

INDIAN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL
2023-2024
Electives Course Guide
Grades 6-8
Mr. Murray Principal

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Parents,

All 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students will be receiving course cards on-line for the 2023 - 2024 school year. I urge all students and parents to review these cards together and discuss classes for next year. Talk about and consider plans for high school and beyond. This 2023 - 2024 Course Guide will assist you in selecting your courses for the upcoming school year. We are very proud of our rigorous curriculum and continue to set high expectations for our students within a warm, caring, and safe environment created and supported by our dedicated staff.

We challenge you to set high expectations and goals for yourselves. Focus on following through with hard work and dedication. In doing this, you will ensure a bright future ahead.

Students will be placed appropriately into core classes using test scores, previous grades, and teacher recommendations. Beyond core classes, students may choose from our elective courses. Please review these options and make choices that coincide with your interests. We will try to provide your first and/or second choices. Elective courses are a great way to motivate students by deepening their existing interests and/or exposing them to new experiences.

Beyond opportunities during the school day, remember to get involved! Explore the many clubs and sports Indian Ridge offers. Extra-curricular activities are a great way for students to meet friends, enhance learning, and promote good citizenship/character. Parents and guardians are invited to stay involved in your children's education by joining our School Advisory Council (SAC), Volunteer Team (getinvolvedineducation.com), Parent Teacher Organization, and School Advisory Forum (SAF). Faculty, staff, and administration are looking forward to a rewarding 2023 - 2024 for your children and you.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your grade level counselor. Please call our main line at 754-323-3300, and we will be glad to assist.

Respectfully,

Ian Murray
Principal Indian Ridge Middle School

LEADERSHIP TEAM

ADMINISTRATION

IAN MURRAY, PRINCIPAL

KAREN BIRKE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

IRENE GONZALEZ, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

DAVID MALCA, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

MELANIE COHEN, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

CHRISTINE DONOVAN, DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL COUNSELING

ADRIENNE CABRERA, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

SUPPORT STAFF

STEPHANIE ANDERSON, EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING SUPPORT

SPECIALIST CARLA GRASSO, LITERACY COACH

WADE BROSZ, MEDIA SPECIALIST

TAMARA VERAS, ESOL COORDINATOR

ARACELIA BRIOSI, OFFICE MANAGER/PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

ABBY EVANS, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

ADAM SNYDER, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

IRMS ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

We at Indian Ridge Middle School strive to support student success and cultivate a positive middle school experience for all. Students are provided myriad opportunities for academic, physical, social, and emotional growth. The courses offered are intended to not only enhance students' present skills and abilities, but also deepen and hone those skills to ensure future success. Course descriptions are as follows:

ELECTIVES

Art

6-8 gr Beginning Art –

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7Ni7dcM2IY>

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. 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. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

7-8 gr Art 2 (Teacher recommendation required)

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7Ni7dcM2IY>

Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provides 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. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

8th gr 3D Art (Teacher recommendation required)

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7Ni7dcM2IY>

Students begin an exploration of the structural elements of art used when creating 3-D forms. Additive and subtractive processes are used to manipulate and construct sculptural or ceramic forms in media that may include, but are not limited to clay, wood, plaster, found objects, and paper maché, with consideration of the workability, durability, cost, and toxicity of the media used. Student artists examine the effects of attention to detail, size, position, overlapping, visual pattern, and texture, and these considerations will be reflected in the surface and structural qualities of completed art forms. Students in the 3-D art studio focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Band/Chorus

6-8th Band 1 Click link for video <https://vimeo.com/672059734>

First year band students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

7-8th Band 2 - Concert Band (Director Approval Required) Click link for video <https://vimeo.com/672059734>

Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

7-8th Band 3 - Symphonic Band (Director Approval Required) Click link for video <https://vimeo.com/672059734>

Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists extend their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

8th Band 4 - Honors Band (Director Approval Required) *May be offered for high school credit* Click link for video <https://vimeo.com/672059734>

Students with considerable band experience strengthen their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of advanced, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists refine their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

6-8th gr Chorus

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GBZsUUSA6m0>

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental vocal musicianship, technical skills, and aesthetic awareness through the study and performance of varied middle/junior high choral literature. The content should include: vocal production -choral performance techniques; music literacy; elements and characteristics of music –improvisation, composition, and arranging -performance analysis; role and influence of choral music and musicians; connections between music and other subject areas; responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day.

Business

6th gr Fundamentals of Finance

Click link for video-- <https://vimeo.com/667452284>

This course is a year-long class designed to prepare students to be financially educated as they move towards monetary responsibilities. The curriculum covers checking, savings, types of credit, managing credit, budgeting, and investing. The course reviews various types of checking accounts, how to budget their money, understanding credit, mortgages, interest rates, and consumer rights. Investing focuses on the differences between savings, speculation, and investing in stocks and bonds. Students interested in this class should come with a desire to learn about the economy and use math to solve finance-based questions. The class focuses heavily on short videos, lectures, group activities, and assessments for proof of comprehension.

7th gr Intro to Finance (*Students will need to take Fundamentals of Finance as a pre-requisite.*)

Click link for video-- <https://vimeo.com/667956997>

This course is a year-long class designed to prepare students to be financially educated. Students will learn about personal finance management strategies. This course will include banking, different types of insurance, and investing.

8th gr Entrepreneurship (Business Leadership)

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBvaujBAras>

The purpose of this program is to introduce students to the concept of entrepreneurship, present entrepreneurship as a viable career option, provide students with the skills needed to realistically evaluate their potential as business owners, and to develop the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary to start and operate a business. Prepares for IC3 certification.

Communications

6th gr Media Careers

Click link for video-- <https://vimeo.com/670265579>

This course is an exploratory technology course that covers internet safety, digital literacy, and career technical skills. Additional topics include game design, media production, and Microsoft PowerPoint certification.

6th gr Intro to Speech/Debate

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUKfKPOL2ZE>

This is an introductory course to develop the student's skills, knowledge, and understanding of the public speaking process. Topics include the principles of reasoning, audience analysis, and collection of materials, outlining, and delivery. Emphasis is on the oral presentation of well-prepared speeches, using computer technology when appropriate.

7th gr Journalism (application required) High School Credit Course

Click link for video-- <https://vimeo.com/673325919>

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, and web platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Time management, interview skills, and photography are also taught in this course. Some activities may be required outside of the school day. This is a pre-requisite for 8th grade yearbook. Application with project required. *

7th gr Speech Teacher Recommendation High School Credit Course

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUKfKPOL2ZE>

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the competitive speech events as sanctioned by the National Speech and Debate Association. Students will learn the basics of speech and debate competition and other necessary components such as tournament etiquette and performance strategies. Students will learn speech events such as poetry and prose, impromptu, declamation, original oratory, dramatic interpretation, humorous interpretation, duo interpretation, and extemporaneous speaking. The students will earn high school credit for successfully completing this course and will be eligible for the Honors High School Debate I course.

8th gr Debate I Honors (Pre-requisite required) High School Credit Course

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUKfKPOL2ZE>

The objective of this course is to increase students' understanding of argument, critical thinking, and public speaking through a myriad of current event-related debates. Students will use a variety of means to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of course content. Students participate in Congressional Debate, Public Forum Debate and Lincoln Douglas Debate. A foundation for effective argumentation will be built by participating in mock debates to prepare for monthly competitions. Due to the high school Honors requirement, students in this course will BE REQUIRED to attend monthly competitive debate tournaments to earn competition points. The students will earn honors high school credit for successfully completing this course and will be eligible for the Debate II Honors the following year.

Culinary Arts

-7 gr Culinary (1/2 year with Yoga)

Click link for video--<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQ2fV0HdjHA>

This course includes but is not limited to the development of leadership skills, communication skills, and employability skills; resource management; exploration of careers in the culinary; food safety and sanitation; safe, proper use of culinary tools/equipment; interpreting recipes and developing menus; basic food preparation skills; front-of-the-house and back-of-the-house responsibilities and artistic presentation of food.

8 gr Culinary 2 (Teacher recommendation required)

Click link for video--<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQ2fV0HdjHA>

In this course students will learn state mandated guidelines for food service; and perform front-of-the-house and back-of-the-house duties. Students will prepare quality food products and present them creatively; demonstrate safe, sanitary work procedures; understand food science principles related to cooking and baking; and utilize nutrition concepts when planning meals/menus.

Foreign Language

8th gr Spanish (signature required by Language Arts teacher) High School Credit

Click link for video--<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClnhhUVVqnE>

Spanish 1 *High School Credit Spanish I introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Course Standards and Benchmarks are aligned to Florida Standards.

Health and Wellness

6 gr Physical Education

The Physical Education Department is regarded as a vital and dynamic phase of every educational program. Our program provides opportunities for every individual so they can achieve their highest potential and learn the importance of making physical activity a lifelong pursuit. In our program the students will be introduced to cardiovascular, strength training, and flexibility activities, a variety of sports, games and the basic health components.

7-8 gr Physical Education

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgiGZSLVu-E> (Coach Rubin)

Click link for video-- <https://www.youtube.com/embed/hhDxvbnA3F8> (Coach Lendinara)

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6-7 gr Yoga (1/2 year with Culinary)

Click link for video--https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCdr9ki_f-0

This course is designed to introduce students, safely and accessibly, to the basic postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation methods of yoga. Students will begin to experience the benefits of stretching, moving, and breathing freely as they relieve built up stress, learn to relax, and ultimately get more out of day to-day life. The aim of this course is to promote vibrant health and to tap the body's latent energy reserves.

8 gr Yoga (full year)

Click link for video--https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCdr9ki_f-0

This course is designed to introduce students, safely and accessibly, to the basic postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation methods of yoga. Students will begin to experience the benefits of stretching, moving, and breathing freely as they relieve built up stress, learn to relax, and ultimately get more out of day to-day life. The aim of this course is to promote vibrant health and to tap the body's latent energy reserves.

Law

8th gr Law Studies

Click link for video--<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OjkgxUMeC1c>

The Law Studies class is a practical legal education program designed to engage students in a critical examination of their legal responsibilities and rights. In this elective, students have the opportunity to engage in discussions, mock trials, legal arguments, and research with their classmates about practical legal problems, contemporary legal issues, and the ramifications of breaking the law. The goals of the class are to provide a practical understanding of law and the legal system useful to students in their everyday lives and to improve understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our Constitution, laws and legal system.

Media

6th gr Creative Arts

Click link for video--<https://vimeo.com/668763140>

Creative Arts will teach students the skills they need to tell stories effectively through creative writing, photography, art, drama, music analysis and social-emotional activities.

7-8 gr TV Production (signature required) Application Needed see page 12

Click link for video--<https://vimeo.com/667338029>

Students in TV Production are responsible for working the sound, camera, teleprompter/script, and equipment for a daily broadcast of the morning announcements. Students **MUST** be comfortable being on camera as an anchor on a rotating schedule. Additional small video projects, as well as obtaining knowledge on broadcasting, are also required for this course. *Application with project required*

8th gr Yearbook (signature required) High School Credit

Click link for video--<https://vimeo.com/673690367>

This course provides instruction in aspects of journalism and photography in the publication of the schools' yearbook in a workshop setting/experience. The content stresses instruction and practice in applying all aspects of the writing process (including pre-writing, drafting, editing, and proofreading) to written work prepared according to journalistic standards. Students will learn photography, graphic design, layout techniques, and interview skills. Organization and management techniques related to journalistic productions will be stressed, including leadership skills, record keeping, time management, utilization of personnel, and task organization. Students of this course will have additional responsibilities after school and/or before school as part of assignments. Computer programs including Balfour Studioworks, Canva, and Adobe Creative Cloud will be taught and utilized on a regular basis. *Application Required*

Peer Counseling

7-8 gr Peer Counseling (signature required)

Click link for video--<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2pdi2CdE3O>

This course is a two-year (prerequisite screening) curriculum designed to develop and enhance the health, safety and well-being of our students by focusing on peer education through a comprehensive program and curriculum that encompasses social and emotional skills and awareness, peer mediation, academic opportunity, student service and referral. Through classroom instruction, role-playing and skill building activities, peer counselors develop basic knowledge and life skills to help their peers with academic and individual concerns. This course is an elective class that provides a full range of services to students, the school and the zone through structured in-school and outreach activities. In addition to working with students individually and in groups, the peer counselors provide a variety of other services. They act as conflict mediators and peer tutors, assist special groups or students within the school and the zone, provide classroom presentations on teen issues, welcome new students and promote special violence and substance abuse prevention projects and initiatives.

Technology/Other

7-8th gr Digital Discoveries (Teacher Approval)

Digital Discoveries in Society is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, AR/VR app development, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing.

7–gr Coding Fundamentals Pre-requisite Media Careers and Teacher Approval

In Coding Fundamentals students are introduced to the basics of computer science and technology. Students will learn the core concepts of computer programming while learning to code in Python. Student will have the chance to earn the Python Coding Apprentice Certification. This course is for beginners and all levels of experience in coding.

6-7–gr Chess

Students will use the game of chess to improve problem-solving, critical thinking, pattern recognition, focus and concertation.

Application for TV Production 2023-2024 School Year

Requirements: You must be a 7th or 8th grade student **in good behavioral and academic standing** to take this class. TV Production is only available 6th period. By applying, you understand that you must appear on video as a part of the Morning Announcements.

Name: _____

Student Number: _____

TEACHER SIGNATURE:

CURRENT GRADE:

Period 1 _____

A B C D F

Period 2 _____

A B C D F

Period 3 _____

A B C D F

Period 4 _____

A B C D F

Period 5 _____

A B C D F

Period 6 _____

A B C D F

ELA TEACHER RECCOMENDATION: _____

COMMENTS: _____

OTHER TEACHER RECCOMENDATION: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Submit completed form to Mrs. Beasley in Room 510.

Please Note: Submitting this form does not guarantee placement in the course. Space is limited and placement is subject to teacher/admin approval.

APPLICATION FOR JOURNALISM ELECTIVE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

This is a high school credit elective!

YOU MUST BE A 7th GRADE STUDENT TO TAKE THIS CLASS! JOURNALISM IS A PREREQUISITE FOR 8th GRADE YEARBOOK!

Name _____

TEACHER NAME	CURRENT GRADE- CIRCLE ONE:
Period 1 _____	A B C D F
Period 2 _____	A B C D F
Period 3 _____	A B C D F
Period 4 _____	A B C D F
Period 5 _____	A B C D F
Period 6 _____	A B C D F

YOU MUST MAINTAIN AN AVERAGE GRADE OF B OR HIGHER IN LANGUAGE ARTS TO QUALIFY FOR THIS CLASS. TEACHERS WILL BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY FOR THOSE THAT MAKE THE FINAL LIST TO VERIFY RECOMMENDATION FOR THIS HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT ELECTIVE. GRAMMAR AND WRITING SKILLS ARE A NECESSITY.

AS A REQUIREMENT FOR BEING SELECTED FOR THIS CLASS, YOU MUST COMPLETE A SAMPLE NEWSPAPER (FRONT PAGE ONLY) ILLUSTRATING YOUR ABILITY TO PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY WORK. IT MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE PICTURE WITH CAPTION
 - MUST INCLUDE THE NAME OF YOUR "NEWSPAPER", BYLINES, COVER STORY, & DATE
 - MUST BE TYPED, AND PROOFREAD FOR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING
 - MUST DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF JOURNALISTIC WRITING (INVERTED PYRAMID)
 - SHOULD SHOWCASE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY AND WRITING STYLE
 - MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE INTERVIEW WITH DIRECT QUOTES
- Microsoft Word offers a template for newspapers**

DUE BY FEBRUARY 8TH
EMAIL TO: SAMANTHA.DIDIER@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM
OR TURN IN TO ROOM 207

APPLICATION FOR YEARBOOK ELECTIVE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

(This is a high school credit elective ONLY for 8th graders. Journalism is not a requirement, however, journalism students will be given the first opportunity on open spots)

Name _____

TEACHER NAME	CURRENT GRADE- CIRCLE ONE:
Period 1 _____	A B C D F
Period 2 _____	A B C D F
Period 3 _____	A B C D F
Period 4 _____	A B C D F
Period 5 _____	A B C D F
Period 6 _____	A B C D F

AS A REQUIREMENT FOR BEING SELECTED FOR THIS CLASS, YOU MUST COMPLETE A SAMPLE SCRAPBOOK PAGE ILLUSTRATING YOUR ABILITY TO PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY WORK. IT MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- MUST INCLUDE PICTURES TAKEN BY YOU (NO SELFIES!)
 - CAPTIONS FOR EVERY PHOTOGRAPH
- MUST HAVE A THEME AND HEADLINE (EX: LIFE AT THE BEACH WOULD INCLUDE PICTURES OF SHELLS, THE OCEAN, ETC.)
 - MUST DEMONSTRATE CREATIVITY THROUGH ADDITIONAL DECORATION AND EMBELLISHMENT
 - SHOULD SHOWCASE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHIC AND WRITING STYLE
- MUST BE ON POSTERBOARD (11X14), CARDSTOCK, OR SCRAPBOOK PAPER NO SMALLER THAN 10X10 OR YOU MAY EMAIL ME A DIGITAL VERSION

**DUE BY FEBRUARY 8TH TO MS. DIDIER IN ROOM 207 OR EMAILED TO
SAMANTHA.DIDIER@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM
YOU MUST GET YOUR COURSE CARD SIGNED BY ME IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE!**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN EDITOR FOR THE 2023-2024 YEARBOOK (ONLY ELIGIBLE FOR STUDENTS THAT TOOK JOURNALISM), YOU MUST ALSO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Give a 2-3 minute speech (on March 3) to the class explaining:

1. Which editor you are applying for (layout, photo, copy, marketing, or editor-in-chief)
2. What theme, sales, and design plans you have in mind (this includes colors, title, and cover elements)
3. Why you think you are the best person for the job

Only editors will be invited to attend the all expenses paid, three day summer workshop in Daytona. Please make sure you are available June 21-23 before applying for editor.