

### **AVID**

**AVID:** An elective program that puts students on a college preparatory path. Students learn how to get organized, collaborate with others, and ask deep questions. College tutors visit weekly to help students with their classes, and students visit a college campus for a tour. *Requires admin/teacher recommendation. Must be enrolled in a minimum of one Pre-AP class.*

### **Fine Arts**

**Visual Art/Computer Power:** In this class students will spend one semester exploring drawing techniques and design principles while studying the Elements of Art, Principles of Design, and Art History. Students will also have the opportunity to work with, paper collage, tempera paint, watercolor, pastels, and other painting media. This class is for sixth grade students and there are no pre-requisite skills required. Students will spend the second semester in a computer lab not only learning the necessary computer literacy skills needed in core subjects, but pursuing computer application and video production as well. Students will come away with a working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet and presentation applications (google docs, google sheets, google slides, prezi et.al) as well as, website creation, video production and sound editing.

**Modern Dance:** Dance Class is for boys and girls alike. Dancers will work together to create and perform dance throughout the year. Styles that students will study and choreograph include: hip-hop, modern, jazz, breakdance, ballet, cultural folk dances from around the globe, and more! Dancers will also develop the abilities to perceive dance, make judgments in dance, and understand dance as a crucial part of the human existence throughout history.

**Ballet Folklorico & Latin Dance:** Students will learn about the dance art form of Ballet Folklorico and Latin Social Dance. The class will prepare students to perform these dances on stage. It will also educate the students about the history and background of the dances they learn.

**Theater Arts:** Theatre Arts is an opportunity to experience the aspects of modern entertainment in every capacity. In Theatre Arts we explore the business of entertainment, costuming, lighting, sound, make-up, character development, special effects, applications and audition technique. Theatre Arts at Hamilton is open to every student, regardless of experience or previous exposure. Students will be encouraged to participate in performance and competition on and off campus.

**Beginning Band:** Beginning Band is the first level of the band program at Hamilton Middle School. In this class students will have the opportunity to choose and learn a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument or continue with their chosen instrument in a group setting. The specific aim of the band program is to enable students to communicate effectively through instrumental music and to understand and value a variety of musical and cultural expressions throughout life. *This class is open to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.*

**Concert Band:** Concert band is designed to offer Hamilton band students intermediate-level instruction in band performance skills in preparation for concerts and competitions with emphasis on music theory, interpretation, and improved technical proficiency. *This class requires previous band experiences. 6<sup>th</sup> grade students must perform for Mr. McLean to be considered for Concert Band.*

## Foreign Language

### ***Classes for non-Spanish Speakers***

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish:** This class is for sixth grade students that do not currently speak Spanish and will be learning it as a foreign language. This class will help develop vocabulary so that students can continue to take Spanish I as a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student and Spanish II as an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Dual Language Spanish** - This class is for 6<sup>th</sup> graders who speak Spanish at home or who have come from an elementary school bilingual/dual language program. This fun class is taught exclusively in Spanish and will stress exposure to Hispanic culture as well as learning grammatical concepts. It is a recommended class for students wishing to take AP Spanish in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. It is required for students in AHMS Dual Language program.

## Other

**Exploratory Science:** This full-year course serves as an introduction to studies in horticulture and animal sciences. Study will include leadership, agricultural careers, record keeping, basic animal and plant science, aquaculture, natural resources, and biotechnology. Students will be tasked with the care of the garden and outdoor classrooms, recycling programs, compost piles, and the use and care of gardening tools.

**STEM:** This course is designed to introduce students to the basics of the LEGO Mindstorms EV3 platform as it teaches science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Students will learn how to use feedback from sensors, applied mathematics and measurement to program their robot to navigate in its environment. Students will have the opportunity to complete multiple challenges involving guided research, problem solving, working in teams, and documenting design by means of an Engineer's Notebook.

## Physical Education

**P.E:** Physical education includes training and maintaining one's physical body through educational means. It is about sharpening overall cognitive abilities and motor skills via athletics, exercise and various other physical activities like martial arts and dance. Physical Education class supports academics through team-building skills, and gives students a chance to gain more in depth knowledge about the human body, how it works, and ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

**Karate:** Students will learn techniques of martial arts including self-defense skills, perseverance, and discipline. Students will have the opportunity to earn belts and participate in competitions.

**Yoga:** Students will utilize yoga practices to become more physically, mentally, energetically, and emotionally fit. This class will present techniques in yoga. Yoga means union, and refers to the union of the body, mind, and breath. Yoga develops core strength and helps to develop lung capacity through careful breathing. The emphasis in this class will be asana practice which refers to poses and postures designed to develop flexibility, muscular strength, and muscular endurance. Emphasis will be placed on correct alignment and safe practice.