

# MRIS 6th Grade Elective Course Descriptions and Registration for 2024-25



Dear Parent or Guardian,

In sixth grade, your student will attend an **Encore Elective** class of their choice every other day for 60 minutes and an **E/I Elective** class of their choice every other day for 30 minutes. Elective classes rotate with Library, Technology, and PE which all sixth graders take. As we begin planning for the next school year, it is time to work with your student to choose his or her electives (one 60-minute Elective and one 30-minute E/I Elective). Please read the course descriptions with your child, and together choose electives for next year.

## MRIS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Encore Elective Course Descriptions (60 Minutes, Every Other Day)

### Band

Band students will focus on ensemble skills and beginning band literature while continuing individual musicianship. After having one school year of experience in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, some students can now branch out to other instruments such as oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, horn, baritone euphonium and tuba. Grades 1, and 2 music is played generally. If you did not take band in 5<sup>th</sup> grade but would like start now in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, we welcome you! **First-year** band students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade are **required** to register for the 30-minute E/I Elective Instrumental Enrichment which allows for everyday music instruction. First year beginning students choose an instrument with the band director's assistance of flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone or percussion. While a beginner will always take both the 60 minute Encore Band class AND the 30 minute Encore E/I Instrumental Enrichment class, all band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both classes for the advancement of our band program.

### Orchestra

Orchestra students expand and refine the skills developed in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. New skills involve the development of vibrato and shifting. If you did not take orchestra in 5<sup>th</sup> grade but would like start now, we welcome you! **First-year** orchestra students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade are **required** to register for the 30-minute Encore E/I Elective Instrumental Enrichment, which allows for everyday music instruction for our beginning musicians. Orchestra students that take orchestra everyday will be considered for Chamber Orchestra and participate in orchestra competitions

### Chorus/Drama

The MRIS Chorus/Drama program has a long-standing tradition of excellence! Next year, we will look forward to putting on a play (just acting, no singing), AND a musical (with singing). Some students will have the opportunity to work as a "techie" and help with behind the scenes play production such as lights, sound, stage managing, etc. Our production titles for next year are TBA- but in the past we have enjoyed presenting productions such as "Aladdin, Jr.", "Annie, Jr.", "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory", and more! We hope you can join us and make memories that will last a lifetime!

### Art

6<sup>th</sup> graders will be studying art through history and cultures. Art techniques will be learned while doing multi material projects.

### STEM

This course is called Design and Modeling. In this course, students use the engineering design method to design and build products to solve problems. Here are some of the products that students design and build: skimmers, puzzle cubes, bird houses, foot orthosis and therapeutic toys. Students also learn how to design and draw in three dimensions using Tinkercad. Students really enjoy 3D printing their Tinkercad designs. Design and Modeling is an interactive class that will challenge your imagination and building skills. Both girls and boys will enjoy this class!

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade E/I Elective Course Descriptions (30 Minutes, Every Other Day)

### **Instrumental Enrichment**

Band students choosing this class must also be registered for Band for their 60 minute Encore Elective class. **First-year band students are required to take this class.** This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for wind ensemble, junior band clinic, explore jazz, and commit to a higher skill level. While a beginner will always take both the 60 minute Encore Band class AND the 30-minute Instrumental Enrichment class, all band students are highly encouraged to enroll in both band classes as for the advancement of our band program.

Orchestra students choosing this class must also be registered for Orchestra for their 60 minute Encore Elective class. **First-year orchestra students are required to take this class.** This 30 minute E/I Elective is an opportunity to prepare for chamber orchestra, explore alternative styles (fiddle, jazz), and commit to a higher skill level.

### **Art - Project-based**

In this class we will be working with a variety of materials to expand your art knowledge. This class makes sugar skulls in clay, Chinese lanterns, Japanese windsocks, and watercolor landscapes as well as many other projects.

### **Creative Music**

Creative music students may choose from keyboard, ukulele, or guitar. We will learn how to play the basic chord structures in contemporary music such as pop, rock, folk, etc. Guitar and ukulele students learn how to read tablature, and keyboarding students play some “pop” piano and some traditional style. We hope you can join our class!

### **Leadworthy**

This goal of this course is to inspire, challenge, and encourage students to be leaders in the school and the community. Leadworthy students will develop critical skills such as personal responsibility, communication, and decision-making skills. Most students find this class very rewarding because of the many service opportunities. Opportunities to serve include greeting at the doors in the morning, tutoring, welcoming new students, and many more! Please note that students must be able to maintain appropriate behavior and demonstrate leadership skills in order to participate in service opportunities.

### ***Academic Success (Sped) and/or Intervention***

*Students who qualify for Academic Success and/or Intervention classes will be placed in one or both electives, depending on the level of intervention the student qualifies for.*

### ***Changing Electives***

*Elective choices may be changed during the first two weeks of the school year. After this time, we ask that students honor their elective choice.*

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Registration for the 2024-2025 School-Year

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Step 1: Choose Your Encore Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	ENCORE ELECTIVE CLASSES 60 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
	Band	
	Orchestra	
	Chorus/Drama	
	STEM	
	Art	

## Step 2: Choose Your Encore E/I Elective

In the event your 1st Choice may be full, please select both a 1st and 2nd Choice.

Check 1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	E/I Elective Class 30 Minutes, <i>every other day</i>	Check 2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
	Instrumental Enrichment is <b>required</b> for 1 <sup>st</sup> year Band/Orchestra students. Also, band students must have selected Band as their 60-minute Encore Elective and orchestra students must have selected Orchestra as their 60-minute Encore Elective.	
	Art: Project-Based	
	Creative Music	
	Leadworthy	

## Step 3:

To register your child's Elective Selection, please e-mail this page  
or the information on this page to DeRhonda Travis at

[derhonda.travis@maryville-schools.org](mailto:derhonda.travis@maryville-schools.org)

