EastLake Middle School

2019-2020 Elective Course Descriptions

All elective courses are a year-long . Placement in electives in contingent upon student interest, funding, space and teacher availability. Students who need academic support may be placed in a support class in lieu of an elective.

Associated Student Body (ASB) – *Application required, available on school website.* ASB is a leadership course comprised of approximately 30 elected and appointed students. To join the ASB, students must complete an application packet which can be found on our school website. ASB students are respected leaders on campus and are responsible for planning school activities, assemblies, spirit days, and fundraisers. They run the student store and work closely with faculty, administrators and other student organizations. Being a member of the ASB is a great honor that increases leadership skills and prepares Tritons for student government roles in high school. Dedication, meeting behavior expectations at all times, and honesty are required! For more information, please contact Mr. Almero at **derrick.almero@sweetwaterschools.org**. *Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA in scholarship and citizenship.*

Art & Crafts – Students will work in a variety of media, giving them the opportunity to grasp a basic understanding of the art world and art-making process. Students will explore projects that are designed to develop artistic ability, creativity, provide art awareness, understand aesthetics and instill appreciation for both art history and art making. Students will be taught basic artistic principles involving the elements and principles of art and will learn how to apply these elements and principles through the development of two and/or three-dimensional projects.

Art Survey – (8th Only) This is a course for advanced study of art for 8th graders who have already taken a semester or more of middle school art, and want to explore the subject in greater depth. Students will learn techniques for perfecting drawing and painting skills, while gaining inspiration from successful artists. Projects will be primarily student-designed and self-driven. This is a class for art lovers! It is especially recommended for those who hope to go directly into Advanced Art in high school. Exploring Arts OR Arts & Crafts are acceptable prerequisite classes, but **students must be approved by teacher**.

Band, Beginning and *Intermediate – Beginning Band class is for beginners who have never played a band instrument before, but have a desire to learn. This class does not include piano or guitar. Basic music theory, music history, notes, rhythm, dynamics, tone production, rehearsal and performance techniques are taught. ***Intermediate students must be approved by the teacher.**

Chorus Beginning – Choir class is for students who love to sing and have a desire to improve and sing with a choir. Basic music theory, notes, rhythm, dynamics, tone production, and rehearsal and performance techniques will be taught. In addition, listening to other artists and styles of music will be part of the curriculum.

Exploring Arts –   Also known as "Wheel," exposes students to 2 different popular electives, Music and Art, over the course of the school year. No prior experience is necessary for any of these classes. In music class, students learn how to read music and play a string or band instrument. In art class, students work with a variety of media including pencil, ink, oil pastel, watercolor, tempera paint, collage, and much more. Students then see their artwork displayed around the campus and even in public venues. The Wheel helps students to discover what they really love, so that they can have fun and enjoy learning.

Computer Science (Advanced)– **(8th Grade Only)** Exploring Computer Science is a second-year computer science course intended for students that took Exploring Technology in 7th grade. This course builds upon the skills taught in the first-year Exploring Technology course and expands upon the programming languages and computational thinking. The primary tool used for the curriculum for this course is Code.org's App Lab using Turtle and Java programming. There will also be a unit on 3D printing.   This course continues to teach kids how to analyze, problem-solve and apply their learning.

Computer Science (Beginning)/ Exploring Technology – Exploring technology is a first-year computer science course intended to introduce students to basic computer science principles. Computer Science vocabulary, digital citizenship, and computational thinking are reinforced through class discussions, hands-on lessons, and basic computer programming. Programs such as CODE.ORG and Scratch are main tools used in the curriculum for this course. This course is a fun, interactive class that teaches kids how to analyze, problem-solve and apply their learning.

Filipino 1/2 – Students will learn basic communication skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course will emphasize listening and speaking activities as well as an awareness of culture and social conventions. *Filipino is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Filipino 3/4 –The proficiency level of Filipino 3/4 in the Language Learning Continuum is Stage II. Students in this stage continue to expand their oral and written skills in the target language by using authentic materials, audio and video text, write letters, short compositions and simple paragraphs, and participate in a variety of oral and auditory exercises. Students also learn about cultural and historical figures, places and events, and symbols to broaden their cultural horizons. *Filipino is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Guitar – Students will learn how to play the guitar and/ or ukelele. Instruments are loaned free of charge. No musical experience required.

Spanish 1/2 – Spanish 1/2 presents the basics of the Spanish language as spoken in Latin America. Students develop a beginning reading and conversational ability, laying the foundation for further study of the language. The course emphasizes understanding and practical application. Students should have a basic understanding of English grammar before beginning this course. *Spanish is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1/2 – This course is open only to those students who already speak Spanish. It is the first course of a structured three to four-year program designed to meet the needs of students who have backgrounds in the Spanish language, but need additional formal instruction to achieve optimum levels of literacy. *Spanish is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Spanish 3/4 – **(8th only)** This class is open to those students who have successfully completed Spanish 1/2. It is a rigorous class that continues instruction in the reading and writing of the Spanish language. *Spanish is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Spanish Speaker 3/4 – **(8th only)** This class is open to those students who have successfully completed Spanish Speakers 1/2. The student will acquire the ability to comprehend and produce the language. The focus of the class will include the structure of the spoken language that will range or progress from short, formulation, phrases and strings of related sentences to simple and more advanced paragraphs. *Spanish is a high school level course that meets the "A-G" Foreign Language requirement for college admissions. Students must earn a "C" or better for A-G and high school credit.*

Strings Beginning, *Intermediate, and *Advanced – Students will learn how to play a string musical instrument, including stand-up bass, cello, viola or violin. Instruments are loaned free of charge. No musical experience is required. Orchestra is a fun and interactive class where you take a break from notes and writing. You will learn to read and play music with confidence in a fun way. Students will have the opportunity to perform at Disneyland and/ or Knott's Berry Farm, nursing homes and at local elementary schools. Students will enjoy making new friends and music together. ***Intermediate and Advanced students must be approved by the teacher.**

Student Aide – **(8th only)** Students will be assigned to teachers, nurse, library, main office, or counseling center. Student duties may include orientation and campus tours for new students, delivering call slips, attendance assistance, and general office assistance. Student aides must be responsible, self-motivated and maintain excellent scholarship and citizenship grades, and meet all ELM behavior expectations at all times. ***Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA in scholarship and citizenship.***

Video Production (Club Only) – Video production is a leadership class. Students must have at least a 3.0 GPA both in scholarship and citizenship. This course gives students a better understanding of the way multimedia is used to communicate, persuade, entertain, and inform the public. Students will learn to create movies, commercials, and improve their public speaking skills in order to be understood while in front of the camera. Video students are responsible for the production of the TNT (Triton News Team) broadcast. This class is a club and meets during TSP/ Advisory for 30 minutes Monday-Friday. ***Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA in scholarship and citizenship.***

Yearbook – Students will learn journalistic skills including technology, photography, interviewing skills, layout design, and editing. Students are assigned at least a one-page spread in the school's award winning yearbook. In addition to creating an important memory book for the students and staff at EastLake, yearbook students will create a personal yearbook and participate in various classroom activities. Yearbook students are leaders on campus are given special leadership privileges on campus. Students are expected to both participate regularly and act responsibly. ***Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA in scholarship and citizenship***