Golden West 6th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

6th Grade students can either take: • 1-year-long elective or • 2-semester electives. Semester courses have the (S) after the course title and yearlong courses have the (Y) after the title. *Electives are not guaranteed and are dependent on teacher and course seat availability

Semester Electives (S)

These courses are introductory and designed to provide students an opportunity to explore different electives. Different combinations of 2 semester length electives are possible based on teacher availability.

- **Art 1 (S)**
  This course is an introductory art class and is designed for exposure to basic tools, materials, and processes. Art 1 is a project-based class that is designed to develop and strengthen creativity. All work is designed to be fun and is to be completed in class. This course is designed as a mixed media class where students will be exposed to and experiment with multiple mediums and art processes to create different types of art.

- **EXP Drama (S)** Introduces students to the basic skills and disciplines of acting and performance production. Students will learn techniques related to scene work, monologues, improvisation, movement, stagecraft, blocking, directing, and various aspects of production. Participants in the drama elective will also be exposed to and study various plays, basic theater history, and famous playwrights.

Yearlong Electives (Y)

- **Art Through the Ages** This course will travel through time, looking at artwork from different periods. Each period of art that is introduced will have an art-making component. For example: Starting with the Paleolithic era of cave drawings, students will learn the art period, what art was being made, and why. Students will then create their own cave drawings representing contemporary times using similar materials (charcoal) on crumpled-up newsprint or paper lunch bags. Each art period that is studied will have an art-making component that represents the contemporary, enabling students to draw on their knowledge of the world, their identity, their culture, and the contemporary world they live in.

- **Robotics 1 (Y) Not Competitive**
  In this course student will learn about the basic concepts of robotics. It is a blend of traditional and hands on learning. Students in this class will design, build, and test various robots throughout the year to accomplish numerous tasks, in addition to learning the math and science concepts behind it all. Students will work in teams of 2-4 throughout the year. This course is open 6th and 7th graders who would like an introduction to the concepts and application of robotics.
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Career Technical Education Course

- **Computer Programming (**Y) This course introduces students to the fundamentals of computer programming with an emphasis on applications of math concepts and the use of code to control modular robots using the user-friendly C/C++ interpreter Ch. Students start with basics of how a computer works and then explore programming in Ch to solve real life problems, including robot control. Students write computer programs with graphical plotting and animation in an integrated development environment (IDE). Through computer programming-based problem solving and engaging activities, such as generating random numbers for applications in math and gaming, and challenges involving tasks for multiple modular robots working together, students develop critical and computational thinking skills. A grade of "C" or better is recommended in math and ELA.

Performing Arts-Year Electives (Y)

- **Beginning Band** (Y) This course is for students who have no experience playing a band instrument. Students can pick from tuba, euphonium, trombone, horn, trumpet, saxophone, clarinet, flute, oboe, bassoon or percussion. Home practice is required to be successful. There are some school instruments available for student use. Parents may also rent or buy an instrument. Students will learn basic music notation, instrument technique, scales, and working together to play in a band. We will prepare several evening concerts during the school year, attendance at concerts is required.

- **Concert Band (Y)** This band is for students with one or more years of experience. Students will be introduced to rhythm, tone production, articulation dynamics, and expression. The course will focus on the skills necessary for music reading. One year of experience required

- **Concert Choir (Y) No Experience Required.** In chorus, you will learn how to read music using the Kodaly Solfege System while you prepare songs for performance. Students will perform in community concerts, festivals and school events.