



RISDON MIDDLE SCHOOL 2021-2022

8th GRADE Elective sheet



NAME _____
(Print) Last name First name Middle initial

Please choose carefully, as we build the schedule based on student requests. We do our very best to honor requests, but it is not guaranteed that students will get every elective they desire. Forms are due back to registrar Sharon Jones by March 31st, 2021 or earlier. You may email her at: sharon.jones@rentonschools.us.

NOTE: If your reading or math scores are below standard, you may be placed in an intervention class for one or the other areas of focus, which would replace an elective class. The scheduling process is not final until after the start of the school year in the fall. Yearlong classes are in bold below. Classes with an asterisk (*) require a fee for materials. If you would like to take an honors course please mark an X on the class you would like. Descriptions are on the next page.

Label the following with 1 – 10, with 1 being your top choice.

- _____ ***BAND (\$10/YR)**
- _____ ***ORCHESTRA (\$10/YR)**
- _____ ***CHOIR (\$10/YR)**
- _____ ***JAZZ BAND (\$10/YR)**
- _____ **ALGEBRA – High School credit option, does not replace Math 8**
- _____ *** LEADERSHIP (must have taken Intro to Leadership) (ASB card req \$25)**
- _____ *** PUBLICATIONS (\$20) Application Required. Link in descriptions.**
- _____ *** YEARBOOK (\$20) Application Required. Link in descriptions.**
- _____ **SPANISH – High School credit option**
- _____ ***ART I (\$20)**
- _____ ***ART II (\$20)– Must take Art I prior to this course.**
- _____ ***ART III (\$20) – Must take Art I prior to this course.**
- _____ ***DRAMA I (\$5)**
- _____ ***DRAMA II (\$5)– Must take Drama I prior to this course.**
- _____ ***DRAMA III (\$5) – Must take Drama I prior to this course.**
- _____ ***DRAMA PRODUCTION (\$5)**
- _____ **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE A**
- _____ **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE B**
- _____ **FOOD AND NUTRITION**
- _____ **INTRO TO LEADERSHIP**
- _____ **STUDENT ASSISTANT: Application must be completed and returned to Main Office.**
- _____ **EXPLORE, DESIGN, CREATE: Connect Two Cities**
- _____ **EXPLORE, DESIGN, CREATE: Media Lab**
- _____ **EXPLORE, DESIGN, CREATE: Flight**
- _____ **WORLD EVENTS & ISSUES**
- _____ **HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS**
- _____ **HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES**
- _____ **HONORS SCIENCE**

8th GRADE BAND: This class is open to students with two years of playing experience in a concert band. Students will perform in concerts and take part in daytime field trips. Students will be expected to provide their own instruments, except larger, less common instruments.

8th GRADE ORCHESTRA: At least two years of experience on a string instrument are required. The class will focus on advanced techniques, such as vibrato, shifting, and performance elements. Students perform varying pieces and have many performance opportunities at assemblies, evening concerts, Solo/Ensemble Festival, and Large Group Festival. Students should provide their own instruments or rentals are available to those with a financial need. Orchestra is a year-long elective

CHOIR: The choir will perform a balance of classical, folk, and popular music. Most of the music selected will be in three-part harmony. Students in the choir will participate in school concerts, district concerts, league contests, and festivals. An emphasis will be placed on building proper vocal, performance, and music theory skills in order to prepare students for high school and other advanced choral ensembles.

JAZZ BAND: At least one year of band experience is required. Students will learn jazz technique as they explore and perform a variety of arrangements, from swing music to big band hits. Improvisation will also be a focus as students work to deepen their musical fundamentals. Students are expected to provide their own instruments, except for larger, less common instruments; and students will perform in concerts and events.

ALGEBRA: Students will extend their understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other. You will have the option to receive high school credit if you pass this class. This class is a yearlong math class and must be taken in place of an elective. It does not replace your 8th grade math class.

LEADERSHIP: This course focuses on building interpersonal relationships in the school and community through project-based learning. Students learn the Eight Keys of Excellence, the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, and a variety of leadership, relationship, and team-building skills, while participating in planning, organizing, and implementing school and community projects.

PUBLICATIONS: As a Publications staff member, you will have the privilege of helping to produce our school's monthly magazine (The Howler). You will work with your peers to plan, draft, create, and distribute work throughout the year. We won't lie to you, Publications is a ton of work and there are frequent deadlines, but if you're willing to learn new things like using Adobe programs, working a camera, being bold and courageous to complete interviews, and create connections with those in your school community, then we want you on our team! The first step to joining the Publications staff is to complete the required application.

YEARBOOK: As a Yearbook staff member, you will have the privilege of helping to create our school's yearbook (The Apex). You will work with your peers to plan, draft, create, and distribute work throughout the year. There are stringent deadlines, so we're looking for students who don't shy away from meeting their commitments. You'll learn to use Adobe programs, work a camera, be bold and courageous to complete profiles and interviews, and create connections with those in your school community. The first step to joining the Yearbook staff is to complete the required application.

SPANISH: "Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things but learning another way to think about things" (F. Lewis). Spanish is a world language course for high school credit, with high expectations. The course empowers students to explore Spanish language and cultures, use strategies to interpret meaning to increase comprehension and observe patterns, and broaden communicative abilities. Skill development includes input through reading/listening, as well as output through writing/speaking in Spanish. This course helps students develop enjoyment, engagement, and confidence with speaking and understanding Spanish in order to communicate at a foundational level.

ART I, II, or III: Students will explore a wide range of art media in these survey classes, including drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, ceramics, sculpture, 2D, and 3D. Students will study artists from many cultures and apply this knowledge as they create art. Students will have the opportunity to create personal, expressive artwork as they progress through the series of Art courses. Must complete Art I prior to Art II or III.

DRAMA I, II, or III: In these courses, we'll learn how to use our bodies, voices, minds, and stage technology to participate in theatre, both onstage and backstage! Through a variety of acting games, hands-on tech theatre projects, and scene performances, we'll develop our creativity, focus, teamwork, attention to detail, determination, and confidence. Our work together will culminate in a live performance for an invited audience of family and friends. Each student gets to choose whether they want to be an actor or backstage technician for the final performance!

DRAMA PRODUCTION: In this hands-on course, we'll learn how theatre artists and filmmakers use technology to create plays, movies, and TV shows! For our final project, we'll produce a festival of original short films created by you! Along the way, we'll learn about sound and lighting design for the stage, storyboarding and cinematography for film, scriptwriting, and video editing! Some skills you'll pick up along the way are teamwork, attention to detail, creativity, project management, and how to see with a director's eye.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE A or B: In this STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) class, students will have the opportunity to learn real-world skills that will incorporate college and career preparation. Students will discover the importance of nutrition, become a part of the world of finance, learn to set and reflect on goals, construct pillows with principals of design, and acquire knowledge and practice in kitchen fundamentals.

FOOD & NUTRITION: This course allows students to discover and explore the foundations of good health through food and cooking. Students will focus on the role of foods in good nutrition and overall health across the life span. Subjects include food safety, components of a healthy diet, nutritional habits, etc. STEM will be incorporated throughout the course to give students the opportunity to apply content knowledge to real world situations.

INTRO TO LEADERSHIP: This course focuses on building interpersonal relationships in the school and community through project-based learning. Students learn group processes, managerial skills, communication skills, self-reflection skills, and human relations skills while participating in planning, organizing, and implementing school and community projects.

STUDENT ASSISTANT: Students may request to assist a teacher or serve in the library or Main Office. Parent and teacher/staff permission are required.

EXPLORE, DESIGN CREATE - CONNECT TWO CITIES: Enjoy making things with your hands? This section will use the design process to Explore Design and Create with through hands on bridge building, catapult creation and building and programming Autonomous robot cars as we attempt to connect two cities. Offered Tri 1.

EXPLORE, DESIGN CREATE - MEDIA LAB: Want to be a digital media star? This section will Explore Design and Create digital content. Including computer programming with Scratch and Python, App Inventor for cell phones, Adobe Draw for Digital Art creations and WeVideo for media content and video editing. Offered Tri 2.

EXPLORE, DESIGN CREATE - FLIGHT: Wonder how things fly? This section will use the design process to Explore Design and Create objects that fly. Offered Tri 3.

WORLD EVENTS & ISSUES: This course examines past and present Social Studies topics from a global perspective in order to enrich students' awareness of world issues related to cultural competency and to increase students' skills in reading, writing, and communication.

HONORS COURSES: See additional info sheet.