

## RICKARDS MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES FOR 2023-24 FOR 7th 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.*

**Peer Counseling I** - Through classroom instruction, role-playing, and skill building activities, peer counselors are trained to help their fellow students. Peer counselors help by peer tutoring, peer mediating, and peer counseling. Along with daily peer activities, students will participate in several field trips doing community projects enhancing your overall learning experience. To be a peer counselor, you **MUST** be a person who enjoys helping. **(Year-Round)**

**Robotics** - Construct, build, and propel yourself through this exciting hands-on adventure! Do you know what a robotic is capable of doing? Get ready to take control! You will build robots, program them to accomplish tasks, respond to external stimuli, and overcome challenges. **(Year Round)**

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

**Spanish I** - Provide students with a general introduction to the Spanish language, pronunciation, vocabulary related to everyday activities, and basic grammatical structure. The students will develop communicative skills in all three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) as well as cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as the culture of Spanish speaking countries and people. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HGH SCHOOL GPA. (Year-Round)**

**Spanish for Spanish Speakers I** - The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and acquiring skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in the Spanish language and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired. The course content will reflect the cultural values of Spanish language and societies. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HGH SCHOOL GPA. (Year-Round)**

**Band** - The **Intermediate Band or Advanced Band** classes are designed to provide students with an increase awareness of students with prior experience on the intermediate and advanced instrument playing level. Course goals are to enhance students skills involved in playing a musical instrument and heighten each student's aesthetic awareness through the musical arts. General: The Rickards Middle School Band program focuses on developing musicianship, good rehearsal habits, and the ability to work as a part of a team. In this aim, students are assigned to one of the two higher level band classes

depending on the level of their musical development. **Must have Ms. Luechauer's Signature to be in Advanced Band. (Year-Round)**

**Yearbook** - In this course, students will be involved in the entire yearbook process (print layouts, photography, print copy, design, and advertising). Students should be available to work outside of the normal school day when deadlines are approaching. **(Year-Round)**

**Speech 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. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA. (Year-Round)**

**Leadership Development Skills II** -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)**