orchestra. It is also for students who have been in Intermediate Orchestra but don't feel ready to move into Honors Orchestra yet. In this course, students work on furthering their note reading abilities, improving bowing, creating compositions, working in small ensemble groups, and learning key signatures and how they apply to their fingerboard.

Honors Orchestra (7th and 8th grade)- 1.0 credit class : In Honors Orchestra students play higher level repertoire, work on bowing, intonation, composition, and small group projects. Honors Orchestra also includes additional performance. The Majority of the students in the Honors class are 8th grade. 7th grade students can be accepted into the Honors class based on ability to play their instrument but parents should consider their maturity level and social ability to get along with 8th grade students when considering honors.

Mixed Chorus (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: Participation in a Pre-Festival Concert, festival, and Shindig (our pops concert), which involves costuming, singing and dancing. Concerts are an extension of the classroom and attendance is required. Music is selected from many historical periods, cultures and styles. All students will be challenged to improve their individual musicianship. All students will be provided with the opportunity to experience

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musical excellence in both daily rehearsals and performances. Additional funds may be required for field trips, tours, concert/theater tickets, etc. You will learn basic singing techniques, sight-reading skills and basic music theory concepts.

General Music (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: Class is for any/all students, regardless of having a music background or not. Everyone loves music! And this class explores music basics in vocabulary, Theory, History, and basic music performance. If you are interested in joining band, orchestra or choir, this class may prepare you for these classes for the following year.

Drama 1 (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: Drama 1 will introduce speaking and performing techniques to enhance the students understanding of voice, stage presence, and basic acting skills. Our goal is to help them be confident and comfortable speaking and performing in front of an audience. Activities include commercials, skits, monologues, pantomimes, scenes, and improvisation. All performances are done in class. *This class serves as the prerequisite for Drama 2

Drama 2 (7th and 8th grade) Prerequisite- Drama 1 and Teacher approval: This class is a continuation of Drama 1 where students will take the fundamentals of theater/acting and apply them to the stage through performance. Participation in the class productions is required of all who take the class. This is an acting only class. No singing required. This class will put on the school play which will be performed in the evening for an audience. *Class may be taken more than once

Stage Crew (7th and 8th grade) Teacher signature required: (By application only). Students will learn the different roles of stage crew production. Design, set construction, props, costumes, light, and sound. Students need to be very dependable, hardworking, trustworthy, and willing to be to night performances of Drama 2 class/Musical Theater class. Students in stage crew will help run the school play. *Class may be taken more than once

Dance 1 (6th, 7th and 8th grade): Dance 1 will consist of ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary, improvisation, and choreography. Daily routines will consist of warm-ups, across the floors, and choreography. All levels of dancers are welcome. *This class serves as the prerequisite for Dance 2

Dance 2 (7th and 8th grade) Prerequisite-Dance 1 and Teacher approval: Dance 2 is a continuation from Dance 1. This class will move faster and involve technique and choreography in ballet, lyrical, jazz, contemporary, props, improvisation, and choreography. Daily routines will consist of warm-ups, across the floors, and choreography. *Class may be taken more than once

Art 1 (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: In this class we study the elements of art, line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space and how it relates to visual art. These are a must for anyone who wants to be successful at Design/Art. This class will provide opportunities for creative thinking, problem solving, development of technical skills and personal expression. It will also prepare the students for taking Design II or Advanced Art from Mr. Hill or the various

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fine art classes in High School. We will view different pieces of artwork showing various styles of art, as well as learn about the artists behind the work. I will encourage the students to try the various styles we study and encourage them to gain an appreciation for all kinds of art work. I have always had a desire for all students to succeed and will do what I can to provide a successful learning environment for each student in my art classes. This is a one semester class.

Art 2 (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: Prerequisite-Completion of Art 1. Students will continue to focus on the elements of art taught in Fundamentals of Design 1 as well as learn and apply the principles of Art. These include balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern, rhythm, and unity. They will review and learn these elements and principles through various styles of art as well as learn about the artists behind the work. I will encourage students to try the various styles we study, and encourage them to gain an appreciation for all kinds of art work. I will also integrate math, language arts, various cultures, great masters of art and other means so they will gain an appreciation for different styles of art. I have always had a desire for all students to succeed and will do what I can to provide a successful learning environment for each student in my art classes. This is a one semester class.

Advanced Art (8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: Prerequisite- Completion of Fundamentals of Design 1 and Fundamentals of Design 2.

Students will use the skills and information they acquired in the Fundamental 1 and 2 classes to complete art projects using various mediums. We will focus on the basics of using various mediums (paint, clay, wire) to create art projects that will help them develop their artistic skills. Students will generate artistic work by conceptualizing, organizing and completing their artistic ideas. They will refine original work through persistence, reflection, and evaluation. They will continue their study of various artists and the styles as well as artist movements. I have always had a desire for all students to succeed and will do what I can to provide a successful learning environment for each student in my art classes. This is a one semester class.

Career and Technical Education

Journalism (6th and 7th Grade) 0.5 credit class: In this class you will be creating a weekly newspaper for RMMS. This digital newspaper requires weekly interviews of other students, the ability to work in groups and stay on task, and good writing skills. You don't need to be perfect at writing, but you will be required to write. A lot. So come with a great attitude and we will teach you the skills you need to be a successful journalist!

Intro to Agricultural Science (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: The Intro to Agricultural Science class prepares students for Agricultural class elective options at the high school. We will cover a variety of topics from anatomy, digestion systems, judging livestock, designing and

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building blueprints, agriculture structures, horticulture, dissections of fetal pigs, brine shrimp farming and much more.

Ag Science 2 (7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: Prerequisite – Completion of Intro to Agricultural Science. In this course we will look deeper into subjects that were covered in Intro to Ag Science. We will also explore new topics such as livestock judging, small engines, welding (soldering), equine science and brine shrimp farming, as well as work in the greenhouse. This class is great for students who enjoyed the Intro to Ag course and are hungry for more. You will like this class if you want some choice in what you are learning, and enjoy designing, building and working with your hands.

Digital App Design and Development (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: This exciting new course will introduce students to the world of Digital App design and development. Absolutely no experience is necessary! This course is for any student who is interested in learning the basics of digital applications and gaming. Students will be introduced to basic computer coding languages such as "Scratch" and "Processing" and will learn how to create and program their own apps through "MIT App Inventor" and "Touch Develop". Students will also be introduced to career possibilities in this dynamic field.

Intro to Technology (6th grade) 0.5 credit class: This Engineering exploration class focuses on creative design & problem-solving. The students will explore Technology & Engineering through the areas of Transportation, Manufacturing, Communication, Construction & Energy/Power. Possible learning activities would include: Solar Ovens, 3-D Modeling & Printing, Tiny Homes, Scribblebots, Balsa Bridges, Reverse Engineering, Rocketry, Walk-A-Long Flight, Beakman Motors, & Artificial Arms.

Exploring Technology (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: The Exploring Technology class is a hands-on, minds-on, action-based, educational program that will introduce you to technologies related to Communications, Construction, Manufacturing, & Energy/Power. Possible learning activities would include: Tower Design & Construction, Sumo Robotics, 3-D CAD & Home Design, 3-D Printing & Modeling, Electronic Labs & Projects, Plane Design Challenge, Vex IQ Robotics, Model Rocketry & Product Design & Manufacturing.

Exploring Technology 2 (8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: Prerequisite Exploring Tech 1. Prerequisite Exploring Tech I. Tech II is a course following Tech I, which provides hands-on learning in the areas of Communications, Construction, Manufacturing, & Energy/Power technologies. Possible design challenges & activities would include: C02 Dragster, Candy Dispenser, 3D Modeling/Design, Golf-ball Launching Device, Fast Track Game Design, 3-D Starter Home Design, Mechanical Push Toy, Vex IQ Robots Ringmaster Challenge, & Arduino Micro controllers.

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Intro to FACS (6th grade) 0.5 credit class: In 6th grade Intro to FACS, we learn many life skills. We practice cooking, laundry care, sewing, mending clothing, beautifying the home, childcare, and strengthening families and ourselves. Get excited to explore lots of life skills hands-on!

FACS- Sewing and Interior Design (7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: In FACS A we delve into interior design and learn basic skills to beautify a home. We look at images and learn what interior design styles we like and dislike and decide what would make a space more inviting. We also learn basic sewing skills including threading and operating a sewing machine, cutting out a pattern, and creating projects from scratch.

FACS- Cooking and Childcare (7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: In FACS B we explore the topics of childcare, cooking, nutrition, relationship development, and entrepreneurship. We practice each skill in class with hands-on activities and work in groups to create awesome (and sometimes edible) products.

Introduction to Communications: Yearbook (8th Grade) 1.0 credit class: (*By application only*).

This class is a communication skills based class that helps develop those communication skills in a real world setting by creating our school Yearbook! Students spend almost all of the time together working in groups, organizing and developing every aspect of the Yearbook. This class teaches communication skills through group collaboration, while also providing unique opportunities for students to work with real life publishing companies. Students learn the importance of teamwork, and personal accountability while meeting hard deadlines. This class will also spend time working on photography and graphic design aspects of communications.

Introduction to Film (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: This Intro to Film class requires self-discipline, the ability and willingness to work with others, and may involve extra hours beyond school time to complete film projects. The intro to film class is for students interested in understanding film making. Students will learn the skills of camera angles and shots as they create short video advertisements on a variety of topics. Upon completing the course, students will know how to come up with an idea, use video equipment, have increased editing skills, develop acting abilities, and ultimately create their own short films. All the equipment needed to successfully complete this class is available in the school, however, personal equipment may be used and even needed, particularly early in the course.

Film 2/Desktop Publishing (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: Prerequisite Intro to Film: Film 2 is designed to increase knowledge on film making. We will continue to create videos but this course will become deeper with learning special effects, script writing short movies and

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producing them. We will also introduce more advanced video equipment and allow them use of our green screen room. *You must have taken Intro to Film to be allowed into this course with a good track record of trust and being responsible.* This course may require time before and after school to complete assignments so if time is an issue, student may want to consider another course. Students who are self-motivated and can problem solve technical issues, and love to create and edit videos, this class is for you.

Introduction to T.V. Broadcasting (8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: *(By application only).*

Students will learn how to brainstorm, use cameras, edit film, and ultimately produce videos which have a message. In this course, students will be responsible for producing the Grizzly News.

Business and Marketing (6th grade) 0.5 credit class: This is an introductory on business class. In this course we will discuss business, finance, marketing, communication, and different business software.

Sports Marketing (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 0.5 credit class: This is an introductory course that will help students develop a thorough understanding of the marketing concepts and theories that apply to sports and sporting events. The areas this course will cover include basic marketing, target marketing, sponsorship, event marketing, promotions, sponsorship proposals, and sports marketing plans. This course helps those who love sports to be able to connect how sporting events and the business world work together. Come with a strong stomach for sports and a fun attitude. Who wouldn't want to be around sports all day?

S.T.E.M. (7th grade) 0.5 credit class: STEM stands for Science Technology Engineering & Math. The objective of this course is to explore careers in these associated fields, learn technical skills and thought applications. Students who are enrolled in this course will be working with computers, learning basic technical skills such as measuring lengths and mass, solving engineering problems and exploring their own personal interests as it relates to STEM. Students will be assigned various projects that will be worked on during class time. This will be required in 6th and 8th grade and offered as an elective in 7th grade.

Foreign Languages

Spanish 1 (6th, 7th and 8th grade) 1.0 credit class: This is an introductory course to the Spanish language. This is part of the high school Spanish program that prepares students for Spanish 2, setting you on the path to becoming bilingual. You will begin to grasp many important fundamental concepts about this language that is becoming ever more important in today's society.

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Social Studies

Latinos in Action (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 1.0 credit class: The purpose of Latinos in Action is to achieve academic excellence, learn career awareness and planning and develop social and cultural identity, while serving younger students as role models, mentors and tutors. (*By application only*).

DLI Spanish Culture, History and Media (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: must be bilingual in Spanish and English. This course builds skills in cultural-linguistic competencies necessary for successful communication with native speakers (reading, writing, speaking, listening). Students utilize media and authentic texts to discuss the diverse cultural products, practices, and perspectives of the Spanish-speaking world.

Student Government (7th and 8th Grade) 1.0 credit class: (*By application only*).

Students will serve as the leaders of the school's student population. Students will engage in work that develops positive attitudes amongst the student population; promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school; improve school morale and general welfare; and plan special events or projects.

Service Classes

Office Aide (7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: (*By application only*).

Office Aide's play a critical role in helping the office staff, administration, and counseling team run more efficiently. Students will need to be self-motivated, be able to follow directions, and complete tasks efficiently. This class offers a great opportunity to see the school in a whole new light and some of the "behind the scenes" action that help make RMMS run strong.

Peer Tutor (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: (*By application only*).

In this class you will be working under the direction of Ms. Gray, who is the Special Needs teacher. She will assign you various tasks to help her students function throughout the day. You may be assigned to go with a student to their class and help with homework and organization or stay in Ms. Gray's class. It's a great opportunity to help some of your peers and develop new relationships in the school.

Academic Aide (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5 credit class: (*By application only*).

(This will be tutoring in a specific class)

You will be allowed to be a Peer Tutor and participate in one of the other "Specialty Classes"

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If you excel in (Math, English, History, Science) then you can apply to be an aide in one of these classes. You will be working under the direction of a teacher and assisting students with assignments, labs, and other tasks as needed.

Supplemental / Support Classes

Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade students are selected through the analysis of very specific criteria for placement into these classes. Students are encouraged to remain in a supplemental class until they have acquired the skills they need to be successful without the additional support.

-Math Support (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5-1.0 credit class: This class is an "addition too" class which means students would have a regular math class with this class as an additional support a different period. They will learn grade level material in the regular class and utilize the support class to either catch up on previous skills missed or pre-teach skills required for upcoming units in the regular class.

-Reading Support (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5-1.0 credit class: This class is an "addition too" class which means student would have a regular English class with this class as an additional support a different period. They will learn grade level material in the regular class and utilize the support class to either catch up on previous skills missed or pre-teach skills required for upcoming units in the regular class.

-Study Skills (6th, 7th and 8th Grade) 0.5-1.0 credit class: This class is designed to support students who have demonstrated great need of additional skill instruction in the following areas; organization, study habits, and time management. Students will spend part of the period working on specific skill deficits from the previously mentioned list as well as applying those skills to content area classes and homework.