

**PALM VALLEY ACADEMY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
COURSE INFORMATION  
2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**



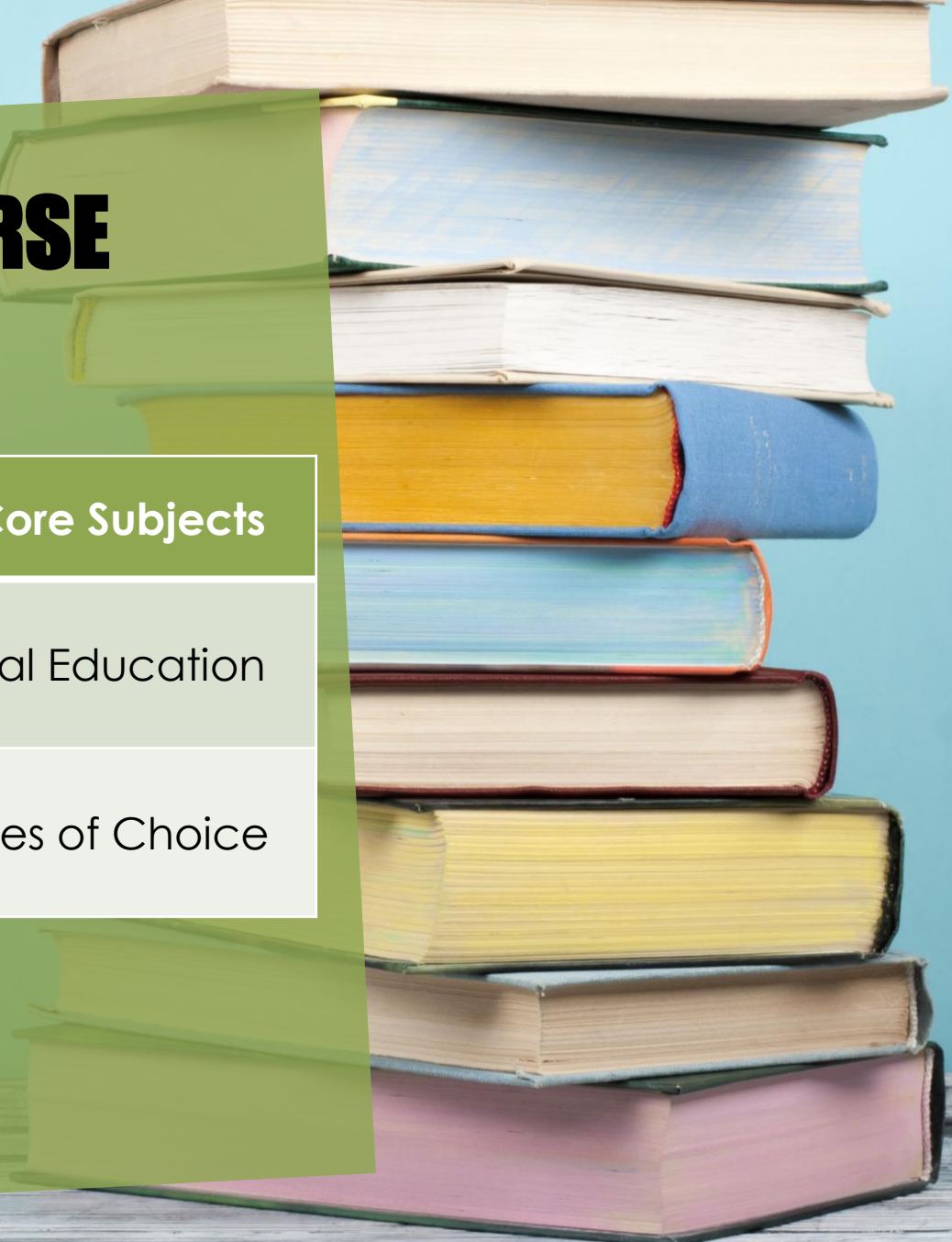
**WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL!**

# YOUR PVA MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

Role	Name
Principal	Mr. Zach Strom
Assistant Principal	Ms. Ashley Zapata
Assistant Principal	Ms. D'Niessa Slocum
Assistant Principal	Ms. Bonnie Curran
Counselor	Ms. Monica Ferguson
Dean	Mr. James Puckett
Instructional Literacy Coach	Ms. Amie Miller

# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Subjects (Standard or Advanced)	Non-Core Subjects
Language Arts	Physical Education
Math	
Science	Electives of Choice
World/U.S. History or Civics	



# WHAT ARE THE RIGHT PLACEMENT OPTIONS FOR MY CHILD?



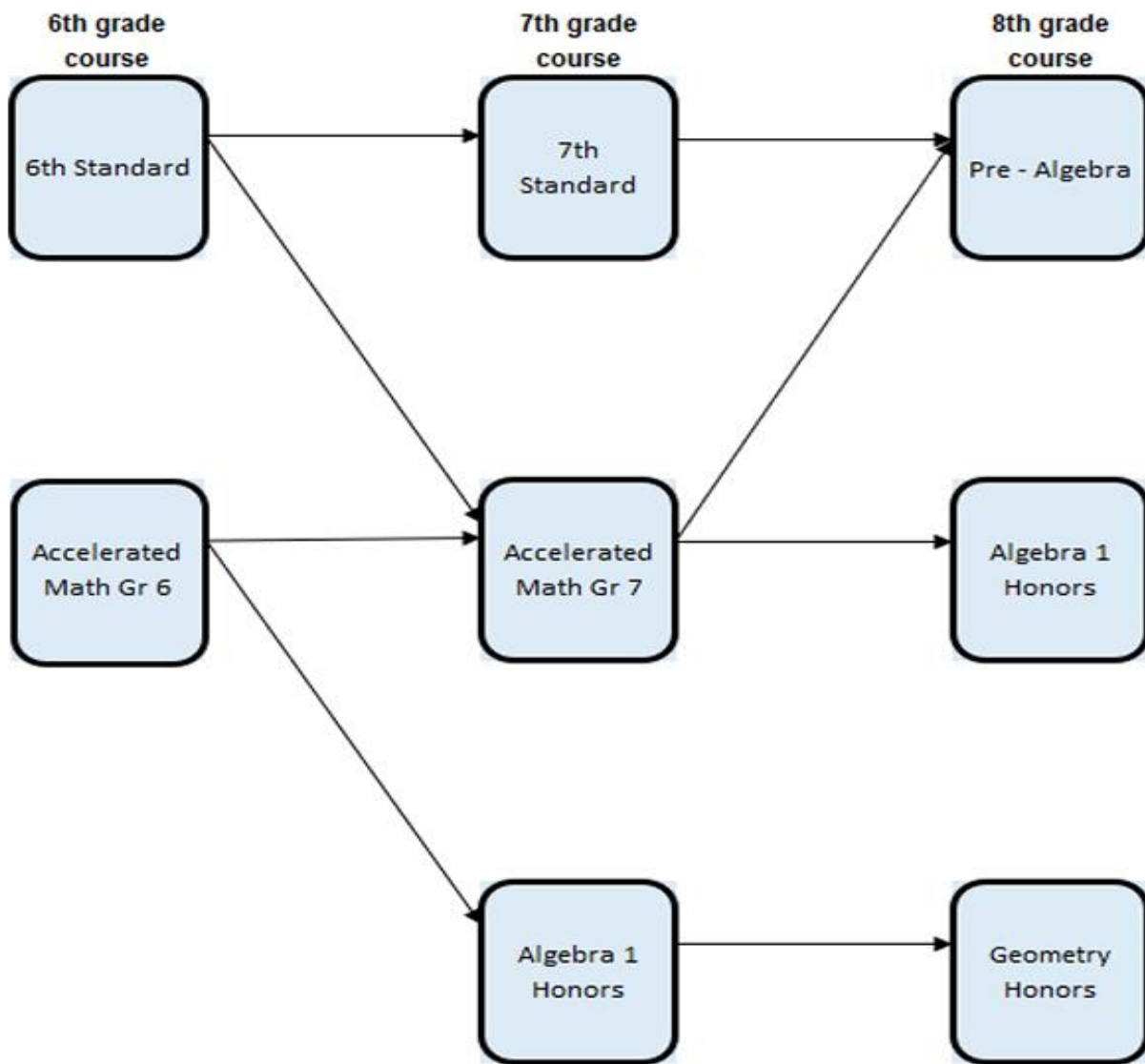
- PVA OFFERS CLASS LEVELS FOR MIDDLE GRADES STUDENTS DEPENDING ON THEIR INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PATH:
  - STANDARD, ADVANCED, AND FOR SOME SUBJECTS, HIGH SCHOOL HONORS
- STANDARD AND ADVANCED CLASSES TEACH THE SAME STANDARDS. ADVANCED SECTIONS MAY GO IN MORE DEPTH, HIGHER LEVEL ANALYZING/CRITICAL THINKING, AND MAY MOVE THROUGH SOME CONTENT FASTER.
- TAKING STANDARD COURSES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOUR CHILD WON'T QUALIFY FOR ACCELERATED HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE SEQUENCES

Language Arts			
	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Standard</b>	M/J Language Arts I	M/J Language Arts II	M/J Language Arts III
<b>Advanced</b>	M/J Language Arts I Advanced	M/J Language Arts II Advanced	M/J Language Arts III Advanced

Science			
	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Standard</b>	M/J Comprehensive Science 1	M/J Comprehensive Science 2	M/J Comprehensive Science 3
<b>Advanced</b>	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 1	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 2	M/J Advanced Comprehensive Science 3 or **Honors Physical Science

# MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH PROGRESSION



# COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Soon, you will be able to view academic course placements in HAC for the 2024-2025 school year. These placements will be based on the teacher recommendations, formative and summative assessments, previous FSA/FAST scores, and student performance in the classroom throughout this school year.
- You should be logged in as your child to see this.
- If you have concerns about your child's academic course placements, please first reach out to your child's current teacher in that subject. You may wish to continue the conversation with Ms. Ferguson or an administrator. Requests to change course placements will be considered but are not guaranteed.
- Please keep in mind that your child's final FAST scores for the year can be used as a major factor in determining eligibility for Advanced classes. You might want to reach out after those are scored.

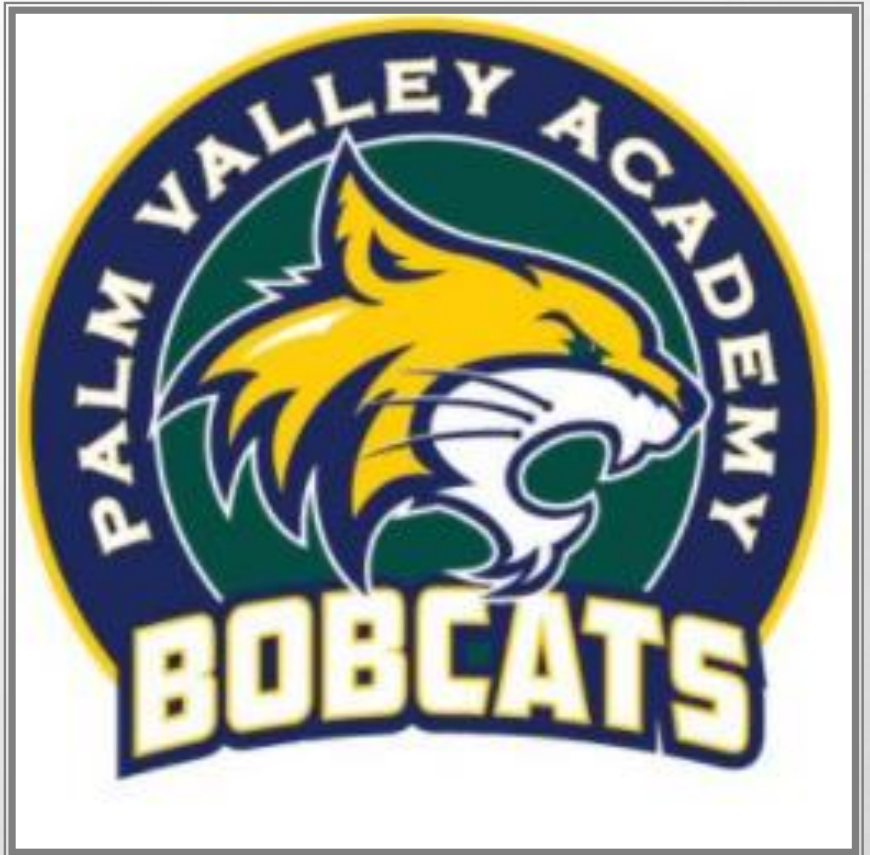
# MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

- **ENROLLMENT IN ELECTIVES ARE NOT GUARANTEED**
- **ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING:**
  - **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
  - **2 ELECTIVES OF CHOICE**



# BAND: WHAT TO KNOW

- 2-4 CONCERTS PER YEAR
- 1-TIME YEARLY DUES TO SUPPORT PROGRAM
- INSTRUMENT RENTAL FEE (DEPENDENT ON WHAT INSTRUMENT IS PLAYED)
- JAZZ BAND IS CODEPENDENT ON SYMPHONIC BAND



# BENEFITS TO PLAYING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

- INCREASES MEMORY SKILL AND IQ (FULL BODY WORKOUT FOR THE BRAIN)
- TEACHES PERSEVERANCE AND ABILITY TO ACHIEVE
- IMPROVES READING COMPREHENSION AND MATH SKILLS
- CREATES RESPONSIBILITY
- INSTILLS A HIGHER APPRECIATION FOR MUSIC



# FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

- MARCHING BAND NIGHT (PLAY WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS)
- COLLEGE BASKETBALL PERFORMANCES (POSSIBLE)
- MPA (GET OUT OF SCHOOL FOR A DAY, AND GET A FREE PIZZA PARTY)
- SURPRISE PERFORMANCES BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL (HOLIDAY CAR LOOP, STAFF VS KIDS BASKETBALL GAME)



# GUITAR!

- LEARN HOW TO READ SHEET MUSIC AND GUITAR TABLATURE
- LEARN CLASSICAL, POP, JAZZ, AND ROCK MUSIC
- COLLABORATE WITH OTHER STUDENTS IN GROUP PROJECTS AND PERFORMANCES



# ELECTIVE OPTIONS: PVA

Students may choose from the following electives for the 2024-2025 year:

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
ICT (Information and Communications Technology) 1	ICT 1 (if not yet taken) or ICT 2	CSD (Computer Science Discoveries)
Exploratory Art (1/2 year) & Exploratory Spanish (1/2 year)	Studio Art Spanish Beginning	Studio Art Spanish Intermediate
STEM	STEM	STEM
News Crew*	News Crew*	News Crew*
Middle School 101	Creative Writing	Creative Writing
Band 1	Band 1 or 2	Band 1 (new instrument or no exp) Band 2 or 3
	Jazz Band**	Jazz Band**
Guitar	Guitar	Guitar
Yearbook*	Yearbook*	Yearbook*
		W.E.B.*

Band requires a fair share fee, along with the cost of purchasing or renting an instrument.

Jazz Band requires Band teacher approval and a concurrent Band class.

# ELECTIVE OPTIONS: PVA

Students may choose from the following electives for the 2024-2025 year:

6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
ICT (Information and Communications Technology) 1	ICT 1 (if not yet taken) or ICT 2	CSD (Computer Science Discoveries)
Exploratory Art (1/2 year) & Exploratory Spanish (1/2 year)	Studio Art Spanish Beginning	Studio Art Spanish Intermediate
STEM	STEM	STEM
News Crew*	News Crew*	News Crew*
Middle School 101	Creative Writing	Creative Writing
Band 1	Band 1 or 2	Band 1 (new instrument or no exp) Band 2 or 3
	Jazz Band**	Jazz Band**
Guitar	Guitar	Guitar
Yearbook*	Yearbook*	Yearbook*
		W.E.B.*

\*Indicates a separate application is required.

**All courses will be tentatively offered based on demand and PVA staffing.**

**If a student is required to take Intensive Reading or Intensive Math, the second and/or third elective (non-core) course may be replaced with these necessary intervention courses.**

# **DIRECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE REQUEST**

- **STUDENTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN A PAPER IN THEIR HOMEROOM/1<sup>ST</sup> PERIOD CLASS WITH A LIST OF ELECTIVES**
- **STUDENTS WILL RANK ALL OF THE ELECTIVES LISTED IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE**
- **FORMS WILL BE COLLECTED IN THE MORNING ON WED FEB 28**

# CONTACT INFORMATION:

- D'Niessa Slocum, Assistant Principal:  
[dniessa.slocum@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:dniessa.slocum@stjohns.k12.fl.us)
- Ashley Zapata, Assistant Principal:  
[Ashley.Zapata@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Ashley.Zapata@stjohns.k12.fl.us)
- Monica Ferguson, Middle School Counselor  
[monica.ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:monica.ferguson@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

**For help accessing HAC, please reach out to:**

- Mary Dominguez, Computer Operator:  
[mary.dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:mary.dominguez@stjohns.k12.fl.us)