

8th GRADE ACTIVITY SELECTION 2023-2024

Activity classes take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The activity period offers middle school students a variety of exploratory courses each quarter. The grade received in a student's activity class is counted in the quarterly average, but it is not included in the yearly average.

Please choose 6 activities for the 4 nine weeks. Activity class lists are computer generated. Classes may be limited by parameters, such as when they are offered and enrollment size. **A student's choices are not guaranteed.**

Advanced Band II - Students accepted must be registered in the Advanced Band II after school program for the 2023-2024 school year. This class will place an emphasis on jazz, advanced theory, performance, and practice techniques. Students in the class must participate in the Jazz Invitational Concert (evening performance), Loyola Jazz Festival (Saturday performance), and the State Jazz Festival, if the ensemble is invited to attend. Taught by Mrs. Dupre

Coding - Students will learn beginning terms and work through various levels of coding challenges. They will increase their knowledge and skills in basic coding creating the foundation for higher levels such as Python and JavaScript. Taught by Mrs. Boiteaux

Drama - Bring out the actor or actress in you! This is a beginning drama class with no prior knowledge needed. Students will explore basic acting techniques through fun icebreakers and theater games as well as learn basic theatre terminology and etiquette. Students will also audition, rehearse, and perform a play for a live audience! Taught by Mrs. Reed

Experimental Design - Students will learn how to plan, design, and conduct various type of experiments using the steps of the scientific method. Students will also analyze data gathered throughout the experiment to obtain objective conclusions. Taught by Mrs. Dudley

Exploring Our Roots – Explore multicultural influences on America in art, short stories, and folktales. Taught by Mrs. Landry

French - An introduction to the French language with emphasis on high school readiness. We will focus on communication, introduce basic grammar, and learn about culture, music, and holidays based on the time of year. Taught by Mrs. LeBlanc

Geography – Students will discover the wonders and elements of our world through engaging projects, activities, and games. Taught by Mrs. Taylor

Keyboarding - Students will learn the proper finger placement on a keyboard and will be challenged to type fluently without looking at the keys by the end of the course. Students will work at their own pace through leveled activities to increase their fluency. Taught by Mrs. Boiteaux

Lit Circles - In this class, students can select a novel and explore that novel with others in a group setting. Students will collaborate with peers through reading together, participating in student-led discussions, and engaging in activities that will allow them to build a deeper understanding and form a partnership in reading. Taught by Mrs. Gautreau

Mixed Media Art – Students will learn techniques and art history to apply to various art mediums. Pencil, crayon, paper, pastel, watercolor, marker, and acrylic paint will be combined and collaged into mixed media projects. Taught by Mrs. Accardo

Music - Bells, Boys Choir, Bucket Drumming, and Girls Choir (4 different quarters of music class) Taught by Mr. Aguillard

- **Bells** - Working together with classmates to rehearse pieces of music that are then performed before Mass.
- **Boys Choir** - Students will learn proper vocal technique for singing and will rehearse with classmates toward performing choral pieces.
- **Bucket Drumming** – Bucket drumming is a music style that involves drumming on five-gallon plastic buckets and other objects. This interactive class will explore types of rhythm and percussion techniques. Playing as a group along with music genres including Caribbean, pop, jazz, and classical, students will expand team-building skills, performance finesse, and grasp historical and cultural contexts while being engaged in the innovative and inspiring experience of bucket drumming.
- **Girls Choir** - Students will learn proper vocal technique for singing and will rehearse with classmates toward performing choral pieces.

Robotics – Students will learn to build, customize, and program the newest model of Lego Robotics for class competitions. This allows students to explore engineering, mathematics, and creativity through teamwork and collaboration. Taught by Ms. Sticker

Spanish - An introduction to the Spanish language with emphasis on high school readiness. We will focus on communication, introduce basic grammar, and learn about culture, music, and holidays based on the time of year. Taught by Mrs. LeBlanc

Speech and Debate - Students will develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills across the curriculum as students learn to research, work as a team, practice public speaking skills, use critical thinking and defend a variety of positions on interesting topics. Taught by Mrs. Taylor

Team Sports - Students will play and work on basic skills of several different team sports such as Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Volleyball, Team Handball, Ultimate Frisbee, Softball, etc. Taught by Mrs. Nett

Write On - Students will create original forms of descriptive writing, poetry, drama, and fiction. Vocabulary development, creative writing techniques, and skills will also be explored. Taught by Mrs. Landry

****Please see attached instructions on requesting your activity class for next school year.**

Instructions for Requesting Activity Classes for 2023-2024 School Year

(Online Scheduling will be available from Monday, April 24– Monday, May 1)

Below are the instructions for using FACTS to access your request for next year's activity classes. Please be aware that you will choose **6** activity choices. Of those 6 choices, you will receive 4 activity classes (one for each nine weeks). **Activity class lists are computer generated. Classes may be limited by parameters such as when the class is offered and enrollment size. A student's choices are not guaranteed.**

1. Log on to the Parents Web of FACTS between **Monday, April 24–Monday, May 1**.
2. Once logged on, select **Student Information** in the left-hand column.
3. Under Student Information, click on **Course Request**.
4. Select the name of your middle school student at the top of the page.
5. You will use the drop-down boxes to select your 6 choices. **Do not duplicate choices. This will not guarantee that you will receive a particular class. In fact, it will hinder receiving the choices that you want.**
6. Once you have chosen your 6 activity choices, click the save button. The screen will read **"Course Requests Updated"** at the top of the page. **Do not click the save button until you are sure that you have chosen the classes that you want. You cannot go back and change the classes once they are scheduled.**

Once saved, your course selection will remain visible while the system is online (between April 24- May 1). If the courses have not been saved, the drop-down boxes will be blank.

Once the system is closed, (after May 1) you will no longer be able to view your student's choices in FACTS.

Any student who has not selected their activity choices by this date will be scheduled last, based on availability.

This completes the request of your activity classes for the 2023-24 school year. Even though you are choosing your options now, the scheduling of the classes will not take place until the summer. 8th graders will be scheduled first and then 7th and 6th graders. You will receive your class schedule, which will include the activity classes that you have been given, at the beginning of the school year in August. Please follow the above directions carefully to avoid any unwanted scheduling issues.