

2022/2023 Class Choice Descriptions

Grade	Teacher	Class Name	Class Description
K	Mrs. Braun	Kindergarten	<p>Calling all kindergarteners who make learning and having fun their full time job! Our cozy kindergarten provides an intimate learning environment that fosters a sense of community while placing an emphasis on personal educational goals. This kindergarten curriculum integrates art, music, physical education and whole language academics to create lesson plans that reinforce skills for emergent readers. Solid number sense and logical math concepts are reinforced through centers, manipulatives and real-life experience. No worries, we've carved out plenty of time for social development through organized play and a few exciting field trips. We count it our privilege to partner with home-school parents in this noble endeavor of educating our next generation. See you this fall!</p>
K-12	Mr. Eastin	Physical Education	<p>No pre-req's for each class—just need to meet the age/grade level of that class. Physical Education classes will focus on age-appropriate games and sports. These activities are designed to teach and nurture sharing, conflict resolution, problem solving, trust, leadership, communication, listening skills, teamwork and cooperation. In addition to our continued commitment to warm-up games, stretching, push-ups, crunches, and jumping rope, some of the units we will cover include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative Games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer • Flag Football • Speed Stacking (also known as cup stacking. See www.speedstacks.com for more info) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball • Ultimate (cross between basketball without the net, soccer without the kicking, and football) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volleyball • Hockey • Lacrosse • Badmitton • Physical Fitness Testing <p>**Please note that not all of the sport units can be taught completely due to facilities and number of students. In those cases, we will modify the games and/or teach sport specific skills independently to be able to be proficient in those sports</p>
Grade 1	Ms. Nielsen	All About My World	<p>We will learn about where we live in the world, our state, our country and all seven continents. We will also spend time learning about directions and maps, as well as how other kids live around the world.</p>
Grade 1	Ms. Nielsen	Author Study	<p>We will focus on a different children's author each month! Some choices will be familiar and some will be new. Together, we will read some of their books, do a related project or craft and maybe even take a stab at being an author ourselves. In addition, we will also do some special projects around specific books.</p>

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Grade 1	Ms. Nielsen	Animals Galore	Learn about all kinds of animals, life cycles, ecosystems, and habitats! Find out about wildlife conservation and how kids can help. We will study animals from pets to zoos, farms, and in the wild. Students will also be working on animal research, and a lab investigation on butterflies.
Grade 1	Ms. Nielsen	Character Education	Students will learn about core ethical values such as respect, kindness, responsibility, mindfulness, and citizenship through stories and activities that help practice these values.

Grades 2-3	Mrs. Richardson	Everything Is Connected!	Ready to get creative? In this class, students will discover and explore simple connections. Stories, songs, and poems will lead students into fun, creative activities that include games, writing, math, building things, and artistic projects. Get ready to connect!
Grades 2-3	Ms. Nielsen	Insects and Plants	In this science class, kid will be exploring the unique characteristics of insects and bugs, their life cycles, and insect facts. They will also be learning about plants, plant life cycles, part of a plant, and seeds. We'll have various insects in the classroom (perhaps beetles, praying mantises, caterpillars, butterflies and mealworms). We will be doing some planting projects as well. Both topics will be centered around hands-on activities and critical thinking as we'll be working on lab investigations, observation journals, doing research, and report writing.
Grades 2-3	Mrs. Smith	Globetrotting	Grab your passport and let's trot around the globe together! We will focus on at least one country from each continent to expand our knowledge of our world. There is so much to learn: games, natural attractions, special customs, music, arts and crafts, currency, special food dishes, folktales, the list could go on and on! To wrap up our learning at the end of the year, students will have a chance to create their own countries and share their projects with one another.
Grades 2-3	Mrs. Coil	Art History for Kids	Join us as we explore and create art inspired by famous artists and time periods throughout history using a variety of media. Explore printmaking, painting, collage, and more. Students will learn basic art skills, use the Elements of Art, and develop observation and questioning skills.

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Grades 4-5	Mrs. Smith	National Parks	<p>Mountains, Lakes, Forests, Oh My!</p> <p>In this class we will “tour” some of the United States’ national parks and discover what makes them unique. We will learn about natural landscapes, wildlife, and fun things to do in the parks through pictures and slideshows, arts and crafts, and national parks’ maps and newspapers. Students will then get to plan their own road trip to one of the national parks by doing a project-based learning activity.</p>
Grades 4-5	Mrs. Smith	Science Sleuths	<p>Join in the fun of Mystery Science!</p> <p>We will start each class by asking a science question, watching a short educational science video, and completing a hands-on science activity to help us answer our question. Some sample questions could be:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">How much water is in the world? Will a mountain last forever? Why would a hawk move to New York City?</p>
Grades 4-5	Mrs. Smith	Think!	<p>Let’s flex our brain muscles in this class! Creative and critical thinking and problem-solving will all be practiced through team building challenges, brain games, creative projects, and math logic puzzles. Get ready to think and have fun while doing it!</p>
Grades 4-5	Mrs. Smith	Literacy Café	<p>In this class we will have a menu full of engaging literacy activities to choose from and complete. Some menu items include:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Read Aloud STEM—we read a book and engage in a hands-on activity based on the book. Literacy Games—like Speed Scrabble and Spoons Poetry Fun—We read and write our own poetry We will create, listen and play all while being absorbed in literacy.</p>
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Movin' to Music I	<p>Folk dancing used to be a main social activity when people got together, because it is FUN! This class teaches rhythmic movement and folk dances from around the world. You will learn steps that apply to many different dances. It requires team effort and is great body AND brain exercise!!</p>
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Henton	Cookin' Across the Country	<p>This class is for the adventurous cook, and the adventurous appetite! We will cook a different recipe each week from a specific state or region of the U.S., learning interesting tidbits about the states along the way. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the Annual Bake Sale in December.</p>

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Grades 4-6	Mrs. Henton	Core Crochet	This class will be for anyone interested in learning to crochet. We will learn the 4 core crochet stitches, while also creating various small projects.
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Richardson	Rockin' Financers	Come join me as we learn all about the different aspects of money! This will be a fun interactive class where students will use all real-life resources. They will learn how to look for a job, how to write basic cover letters, and touch on a few interview skills. Then the fun part, what do you do when it's payday? Students will get pay checks and "checkbooks", pay bills, buy groceries, and everything in between. We will have a blast gaining knowledge about the basics of finances!
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Richardson	My Yearbook Club	Calling all scrapbookers, journalists and photographers! Join this fun class as we will be creating our very own yearbook throughout the year. Each student will get the chance to create something that is creative and that will showcase the things that are important to them. Students will use pictures, learn to write different types of poems, fun lettering and doodles, to create a keepsake they can enjoy over and over.
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Richardson	Dig Deep!	This will be a project-based learning class where we will dive into different topics and research them. Projects will cover different subject areas, examples include planning a road trip, designing a theme park, building gingerbread houses, to name a few. We will have fun being creative and incorporate different math skills, geography skills, problem solving, and hands on building. Come join as we learn through projects!
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Richardson	Build It Up!	This is a class where students will work on many different things that build themselves and others up. This fun lighthearted class will include working on a growth mindset using puzzles, team building skills through games, and helping those around us with some easy random acts of kindness challenges. This class is more than just building things with our hands (although we will do that too), we will build ourselves up all while having fun with friends!
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Henton	Cake Decorating Level 1	Would you like to make beautiful cakes and cupcakes? Then this is your class! This class is for beginning cake decorators who have baking experience. You will learn the basics of handling a pastry bag, making icing, piping beginner flowers and shapes, as well as simple borders, lines, and letters. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the Annual Bake Sale in December, and cupcake sales throughout the school year.
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Cool Colorado	Fossils, Indians, explorers, pioneers, cowboys, miners, millionaires! The wild, wild West! Our famous mountains and their wildlife and beauty! These are all things we will learn about our great state of Colorado. What makes our state's history unique? Who were these people that have mountains and towns and streets named after them? We will do hands-on projects as part of our learning. There will be some reading outside of class.

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Grades 4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Animalia: The Invertebrates	Beautiful butterflies, squishy squid, wriggling worms, stinging scorpions, camouflaging cuttlefish...there are so many fascinating creatures in this group of animals we call the invertebrates. Lots of them live in the ocean. There will be some reading and projects outside of class as you get to dig deeper and learn about the ones that interest you the most.
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Flanscha	Sky and Space	Let's explore the amazing topics of sky and space: light, air and atmosphere, clouds and weather, our moon and how it appears to change, space travel, planets and how they differ from each other, our sun and other stars, constellations, black holes, nebula, and other mysteries of space. There will be some projects and reading at home.
Grades 4-6	Mrs Flanscha	Medieval Fun	The Medieval time period is a fascinating part of history! This class will study the time period between the fall of Rome and the beginning of the Renaissance. We'll learn about everything from kings and queens to knights and crusades, from armor and catapults to castles and cathedrals. We will do lots of hands on projects.
Grades 4-6	Mrs. Coil	Art Around the World	Take a visual trip around the world to learn about art from different cultures and countries. Create globally inspired 2-D and 3-D artworks using a variety of media. Students will learn basic art skills, use the Elements of Art, and develop critical thinking and planning skills to create.
Grades 5-12	Mrs. Henton	Cake Decorating Level 2/3	<p style="text-align: center;">**PREREQUISITE OF CAKE DECORATING LEVEL 1 OR TEACHER APPROVAL**</p> <p>Student in this class will build on the mastery of skill learned in Cake Decorating Level 1. Class content will focus on cake design and buttercream flowers. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the Annual Bake Sale in December, and cupcake sales throughout the year. For students who have previously completed Cake Decorating Level 2, you can look forward to mentoring other students, thus honing your skills, and taking them a step further through work with buttercream and fondant.</p>
Grades 6-9	Mr. Jeffrey	Where in US History is Waldo?	During this course, students will go back in time and, working cooperatively, follow clues to discover where Waldo can be found in the past. Students will use research tools to follow these clues to discover when and why a certain event in US history took place. The students then will write a reflective paragraph explaining the importance of each event. The course will help students develop their research and writing skills.

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Grades 6-9	Mr. Jeffrey	Turning Points in US History Through Film	In this course, students will explore various turning points in US History by watching documentaries. Students will then write a reflective essay answering the question, "Why was this event a turning point in US History?" This course is an excellent addition to the study of US History in their home school curriculum. The focus of this course will be on writing an effective essay.
Grades 6-9	Mr. Jeffrey	You Were There: Moments in U.S. History	In this course students will become news reporters on the scene of historical events in U.S. history. Working cooperatively with two or three others to research key historical events in American history, students will write a script that includes interviewing participants in the event, and then filming the news story to be shown to other students. The course will help students develop their research, writing, and presentation skills. It is an excellent course to supplement their home school U.S history curriculum.
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Flanscha	Movin' to Music 2	Folk dancing used to be a main social activity when people got together, because it is FUN! This class teaches rhythmic movement and folk dances from around the world. You will learn steps that apply to many different dances. It requires team effort and is great body AND brain exercise! This class will do more complicated and challenging dances.
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	A Glimpse at Medicine	Have you ever wanted to know what it is like to study like a doctor? Well, in this class, we will NOT answer that question. This is not Med School. But, we will talk about some of the items that go into the study of medicine. We will learn some of the science of what makes medicine work, how our bodies react to medicine, and how our bodies react when we are sick.
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Geology	Rocks, Rocks, Rocks. When you come to this class we will be studying rocks. Why would someone want to study rocks? Rocks led us on the path to the technology that we have today! What makes something a rock? Learn this, AND MORE, while we spend the semester learning about Geology.

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Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Zoology	<p>What is Zoology? It is the study of animals. Students will begin the year learning how to classify animals. Students will then study the different types of animals and what makes those animals unique. Content will include the distinct characteristics of animals, as well as how they help the world around us.</p>
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Marine Biology	<p>Have you ever wanted to see the animals of the ocean? Students that take this class will be able to study some of them. Students will begin by going over some of the geology of the ocean. After that, students will study different types of animals that are in the ocean. Included in the study will be squid and their ability to die deep, orcas and the ways they work as a team, and humpback whales and their unique eating techniques.</p>
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Physics	<p>Do you want to know how objects move? Do you want to know how we can make roller coasters fun? If so, this may be the class for you. In this class students start by learning the difference between potential energy and kinetic energy and how these energies affect the world around us. Students will then go into motion. Literally! Students will learn about Newton's Laws of Motion and be able to use this information in real life applications. Students will study different kinds of waves and why they are important. If you took this course in the 21/22 school year, some of the items will be repeated for new students, but there will be new content as well.</p>
Grades 6-12	Mrs. Peterson	Health Science	<p>Have you ever wondered how to stay healthy? Have you ever wanted to know what makes you, YOU? In this class, students will learn how to treat our bodies so that we stay happy and strong! Students will learn about important exercise practices, diet and overall keeping our minds and bodies in tip-top shape. Students will also learn about tools of stress management and how to be successful at home and in the world around us.</p>
Grades 7-12	Mr. Jeffrey	Historical Creative Writing	<p>Does your child like to write stories? Does he/she like history? This is the perfect course for those who enjoy doing both. In this class, students will study a specific event in United States history and then create a short story centering on a fictional character involved in that event. In writing their stories, they will learn and use the six major elements of fiction—character, plot, point of view, setting, style, and theme. They will create a storyboard and then use the storyboard to write a short story. This course is an excellent supplement to your study of United States history at home.</p>

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Grades 7-12	Mrs. Henton	You Copycat!	This class will give students a chance to “copycat” recipes from favorite restaurants and attractions, such as Disneyland, plus a few well-known recipes from movies and written media. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the Annual Bake Sale in December.
Grades 7-12	Mrs. Henton	Cake Decorating Level 1	Would you like to make beautiful cakes and cupcakes? Then this is your class! This class is for beginning cake decorators who have baking experience. You will learn the basics of handling a pastry bag, making icing, piping beginner flowers and shapes, as well as simple borders, lines and letters. Students in this class will show off their skills by participating in the preparation for the Annual Bake Sale in December, and cupcake sales throughout the school year.
Grades 7-12	Mr. Jeffrey	Mock Trial	In this course, students will learn about the United States judicial system through hands-on experience in preparing for and participating in simplified mock trials. The course will help them develop their research and communication skills as they prepare for these trials. As students will discover, Mock Trial combines the BEST of debate, speech and drama.
Grades 7-12	Mr. Jeffrey	Historical Myth Busters	In this course students will investigate numerous myths in U.S. history using primary sources. Research will be done primarily on-line. Working in cooperative groups, students will explore various myths in U.S. history. Once they have decided whether the myth is a myth or the myth contains some truth, findings will be presented to the class. Each student will also write a one-page summary of his or her group’s findings. In doing their research, they should keep in mind that there is always some basis to all myths. Through this exploration into historical myths, students will gain a better understanding of U.S history and improve on their critical thinking and writing skills. This is a great course to supplement the students homeschool US history curriculum.
Grades 7-12	Mrs. Coil	2-Dimensional Art	Learn methods for drawing, painting, and creating collage/mixed media art with a variety of subjects: portrait, still life, animals and landscapes. Explore realistic and expressive styles and a variety of media: pastel, pencil, acrylic, watercolor and more. Students will make creative choices to progress from simple to more complex artworks. Beginners and experienced artists welcome!
Grades 7-12	Mrs. Coil	Digital Photography and Design	In this course students will use digital cameras and online photo editing software to create digital art. Students will learn how to use the Elements of Photography, composition, and light while developing basic photo editing and graphic design skills. Students must own a basic digital camera or camera phone. Experience with computers is recommended.

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