



# Alice B. Landrum Middle School

## 2021 – 2022

### 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.

#### **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 (Theatre)**

Course Description: This class is an introduction to the world of Theatre. Students learn the basics of creating a story and bringing characters to life – explore different types of Theatre such as pantomime, improvisation, and group scene - the importance of technical theatre and how to design costumes, props, and scenery. There is something for everyone in this class.

#### **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 dive deeper into the world of Theatre They will continue to explore theatre history, study the great American playwrights, and examine cultural and historical contributions to theatre. Students will use their knowledge to participate in One Act performances for the public. (Students that did not participate in Drama 1 may take Advanced Drama with special permission and audition.)

#### **Musical Theatre 1**

Course Description: This class focuses on the tools you need for Musical Theatre. Students will survey the current and historical trends in musical theatre. Students will explore the unique skill set in both performance and design needed for Musical Theatre. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instruction goals.

#### **Musical Theatre 2**

Course Description: This class focuses on the tools you need for Musical Theatre. Students will deepen previous knowledge in basic acting, vocal performance, and dance/movement. Students will also be given leadership and mentoring roles to Musical Theatre 1 students. Students will survey the current and historical trends in musical theatre. Students will explore the unique skill set in both performance and design needed for Musical Theatre. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instruction goals.

## **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.

## **Literacy Through Film & Literature (this course is formally known as Reading 1 Advanced)**

Course Description: This course is primarily designed as a pleasure reading enrichment that promotes readership, while encouraging students to read widely with exposure to various works of literature and non-fiction text. In addition, this class awakens the inner reader in the reluctant. Students will live vicariously through characters real and imagined through books of interest, as well as short stories, and the reading of a play. To conclude, students will deepen their analysis skills in reading and will exercise comparing/contrasting texts to other media.

## **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 through our website [LandrumToday.com](http://LandrumToday.com). In addition, this course will introduce students to the world of news magazine video production, 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 [LandrumToday.com](http://LandrumToday.com). Students also produce documentary films for C-SPAN, Studentcam.org, and Jim Harbin Student Media Film Festival.

## **Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Essentials 2**

Course Description: No prerequisite required. While this course builds on the ICT 1 course, it is not necessary for students to have taken ICT Essentials 1 as a prerequisite. Students will be provided opportunities to increase the depth of their knowledge of concepts and skills with various software applications, by creating more comprehensive documents and using more complex functions. Students will demonstrate proficiency in database applications, spreadsheets and video and sound editing, as well as an introduction to the basics of webpage layout.

## **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, computer science impact on society and to see where it exists around them, and includes an introduction to web design and computer programming.

## **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. Students are guided to produce original ideas, objects, and structures through the following units: The Engineer Design Process, Structural Engineering, CAD, Applied Physics, Electricity and Electronics, and Power and Energy.

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

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, with a strong emphasis on research. The first semester will focus on Exploring Engineering and Technology fields such as Agricultural and Environmental Engineering, Bioengineering and Health Technology, and Recycling Technologies. The second semester will focus on Robotics.

## **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)**

*\* Strong work ethic performance is recommended for this High School course.\**

Course Description: Students will develop communicative skills in all three 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.\*\***

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

Only one period, in conjunction with PVHS 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 three 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. \*\***