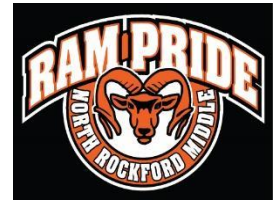


NORTH ROCKFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL
8TH GRADE - 2023-2024



Student's Last Name _____ First Name _____

Current Math Class: _____.

ALL 8TH GRADERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING:

1 ST TRIMESTER	2 ND TRIMESTER	3 RD TRIMESTER
ENGLISH	ENGLISH	ENGLISH
SOCIAL STUDIES	SOCIAL STUDIES	SOCIAL STUDIES
MATHEMATICS	MATHEMATICS	MATHEMATICS
SCIENCE	SCIENCE	SCIENCE
P.E.	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE

ELECTIVES

Please select 10 choices from the following list. Number your choices 1-10, #1 being your first choice. Please check the course description for further information. A Music Elective class counts as 3 choices.

Communications & Language Arts

- ___ Digital Communications I (630)
- ___ Digital Comm II (635) ___ *teacher approval*
- ___ Spanish A1 and A2 (135) (136) (2 choices)
- ___ Teen Leadership (200)

Music Electives

- ___ Symphonic Band (533) Full Yr (3 choices)
- ___ Encore Orchestra (541) Full Yr (3 choices)
- ___ Men's Choir (566) Full Yr (3 choices)
- ___ Women's Chorus (599) Full Yr (3 choices)

Fine Arts

- ___ Art Essentials (730)
- ___ Art P3 (735) **must have taken Art Essentials*
- ___ Digital Art (737)
- ___ Digital Art II (739)
- ___ Highschool Advanced Art (740) **must have taken Art Essentials*

Peer-to-Peer Electives (Teacher Approval Required)

- ___ Food Buddies Baking Skills (676) ___ *teacher approval*
- ___ Art Buddies (738) ___ *teacher approval*
- ___ P.E. Buddies (320) ___ *PE teacher approval*

Family & Consumer Science

- ___ Sewing I (685)
- ___ Sewing II (686) ___ *Sewing teacher approval*
- ___ All About Foods (675)
- ___ Baking 101 (677)

Technology

- ___ Computer Exploration (499)
- ___ Computer Science (489)
- ___ Robotics (615)
- ___ STEAM I (610)
- ___ 3D Design (611)
- ___ Wood Tech I (665)
- ___ Wood Tech II (666) ___ *Wood Tech teacher approval*

Physical Education

- P.E. (Required)
- ___ Team Sports (313)

Please sign and return to the counseling office by Wednesday, February 8th, 2023

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

COMMUNICATIONS & LANGUAGE ARTS

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

Digital Communication 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 our NRMS School News that will be shown school wide. It's a fun and creative class with many great learning opportunities. **Prerequisite: Digital Communication I. One trimester. Must have approval from Digital Communication teacher.**

Spanish A1 and A2 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. This course counts for 1 High School credit.**

Teen Leadership is a course that will forever change a student's life! Through large group and small group activities they will be encouraged to challenge themselves to become the best version of themselves possible, connect with others to create strong and healthy relationships and learn what it takes to be a great leader right where they are and for the rest of their life. **One trimester.**

FINE ARTS

Art Essentials Build your creativity and artistic skill in this fun class that explores new media and builds on what you have learned in 6th grade art and elementary school. We will work with everything **from clay to paint to chalk pastel, wire, and more!** NO EXPERIENCE OR SKILL REQUIRED! Just show up ready to create! **One trimester.**

Art P3 People, Pottery, and Polymer Take your creativity and artistic skills to the next level! We will learn to draw and paint people and faces, work with clay (including the potter's wheel!), make miniature food out of polymer clay, and more! **Prerequisite Art Essentials. One trimester.**

Highschool Advanced Art Use design to solve creative problems! This class is design-based and allows you the freedom to choose your media and direction and express your unique sense of style! Explore new media and techniques and push the limits of what you can create! **Students who complete this class with a finished portfolio and a grade of B+ or better will be able to skip the "Introduction to Art" class in the 9th grade. This will allow a student to take higher level art classes at the high school level. Prerequisite: Art Essentials with a B or better. One trimester.**

Digital Art This is a one trimester course that is designed to engage students in several different multimedia forms of art on a digital level. Photography and image manipulation are just the tip of the iceberg! **One trimester.**

Digital Art II Will build and refine your skills in the digital media programs ProCreate and TinkerCard. We will explore how digital media is an essential skill in today's 21st century and the endless career opportunities this field offers. You will use your creativity to combine the elements and principles of design to create illustrations, 3D prints, graphic design, animation and more! **Prerequisite Digital Art. One trimester.**

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Sewing I Students will learn basic hand sewing stitches and how to sew on a button. From there, the class will move to sewing on a machine with focus on safety, how to use a sewing machine, pattern terms, and sewing construction. Students will construct three items: a pillow, pajama pants, and a zipper pouch. Other projects are possible, time permitting. **One trimester.**

Sewing II Advance your sewing skills with four new projects. First we will all make a fabric bucket using interfacing. Then, everyone will make an advanced stuffed project and a zipper project. The final project is a choice project that challenges the student. Other skills practiced in Sewing II are time management, decision making, problem solving, and following directions. **Prerequisite: Sewing I. One trimester. (Must have Sewing Teacher approval)**

All About Food This class is an introduction to the world of foods. Areas covered prior to cooking will be safety, equipment, measuring, cooking terms. Lessons and lab experiences will focus on nutrition and the five food groups: protein, grains, vegetables, fruit, and dairy. Food and nutrition related careers will be explored. **One trimester.**

Baking 101 Students will learn basic baking techniques with a focus on fundamentals. Safety and sanitation will start the trimester, followed by baking equipment, proper measuring, functions of ingredients in baking, and types of doughs and batters. Lab experiences will reflect lessons learned in class, but will include cookies, pies, cakes, quick breads, and yeast doughs. Careers in baking industry will be explored. **One trimester.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Team Sports This course is designed for motivated students who enjoy active and competitive sports. The class focus will be on team sports and competitive dual sports. Students will engage in a faster paced class with a significantly greater amount of strategic game play than the required 7th and 8th grade course. **One trimester.**

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Symphonic Band: The Symphonic Band is the top band at NRMS and one of the top performing middle school ensembles in the State of Michigan. This is a wonderful course that allows students to explore fantastic music while performing many concerts throughout the year. The Symphonic Band also gets to go to a Broadway show at DeVos Hall and perform at MSBOA Band Festivals throughout the state. Members of the Symphonic Band also get to travel to Chicago in the Spring. **Full year.**

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, the opportunity to attend a Broadway show at DeVos Hall, 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.**

Men's & Women's Chorus Vocal music. Students learn music reading skills & performance skills through a vigorous, lively year of instruction. Students will participate in several performances throughout the year. **Full year.**

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS

PEER-TO-PEER ELECTIVE

Food Leaders- Baking Skills is a course for students who want to assist students with special needs while receiving an introduction to the world of foods. Areas covered prior to cooking will be safety, equipment, measuring, and cooking terms. Nutrition information will be included with each food group of MyPlate. Tests and lab experiences will be included. Interested students must have the desire to help others and a desire to develop leadership skills. **Teacher approval required. One trimester.**

Art Leaders This is a peer to peer class where students in general education and special education will have fun producing amazing collaborative and individual artwork while building relationships with each other. There will be many different types of projects in this class using various drawing tools, paint, different sculpting materials and much more. No art experience needed. Just show up ready to help a peer and create! **Teacher approval required. One trimester.**

P.E. Leaders Students in this class will earn credit for Physical Education (Replaces PE Class) while helping students with special needs. This class will focus on movement, basic skill development, and modified games and activities. Interested students must have a desire to exercise, a desire to help others, and a desire to develop leadership skills. **Teacher approval required. One trimester.**

TECHNOLOGY/PRACTICAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Computer Exploration This course is an introduction to the basics of computer coding, computer productivity tools, and keyboarding skills. Students will use instructional videos, tutorials, and online project based activities. Students receiving a C or higher for the course will be able to waive their high school computer literacy requirement. **One trimester.**

Computer Science introduces computer programming, coding, and physical computing. The course allows students to code their own apps, games, and physical computing devices using JavaScript.

Robotics This course is a one semester introduction to robotics using the lego mindstorms educational systems. Student will learn both program and build robots to accomplish various challenges and tasks. Students will learn to design robots that will sense and react to their environment. This class is designed for students with zero knowledge of robotics as well as students that have had experience with Lego systems in the past. Students will need to be able to work as part as a team as well as an individual. **One trimester.**

STEAM I is an introductory course designed to introduce students to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics concepts. The course is taught through a series of hands on activities and computer based modules. Students will learn to design and build solutions to solve real world challenges. Students will need to be able to work as part as a team as well as an individual. Past projects have included, rocketry, sailboats, co2 cars, intro Lego robotics, and other design projects. **One trimester.**

3D Design This class will allow students to explore the potential and limitations of 3D printing through a series of hand-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.**

Wood Tech I Basic woodworking includes the safe use of hand tools, power tools and machines. Students will have a choice of wood projects they will make according to their ability. **One trimester.**

Wood Tech II Advanced power tool and machine use. Introduction to construction and manufacturing techniques.
Prerequisite: Wood Tech I with a B+ or better, plus instructor's approval. One trimester.