

RICKARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES FOR 2023-24 FOR 6th GRADE STUDENTS

Students should choose their top 4 choices for their electives, where “1” would be their first choice, “2” their second choice, “3” their third choice, and “4” their fourth choice. Some students, based on their ELA test scores may only get one elective, where some students may get two electives based on their ELA test scores. Due to the overwhelming number of students who express interest and qualify for these electives, some students may not be scheduled into a class. Although providing students with their 1st and 2nd elective choice is a priority, some circumstances may not permit this to happen. In addition, student interest determines which electives will be scheduled for next school year. If enough interest is not generated by students for an elective, that elective will not be scheduled.

Physical Education- Soccer, football, basketball, track, and other modified games; fitness testing; cardiovascular activities. **(Year Round)**

Beginning Band-This yearlong class is open to entering 6th grade students who wish to continue learning a band instrument they started in 5th grade. Students learn to read and write music while they learn the skills of playing an instrument. These students perform two concerts during the year. Prior music education is helpful but not necessary to succeed in this class. **(Year Round)**

Introduction to Spanish- This course is a fun way to learn basic conversational Spanish. This course will focus on the patterns of conversation, essential vocabulary, and simple grammatical structures to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish. We will also explore the diverse traditions and rich culture through a variety of activities. **(Year Round)**

Media Production- Do you want to be the voice of the school during morning announcements? Then this is the class for you. Media Production introduces students to digital and video news and morning announcements. Students are challenged to express ideas through digital media technology. Students will explore a wide range of programs, software, and applications to create images, photographs, and other forms of media. **(Year Round)**

Coding Fundamentals- Ever wondered how your favorite apps, websites, and games are made. Maybe you want to try building your own. Well, now you can! In Coding Fundamentals, you will learn all about the technology you use in your day-to-day life as well as explore how the internet functions. Get an introduction to the basics of computer science and discover how to create and build your very own website using HTML and CSS. You'll also become familiar with programming languages like JavaScript and Python Programming. You will leave the course with your very own portfolio of work that will showcase your skills and all that you've created. **(Year Round)**

Speech/Debate I- The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. **(Year Round)**

Global Scholars- Global Scholars at Rickards Middle allows select 6th graders to learn about global issues, their local impact and how to create digital projects using a variety of digital applications. Guided by their teacher, students will learn with their assigned international peers, ages 10 to 13, from more than 50 cities across the globe, in a secure, password projected e-classroom. This educational environment, enhanced by multimedia communication, creates opportunities for students to build important global and general learning competencies. The exchange of posts and projects are how students learn about other cities, the common global topic they are studying, and the

skills needed to solve a global problem. This educational environment, enhanced by multimedia communication, creates opportunities for students to build important [global and general learning competencies](#). The posts and projects of international peers are primary texts for them to learn about other cities, the common global topic they are studying, and the skills needed to solve a global problem. **(Year Round)**

Leadership Development Skills I -The purpose of this course is to teach leadership skills, parliamentary procedure, problem solving, decision making, communication skills, group dynamics, time and stress management, public speaking, human relations, public relations, team building, and other group processes. **(Year Round)**

Life Strategies- What are some of the qualities you need to have in order to be successful at life? If you think about it is hard for some people to start a conversation, work cooperatively, and know how to conduct themselves properly at a restaurant. Life Strategies is a class that will teach you how to be successful at life. There is an old saying that “Life is a Game, and it is won by those who can play it correctly.” This class will teach you proper etiquette, how important it is to set goals and achieve them, how to conduct yourself in different social settings, and also teach you how arts and crafts, as well as learning how to play social games can set you apart from others. You will have fun learning how to win at the “Game of Life.” **(Year Round)**