

# Heatherwood Middle School

## 2020-2021 Electives Course Catalog

### MUSIC ELECTIVES -----

#### **BEGINNING BAND**

**(6th-8th; full year course; no prerequisite)**

No prior band experience required. Students learn to read music, play instruments, and perform concerts. Participation requires renting (limited school rentals approx. \$120/yr.; Music store rentals approx. \$20-60/mo.) or purchasing an instrument (within 2 weeks of start) and a band book from a music store (approx. \$15). This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day.

#### **CONCERT BAND**

**(7th-8th; full year course; prerequisite: Beginning Band or demonstrated skill level)**

Students in this performance course continue to improve skills and music literacy from Beginning Band. Advancement is based on performance level. Concert and instrument requirements apply. Participation requires renting (limited

school rentals approx. \$120/yr.; Music store rentals approx. \$20-60/mo.) or purchasing an instrument (within 1-2 weeks of start) and a band book from a music store (approx. \$15). This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day.

#### **SYMPHONIC BAND**

**(7th-8th; full year course; prerequisite: Concert Band or demonstrated skill)**

This is a performance group with rigorous standards. Musical proficiency (reading music and experience playing band instrument) is necessary. Course prepares students for band at the high school. Audition may be required. Participation requires renting (limited school rentals approx. \$120/yr.; Music store rentals approx. \$20-60/mo.) or purchasing an instrument (within 1-2 weeks of start) and a band book from a music store (approx. \$15). This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day.

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#### **PRELUDE ORCHESTRA (BEGINNING)**

**(6th-8th; full year course; no prerequisite)**

For students with no prior orchestra experience or up to 1 year of orchestra experience. Students will learn the basics of string technique and music theory as it applies to their string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) through home practice, playing exams, and public performances. Participation requires renting (\$20-\$60/month, limited scholarship rentals available) or purchasing a working instrument and an orchestra book (approx. \$10) within 1-2 weeks of start. This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day. Music Fee: \$10.

playing exams, and public performances. Participation requires renting (\$20-\$60/month, limited scholarship rentals available) or purchasing a working instrument and an orchestra book (approx. \$10) within 1-2 weeks of start. This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day. Music Fee: \$10.

#### **CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (ADVANCED)**

**(6th-8th; full year course; prerequisite: Intermezzo Orchestra or demonstrated skill level)**

For students with 2 or more years of orchestra experience; advancement is based on skill level/audition with director. Students will continue to work on more advanced string technique, ensemble and solo playing, and music theory as it applies to their string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) through home practice, playing exams, and public performances. Participation requires renting (\$20-\$60/month, limited scholarship rentals available) or purchasing a working instrument and an orchestra book (approx. \$10) within 1-2 weeks of start. This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day. Music Fee: \$10.

#### **INTERMEZZO ORCHESTRA (INTERMEDIATE)**

**(6th-8th; full year course; prerequisite: Prelude Orchestra or demonstrated skill level)**

For students with 1 or more years of orchestra experience; placement in class based on skill level/audition with director. Students will continue to work on intermediate string technique, ensemble playing, and music theory as it applies to their string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) through home practice,

## CONCERT CHOIR

**(6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade; full year course; no prerequisite)**

Welcome to Concert Choir! This is a mixed ensemble, meant for students with 0-2 years of singing experience. This is an intermediate choir for singers who love to sing but are not yet ready for Select Choir. Students will explore the intermediate fundamentals of music theory, sight-reading and vocal technique, in addition to building friendships. This class has graded performance requirements outside of the normal school day including both seasonal concerts and a fieldtrip.

Music course fee \$10

## SELECT CHOIR

**(8<sup>th</sup>; 7<sup>th</sup> grade by audition; full year course; prerequisite Concert Choir or demonstrated vocal/music-reading ability)**

This choir is for our most advanced vocalists; course performs the most of all our choirs here at Heatherwood, including our seasonal evening concerts, as well as local field trips, festivals, competitions, and special performances. This group focuses on more advanced middle school music (3- and 4- part), learning more advanced singing techniques and music theory at the middle school level. Music course fee: \$10

## STEAM ELECTIVES -----

### ART COURSES

#### ART 6

**(6<sup>th</sup>; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Students are provided with an introduction to drawing and painting, art history, art critique, and instruction in the elements of art (color, line, shape, value, texture, form, space). A clay project is completed. Art fee: \$7.

#### ART 7

**(7<sup>th</sup>; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Continuing learning in art includes experience in drawing (pencils, charcoal, chalk, pastels) and painting (tempera, oil pastels), collage and mixed media art, clay, and other forms. Art history and critique are incorporated. Art fee: \$7.

#### ADVANCED ART 8

**(8<sup>th</sup>; full year course; prerequisite: Art 6 or 7)**

Course builds on skills and introduces new techniques and media including painting (watercolor, acrylic), perspective drawing, printmaking, sculpture, pottery, glass art, digital art, illustration, and Principles of Design (balance, emphasis, contrast, proportion, movement, rhythm, pattern, unity and variety). Art history and critique continue to be incorporated. Art fee: \$15.

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## ROBOTICS (ENGINEERING) COURSES

### ROBOTICS 6

**(6<sup>th</sup>; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Students will learn drag and drop coding, build a robot, and program the robot to perform basic functions. Teams will participate in weekly challenges. The course will emphasize collaboration, as students work in teams. Students will also be introduced to STEM careers.

### ROBOTICS 7

**(7<sup>th</sup>; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Do you like to create, design and use your imagination? If so, engineering class is for you! We will be utilizing Lego Mindstorm EV3 kits. The objective of this course is to introduce the student to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies and rocketry. Students will

also be exposed to the fundamentals of game theory; unpacking the principles, that make games popular. Building on this base, students analyze contemporary non-digital games and discuss the risk/reward and mechanics.

### ROBOTICS 8

**(8<sup>th</sup>; semester course; no prerequisite)**

This course will empower students to become innovators in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. Student will follow the Engineering Design Process to create projects related to energy, robotics, biomedicine. the environment, board games and 3D design/printing. Sample projects will use Lego Robotics, hands on projects, and aerial robotics. This class is aimed at students who are self-motivated and have a strong interest in the design process. *Paired with CAD.*

## **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY COURSES**

### **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 6**

#### **(Introductory Technology)**

**(6th; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Students will be working on 21st Century Skills in order to better collaborate, create, and communicate in a digital world. This course will focus on learning the Google Apps for Education. Students will also have an opportunity to explore introductory coding, animation, CAD, screencasting, and improve keyboarding skills.

### **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY 7**

#### **(Intermediate Technology)**

**(7th; semester course; no prerequisite)**

Students will learn computer applications that can and are used in different areas both in and out of school. This course will focus on an introduction to the Microsoft Office suite. Students will explore introductory 3D design, multiple uses for Adobe Spark, and will have the opportunity to dig deeper into programming.

### **COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN (CAD) \***

**(8th; semester course; prerequisite: Computer Technology 6 or Computer Technology 7)**

In this course, students will be exploring design, engineering, and manufacturing. Students will be introduced to the design process, research and analysis, engineering standards and technical documentation. Students will design solutions to real-world problems while using the use of the most current 3D solid-modeling software and state-of-the-art 3D printers. Students may earn high school credit upon successful completion of this course. Paired with either Microsoft Office Certification or Robotics 8 \*High school credit

### **MICROSOFT OFFICE CERTIFICATION**

#### **(JASPERACTIVE)**

**(8th; semester course; prerequisite: Computer Technology 6 or Computer Technology 7)**

Microsoft Office certification is designed to provide a foundation for future business and technology courses where students learn the basic features of Microsoft Office suite to better prepare for college and careers. Students will work toward Microsoft Office Specialist Certification in Word, PowerPoint and Excel to prepare for entry-level positions. Students will develop leadership, interpersonal, problem-solving, and decision-making skills throughout this course. Students may earn high school credit upon successful completion of this course. For more information, visit: <https://jasperactive.com> Paired with CAD

## **OTHER ELECTIVES -----**

### **SPANISH I**

**(8th; full year course; no prerequisite)**

Are you good at working independently? Are you willing to practice your Spanish every evening? Do you do well in your English and Math courses? If so, Spanish may be for you! Students will learn to speak, understand, read and write Spanish on a beginning level. Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to communicate about the alphabet, numbers, the calendar, greetings, themselves, their daily routine, family, and food. Students will be able to write complete sentences with correct verb forms in Spanish. Students will also learn about cultures and custom of people in the Spanish-speaking world. Students will earn one high school credit upon successful completion of this course.

### **AVID**

**(7th-8th; full year course; prerequisite: application, interview, and approval required)**

AVID is an academic elective that is all about developing skills and habits to help students be successful in high school and beyond. It is meant for students who are motivated to do well and who are serious about their academic future. In AVID, we focus on skills such effective note-taking, public speaking, communication, team building, organization, goal-setting, and much more. Students also get to engage with guest speakers, learn about colleges, careers, and potentially go on field trips.