



# Alice B. Landrum Middle School

## 2025-2026 Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Course Offerings

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The LMS Elective program encourages our students to pursue interests and passions beyond the core curriculum. Please keep an open mind when choosing electives. Constraints in the master schedule, adjusting class size and enrollment in specialized courses (i.e. Intensive Reading, 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, Physical Education (PE), PLUS 2 elective course offerings

8<sup>th</sup> grade students ***must*** take:

### **Physical Education (PE)**

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: Individual/Dual Sports (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**\*PE uniforms are required. Available for purchase through our PTO\*\***

### **Elective Courses**

#### **Art 3**

Students extend to advanced level of techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials. **\*\*A studio donation of \$15 provides a sketchbook and expendable materials such as clay, paint and paper.\*\***

#### **Band 3**

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.**

#### **Computer Science Discoveries (CSD)**

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.

#### **Drama 3**

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 learn about and begin to use the basic elements of theatre design through practical application and projects. Public performances



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may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

### **Exploring Music 1**

Students with little or no vocal or instrumental experience develop basic foundational skills and knowledge, including music theory, technique, musicianship and ensemble skills. Students also explore different genres of music and learn about the benefits of music study. Students may be required to attend one or more performances outside of the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

### **Guitar 1**

The purpose of this course is to enable students with little or no experience to develop basic guitar skills and knowledge, including simple and full-strum chords, strumming patterns, playing/singing simple melodies, foundational music theory, parts of the guitar, and ensemble skills. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom

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

M/J Spanish Intermediate is a continuation of M/J Beginning Spanish. Students will expand their knowledge of the language and its culture. Students will be able to engage in basic listening and speaking activities. Basic skills in reading and writing, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course. **\*\*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 can be awarded HS Spanish 1 credit reflected on the high school transcript.**

### **Journalism 3**

Course Description: 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. This course will have an increased focus on digital art and design embedded within journalism.

### **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.

### **STEM 2**

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.