



## Dear Future 8<sup>th</sup> Grader,

In this packet you'll find some important information regarding the classes you'll be taking. The last page is the Elective Request Form.

**General Information:** 8<sup>th</sup> graders take 4 Core Courses:

\*Math Science English/Language Arts (ELA) US History

*\*level to be determined by teacher recommendation and placement test results.*

### Required rotation courses:

Math Foundation, Writing and Computers

**Electives:** 8<sup>th</sup> graders have one hour of elective classes per day. You may choose from any combination of year-long courses and Trimester-long (one-third of a year) elective courses.

### Elective Descriptions:



**Vocal Music** In this course, students will become familiar with and learn the basics of vocal music. Students will learn how to sing in four-part harmony as a member of an ensemble, both with and without accompaniment. **Previous musical training IS NOT required.** The culminating activity will be to present a musical drama on stage for a live audience. Regular individual practice and participation in after school performances is required. (All year)

**Symphonic Band** This course provides the opportunity for students to continue developing their musical potential through performance on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read advanced musical notation, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Regular individual practice and participation in after school performances is required. (All Year)



**Physical Fitness** Students will improve their physical fitness by participating in individual and team sports. An emphasis will be placed on improving physical fitness through strenuous daily warm-ups and aerobic conditioning. (One Trimester, may be repeated once.)



**Art History** Ever wonder what a famous painting means or why they were painted? This class we will learn about art through the ages ranging from Medieval, Op, to Installation. We will also be looking at car culture and art, as well as architecture styles influenced by different cultures throughout history. There will also be related art projects! (One Trimester)



**Computer Applications** This class will cover robotics, (specifically Lego NXT Robots), movie making, photography, and yearbook. Students will learn to program robots to accomplish a variety of daily tasks. They will also be tasked with creating a movie using Apple's iMovie. For the yearbook the students will be responsible for the creation, from planning, marketing and selling, to the distribution. If time permits, students will learn the basics of photography, and will be given the assignment of creating images that showcase Renton Junior High. (One Trimester)

**Marketing** During this course the students will demonstrate and practice common business behaviors that are appropriate, responsible and ethical. Students will participate in all aspects of running the school store. This will include stocking, advertising, sales and cost analysis.

Students will have the opportunity to experience entrepreneurship by using their writing and computer skills create a variety of standard business plan documents and marketing materials for their own teen-based business. (One Trimester)



**Advanced P.E.** This class will focus on sports and fitness. It will have an emphasis on circuit training and strength training. Working to improve speed and agility of an athlete. Also a competitive atmosphere within team and individual sports. This class has high expectations for physical performance and fitness.

**Student Name:** Please print neatly.

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(Last)

(First)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Request Form**  
**2015-16 School Year**

**Directions:** Please number your choices, 1 – 5, with a “1” being the class you want the most.

\_\_\_\_\_ Band (year long)

\_\_\_\_\_ Vocal Music (year long)

\_\_\_\_\_ Physical Fitness  
(Indicate how many trimesters you want the class: ONE or TWO)

\_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Physical Fitness  
(Indicate how many trimesters you want the class: ONE or TWO)

\_\_\_\_\_ Art History

\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Applications

\_\_\_\_\_ Marketing

**Comments:**

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