

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade 2024-2025**  
**EAST ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

# Student Information

|           |            |                                       |
|-----------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Last Name | First Name | <b>This year's math course taken:</b> |
|           |            |                                       |

### REQUIREMENTS

All 8<sup>th</sup> graders are required to take the following courses:

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Language Arts      | Full Year   |
| American History   | Full Year   |
| Mathematics        | Full Year   |
| Science            | Full Year   |
| Physical Education | 1 Trimester |

### ELECTIVES

1. **If you plan to continue with music, please check the music class you would like to take.**
2. **Cross off any electives you have already taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.**
3. **Mark 10 electives you are interested in taking.** (Check the course descriptions on the next page for more information.)

- |                                                          |                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing & Painting (725)        | <input type="checkbox"/> LINKS (985)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3D Art/Sculpture (741)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Tech I (665)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All About Foods (675)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Tech II* (668)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foods & Nutrition (676)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Tech III* (669)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strength & Conditioning (314)   | <input type="checkbox"/> 3D Design (667)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing I (671)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Programming (664) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing II (672)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Robotics (663)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Art I (750)             | <input type="checkbox"/> STEAM (666)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Communications I (620)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra** (548)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Communications II (622) | <input type="checkbox"/> Band** (533)               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School 101 (621)           | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Choir 8** (599)    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish*** (134 & 135)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Choir** (566)        |

\*Level II and III courses can only be taken after passing a level I course\*

\*\*Music courses are full year courses\*\*

\*\*\*Spanish is a 2-trimester course\*\*\*

We agree that the above classes have been selected for us for 2024-2025. Please return to the Guidance Office **no later than February 9, 2024.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

## EAST ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

# 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ELECTIVES

## Strength & Conditioning

This course will provide students with programs that will develop improvements in the areas of strength, power, flexibility, mobility, speed, agility, and muscular/cardiovascular endurance. Proper nutrition and sleep habits will be addressed. Pre and post testing in the areas of upper and lower body strength, power, speed, and agility will be recorded and evaluated. The course will be set up with 2 day of agility and speed training, 3 days of weight training and one day with a game as well. Student/athletes will benefit from the opportunity to improve strength and conditioning during school hours while having additional time for enhancing academic responsibility and accountability outside of school. This course may be taken more than once if a B or higher is earned the first time.

## High School 101

Be prepared to succeed in all aspects of life from the moment you step foot into your freshman year. Topics discussed will include; You! Your strengths and how to use them to be successful, goal setting, note taking, study skills to help you with the freshman year transition. How to get a job, including interview and applications tips, along with Career Pathway is explored. With a series of Guest Speakers students may learn about healthy vs unhealthy relationships and dating, time management, stress management, tobacco & alcohol misuse, Stop the Bleed (First Aid) Certification, and so much more! We may even have time for a small kitchen or sewing project as well as potential for off campus field trips!! Get one step ahead and be well prepared for the transition that is quickly approaching! (8th Grade Only)

## Intro to Sewing I

Surprise yourself! Many students think they can't sew, because they haven't tried. Many students are creatively successful once they try! Students will learn to hand sew seams, buttons, and hems. Pattern terms, sewing construction, and proper sewing machine use will be taught. Students will construct 5 items: an emoji keychain, a felt ugly doll, a stuffed pillow, your own pillow case and cozy, flannel pajama pants. Fabric for projects is the student's responsibility unless other arrangements have been made.

## Sewing II

This is an extension for students who have completed Intro to Sewing I. This class continues to expose students to sewing techniques, both by hand and by machine. Students will be working toward creating larger, more complex sewing projects. There will be upcycle as well as new fabric projects. Bucket Hat, Zipper Pouch, Quilt Lap Blanket, Drawstring bag, and comfy Shorts are some of the projects planned. It's a class to be creative and have fun, too. Prerequisite: Intro to Sewing I. One trimester. **8th Grade Only.**

## All About Foods

Beginning Cooks- this is the class for you. Learn the kitchen basics and then apply those skills in various cooking labs. Besides learning how to be safe in the kitchen, you will learn about the many Food Groups and how they benefit you. MyPlate choices and information are included in this class. At the end of the trimester you and a team will compete against others for the best Cupcake Food Truck in town. Don't miss out- brush up on your culinary skills!

## Foods & Nutrition

This is another opportunity for a Foods class. Students will learn more about specific nutrition facts and how nutrition needs change as we grow and age. Kitchen labs will be more detailed- more competitions and demonstrations may take place. Careers in the Foods industry may be investigated. Guest speakers may share their culinary experiences and there may even be a homework assignment for a restaurant Review- Who wouldn't love homework to taste food!

## EAST ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

### Drawing/Painting

This class explores many different areas of art. The main focus is to improve drawing/painting realistically from observation but also abstract art styles as well. Units include contour line, drawing forms, drawing the human form, perspective, landscapes, and Surrealism. Art medias used are pencil, colored pencil, marker, oil pastel, watercolor and acrylic paints.

### 3D Art

This class will focus on 3D sculptural projects including 3D printing, pottery on the potter's wheel, slab construction, coil pottery, glazing, wire sculpture, plaster, and junk art. Sculpt a variety of sculptures in different styles.

### Digital Art

Join us for creating multimedia digital art! Learn how to take quality photos with good composition, 3D printing, photo manipulation, memes, poster making, and much more!!! Digital art is fast and we create LOTS of original works through the course.

### Spanish 1A

Language study is like building a house. Spanish 1 is where we dig the foundation. Students will acquire basic grammar structures, build vocabulary, experience Hispanic culture, as well as work on listening and reading comprehension. Student will begin to develop speaking skills. Two trimesters with a prerequisite of 'C+' or higher in 7th grade Language Arts.

### Digital Communications I

This is an elective course in which students will learn all the various elements of making a quality video. The class will include: storyboarding, learning how to use and handle video production equipment, and editing on Final Cut Pro. Students will end up with quality video products within a wide range of different types of videos produced. This is a group orientated class where teamwork is critical. It will be a fun and creative class with many great learning opportunities. One trimester.

### Digital Communications II

This is an extension for students who have completed Digital Communications I. This class continues to expose students to broadcast communication techniques, interview skills, camera operations, storyboarding, communication skills, and technology skills to produce quality video projects. Students will be working towards creating weekly school news that will be shown school-wide. It's a fun and creative class with many great learning opportunities. Prerequisite: Digital Communications I. One trimester. **8th Grade Only.**

### STEAM

In STEAM, students are introduced to and use the engineering design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives. Students can expect to develop their creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration skills through a series of hands-on projects and design challenges that incorporate science, technology, engineering, art, and math. One trimester.

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### 3D Design

This class will allow students to explore the potential and limitations of 3D printing through a series of hands-on design challenges. Students will work both independently and in collaborative groups to design, prototype, test, and improve several artifacts. This class is an excellent option for anyone who ever wanted to prototype an invention, create a work of art, customize a product or just make something cool. Experience with 3d modeling software like Tinkercad or Fusion 360 is helpful but not required. One trimester.

### Computer Programming

Computer Programming, or "coding," is an introductory computer science course that focuses on computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. The course covers topics such as: app development, web and game design, digital privacy and copyright laws, user-centered design, and physical computing devices.

### Robotics

Robotics is an introduction to programming and building robots using Lego Mindstorms EV3 kits. The focus of this course is to introduce students to basic programming as well as creative problem-solving strategies. Students will work independently and in pairs to design, build, and program robots to complete a wide range of tasks and present their findings. Topics may include: motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, and more.

### Wood Tech 1

This is an introductory class for the study of processes, techniques and procedures used in fine woodworking. Students will use a hands-on approach in learning to plan and layout, saw, plane, sand, drill, fasten, stain, and finish wood products. Through this class, students will gain a better understanding of the hand and power tools and materials and processes that are used in the woodworking industry. One trimester

### Wood Tech II

This is a continuation of Wood Tech 1. In Wood Tech II, students will use a hands-on approach in learning more advanced techniques to build upon their knowledge and skills. These new techniques will help students build more advanced and detailed projects. Wood Tech II requires the students to use higher level thinking skills and be more independent workers. Prerequisite: Wood Tech I. One trimester.

### Wood Tech III

This course continues in the tradition of Woods 1 & 2 where we take a very hands on approach to learning and creating. In Woods 3, students will use the design process to create a project that utilizes multiple types of technology and not just wood. This project will be the pinnacle of middle school wood technology.

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## **LINKS**

This is a peer to peer class where students work as a LINK with a student in our Autism Program. This class will be approved by application only and there will be a meeting with more information for students interested.

## **8th grade orchestra → Encore Orchestra**

Take your musical creativity and ability to the next level! Class activities include concerts outside of the school day, participation in MSBOA events like Solo & Ensemble and Orchestra Festival, and a day trip to Chicago. This ensemble is open to string players with at least two years of experience playing in the Rockford orchestra program. Other students may audition to ensure placement within the ensemble that will allow for the most success throughout the year. Full year.

## **8th grade Symphonic Band**

Students will continue to refine and build on the skills taught in Concert Band. The serious music student wanting a challenge and willing to work hard will truly enjoy Symphonic Band. This ensemble plays a wide variety of music from classical to popular, something for everyone. Music fundamentals: tone, intonation, rhythm, technique, and interpretation are the focus along with having fun and making great music. The Symphonic Band is the top performing ensemble at ERMS. The students take great pride in the performance level and exciting music that is performed at each concert. The more advanced and intricate music is a high highlight for the students. As 8th graders, students are able to learn the music faster, so more literature is performed throughout the year. The ensemble will perform 5-6 times throughout the year. Full Year

## **Men's Choir**

This choir class is a combination of 7th and 8th grade boys with a handful of performances throughout the school year. Full Year.

## **8th grade Women's Choir**

This is a 7th grade girls only choir with a handful of performances throughout the year. Full Year.