PARSIPPANY – TROY HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

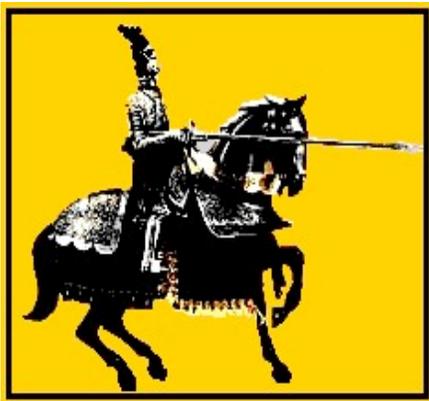# *Middle School*
2017 - 2018
Electives Booklet

Brooklawn Middle School
250 Beachwood Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Central Middle School
1620 Route 46 West
Parsippany, NJ 07054

PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES BOOKLET – 2016-2017

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Course Outline

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade

Band – Full year or
        Half year/Semester
	Band - Full year or
	        Half year/Semester
		Band - Full year or
		        Half year/Semester

Chorus - Full year or
        Half year/Semester
	Chorus - Full year or
	        Half year/Semester
		Chorus - Full year or
		        Half year/Semester

Current and Emerging Technologies - Semester Course	Digital Art - Quarter Course	Art Palooza: Past, Present and Future - Quarter Course
Global Digital Citizenship - Quarter Course	Multi-Media Production and Design - Quarter Course	Woods and Metals 8 - Quarter Course
Intro to Engineering - Quarter Course	Woods and Metals 7- Quarter Course	Imagineering - Quarter Course
Art: Explore! Imagine! Discover! - Quarter Course	Design and Problem Solving - Quarter Course	Video Game Design - Quarter Course
Intro to Foods - Quarter Course	Robotic Engineering I - Quarter Course	Creative Cooking - Quarter Course
Choice of World Language: French, Italian, Spanish - Semester Course	Young Makers - Quarter Course	Robotic Engineering I - Quarter Course
		Robotic Engineering II - Quarter Course

*Special Note: The language selected entering the 6th grade will be studied for grades 6, 7, and 8.

Art

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
Art: Explore! Imagine! Discover! **Grade 6** **Course Number:** ELA600	This Art course is designed specifically so Middle School students can become familiar with the many aspects of Art. This course offers a rigorous investigation into art and design materials, techniques, and ideas. Interests in drawing, painting, fashion, digital design, animation, architecture and sculpture will be addressed in this course as well as the basic elements of art and design. This course is designed to broaden students' education so they can be successful creative thinkers and makers in high school and beyond.

Digital Art Grade 7 Course Number: ELA700	Digital Art is a middle school art course designed to introduce art students to the computer as a medium for creating art. Students will work with a variety of input devices and output devices. Students will work in the areas of drawing, painting, and design. This course has been designed to present digital arts for the twentyfirst century, combining traditional symbolic manipulation with discovery based, hands-on practical problem solving. It will incorporate group learning, authentic assessment methods, and the use of technology as a learning tool throughout the year. Real world, non-routine problems will be an important part of the Digital Art curriculum. They will not be grouped separately, but will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Technology, such as computers and art applications, will be used in the creating of all projects.
Art Palooza: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE Grade 8 Course Number: ELA810	Art Palooza is a fusion of Art History and Art Making. In this course, students will study and create art inspired by different movements, the artists who helped create these movements, and their work. Art history, art appreciation, problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout this course, allowing students to develop increasingly sophisticated creative strategies, skills, and habits of mind.

STEAM: Industrial Arts

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
Intro to Engineering Grade 6 Course Number: ELS600	In this sixth grade applied technology course, students will practice critical and creative thinking skills related to solving problems. Students will learn and become familiar with simple machines, forces and CAD programs and will be able to do basic calculations to calculate mechanical advantage.
Robotic Engineering I Grades 7/8 No prerequisite Course Number: ELS700	Robotics I will be offered to a wide range of students who have varying abilities and interests. Students will consistently be afforded the opportunity to make real-world, hands-on connections to robotic devices that are currently being utilized in society today. Each individual will experiment with a variety of configurations while writing programs that allow the robot to navigate autonomously, with an emphasis on moving, turning, lifting, sensing the environment in terms of light, contact and proximity, monitoring interval states; and most importantly, solving problems that occur in everyday life. The entire program and lab experience is both kinesthetic and computer-based, to maximize student learning and understanding.

Robotic Engineering II **Grade 7/8** **Prerequisite: Robotics I** **Course Number:** ELS800	Robotics II is designed for students at the Middle School level who have previously taken Robotics I. The students will focus on hands-on methods for the design and development of robotic devices whose function is to accomplish prescribed tasks. These tasks will increase in complexity from the tasks mastered in Robotics I. Students will consistently be afforded the opportunity to make real-world connections to robotic devices that are currently being utilized in society today. The entire program and lab experience is both kinesthetic and computer-based, to maximize student learning and understanding.
Woods & Metals -7 **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELS710	This program emphasizes design, problem-solving and hands-on experiences to develop STEM related skills. Activities focus on the proper and safe use of hand tools, careful measuring, power tools, stationary power tools, technology and the skills associated with each. The students will also demonstrate their ability to use mechanical drawing techniques to design innovative solutions, and select the proper tools to construct a project (solution) for a given problem. All projects have a problem-solving component.

STEAM: Industrial Arts

Course Title, Number, and Grade	**Course Description**
Design and Problem Solving **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELS720	Design and Problem Solving: In this technology course, students will be challenged to think 'outside of the box' to come up with different solutions to real-world design problems. The application of math and science concepts to real life situations is a core aspect to this cycle. Students will become familiar with the design engineering loop during this course of study.
Woods & Metals 8 **Grade 8** **Course Number:** ELS810	This course is designed to provide students with a hands-on experience which closely resembles industry practice. Emphasis is placed on power tool safety and how each tool is used in relation to a particular problem or project. Measuring, design, sketching, mechanical drawing and prototype development are often used to arrive at solutions for design problems, which often incorporate moving parts. Solutions are then constructed utilizing appropriate woodworking or metalworking tools and techniques. These hands-on skills are then used to produce projects where emphasis is placed on craftsmanship.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
Intro to Foods Grade 6 **Course Number:** ELA610	Understanding the implications of a good food choices, along with proper food preparation promotes an awareness of a healthy diet. The Intro to Foods course explores food related theories and reinforces these through practical student application in the kitchen. In this course, the emphasis will be on safe kitchen work habits, recipe terminology, measurements and abbreviations, kitchen equipment, nutritious food choices, and the practice of healthy food preparation. Please note -this course will alter the use of certain ingredients to accommodate dietary allergies, intolerances and religious food restrictions
Creative Cooking Grade 8 **Course Number:** ELA840	Creative Cooking is for the middle school student interested in this field. The course will explore culinary field areas of study including nutrition, safety and sanitation, proper tool and equipment use, culinary terminology, food preparation and presentation. This course allows students to have hands-on cooking experiences that develop practical life skills, a foundation for healthy eating and a passion for nourishing food. Please note - this course will alter the use of certain ingredients to accommodate dietary allergies, intolerances and religious food restrictions

Music

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
Band **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 6** **Course Number:** ELA620 ELA625 Semester	Grade 6 Band will acquaint students with the middle school instrumental program. Emphasis will be placed on refinement of performance through the introduction of group awareness. Balance, blend, and specific stylistic skills will be incorporated into the curriculum; along with the addition of more complex time signatures and rhythmic values. Proper playing procedures and proper band etiquette will be established. Time will be spent working with method books, hand-outs, band literature, and various other materials chosen by the band director. Grade 6 Band can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.

Band **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELA720 ELA725 Semester	Grade 7 Band will refine tone awareness, intonation, and blending skills with the primary goal being a mature performance. Emphasis will be placed on utilization of each instrument's full range and each student's ability to control the instrument throughout the range. The difficulty of performance will be chosen to challenge the band to its fullest potential. A wide variety of styles will be included in the performance in order to utilize the full range of the students' skill, both as an individual and within the ensemble. Time will be spent on ensemble playing, method books, scales in various keys, and use of additional materials chosen by the band director in order to achieve the goals of this level. Grade 7 Band can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.
Band **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 8** **Course Number:** ELA820 ELA825 Semester	Grade 8 Band will perfect skills covered in previous levels of Band. Further challenges will include more advanced rhythmic variations, more intricate key and time signatures, and the introduction of ornamentations. Performance music will be wide in variety and longer in length, incorporating all past skills, as well as advanced key and meter shifting. Time will be spent on solos and ensemble performance in order to bring each student to his/her maximum individual performance level. Students will receive regular band rehearsals, as well as additional rehearsals for groups outside the concert band in which the student is a member. Grade 8 Band can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.
Chorus **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 6** **Course Number:** ELA630 ELA635 Semester	Grade 6 Chorus is designed to acquaint students with the vocal music program at the Middle School. Emphasis will be placed on group awareness and participation. Students will continue adding to their knowledge of basic vocal skills through various technique building exercises and a repertoire of music literature appropriate to their level (folk tunes, patriotic songs, spirituals, songs from the musical theater, classical, popular songs, etc.) Grade 6 Chorus can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.
Course Title, Number, and Grade	**Course Description**
Chorus **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELA730 ELA735 Semester	Grade 7 Chorus is designed to have students continue adding to their knowledge of vocal music techniques. Students will refine tone awareness, intonation and blending skills. Emphasis will be placed on the utilization of each singer's full range and each singer's ability to control the voice quality, pitch accuracy, and harmonic blending. The difficulty of music literature will be chosen to challenge the chorus to its limit. The vocal students will continue adding to their vocal repertoire the study of specific choral literature appropriate to the level in unison, two-part, and simple three-part singing. Grade 7 Chorus can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.

Chorus **Full Year or** **Half Year/ Semester** **Grade 8** **Course Number:** ELA830 ELA835 Semester	Grade 8 Chorus is designed to have students further refine all skills covered in all previous levels. This course will include more advanced choral arrangements appropriate to the level in unison, complex two-part and three-part singing. Special ensemble work with small groups will also be incorporated. Students will receive homogeneously grouped lessons. Grade 8 Chorus can be selected as a full year or a one-semester course.

STEAM: Technology

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
Global Digital Citizenship Grade 6 **Course Number:** ELS610	In today's world, technology is constantly changing. Part of being a good digital citizen is learning how to be a responsible creator using these new technologies and how to safely share your knowledge with others online. In this course, students will have the opportunity to learn and create with coding. Additionally, students will be introduced to robotics and 3D printing. Students will also connect with students from around the world using social media tools like Skype, Google Hangout, and learn the basics of blogging.
Video Game Design Grade 8 **Course Number:** ELS820	Students will use content from their math, language arts, science, social studies and more classes, to design and create a video game. These games will assessed, then shared and played by the students of the class.
Multi-Media Production and Design **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELS740	This course is designed to move students from multimedia consumers to multimedia producers and creators. Students will create podcasts, digital slideshows and movies using a project-based curriculum that reinforces primary subject areas as well. Students will analyze and critique media, comparing and contrasting various media sources. This course strives to allow each student to create his or her own production, determine the production's target audience and choose appropriate delivery mechanisms and creation tools.

Young Makers **Grade 7** **Course Number:** ELS750	Want to play piano with a banana or make a drum kit with oranges? Always wanted to design and build an object on a 3D printer? Want to control robotic arms with a servo motor or activate light through sound? As a young maker in our new makerspace you can! Students will be using Makey-Makeys, Littlebits, 3D Printers and more to create original projects. The only limit to what you create is your own imagination.
Imagineering **Grade 8** **Course Number:** ELS860	Explore your own passions, imagine the possibilities, Create a project of your choosing! Research it, execute it and share it with your classmates and others. This course offers a unique opportunity for students to develop and refine skills from business, media, art, and science to create a footprint in the local community and/or the global landscape. Students will analyze current social, economic, and special interest issues and develop action plans to impact the landscape of that particular issue. Teamwork, goal-setting, evaluative research, effective communication and careful planning are part of Imagineering and are all 21st Century skills. Creativity is strongly encouraged!

World Languages

*Special Note: The language selected entering the 6th grade will be studied for grades 6, 7, and 8.

Course Title, Number, and Grade	Course Description
French, Italian, and Spanish Grade 6 **Course Number:** WLA611, WLA631, WLA641	In this semester course, students examine a language of choice in an exploratory manner to build basic skills that serve as a foundation for advanced language learning. The students will be introduced to listening, speaking, reading and writing in the target language. The use of audio-visual aids will strengthen the skills of understanding and communication; teaching students to communicate at a basic level.
French, Italian, and Spanish **Grade 7** **Course Number:** WLA712, WLA732, WLA742	In these full year courses, the emphasis is on understanding, communicating, listening and speaking as well as reading and writing. The student is guided through stages of understanding, imitation, repetition, and substitution using contemporary dialogues. A variety of materials are used to introduce the student to the second levels of language study. Additionally, students will examine significant ideas, beliefs, and themes; organize patterns and events in Spanish, French and Italian. They will understand the commonalities and differences of world cultures and their own. They will able to engage in meaningful conversation and compare other languages and cultures to language and culture in the U.S.

Level I - French, Italian, and Spanish **Grade 8** **Course Number:** WLA810, WLA830, WLA840	In this third year, full year course, students will continue to practice and apply language skills. The approach to this objective is threefold; a comprehensive approach to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking in a target language while honing those skills in English as well; a substantial focus on oral proficiency to provide graduates with the practical ability needed to function within and outside the U.S. Students are strongly encouraged to become proficient in at least one language other than English to be on the cutting edge of a society which is increasingly becoming more multilingual.