

Mesa Robles Middle School

6th GRADE ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION FORM

(2026-2027)

****Course offerings subject to change based on space, availability, staffing, etc.****

Band:

Beginning Band (Year)

This class is specifically designed for students that have no previous band experience and for students that have elementary band experience. Beginning/Intermediate Band is limited to wind players (flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, baritone, trombone and tuba). Students that like to play percussion must first learn to play a wind instrument. Then they may apply to play percussion the following year if approved by the Band director.

Choir:

Beginning Choir (Year) – for 6th grade students only

In this class students will learn about singing and reading music notes. This is a great place to start for students who have little or no experience singing. The students will learn all about the basics so they can progress to one of the more advanced choirs. Six graders who want to join the 6th Grade Choir need simply select this elective on the registration sheet. Instructor's approval is not required.

Intermediate Chorus – Mustang Singers (Year) – open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students

This class is open to those students who have some musical training. Students must be able to match pitch and know something about reading notes. Mustang Singers participate in school performances and attend a spring festival. During performances, students wear a choir t-shirt and black pants. **A brief audition and director's approval is required.**

English Language Development:

ELD 1, 2, or 3 (Year)

This course is designed to provide instruction in English language acquisition. Instruction focuses on communicative and academic skills, and the four language domains (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). Content will vary depending on group and individual progress for students identified as English Learners at the earlier stages of English proficiency of Emerging and Expanding. Students will receive differentiated levels of support to communicate in familiar, social and academic contexts and on less familiar tasks and topics. Placement based on Summative ELPAC scores.

Language:

Chinese (Year)

This is an introductory language and culture course in which the basic communication skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are taught and practiced. The students will acquire the essential Chinese language survival skills needed to function at a minimum level in the classroom, playground, local community and countries where the Chinese language is spoken. The objective of this course is to prepare students with a solid foundation in Chinese so the students will develop necessary skills and confidence and be ready to move on for further study.

Elective Wheel (Rotates Every 12 Weeks):

Robotics* (Semester)

In this class, students will be introduced to robotics and engineering principles using the LEGO Mindstorms EV3 system. Students will work in small teams to design, build, and program robots to complete simple tasks and solve different challenges. In addition to robotics, students may also develop and strengthen basic computer skills (including use of spreadsheets, research skills, and typing).

STEM* (Semester)

This class is a general introduction to engineering using lots of hands-on activities and projects with an emphasis on science and mathematics.

Orchestra

Orchestra (Year)

This class is designed for students that have little to no previous string instrument experience. Students will learn to read music and proper technique for handling string instruments. The orchestra is a string ensemble made up of bass, cello, viola, and violin.

Student Government:

ASB (Year)

Students plan school activities (dances, rallies, etc), class competitions, spirit days, fundraisers to help fund the school activities and are in charge of the Student Store. These leaders will also plan ways to help the community like the Toys for Tots program, collecting food to donate to a homeless shelter, and setting up recycling programs. In class, students would be divided up into committees to plan the different events and activities (dances, lunch events, Color Run, charity events, Read Across America, etc.). All 6th grade students must write a half page essay explaining why they would like to join ASB and what ideas they have about making the school a better place. **This essay needs to be emailed to Ms. Smith at mshearer@hlpusd.org by 5/1/26 and be sure to include the student name in your email.**