

# DANBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL (6th – 8th Grade)

## 2023–2024 ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

### ART

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ART 1

**Grade Level:** 6–8

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Content:** Fulfills middle school fine arts requirement (Integrated Arts). Students study the elements of art—line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space. This course includes a variety of media and connections to art history, cultures and artists and provides a vocabulary and foundation for students to discuss and evaluate their own, along with peer work, in a supportive atmosphere.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ART 2

**Grade Level:** 6–8

**Prerequisite:** successful completion of Middle School Art 1

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Content:** Fulfills middle school fine arts requirement (Integrated Arts). Students review the elements of art—line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space. Students will learn about the principles of design – the rules that govern how the elements are organized in a composition. This course includes a variety of media and connections to art history, cultures and artists and provides a vocabulary and foundation for students to discuss and evaluate their own, along with peer work, in a supportive atmosphere.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ART 3

**Grade Level:** 6–8

**Prerequisite:** successful completion of Middle School Art 1 & 2

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Content:** Fulfills middle school fine arts requirement (Integrated Arts). Students will review the elements of art—line, shape, form, color, texture, space and principles of design – the rules that govern how the elements are organized in a composition. This course includes a variety of media and connections to art history, cultures and artists and provides a vocabulary and foundation for students to discuss and evaluate their own, along with peer work, in a supportive atmosphere. The students will become more independent with studio projects.

#### Studio Art & Design I (High School Credit)

**Grade Level:** 7–8

**Credit:** 1/2 each semester

**Length of Course:** all year

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Recommendation & Successful Completion of Middle School Art

**Content:** Explore a variety of exciting opportunities and materials to gain knowledge about the art making process. Learn to think conceptually and realize potential as a creative and critical thinker in order to meet the challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> century living. Explore personal interests while developing skills in the areas of

drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and digital media. Course content includes art production, art appreciation, and studies in visual culture.

## **MUSIC**

### **Middle School Choir**

**Grade Level:** 6-8

**Length of Course:** semester or all year

**Content:** A variety of vocal music is rehearsed throughout the year. Music reading, vocal production, basic music theory, and music history are all part of this course. Participation in all performances, concerts, and rehearsals are required in this course. Concerts include the Christmas and Spring concerts, as well as other performances as announced.

### **6th Grade Band**

**Grade Level:** 6

**Length of Course:** semester or all year

### **Instrumental Music-Band (High School Credit)**

**Grades Level:** 7-8

**Credit:** 1/2 each semester

**Length of Course:** all year

**Content:** A variety of band music is rehearsed throughout the year. Music reading, technique of individual instrument playing, proper tone quality, basic music theory, music history, and marching are all part of this course. Participation in all performances (including varsity football games), concerts, and rehearsals (including those held in the summer prior to the start of school and announced in May) are required in this course. Students perform on marching band instruments during the first quarter of the year and learn to march. Concerts include the Christmas and Spring concerts, as well as other performances as announced. Additional voluntary opportunities include Pep Band (performing at home HS basketball games), and the Stage Band which performs at the Cabaret show. Since these students are members of the High School Band, they are eligible to earn a varsity letter as early as their seventh grade year if they meet the necessary criteria.

## **WORLD LANGUAGE**

### **Spanish 1 (High School Credit)**

**Grade Level:** 8

**Prerequisite:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students Only – must have a B average or higher in 7th grade English class and Principal approval

**Credit:** 1/2 each semester

**Content:** This course introduces students to many aspects of Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Students will gain the foundational skills that will enable them to begin to speak, listen, read and write in basic Spanish. Additional emphasis will be placed on the development of 21st century technology skills and classroom-to-career connections.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Physical Education

**Grade Level:** 6-8

**Length of Course:** semester or all year

# STUDY HALL

## Study Hall

**Grade Level:** 6-8

**Length of Course:** semester or all year

# TECHNOLOGY

## Computer 7 (Required - this will be added to student schedules.)

**Grade Level:** 7

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Content:** This is a continuation of skills presented in Computer 6. A large portion of this semester course is focused on appropriate and safe use of technology and utilization of Schoology, our school learning management system. Some of the additional topics included utilization of different options within Google Drive, a review of keyboarding skills, basic computer usage and troubleshooting, writing for a digital audience, academic search and citation skills, exploration of several web-based presentation programs, and maintaining a positive digital footprint.

## Computer 8 (Required - this will be added to student schedules.)

**Grade Level:** 8

**Length of Course:** 1 semester

**Content:** This is a continuation of skills presented in Computer 7. The focus this year is on utilization of technology in the students' academic and personal lives. Topics include use of spreadsheets, a keyboarding review, how to respond appropriately to online discussions, media literacy, and graphic design.