

**It's time to select your  
courses for next year!**



# **PVMS Electives Night**

**Rising 7th & 8th Grade**

***SY 2024-2025***

# Tonight's Goals...

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1. Identify and describe elective courses offerings
2. Discuss the impact of taking high school credit courses in middle school
3. Identify and apply strategies to help your student select appropriate courses.
4. Review dates, directions, and materials to assist with elective registration.

# Introductions

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1. Danializ Arbelo, Hispanic Liaison
2. Interpreters
3. Jamie Kim, 6th grade school counselor
4. Jamie Glover, 7th grade school counselor
5. Jill Pezza, Data Clerk
6. Carol Ketterman, Assistant Principal

Course 1 (teacher rec.)	English								
Course 2 (teacher rec.)	Mathematics								
Course 3 (teacher rec.)	Science								
Course 4 (teacher rec.)	Social Studies								
Course 5 (MS rec.)	Physical Education (x2)/Health/Tech (quarterly)								
<b>Course 6- Fine Art</b> (Student/Parent selection)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>Dance</b></td> <td><b>Theater</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Band</b></td> <td><b>General Music</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Chorus</b></td> <td><b>Art</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Orchestra</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>Theater</b>	<b>Band</b>	<b>General Music</b>	<b>Chorus</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>Orchestra</b>	
<b>Dance</b>	<b>Theater</b>								
<b>Band</b>	<b>General Music</b>								
<b>Chorus</b>	<b>Art</b>								
<b>Orchestra</b>									
<b>Course 7- Elective</b> (Student/Parent selection)  or Intervention* (teacher rec.)	<b>Readers' Writers' Workshop</b> <b>Exploring Computer Science</b> <b>Foundations of technology</b> <b>French</b> <b>Spanish</b> <b>Chinese*</b>								
* ESOL, Math, Reading									

All students are enrolled in 7, 50-minute classes four days a week.

One day a week students follow an alternate schedule that includes a 30-minute SEL period and 7, 46-minute classes.

Times	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
7:40	Arrival, Student Transition to HR/Breakfast in p1		
7:50 - 8:00	Homeroom (in p1): Attendance (p0 in Synergy), Breakfast, Announcements		
8:00 - 8:50	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
8:52 - 9:42	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
9:44 - 10:34	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
10:36 - 12:50	10:36 - 11:06 <b>Lunch</b>	10:36 - 11:26 Period 4	10:36 - 11:26 Period 4
	11:08 - 11:58 Period 4	11:28 - 11:58 <b>Lunch</b>	11:28 - 12:18 Period 5
	12:00 - 12:50 Period 5	12:00 - 12:50 Period 5	12:20 - 12:50 <b>Lunch</b>
12:52 - 1:42	Period 6	Period 6	Period 6
1:44 - 2:34	Period 7	Period 7	Period 7
2:34 - 2:35	Announcements and Dismissal in p7		

Times	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
7:40	Arrival, Student Transition to HR/Breakfast		
7:50 - 8:29	Breakfast, Announcements, Attendance (p0 in Synergy) Bulldog Flex (in p1 class for 30 mins.)		
8:29 - 9:15	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
9:17 - 10:03	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10:05 - 10:51	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
10:53 - 12:59	10:53 - 11:23 <b>Lunch</b>	10:53 - 11:39 Period 4	10:53 - 11:39 Period 4
	11:25 - 12:11 Period 4	11:41 - 12:11 <b>Lunch</b>	11:41 - 12:27 Period 5
	12:13 - 12:59 Period 5	12:13 - 12:59 Period 5	12:29 - 12:59 <b>Lunch</b>
1:01 - 1:46	Period 6	Period 6	Period 6
1:48 - 2:34	Period 7	Period 7	Period 7
2:34 - 2:35	Announcements and Dismissal in p7		



## Middle School Courses

1. Art 1 (7th/8th) and 2 (8th)
2. Theatre 1 (7th/8th) and 2 (8th)
3. Dance 1 (7th/8th) and 2 (8th)
4. General Music
5. Band
6. Chorus
7. Orchestra
8. Readers' Writers' Workshop (7th/8th)

## High School Courses in MS

1. French 1 (7th/8th)
2. French 2 (8th)
3. Spanish 1 (7th/8th)
4. Spanish 2 (8th)
5. Foundations of Technology (7th/8th)
6. Exploring Computer Science (7th/8th)

# MS Visual Arts Studio A & B

Stretch your imagination and creativity, strengthen your visual memory, and make personal discoveries that inform and guide your art making practice!



## You will:

- Develop and strengthen your drawing and painting skills.
- Collaborate with peers to learn and discover sculpture, printmaking, painting, alternative and media arts to convey an idea or message.

# MS Theatre Arts A & B

*Stimulate your imagination through collaborative role-playing experiences designed to build confidence and strengthen acting skills for theatrical productions.*

## **You will:**

- Strengthen your ability to communicate your ideas and messages through theatrical performances.
- Collaborate with peers to learn and discover how to communicate ideas, emotions and experiences.
- Reflect on personal and collaborative performances applying theatre concepts / vocabulary.





# General Music I & II

## You will:

- Learn applied techniques and how to create music.
  - *guitar, keyboards, drums*
  - *music technology/recording software*
- Develop your individual music skills AND ensemble skills with the class.
- Learn how to read and write music.
- Perform with friends and share your music with the school community.
- Explore various music genres and styles.



# Dance A & B

## You will:

- Communicate your ideas through dance.
- Collaborate with peers to learn and discover how to share ideas, emotions and experiences.
- Apply dance concepts both individually and in groups..



# MS Performing Ensembles: Band, Chorus & Orchestra

## You will:

- Learn applied techniques for your voice or instrument.
- Develop both your individual musicianship skills AND ensemble skills.
- Perform with friends and share your music with the school community.

*Auditions and director approval are needed for the top ensembles but there is a spot for EVERY student in the band, chorus and orchestra programs!*



# Fine Arts Performance Electives

Before deciding to join band, dance, chorus or orchestra, students and parents should be aware of the following:

- These classes require a time commitment as well as a financial commitment. Joining the class does not guarantee that students will be able to play their first choice of instrument, or that an instrument will be provided by the school. Students are asked to obtain an instrument as well as necessary supplies and materials that may need to be replenished throughout the year.
- While we do provide instruments to students in need, the number of these instruments are limited and student instrument choice may be limited to what is available.
- There are after-school rehearsals and concerts that are required and graded as part of performing arts classes. Additionally, students are expected to practice at home regularly and show responsibility for transporting their instrument to and from school.
- Sectionals are a graded component of band and orchestra. Students are scheduled for sectionals approximately once every other week and must make up work from their other class when attending a sectional.
- Individual and group performance is a regular and graded component of this course.

## Fine Arts Performance Electives Contacts

Band: Mr. Bickham, [Brandon\\_Bickham@hcpss.org](mailto:Brandon_Bickham@hcpss.org)

Chorus: Ms. Dawn Francis, [Dawn\\_Francis@hcpss.org](mailto:Dawn_Francis@hcpss.org)

Dance: Ms. Erin Gum, [Erin\\_Gum@hcpss.org](mailto:Erin_Gum@hcpss.org)

Orchestra: Ms. Lentz, [Anna\\_Lentz@hcpss.org](mailto:Anna_Lentz@hcpss.org)

## Reader's and Writer's Workshop

This course is designed for students to develop their writing and engage in thoughtful discussions about texts.

Students will create their own responses that mirror the text and demonstrate mastery of the writing skills.

Using a workshop approach, students will be reading and writing daily so that final products can be constructed and polished throughout the course.

# What does it mean to be enrolled in a high school credit course in middle school?

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Students and families should know:

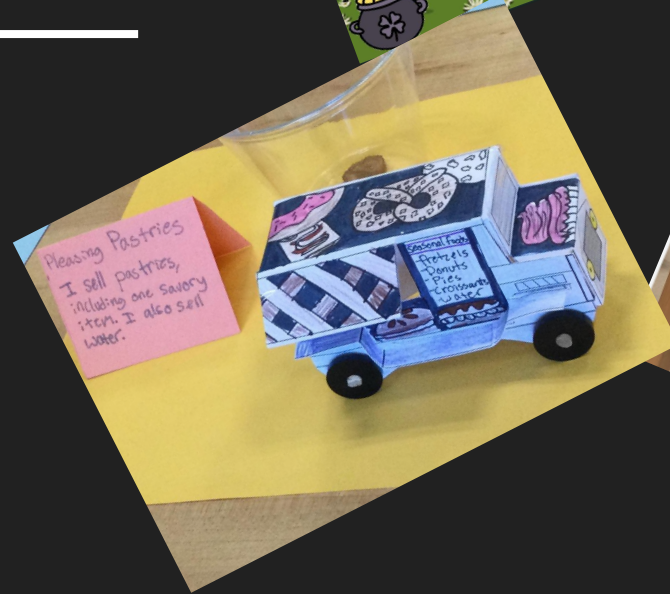
1. Content presented is **high school material**
2. Students will need to earn a **final grade** for the course that is **passing** to earn credit high school credit. ([Policy 8020](#))- *average D must be 0.75 or greater for credit to be awarded.*
3. The **midterm** assessment will be included in 2nd quarter grades
4. The **final** assessment will be included in 4th quarter grades
5. Final grade for the course will appear on the high school transcript but **WILL NOT** be calculated into the high school GPA.

# CTE High School Courses in Middle School

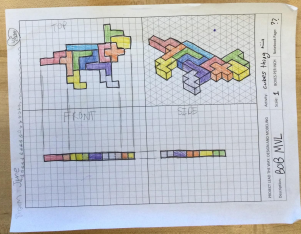
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Foundations of Technology

Exploring Computer Science







# ***FOUNDATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY***

## **Units of Study**

- **Inventions and Innovations**
- **Engineering Design**
- **The Designed World: Energy & Power, Manufacturing, Construction, Information, Agriculture, Communication**
- **Systems Engineering**
- **Computer Aided Design (CAD)**



HOME

# HOW2: HOMEWORK

What do you need?

x: 310, y: 190  
id: HOME

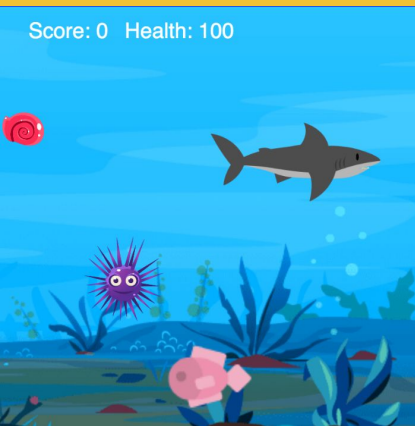
Writing

History

Math

Science

Run



# EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Units of Study

- **Problem Solving and Computing**
- **Interactive Animation and Games**
- **Web Development**
- **Data Analysis and Encoding**
- **App Development**
- **Physical Computing with Circuit Playground**

## AI Introduction

[AI's Abilities](#)

[Types of AI](#)

[How to Tell if Something is AI](#)

AI (Short for Artificial Intelligence) is the simulation of human intelligence by machines, especially computer systems. Its main purpose is to think like humans and do things that are considered intelligent. It can process large amounts of data unlike humans generally can. AI can recognize patterns and make decisions based on them. AI may be utilized in automobile assembly, supply chain optimization, employing robots on the manufacturing floor, improving performance using sensors, designing cars, in post-production activities, and for virtual assistants ( Siri, Alexa etc).

This website will identify the abilities, functions, types, and methods of identifying AI.



# ***ADVANTAGES OF ECS & FOT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL***

- ***GRADUATION REQUIREMENT***
- ***CONTINUES ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDIES***
- ***ALLOWS MORE ELECTIVE OPTIONS IN HIGH SCHOOL***
- ***CAN BEGIN COMPUTER PROGRAMMING CAREER ACADEMY IN 9TH GRADE***
- ***COMPLEMENTS PLTW/ ENGINEERING CAREER ACADEMY STUDIES***
  - ***ALL UNIVERSITY ENGR PROGRAMS INCLUDE COMPUTER SCIENCE***

**I did not take my CSET Grade Requirement in Middle School:**

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Class 1	ELA 9 (OG, H, G/T)	ELA 10 (OG, H, G/T)	ELA 11 (OG, H, AP)	ELA 12 (OG, H, AP)
Class 2	Math	Math	Math	Math
Class 3	Science	Science	Science	Elective
Class 4	US History (OG, H, G/T)	American Gov. (OG, H, AP)	World History (OG, H, AP)	Elective
Class 5	Health 9 / Lifetime Fitness 9	Elective	Health II / .5 Elective	ARL
Class 6	*World Language	World Language	ARL	ARL
Class 7	CSET or FA Grad Requirement	CSET or FA Grad Requirement	ARL	ARL



\* World Language (WL) in MS does count as a HS credits and fulfills the “2 credits in the same WL” program option; however, most colleges require that students take two years of World Language (WL) in HS regardless of if they took them in MS. Top schools want to see 4 years of WL in HS. The jump from level 2 in MS to level 3 in HS is a hard one and some students struggle.

**I DID take my CSET Grade Requirement (either Foundations of Technology or Exploring Computer Science) in MS**

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Class 1	ELA 9 (OG, H, G/T)	ELA 10 (OG, H, G/T)	ELA 11 (OG, H, AP)	ELA 12 (OG, H, AP)
Class 2	Math	Math	Math	Math
Class 3	Science	Science	Science	Elective
Class 4	US History (OG, H, G/T)	American Gov. (OG, H, AP)	World History (OG, H, AP)	Elective
Class 5	Health 9 / Lifetime Fitness 9	Elective	Health II / .5 Elective	ARL
Class 6	*World Language	World Language	ARL	ARL
Class 7	FA Grad Requirement <b>OR</b> CTE Career Course <b>OR</b> Other Elective	FA Grad Requirement (if not taken in 9th grade) <b>OR</b> CTE Career Course <b>OR</b> Other Elective	ARL	ARL



# World Language High School Courses in Middle School

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Spanish 1 & 2

French 1 & 2

Chinese 1\* & 2\*

*\*Not offered at PVMS*

**EXERCISE YOUR  
BRAIN**

Bilingualism has been linked to higher test scores and improved cognitive function.

**CHALLENGE YOURSELF**

The infographic features a white background with a rounded rectangular border. On the left, the text 'EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, a smaller line of text states 'Bilingualism has been linked to higher test scores and improved cognitive function.' To the right, a green rectangular box contains the text 'CHALLENGE YOURSELF' in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below the green box is a silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, holding a globe of the Earth. A thin black line connects the bottom of the green box to the top of the globe.

# WL Options at PVMS

Remember, *it's about communication and growth - not perfection!*

	Spanish		French	
<b>7th grade</b>	Level 1		Level 1	
<b>8th grade</b>	Level 1	Level 2 <i>available upon completion of level 1 in 7th grade</i>	Level 1	Level 2 <i>available upon completion of level 1 in 7th grade</i>

## Goals:

Our courses are proficiency-based, communicative classes. Our learning objectives are based on The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) "Can Do" Statements. This means:

- You will read, speak, write, and listen to French or Spanish every day!
- We focus on what you "can do" with language.
- You will learn to understand and communicate using your language in real-life ways.

## Themes & Topics:

**who am i?** • **daily life** • **countries & places** • **likes & dislikes** • **celebrations, holidays, & traditions** • **living spaces & loved ones** • famous Francophones/Hispanics • **music & pop culture** • **the arts** • **global challenges** • **beauty around the world** • **current events & news**

# How can I help my student select the elective that is best?

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## 1. Talk-

What are their interests and personal goals?



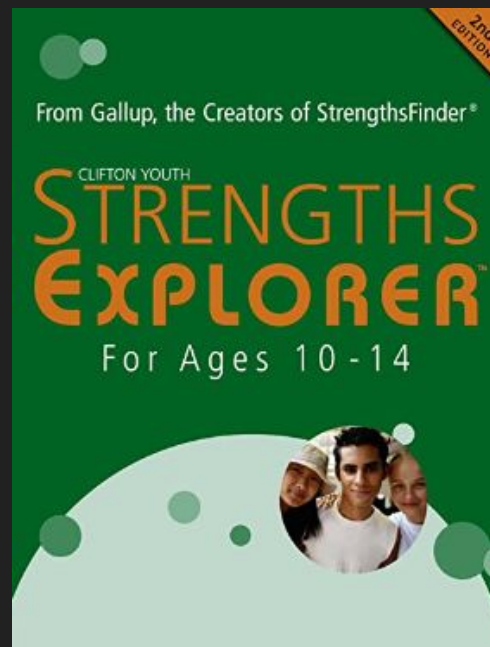


# How can I help my student select the elective that is best?

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## 2. Think-

What are your student's strengths and challenges?



# How can I help my student select the elective that is best?

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## 3. Ask-

Can my student handle a high school credit course as a middle school student?



# How can I help my student select the elective that is best?

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## 4. Plan-

What will I do as a family to support my student next year in their school success?



# Registration Window for Rising 7th and 8th Grade Electives

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- OPENS **February 1, 2024**
- CLOSES **February 14, 2024**
- Families OR students may register for rising 7th and 8th grade electives

# HCPSS Video

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- The HCPSS video for electives can be found at <https://hcpss.instructuremedia.com/embed/7afb1602-8529-4238-b277-16b03a7f9683>
- This was shown to all 6th and 7th grade students in Flex time on Monday.



# Registration Directions

- <https://hcpss.instructuremedia.com/embed/7afb1602-8529-4238-b277-16b03a7f9683>
- <https://www.hcpss.org/connect/guides/>
- [Online Course Requests – Rising 6th to 8th Grade Students](#)

## HCPSS Connect

Online Course Requests – Rising 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade



Howard County Public School System Office of Accountability Document: HCPSS114 Revision Date: 01/14/2021

-Warning -Timesaver -Note

### About Online Course Requests

Parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will select course requests for electives and alternates online through HCPSS Connect. Please note the following:

- Use the Catalog of Approved Middle School Courses to review course selections. Please note course descriptions and prerequisites.
- If you do not have access to a computer, need assistance, or want to make changes after the form due date, please contact the counseling office at your student's school.
- If you have concerns about or disagree with any of the course recommendations, complete a Course Placement Review Form on HCPSS Connect.
- Parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders will choose one Selected Course Request and two Selected Alternate Course Requests.
- Parents of rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will choose two Selected Course Requests. One of these must meet the fine arts requirement (Band, Chorus, Orchestra, General Music, Theater, or Visual Arts Studio). Choose two Selected Alternate Course Requests to be used if an elective is not available or there is a scheduling conflict.
- The first alternate course request will be used as a primary request should HCPSS continue the 4x4 schedule next year.

### Select Course Requests

1. Access the HCPSS Connect website.
2. On the Home page, click on the **Course Request** option in the left panel. A page displays the student's current recommendations for core classes and graduation status summary.

**COURSE REQUEST**

**Rising 6th Grade Parents/Students (Current 6th Grade)**  
Please choose one Selected Course Request and two Selected Alternate Course Requests. Note that there are course requests, and placement is not guaranteed.

**GT Research is a class designed for sixth grade students who participate in GT English and GT Mathematics, based upon the recommendation of the intermediate GT Placement Committee.**

**Rising 7th/8th Grade Parents/Students (Current 6th and 7th Grade)**  
Please choose two Selected Course Requests. One of these must meet the fine arts requirements (Band, Chorus, Orchestra, General Music, Theater, or Visual Arts Studio). Note that there are course requests, and placement is not guaranteed.

**Hammond Middle School (410-880-5830)** Selection Time Period: 5/10/2022 - 2/22/2022  
**2022-2023 School Year, Grade: 06** Course:

[Click here to change course request.](#) [Link Course Requests](#)

Selected Course Requests	
Course	Count
English/Composition Arts	
Course ID: LA.90-1	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English Language Arts (ELA)	1
Course ID: ELA	1506
Course ID: NA	

# Register Tonight!

We have a paper forms to complete tonight.

Note- There is a separate form for rising 7<sup>th</sup> and rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student's Name**

Choice 7th Grade FINE ARTS Elective

First Choice **Rising 7th** Grade **FINE ARTS** Elective

Band  Chorus  Orchestra  General Music 1  Visual Arts A  Theater Arts A  Dance A

First Choice **Rising 7th** grade **ADDITIONAL** Elective

Readers/ Writers Workshop  Spanish 1\*  French 1\*  Chinese 1\*

Foundations of Tech\*  Exploring Comp Science \*

Second Choice **Rising 7th** Grade **FINE ARTS** Elective

Band  Chorus  Orchestra  General Music 1  Visual Arts A  Theater Arts A  Dance A

Second Choice **Rising 7th** grade **ADDITIONAL** Elective

Readers/ Writers Workshop  Spanish 1\*  French 1\*  Chinese 1\*

Foundations of Tech\*  Exploring Comp Science \*

Please note, all students MUST take a Fine Arts elective. Depending on academic needs, not all students will have room for additional electives in their schedules. Courses indicated with an asterisk (\*) will be recorded on the high school transcript and the grade will not be calculated into the high school grade point average. Please know that any middle school student enrolled in a high school credit course who withdraws after the designated withdrawal date will receive a "W" on their high school transcript. Counselors will meet with students to review their preferences. Staffing is based on course requests and schedule changes may not be able to be accommodated in the fall.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Additional questions?

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- Please contact your school counselor:
  - Jamie Kim- [jamie\\_kim@hcpss.org](mailto:jamie_kim@hcpss.org)  
*Grade 6*
  - Jamie Glover- [jamie\\_glover@hcpss.org](mailto:jamie_glover@hcpss.org)  
*Grade 7*