

EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Chorus

Students who are members of the Vineyard Chorus will be singing in performances including two concerts a year. Chorus members will learn how to sing, how to breathe when singing, how to read music, and how to perform. There are also opportunities to showcase solo performers. Chorus is great fun and provides an opportunity for students to explore their creativity.

Band and Orchestra

Students involved in the Vineyard Junior High Band focus on learning and performing band music related to their chosen instrument. Instruments taught include flutes, oboes, clarinets, saxophones, trombones, trumpets, baritones, French horns, tubas, keyboards, violin, viola, cello, bass, bells and percussion. Students' responsibilities are to participate in band activities which include concerts, class participation, and individual practice. Students who would like to begin an instrument may join band class. Instruments can be rented from local music stores (there are some instruments available for students to use from school). The band at Vineyard Junior High School has a tradition of excellence and is a lot of fun!

Exploratory Wheel

Students will explore a different subject area each trimester. **Wheel classes are subject to change.**

Leadership

Students involved in Leadership have the responsibility of representing and communicating with the student body as part of ASB. They plan activities for students, maintain the Student Renaissance Program and coordinate and assist in community based projects. **Extra hours beyond school are expected. Students must apply, meet requirements and be selected.**

Office Aide/Teacher Aide

Students may serve as a teacher or office assistant. **Students must complete an application, meet requirements and have a teacher recommendation. Please request an application from the office.**

Intro to Spanish – Students must meet grade requirements.

Intro to Spanish is designed to give an introduction to the Spanish Language through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students should anticipate some homework in this elective.

Spanish 1 – Must have taken Intro to Spanish and meet requirements.

The goals and standards for Spanish language learning is to focus on communication, culture and the importance of second language competence in enhancing the students' ability to function well in the global community of the 21st century. The materials being used align with the high school's Spanish 1 course curricula. Upon completion of Spanish 1, students who demonstrate interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication proficiency may be eligible to take Spanish 2 when entering high school (pending placement testing and teacher recommendation).

Visual Art

This is a course designed for the student interested in expanding art techniques and understanding of visual design. Students will study drawing, including a student made coloring book, art appreciation, painting techniques, ceramics (clay) and more.

Yearbook

Students learn budgeting, collaboration, communication skills, photography and much more as they create the school yearbook and other publications. **Students must apply, meet requirements and be selected.**