

Akimel A-al Middle School

6th Grade Elective Interest Sheet 2024-25 School Year

Student First Name: _____ Student Last Name: _____

Grade: _____ Kyrene Student ID #: _____

Elementary School: _____ 5th Grade teacher: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

The elective interest sheet must be completed prior to entering information online. The online interest form will be completed at school in November. After the online interest form is complete, your teacher will collect the paper copy of the elective interest sheet.

Each sixth grade student will be scheduled in four core courses (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) based upon data and need. Preliminary placement guidance for core courses is attached. Students who are new to the Kyrene School District are given placement tests upon registration or placed based upon prior school records.

Students also have two elective class periods. Students may have 2 one year-long elective classes, 1 one year-long and 2 semester-long elective classes, or 4 semester-long elective classes.

This paper version of the form along with course descriptions will support families in expressing their elective interests. The form will be kept on file by the middle schools.

Priority is given for placement in year-long elective offerings. Rankings of semester-long elective options is an indication of a student's interests. Every effort will be made to honor the interests, however due to class size and teacher availability there can be no guarantee that every course will be offered or that the student will be placed in their classes of interest.

Primary Course Interest Options

Complete ONLY ONE box depending upon the length of your primary courses of interest.

Students who wish to take a semester course for a full year may write that course for two of their semester course options (not guaranteed).

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|---|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 2 one year long courses Year-long course _____ Year-long course _____ _____ | OR | 1 one year long and 2 semester long courses Year-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ | OR | 4 semester-long courses Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ Semester-long course _____ |
|---|-----------|--|-----------|--|

Alternate Course Interest Options

List your alternate course interests in the space below. Alternates must be completed and will be used in the event that a course interest cannot be fulfilled. These alternates must be DIFFERENT from the courses listed above.

Alternate Course 1 _____
Alternate Course 2 _____
Alternate Course 3 _____
Alternate Course 4 _____

For Band and Orchestra
Instrument: _____ Years: _____

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – YEAR-LONG COURSES**BAND**

Band is designed for students interested in learning the fundamentals of music and to play a band instrument: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. This course addresses basic instrumental skills, reading music, and elements of music in an ensemble setting. Students are required to practice regularly and participate in concerts through the school year. No prior knowledge or experience is required. Students will need to rent or purchase an instrument from an outside vendor, with some exceptions. Prerequisites: none

CHORUS

Chorus is an entry-level course for students interested in learning how to sing. Basic fundamentals of music including sight-reading and vocabulary are introduced. Students sing music written in two parts and will learn elements of music theory and solfege. Students will focus on the technical aspects of singing in a choir and explore a variety of genres and cultures. Students are required to perform in concerts throughout the year. Prerequisites: none

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SEMESTER COURSES**ART**

In Art, students explore various art forms from many cultures and periods. The focus is on art making with art history and analysis integrated into each unit. Students gain foundational knowledge of art vocabulary, techniques, history and art criticism. Students use a variety of media and create a variety of art forms including drawing, painting, and sculpture. Prerequisites: none

AVID ELECTIVE 6

AVID Elective 6 is a semester elective course designed to prepare self-determined students for the middle school transition in addition to college and career. AVID incorporates school-wide instructional strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading to support academic growth of all students. The 6th grade AVID Elective course builds students' study skills, such as note-taking, organizational skills, and goal-setting strategies and also targets building self-confidence and self-efficacy skills. Students focus on public speaking and presentation skills and engage in teambuilding activities. Students also experience different field trips, guest speakers and research to increase their knowledge of college and career options. Prerequisites: none

CULINARY ARTS

In Culinary Arts, students gain knowledge and apply principles of nutrition in relationship to wellness, food choices, food preparation, food storage, meal planning, and meal management. As an integral part of the course, students will participate in food laboratory where they will learn how to prepare various cooking techniques essential to prepare various dishes. Prerequisites: none

MULTIMEDIA DIGITAL ARTS

In Multimedia/Digital Arts, students explore and learn about production techniques that support the creation of graphic arts, web design, digital photography, animation, audio recording/mixing, and videography. A wide range of the latest hardware and software are utilized, including the Adobe Creative Cloud collection. Students collaborate in a project-based environment to develop understanding of the media used and creative techniques for future applications. Prerequisites: none

MUSIC EXPLORATION

Music Exploration is a non-performance music class. Students will study world music, Western music and composers, and basic instrumentation (i.e. keyboards, percussion, and/or handbells). Students will have hands on experience with instruments, read music notation, and perform in class as an ensemble and individual. Prerequisites: none

PHOTOGRAPHY

In Photography, students will be introduced to photography as an art medium in this class. The focus will be on the technical use of cameras and printing as well as the history of photography and how it has been used as an art medium. After mastering the technical skills, students will learn compositional and lighting techniques to apply in their own artwork. Most equipment will be provided. Prerequisites: none

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – SEMESTER COURSES (CONTINUED)**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is an introduction to physical fitness, physical skill development, and wellness concepts with an emphasis on preparation for a lifetime of physical activity. Students are required to dress out and a locker with a lock will be issued. Information on PE uniforms is available at the beginning of the year through the physical education teachers and school office.

Prerequisites: none

PHYSICAL EDUCATION YOGA

Physical Education Yoga is an introduction class for students to understand the purpose of a healthy body and mind to improve one's quality of life and a basic understanding of the foundations of yoga. This course is geared to increase and improve flexibility, muscle strength, respiration, cardio and circulatory health. Students are required to dress out in appropriate, comfortable clothing such as fitted shorts, leggings, yoga pants, etc. A positive attitude is a must, and mindfulness is a daily focus.

Prerequisites: none

PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE

The purpose of the middle school agricultural education program is to explore and stimulate interest in agricultural science through prescribed classroom and laboratory experiences. Through well-planned instructional activities, students have the opportunity to develop an understanding related to plant and animal life. This includes biotechnology, the conservation of natural resources, and the impact of agriculture and natural resource utilization on the environment. Basic personal and community leadership and safety, and agricultural technology are included as a part of the instructional program. Typical learning activities involve hands-on learning experiences including performing basic principles of plant, soil, and animal science; studying and modeling the significance of humankind's interrelationship with soil, water and air. Daily work in our school garden and with our school chickens will be an integral part of this class.

Prerequisites: none

SPANISH EXPLORATION

Spanish Exploration is a course that introduces students to the Spanish language and culture. Students start developing interpersonal listening and speaking skills at the Novice Low proficiency level by exploring the benefits of learning a second language and exploring topics such as greetings, family, friends, school and celebrations. In addition, students explore the culture of Spanish speaking countries.

Prerequisites: none

STEM

The STEM course inspires student interest and passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) career paths. Students foster creativity, engage in critical thinking, and collaborate in a project-based environment. Students utilize the engineering design process to identify the effectiveness, efficiency, and durability of designs under different conditions through hands-on and technology-rich activities.

Prerequisites: none

THEATRE

In Theatre, students experience the beginning foundations of acting technique including exercises and improvisations exploring awareness, relaxation, observation, pantomime, voice, and theatrical vocabulary. A focus on becoming comfortable on stage, character work, and collaboration is emphasized. Students are involved in performances as an application of learning. Students also learn audience etiquette and constructive criticism.

Prerequisites: none

THEATRE CREW

Students will learn various aspects of stagecraft and theatrical production in a hands-on project-based environment. Topics include Theatrical Terms and Roles, Set Design & Construction, Lighting Design & Programming, Sound Design, Makeup Design & Application, and Production Management. Students are involved in full production design as learning application.

Prerequisites: none