

Student Name: _____

8th Grade Student Courses for 2016/17 school year

Dear Parent & Student:

This letter is being sent to give you some information about the courses for 8th graders. Please take time to read this carefully and mark your selections below. Most selections will be fulfilled but not guaranteed. If requests exceed the allowable class size, adjustments will be made by the school administration. Selections will be made by the administration for any student not returning his or her form. If you have questions, please call the school office at 910-347-2738.

Elective Courses: (Please see the next pages for course descriptions.)

Exploratory Choice #1 _____

Exploratory Choice #2 _____

Exploratory Choice #3 _____

Exploratory Choice #4 _____

Alternate Course Selection _____

All 8th grade students will be assigned to the following classes: Homeroom, English/Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. They can also have a semester of Health/Physical Education.

Parent Name (please print): _____

Daytime phone #: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

8TH GRADE BAND

Students must have two years of band experience in order to participate in the 8th grade band. All students will perform in concert and participate in a band festival, which are graded events. Students may also perform in solo and/or ensemble competitions. This is a performance-based class and all students will be expected to attend all rehearsals and performances as part of their grade. Students also have the opportunity to audition for Eastern District Band and Onslow County Band.

8TH GRADE Exploring Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship

This course allows students to explore the nature of business in an international economy and to study related careers in fields such as entrepreneurship, financial services, information technology, marketing, office systems technology, public relations and promotion, and travel and tourism. Emphasis is on using the computer while studying applications in these careers along with problem solving and thinking skills. This course contributes to the development of a career development plan.

8TH GRADE EXPLORATORY LANGUAGE -CHINESE

In this course, students will begin to explore China through customs, food, music, and tradition. Students learn to use and write basic Chinese words and phrases as well as write the Chinese alphabet. The students will participate in several Chinese cultural activities.

8TH GRADE CHORUS

In this course, students will learn basic music reading skills, proper singing techniques, concert etiquette, dynamics, music history, diction, and posture. Chorus is a performance based class, and students are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances as part of their grade.

8TH GRADE COMPUTER SKILLS AND APPLICATIONS III

This course has six modules designed to provide hands-on instruction in basic keyboarding skills, computer concepts, and software applications. Topics include computer basics; Internet and the World Wide Web, computer security and privacy, digital lifestyles, advanced skills in word processing, and document formatting for business documents such as agendas, minutes, research reports and resumes. Students will use advanced features in spreadsheet to create and manipulate charts, and will learn presentation techniques, desktop publishing, and the skills needed in order to be successful with technology in everyday life.

8TH GRADE ADVANCED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Advanced PE is a class that will be held mainly outside and will consist of individual and team activities to help improve one's health and physical well-being. We will play team sports as well as work on personal health and well-being.

8TH GRADE GUITAR

Students will be introduced to the basics of learning to play a guitar. In this class, students will learn how to count different rhythms while playing the guitar. All students will be able to play a variety of songs by the end of this class. This class will include an end of semester performance.

8TH GRADE JAZZ

Students must have two years of band experience in order to participate. They will learn about jazz music and improvisation. Students interested in playing guitar, bass, piano or drums need to audition with Mrs. Matthews before the end of the school year for acceptance. All students will perform in concerts, which will be graded. This is a performance-based class and all students will be expected to attend all rehearsals and performances as part of their grade. Students also have the opportunity to audition for the Eastern Region Jazz Band.

8TH GRADE PIANO

This is a performance-based class that involves a recital. Students will learn how to play the piano, read music, create their own compositions, and make connections between music skills and the world.

8TH GRADE EXPLORATORY LANGUAGE -SPANISH

In this course, students learn basic Spanish words and phrases. Hispanic arts and crafts activities, traditions and cultural diversity (food, films, games, and music) are a main focus. Students will build on prior Spanish instruction. The class will focus on grammatical structure, more complex phrases, and conversation. South America--its countries and capitals--will be closely studied.

8TH GRADE VISUAL ARTS

Students will learn and explore how to use a variety of art mediums. Topics in this course generally include street art, grid drawing, clay tiles, mixed media, perspective drawing and comic strip creation. Students will also discover art works and interesting facts about various artists as well as exploring careers in the art field. Each class period begins with warm up drawings followed by instructional time and studio time for students to work on their projects.

8TH GRADE HANDBELLS

Handbells is a performance-based course. This class will involve a public performance. Students will learn how to play the handbells using correct terminology, read music, create their own compositions, and make connections between music skills and the world.