

PARKWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS ELECTIVE CLASS OFFERINGS FOR 2019-2020 FOR 7th & 8th GRADE STUDENTS

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, circumstances do not always 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.

Beginning Art- In beginning art, students will learn basic artistic techniques and use a variety of media to produce 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional original creative artwork.

Beginning Dance- Students are introduced to the core fundamentals of ballet and basic dance. 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 learning in the classroom.

Beginning Strings- The Beginning Strings is designed to provide students with an introductory experience on string instruments and increase awareness of students with prior experience on the beginning level. Course goals are introduced students to the fundamental skills involved in playing a musical instrument and heighten each student's aesthetic awareness through the musical arts.

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

Computer Applications - This middle school course will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life.

Culinary Arts - In this course, students learn all about food, including food culture, food history, food safety, and current food trends. They also learn about the food service industry and prepare some culinary dishes. Through hands-on activities and in-depth study of the culinary arts field, this course helps students hone their cooking skills and gives them the opportunity to explore careers in the food industry.

Digital Technology IC3 - The IC3 Digital Literacy suite of products includes solutions that range from assessment to certification. In addition, as a truly global standard, IC3 is as comprehensive as it is diverse. With learning and practice solutions, assessment tools, and certifications specifically designed for a variety of ages and occupations, the IC3 Digital Literacy program is simply the best way to ensure that students and employees are prepared to succeed in a technology-based world.

Gardening - In this elective, students will practice beginning gardening skills, both in containers and outdoors. Gardening activities will include growing plants from kitchen scraps, from mature plants, and from seeds. Students will help decide what types of plants to grow, maintain, and harvest, after we work together to set goals for our garden design and harvest. In addition, students will see how important and rewarding it is to keep the Parkway Middle School campus beautiful. Students are taught how to keep the campus clean, organized, beautiful and help them develop the love of lending a hand.

Media Aide - Are you a teen helper? Do you want to know your way around the media center? Are you comfortable trouble shooting technology? How about working in the media center helping students and teachers with research? We are looking for students that are organized, responsible, team players, and creative. Does this describe you?

Money Matters - Students will build basic money management and decision making through application of life skills such as banking, budgeting and investing.

Office Aide - Students must have a 2.5 GPA and satisfactory conduct (No U's or N's). Students will assist teachers and/or office staff with various tasks.

Peer Counseling - To be a peer counselor **you must have a 3.0 GPA**. 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.

Creative Writing- Students will explore different genres of writing (short stories, spoken word et.) with the main goal of inspiring amazing ideas and constructing original pieces

Robotics/Drones - 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.

S.T.E.M - The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Magnet Program affords students the opportunity to enroll in a dynamic and powerful applied science program that will inspire and motivate your child to invent, create, and solve problems, while learning the citizenry and technological skills needed in to compete in tomorrow's world.

Step -Students will be given an outlet to cooperatively work on artistic expression and creativity to form a percussion dance in which the entire body is used as an instrument to produce complex rhythms and sounds, through footsteps, hand claps and spoken word.

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. Student GPA, behavior and teacher recommendations will be considered when determining who will be selected for this class.

Web Design - Are you interested in designing web pages or creating flyers? If so, technology class is for you! Through web design training, you will learn the basics of creating and designing your own web page by using web page elements, color, HTML coding, graphical user interface tools, integration of multimedia and more. Through Microsoft Office Word and its tools, you will learn how to create new documents such as flyers, menus, posters and invitations. This course is a great introduction to web design and the Microsoft Office suite.

Electives for High School Credit

African/African American History - This course examines African American History from the perspective of the African people. It provides a new view of history by introducing students to the African American population, its diverse cultures and rich legacy of resistance to injustice, and inequality. The perseverance of the African people and their enumerable contributions to America's legacy is discussed in detail. In addition, this course investigates Africa's Classical history as was shaped by its physical geography and human activity. The course examines Ancient African civilizations whose pioneering achievements in such fields as mathematics, science, government, arts and culture influenced the development of civilizations throughout Europe, Asia and the Americas from prehistoric times to the 16th century. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA.**

Debate – This class is an introduction to the world of Speech and Debate and may be offered for HS credit. A variety of speaking skills and techniques will be covered, from the basic to the complex. Students should be prepared to participate in both speech presentations and formal/informal debates. They should be comfortable working in small groups, researching different topics, and memorizing material. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA.**

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 HIGH SCHOOL GPA.**

Speech- This class is an excellent way for students to hone their communication skills and overcome the challenge of speaking in front of a group. The basics of communication and speaking will be covered, as well as an introduction to the Speech categories in competition. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA.**

8th Grade Electives Only

Spanish II - Prerequisite- Spanish I. This class is designed to give students the opportunity to reinforce the fundamental skills acquired by students in Spanish I: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course further develops communicative skills in all three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) as well as cross-cultural understanding. Reading and writing receive emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. Students will also have the opportunity to learn about the culture of Spanish speaking countries. **THIS IS A HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL COURSE AND IT WILL AFFECT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GPA.**

Performing & Visual Arts Program

Visual Arts - The Two-Dimensional Art Program will include the study of the design elements and principles, the use of contour line, gesture drawing, mass value and line, portraits and figure drawing, and working with watercolor painting, acrylic paints, tempera, gouache, printmaking, lettering, and collage. The Three-Dimensional Art Program is an intense study of creation of three dimensional forms through a variety of media.

Piano & Music Production - The Parkway SOTA Piano, Songwriting & Music Technology program is an innovative program, which incorporates traditional piano methods with the latest in music technology and software. This unique program was designed to develop young aspiring pianists and songwriters in the fields of songwriting, composition, music theory, music technology, music history and performance.

Band & Instrumental Tech - The Beginning Band is designed to provide students with an introductory experience on band instruments and increase awareness of students with prior experience on the beginning level. Course goals are to introduce students to the fundamental skills involved in playing a musical instrument and heighten each student's aesthetic awareness through the musical arts. General: The Parkway Middle School of the Arts 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 three band classes depending on the level of their musical development.

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Dance - Students in the dance program will demonstrate an understanding and proper use of dance terminology, demonstrate control of body balance and correct alignment, be able to move freely with flexibility and agility within a wide range of movement, improve their own strength and physical conditioning and demonstrate proficiency in the techniques of the basic movements of dance.

Vocal (Vocal Techniques I-III, Vocal Ensemble I-III) - Student musicians build on previous instruction to develop high levels of musicianship, technical proficiency, and performance skills through preparation of technically challenging scales, choral, and solo literature. Students use problem-solving, critical thinking, and reflection to demonstrate the skills of disciplined performers. Public performances, district, and state level assessments serve as a

culmination of instructional goals. Students are required to attend and participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support learning in the classroom.

Theatre - Topics explored include, but are not limited to, acting, directing, playwriting, theatre history, technical theatre, theatrical design & management, and musical theatre. Students are actively engaged through classwork, co-curricular production experiences, and extra-curricular involvement in the International Thespian Society.

World Drumming - It is the philosophy of the World Music Drumming Curriculum that all members of a drumming ensemble work together in harmony to become a solid performing unit. Performances of drum ensembles and songs from Africa, Latin America, Native American, Asian, Middle Eastern, and the Caribbean are not limited to the classroom setting.

Technical Theatre - This course will explore the design & implementation of the various elements that combine behind the scenes to create theatre: scenery, props, costumes, hair/makeup, lighting, sound, and marketing/publicity. Content will include skill building, design projects, extra curricular tech work for various shows, and potential competition at local and state levels. Teacher recommendation & interview required.