

Woodside Elementary School District
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May 31, 2019

Dear Future 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Students and Parents,

We are very excited to offer a wonderful selection of enrichment classes for the 2019-2020 school year. Your teachers have worked hard to offer a wide variety of classes that speak to the whole child and allow for an extensive range of interests.

On the following pages, please look over which enrichment classes you would like to take next year.

Please take the time to rank the top ten electives below. **We will try to accommodate your top selections; however, there is no guarantee that you will be enrolled in all of your selections due to class size restrictions, etc. Therefore, you may be placed into an elective that you did not sign up for.** In addition, the administration and teachers may place students in the appropriate classes (e.g., support classes). **Please be aware that some classes listed below may not be offered, depending upon teacher availability, scheduling, etc.**

Please detach this page and return it to the school office by Thursday, June 6.

1 st Choice	
2 nd Choice	
3 rd Choice	
4 th Choice	
5 th Choice	
6 th Choice	
7 th Choice	
8 th Choice	
9 th Choice	
10 th Choice	

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Middle School Enrichment classes are interest-based seminars. Some courses are graded on a pass/no pass basis; however, Yearbook, Band, the Art Elective, and any course that requires work outside of the classroom or a finished product, will be given letter grades. Elective grades are calculated into the grade point average; however, they are not calculated into the 8th grade Academic Award.

Placement decisions in some classes are made on a variety of criteria that include student interest as well as performance in classes throughout the year. The Woodside Middle School teachers, in consultation with the administration, determine placement of all rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. Students will be directed based on the following:

- Be in good academic standing and maintain at least a C average each trimester in all core academic courses including math, language arts, science, social studies, Spanish, physical education, art and music.
- Be mature, self-directed, and show high levels of motivation, responsibility and reliability by maintaining a C average in all their core academic courses.
- Students who are not in good academic standing and receive a grade below a C will be assigned to courses that will support improved academic achievement such as study skills. If a student's academic performance improves by the end of the trimester, the student may be able to select from available electives.
- In the event that a student's grades deteriorate during the course of the year, the student will be removed from their electives and placed in the appropriate support classes.

Enrichment offerings vary over the course of the school year and from trimester to trimester based on students' needs.

8th Period Elective/Enrichment Classes:

- Design (6,7 – letter grade)
- Art Elective (6,7,8 – letter grade)
- Yearbook (6,7,8 – letter grade)
- Band (6,7,8 – letter grade)
- Photography – (6,7,8 – letter grade)
- zSpace (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Body Science (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Lego Robotics – (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Web Design I - (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Web Design II - (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Java I - (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Java II - (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Python I - (6,7,8 - letter grade)
- Community Service (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Modern Readers – (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Self Defense Training (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Strength and Conditioning (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Wrestling (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Discourse on Dining (6,7,8 - P/NP)
- Mystery Elective (6,7,8 - P/NP)
- Mock Trial (6,7,8 - P/NP)
- Study Skills (6,7,8 – P/NP)
- Operetta (mandatory for all 8th grade students during 3rd trimester – P/NP)

Zero Period/Lunch Time Offerings:

- Student Council
- Music - Chamber Singers
- Music - Showstoppers
- Music - Jazz Band (Must Be in Band Elective to Participate)

Design (Trimester long - letter grade)

All 6th and 7th grade students will take one trimester of Design in the lab with our Design team. This model will allow all 6th and 7th grade students to complete an integrated Design project over the course of one trimester. Students will receive consistent and formal Design Thinking instruction throughout the trimester that allows for projects that prepare students for the eventual 8th grade Exit Project.

Art Elective (Trimester long - letter grade)

Students will work on advanced art projects and a mentored, project-based curriculum. This course will emphasize creative exploration and development. Students explore the structure of art, including line, texture, color, value, and space; learn basic drawing techniques; work in two and three-dimensional forms; and experiment with diverse media.

Yearbook (Two trimesters - letter grade)

Join a team of dedicated students to design, create, and publish our school yearbook. We start with 88 blank pages, and by the end of the 2nd trimester, we will have a complete book highlighting the 2018-2019 school year. If you are a student who likes a *challenge*, is *responsible* and able to meet *deadlines*, understands the importance of a *quality* product, and are willing to put in some *extra time*, then this elective might be for you.

A few things to know:

- You will need to attend one lunch meeting per week
- Some work **will** need to be done outside of class hours

If you are interested in being part of the Yearbook team, you must attend a mandatory Introduction to Yearbook meeting on Wednesday, May 30th during lunch in the Design Lab. Bring your lunch with you.
Graded – Homework

Band (Year long - letter grade)

Students will have an opportunity to play a variety of music that ranges in time period and style. As we rehearse the music, we will build on general musical skills, technique specific to instruments and individuals, and work together as members of a team to create a final musical product that they will perform for the school community. 7th and 8th grade students who want to be in Jazz Band are required to be in this elective.

Photography (Trimester long - letter grade)

This digital photography elective is designed to highlight the innate creativity of the students, build their technical skills, and enhance their understanding of the power of photography to communicate their perspectives of the world. Students will study composition and stylistic elements within multiple genres of photography. We will touch on the history of photography and its place in the timeline of art and technology. Students will practice with Exposure, Depth of Field, and Focus. Students will research accomplished photographers for inspiration and create a photography portfolio.

Body Science (Trimester long - P/NP)

This course will allow students to learn about the different systems of the body. Whether it be through zSpace, guest speakers, dissections, or engaging projects, we'll take an in-depth look at the intricacies of our body in a fun, comprehensive format.

zSpace (Trimester long - P/NP)

This course will allow students the opportunity to explore different aspects of our virtual reality devices. We'll work on the logistics of how to best use this technology, while also learning about a multitude of interests; both science-related and with other subjects in mind.

Lego Robotics (Trimester long - letter grade)

Take on a First Lego League challenge in this Middle School elective. You will design, build, and program an autonomous robot to complete a handful of challenges. Near the end of the trimester, your bot will go up against other bots in a mini-FLL challenge. Go to <http://firstlegoleague.org> for more information on Lego Robotics or search First Lego League on YouTube to see what you will do in this elective. No programming or Lego experience required.

Graded

Web Design I (Trimester long - letter grade)

This class will provide students with the skills to build a web page/site. Students will be given a basic introduction to HTML and CSS, Google Map APIs, forms, video, developer tools, and DOM manipulation. Upon completion of this class, students will leave with a complete website.

Graded - Homework

Web Design II (Trimester long - letter grade)

This class is continuation of HTML and CSS 1. Student will learn JavaScript programming language. We will also cover client-side programming, variables, arrays, functions and event handling. Don't worry, If you don't know these now, you will at the end of the trimester :-)

Graded - Homework - Prerequisite: Web Design I

Java I (Trimester long - letter grade)

Students will be introduced to object-oriented programming language. This class includes an intro to arrays, data types, control structures, strings, data structures, algorithms, debugging techniques, and history of computer science. Some programming experience is recommended for this class.

Graded - Homework

Java II (Trimester long - letter grade)

This class is continuation of Java I and student will learn Object-oriented design and programming methodology, documentation, good software engineering principles, sorting, searching and exceptional handling techniques.

Graded - Homework - Prerequisite: Java I

Python I (Trimester long - letter grade)

This is an introduction to Python programming. Students will learn dynamic object-oriented scripting language. Topics include variables, loops, arrays, lists, and other programming skills.

Graded - Homework

Community Service (Trimester long - P/NP)

Students will be given the opportunity to provide service within our school in the form of working in the classrooms, tutoring younger students, reading aloud to preschoolers, working as a teacher assistants, and helping fulfill any need that arises on campus. In addition, students will be highly involved in organizing any major service projects we do like *Rise Against Hunger*. Students will assist as needed at The Village Hub and also do in-house projects for organizations like My New Red Shoes and Meals on Wheels.

Modern Readers (Trimester long - P/NP)

If you wish you had more time to read books – just for fun – this is the elective for you! The class format will include one period a week for reading and one period a week of activity. In Modern Readers, we will explore new and exciting titles, discuss great literature, do book talks, make social media accounts for our favorite characters, and create a movie trailer for a book.

Self Defense (Trimester long - P/NP)

The purpose of this class is to develop basic self-defense skill development as well as awareness and avoidance techniques. This course focuses on skill improvement and overall knowledge in personal safety. Introducing the basics of self-defense and the practical applications, this course focuses on coordination, balance, agility, strength, and endurance. The course will cover both grappling and striking martial arts in a fun, safe environment.

Strength and Conditioning (Trimester long - P/NP)

This course is designed for those students interested in developing strength for advanced sports skills. Students will engage in resistance training, cardiovascular conditioning and flexibility exercises. Strength and sport conditioning is athletic training aimed at greater strength, power, speed, agility, coordination, and balance. You will learn general exercise principles, nutrition, and sport-specific science, along with practical advanced training in resistance training, agility, plyometrics, balance, and sprint training for athletes.

Wrestling (Trimester long - P/NP)

Wrestling develops discipline, focus, and personal responsibility while teaching the physical demands of mind and body. Wrestling class teaches the basic grappling movements of the first Olympic sport. This class includes learning basic takedowns, escapes, and reversals, in addition to strategy and the point system. Sport specific drills will be performed and practiced to learn and develop the art of grappling.

Discourse on Dining (Trimester long - P/NP)

Do you love all things related to food? Join us on a trimester long journey into food, cooking and eating. We will learn proper knife skills, different cooking techniques, and methods of preserving food like making jams and pickles. Of course we will get to eat our creations as well as do some reading about food and cooking.

Mystery Elective (Trimester long - P/NP)

Calling All Sleuths! Do you enjoy mystery and puzzles? Do you like the challenge of a good crossword puzzle, and the thrill of solving riddles? Are you a fan of treasure hunts? If you answered yes to these questions, then this is the elective for you! In the Mystery Elective we will explore all sorts of stories and games of a mysterious nature.

Mock Trial (Trimester long - P/NP)

Mock Trial-As his lawyer, how would you defend the BIG, BAD, WOLF? This course will allow students to learn about the judicial branch through mock court proceedings. Students will learn how to prepare a case for court, question witnesses, and use critical thinking skills to prepare for trial. Students will understand how a person's actions affect their credibility, focus on different perspectives, and practice public speaking, critical thinking, and the art of forming a persuasive, cohesive argument.

Study Skills (Trimester long - P/NP)

Students will learn strategies for staying organized, time-management, completing homework assignments, task completion, researching skills, editing skills, comprehension strategies, and test taking skills. Overall students will learn advocacy skills that will help set the foundation that is needed before the next level of schooling. This class is strongly recommended for Middle School students who need help staying organized and completing homework assignments. This class is designed to help struggling learners. Class size will be limited, and the staff will make placements.

Operetta – (All 8th grade students - Trimester 3)

8th grade students will participate in one of the most enjoyable Woodside School traditions, the annual Operetta. Each spring, the Operetta stars the entire 8th grade. Each year's musical production is a lovely farewell from the 8th grade to the entire school. 8th grade students will be enrolled in Operetta for all of their elective classes during the 3rd trimester.