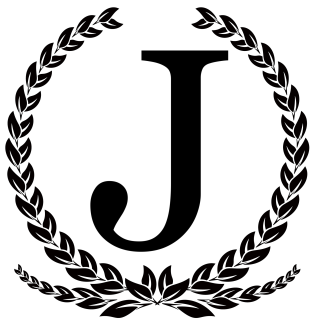




Jefferson Middle School

Elective Course Catalog

SY 2026-2027

TERM LENGTH: QUARTER

Course Name: AVID (Wheel)

Grade: 6

Required Course for 6th Grade

Schedule Name: EXPL AVID 6

Teacher: Mrs. Unwin

Term Length: Quarter

Course Objective: Students will develop an awareness of the values accompanying academic goals and success while enhancing their skills in communication, writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, in reading. In addition, we will focus on skills to support college and career preparedness.

Course Description: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a nationwide elective program that helps students gain the skills needed to be successful in advancing academically with the ultimate goal of attending college. In our 9-week course, students will be introduced to the AVID philosophy and supported while improving study skills, note-taking, time management, writing, and research skills while immersed in a college-going culture.

Course Name: Art (Wheel)

Grade: 6

Required Course for 6th Grade

Schedule Name: EXPL ART

Teacher: Ms. Williamson

Term Length: Quarter

Course Objective: Students will develop skills in a variety of materials, techniques, & artistic concepts through hands-on projects while learning to analyze & respond to visual art.

Course Description: Exploratory Art consists of a 9-week introduction to fundamental art skills. The focus will be on the growth of the student's abilities for artistic expression & skills development. Exploring various media will expose students to options for self-expression & encourage the pursuit of art study as a valuable component of one's education.

Course Name: Drama (Wheel)
Grade: 6
Required Course for 6th Grade

Schedule Name: EXPL DRAMA
Teacher: Ms. Moses
Term Length: Quarter

Course Objective: Students will learn the basics of acting and storytelling, working with others, and performing short scenes to build confidence, creativity, and communication skills.

Course Description: Exploratory Drama is an introductory survey course designed to provide students with opportunities to speak and perform in front of groups. Students will also be introduced to stage directions, script reading, set design, and costuming. This is a quarter course.

Course Name: R & R (Wheel)
Grade: 6
Required Course for 6th Grade

Schedule Name: EXPL MUSIC
Teacher: Mr. Hedman
Term Length: Quarter

Course Objective: Students will be introduced to fundamentals of music, music creation and performance. This will be accomplished through a variety of activities that will include introductory instrumental techniques (guitar, percussion, keyboards), singing, and movement. Students will also learn the basics of music production and composition.

Course Description: Students will use classroom acoustic guitars and keyboards to experience making music. They will be introduced to resources such as guitar tablature. Students will use their computer to access a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) in order to learn music production techniques, play MIDI instruments and create music. Some aspects of music history will be covered through introduction of various artists, composers and musical genres. Listening skills activities are also included. Music theory and form may be explored through compositional activities. This is a quarter course.

TERM LENGTH: SEMESTER

Course Name: Art I
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: ART I
Teacher: Ms. Williamson
Term Length: Semester

\$10 fee to replace/replenish supplies for art projects.

Course Objective: Art I is an introductory semester-long course designed to help students discover and study the elements and principles of art, explore various art media, and create original artworks.

Course Description: Students will expand their knowledge of the visual arts while making meaningful connections between them and their own experiences through a series of instructional units that combine observing, reading, creating, writing, speaking about, and reflecting upon the arts. They will also develop technical skills in drawing, painting, lettering, perspective, sculpture, and world crafts.

Course Name: Info Tech
Grade: 7
Required Course for 7th Grade

Schedule Name: INFO TECH
Teacher: Mr. Vigil
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: Get ready to enhance your computer skills and more! In this course, students explore various applications and use their creative minds to complete real-world projects!

Course Description: Students will engage in project-based learning opportunities that will help them not only with their current academics but help them plan for their future as well. Each project is designed to be meaningful, relevant, and engaging for students. We will use technology tools to support learning and work to develop 21st-century skills of collaboration, problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking. I encourage students to explore, be creative, take risks, and become more independent this semester.

Course Name: Health Ed. for HS Credit
Grade: 8
Required Course for 8th Grade

Schedule Name: HEALTH ED I
Teacher: Mr. Wade
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: Students will identify and explain the most common health risks and influences facing adolescents in each domain of health. In addition, students will define and practice using health skills they can use to improve health behaviors.

Course Description: In this required course, the student learns about all aspects of health and wellness through learning experiences that emphasize an increased awareness of health behaviors and their positive and negative consequences. Areas of study include, but are not limited to health promotion, acquisition of health information, health behaviors, health factors, interpersonal communication skills, goal setting, and health advocacy. Literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and researching are integrated throughout the course.

Course Name: PE 6
Grade: 6
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: PE SEM 06
Teacher: Mr. Chavez
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: To develop students' knowledge and application of fitness components (e.g., cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility) in alignment with New

Mexico CCSS PE standards (6.1.1 and 6.3.3) and SHAPE America National Standards 1 and 3, promoting the foundation for a healthy and active lifestyle.

Course Description: This course introduces students to the fundamentals of physical fitness and health, focusing on cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, flexibility, and body composition, as defined by New Mexico CCSS PE standard 6.1.3. Activities will include skill-building for individual and team sports (NM CCSS 6.2.1), development of personal fitness plans, and understanding health-enhancing behaviors (SHAPE Standard 3). Students will explore concepts such as heart rate zones (NM CCSS 6.1.2), media influence on health (6.4.1), and SEL competencies through cooperative games and group activities, ensuring a holistic approach to mental and physical wellness.

Course Name: PE 7
Required Course for 7th Grade
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: PE SEM 07
Teacher: Mr. Chavez & Mr. Durant
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: To deepen students' understanding of fitness principles, teamwork, and personal responsibility through moderate-to-vigorous physical activities, in alignment with New Mexico CCSS PE standards (7.1.1 and 7.4.3) and SHAPE America National Standards 2, 4, and 5.

Course Description: Seventh-grade PE emphasizes skill refinement and application of health-enhancing behaviors. Students will engage in fitness-building activities and sports that meet New Mexico CCSS PE standard 7.2.1 (developing advanced techniques in movement patterns) and foster teamwork and social responsibility (SHAPE Standards 4 and 5). The curriculum includes activities designed to monitor and apply heart rate knowledge (NM CCSS 7.1.2), develop personalized fitness goals, and analyze health influences, such as nutrition and media. Social and emotional learning (SEL) strategies are integrated to build conflict resolution skills and emotional regulation within group settings.

Course Name: Fit Life
Required Course for 8th Grade
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: FIT LIFE
Teacher: Mr. Durant
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: Students will understand and perform physical activities to stay fit for life.

Course Description: Students will perform in many different sports, weightlifting, spin classes, and games to learn how to stay physically fit for life. Students will further their knowledge about the human body and how it reacts to exercise in order for individuals to reach their own fitness goals.

Course Name: Makerspace I
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: SURVEY OF SCIENCE
Teacher: Mr. Fader
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: Students will harness their creativity and the tools available to make a wide range of items out of many different materials.

Course Description: Makerspace is a space for students to create and build! The possibilities are endless! For one semester, you will experience a workshop setting with access to technology, equipment, machines, and tools. You will learn how to use a variety of tools and materials including but not limited to; 3d printers, sewing supplies, cardboard, crochet, fabric, beads, metal, wood, and more!

Course Name: Robotics
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: PRB SOLV
Teacher: Ms. Penn
Term Length: Semester

\$10 fee to replace/replenish parts and supplies for robotics projects.

Course Objective: Students will design, develop, and complete robotics activities and challenges. Students will write codes using Vex Coding and Python Programming.

Course Description: This class will introduce students to Robotics, basic programming, and problem-solving strategies. Students will work on hands-on robotic activities in teams or individuals to design, build, program, and document their progress. Such robots include Vex IQ robots and Boe-bots. Students will use Python Programming and Vex Coding.

Course Name: Chorus
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: CHORUS
Teacher: Ms. Moses
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: Learn to express yourself with your vocal instrument in a group performance setting.

Course Description: Choir is a place where your voice can be heard! Or you can simply be a part of the blend that makes choir singing fun. You will learn music skills that will serve you well in all our performing arts classes. We explore classic choir repertoire and music from various cultures and time periods. The curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Come join us!

Course Name: Drama
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: DRAMA I
Teacher: Ms. Moses
Term Length: Semester

Course Objective: To create, improv, script write, team build, act/perform, design, play games, have fun, and ultimately share our stories with each other and with our community.

Course Description: In Drama, we practice building knowledge in performance studies. We connect with our peers and community through storytelling. We create opportunities to think and grow from where we are to where we want to be as we intentionally practice our skills as designers, writers, and performers. We learn about culture and social justice and how to be responsible citizens. Finally, in Drama we foster leadership.

TERM LENGTH: YEAR

Course Name: AVID 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: Completed Application, Interview, and Acceptance Letter

Schedule Name: AVID 7

Teacher: Ms. Wickham

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a seventh through twelfth-grade college and career readiness program that prepares students in the academic middle for admission to a four-year college or university. Students take an AVID elective course throughout middle and high school that provides them with the skills needed to succeed in advancing academically with the ultimate goal of attending college.

Course Description: In the AVID elective, students are taught study skills, note-taking, time management, writing, and research skills, while being immersed in a college-going culture. The class also includes tutoring sessions that are led by college students and provide support for success in the academically rigorous curriculum. Additionally, the AVID class provides access to information about colleges and universities through field trips, guest speakers, college tutors, scholarship opportunities, and college admission requirement information. Students must apply and be accepted into the AVID elective.

Course Name: AVID 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Completed Application, Interview, and Acceptance Letter

Schedule Name: AVID 8

Teacher: Ms. Lazar

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a seventh through twelfth-grade college and career readiness program that prepares students in the academic middle for admission to a four-year college or university. Students take an AVID elective course throughout middle and high school that provides them with the skills needed to succeed in advancing academically with the ultimate goal of attending college.

Course Description: In the AVID elective, students are taught study skills, note-taking, time management, writing, and research skills, while being immersed in a college-going culture. The class also includes tutoring sessions that are led by college students or peer tutors and provide support for success in the academically rigorous curriculum. Additionally, the AVID class provides access to information about colleges and universities through field trips, guest speakers, college tutors, scholarship opportunities, and college admission requirement information. Students must apply and be accepted into the AVID elective.

Course Name: Art II

Grade: 7-8

Prerequisite: Successful completion

of Art I (Teacher Signature Required)

\$10 fee to replace/replenish supplies for art projects.

Schedule Name: ART II

Teacher: Ms. Williamson

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Art II is designed as an extension for advanced exploration of the concepts covered in Art I. Students will further refine skills in the aesthetic process and creative expression. They will develop technical and creative skills through deeper application and interpretation of the elements of art and principles of design.

Course Description: Art making, appreciation, history, and critique remain the focus of this semester-long course. Artistic skills and techniques will be strengthened through a variety of two- & three-dimensional art forms, including drawing, painting, and building techniques designed to foster artistic and creative confidence. Projects are designed to teach critical thinking skills and thoughtful expression, which will be of value in any field of study students choose.

Course Name: Makerspace II

Grade: 7-8

Prerequisite: Successful Completion

of Mkrsp. I (Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: ART & COMP SCI I

Teacher: Mr. Fader

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Dive deeper into the makerspace program and begin making not just to learn but to benefit yourself and others.

Course Description: Students will use the basics they gained last year to more deeply explore their chosen crafts. They will make projects not just for themselves but for the makerspace and Jefferson community as well. Students will have more control over what materials and tools they use but also be expected to accomplish more rigorous goals.

Course Name: Advanced Robotics

Grade: 7-8

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature

\$20 fee per semester to replace/replenish parts and supplies for robotics projects and to cover registration fees.

Schedule Name: PLTW-GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY

Teacher: Ms. Penn

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will design, build, program, and compete in Robotics Tournaments.

Course Description: The class provides the background knowledge and skills to construct robots using VEX V5 robots and other bots. Students write code using Python programming, Arduino, and VEX coding. They research, design, build, and program robot prototypes in accordance with the Tournament Rules and Challenges. They are required to document their work in the Engineering Design Notebook. Students will participate and compete in Robotics Tournaments.

Course Name: Super Science I

Grade: 6-8

Co-requisite: Accelerated Math or Gifted Math

Schedule Name: SEMINAR 1

Teacher: Ms. Noble

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students in Super Science I will develop foundational STEM skills through hands-on experiments, design challenges, and scientific inquiry. They will explore concepts such as energy and motion, environmental science, chemistry, and space exploration. By engaging in collaborative projects, students will strengthen their problem-solving abilities, enhance their critical thinking skills, and gain a deeper appreciation for the role of science and engineering in everyday life.

Course Description: Welcome to Super Science I, where science isn't just a subject — it's an adventure! Get ready to build, create, and experiment your way through a year packed with excitement. From designing speedy mousetrap cars to growing crystals and building your own telescopes, you'll explore the wonders of STEM in ways that are hands-on and unforgettable. Whether you're simulating life on Mars or engineering wind turbines, this course is all about discovering the "how" and "why" of the world around you. Come curious and leave inspired to think like a scientist!

Course Name: Super Science II

Grade: 7-8

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of SS I (Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: SEMINAR 2

Teacher: Ms. Noble

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Super Science II challenges students to deepen their understanding of STEM concepts through advanced projects and interdisciplinary studies. Students will

tackle engineering challenges, delve into medical science and genetics, investigate forensics, and explore chemistry at a deeper level. By engaging in debates, hands-on investigations, and real-world applications, students will build critical thinking skills, foster innovation, and prepare for future scientific exploration.

Course Description: Super Science II takes the fun of science to the next level! Think big and dive deep into projects that challenge your creativity and curiosity. From building jaw-dropping Rube Goldberg machines to analyzing blood samples like a real hematologist, you'll get hands-on with some of science's coolest concepts. Debate the future of genetic engineering, solve mysteries with forensic science, and experiment with chemistry that fizzes, bubbles, and surprises. This isn't your average science class — it's a chance to discover your inner inventor, investigator, and innovator. Let's make some scientific magic happen!

Course Name: MESA

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite: Interest in Science

Schedule Name: MESA MATHENGSCI

Teacher: Ms. Noble

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Welcome to MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement)! In this class, you'll dive into the exciting world of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) through hands-on projects, experiments, field trips, and competitions. Together, we'll explore how STEM can solve real-world problems, spark creativity, and open doors to future opportunities. This is your chance to innovate, collaborate, and challenge yourself while building skills that prepare you for high school, college, and beyond.

Course Description: In MESA, you'll engage in hands-on projects and experiments that bring STEM concepts to life. From exploring topics like electronics, material science, physics, coding, and mechanical systems, to working on real-world challenges, you'll develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. You'll collaborate with classmates on group projects, learning how to communicate effectively and work as a team. Over the course of the year, you'll design and complete a long-term project that showcases your creativity and STEM knowledge, preparing you to compete at a state-wide event. Beyond the classroom, you'll participate in field trips to see STEM in action and discover how these skills connect to exciting careers. By the end of the course, you'll gain confidence in tackling complex problems and thinking like an engineer, scientist, or mathematician. This class is your opportunity to innovate, explore, and prepare for your future in STEM.

Course Name: Lobo Science
Grade: 8
Prerequisite: Science Teacher
Recommendation

Schedule Name: SEMINAR 3
Teacher: Ms. Dunnum
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: To immerse students in the diverse range of museums at UNM and provide hands-on learning opportunities in the natural history collections, collaborating with researchers at the Museum of Southwestern Biology.

Course Description: Get ready for an exciting, hands-on adventure into the world of biodiversity! This field trip-based class partners with UNM's renowned Museum of Southwestern Biology (MSB) to bring science to life. You'll embark on dynamic field trips to explore a variety of museums on and off the UNM campus, dive deep into the captivating divisions of the MSB, and gain insights from expert researchers. The MSB is a treasure trove of natural history, housing animal specimens from across the globe. Along the way, you'll explore the major groups of organisms—mammals, reptiles and amphibians, fish, plants, arthropods, birds, and even parasites—uncovering their unique roles in our world.

Note: Lobo Science takes place during 7th period. On field trip days, students will walk to UNM during 7th period, with the class officially ending one hour after the regular school day.

Course Name: Jet Chef
Grade: 8
Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Schedule Name: Seminar 3
Teacher: Ms. Jansen
Term Length: Year

\$20 fee per semester to cover food items and supplies.

Students must be self-motivated, safe, and able to follow directions independently.

[Here is a promotional video to inform students about the course.](#)

Link can be accessed from jefferson.aps.edu.

Course Objective: This project-based class will focus on developing students' creativity, critical thinking, spatial, reasoning, teamwork, and career readiness skills and creativity via culinary challenges and projects. Jet Chef follows the schoolwide enrichment model, promoted by APS and NMPED, which is designed to support the needs of gifted and high-potential students.

Course Description: This project-based class will focus on developing students' critical thinking skills and creativity via culinary challenges and projects. Elements of the class will be loosely based on a competition cooking show. Students will learn food and kitchen safety, food prep, and cooking techniques, culminating in creating their own dishes to be judged by the JMS community in "pop-up dining" experiences.

Course Name: Spanish LA I
Grade: 6
Prerequisite: Fluent in Spanish
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: SPANISH LA I
Teacher: Ms. Bridges
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will develop a working oral and written vocabulary and further develop their Spanish acquisition. Students will communicate in class in Spanish and develop reading and writing skills. They will do independent research in Spanish and read novels. The course will culminate in essay writing to prepare them for Spanish II.

Course Description: Students will practice reading comprehension and production of the spoken language. This course has an emphasis on oral communication, with a review of basic grammatical concepts and the development of reading, writing, and vocabulary skills.

Course Name: Spanish LA II
Grade: 7
Prerequisite: Fluent in Spanish
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: SPANISH LA II
Teacher: Ms. Bridges
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will develop skills that enable them to listen, speak, read, and write in the target language at the Intermediate Proficiency level. Students are expected to learn to use the target language for communication in real, meaningful situations. Students will do independent research in Spanish and read novels. The course will culminate in essay writing to prepare them for Spanish III.

Course Description: Spanish II builds upon the knowledge gained in Spanish I through the use of short stories and novels, reinforcing the skills learned in Spanish I: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. By the end of the year, students will be able to write essays, answer comprehension questions, and participate in discussions on different topics. The emphasis of this course is on mastery of the basic grammatical structures and increased communicative proficiency.

Course Name: Spanish LA III
Grade: 8
Prerequisite: Fluent in Spanish
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: SPANISH LA III
Teacher: Ms. Bridges
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students build upon the skills and knowledge they acquired in Spanish LA I and II. Students will read novels in Spanish, write essays, answer comprehension questions, participate in discussions on various topics, and complete independent research to demonstrate their Spanish proficiency.

Course Description: This course is intended to extend the communicative approach to develop the student's acquisition of Spanish further, reinforcing listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The emphasis of this course is on reading comprehension at grade level, writing skills, and mastery of grammar. This course builds upon the fundamentals learned and mastered in Spanish LA I and II.

Course Name: Rock and Rhythm I
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: BEG GUITAR FULL YEAR
Teacher: Mr. Hedman
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will develop instrumental, ensemble, and general music skills while building confidence and creativity. Through daily rehearsals, periodic performances, and music production projects, students will have the opportunity to demonstrate teamwork, student voice, interpersonal skills, diligence, joy, and inspiration.

Course Description: Rock and Rhythm classes provide students with an exciting, alternative, team-based music performance and production experience. The program was designed to inspire and motivate students by utilizing an exhilarating, non-traditional, contemporary music approach. Instruments provided for all students include electric guitars, bass guitars, electric keyboards, vibraphones, electric violins, ukuleles, vocal microphones, and a variety of acoustic and electronic percussion/drums. Audio production and musical composition are regular focuses of the class.

Course Name: Rock and Rhythm II
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite: Successful Completion of RR I (Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: CADET BAND
Teacher: Mr. Hedman
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will develop more advanced instrumental, ensemble, and general music skills while building confidence and creativity. Through daily rehearsals, periodic performances, and music production projects, students will have the opportunity to demonstrate teamwork/interpersonal/leadership skills, student voice, diligence, joy, and inspiration.

Course Description: Rock and Rhythm classes provide students with an exciting, alternative, team-based music performance and production experience. The program was designed to inspire and motivate students by utilizing an exhilarating, non-traditional, contemporary approach. Instruments provided for all students include electric guitars, bass guitars, electric keyboards, vibraphones, electric violins, ukuleles, vocal microphones, and a variety of acoustic and electronic percussion/drums. Audio production and musical composition are regular focuses of the class.

Course Name: Beginning Band
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: BEG BAND I
Teacher: Mr. Converse
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Learn to play a musical instrument alone and with others, as well as learn the basic music fundamentals. Each student will go through a 2 week instrument selection process starting on the first day of school.

Course Description: This course is designed to give students an introduction to playing brasswind, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Students will learn how to properly hold the instrument, produce a good tone on the instrument, properly articulate, read musical notation, and to perform simple melodies and appropriate level band compositions or arrangements. Music theory and music history will be studied as it relates to pieces being studied for performance. After-school performances are considered an extension of the instructional process and are required. Beginning students may participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival. Books are not provided for the class, but are available for purchase online or at a local music store. Students playing flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone will not be provided instruments, except for cases of families with extreme financial need. Students playing oboe, bassoon, French horn, euphonium and tuba instruments will be provided by the school for an instrument maintenance fee. The concert uniform includes a band t-shirt for purchase at the beginning of the year. More information will be provided in the band handbook that will be given out on the first day of school.

Course Name: Intermediate Band
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: Beginning Band
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: INT BAND
Teacher: Mr. Converse
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: To continue to refine the fundamentals learned in Beginning Band and add to them.

Course Description: This course is designed to give students further development of instrumental skills in brasswind, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Concepts and skills to be reinforced and developed will cover how to properly hold the instrument, produce a good tone on the instrument, properly articulate, read musical notation, and perform simple melodies and appropriate level band compositions or arrangements. Music theory and music history will be studied as it relates to pieces being studied for performance. After-school performances are considered an extension of the instructional process and are required. Intermediate band students may participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival. Books are not provided for the class, but are available for purchase online or at a local music store. Students playing flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone will not be provided instruments, except for cases of families with extreme financial need. Students playing oboe, bassoon, French horn, euphonium and tuba

instruments will be provided by the school for an instrument maintenance fee. The concert uniform includes a band t-shirt for purchase at the beginning of the year. More information will be provided in the band handbook that will be given out on the first day of school.

Course Name: Advanced Band

Grade: 7-8

Prerequisite: Intermediate Band

(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: ADV BAND

Teacher: Mr. Converse

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: To expand and refine students' musical knowledge and prepare them for high school band.

Course Description: This course is designed for more experienced students with advanced musical skills. Concepts and skills to be reinforced and developed will cover how to properly hold the instrument, produce a good tone on the instrument, properly articulate, read musical notation, and to perform simple melodies and appropriate level band compositions or arrangements. Music theory and music history will be studied as it relates to pieces being studied for performance. After-school performances are considered an extension of the instructional process and are required. Good individual practice skills are a must for students in this group. Advanced band students may participate in Solo and Ensemble Festival, Middle School Honor Band, and are eligible to audition for Albuquerque Junior Symphony and Orchestra. Books are not provided for the class, but are available for purchase online or at a local music store. Students playing flute, clarinet, alto sax, trumpet and trombone will not be provided instruments, except for cases of families with extreme financial need. Students playing oboe, bassoon, French horn, euphonium and tuba instruments will be provided by the school for an instrument maintenance fee. The concert uniform includes a band t-shirt for purchase at the beginning of the year. More information will be provided in the band handbook that will be given out on the first day of school.

Course Name: Jazz Band

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite: *This is a zero hour class.

(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: JAZZ BAND

Teacher: Mr. Converse

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Learn and develop playing in new styles that are not covered in other band classes.

Course Description: This course is designed for more experienced students with advanced musical skills. Concepts and skills to be developed will address proper musical style of jazz, blues, rock, and other contemporary music, production of a good tone on the instrument, proper jazz articulation, and improvisation. Ensemble and listening skills will be emphasized. Appropriate-level jazz band compositions or arrangements will be performed. Music theory and music history will be studied as it relates to pieces being studied for performance. After-school performances are considered an extension of the instructional

process and are required. Good individual practice skills are a must for students in this group. Jazz band students may participate in jazz festivals throughout the year.

Course Name: Beginning Orchestra
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: N/A

Schedule Name: BEG ORCHESTRA I
Teacher: Ms. Shelton
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass! They will also learn how to read music.

Course Description: Beginning Orchestra is a performance course for students with no previous experience on the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students are introduced to basic individual and ensemble performing skills through beginning note reading, pitch, rhythmic, and listening skills using correct playing technique on their chosen bowed string instrument. If you are not able to get your own instrument, Jefferson has one you can borrow!

Course Name: Intermediate Orchestra
Grade: 6-8
Prerequisite: Beginning Orchestra
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: INT ORCHESTRA
Teacher: Ms. Shelton
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: To learn all of the notes on your violin, viola, cello, or bass with proper posture, bow hold, and tone.

Course Description: Intermediate Orchestra is a performance course for students with some previous experience on the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students continue basic individual and ensemble performing skills through intermediate-level note reading, pitch, rhythmic, and listening skills using correct playing technique on their chosen bowed string instrument. If you are not able to get your own instrument, Jefferson has one you can borrow!

Course Name: Advanced Orchestra
Grade: 7-8
Prerequisite: Intermediate Orchestra
(Teacher Signature Required)

Schedule Name: ADV ORCHESTRA I
Teacher: Ms. Shelton
Term Length: Year

Course Objective: To learn and perform a variety of styles of music in a large ensemble, independently, and in small groups.

Course Description: Advanced Orchestra is a performance course for students with at least two previous years' experience on the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students continue individual and ensemble performing skills through more advanced techniques such as vibrato and shifting. If you are not able to get your own instrument, Jefferson has one you can borrow!

Course Name: Student Aide

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: Completed Application

Schedule Name: STUDENT AIDE

Teacher: Administration

Term Length: Year

Course Objective: Students will provide support for various tasks related to specific areas of the school, such as the main office and certain classrooms.

Course Description: Students will have the opportunity to support teachers and staff while gaining valuable skills in leadership, communication, and responsibility. As a student aide, you will assist with various tasks, help organize materials, and support your school in a variety of ways.