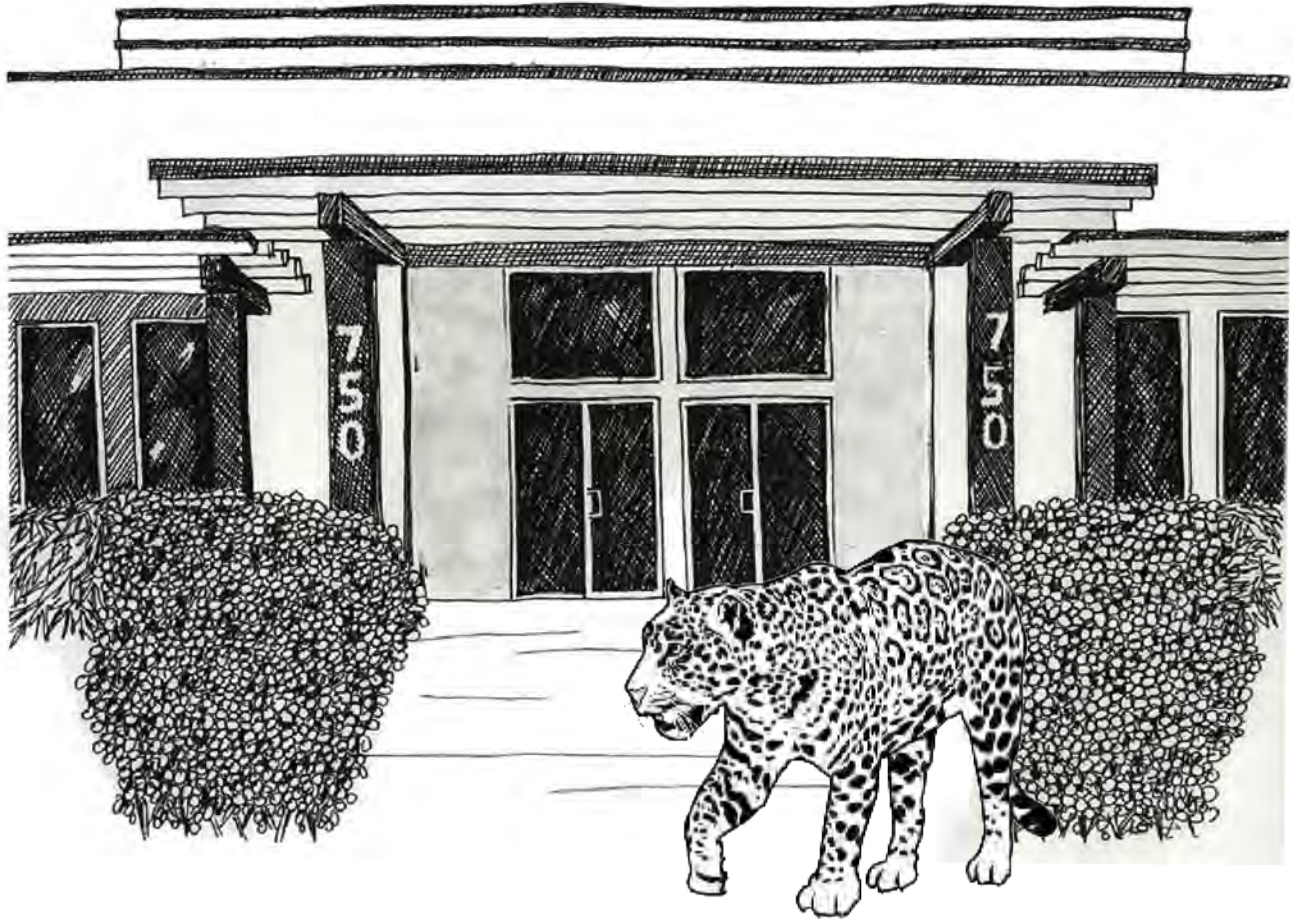


Palo Alto Unified School District



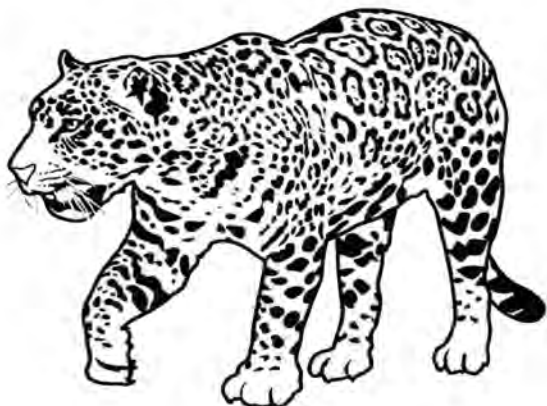
Greene Middle School

Course Catalog | 2021-2022

750 N. California Ave., Palo Alto, CA | 650.494.8120 | www.greene.pausd.org

PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Frank S. Greene Jr.
Middle School**



**COURSE CATALOG
2021 - 2022**

Grades 6, 7, 8

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
6th Grade Program	2
7th Grade Required Courses	6
8th Grade Required Courses	8
SUPPORT PROGRAMS	10
LIST OF ELECTIVES	12
Full-Year Electives	13
Semester Electives	17

INTRODUCTION

Middle School Course Overview Required Courses

Counseling Department: 494-8120 EXT.5951

COURSES		
Grade 6*	Grade 7*	Grade 8*
English/Language Arts History/Social Studies Mathematics Science	English/Language Arts History/Social Studies Mathematics Science	English/Language Arts History/Social Studies Mathematics Science
Physical Education/Music <i>(alternate days)</i> Exploratory Wheel	Physical Education Elective Elective	Physical Education Elective Elective

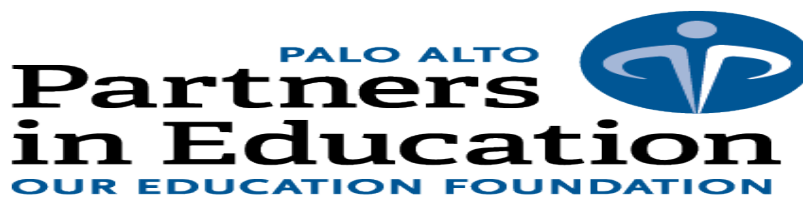
* All students will have Advisory on Wednesday.

PLEASE NOTE: This catalog must be produced before decisions about budget and staffing are made for the 2021-2022 school year. Although we hope to offer all of these classes, we may have to cancel some. We will cancel any which do not have sufficient enrollment. It is **very important** that students indicate their first seven choices in the order desired.

NOTE: Students and their parents have several important decisions to make in planning a school program. No catalog can answer all of your questions, so don't hesitate to speak to your grade level counselor to get more information or assistance. Students are assigned a counselor based on grade level.

Because of generous donations to Palo Alto in Education (PiE) we are able to offer a wide variety of electives for our students so each child can find one (or many) that spark their interest and inspire them to explore new subjects.

Thank you, PiE donors, for making the choices listed here possible.



6th Grade Program

Sixth grade core (four periods of the day) covers the subjects of English/Language Arts, History/Social Studies, Science, and Math. Teachers are grouped in configurations of two, three or four member teams. These teams share responsibilities for curriculum in different ways.

English 6

Following the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), sixth grade students build their skills in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language. Students read and analyze texts of varying complexity, which may include novels, nonfiction books, articles, poems, short stories and plays. Throughout the year, students write argumentative, narrative, and informative pieces (including literary analysis) with a focus on the organization of structured paragraphs. Students are introduced to responding to literature with clear claims, textual evidence, proper citation, and commentary/analysis. Students practice speaking and listening skills through structured class discussions, individual and group presentations. Grammar and mechanics are taught within the context of writing. When writing or speaking, students will practice crafting effective phrases, clauses, and sentence structures and use vocabulary that suits the audience and purpose.

Exploratory Wheel

The remaining period for 6th graders is the Exploratory Wheel. Students receive approximately five weeks of instruction in Art, Guidance and Wellness, Computer Applications, Drama, Family and Consumer Science, Industrial Technology, and the Language Wheel. These courses will provide students with an introduction to courses which they may choose as electives in 7th and 8th grade.

Art Wheel

The curriculum is designed to introduce students to Art electives offered at Greene, Art1A and 1B, Multimedia Art and Ceramics. Units include:

Two Point perspective: Students study linear perspective and the space, then create a drawing of their name that appears three-dimensional.

Clay Slab Pottery: Students create and decorate a clay vessel using slab construction.

Dragon Eye Oil Pastel: Students compare representations of Dragon's in Western and Eastern art, and create an oil pastel drawing of an eye as a form using value.

Art Toy Paper Sculpture: Students cut, color, fold, and glue unique paper art toy sculptures.

Digital Superhero Selfie: Using Procreate and iPads, student trace self-portraits in dynamic "Superhero" poses, then digitally manipulate their portraits to illustrate their imagined powers.

Computers Wheel

This wheel provides introductory experiences in different computer applications as well as being an opportunity to see what is involved in the 7th and 8th grade technology electives. Students will also gain skills in use of online materials. Activities include: Online posters, creating websites, making a video and coding and animation in Block, coding in HTML and JavaScript. Students will work with robots and apply coding to more realistic situations.

Drama Wheel

A brief introduction to the fun and challenges of drama through theatre activities that foster communication, creativity, confidence, and collaboration. Goals are to give opportunities for creative self-expression and enhance abilities to speak/present in front of a group while exposing the student to the basic elements of drama.

Units include:

- Pantomime
- Improvisation/ Tableau
- Character development and Story Elements
- Producing commercials for products that don't exist
- Producing a five-minute mini-play

We hope you all will attend the performances in class at the end of the Rotation.

Family and Consumer Science Wheel

The Consumer Science wheel provides students with an introduction to the skills they will use as they grow and become more independent.

- Making Healthy Food Choices
- Kitchen Safety and Dishwashing
- Manners and Table Setting
- Kitchen Tools and Measuring
- Recipe Planning and Preparation
- Comparison Shopping Activity
- Basic Hand and Machine Sewing Skills
- Construction of a Drawstring Bag or Pillowcase
- Recipes may include:
 - Whole Wheat French Toast
 - Dutch Babies
 - Apple Turnovers

Guidance and Wellness Wheel

The Guidance and Wellness Wheel emphasizes growth in emotional intelligence and the deepening of intrapersonal and interpersonal knowledge and skills. Personal development topics include growth and fixed mindsets, multiple intelligences, goal setting, and personality strengths. Personal application include recognizing emotions and regulation, stress management and mindfulness practices, relationship building, self-advocacy through communication and conflict resolution, bullying prevention and cyber safety and implicit bias. Prosocial skills like kindness, gratitude and empathy, gaining confidence as a public speaker, and increasing fluency and self-awareness through journal writing are explored and practiced.

Industrial Technology Wheel

Experience will focus on beginning Engineering concepts. This project-based program includes Research, Development, Fabrication, Testing and Design

Units of Study include:

- Measurement
- Drafting Tools
- Bridge Design and Construction
- Tool Box Design/Layout/Fabrication

World Language Wheel

Learning another language develops your world view and helps make you a productive global citizen. Taking language in middle school allows you to enter level 2 of that language in high school.

In the Language Wheel students will:

- Look at the origins of language families.
- Gain exposure to the four languages currently taught at Greene (French, Japanese, Spanish and, Mandarin Chinese) and the additional language available at Palo Alto High School (American Sign Language).
- Learn cultural information about countries where these languages are spoken.
- Use apps like Duolingo and Quizlet to experience the languages firsthand.
- See how fun and rewarding it is to learn another language.
- Develop a language plan for how they will fulfill their PAUSD language graduation requirements.

History / Social Science 6

The sixth grade program focuses on the history and geography of ancient civilizations. The units of study commence with early humans and then transition from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to permanent settlements, and eventually to the building of ancient empires. The curricular units of study address the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Kush, Israel, India, China and Greece. Students will learn about the geographic, social, political, religious, and economic systems of these cultures. Students will investigate past to present connections as they learn that contemporary cultures are the descendants of earlier civilizations. By studying the characteristics of these civilizations, students will become more aware of, and learn to appreciate the ethnic and cultural diversity in our own society, and the contributions these diverse civilizations have made to our modern world. Following Common Core Standards, students will use a variety of activities to examine the content and build study skills, while simultaneously practicing historical thinking, inquiry, and writing skills.

Foundational Mathematics

FOUNDATIONAL MATHEMATICS is the first year in a three-year accelerated math course sequence preparing students for high school Algebra in 8th grade. It extends student understanding and skill to compute rational numbers (decimals, fractions, Integers) and introduces algebraic and proportional reasoning. Many of the concepts and skills will have further reinforcement in a context requiring statistical and geometric (2D) reasoning.

The content of this course is a combination of California's Common Core Content Standards from Grade 6, Grade 7, and Algebra. The areas of content focus are: number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportions, two-dimensional geometry, and data analysis and statistics. Instruction is guided by *The 8 Mathematical Practice Standards*: make sense of problems and persevere in solving them; reason abstractly and quantitatively; model with mathematics; attend to precision; use appropriate tools strategically; look for and make use of structure; and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

In 6th grade, students are heterogeneously grouped. Extension and enrichment opportunities are available to all students. Information about the math pathways can be found at the district website.

[Board Report](#)

[Acceleration Path](#)

Music / Physical Education

During one period, sixth grade students spend alternate days in Music and Physical Education. Students make their music selection (band, choir or orchestra) during the spring of their fifth-grade year. Sixth grade music students continue to develop as musicians and performers. There is a focus on building a strong foundation using proper posture, breath control, tone production, and reading music. In addition, students perform several times a year.

Physical Education consists of a program of activities that are designed to develop good basic motor skills, nutrition, physical fitness, and fundamental movement patterns. Emphasis is placed on the importance of positive sportsmanship and cooperation, including respect for one another.

Science 6 Earth and Space Science

This is a year-long, activity-based science course following the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for Middle School. The course focuses on these NGSS topics: investigation and experimentation, Earth's Place in the Solar System, Earth's Systems (geology, weather, climate), and Earth and Human Activity. There is an emphasis on expository writing through individual and group work. In addition to the disciplinary core ideas, the NGSS cross-cutting concepts and science and engineering practices are explored.

7th Grade

Required Courses

English 7

Following the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), seventh grade students continue to build their skills in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language. Students read and analyze texts of varying complexity, which may include novels, non-fiction books, articles, poems, short stories and plays. Throughout the year, students write argumentative, narrative, and informative pieces (including literary analysis) with a focus on the organization of structured paragraphs with clear claims, textual evidence, proper citation, and commentary/analysis. Students practice speaking and listening skills through structured class discussions, individual and group presentations. Grammar and mechanics are taught within the context of writing. When writing or speaking, students will practice crafting effective phrases, clauses, and sentence structures and use vocabulary that suits the audience and purpose.

History / Social Science 7

The 7th grade program will build upon previous studies of ancient world history by connecting it to the Medieval Period. This course will examine selected civilizations in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas from approximately 500 BCE to 1700 CE. Students will learn about the rise and fall of empires as well as the social, political, religious, and economic systems that each civilization established. Additionally, the course will examine how sites of encounter facilitated the diffusion of religions and languages, along with the vast movement of people and ideas. Studying the development of these world cultures will encourage students to become more aware of, and learn to appreciate and value, the ethnic and cultural diversity in our own society and the modern world. Following Common Core Standards, students will use a variety of activities to examine the content and build study skills, while simultaneously practicing historical thinking, inquiry, and writing skills.

Math 7 Concepts In Mathematics

Concepts In Mathematics is the second year in a three-year accelerated math course sequence preparing students for high school Algebra in 8th grade.

It extends student understanding and skill to compute with rational numbers to irrational numbers and extends algebraic and proportional reasoning. Students solve real world problems with 3-dimensional figures (surface area, volume); draw, construct, and describe 2D and 3D figures, understand congruence and similarity of figures using models and other mathematical tools, and solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measures. Students move from graphing given, finite locations on a coordinate plane by substitution to graphing and manipulating linear equations in a variety of forms and investigating patterns associated with bivariate data. This Grade 7 course provides initial exposure to investigating chance processes where students develop, use and evaluate probability models.

The content of this course is a combination of California's Common Core State Standards from Grade 6, Grade 7 and Math 8. The areas of concept focus are: number system, expressions and equations, ratios and proportions, three-dimensional geometry, and probability and bivariate data. Instruction is guided by *The 8 Mathematical Practice Standards*: make sense of problems and persevere in solving them; reason abstractly and quantitatively; model with mathematics; attend to precision; use appropriate tools strategically; look for and make use of structure; and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

In 7th grade, students are heterogeneously grouped. Extension and enrichment opportunities are available to all students. information about the math pathways can be found at the district website.

[Board Report](#)
[Acceleration Path](#)

Physical Education

Physical Education consists of a program of activities designed to develop good basic motor skills, nutrition, physical fitness, and fundamental movement patterns. Emphasis is placed on the importance of positive sportsmanship and cooperation, including respect for one another. Students are provided an introductory exposure to a wide variety of activities, including team sports, individual and dual sports, rhythms, and aquatics.

Science 7 - Life Science

This is a year-long, activity-based science course following the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for Middle School. The course focuses on these NGSS topics: investigation and experimentation, the structure and process from molecules to organisms, interactions, energy flow and dynamics of ecosystems, inheritance and variation of genetic traits, and the diversity of biological evolution. This course will address the expectations for instruction outlined in the California Healthy Youth Act. This course also supports scientific practices through experimentation, emphasis on scientific reading, writing,, communication, collaboration, and engineering skills through design and testing. In addition to the disciplinary core ideas, the NGSS cross-cutting concepts, science and engineering practices are explored.

8th Grade

Required Courses

English 8

Following the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), eighth-grade students continue to build their skills in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language. Students strengthen their critical thinking skills through the study of novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and nonfiction. Throughout the year, students write argumentative, informative and narrative pieces with a focus on the organization of structured paragraphs and essays. Students introduce and support claims with logical reasoning and evidence, use Modern Language Association (MLA) citation and format style, and develop their commentary and analysis skills. Grammar and mechanics are taught within the context of writing. Students practice speaking and listening skills through structured class discussions, group presentations, and individual presentations. When writing or speaking, students craft effective sentence structures and use vocabulary that suits the audience and purpose.

History / Social Science 8

The 8th grade program will have students connect their past exploration of the Colonial and Revolutionary eras of American history to the study of the foundations and beginnings of the new Republic through the social, political, economic, and geographical growth of the nation. Students will learn about the creation and structure of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the conflicting forces that led to the growth of political parties and sectionalism, early foreign policies and conflicts with other nations, the Westward Movement (“Manifest Destiny”), the institution of slavery, the Civil War and Reconstruction. By studying the ethical, social, political, and economic questions Americans have dealt with historically, students will be more aware of, and sensitive to, the issues facing America today. Following Common Core Standards, students will use a variety of activities to examine the content and build study skills, while simultaneously practicing historical thinking, inquiry, and writing skills.

Mathematics

MATH 8: Students will follow the 8th grade CCSS. Eighth grade mathematics focuses on the algebra of linear relationships. Students formulate and reason about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear expression and solving linear equations and systems of equations. They grasp the concept of a function and use functions to describe quantitative relationships. Students analyze two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and learn and apply the Pythagorean Theorem. Students continue to use and improve their skills in problem-solving, communicating mathematical ideas in oral and written form, analyzing complex situations, organizing information, using computers and graphing calculators, and working independently and in groups. The Mathematical Practice Standards will be used to build on the student’s ability to make sense of a variety of problems. For more information about middle school math, go to the PAUSD site about secondary placement. <https://www.pausd.org/curriculum/secondary-math-placement>

ALGEBRA 8: This is the second year in a 2-year accelerated course. This course completes the 8th grade CCSS in addition to the Algebra Content Standards. Students deepen and extend their understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other and by applying models to data. Students engage in methods for analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions. Students analyze two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence. In addition to analyzing bivariate data, students will also focus on data distribution and correlation. The focus is on solving linear, quadratic and exponential functions. The Mathematical Practice Standards will be used to build on the student’s ability to make sense of a variety of problems. Students are expected to maintain a B- or better for placement into Geometry in 9th grade. **Prerequisite:** Math 7A or satisfactory completion of the Summer Bridge to Algebra course. For more information about middle school math, go to the PAUSD site about secondary placement. <https://www.pausd.org/curriculum/secondary-math-placement>

Physical Education

Physical Education consists of a program of activities that are designed to develop good basic motor skills, nutrition, physical fitness, and fundamental movement patterns. Emphasis is placed on the importance of positive sportsmanship and cooperation, including respect for one another. Students are provided an intermediate exposure to a wide variety of activities, including team sports, individual and dual sports, rhythms and aquatics.

Science 8 - Physical Science

This is a year-long, activity-based science course following the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) for Middle School. The course focuses on these NGSS topics: investigation and experimentation, matter and its interactions, forces, and interactions of motion and stability, energy, waves, and information technology. Students build their understanding of science phenomena and practice data analysis, math computation, reading, writing, and communication skills. In addition to the disciplinary core ideas, the NGSS cross-cutting concepts, science and engineering practices are explored.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Greene offers a variety of programs designed to assist students to reach their full academic potential and ensure academic success in high school and beyond. Students are placed in these courses through consultation with counselors, parents, and teachers.

Academic Enhancement

Prerequisite: Recommended by teachers and counselor prior to submitting registration materials for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents should consult with their child's grade level counselor for more information.

This class is a comprehensive reading/language arts program designed to bring students up to proficiency in literacy skills. The program includes three comprehensive teaching models: whole group, small group and one-on-one instruction with adaptive technology. This class takes the place of English and CORE for 6th grade; 2 classes, 4 meetings each totally 8 class meetings weekly. The class takes place of one elective course each semester for 7th/8th graders; 4 class meetings weekly.

ALD (Academic Language Development)

Prerequisite: Recommended by teachers and counselor prior to submitting registration materials for the 2021-2022 school year.

This course is designed to support students in narrative and expository reading, comprehension, essay writing, vocabulary development, and use of spoken language in the core content areas. Effective organization and study skills will be integrated into the curriculum. The course will prepare students for success in listening, speaking, reading and writing in high school college preparation (A-G) courses. This class is intended for students who are English Learner (EL) or Reclassified English learners (RFEP) and is not a part of the English learner program. This class will not assign homework.

Math Workshop

Prerequisite: Currently enrolled in grade level course. Has two or three of the following academic achievement scores: (1) Below grade level on CAASPP, (2) Below grade level on beginning of year formative assessment in the majority of domains, and/or (3) Below C average on classroom test scores.

This class is an intervention course to work on math skills students may not have mastered in previous math courses. In a supportive environment with no more than (15-18) students and a math teacher who is familiar with their respective grade level program, students will learn how to succeed in math through individual and small group tutoring, organizational help, projects, games, and computer programs. This class is intended for students who are performing below grade level in math and have been recommended by their teacher or counselor.

Reading Enhancement

Prerequisite: Recommended by teachers and counselor prior to submitting registration materials for the 2021-2022 school year.

This class is intended for students who would benefit from extra reading instruction in order to be successful in their academic classes. It has a specifically designed, research-based, curriculum to aide learners with reading strategies. The course will focus on increasing comprehension and vocabulary through a combination of reading, writing, and phonics/word study. Students will learn to pay special attention to genre and the features of fiction and nonfiction texts through disciplinary reading,

Writing Workshop

Prerequisite: Recommended by teachers or counselor prior to submitting registration materials for the 2021-2022 school year.







This class is intended for students who would like extra help in order to be successful in their English and Social Studies classes. In addition to supporting students on academic writing assignments in these classes, we practice different aspects of writing and communication through class projects. Those aspects are determined according to student needs. This class is intended for students who need help specifically with the organization and elaboration of ideas in writing. The class size is kept small (15-18) in order to maximize the amount of individualized support for students.

Academic Strategies (formerly Study Skills)

Prerequisite: This class is open to students with an active IEP.

This class is designed to teach the skills and strategies necessary to be successful, independent learner. These strategies include self-advocacy, growth mindset, time management, planning and organization. Students will receive academic and executive functioning support that addresses their identified area of need. This class will take the place of one elective course each semester for 7th/8th graders and in place of CORE for 6th graders.

LIST OF ELECTIVES

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES	SEMESTER ELECTIVES
<p>MUSIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Band, Concert+ Band, Symphonic++ Choir Orchestra <p>WORLD LANGUAGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> French 1A French 1B* Japanese 1A Japanese 1B* Spanish 1A Spanish 1B* Chinese (Mandarin) 1A Chinese (Mandarin) 1B German 1A Spanish for Spanish Speakers Spanish Bridge 6* Spanish Bridge 7* Spanish Bridge 8* Mandarin Bridge 6* Mandarin Bridge 7* Mandarin Bridge 8* <p>* Prerequisite ** Permission of staff required + 7th grade only ++ 8th grade only  Application required</p>	<p>ART</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art 1A Art 1B* Ceramics & Sculpture (3-D Emphasis)* Multimedia Art (Technology Emphasis) <p>COMPUTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Applications Computer Creations Video Production Web Design 1A Web Design 1B* <p>DRAMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama 1A Drama 1B* <p>FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative Sewing Foods and Nutrition Skills for Living Regional & World Foods* <p>ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning Architectural Drawing Industrial Technology 1A Industrial Technology 1B (Advanced)* <p>UNIQUE OFFERINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AVID** Broadcast Media * Creative Writing Current Events Design & Technology (FUSE) Forensics Leadership**++ Money Matters School Service**++ Yearbook**



IMPORTANT NOTICE



Every effort is made to schedule your first “Elective” preferences, but often that is not possible. ***It is important that you fill out all seven of these electives in rank order. Please keep in mind that Greene reserves the right to place your child in electives to make a complete school schedule.*** Please note that only those classes with sufficient enrollment are offered.

Full-Year Electives

MUSIC

Concert Band (7th Grade) Intermediate Level

Course Number 6883
7th Grade / Full Year

Symphonic Band (8th Grade) Advanced Level

Course Number 6884
8th Grade / Full Year

Prerequisite and Placement: If you play a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument, you are strongly encouraged to continue your musical development in one of Greene's outstanding band ensembles!

Curriculum: In each band, students spend daily rehearsals working on the musical fundamentals taught within a historical and cultural context. Weekly sectionals with professional music specialists provide opportunities to develop individual playing skills. You will work on pieces from various periods and cultures, including classical, popular, folk music, rock and jazz styles.

Instrumentation: In order to achieve full instrumentation and make the band sound better, the directors may request that some students switch to different instruments. If you are interested in trying a more unusual instrument, such as the oboe, bassoon, tenor or baritone saxophone, horn, baritone, or tuba you can discuss this with the director, and arrange for an opportunity to try the instrument out. If the change is appropriate and your parents agree, we will provide an instrument for you to use.

Performances: 7th and 8th grade bands each perform at all school concerts, march in the May Fete Parade, and go "on tour" to the elementary schools to perform assembly programs. There may be additional performance opportunities.

Additional Activities: Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble are two outstanding extra-curricular groups. They meet before school once per week. If you are interested, auditions are held in September for saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm section players. If you do not play one of these instruments, but would like to be in a jazz group, talk to the band directors as soon as possible. Often, students who have played the flute or clarinet in band can easily learn the saxophone during the summer months. Audition information will be announced during the second week of school. Please note that you MUST be signed up for Band, Orchestra, or Choir to be in one of the jazz groups. Additional learning activities may include master classes, workshops guest conductors, visiting composers, live performances, and collaborative activities with other classes or departments.

Choir

Course Number 6888
7th and 8th Grade / Full Year

In choir, students will develop and improve their singing technique as well as learn about music through performance. Choral music of a wide variety of styles, cultures and time periods will be studied and performed in two, three, and four-part harmony. Students will have the opportunity to sing solos and participate in small ensembles. Members of the group will be encouraged to audition for regional and statewide honor choirs and participate in regional choral festivals. The choirs perform in formal concerts as well as other events including performances and exchanges with other PAUSD choirs. Students are expected to attend all evening performances.

Orchestra

Course Number 6886
7th and 8th Grade / Full Year

Students in Orchestra work on expanding their string technique, ensemble skills, and musical knowledge by exploring and performing a wide variety of music of differing styles, historical periods, forms, and genres. The Orchestra performs in formal evening concerts as well as other activities that have included attending a music festival, a tour to elementary schools, collaborative performances with other schools, and playing in small chamber ensembles. Students will be expected to attend all evening performances. Students enrolled in orchestra are eligible to audition for the Chamber Orchestra.

WORLD LANGUAGES

IMPORTANT NOTE: Level 1A and 1B classes are designed for students who have NO prior knowledge or exposure to the target language. These courses are not open to native speakers.

Five modern languages are currently available to students – Mandarin Chinese, French, Japanese, Spanish and German may be available if at least 24 students pre-enroll.

Each world language course develops self-confidence through the study of a second language and fosters an appreciation for that language and its culture. Capable students who wish to study more than one language at a time may do so. Homework in world language classes averages no more than 30-40 minutes *per week*.

Seventh graders enroll in the course numbered 1A. As eighth graders, they continue with the course numbered 1B. This two-year sequence in middle school is equivalent to the first year of high school study, allowing students to enter level two as freshmen.

NOTE: Eighth graders are welcome to sign up for 1A classes as preparation for entering level one as freshmen in high school.

General Course Descriptions

Students of French, German, Japanese*, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish will develop growing proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and will gain an understanding of the structure of the language appropriate to the level of instruction. They will also have an opportunity to participate in cultural activities.

****NOTE: The Japanese writing systems (Hiragana and Katakana) are introduced gradually during the first-year course and Kanji (Chinese characters) throughout each year.***

Spanish for Spanish Speakers is designed for students who are native speakers of Spanish and is composed of 7th and 8th graders. It is to give students knowledge and appreciation of Spanish-American culture. They will learn to distinguish and value the difference between colloquial and academic language. They will perfect their writing as well as their speaking ability in Spanish. Placement at the high school level for Spanish for Spanish Speakers 2 is determined by the teacher. A grade of “C” is generally necessary to advance to the next level.

Student Outcomes

The expected student outcomes in the five areas of language acquisition are:

- LISTENING:** To understand the language as it is spoken by a native speaker at a normal conversational rate with the vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriate to the level of instruction.
- SPEAKING:** To communicate with reasonable fluency in real-life situations at a level commensurate with the vocabulary and structure appropriate to the level of instruction.
- READING:** To read materials appropriate to the level of instruction; both silently and aloud with understanding.
- WRITING:** To write clearly and correctly within the limits imposed by the vocabulary and grammatical structures at the level of instruction.
- CULTURE:** To gain familiarity and appreciation of the culture and to learn differences and similarities in world views, customs, beliefs, and social conventions of the linguistic community.

BRIDGE 6, 7,8 – COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Spanish and Mandarin Bridge Programs at Greene Middle School are three-year programs that bridge the Immersion Programs in elementary school with advanced Spanish and Mandarin language classes offered at the high school level. The classes focus on the four elements of language acquisition: speaking, writing, reading and listening. These programs are taught primarily in the target language with the understanding that students have various levels of fluency and proficiency levels in reading, speaking, writing and listening. Students are exposed to culture, literature, and language structures needed to be successful in high-academic Spanish or Mandarin level classes.

Note: Students are eligible to enroll in either of these programs if they have successfully completed the elementary Spanish Immersion program at Escondido or the Mandarin Immersion program at Ohlone. If space is available, students can demonstrate grade level bilingual fluency in Spanish or Mandarin through an assessment process.

For 6th Grade students and their families, they **MUST** apply for a Choice Program in February of 5th grade.

Spanish Bridge 6 Mandarin Bridge 6

In 6th grade, Bridge is offered as a literacy enrichment class in the target language that will be offered for one period during the students' 5-period core (covering Math, Science, English/Language Arts, and History/Social Studies.) Interactive strategies such as drama, simulations, field trips, guest speakers, and collaborative projects may be used to provide a language-rich experience, with a focus on students' communication skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing, as well as cultural literacy. Students will be expected to communicate in target language at all times in this course, with the instructor as well as among peers.

Spanish Bridge 7 Mandarin Bridge 7

In 7th grade, Bridge continues as a literacy enrichment class in the target language. Interactive strategies such as drama, simulations, field trips, guest speakers, and collaborative projects may be used to provide a language-rich experience, building on the students' experiences in Bridge 6 with an added emphasis on increasing their literary skills. Students will be expected to communicate in the target language at all times in this course, with the instructor as well as among peers.

Spanish Bridge 8 Mandarin Bridge 8

In 8th grade, Bridge at Greene transitions to a more conventional language class. Increasing emphasis is placed on the language structures covered in the high school courses. However, students will continue to be engaged through interactive strategies and simulations that provide rich communication and cultural experiences in the target language. As always, students will be expected to communicate in the target language at all times in this course. Students exiting the middle school grade 8 class should be prepared to enter Spanish 3, Spanish 3 Honors, or Chinese 3.

UNIQUE OFFERINGS – FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) 7th and 8th Grade / Year **Prerequisite: *Teacher/counselor recommendation and interview process***

The AVID elective targets 7th and 8th grade students in the academic middle (grades of Cs and Bs) who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but may be falling short of their potential. AVID is a year-long elective class where students learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and questioning techniques, get academic help from peers and college tutors and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college attainable. Enrichment activities within the AVID program may include college tours, team building activities, attending the theater, trips to museums and other culturally important venues. Students are recommended by their teachers and/or counselors to apply for the program. Academic performance, attitude, and other qualifying factors make a student eligible for the AVID program. Usually, the AVID Coordinator will contact students and parents directly to participate in the program. However, any interested student or parent may contact the counselor to be considered for the AVID elective. More information is available at: www.avid.org or on the district website at: <https://www.pausd.org/programs/avid>

Yearbook **Course Number 6166** **7th and 8th Grade / Full Year** **Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval***

This class is designed for highly motivated students who wish to contribute to creating our school yearbook as a journalist and member of a collaborative staff. The majority of the class will focus on the design and content of the yearbook. Students will develop skills in digital photography, Web-based design, layout and other 21st century skills applicable to the real world. Students exhibit individual responsibility by keeping track of multiple assignments and various deadlines, and devoting time outside of class in order to cover the entire Greene community. Students will also have the opportunity to apply for leadership positions on the staff. Students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior commensurate with a member of the press. This course may be repeated.

Semester Electives

ART

Art 1A

Course Number 6492
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Interested in creating different styles and types of art while you explore painting, drawing, sculpture, and digital art making? Then, Art 1A is for you. We complete a number of different projects designed to explore various media and art forms from a variety of cultures throughout the world. Digital self portraits, clay animal sculptures, sunflower paintings, and tons of other assignments will challenge experienced artists and engaged people who are eager to learn new approaches in art. This class ideally is taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1B, Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D emphasis) and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Art 1B

Course Number 6493
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Art 1A*

If you enjoy taking art and want more time to draw, sculpt, and paint, then take Art 1B. It is also the foundation for more “hands on” projects that are a bit more accelerated and challenging in Art 1B. You will learn step-by-step techniques of realistic and imaginary drawing, acrylic painting on canvas, printmaking and ceramic sculpture. You will have opportunities to express your creativity and explore a variety of techniques that are more advanced than Art 1A. Projects may include two dimensional techniques in pastel drawing, building large clay boxes, realistic pencil drawing and block relief printing. You may repeat Art 1B if you wish and tackle more ambitious work suited to your advancing skills and experience. This class, ideally is taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1A, Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D emphasis) and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D Emphasis)

Course Number 6230
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Art 1A*

CLAY! CLAY! CLAY! If you would like to learn more in this class, about clay construction, then this class is for you! You will create functional clay pieces, such as a vase or mug using hand building techniques, and you will also gain knowledge about clay for sculpture on a larger scale. You will learn about a variety of surface decoration techniques and you will discover exciting options for applying texture and color to your ceramic pieces. Increased emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship and the application of the elements and principals of art. Ideally taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1A, Art 1B and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Multimedia Art (Technology Emphasis)

Course Number 6356
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

In Multimedia Art students use digital technology to realize the truest potential for their art. Students work with computers, ipads, and projectors with a focus on programs such as Photoshop and Procreate. Students will complete lessons utilizing digital photography and digital painting, digital manipulation, wood transfers, stop motion and flash animation, clay installation, and multimedia sculpture. There is no prerequisite for this class.

COMPUTERS

Computer Applications

Course Number 6672
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Explore a variety of applications to make cool projects using online and computer applications such as Adobe Spark, getting more out of our Google Suite, Photoshop, and Digital stories with Adobe Premiere Pro. The challenges include changing the scene through image manipulation and photo editing, making infographics, diving into improved website design, designing iBooks, and new and enhancing ways to create videos. Share your projects through blogs.

Computer Creations

Course Number 6684
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Computer Creations is an exciting hands-on, project-based class for the student interested in cutting-edge technology. Students will use various apps and technology to create games, animations, create/animate/explore 3D environments and games, solve problems, design and print in 2D or 3D and more! Working individually or in groups, students will acquire 21st century skills in this self-paced class. No prior coding knowledge needed. Students may repeat this course in order to pursue more advanced projects.

Video Production

Course Number 6648
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Join us in Video Production and learn the basics of how to plan, film, and edit your own movies! Students will learn how to use video equipment, as well as a variety of techniques used in producing digital films. Working alone and in small teams, students share ideas through storyboards, then use cameras and tripods to set up and film a variety of shots. Students will import the footage on to the computer for editing, creating special effects and adding sound. Projects include tutorials, public service announcements, horror trailer re-cuts and more.

This course is a pre-requisite for Broadcast Media (Greene Screen).

Web Design 1A

Course Number 6670
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Interested in designing your own website? In this hand-on course, students will be able to develop their own websites using HTML coding, while also applying the elements of design. Their sites will be more creative, visually appealing, and user friendly. Previous knowledge of web design and coding is not required as we will move from the basics to more complex aspects of coding. Projects are all based on creating their own websites, and will involve different elements of code (creating tables, layout, color) We will also explore creating chatbots, art, and apps using Python. Our projects include such added features as embedding music, creating animations and movies, and more.

Web Design 1B

Course Number 6671
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: Web Design 1A

Done a lot of coding? This may be the option for you. This advanced Web Design course is designed for those students who wants to continue to extend their web design skills while working independently on projects of their own choosing. Students can continue to use HTML coding but there are opportunities to explore other coding options (for example: JavaScript, Python and CSS). Students are encouraged to include other applications in their web design such as animation (using Adobe Animate), original music (using Garageband), mobile apps, and graphics using Adobe Photoshop. This course encourages students to get creative.

DRAMA

Drama 1A

Course Number 6512
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

The beginning theatre course helps students to develop communication skills, self-confidence, and performing abilities. As a more extended introduction to Drama beyond the Wheel, projects include group and solo pantomines, improvisation, character study, short monologues, scene work, and a fully produced short play. Training in makeup techniques, costuming, properties, and stage management introduces the student to technical aspects of theatre. Very little rehearsal outside of class time is required. There will be at least one evening performance for students to present some of their work for family and friends.

Drama 1B

Course Number 6513
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Drama 1A*

Advanced Drama study is for highly motivated students who wish to continue developing their theatre skills. The course provides frequent opportunities for classroom performance, including mime, improvisation, short plays, Shakespeare, audition quality monologues, short student written and directed video, oral interpretation, storytelling, and scene work. Students receive training in directing, design, choreography and stage combat. Field Trips and guest speakers augment the classroom experience. Students will be expected to commit some after school time for rehearsals as needed, and will perform for the school community as well as for family and friends. The course changes each semester depending on enrollment and class experiences; Drama 1B may be repeated

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Skills for Living

Course Number 6589
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Skills for Living is a broad-based exploratory course utilizing fun, hands-on activities designed to cover the seven areas of Family and Consumer Science. Students will spend one quarter in the cooking lab, studying basic nutrition, working in small groups, learning kitchen and food safety, proper use of equipment, measuring, recipe reading, effective time management, table setting, entertaining and preparing delicious foods. Popular food labs may include Fruit Salsa & Cinnamon Chips, Chicken Taco Salad, Spaghetti Bolognese, Savory Pancakes, Pumpkin Scones, Cream Puffs and depending on the semester holiday themed appetizers and treats. Other units of study include constructing an easy to intermediate level machine sewn project, learning to do your laundry, child development basics, babysitting, and other ways to earn money, self-care & personal hygiene, manners & etiquette and basic elements of personal finance in a fun, interactive format.

Both Spring and Fall semester will offer different topics in a one-year cycle. This course has no prerequisites or homework requirements and fulfills the prerequisite for Regional & World Foods.

Foods and Nutrition

Course Number 6617
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

In this semester class, students will learn to work cooperatively in small groups to prepare popular and delicious recipes for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Some popular food labs include Greene's Top Chef challenge, Pico de Gallo and Cheesy Quesadillas, French Crepes, Apple Pie and Vanilla Ice Cream, Ultimate Macaroni and Cheese, Artisan Pizza, Goopy Cinnamon Rolls, Irresistible Pot Stickers, Homemade Farfalle Pasta and Marinara Sauce, special holiday treats and so much more!

They will learn hands-on cooking fundamentals, such as planning and following recipes, effective time management, safe and sanitary food preparation practices, proper use and care of kitchen equipment, including knife skills and the function of ingredients. Students will increase their understanding of healthy nutrition and a balanced diet. Each semester will cover related topics but may feature different variations on recipes and projects.

This course has no prerequisites or homework requirements and Fulfills the prerequisites for Regional & World Foods.

Regional and World Foods

Course Number 6609
7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Foods & Nutrition or Skills for Living*

This popular fast paced gourmet foods course is for students who have mastered the basics and want to refine their cooking skills. The first quarter will focus on “A taste of America” where students will go on a food related “journey” studying foods, culture and preparing regional American recipes. The following quarter will be spent exploring international culture, cuisine, and preparing selected recipes of the world. Lessons on Herb & Spice experimentation and the effects of food additives and preservatives are taught. Examples of past cooking labs are Spanikopita, Homemade Siracha Sauce, California Rolls, Chowder, various types of pizza, Empanadas, Bolani, Crab Cakes, Ban Mi, Philly Cheesesteak, Nachos and Butter Chicken. Popular cooking competitions, such as Cupcake Wars, the Sweet & Savory Crepe Contest and the Amazing Food Truck Race are fun creative ways to collaborate together in small kitchen groups to create delicious entrees judged by Greene staff or parents. An international luncheon may be planned, prepared, and served to selected staff members and students.

Creative Sewing

Course Number 6610
7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will master basic skills of controlling and operating the sewing machine while making and designing fiber arts. They will learn to make informed decisions with the purchase and use of patterns, fabrics, and notions, culminating in a field trip to a fabric store. Students will work individually on projects, which may include sewing cool accessories, fun crafts, gift items and creative clothing. Project selection will be individualized to meet students’ needs, abilities, and experience levels with a special emphasis on creative embellishment, customization whenever possible. Units on textile types, apparel quality, costumes, refashioning, fast fashion, machine quilting, embroidery, interior design will be explored – all with an emphasis on effective time management skills.

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Industrial Technology 1A

Course Number 6625
7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Industrial Technology is an exciting and fun project-based class where students design and build works of art out of wood. Through hands-on experiences, students will design and build projects using hand tools and many other power tools such as the bandsaw, drill presses, lathes and a router table. Students will design and draw their projects to scale by hand. Students will also use CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) to draw their projects. Students will build a custom pine table and a hardwood pen/mechanical pencil on the lathe.

Industrial Technology 1B

Course Number 6626
7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Industrial Technology 1A*

Industrial Technology 1B is a very exciting and fun project-based class where students design and build more complex projects out of wood. Through hands-on experiences, students will expand their skills in CAD and with woodworking hand and power tools. This course introduces students to a variety of skills which can lead to related jobs and academic pursuits. Students will design and build a pine folding chair and a mechanical pencil on the lathe

Beginning Architectural Drawing

Course Number 6618

Course Number 6626

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

In this course students will learn about basic residential home design and architectural engineering. Exposure to traditional as well as newer forms of design drafting will be taught. Student projects will include a scale model cabin and bridge. The cabin will be a scaled 384 square ft. structure containing at least three rooms. The bridge will be a scaled model built with wood and tested for strength using a turn force load.

UNIQUE OFFERINGS – SEMESTER ELECTIVES

Broadcast Media

Course Number 6649

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Video Production or equivalent experience and approved application*

Students in this class will learn to produce a live broadcast of the morning announcements. In our own studio, students will use journalism and video production skills to create news and educational programming including preproduction (planning and preparation of logos, jingles, public service announcements, and special reports) and production (a variety of jobs both in the studio and control room). Announcements and special segments are broadcast from Greene Screen studio to the school. This is a collaborative, project-based, and technology-oriented real-world learning experience.

Creative Writing

Course Number 6540

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will keep a journal of unique writing exercises that encourages both an enjoyment of writing as well as practice in various writing skills, such as point of view, characterization, sensory detail, free association, effective dialogue, creating suspense and much more. In addition to daily writing, students will learn to read as writers, studying technique and craft by great writers. All students receive personalized feedback which addresses the efficacy of the writing. The atmosphere is a fun, safe community of writers, who honor each other's attempt to capture their world in words. Three main genres of creative writing – creative non-fiction, short fiction, and poetry – will be deeply explored, culminating in a portfolio of at least four fully developed, finished pieces: one from each genre and one of free choice.

Current Events

Course Number 6064

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Do you like discussing, debating, and thinking about current events? This elective course focuses on world, national, and local issues that impact our everyday lives. In the course, students will read and analyze primary source materials and opinion pieces. In order to better understand the world around them, participate in group projects, discussions and debates, and create their own pieces of media. Through the lens of current events, students will learn the skills to critically analyze news sources and understand how cultural, national, religious, and political experiences affect personal beliefs. Students will learn how to have respectful, civil discourse about controversial issues and opposing viewpoints.

Design and Technology Studio (FUSE)

Course Number 6765

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

This is an exciting hands-on project-based elective. Students will work in groups or as individuals to complete projects in multiple challenge areas. These challenge areas include roller coaster design, graphic design, electronics, 3-D printing, biotechnology, Android app development, robotics and more. Each challenge area has multiple levels of projects that allow students to dive deeply into a focus area or to dabble in different challenges. Projects include hands-on use of materials such as circuitry

components, wind turbine, or Sparki robots. Others incorporate a rich set of digital media tools for mixing music, designing and printing in 3-D, creating mobile games or creating custom stickers. This is a STEAM-based course that combines activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Design, and Math.

Forensics

Course Number 3953
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Are you interested in learning about how crimes are solved? Explore the connections between the real world, science, and technology while learning about the field of forensics. This is a hands on course and students will be active participants in labs, activities, mysteries, and presentations. Some of the topics include eyewitness identification, blood spatter patterns, fingerprinting, trace evidence, bike mark evidence with candy, chromatography, and handwriting analysis. Students gain insight into the workings of the legal system as they examine cases and outcomes. Students will be in charge of creating their own mystery, that the rest of the class will be participants in. By the end of the course, students will be crime solving masters!

Leadership

Course Number 6635
8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval*

The Leadership class is designed to create a community of student leaders who organize, craft, and lead student activities at Greene. Students seek to create enjoyable and meaningful activities that enhance the community environment on campus and contribute to student growth. Students will be expected to spend time beyond the class period and outside the school day to perform these tasks. Additionally, students are expected to maintain adequate grades in all their classes and to demonstrate behavior commensurate with a leader. Curricular activities for the leadership classes may include: planning setting up for dances, planning and hosting noontime activities, helping at BTSN, helping during Open House, leading fifth grade tours, planning and putting on Spirit Assemblies, 6Th grade movie night, running the ball shed, music days and spirit week.

Leadership students will learn to concurrently manage multiple projects with varied amounts of lead time. Practice with organization, initiative, and problem-solving skills and the ability to work as a team will be crucial components of the course. Special emphasis will be placed on developing students' leadership skills and service learning. Students will participate in at least one community service project per semester.

Money Matters

Course Number 6400
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Students will learn about Needs versus Wants, Psychology of Money, Saving Money, Interest, Budgeting, and Investing. Students will complete interactive projects involving currency, advertising/marketing, credit and debit, purchasing a car, taxes, scams, insurance, college, career, and an entrepreneur unit depending on semester offered. Students will play the minimum wage game, participate in a bank simulation and semester long student store, take part in a state-wide stock market competition, complete comparison-shopping activities and other finance-related projects. Most assignments will be tracked and managed via spreadsheets and will be completed during class.

School Service

Course Number 6636
8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval*

Students in School Service work in school offices, in the library, or serve as department or teacher assistants. School Service students must be reliable and able to work with a minimum of supervision.

Library School Service students learn library circulation, shelving, and filing. They also learn customer service, computer, and business machine skills.