

**Altadena Middle School**

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Interest Sheet 2020-21 School Year**

Student First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Kyrene Student ID #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Elementary School: \_\_\_\_\_ 5th Grade teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The elective interest sheet must be completed prior to entering information online. The online interest form will be completed at school in February. After the online interest form is complete, your teacher will collect the paper copy of the elective interest sheet.

Each sixth grade student will be scheduled in four core courses (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) based upon data and need. Preliminary placement guidance for core courses is attached. Students who are new to the Kyrene School District are given placement tests upon registration or placed based upon prior school records.

Students also have two elective class periods. Students may have 2 one year-long elective classes, 1 one year-long and 2 semester-long elective classes, or 4 semester-long elective classes.

This paper version of the form along with course descriptions will support families in expressing their elective interests. The form will be kept on file by the middle schools.

Priority is given for placement in year-long elective offerings. Rankings of semester-long elective options is an indication of a student's interests. Every effort will be made to honor the interests, however due to class size and teacher availability there can be no guarantee that every course will be offered or that the student will be placed in their classes of interest.

**Primary Course Interest Options**

**Complete ONLY ONE box depending upon the length of your primary courses of interest.**

*Students who wish to take a semester course for a full year may write that course for two of their semester course options (not guaranteed).*

<b>2 one year long courses</b>  Year-long course _____ Year-long course _____  <b>OR</b>	<b>1 one year long and 2 semester long courses</b>  Year-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____  <b>OR</b>	<b>4 semester-long courses</b>  Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____
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**Alternate Course Interest Options**

**List your alternate course interests in the space below. Alternates must be completed and will be used in the event that a course interest cannot be fulfilled. These alternates must be DIFFERENT from the courses listed above.**

Alternate Course 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Course 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Course 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate Course 4 \_\_\_\_\_

For Band and Orchestra  
Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_ Years: \_\_\_\_\_

**ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – YEAR-LONG COURSES****BAND**

Band is designed for students interested in learning the fundamentals of music and to play a band instrument: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. This course addresses basic instrumental skills, reading music, and elements of music in an ensemble setting. Students are required to participate in concerts through the school year. No prior knowledge or experience is required. Students will need to rent or purchase an instrument from an outside vendor, with some exceptions. Prerequisites: none

**CHORUS**

Chorus is an entry-level course for students interested in learning how to sing. Basic fundamentals of music including sight-reading and vocabulary are introduced. Students sing music written in two parts and will learn elements of music theory and solfege. Students will focus on the technical aspects of singing in a choir and explore a variety of genres and cultures. Students are required to perform in concerts throughout the year. Prerequisites: none

**ORCHESTRA**

Orchestra provides students with an opportunity to learn to play the violin, viola, cello or bass. This class teaches basic string instrument skills, reading music, and elements of music. Students are required to participate in concerts through the school year. No prior knowledge or experience is required. Students will need to rent or purchase an instrument from an outside vendor, with some exceptions. Prerequisites: none

**ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SEMESTER COURSES****ART**

In Art, students explore various art forms from many cultures and periods. The focus is on art making with art history and analysis integrated into each unit. Students gain foundational knowledge of art vocabulary, techniques, history and art criticism. Students use a variety of media and create a variety of art forms including drawing, painting, and sculpture. Prerequisites: none

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

In Family and Consumer Science, students will explore culinary arts, nutrition, practical sewing skills, and workplace skills in careers using technology. Using sewing machines, students will complete projects they will bring home to enjoy. Students will work in groups using workplace skills in the kitchens or independently and will engage in problem-solving and critical thinking while investigating careers and finance. This course is for students who enjoy cooking, are interested in sewing to make useful and fun projects, and have a desire to focus on practical skills related to high school and beyond. Prerequisites: none

**MANDARIN CHINESE EXPLORATION**

Mandarin Chinese Exploration introduces students to the Chinese language and culture. Students develop basic interpersonal, presentational and interpretive communication skills by exploring very familiar topics and using single words and phrases that have been practiced or memorized. Prerequisites: none

**MULTIMEDIA DIGITAL ARTS**

In Multimedia/Digital Arts, students explore and learn about production techniques that support the creation of graphic arts, web design, digital photography, animation, audio recording/mixing, and videography. A wide range of the latest hardware and software are utilized, including the Adobe Creative Cloud collection. Students collaborate in a project-based environment to develop understanding of the media used and creative techniques for future applications. Prerequisites: none

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is an introduction to physical fitness, physical skill development, and wellness concepts with an emphasis on preparation for a lifetime of physical activity. Students are required to dress out and a locker with a lock will be issued. Information on P.E. uniforms is available at the beginning of the year through the physical education teachers and school office. Prerequisites: none

**SPANISH EXPLORATION**

Spanish Exploration is a course that introduces students to the Spanish language and culture. Students start developing interpersonal listening and speaking skills at the Novice Low proficiency level by exploring the benefits of learning a second language and exploring topics such as greetings, family, friends, school and celebrations. In addition, students explore the culture of Spanish speaking countries. Prerequisites: none

**STEM**

The STEM course inspires student interest and passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) career paths. Students foster creativity, engage in critical thinking, and collaborate in a project-based environment. Students utilize the engineering design process to identify the effectiveness, efficiency, and durability of designs under different conditions through hands-on and technology-rich activities. Prerequisites: none

**THEATER**

In Theater, students experience the beginning foundations of acting technique including exercises and improvisations exploring awareness, relaxation, observation, pantomime, voice, and theatrical vocabulary. A focus on becoming comfortable on stage, character work, and collaboration is emphasized. Students are involved in performances as an application of learning. Students also learn audience etiquette and constructive criticism. Prerequisites: none