

Vista View Middle School Course Descriptions

2024-2025 School Year

6th Grade

Vista View Middle School's elective program consists of semester-long and year-long classes. Every effort is made to honor individual students' requests for elective classes; however, scheduling conflicts, staffing, and limited enrollment may make it necessary to modify requests.

Year-Long Electives

Beginning Band

Want to learn how to play a band instrument? Beginning Band gives students the opportunity to learn or continue their skills on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments! In this class, beginning band students will learn the basics of reading music, practice the fundamentals of playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument, and make tons of new friends. Beginning Band will perform in at least 3 concerts a year, and is open to students of all playing levels - no experience is required!

Advanced Band

In this class, students will continue to improve the skills they learned in Beginning Band. Students will perform more advanced music and perform in at least 4 concerts a year including the OVSD District Music Festival, and have the opportunity to participate in the OVSD Honor Band. The instruments available include a variety of brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments in this ensemble. Previous experience and/or an audition will be required to join Advanced Band if necessary and/or appropriate.

Beginning Strings (Orchestra)

Want to learn how to play a string instrument? String Orchestra gives students the opportunity to learn or continue their skills on violin, viola, cello, bass, and piano! In this class, string orchestra students will learn the basics of reading music, practice the fundamentals of playing a string instrument, and make tons of new friends. String orchestra will perform in at least 3 concerts a year, and is open to students of all playing levels - no experience is required!

E-Sports

This class will expose students to a wide variety of skills including mindfulness, team work, and critical thinking through competitive video gaming. Using the Esports Performance Academy (EPA) curriculums with holistic coaching, students will explore their passion for gaming while integrating SEL, ELA, NGSS, and Computer Science

concepts. Students will gain experience of this fast growing industry and will have real knowledge of the future careers in eSports. There is a place for everyone in this elective regardless of their gaming skill levels as long as they are willing to work together and respect each other in a competitive setting. Commitment to participation and attendance is important as we have matches scheduled with other schools. You might be asked to come play outside of class time during the day depending on the schedule with other schools. You must also keep up with your other academic classes in order to fully participate in the practice sessions.

Semester-Long Electives **Elective Exploration Wheel**

The Exploratory Wheel Rotation gives students two elective experiences throughout the year. Classes include:

- Culinary Arts
- Google Tech

Culinary Arts

Culinary arts is a course designed to introduce students to nutrition, ingredient selection and preparation, and meal planning. Knowledge of safety and sanitation, cooking terminology and techniques, use and care of equipment, measuring methods, and acceptable social practices related to food serving are developed. Students will practice 21st-century skills including reading and understanding food labels, decision making and time management skills, collaboration and teamwork, as well as how to apply this knowledge through hands-on cooking experiences.

Google Tech

In this innovative course, students will dive into the realm of technology and gain hands-on experience with Google tools and platforms, including 3-D printing, working with a Ronald Machine, stop motion animation, and green screen activities. Students will learn to leverage the power of Google applications and more! These experiences will provide students tools to succeed in our digital age and become future innovators in the tech industry.

PE Dance (Interest Only)

Gathering interests to continue Dance P.E.

This class would take the place of a student's Physical Education class therefore students do not have to give up an elective for the class.

The Physical Education/Dance class will encompass several different areas. First, is the introduction of basic dance styles and concepts (including hip hop, jazz, tap, lyrical, etc. and the development of movement skills). Secondly, the daily warm-up activities are designed to build strength, coordination, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory fitness. The emphasis in each of these areas is to prepare students for the physical fitness testing which is administered once a year. In addition, our unit on health and fitness will stress the importance of a lifetime commitment to a fit and healthy lifestyle. Finally, the program includes a creative and cognitive component that focuses on building technical vocabulary as well as developing, scribing, performing, and analyzing choreography. This portion will also emphasize social skills such as teamwork, cooperation, good sportsmanship, and opportunities for self-assessment.