

**PLEASANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**8TH GRADE COURSE SELECTION FORM 2024-2025**

**Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ID#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED COURSES:** Students are automatically scheduled for these classes. (No action needed)

<b>Language Arts (Year-long)</b>			<b>Math (Year-long)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	371011	Language Arts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	381190	Math 8
			<input type="checkbox"/>	381120	<i>Algebra (by teacher approval)</i>
<b>History (Year-Long)</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	381045	<i>Honors Geometry (by teacher approval)</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	441014	US History 8			
<b>Science (Year-Long)</b>			<b>Physical Education (Year-long)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	431018	8th Gr Science	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	405008	PE8 A (Semester 1)
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	405009	PE8 B (Semester 2)

**ELECTIVE COURSES:** Prioritize selections using a 1-10 scale, with 1 being your first choice.

*Choose electives that add up to one of the following combinations: 2 year-long courses - OR - 1 year-long plus 2 semester courses - OR - 4 semester courses. Also select two or more alternate semester electives in case your first choices are not available. If you do not make alternate selections you may be assigned any available elective.*

<b>Year-Long Electives:</b>			<b>Semester Electives:</b>		
<b>World Languages (Grade C+ or higher in Language Arts 7 required)</b>			<b>Career and Technical Education</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	491060	<b>Spanish Language Immersion (DI)</b> <i>(must be currently enrolled in Dual Immersion)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	311045	<b>Digital Art</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	341016	<b>Spanish 1B (8th Grade)</b> <i>(Prerequisite: Spanish 1A)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	321006	<b>Medical Science and Applications</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	341035	<b>French 1B (8th Grade)</b> <i>(Prerequisite: French 1A)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	321007	<b>Computer Science Essentials</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	341015	<b>Spanish 1A (pending space available)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	361009	<b>Culinary Principles</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	341030	<b>French 1A (pending space available)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	361010	<b>Sewing &amp; Personal Design</b>
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	451008	<b>Engineering Design &amp; Robotics</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	391004	<b>Symphonic Band</b>	<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	391009	<b>Chorus</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	311008	<b>Art A</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	391080	<b>Strings II (or String Orchestra by teacher invitation)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	311009	<b>Art B</b>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	311010	<b>Ceramics</b>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	371022	<b>Speech &amp; Drama</b>
<b>Application Classes</b>					
Separate application (available in the Counseling Office) required! <b>Placement in these classes is not guaranteed.</b> Be sure to make selections above as a backup. If you are selected for the application class, that will take priority over your choices above. Return applications to the Counseling Office by Feb. 23, 2024.					
<input type="checkbox"/>	371023	<b>Yearbook (year-long)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	421001	<b>Teacher Assistant (TA) (semester only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	441020	<b>Leadership (year-long)</b>			

If you have an IEP, please contact your case manager to choose your courses.

## Eighth Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Year-long Electives

<b>Spanish 1B</b>	Spanish 1B is a continuation of Spanish 1A. <b>A grade of C+ or higher in Spanish 1A is required to enroll in this class.</b>
<b>French 1B</b>	French 1B is a continuation of French 1A. <b>A grade of C+ or higher in French 1A is required to enroll in this class.</b>
<b>Spanish Language Immersion 8</b>	This elective course is a continuation of Spanish Language Arts Immersion 7. <b>A grade of C+ or higher in Spanish Language Arts Immersion 7 is required to enroll in this class.</b>
<b>Symphonic Band</b>	This class is designed for musicians who have had three to four years of playing experience. <b>Completion of Concert Band or audition is required.</b>
<b>Jazz Band</b>	All musicians must demonstrate advanced skills and participation is determined by audition. This is a competitive band and participation in performances is part of the student's grade. Meets B period, after school. <b>AUDITION ONLY</b>
<b>Strings II /String Orchestra</b>	Students must have a minimum of one year prior experience and must demonstrate a basic understanding of music notation and instrumental technique. There is a performance requirement in this class. <b>String Orchestra is by invitation of teacher only.</b>
<b>Chorus</b>	Chorus is designed to teach students vocal techniques, basic note reading, and choral singing. There is a performance requirement in this class.
<b>Journalism</b>	This class teaches students basic journalism skills such as editing, writing news stories, editorials, and photography, as well as video filming and production.

### Semester Electives

<b>Art A</b>	Students explore several art styles and use a variety of art materials and mediums. Students are encouraged to expand their creativity through drawing, painting, and graphic design. They will further develop their technical knowledge and production skills by developing two-dimensional artworks.
<b>Art B</b>	Students explore several art movements and use a variety of art materials and mediums. Students will expand their creative abilities using construction and modeling techniques. They will further develop their technical knowledge and production skills by developing three-dimensional artworks.
<b>Ceramics</b>	Students explore and learn about the historical background, aesthetic traditions, and artistic properties of ceramics through a variety of studio experiences. Emphasis will be placed on the design elements; line, shape, texture, and color. Functional as well as sculptural applications will be explored. Student will acquire knowledge of form, volume, and space relationships by construction of hand-built and wheel-thrown forms of clay.
<b>Computer Science Essentials</b>	This course will engage students in a variety of aspects including, but not limited to, the use of computers, Internet, programs and applications based on the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and Career Technical Education (CTE) Standards. Students will learn computer basics using communication and creativity through a variety of lessons, projects and activities designed to promote learning in the 21st Century.
<b>Culinary Skills</b>	This course will teach students food and kitchen safety and sanitation, basic cooking and baking skills, as well as introducing students to new foods and techniques. Students will be encouraged to develop leadership skills, and express their creativity through hands-on labs. This course articulates with the Culinary Skills and Baking and Pastry in the high school.
<b>Engineering Design and Robotics</b>	Students will participate in a project-based curriculum that introduces various disciplines and concepts of engineering, technology and robotics. The core unit introduces engineering and technology and explores the social, cultural, economic, political and environmental consequences of inventions and innovations.
<b>Medical Science and Applications</b>	In this course, students will be referred to as medical interns and given the opportunity to solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs that include learning about: the use of antibiotics to treat bacterial infections, the nervous system and the function of the brain to coordinate body functions, and investigate a disease outbreak and explore how a breakdown with the human body can lead to dysfunction. Students will also dissect a sheep's brain to discover evidence to diagnose a patient with neurological symptoms.
<b>Sewing and Personal Design</b>	This course will teach students about personal design and fashion, as well as interior design. Students will learn how to operate a sewing machine and design, sew, and re-style clothing; apply the elements and principles of design in various aspects of the fashion industry and show their learning by designing their own personal interior space; understand the relationship between history and fashion; know the general characteristics, production, and maintenance of textiles and textile products; study and analyze fashion trends.
<b>Speech &amp; Drama</b>	This class helps students increase their self esteem, gain composure, and express creativity in front of a group through theater games, practical speech experiences, and performances. After exploring oral interpretation, pantomime, and improvisation, students learn stage techniques and participate in the production of selected plays. The semester grade includes participation in an end of term production that requires the students to be out of their regular classes and also to perform in the evening, after regular school hours.

### Application Only Electives (Requires a separate application available in the counseling office or on our website.)

<b>Leadership (year-long)</b>	Leadership is for the highly motivated student who has a real desire to become involved in student activities, student government, and school/community service. Selection is based on a combination of written application, teacher recommendation, and a possible oral interview. <b>APPLICATION ONLY</b>
<b>Yearbook (year-long)</b>	Yearbook is for responsible students who want to design, create, sell, and distribute our award winning yearbook, Panther Tracks. A recommendation from the 7th grade language arts teacher and completed application are required. <b>APPLICATION ONLY</b>
<b>TA (semester only)</b>	Teacher's Assistant (TA) program provides students with the opportunity to work as an assistant to a teacher, the library staff, the office staff, or with an elementary school teacher at Hearst. Students must fill out a separate application and be approved for this program. Students may only TA for one semester of their 8th grade. Grading for Teacher's Assistant is Pass/No Pass and is not included in GPA. <b>APPLICATION ONLY</b>

**Full course descriptions are available in the Middle School Course Catalogue located in the Counseling Office.**