

# Grade 8 Elective Courses

## 8th Band

8640/8641

**Prerequisite:** Knowledge of brass, wind, or percussion instrument. The purpose of this course is to teach comprehensive musicianship (musical style, technique, small ensemble skills, sight reading, etc) through performance in Concert Band, Marching Band (Parade Only), Solos, and Small Ensembles. Attendance at all performances and one contest is required.

## 8th Vocal Music

8630/8631

This class includes an emphasis on choral technique, developing an appreciation for music through listening and participation, and the study of elements of music. Attendance at programs/concerts and specified concert dress are required.

## Industrial Tech

9601

Students design, build, and destructively test bridges using a 2D CAD to complete their final drawing. Students design, build, and race a CO<sub>2</sub> powered dragster. They will have the opportunity to use the Styrofoam cutter, drill press, scroll saw, and band saw to build their dragster. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software.

## 8th Advanced Tech

8670

**Prerequisite:** Students must have passed Industrial Tech with an A or B. Students will problem solve using sketching and drafting techniques to create and design a product. They will work with many different types of media as they progress from the design stage to production.

## Creation by Design

9604

Students will problem solve using sketching and drafting techniques to create and design a product. They will work with many different types of media as they progress from the design stage into the production of their creation.

## 8th FACS

8650

This course introduces students to career and life literacy skills in all areas of Family and Consumer Sciences. Students will receive instruction in human development, interpersonal relationships, family life & childcare, nutrition & wellness, and career-related tasks. Careers in FACS pathways will also be explored.

## 8th Career & Life Planning

8660

This class offers exploration and preparation in college and career pathways, focusing on jobs that are high skill and high demand, as well as satisfying and financially rewarding. With appropriate developmental information related to careers, educational pathways, and self-knowledge, students are able to begin to make college and career goals for the future.

## Spanish

9612

This elective course presents basic structure and grammar of the Spanish language and encourages conversation with basic vocabulary. Cultural activities will expand student awareness of the customs and geography of Spanish-speaking countries.

## STEM

9614

This class focuses on the Engineering Design Process. It will foster a learning environment in which students are guided to design and produce original ideas, objects, and structures using concepts and skills from engineering, science, math, and technology. Throughout this course students will also explore a variety of STEM careers.

## Drama/Improv/Vocal

9616

Students receive an overview of theatre history, study significant plays and terms, and work with acting techniques, makeup, and set design. Students memorize and perform short scenes/plays. This class will include an emphasis on improv through the ages while also covering improv practices, performance, pop culture, and general theatre practices and etiquette.

## Intro to Art

9618

Students have an opportunity to experience the "Elements of Design" through hands-on activities involving line, shape, color, texture, space, form, and value.

## Advanced Art

9620

**Prerequisite:** Students must have passed Intro to Art with an A or B. Art courses provide activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing/painting/sculpture/etc) these courses may also include other forms of art such as dance, music, or theatre.

## PE

9700/9702

Students will participate in a combination of team sports, individual sports, and officiating units. The program stresses basic fundamentals, terminology, and proper technique of a variety of sports that may include volleyball, soccer, basketball, hockey, gymnastics, weight training, and more.

## Weights/Conditioning

9706/9708

This class is designed for athletes that need strength training and conditioning to allow more success at higher levels of competition. This course develops a weightlifting and training program for muscular strength, flexibility, and conditioning. The lifting program will consist of core lifts that work the major muscle groups.



**2020-2021**  
**COURSE REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Valley Center Middle School**  
**8th Grade**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

ELA Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Required Courses	
8200/8201	8th ELA
8300/8301	8th Math
8400/8401	8th Science
8500/8501	8th American History

Elective course availability is dependent upon class sizes and staffing.

Alternate Electives:	
Please include course name and number.	
1. Course Number: _____	
Course Name: _____	
2. Course Number: _____	
Course Name: _____	

Elective Courses	
<b>Please choose <u>four</u> options and <u>two</u> alternates.</b>	
<b>Please note that Band and Vocal Music are year-long classes so they each count as two choices.</b>	
9809/9810	___ Band
9803/9804	___ Vocal Music
9601	___ Industrial Technology
8670	___ 8th Advanced Tech
9604	___ Creation by Design
8650	___ 8th FACS
8660	___ 8th Career and Life Planning
9612	___ Spanish
9614	___ STEM
9616	___ Drama/Improv/Vocal
9618	___ Introduction to Art
9620	___ Advanced Art
9700/9702	___ Girls/Boys PE
9706/9708	___ Girls/Boys Weights and Conditioning

**Parents/Guardians:** Please read and discuss this information with your student and complete this form. If you have any questions, please call VCMS at 316-755-7060 to speak with a counselor (Mrs. K, last name A-K; Mrs. Yoho, last name L-Z). Please return this to your student's ELA teacher by **Monday, February 3rd**.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_