

# Mesa View Middle School Course Descriptions

## 2023-24 School Year

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

*Mesa View Middle School's elective program is composed of semester-long and year-long classes. Every effort is made to honor individual student's requests for elective classes; however, scheduling conflicts, staffing, and/or limited enrollment may make it necessary to modify requests. For electives requiring an application, completion of an application is not a guarantee of placement. For any elective, if the number of applications exceeds the class size, a lottery system will be implemented. For placement, Mesa View administration will look at individual elective rankings if the class size has reached its capacity.*

## **YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES**

### **LEADERSHIP**

#### **ASB (Year)**

Associated Student Body is a one-year elective course designed for students who want to get involved in the planning and implementation of Mesa View's activities and are seeking to enrich both school and community. Students enrolled in this leadership class will represent the Student Body, as well as plan all school spirit activities. In the process, we seek to promote citizenship, scholarship, leadership, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration. While organizing and promoting various events is the main focus of ASB, students will work to help support and promote positivity on campus and in the community.

**Selection Criteria: 3.00 GPA Recommended and all O's or S's in citizenship for the 2022-23 school year, with no behavior incidents.**

**Application must be submitted. (Mrs. Roberts) Google classroom code: [5ycfxqq](#)**  
Display

#### **WEB - Where Everybody Belongs (Year)**

This course is designed to train students in supporting their peers, creating a smooth transition from elementary to middle school, and building a climate of kindness and goodwill on the Mesa View campus. Through a series of lectures, guided interaction, and group exercises, students will explore the principles of leadership and learn to develop individual and group leadership skills to impact their lives and their communities. Content areas include using personal strengths to become an effective leader, sympathy versus empathy, stress and time management, and strategies to implement change.

**Selection Criteria: 3.00 GPA Recommended and all O's or S's in citizenship for the 2022-23 school year, with no behavior incidents.**

**Application must be submitted. (Mrs. Croal) Google classroom code: [er4az4s](#)**

### **PERFORMING ARTS**

#### **Band, Beginning (Year)**

An introductory course in how to play a band instrument. It is designed for students who have had little or no formal music instruction. Lessons are offered on flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. Correct playing position, characteristic tone quality, basic note reading, rhythmic value, appropriate vocabulary, and instrument care are stressed. This group performs at school concerts.

**Selection Criteria: Based on interest and a passion for learning a musical instrument. (Mr. Nicolosi)**

### **Band, Intermediate/Advanced (Year)**

This course is designed for the advanced band student who wishes to continue musical growth with a focus on ensemble performance. The instrumentalist continues to build principles of musicianship, harmonic and rhythmic fundamentals, appropriate vocabulary, and ensemble skills through appropriate music literature. This group performs at district music festivals, school and community concerts, and other approved performances.

*Selection Criteria:* **At least one full year of playing experience with a performing group required. Teacher approval required. (Mr. Nicolosi)**

### **Strings, Beginning (Year)**

An introductory course in how to play a string instrument. It is designed for students who have had little or no formal music instruction. Lessons are offered on violin, viola, cello, and bass. Correct playing position, characteristic tone quality, basic note reading, rhythmic value, appropriate vocabulary, and instrument care are stressed. This group performs at school concerts.

*Selection Criteria:* **Based on interest and a passion for learning a musical instrument. (Mr. Nicolosi)**

### **Strings, Intermediate/Advanced (Year)**

In this Intermediate/Advanced class, the instrumentalist continues to build principles of musicianship, harmonic and rhythmic fundamentals, appropriate vocabulary, and ensemble skills through appropriate music literature. This group performs at district music festivals, school and community concerts, and other approved performances.

*Selection Criteria:* **At least one full year of playing experience with a performing group required. Students that were in Band or Choir may start in this class instead of Beginning Strings. Teacher approval required. (Mr. Nicolosi)**

### **Choir (Year)**

Through enrollment in Choir, students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through music theory, part-singing, various choral techniques, balance, and blend. The group performs at district music festivals, school and community concerts, and other approved performances.

*Selection Criteria:* **Based on interest and a passion to sing. (Mr. Nicolosi)**

## **ADDITIONAL YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE CHOICES**

### **Industrial Tech/Woodshop (Year) (\*Please note the year long course is tentative)**

In this course, students develop an appreciation for the basics of woodworking using power machines, hand and power tools. Students will make numerous projects throughout the year in the shop beginning with basic projects and moving to more advanced and individualized projects as the year progresses. Students will learn how to turn wood on the lathe and will have the opportunity to make several projects on the lathe. Students also work a great deal with technology including 3D printing and creating a website and videos.

*Selection Criteria:* **Based on interest. Priority to 8th grade.**

### **Robotics (Year)**

This course provides an introduction to robotics using LEGO Spike Prime kits (no programming background required). Students will learn to construct, control and program robots through investigative activities and the engineering design process. In Robotics, students will create projects like the break dancing robot, have class competitions like Sumobot, and compete in board challenges like the Space Challenge. Students also work a great deal with technology including 3D printing. Teamwork and collaboration are a crucial component in this class.

*Selection Criteria:* **Based on interest. Priority to 8th grade.**

## Spanish 1 (Year)

¡Aprenda el español! Spanish 1 is a year-long elective offered to eighth graders. Students new to the language will become comfortable with speaking and writing simple sentences in Spanish. Class content is based off of the World Language Readiness Standards and covers vocabulary, word usages, and syntax. Students learn to express and understand likes and dislikes, greetings, introductions, and commonly used phrases. They also learn to make requests and share information. With the successful completion of the course, students have the opportunity to enter Spanish 2 as a high school freshman. *Selection Criteria:* **8th Grade Only. Recommended cumulative 3.50 GPA**

## Teacher/Office Aide (Year)

The teacher/office aide program is designed to offer students the experience of learning basic workplace and clerical skills as they assist in the completion of classroom or office operations. Tasks could include checking off papers, stapling, delivering messages, putting up bulletin boards, and much more. Participation is a privilege available to 7th and 8th graders. Students may not request teachers. Administration will assign accepted applications to teachers, or to the office.

*Selection Criteria:* **Application must be submitted (Ms. Moeller) by June 16. [APPLICATION LINK](#)**

## Library Aide (Year)

Help with the daily maintenance and operations of the school library. Under the direction of the School Library Specialist, student aides may help check in returned books, shelve books, straighten shelves, create signs and displays, dust, wipe tables, and take inventory. Student aides may also be asked to run errands on campus such as delivering books to classrooms. Aides may also help with weeding (removing outdated or damaged books) and processing new books.

*Selection Criteria:* **Application must be submitted (Mrs. Miller) by June 16. [APPLICATION LINK](#)**

## Publications and Yearbook (Year)

In Publications, students will learn about layout-design, and copy-writing. They will work on developing and designing the Yearbook as well as working on Publications and Journalism for Mesa. Activities in this class may include creating Mesa View news articles, helping with the Instagram account, and working on capturing all Mesa View activities in our Yearbook. **Some work will be required outside of class time and after school for dances, sports, etc.**

*Selection Criteria:* **8th grade Only. Cumulative 3.00 GPA, B/A in spring semester ELA, all O's or S's in citizenship/work habits, and excellent attendance.**

## ELECTIVE EXPLORATION

### (Semester-long Elective rotations)

The Elective Exploration gives students two elective experiences throughout the year. Classes **may** include:

- Theater Arts / Public Speaking
- Industrial Tech (Wood Shop)
- Environmental Science (Garden)
- Model United Nations (MUN)
- Visual Arts (Digital or Drawing and Painting)
- Conversational Spanish

*NOTE:* Elective offerings are subject to change pending staff credentialing and scheduling.

**Complete your choices by clicking on the links below by June 16th:**

**[7th Grade Elective Form](#)**

**[8th Grade Elective Form](#)**

**[7th/8th Grade Elective Video "Sneak Peak"](#)**