

## PERSHING MIDDLE SCHOOL

### 2016 – 2017 ELECTIVE COURSE SELECTION LIST

**ART:** Students will learn fundamental skills needed to create art in a variety of media including drawing, painting, ceramic, collage, and printmaking.

**BAND:** Students learn music theory and foundational technique on their particular instrument.

**CHOIR:** Learn beginning theory and basic tenets of performance. This group participates in various competitions and performances throughout the year.

**COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY:** This course will focus on developing 21st Century Skills by incorporating technology concepts, systems, and operations. Students will be able to select and use district provided applications effectively and productively. Throughout the course, students will demonstrate creative thinking, problem solving, and collaboration. Course activities provide a pathway for students to assess and apply new technical knowledge.

**CONCEPTS OF ENGINEERING:** This class will provide an introduction of the various fields of engineering. Students will create products and develop critical thinking skills through the design cycle. High School Credit will be earned with final average of 70.

**CREATIVE WRITING:** Students will explore writing by learning to create imaginatively constructed fiction and poetry. They will also read and critique fiction and poetry by published writers.

**DANCE (TRADITIONAL):** Students will learn Ballet, Modern, and Jazz techniques. Students participate in a minimum of two performances each school year. Students are responsible for purchasing specific dance clothes and shoes.

**DANCE (HIP HOP):** Each level provides appropriate body movements as well as covering body placement, technique, stylization, rhythm and musicality. As the levels progress new complex material is combined with the previous levels work. Students are responsible for purchasing specific dance clothes and shoes.

**DEBATE:** Students will choose controversial topics in current events, research both sides, and work with a team to prepare arguments for formal debates. The focus will be on critical thinking, active listening, and respectful dialogue.

**DRAMA:** The student will learn theatre terminology and how to be a successful actor. Other subjects covered are improvisation and set design. After completing a beginning class, the student is eligible to audition for an advanced class.

**GUITAR:** Students will learn basic music theory, music appreciation, and how to play their guitar in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> positions. Students will perform two concerts: one in December and one in May.

**GYMNASTICS:** You will learn the gymnastics safety rules, terminology, and learn the following skills; various rolls, handstands, cartwheels, back bends and kick-overs on the mats.

**MUSIC PRODUCTION:** This is a class that uses professional music production software, Ableton™, to create or manipulate original music. This incorporates electronic sounds, recorded sounds, picture, and video.

**NAME THAT BOOK:** Students in this class read approximately 35 books, discuss and analyze them. In the spring students participate in a competition of comprehension and literary analysis of the novels read.

**ODYSSEY OF THE MIND:** Student work in teams to creatively solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level.

**ORCHESTRA:** Students will learn basic music theory, music appreciation, and how to play their violin, viola, cello, or bass in 1<sup>st</sup> position.

**PIANO:** This class is designed to teach the concepts and fundamentals needed to perform on the piano. Students will learn proper technique, reading music, and vocabulary of chords and keys.

**PRINCIPLES OF INFO TECH:** Students will develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace. . High School Credit will be earned with final average of 70.

**ROBOTICS (SECME):** This class is designed for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in engineering, math, science and robotics. We will program and build robots, bridges and water rockets.

**SPANISH:** This course teaches basic language patterns and vocabulary. Focus is on all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students must have an 85 average in ELA. High School Credit will be earned with final average of 70.

**TEAM SPORTS:** This athletic based course focuses on learning the skills associated with team sports such as football, basketball and soccer.

**COURSE SELECTION IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.**