

## **ELECTIVES 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(all 8th Grade Electives are year-long courses)**

### **Band**

**Jazz Band:** Zero period band for students interested in jazz music. A successful audition is required to participate in Jazz Band. Jazz band students must be in Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble.

**Prep Band:** Band for students who have never played an instrument before. Beginners may choose to play flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. No audition is necessary to be in Prep Band.

**Symphonic Band:** For students who have one or two years of playing experience. No audition is necessary to be in Symphonic Band.

**Wind Ensemble:** Band for 7th and 8th grade students with two or more years of playing experience. A successful audition is required to participate in Wind Ensemble.

**Modern Band:** Rock band class. Students will learn beginning guitar, bass, and drums, piano, and other instrument techniques. Students will learn a variety of modern band music (rock music, etc.), and will explore music composition

### **Choir**

**Chorus-Bella Voce** This show choir is an audition, girls only performance ensemble for 7th and 8th graders. The course goal is prepare students with performance, vocal, music theory, sight-singing and general musicianship skills allowing students to succeed in Encore, Troubadours or high school ensembles. A successful audition is required to participate in Bella Voce and the class is limited to 50 students.

**Chorus-Troubadours:** Zero period, audition only choir for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The course goal is prepare students with performance, vocal, music theory and general musicianship skills allowing singers succeed in high school choir. A successful audition is required to participate in Troubadours and the class is limited to 60 students.

### **General**

**ASB:** The leadership class at Ramona is an opportunity for students who are interested in developing the qualities and behaviors of a good leader. Acceptance into ASB is dependent on a successful application. While developing personal leadership skills, students will have hands-on experiences, which include:

1. Planning, coordinating, executing and evaluating student activities such as: rallies, dances, action activities and etc.
2. Raising money to fund these activities
3. Working the student store
4. Approval of the ASB budget and the spending of ASB funds during the school year.

**Digital Media:** This year-long class is split into three parts. First, students learn how to operate digital cameras, save, and transfer information. Second, students explore photography and employ various straight photography techniques. Finally, students learn photo manipulation using Adobe Photoshop Elements 9.0 and create projects showcasing their skills.

**Drama:** Theater Arts is an advanced theater class. This year-long class is focused on performance. Through two major performances students will develop a confidence in speaking to audiences, perform a memorized script creating a character, select and use props in a scene, understand and use theater terminology, design and build sets, learn the skills necessary for effective theatrical sound and lighting, and create costume plots and stage makeup specific to each show. A successful audition is required to be in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Drama class.

**Personal Fitness:** This year-long class combines strength training, speed and agility work, cardiovascular endurance, nutrition, and character development. All of the exercises throughout the year are designed to challenge the students and help them reach their fitness-related goals.

**WEB:** Where Everybody Belongs (W.E.B.), is a year-long class that mentors the incoming sixth graders for the year as they transition into middle school. The class focuses on leadership and character development topics and has four main components: middle school orientation, academic follow-ups, social follow-ups, and leader initiated contacts. The goal of the class is to increase student achievement, enhance character development efforts and create an anti-bullying environment at our school.

**Yearbook:** Ramona's yearbook class designs our school's yearbook. Students will be using an online page designer to create the pages that make up the approximately 150-page book. Every page is student created and student generated. Students spend the year around campus, sporting events, and in classrooms capturing all of the exciting moments that happen here at Ramona.

**Technology:** The Technology class is designed for both new and continuing students. Basics include Windows PC, Advanced Internet use, programming/gaming, 3D, working with images, and technology discussion. Second-time students advance with more programming and 3D, as well as video, audio, and beginning game development.

**Engineering & Technology:** Modeled after modern engineering and technology driven industries, students develop skills in computer construction and repair, coding, computer networking, and much more. Students learn how these skills apply in various industries, and even daily life.

**Math Intervention:** Math intervention is a trimester class that strengthens student's math skills where improvement is needed. This class focuses on basic math concepts taught in the student's year-long math class using a variety of methods in a small class setting.