

Arts

World Language

**THOMAS JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE 6 ELECTIVE & PE PROGRAM
COURSE SELECTION INFORMATION**

Design

Health & Physical Education

In order to meet the requirements of the IB Middle Years Programme (IB MYP), students select from a range of classes in each of the following subject areas during their sixth grade year: Arts, Design/Technology, World Language, and Health & Physical Education.

ARTS & DESIGN CLASSES

Option 1: Music Ensemble Classes

Classes meet every day for the full year and fulfill the IB requirements for Arts *and* Design/Technology.

Option 2: Arts & Design Electives

Classes meet every other day for a semester. Students take 2 classes per semester for a total of 4 classes during the year.

Music Ensemble Classes (Every Day, All Year)

- **Band – Ms. Tangchittsumran** (c.tangchittsumran@apsva.us): Learn how to play a wind or percussion instrument, and perform in concerts throughout the year.
- **Orchestra – Ms. Gomez** (kristin.gomez@apsva.us): Learn how to play a string instrument, and perform in concerts throughout the year.
- **Chorus (Full Year) – Mr. Banach** (christian.banach@apsva.us): Learn how to read music, sing confidently, and perform in concerts throughout the year.

Arts Classes (Every Other Day, Semester)

- **Drama – Ms. Riley** (devon.riley@apsva.us): Discover different acting techniques, create your own performances, and learn how theater began.
- **Visual Arts – Ms. Barbour** (heather.barbour@apsva.us) and **Ms. E. Shepardson** (emily.shepardson@apsva.us): Learn new techniques and continue to develop skills in drawing, painting, and ceramics.
- **Chorus (Semester) – Mr. Banach** (christian.banach@apsva.us): Learn about music history, musical styles and understanding music through activities, singing, and other projects.

Design Classes (Every Other Day, Semester)

- **Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS) – Ms. Boda** (heather.boda@apsva.us): Learn skills for food preparation, sewing, babysitting, personal responsibility, and contributing to a strong family.
- **Technology Education – Mr. Nolen** (cassidy.nolen@apsva.us): Using problem-solving skills to tackle project-based learning challenges.
- **Computers – Mr. Anderson** (jeffery.anderson@apsva.us): Practice efficient keyboarding techniques, improve keyboarding speed and accuracy, and create a variety of desktop publishing documents.

WORLD LANGUAGE CLASSES

The **World Language Introduction Courses** are an introduction to language and culture. Students learn basic communication skills to understand, ask and answer basic questions about self, school, and surroundings. Students meet every other day on an A/B schedule for 1 year.

Students will need to rank their top three language choices on their course request form (CRF)

Introduction to **Spanish**

Introduction to **Latin**

Transitional Spanish

Introduction to **Chinese**

Introduction to **Spanish for Fluent Speakers**

Introduction to **Arabic**

Introduction to **French**

Introduction to **American Sign Language**

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES

ALL Sixth Grade Students take a Health & Physical Education class.

Classes meet every other day for a full year.

The goals of **Physical Education and Health** are to:

- Encourage the development of physical, social, emotional skills and cognitive knowledge necessary for participation in sports and lifetime activities.
- Provide key health concepts and skills needed to form healthy behaviors and practices.

ACT II CLASSES

Students may choose to explore select Arts and Design course offerings through **Act II Classes**. Act II Classes are graded courses which meet after regular school hours and are part of the student's regular schedule.

You will not sign up for these classes until the beginning of each semester.

Act II Classes are available during both the Fall semester (September-February) and Spring semester (February-June). Act II Classes that have been offered in the past include:

- **Drama – Ms. Riley**
- **Chorus – Mr. Banach**
- **Art – Ms. E. Shepardson**
- **Inventions and Innovations/Tech Ed – Mr. Nolen**
- **Business Education – Mr. J. Anderson**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you or your student have questions about the 6th grade Elective Program or how to complete the Course Request Form please contact the 6th grade school counselor or call the TJMS Main Office at 703-228-5900.

