



# Alice B. Landrum Middle School

## 2019 – 2020

### Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Course Offering Sheet

The LMS Elective program encourages our students to pursue interests and passions beyond the core curriculum. Keep an open mind when choosing electives, constraints in the master schedule, adjusting class size and enrollment in specialized courses (i.e. Intensive Math, and/or classes with singleton offerings) MAY cause your student to be enrolled in a course other than the ones he/she selects below. Be aware that difficulties may arise and your preference will be used, however the rank order is not guaranteed.

**Schedule:** All students will have 4 core classes PLUS 3 elective course offerings

#### Elective Courses:

##### Art

Course Description: Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artwork through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. **\*\*A studio donation of \$15 provides a sketchbook and expendable materials such as clay, paint and paper.\*\***

##### **Advanced Art (Prerequisite: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Art and a signature of recommendation from the teacher.)**

Course Description: Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from a 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. **\*\*A studio donation of \$15 provides a sketchbook and expendable materials such as clay, paint and paper.\*\***

##### Drama

Course Description: Students learn the basics of the Theatre Arts as pantomime, improvisation, and group scenes. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. In class performances will showcase learned skills.

##### **Advanced Drama (Prerequisite: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Drama or Monologue Audition at End of School Year)**

Course Description: Students with previous theatre experience and instruction continue to study acting, design, and dramatic literature to increase the enjoyment and understanding of what is required to prepare plays for the public. Students explore theatre history, study the great American playwrights, examine cultural and historical contributions to theatre, and begin to use the information to inform and improve their theatre knowledge and skills. Students will have to participate in One Act performances. (Students that did not participate in Drama 1 may take Advanced Drama with special permission and audition.)

##### **Beginning Band - Year long Course No experience required**

\* Financial commitment required for instruments or instrument rental.\*

\*\* Mrs. Sacharski, Band Director, will help determine the students' instrument selection.\*\*

##### **Advanced Band**

Course Description: Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. \* **Financial commitment required for instruments or instrument rentals. After school practice and competition participation are required. Band selection placement will be determined by Mrs. Sacharski.\***

## **Physical Education (PE)**

Course Description: The purpose is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. Content provides exposure to a variety of movements, opportunities, and experiences.

Points of emphasis: Team Sports (7<sup>th</sup> Grade); Comprehensive+ Individual and Dual Sports (8<sup>th</sup> Grade).

## **Engaged Citizenship through Service Learning**

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to service-learning and civic responsibility.

Academic, personal and career skills needed for effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school and/or community needs. Students will actively participate in meaningful service-learning experiences of at least 20 hours' duration.

## **Reading 1 Advanced**

Course Description: The course provides the opportunity for avid readers to read books and study other media that is of interest. This is a free reading program that is student led. Students have the freedom to choose texts of interest. Through book talks and digital book reviews students promote readership amongst our community of readers.

## **Journalism 1**

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Some activities may be required outside of the school day. Students will develop and produce *The Predator*, the Landrum Middle School newspaper, which is distributed to the entire school and updated daily on our website [Landrumlinks.com](http://Landrumlinks.com). In addition, this course will introduce students to the world of desktop publishing, including photography, design and layout and writing and reading across different media platforms, including yearbook design, photography, sales, and production.

## **Journalism 2**

Course Description: **(Prerequisite Journalism 1)** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across multimedia, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Some activities may be required outside of the school day. Students will develop and produce *ROAR TV*, the award winning, Landrum Middle School video news magazine, which can be seen by the entire school daily on our website [Landrumlinks.com](http://Landrumlinks.com).

## **Computer Science Discoveries (CS Discoveries)**

Course Description: An introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. The course also includes the study of computers and algorithmic processes, including their principles, hardware and software designs, applications, and their impact on society, and includes an introduction to web design and computer programming.

## **Emerging Technology in Business (High School Credit Course)**

Course Description: The purpose of this program is to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the area of Emerging Technology in Business. The content includes but is not limited to: electronic research methods; business communications including speaking, listening, writing, and telecommunicating; multimedia presentation skills; ethical considerations related to technology; and emerging technologies affecting business environments. Instruction is designed to provide an understanding of the advances being made in technology today and in the future. **\*\* Grades earned in this course are permanent on the high school transcript. Strong previous test scores and work ethic performance is necessary. \*\***

### **STEM 1 (Strong previous test scores & proven success in core courses necessary)**

Course Description: STEM is an acronym referring to the academic disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The course is for students who have not had STEM before and is a hands-on, interdisciplinary problem-based learning experience. Projects include catapults, balsa bridges, and rockets.

**\*\*Opportunities for participating in the afterschool club are also available.\***

### **STEM 2 Strong performance in STEM 1 at Landrum the previous year. Only for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.**

Course Description: The course is an advanced version of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) with more complicated and challenging projects for students to build. The first semester will focus on exploring robotics. The second semester will include building a hydraulic arm and mouse trap cars, and planning recycling and as off the grid house.

### **M/J Intermediate Spanish**

*\* Strong test scores and work ethic in beginning course is recommended for continuing the Intermediate course.\**

Course Description: Continuation of M/J Beginning Spanish. Students will learn the second half of the content covered in high school Spanish 1. **\*\*M/J Beg Spanish + M/J Inter Spanish with a “C” or higher in both and a passing grade on the Midterm and Final from both classes will be awarded HS Spanish 1 credit reflected on the high school transcript.**

### **Spanish I (High School Credit Course)**

Course Description: Students will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons and communities. **\*\* Grades earned in this course are permanent on the high school transcript. Strong previous test scores and work ethic performance is necessary. \*\***

### **Chinese 1 (High School Credit Course)**

Only one period, in conjunction with PCHS teacher; space is limited

Course Description: Chinese 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons and communities. **\*\* Grades earned in this course are permanent on the high school transcript. Strong previous test scores and work ethic performance is necessary. \*\***