

Name:

Elementary School:



81 West Rocks Road
Norwalk, CT 06851
(203) 899 - 2970

Grade 6 Course Selection

School Year:

20__ - 20__

Other Notes (*Counselor Only*):

All students are strongly encouraged to take a world language. Successful completion of a world language in middle school earns a credit for students toward their graduation requirement in high school.

Length of Course: full year, meets every other day

Choose 1 by marking an X on the line.

_____ **Spanish (A)**

The beginning Spanish course emphasizes the fundamental skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish. These skills are developed through a thematic approach that stresses themes such as sports, family, shopping, school, travel, and meals. Geography of Spanish speaking countries is also included. Individual cultural projects will be assigned at the teacher's discretion.

_____ **Native Language Spanish (A)**

This course is for students who are fluent speaking Spanish and have basic skills in reading and writing. They might require support in those areas. Students will build on their competency in speaking, writing and reading their native language. To further enhance their understanding of the culture, special activities are developed.

_____ **Dual Language Spanish (A) (Silvermine Dual Language Program only)**

This course is for students who are continuing the *Silvermine Elementary Dual Language Program* in grade 6. These students have basic skills in reading and writing in Spanish. Students will build on their competency in speaking, writing and reading in the Dual Language Program in middle school.

_____ **French (A)**

This beginning French course emphasizes the fundamental skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. These skills are developed through a thematic approach that stresses themes such as sports, family, shopping, school, travel, and meals. Geography of French speaking countries is also included. Individual cultural projects will be assigned at the teacher's discretion.

Related Arts (Electives)

Length of Course: full year, meets every other day

For students interested in starting or continuing music, choose the appropriate course by marking an X on the line. Gifted and Talented Art students must have a teacher recommendation from their elementary art teacher.

_____ **Band**

Band is the initial band instrumental course. This course will survey the basic idiomatic concepts of marching band, theatrical band, harmony and theory, classical concert band, contemporary concert band, and parade band. Within the confines of the course tone production, embouchure development, intonation, rhythmic reading and accuracy and musical expression will be stressed. Public appearances are required.

_____ **Advanced Band [Please indicate instrument: _____]**

This course is *band* for 6th grade students that played an instrument in elementary school with the same description.

_____ **Orchestra* [Please indicate instrument: _____]**

This course is a continuation of the elementary orchestra program at a more advanced level. The orchestra plays at special programs, in other schools in the system, and at public concerts. Emphasis is placed upon good rhythm, intonation, tone, and technique. String quartets and small ensembles are offered. **prerequisite*

_____ **Chorus**

Chorus is a mixed group of students who are interested but can be inexperienced singers. It is designed for students with a desire to learn the fundamentals of voice production and to improve their natural voice. There should be a demonstrated desire to learn basic music reading. Students will learn the fundamentals of singing and music theory through practice and daily activities. Students will be introduced to two and three part singing. A strong emphasis will be placed on building musical literacy.

_____ Gifted and Talented Art (Teacher Recommendation Required)

The course provides a transition from experimentation and discovery to improvement of skill and focus on detail in drawing, painting, and design. Students have the opportunity to develop their artistic talents by increasing their visual perception, stimulating their imagination, and being involved in the creative process. Focus is on creating art with a message, creating art for their community and working with other artists/peers. Students will work with a variety of media and techniques, expressing themselves creatively through drawing, painting and 3D sculpture.

Length of Course: semester, meets every other day

Please order preference 1-5 (1 for the top choice, 5 for the least preferred, leave two blank).

_____ Piano

No prior knowledge of piano is necessary. The course is designed to develop basic piano skills. Time in class will be spent on keyboards practicing songs and time as a group learning the fundamentals of music notation. A strong emphasis will be placed on building musical literacy. Students will also study various composers and gain an appreciation for all types of music.

_____ Theatre Arts

In this course students will be introduced to theatre vocabulary, basic acting technique, and theatre etiquette. Contributions of the playwright, actor, director, designer and producer are examined through individual and group projects and attendance and participation in theatrical performances. Students will write and revise scripts based on personal experience and heritage, imagination, literature and history as they explore the foundations of playwriting. Students will apply acting and analytical skills, create characters, memorize lines and work in an ensemble on a play.

_____ Art

The course provides a transition from experimentation and discovery to improvement of skill and focus on detail in drawing, painting, and design. Students have the opportunity to develop their artistic talents by increasing their visual perception, stimulating their imagination, and being involved in the creative process. Focus is on creating art with a message, creating art for their community and working with other artists/peers. Students will work with a variety of media and techniques, expressing themselves creatively through drawing, painting and 3D sculpture.

_____ Technology Education

This STEM based course engages students in activities that not only build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, but also empower students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance. Some topics include: design and modeling, automation and robotics, and computer science for innovators and makers.

_____ Family and Consumer Science

The course is designed to prepare students for everyday living and provides them with the knowledge and skills they need to begin their journey toward becoming independent and productive. This course consists of several units: nutrition based on the five food groups and reading labels, kitchen safety, kitchen tools, measuring ingredients, reading and following recipes, and applying those skills in cooking or baking. Through a combination of demonstration and hands on practice, students will be introduced to the basic principles of cookery, including recipe interpretation, measurements, food safety, and basic cooking methods.

_____ Web Literacy

When students are in middle school, understanding how to find trustworthy info on the web becomes a big part of their academic and personal lives. These multimedia lessons and teaching tools will help prepare students to evaluate reliable sources, navigate the ins and outs of copyright, and locate and learn from quality news and media content.

_____ Media Science

This course teaches students *digital citizenship* through student-directed, media-rich activities that tackle real-world dilemmas. Students learn from the experiences of their peers then create collaborative projects that voice their ideas for making smart, safe choices online.

All students are enrolled in physical education for 3 quarters and health for 1 quarter.

Students are placed into reading or math intervention classes based on established criteria by the district.

After-School Courses 2019-2020

We are excited to announce that we will have three new courses that will run one day per week for about an hour after school throughout next school year. *Please indicate with an X if you are interested in enrolling in any of the following:*

_____ **Learning Japanese through Anime** – Students will be introduced to the Japanese language through Anime (reading, writing, speaking, and listening).

_____ **Journalism (*School Newspaper*)** – Students will learn and apply the basic writing and communication skills required in journalism. We will have 3 published newspapers over the course of the year (*Panther Press!*)

_____ **STeAM Academy** - Learn aerospace fundamentals; build drones and compete against other teams in drone obstacle courses; pilot flight simulators; program, and operate robots; learn software basics and build smartphone apps; conduct archaeological digs...

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Course selection sheet due back to 5th grade teachers by Friday, May 3, 2019.