

ROSEMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL

*CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL*



2023-2024

8TH Grade Course Guidebook

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WELCOME to 8th Grade at ROSEMONT

School Motto: Honor, Excellence, and Pride

Welcome to your 8th grade year at Rosemont Middle School. This booklet has been prepared to help you in planning your educational schedule for next year. The required classes are listed below and the elective classes are described on the following pages.

More information about Rosemont and the upcoming school year will be mailed to you in July. Parents may call our Counseling Office at 818-248-4224 if they have any questions.

Ms. Suzanne Risse, Principal

8TH GRADE REQUIRED CLASSES

ENGLISH or ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (ELD)

UNITED STATES HISTORY

MATHEMATICS

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- All required classes are scheduled for one full year. For details regarding the content of each class, please refer to the California Standards on the California Department of Education website at www.cde.ca.gov. or www.corestandards.org/.
- Elective classes that are described on the following pages may last one-semester or one-year, based on the course. Every student must take two electives each semester.
- Every effort is made to accommodate each student's elective choices. Due to staffing, enrollment and/or program conflicts, this may not be possible and alternate electives may be assigned. **There is NO guarantee of preferred choices.**
- Rosemont suggests the use of a Reminder Binder. It assists students with organizing their work and recording homework. It is also an important tool to keep parents informed. Rosemont rules and guidelines are published in the front of the book. Parents and students should review these pages together.

8th Grade Electives

One-semester electives are:

Art Production
Ceramics
Computer and Multimedia Essentials
Computer Science Discoveries
Crafts
Drama
Exploring Family & Consumer Science
Exploring Spanish
Forensic Science
Homework Lab (Teens 4 Success)
Intervention Math
Introduction to Applied Technology
Junior Assistant
Literacy for Success (English Intervention)
Mixed Chorus (1st Semester Only)
Office Training 8
Pathways to College/Career
Robotics/STEM Intro
Wood Technology 8

Full-year electives are:

Advanced Chorus
Advanced Strings
Concert Band
Dance/Drill/Cheer
Digital Media & Yearbook Design
DLI Japanese Language & Literature 3-4
DLI Korean Language & Literature 3-4
Intro to Journalism (School Newspaper)
Intro to Media & Digital Arts
Korean 1-2 (Non DLI Students)
Spanish 1-2
Spanish 3-4
Stage and Video Production 8
String Ensemble
Student Government (ASB)
Wind Ensemble

Advanced Chorus is an advanced class for students who already have some experience singing in a vocal group. Several concerts are held throughout the year, including winter concert, festival competition, and the Rosemont Bowl.

***Audition/Approval by instructor required, contact Ms. Chu at mchu@gusd.net**
Full-year class

Advanced Strings is an advanced class for string instruments and piano. Students must audition and demonstrate adequate proficiency. Concerts include a winter concert, festival competition, an end-of-the-year concert and various community performances.

***Audition/Approval by instructor required, contact Ms. Chu at mchu@gusd.net**
Donation requested if instrument is needed
Full-year class

Art Production is a course structured to develop fundamental skills necessary to produce fine art with an emphasis in drawing. Students will explore traditional and contemporary approaches in a variety of media. Projects emphasize a wide range of technical skills in fine art, problem-solving abilities, self-expression and the development of a personal artistic vision.

No drawing experience is necessary; assignments are geared to all levels of ability
This course is to be taken once only
Donation requested
One-semester class

Ceramics is an art class with a focus on hand-building with clay. Students will learn about the history of ceramics and clay. Varying techniques will be covered, as well as glaze application and kiln safety.

No experience is necessary; assignments are geared to all levels of ability
This course is to be taken once only
Donation requested
One-semester class

Computer and Multimedia Essentials will provide an introduction to computer basics and give students the opportunity to create a variety of multimedia projects using the latest software and up-to-date equipment. This class will cover introductory skills in a variety of the CTE pathways. These pathway skills will include computer-based careers and trends, terminology, best practices, real-world applications, collaboration, problem solving, and leadership skills. This course promotes skills that can be applied across the curriculum and offers preparation relevant to 21st century skills.

Donation requested

One-semester class

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Computer Science Discoveries is a one semester introductory course to the world of Computer Science and coding. This course will cover the five concept areas of computer science: computing systems, algorithms and programming, data and analysis, networks and the internet, and impacts of computing. Computer Science Discoveries introduces students to the Information and Communication Technologies CTE pathway.

No experience is necessary

One-semester class

Donation requested

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Concert Band is for advanced brass, woodwind, and percussion students. Concerts include the Montrose Christmas Parade, the winter concert, festival competition, and the Rosemont Bowl.

***Audition/Approval by instructor required, contact Ms. Chu at mchu@gusd.net**

Donation requested if instrument is needed

Full-year class

Crafts is a course structured to develop the skills necessary to produce fine crafts. Crafts offers instruction that includes a wide base of processes and techniques designed to encourage individual expression. The program aims to develop critical thinking and creative experiences. This course helps develop an appreciation of crafts across different cultures.

One semester class

Dance/Drill/Cheer is a yearlong class that will help students develop an understanding of the discipline and structure of dance, rehearsal and performance etiquette. Students will experience these elements through a variety of genres (modern dance, lyrical, hip hop, cheer, and others.)

Yearlong class

***Audition required, contact Mrs. Cole at jcole@gusd.net**

Digital Media & Yearbook Design is a yearlong course designed to have students understand the role of visual art and design, and its impact on society and culture, particularly in publication mediums. The course will focus on students understanding a designer's target audience and stimulating creativity through a variety of two-dimensional media. Then, students will apply this artistic process to create designs for the yearbook publication. Finally, they will maintain the integrity of design through the editing process, while collaborating and communicating with their colleagues on the yearbook staff. The assignments in the course will demonstrate a student's ability to apply the principles of design and effectively communicate their message. Assignments will also have students process, respond to, and judge design works using their knowledge of the elements of art and the principles of design.

Recommended for students who have already taken Computer Multimedia Essentials or Intro to Media and Digital Arts

Donation requested

Yearlong class

DLI Japanese Language and Literature 3-4 is a continuation of the elementary dual immersion program which emphasizes higher levels of communication skills and comprehension strategies in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will connect ideas and information from two or more texts and analyze and evaluate evidence carefully. Students will use precise and concise language for expressing themselves orally and in written form. Formal aspects of the language will be stressed including spelling and grammar. The curriculum reflects a balance between literature and informational text. There will be an integrated approach to instruction. Readings will include novels, drama, and poetry. This course counts towards the A-G World Language requirements for California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC). Prerequisites for this course are (1) participation in the DLI Japanese Elementary Dual Immersion Program, and (2) other fluent bilingual and bi-literate students may also be admitted upon assessment and recommendation made by the teacher. **Please contact Aya Taylor at ataylor@gusd.net for any questions.**

Yearlong class

***Prerequisite: Completion of DLI Japanese Language and Literature 1-2**

DLI Korean Language and Literature 3-4 is a yearlong course designed for those who completed the Dual Language Immersion program in elementary school. Students will learn how to use their language skills to communicate appropriately in real-life situations. Students will hone their language skills and build up vocabulary by participating in various speaking and writing activities and cultural celebrations.

***Prerequisites for this course are (1) completion of Dual Language Immersion Korean class in 7th grade OR passing a target language proficiency test (by appointment only), and (2) meeting English proficiency criteria through reclassification.**

This course counts toward the A-G World Language requirements for California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC).

Yearlong class

***If interested in “testing” into this class, contact Unis Choi at uchoi@gusd.net**

Drama students will get on their feet and learn acting through drama games, improvisation, pantomime, and scene work. Games from the TV show “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” and acting exercises help students learn to play character roles, focus, and overcome nervousness and fear. Students will also learn creative writing techniques for scripts and short stories. Drama games and fun daily. If you like to laugh and act out wacky skits, this class is for you!

No experience is necessary

Donation requested

One-semester class

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Exploring Family and Consumer Science is a one semester class that is designed to equip students with essential skills for living. Skills for managing personal, family, and work responsibilities will be highlighted. Also this course may cover content areas such as consumer education, health, and nutrition.

One semester class

Exploring Spanish is a general elective that will introduce students to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking people. Students learn some Spanish through storytelling, songs, games, online programs, and plenty of interactive group activities and projects. No knowledge of Spanish is necessary. This class does not meet A-G requirements.

One-semester class

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Forensic Science is a course for a fun, hands-on opportunity for students to engage with fundamental scientific principles through the lens of forensic science. Utilizing the steps of the scientific method, students will learn how to collect various pieces of evidence from a number of different crime scene scenarios and test the evidence to determine the perpetrator(s) of the crimes. Students will learn how to analyze: simulated blood and blood spatter samples, fingerprints, hair and fiber samples, DNA samples, ballistics, tool/tire impressions, glass fragments, soil samples, and handwriting analysis samples.

After graduating from Rosemont Middle School, students may consider joining the Academy of Science and Medicine at Crescenta Valley High School, which is a career pathway program offering students the opportunity to explore the various careers available in the fields of science and medicine.

One-semester class

This class may not be repeated

Homework Lab (Teens 4 Success) is a one semester course that is designed to provide students the opportunity to get ahead in their schoolwork and studies on campus. Students can work alone, collaboratively in peer groups, and/or with the help of a teacher. Learn organizational and time management skills. Get a head start on homework before you even leave school!

One semester class

Intervention Math is a course that is required for students who are behind grade level in the mathematical pathway, received a non-passing grade in previous or current math course, and/or has not met the standards on standardized assessments. Content will focus on student mathematical deficits in order to ensure student success in their core math class.

One-semester class

Counselor assignment only

Intro to Applied Tech is a one semester course that introduces text-based coding, 3D design and printing, and creating a website.

One-semester class

Intro to Journalism (School Newspaper) is a yearlong course that teaches students to write, edit, and publish a school newspaper online. Students will learn and practice writing and editing skills, computer skills, photojournalism skills, organizational procedures, and exercise editorial judgment in a fast-paced and independent environment. They will learn interpersonal skills to work as a team to ensure that deadlines are met and journalistic integrity is maintained.

Yearlong class

Intro to Media & Digital Arts is an introductory course to the arts, media, and entertainment industry sector. Students will learn basic foundations of graphic design and computer graphic fundamentals. Specialized curriculum in contemporary media involving digital design and moving graphics will be introduced. Careers in the arts, media, and entertainment sector fall in three general pathways: Media and Design Arts, Performing Arts, and Production and Managerial Arts. The foundation and pathway standards make explicit the appropriate knowledge, skills, and practical experience students should have to pursue their chosen profession through whatever course of postsecondary, collegiate, and graduate training or apprenticeship it may require.

Taking Computer and Multimedia Essentials is NOT a prerequisite, but strongly recommended

Donation requested

One-year class

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Junior Assistant is a semester course where students will be assigned as a teacher assistant to a specific teacher. They will assist with general classroom duties.

***Students must apply directly with a teacher and complete a form.**

One-semester only

Korean 1-2 (Open to 8th graders only/non DLI students) is a yearlong course where students will learn the basics of communicating in Korean through interactive speaking activities, games, cultural celebrations, and online programs. Students should have strong language skills in English and a strong overall GPA if considering taking this course. The successful completion of this course allows students to take Korean 3-4 the following school year. This course counts toward the A-G World Language requirements for California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC).

This class is not for students participating in the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program

Yearlong class

A two-year commitment (8th-9th grade)

A third year of Korean is *strongly recommended*

Literacy for Success (English Intervention) is a semester class that is required for students who demonstrate significant gaps in reading and the skills associated with reading comprehension. Students will develop reading skills in order to bridge their individual learning gaps. Reading both for academics as well as pleasure will be encouraged.

One-semester class

Counselor assignment only

Mixed Chorus is for students who like music, like to sing, and want to perform for others. You don't need to audition and you don't need to have a great voice. We will help you improve your singing techniques and confidence. There will be opportunities for solos, and small groups. The chorus sings at the Fall and Winter concerts. Students have the option of joining advanced chorus for second semester.

First semester only/students may audition for Advanced Chorus for 2nd semester

Office Training 8 offers a select group of students the opportunity to gain practical office experience in such areas as telephone protocol, filing, and using simple office equipment. Students develop interpersonal skills, along with attitudes needed for success in entry-level office jobs. Excellent citizenship required.

One-semester class

Recommendation only, contact 8th grade counselor Ms. Brown at abrown@gusd.net

Pathways to College and Career is a semester class that teaches students the skills necessary to help them in the competitive environment of acceptance into a variety of career paths. It helps students see the connection between college/career readiness and their current classes. College and Career exploration are a big part of this exciting class.

One semester class

Robotics/STEM Intro is a one-semester projects-based course that introduces students to Robotics and Electronics Engineering. Students will program a virtual robot (VEXcode VR), then build and program a physical robot (VEX IQ, LEGO Mindstorms NXT or EV3). Students will also learn and apply Arduino Microcontrollers and create hands-on electronics projects to take home.

One-semester class

No experience is necessary

Donations requested for take-home projects

Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7th grader

Spanish 1-2 *¡Hola! ¿Cómo estás tú?* You will learn the basics of communicating in Spanish through storytelling, songs, cultural celebrations, games, online programs, and plenty of interactive group activities to help you use your language skills. Heritage speakers are strongly encouraged to apply to continue developing their proficiency in Spanish. This course satisfies the “A-G” California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) 1st year World Language requirement *if* you take Spanish for three consecutive years.

Full-year class

A two-year commitment (8th- 9th grade)

A third year of Spanish is ***strongly recommended***

Pathway towards college-level courses, including Advanced Placement Spanish

Pathway towards attaining the California State Seal of Biliteracy on your high school diploma

***Pre-requisites: A or B in English, a strong academic record, excellent study habits, maturity, self-discipline, and a lot of *ganas* (desire) to learn a foreign language.**

Spanish 3-4 *¡A comunicarnos!* Spanish 3-4 is a continuation of Spanish 1-2. The course qualifies as the 2nd year of language in the A-G CSU and UC entrance requirements. It is aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools: K-12 (2019) and the Common Core State Standards. You’ll be communicating in basic Spanish with your classmates about topics regarding different communities, countries, and the world.

Full-year class

An additional year of Spanish is required in high school to complete A-G requirements

Pathway towards college-level courses, including Advanced Placement Spanish

Pathway towards attaining the California State Seal of Biliteracy on your high school diploma

***Pre-requisites: Spanish 1-2 with a grade of B or better both semesters or be a heritage speaker. An A or B in Spanish 3-4 required to continue to level 5-6 in 9th grade**

Stage and Video Production 8 Students in this special, year-long class will be on stage and also be in front of the camera! Costumes, mics, lights, and fun are all a part of our productions. Students will create their own videos on a personal IPAD. Video shoot teams will get a chance to use a boom mic, stage lights, and direct their own original “TV Shows”! Storyboarding, acting for the camera, and basic directing skills are all covered. Our year will culminate in an evening film festival where students will invite parents and friends to view their original videos. The classroom will be turned into a movie theater, complete with popcorn, drinks, a red carpet, and student ushers with flashlights. In addition, drama games, skits, and scene work will help students improve their acting ability, and students will be able to write their own skits and monologues. **Students must be willing to act on stage in order to take this class.** Theater, acting, public speaking skills, directing, photography and creative writing are all skills that are covered.

Full-year Career Tech class for 8th graders

This class is a career tech pathway to Clark High School and CV High School programs

String Ensemble is for beginning and intermediate level string and piano players who want to polish their skills before moving on to the advanced level. String instruments include the violin, viola, cello, and bass. Students perform in one concert per quarter, including a festival competition.

No experience is necessary, although a private teacher is recommended

Donation requested if instrument is needed

Yearlong class

Student Government (Associated Student Body – ASB) is a leadership course. It develops the ability to take initiative, plan, and organize and lead others. Students participate in the decision-making process, learn effective communication principles, make ethical decisions, problem-solve and learn parliamentary procedure.

Student Government (ASB) Incoming 8th graders who would like to join ASB will need to run for elected office in the fall. There are many different offices to run for so listen for bulletins about elections in August. Questions? Mr. Anker's email is manker@gusd.net Ms Khatchetourian's email is dkhatchetourian@gusd.net

Wind Ensemble is for beginning and intermediate-level woodwind, brass, and percussion players who want to polish their skills before moving on to the advanced level. Students perform in one concert per quarter, including a festival competition and the Montrose Christmas Parade.

No experience is necessary, although a private teacher is recommended

Donation requested if instrument is needed

Yearlong class

Wood Technology 8 is for students with limited or no background in woodworking. Practical application is emphasized as students work on projects and develop skills with hand and power tools. Safety in the lab is stressed throughout the class, and if safety rules are violated, you can be removed from the class.

Donation requested

One-semester class