



PVA 6th Grade Elective Selection Sheet for 2024-2025 School Year

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

All students will take 7 classes every day, including the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, & PE

Please rank your top 5 elective choices below in the left column. (1 = first choice, 2 = second choice, 3 = third choice, etc....):

| Rank | Course Name | Course Description |
|------|--|---|
| | Exploratory Art (1/2 year) * | Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both an historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. This is taken in the same year as Exploratory Spanish, there is no full year option. |
| | Exploratory Spanish (1/2 year) * | This course provides opportunities for exposure and self-development through the study of Spanish language and culture. Students will be able to engage in basic skills in listening and speaking activities. Students will also be introduced to in reading and writing Spanish. This is taken in the same year as Exploratory Art, there is no full year option. |
| | Information and Communications Technology (ICT) 1 | The purpose of this course is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices. |
| | STEM/STEAM | In this class, we use creativity and critical thinking to solve real world problems. Students are introduced to many new technologies which they use to create their own unique designs. Our summative grades are primarily project-based and we “learn by doing.” Students are also exposed to a wide variety of careers in STEM fields. There are no prerequisite skills for any grade level of middle school STEAM. Example projects include Classroom Furniture Redesign, Robotics, Bridge Design Competition, Shipping Crate to Tiny House, Mark Rober Inspired Electronic Gadget. The focus for 6 th grade level STEAM is “Intro to Design Technology, Problem Solving, Teamwork & Communication.” |
| | Middle School 101 | The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop learning strategies, critical-thinking skills and problem-solving skills to enhance their performance in academic and nonacademic endeavors. |
| | Band 1 (Beginning Band) | In this class we will be learning the fundamentals of music and performance through band instruments. After a brief instrument selection process, each student will be assigned an instrument for the class. Once assigned an instrument each student will be using the fundamentals of music in various ways to create quality performances in class and during concerts. |
| | Guitar 1 | In this class we will be learning the fundamentals of music and performance through playing the guitar. Each student will be provided with a guitar in class to use daily at school. This class will provide each student with a basic proficiency on guitar playing, fundamentals on music, and how to read guitar tabs. |
| | News Crew/ TV Pro** | Students in this class will work together to create scripts, brainstorm ideas for news segments, make team goals, and ultimately make awesome news shows for the entire school to enjoy. It goes beyond just what you see on the TV. We have a director, camera crew, people who run the switch, title slides, audio, the extremely important show editor, and many more jobs that we all work together to manage. It’s very much a <u>team effort</u> , lots of fun, and kind of like becoming part of a family . |
| | Yearbook** | This full-year course offers students an introduction to the basic elements of visual communication and the print world. Students will learn the fundamentals of photography as they document important events from the school year. Students will develop their communication skills via reporting, writing, class discussions, presentations, and publications. Students will create the yearbook and a variety of narrative projects that show how photography and the written word combine to inform society. Students who are in yearbook for a second time will take on leadership roles and will practice more advanced photography skills. There are no prerequisite skills required. Yearbook students will be expected to volunteer to photograph 1 afterschool activity per quarter. |

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Important Notes:

- **All courses will be tentatively offered based on demand and PVA staffing. We will do our best to accommodate requests; however, due to schedule constraints and class size, we cannot guarantee that the courses you choose will be available.**
- Students may be required to take **Intensive Reading** or recommended to take **Intensive Math** based on test scores and student data.
- Please take time to carefully choose your electives. *Once schedules are finalized, changes will not be made. **The final day to request an elective change is May 24th.***
- *The **Exploratory Art** and **Exploratory Spanish** courses are the **only** PVA middle school courses offered for a half year. If a student is registered for one, they will automatically be placed in the other one for the other half of the year.
- ****Application Required** - If interested in an elective that requires an application, the application elective will be prioritized, if accepted.
 - ****For Yearbook** application, please see Ms. Johns in room 503 on second floor by elevators.
 - ****For News Crew/TV Pro** application, please see Ms. Saloni in room 916 on third floor.
 - School counselors, Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Fennelly, will also have copies of each application.
- In March, we will send communication to all families when academic course placements and elective selections are visible in HAC for review and how to request a change, if necessary.

Students must bring this form filled out with their elective preferences to 1st period/Homeroom teachers on **Wednesday, February 28th** .

Please sign below to indicate that you understand the information above regarding elective selections:

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date



PVA 7th Grade Elective Selection Sheet for 2024-2025 School Year

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

All students will take 7 classes every day, including the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, & PE

Please rank your top 5 elective choices below in the left column. (1 = first choice, 2 = second choice, 3 = third choice, etc....):

| Rank | Course Name | Course Description |
|------|--|---|
| | Information and Communications Technology (ICT) 1 | The purpose of this course is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices. |
| | Information and Communications Technology (ICT) 2 | This course builds on the previous course (ICT 1) and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills/knowledge to master these concepts. Students will be provided opportunities to extend their skills with various software applications by creating more complex documents and using more complex functions. Students will also be exposed to structured programming and the creation of a more complex computer program. For the programming instruction, the use of Alice from Carnegie Mellon University is encouraged as it is a highly engaging program, includes instructional materials, and is available at no cost. *Prerequisite: ICT 1 |
| | Studio Art | Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both an historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. |
| | Beginning Spanish* | The purpose of this course is to enable students to begin to acquire proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and on acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered, and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course. |
| | STEM/STEAM | In this class, we use creativity and critical thinking to solve real world problems. Students are introduced to many new technologies which they use to create their own unique designs. Our summative grades are primarily project-based and we "learn by doing." Students are also exposed to a wide variety of careers in STEM fields. There are no prerequisite skills for any grade level of middle school STEAM. Example projects include Classroom Furniture Redesign, Robotics, Bridge Design Competition, Shipping Crate to Tiny House, Mark Rober Inspired Electronic Gadget. The focus for 7 th grade level STEAM is "Robotics & Biotechnologies." |
| | Creative Writing | Creative writing is a course that focuses on creating a portfolio of work over the course of the year. Students will learn how to craft interesting characters, engaging plots and realistic dialogue. They will also engage in the peer editing process and help publish the school literary magazine, The Collective. This class will have enough time to work on assignments during school, but it is a writing heavy course and background information and desire should be a factor in choosing this class as an elective. |
| | Band 1 (Beginning Band) | In this class we will be learning the fundamentals of music and performance through band instruments. After a brief instrument selection process, each student will be assigned an instrument for the class. Once assigned an instrument each student will be using the fundamentals of music in various ways to create quality performances in class and during concerts. |
| | Band 2 or 3 (Symphonic and Concert Band) | In this class we will be developing higher level performance skills through music. This will be done through daily playing, in class assessments, and concerts. Each student will be using skills learned in Beginning Band to further their musical knowledge and ability. In addition, this ensemble will have the opportunity to perform at MPA in the Spring. |
| | Guitar 1 or 2 | In this class we will be learning (or expanding upon) the fundamentals of music and performance through playing the guitar. Each student will be provided with a guitar in class to use daily at school. This class will provide each student with a basic proficiency on guitar playing, fundamentals on music, and how to read guitar tabs. |
| | Jazz Band** | In this class we will be developing higher level performance skills through music. This will be done through daily playing, in class assessments, and concerts. Each student will be using skills learned in Beginning Band or other ensembles to further their musical knowledge and ability. In addition, this ensemble will have the opportunity to perform at MPA in the Spring. |

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| Rank | Course Name | Course Description |
|------|--------------------------------|---|
| | News Crew/ TV Pro** | Students in this class will work together to create scripts, brainstorm ideas for news segments, make team goals, and ultimately make awesome news shows for the entire school to enjoy. It goes beyond just what you see on the TV. We have a director, camera crew, people who run the switch, title slides, audio, the extremely important show editor, and many more jobs that we all work together to manage. It's very much a <u>team effort</u> , lots of fun, and kind of like becoming part of a family . |
| | Yearbook** | This full-year course offers students an introduction to the basic elements of visual communication and the print world. Students will learn the fundamentals of photography as they document important events from the school year. Students will develop their communication skills via reporting, writing, class discussions, presentations, and publications. Students will create the yearbook and a variety of narrative projects that show how photography and the written word combine to inform society. Students who are in yearbook for a second time will take on leadership roles and will practice more advanced photography skills. There are no prerequisite skills required. Yearbook students will be expected to volunteer to photograph 1 afterschool activity per quarter. |

Important Notes:

- **All courses will be tentatively offered based on demand and PVA staffing. We will do our best to accommodate requests; however, due to schedule constraints and class size, we cannot guarantee that the courses you choose will be available.**
- Students may be required to take **Intensive Reading** or recommended to take **Intensive Math** based on test scores and student data.
- Please take time to carefully choose your electives. *Once schedules are finalized, changes will not be made. **The final day to request an elective change is May 24th.***
- *Students who successfully complete **Beginning Spanish** in 7th grade and **Intermediate Spanish** in 8th grade may be eligible for one high school language credit, equivalent for **Spanish 1**. This option is meant for those that wish to pursue three to four credits of a world language in high school, ideally for those interested in Honors Spanish 3 or AP Spanish as an upperclassman.
- ****Application Required/Jazz Band requires Band teacher approval** - If interested in an elective that requires an application, the application elective will be prioritized, if accepted.
 - ****For Yearbook** application, please see Ms. Johns in room 503 on second floor by elevators.
 - ****For News Crew/TV Pro** application, please see Ms. Salonijs in room 916 on third floor.
 - School counselors, Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Fennelly, will also have copies of each application.
- In March, we will send communication to all families when academic course placements and elective selections are visible in HAC for review and how to request a change, if necessary.

Students must bring this form filled out with their elective preferences to 1st period/Homeroom teachers on **Wednesday, February 28th** .

Please sign below to indicate that you understand the information above regarding elective selections:

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date



PVA 8th Grade Elective Selection Sheet for 2024-2025 School Year

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

All students will take 7 classes every day, including the following: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, & PE

Please rank your top 5 elective choices below in the left column. (1 = first choice, 2 = second choice, 3 = third choice, etc....):

| Rank | Course Name | Course Description |
|------|--|---|
| | Information and Communications Technology (ICT) 1 | The purpose of this course is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices. |
| | Information and Communications Technology (ICT) 2 | This course builds on the previous course (ICT 1) and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills/knowledge to master these concepts. Students will be provided opportunities to extend their skills with various software applications by creating more complex documents and using more complex functions. Students will also be exposed to structured programming and the creation of a more complex computer program. For the programming instruction, the use of Alice from Carnegie Mellon University is encouraged as it is a highly engaging program, includes instructional materials, and is available at no cost. *Prerequisite: ICT 1 |
| | Computer Science Discoveries (CSD) | Computing is so fundamental to understanding and participating in society that it is valuable for every student to learn as part of a modern education. Computer science can be viewed as a liberal art, a subject that provides students with a critical lens for interpreting the world around them. Computer science prepares all students to be active and informed contributors to our increasingly technological society whether they pursue careers in technology or not. Computer science can be life-changing, not just skill training. No Prerequisite. |
| | Studio Art | Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both an historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and/or collage. |
| | Intermediate Spanish* | The purpose of this course is to enable students to continue to acquire proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and on acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered, and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course. |
| | STEM/STEAM | In this class, we use creativity and critical thinking to solve real world problems. Students are introduced to many new technologies which they use to create their own unique designs. Our summative grades are primarily project-based and we "learn by doing." Students are also exposed to a wide variety of careers in STEM fields. There are no prerequisite skills for any grade level of middle school STEAM. Example projects include Classroom Furniture Redesign, Robotics, Bridge Design Competition, Shipping Crate to Tiny House, Mark Rober Inspired Electronic Gadget. The focus for 8 th grade level STEAM is "Green Architecture & Power/Energy Technology." |
| | Creative Writing | Creative writing is a course that focuses on creating a portfolio of work over the course of the year. Students will learn how to craft interesting characters, engaging plots and realistic dialogue. They will also engage in the peer editing process and help publish the school literary magazine, The Collective. This class will have enough time to work on assignments during school, but it is a writing heavy course and background information and desire should be a factor in choosing this class as an elective. |
| | Band 1 (Beginning Band) | In this class we will be learning the fundamentals of music and performance through band instruments. After a brief instrument selection process, each student will be assigned an instrument for the class. Once assigned an instrument each student will be using the fundamentals of music in various ways to create quality performances in class and during concerts. |
| | Band 2 or 3 (Symphonic and Concert Band) | In this class we will be developing higher level performance skills through music. This will be done through daily playing, in class assessments, and concerts. Each student will be using skills learned in Beginning Band to further their musical knowledge and ability. In addition, this ensemble will have the opportunity to perform at MPA in the Spring. |
| | Guitar 1 or 2 | In this class we will be learning (or expanding upon) the fundamentals of music and performance through playing the guitar. Each student will be provided with a guitar in class to use daily at school. This class will provide each student with a basic proficiency on guitar playing, fundamentals on music, and how to read guitar tabs. |

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| Rank | Course Name | Course Description |
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| | Jazz Band** | In this class we will be developing higher level performance skills through music. This will be done through daily playing, in class assessments, and concerts. Each student will be using skills learned in Beginning Band or other ensembles to further their musical knowledge and ability. In addition, this ensemble will have the opportunity to perform at MPA in the Spring. |
| | News Crew/ TV Pro** | Students in this class will work together to create scripts, brainstorm ideas for news segments, make team goals, and ultimately make awesome news shows for the entire school to enjoy. It goes beyond just what you see on the TV. We have a director, camera crew, people who run the switch, title slides, audio, the extremely important show editor, and many more jobs that we all work together to manage. It's very much a <u>team effort</u> , lots of fun, and kind of like becoming part of a family . |
| | Yearbook** | This full-year course offers students an introduction to the basic elements of visual communication and the print world. Students will learn the fundamentals of photography as they document important events from the school year. Students will develop their communication skills via reporting, writing, class discussions, presentations, and publications. Students will create the yearbook and a variety of narrative projects that show how photography and the written word combine to inform society. Students who are in yearbook for a second time will take on leadership roles and will practice more advanced photography skills. There are no prerequisite skills required. Yearbook students will be expected to volunteer to photograph 1 afterschool activity per quarter. |
| | W.E.B. (Where Everybody Belongs)** | Students in this class, our W.E.B. leaders, will act as school leaders helping sixth graders with the transition to middle school, welcome incoming students to PVA, assist in elementary classes, and help enrich the middle school with a sense of community. |

Important Notes:

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- ****Application Required/Jazz Band requires Band teacher approval** - If interested in an elective that requires an application, the application elective will be prioritized, if accepted.
 - ****For a Yearbook application**, please see Ms. Johns in room 503 on second floor by elevators.
 - ****For a News Crew/TV Pro application**, please see Ms. Salonus in room 916 on third floor.
 - ****For a W.E.B. application**, please see Ms. LaCoste in room 925 near the back stairwell.
 - School counselors, Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Fennelly, will also have copies of each application.
- In March, we will send communication to all families when academic course placements and elective selections are visible in HAC for review and how to request a change, if necessary.

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