

# Colony Middle School 7<sup>th</sup>-Grade Course Descriptions

## Acting & Theater (600020) – 2nd SM Only \*Not Repeatable\*

This is a two-part class spread over the semester. Part 1 is drama acting. Students will spend a large chunk of the class's 1st half working on improving their acting skills, developing character, understanding and analyzing scripts, and working relationships with other actors. There will be games, role-playing, and written character work that will be part of the class. Part 2 is the musical theater part of the class. Students will learn about the ins and outs of musical theater by working to create a complete scene from a show. Students will learn about auditioning and dealing with costumes, lights, audio, set design, actor blocking, stage timing, and many other aspects of working in theater. Students will be broken into small groups to create an entire scene from a show and present it to the class. They will have a "director" and "actors" with "stagehands" in their group. They will develop the blocking, light design, sound designs, and choreographing for the scene they are working on. Material is still being picked. We are even looking for students with art skills for making sets, working stage equipment, and many other aspects of theater.

## Advanced Band (709010 & 709020) – YR

The class works on developing skills on the student's instrument while learning about many aspects of music (notation reading, history, playing in different styles, etc...). The advanced band is for students who have already completed level 1 and level 2 playing material from the previous year(s).

## Advanced Choir (718010 & 718020) – YR

The class works on developing singing skills while learning about many aspects of music (notation reading, history, singing in different styles, etc.). Please note that this class is year-long.

## Art (617000) – SM

Students interested in the study of art will experiment with various materials and processes using many two- and three-dimensional art forms, such as drawing, painting, textile/fibers, printmaking, digital art and design, and ceramics. Emphasis is placed on learning and application of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students should expect appropriate reading, writing, and vocabulary and study art history and contemporary visual arts.

## Family Consumer Science & Technologies (647100) – SM

Rotates through several content areas: foods, finance, computers, and textiles (machine sewing). The kitchen unit covers correctly and safely using kitchen equipment to prepare introductory recipes from scratch while demonstrating correct food handling, sanitation, and kitchen terminology. Students will practice financial skills by completing a finance program (Banzai). Basic computer skills, coding, typing, building an app, and completing a unit on interior design using a 3D design program. The textile unit will focus on machine sewing basics; students will complete a final textile project of their choice that meets a set of requirements and a tutorial on making their project.

## Small Ensemble/Guitar (700010) – 1st SM Only.

This music class is for students who play guitar (electric or acoustic) or electric bass. The class will be divided by ability levels, and students will work in groups on pieces of music to perform. Students will be working on proper technique, learning to read traditional music notation and TAB notation (chord symbols), and working in a team setting. Performances will be in class and possibly for other courses in our school.

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## Leadership (611000) – SM

Leadership is a course in which students develop personal and professional business skills. They learn to build a healthy self-concept and healthy relationships and understand the concept of personal responsibility. They will develop an understanding of emotional intelligence and the skills it measures, including self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. Students will practice public speaking and communication skills and gain an understanding of their image. They will develop an understanding of principle-based decision-making and form their mission statement. Additionally, they will develop an understanding of the effects of peer pressure and skills to counteract those effects. This course will enable students to become better family members and citizens through everyday leadership.

## Orchestra (769010 & 769020) – YR

This class is for 6th to 8th-grade students interested in string instruments (Violin, Viola, and Cello) (Upright Bass is also possible but is expensive). The class works on developing skills on the student's instrument while learning about many aspects of music (notation reading, history, playing in different styles, etc...). Advanced players (with at least one full year of playing experience) will work on full literature at the start of the school year.

## Physical Education (571010 & 571020) – YR

Students interpret how rules affect and govern team, dual, and individual sports. They will analyze the benefits of lifetime activities and fitness. Cooperation and responsibility are integrated into competitive and recreational activities. Proper use and care of equipment are taught and practiced, as well as safety, rules, and procedures. The 6 National Physical Education Standards are implemented in the physical education program.

## Spanish 7 (871000) – SM

This course introduces Spanish, emphasizing spoken language, listening comprehension, and elementary reading and writing skills. Units introduce the culture of the target language. Student participation and good attendance are critical elements to completing this course successfully. This class is only one semester.

## STEM (957000) – SM

STEM focuses on learning engineering and design processes engineers and inventors use to improve and create new products. Students will create various hands-on projects using the tools available in class. They will receive instructions on correctly and safely using various power tools such as the bandsaw, scroll saw, drill press, and belt/disk sander. Students will be introduced to planning and design work using a 3D modeling program called Onshape. They will create various projects throughout the semester. These may include, but are not limited to, hovercrafts, trebuchets, electronics, CO2 cars, and more.