

RAMBLEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL
2010 – 2011 ELECTIVE COURSES
SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE LEVELS

Seventh and eighth grade students will have an elective course for 2010-2011 school year, unless they are required to take reading. Review the course descriptions. **Please consider choices carefully!** Students receiving first choice electives are expected to remain in the course for the full term. **Current Sixth and Seventh grade students must return their signed Virtual Counselor print out.** If the course selection print out is not returned, scheduling personnel will select student's elective course.

ART I / PE: Grade Levels 7 and 8

LENGTH: Semester / Semester

Course # 0600010A

This selection provides a rotation between Art I and P.E.

Art I: This course will introduce the elements and principles of Art. Students who have had little or no art experience will be engaged in hands-on projects through instruction, developing and using their creative skills while experimenting with various art media. Students will create works of art which will be displayed at school and home.

In **Physical Education (PE)**, students will learn lead up games (modification of real games for competition and sport) while focusing on teamwork, sportsmanship and skill building. Our eighth grade students will focus on tournament play, while focusing on fitness concepts learning about a healthy lifestyle.

ART II: Grade Level 7

Length: Full Year

Course # 01010100

Art II is open to students in the 7th grade who have had one year of previous instruction in the Foundations of Art. Students will learn techniques, through classroom instruction, to create two-dimensional mixed-media designs and visual three dimensional art works. They will present and display their art work in class. These students will also have the opportunity to compete in County competitions.

PREREQUISITE: Art I and Teacher Approval

ART III: Grade Level 8

Length: Full Year

Course # 01010400

This Advanced Art course is open to 8th Grade students who have had Art I and Art II. While enhancing their artistic expression through two-dimensional designs and three dimensional art works, these students participate in County, State and National competitions. This course allows students to be of service to the school, by providing numerous decorations for activities, posters announcing and celebrating events, making banners for displays, working on scenery for numerous shows and making murals to beautify the classroom and school. The Yearly Art Auction is presented by these students.

PREREQUISITE: Art I, Art II and Teacher Approval

TECHNOLOGY / COMPUTERS: Grade Level 8

LENGTH: Semester / Semester

Course # 86000200

In the course Exploring Technology/Computer Applications, students develop skills within the software packages of Appleworks, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and CorelDraw. Principles of technology are presented through the lessons from "The Way Things Work". Students are exposed to both Apple and Windows operating systems. Literacy units are integrated into the program so those students receive a broad education of the computer world.

BROADCASTING: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 05001000**

Students learn how to produce a television show. They receive hands-on technical experience in the school television studio, control booth, and as field video journalists. Students gain in depth knowledge of studio equipment, digital cameras, camcorders, microphones, iMovie, iPhoto, and keynote, while making daily use of laptop computer software and applications. Students may try-out for on air personality/anchor positions or technology/camera crew.

SPANISH I: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 0708340M**

This course is a beginning **high school level** class for **high school credit** that introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students develop communicative skills through listening comprehension, speaking, reading, writing and cross-cultural understanding with an emphasis on oral communication and everyday expressions. Students are required to take a county midterm exam and final exam. Each exam counts as 25% of the student's first and second semester high school grades. These semester grades will be on their **high school transcript** and averaged into their **high school GPA**.

PREREQUISITE: A/B average in Language Arts and by recommendation of student's Language Arts teacher or Guidance Counselor

SPANISH II: Grade level 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 0708350M**

This course is an intermediate **high school level** class for **high school credit** that reinforces the fundamental skills previously learned in Spanish 1. The content includes additional skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing, with an increase in the acquisition of vocabulary, grammatical concepts and cultural awareness. Students are required to take a county midterm exam and final exam. Each exam counts as 25% of the student's 1st and 2nd semester high school grades. These semester grades will be on their **high school transcript** and averaged into their **high school GPA**.

PREREQUISITE: A/B average in Spanish 1 and/or Spanish teacher's approval.

PEER COUNSELING I: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 14000000**

The peer-counseling curriculum addresses social, individual, school and family issues. The program allows trained students to help themselves while helping others. The Peer Counselors act as conflict mediators, provide classroom presentations, welcome new students, and promote positive attitudes. Peer counselors also participate and organize community service and funding raising activities such as: car washes, the talent show, tutoring supplies, community donations, end of the year trip, and Peer Counselors' banquet.

PREREQUISITE: Approval from Coordinator

PEER COUNSELING II: Grade level 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 14000100**

Requires the Peer Mentor to learn and utilize advance counseling and conflict resolution techniques. In addition, there is a focus on stress and anger management skills, defense mechanisms, and human behaviorist theories. Students will also be involved in community service projects and presentations to peer groups on teen issues. Peer counselors also participate and organize community service and funding raising activities such as: car washes, the talent show, tutoring supplies, community donations, end of the year trip, and Peer Counselors' banquet.

PREREQUISITE: Peer Counseling I

HONORS BAND: GRADE Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020300**

The Honors Band is a full year class and is open to 7th and 8th grade students who have had at least one year of previous instruction in a wind and/or percussion instrument. It consists of modern band instrumentation and provides instruction in advanced instrumental skills such as instrumental technique, small ensemble performance, solo performance, as well as an emphasis on fundamental concepts of rhythm, tone production, ensemble balance and blend, and overall ensemble sonority. The Honors Band is a class that meets every school day and performs at several concerts and festivals each year.

PREREQUISITE: At least 1 year experience and Director's recommendation

ADVANCED BAND: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020200**

The Advanced Band is open to students in the 7th and 8th grade who have had at least one year of previous instruction in wind and/or percussion instruments. It consists of modern band instrumentation and provides instruction in basic instrumental skills such as proper embouchure, hand position, posture, listening skills, breathing skills, as well as emphasis on fundamental concepts of rhythm, tone production, ensemble balance and blend, and overall ensemble sonority. The Advanced Band is a class that meets every school day and performs at several concerts and festivals each year.

PREREQUISITE: 1 year playing experience and Director's recommendation

INTERMEDIATE BAND: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020100**

The Intermediate Band is open to students in the 7th and 8th grades who have had at least one year of previous instruction in wind and/or percussion instruments. (Sixth grade students with at least one year of prior experience may be eligible for this band.) It consists of modern band instrumentation and provides instruction in basic instrumental skills such as proper embouchure, hand position, posture, listening skills, breathing skills, as well as an emphasis on fundamental concepts of rhythm, tone production, ensemble balance and blend, and overall ensemble sonority. The Intermediate Band is a class that meets every school day and performs at several concerts.

PREREQUISITE: 1 year playing experience

BEGINNING BAND: Grade Levels 6, 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020000**

The Beginning Band is open to students who have had little or no experience in instrumental instruction. All students will choose instruments with the aid of the director near the beginning of the year. Basic concepts such as proper embouchure, hand position, posture, listening skills, and breathing skills will be emphasized. Thirty minutes a day of home practice is expected.

CHORUS: Grade Levels 6, 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13030000**

Chorus is offered to students, grades 6-8, interested in learning vocal techniques, proper breathing, articulation, and musical notation. Students take rhythmic and melodic dictation and learn to sight-sing implementing the Kodaly-Orff solfeggio method. The chorus sings unison and 2-part music from various genres and performs for school concerts.

ORCHESTRA (BEGINNING): Grade Levels 6, 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020400**

The Beginning Orchestra is available to students who have had little or no experience with playing the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students will receive daily instruction in string technique enabling them to play orchestral music. Emphasis on ensemble playing, proper posture, note reading, ear-training, music theory, rhythmic dictation, listening skills, and team work are part of belonging to the orchestra. The orchestra is featured in school concerts, and sponsors arts related field trips including an overnight trip to Magic Music Days in Disney. Students are required to take their instruments home and practice daily at least 15-30 minutes.

String instruments are available for rent from the school at only \$20 for the school year.

ORCHESTRA (ADVANCED): Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 13020500**

The Advanced Orchestra is available to students who have had previous experience playing the violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students will continue perfecting their posture, tone, articulation, intonation, and ensemble techniques. Music theory is offered weekly, enabling the students to concentrate on musical notation and rhythmic dictation. The orchestra is featured in school concerts, and sponsors arts-related field trips including an overnight trip to Magic Music Days in Disney. Members of this orchestra are required to participate in Florida Orchestra Association's Music Performance Assessment and Solo/Ensemble. Students are required to take their instruments home and practice daily at least 30 minutes.

String instruments are available for rent from the school at only \$20 for the school year.

PREREQUISITE: Beginning Orchestra or Director's recommendation

DRAMA I: Grade Levels 6, 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 04000000**

The Drama I students will learn the foundations of drama using acting, role playing, improvisation, and group work. Students have the opportunity to participate in the Jr. Thespian Drama Festival at the district and state level. Students will perform in a dinner theatre and one act play for parents and the community.

DRAMA II: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 04000100**

Drama II builds upon the basic fundamentals of Drama I. There is a stronger focus on acting, music, improvisation, and acting out plays in class. Students have the opportunity to participate in the Jr. Thespian Drama Festival at the district and state level. Students will perform in a dinner theatre and one act play for parents and the community.

PREREQUISITE: Drama I and/or Teacher recommendation

DRAMA III: Grade Levels 7 and 8**Length: Full Year****Course # 04000200**

Students must audition for this course, including both dance and vocal. In this class, students will prepare pieces to participate in the Jr. Thespian Drama Festival at the district and state level including a one act play. Students will also perform a main stage musical show at JP Taravella High School. Students will learn auditioning techniques, practice dancing, singing, and acting.

PREREQUISITE: Drama I and Teacher Approval

YEARBOOK I: Grade Level 7**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 17001000**

Beginning level photojournalists learn to operate digital cameras and write background stories. In addition, they learn to run a business, by seeing their projects published and sold. Students make daily use of technology; learn to operate iPhoto, keynote, iMovie, as well as applications on the MAC laptops. Students also contribute their work to retrospective projects for the morning announcements show and video yearbook. The culminating activity is production of advertisements for marketing the yearbook to the school using iMovie.

YEARBOOK II: Grade Level 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 1700100A**

The use of technology drives this class, with daily use of applications and software on laptop computers. Chief/Senior Editors and Master Designers for the online yearbook are housed in this class. Students work on digital photography and videography to support production of the yearbook, as well as the video yearbook. Students chronicle the year in video and digital footage, learning to tell a great story using iMovie and iPhoto. Students also work on and publish the online newsletter for the school, as well as compete in national video contests.

PRE-LAW: Grade Level 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 2106350M**

The Pre-Law studies course will introduce students to our judicial system; with our constitution being the foundation of our laws. The students will conduct mock trials of past and current cases heard by the Supreme Court of the United States. The cases the students will take on include Plessey v. Ferguson to the current cases before the court on lethal injection and the gun control law in Washington D.C currently being heard. Students are required to take a county midterm exam and final exam. Each exam counts as 25% of the student's first and second semester high school grades. These semester grades will be on their **high school transcript** and averaged into their **high school GPA**.

PREREQUISITE: Approval from Instructor

LEADERSHIP/SLDC (Student Leadership Development Corp): Grade Level 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 17000002**

The Student Leadership Development (SLDC) program is an elective course available to middle school students in Broward County. It is structured to provide students with a strong foundation in life skills, and it prepares them for a successful high school experience. Students are taught the underlying tenets of character education, leadership, health, fitness, and strong academics are fully integrated into this course which is modeled after the Junior ROTC programs in high schools.

PREREQUISITE: Approval from Instructor

BOOK CLUB: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 1700030C**

The Book Club elective is for students wishing to delve deeply into the world of novel study. In this class, students will discuss characterization, literary devices, plot, function versus form and theme. Students will gain insight into themselves, while learning how to communicate effectively about personal opinion. Getting the most out of book club involves reading new books. Learn new communication skills by sharing your thoughts and opinions, while learning about others' perspectives and enjoying great books.

FULL YEAR PE: Grade Levels 7 and 8**LENGTH: Full Year****Course # 15010003**

In **Physical Education (PE)**, students will learn lead up games (modification of real games for competition and sport) while focusing on teamwork, sportsmanship and skill building. Our eighth grade students will focus on tournament play, while focusing on fitness concepts learning about a healthy lifestyle.