

STUDENT'S FIRST AND LAST NAME (print neatly):



LAKEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Course Descriptions & Elective Request Registration Form 2024-25

#### ELECTIVES

Students: Rank order the electives you are interested in taking **from 1 to 4**. Place a “1” by your first choice, a “2” by your second choice, “3” by your third choice, and “4” by your fourth choice.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Applied STEM (sem)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Band\*** (all year – prior experience required)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Careers in Design (sem)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choir (all year)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coding 2 (sem)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Horticulture (2<sup>nd</sup> semester only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Leadership 8 (all year)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Robotics\*** (sem)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Read 180 (sem)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Spanish 1\*** (all year)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook (1<sup>st</sup> semester only)

We will try to place you in your top choice(s). However, this may not be possible in some cases, which is why we need you to number your choices. If you do not turn in a form or you do not rank order 1 through 4, you will be assigned electives based on class sizes, and it may not be possible to change them.

NOTE: Some students may be placed in Read 180 in place of another elective based on academic performance and teacher or parent recommendations.

**\* Courses marked with an asterisk qualify for high school elective credit (.5 per semester class). Students must pass these courses to earn high school credit.**



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELECTIVES

### Applied STEM

Applied STEM focuses on the practical application of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. This class will use 3D printers, laser cutters, machinery, and a CNC machine, in conjunction with hands-on learning, to assist students to apply concepts and theories learned in the classroom. Applied STEM is designed to generate critical thinking skills and prepare students for careers in technical fields.

### Careers in Design

Are you interested in design related careers? In this semester-long art class you will have a chance to use technology and dive into industrial design, graphic design, fashion design, cover design, game design, animation, marketing, web design and more! No design or art experience is needed. Possible projects include creating a website, designing and animating a character for a video game and designing an album or book cover.

### Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band is the premiere wind ensemble at Lakewood Middle School. Students perform amazing and challenging music that thrills audiences. The Symphonic Band performs annually at Music in the Parks hosted by Wild Waves. Be part of a legacy! Lakewood bands are winning competitions and performing in high profile concerts. Students in Symphonic Band have been selected to All-State Band. The pre-requisite for Symphonic Band is Concert Band.

### Choir

Working as a team, learning to use your singing voice, and having fun while learning are all integral parts of Choir. Students can perform solos and/or work in small groups as well as sing in the large choir. The choir performs at assemblies, concerts, and travels to festivals where they have earned superior ratings. Students in Choir have won auditions to sing in prestigious All-State Choirs. The Choir performs annually at Music in the Parks hosted by Wild Waves. Join the Choir Family!

### Coding I

In Coding I, students learn to create websites using HTML and CSS inside Code.Org's Web Lab environment. Throughout the unit, students consider questions of privacy and ownership on the internet as they develop their own personal webpages and group websites. Students also learn the JavaScript programming language while developing animations and games in Code.org's Game Lab environment. Students end the unit by designing their own game.

Students who participate in this class can join the Technology Student Association which provides tech competition (website design and game design), educational opportunities, and leadership development. Further, it is a great way to connect with your school and develop your resume. Scholarship committees, post-secondary schools, and employers like to see that students are involved in a variety of activities, and TSA affords you the opportunity to build your resume. **If you would like to join the Technology Student Association, choose the 1<sup>st</sup> semester section of Coding.**

### Coding II

In Coding II, students first use App Lab, a JavaScript programming environment, to create interactive apps that are designed to provide solutions to people's needs. To do this, students design an app of their own, first on paper and eventually in App Lab, both individually and as a group. Students then use the software they wrote in App Lab to control the Circuit Playground, a microcontroller featuring sensors, sounds, and lights.

### Horticulture

Horticulture is a new elective in which students will learn the basics of growing flowers, fruits and vegetables. This class will be very project-based and include time outdoors working in the school garden. We will also read and

write about topics such as plant anatomy, pest and disease management, and traditional practices around the world.

### **Leadership 8**

Are you interested in making a change in our school? This year-long class gives you the opportunity to learn how to be a successful leader, influence school culture, promote school spirit and help build a sense of community on our campus. Students will also strengthen their communication, organization, time-management, and project management skills. Students are expected to work well with a team, meet deadlines, consistently follow our school PRIDE norms, and have a growth mindset. Assignments include implementing school wide activities like fundraisers, spirit days, assemblies, service projects and more! Leadership students work with the Intro to Leadership class to help make LMS a place where students and staff feel like they belong. Students interested in Leadership must fill out the application provided at registration in order to be eligible for this class. **ASB officers are required to take this class.**

### **8th grade Read 180**

The Read 180 program uses direct instruction and small group and whole group activities. This program adapts to the student's skill level. If the program is too easy, it will adjust to make it a little bit more challenging. Too difficult, and it will adjust for that as well. You will also have an opportunity to search Read 180's extensive library for an Independent Reading book. You can find a book at, or just above, your reading level and read at your own pace. Remember, when you improve your reading skills, you will improve in all your other classes as well.

### **Robotics 8**

Students will expand and improve their understanding of basic coding concepts and engineering practices by building and programming robots in the classroom. Students will work in pairs to complete missions and compete in competitions that are designed by the teacher. Students will need a basic understanding of coding to excel in this class. Students will use a block style format when they code the robots (same as robotics 7). If you love building things, coding, computers and hard work this class is for you!

### **Spanish 1**

This course will emphasize listening, speaking, reading, and writing and interpersonal language proficiency in Spanish while developing intercultural competence for local and global citizenship. Students preparing for four-year colleges and universities will have completed the first year of the two-year world language requirement.

### **Yearbook**

Years may pass, and things may change, but we will always have the memories preserved in our yearbooks! In this class, you will create Lakewood Middle School's yearbook by bringing your unique talents in technology, writing, and art to produce pages using an online design platform. Skills developed will include design, photography, and journalism. Students who take this class will be held to high standards as members of a professional staff, as the work we will do together produces a book meant to be treasured forever.