

ELECTIVES 8th Grade 2019-2020

(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, and the first week of school is the jazz band workshop for any interested students. Jazz band students must be in another band class as well.

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: Band for 7th or 8th grade 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.

Choir

Chorus-Troubadours: Zero period choir for our advanced performers at Ramona. A successful audition is required to participate in Troubadours and the class is limited to 60 students.

Chorus-Bella Voce: This show choir is an audition, girls only performance ensemble for 7th and 8th graders. A successful audition is required to participate in Bella Voce 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.

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.

Business of Drama: This is a year-long advanced theater performance class. Via major performances, students will develop confidence in speaking to audiences, perform memorized character scripts, 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.

Yearbook: Ramona's yearbook class helps design our school's yearbook. Students will be using an online page designer to create the pages that make up the approximately 160-page book. Every page is student created and student generated. As well, students spend much of the year interviewing fellow students, photographing events on campus, at sporting events, and in classrooms capturing all of the exciting moments that happen here at Ramona. Be a part of creating the book that every student will remember.

Advanced Video: This class will work with video cameras and use iMovie and/or similar software to write, film, and edit videos for school events. This may include videos for school rallies, Open House, 5th grade visits and more.

Art: Art provides an opportunity for students to have a hands-on experience, building their art knowledge and developing their skills. Offered many choices within the class structure, they learn to add a personal style to their art making while engaging in challenging ideas and concepts. Students may work with a variety of mediums including printmaking, painting, drawing, and/or ceramics.

Healthy Living (Foods): The year-long foods class will focus on exposure to various world cultures, particularly through popular dishes prepared around the globe. Students will apply skills associated with cooking, including: following recipes, working with mathematical ratios, considering visual presentation, and assessing the final product.

History of Awesome: This year-long 8th grade elective will utilize Internet research to expose students to exciting topics that might otherwise not come up in traditional standards-based history courses. Topics may include: history through movies, the history of musical instruments, artists, and genres, influential films, siege weapons, pioneering technological inventions, historical fashion trends, current events, the history of sports and more. The course will complement History and ELA classes by integrating content standards and promoting research and analysis skills.

Modern Band: A music alternative to the traditional band class. Students learn to play guitar, drum set, bass, keys, and different vocal styles to perform music from modern genres like Rock, Pop, Hip Hop, Rap, Metal, and more. Any level may join, and no auditions are required. This class works for students that have never played an instrument before, and for students that have been playing since they were young.

ELA, Math, & EL Intervention: These classes are for students who are struggling with English/Language Arts, Math, and/or learning English as a Second Language. The class is designed for students who don't already receive support from a specialized service program. Students in these classes will be selected based on prior grades/testing and by teacher recommendation. Students will receive additional instruction in ELA or Math and get support with classwork from their core classes. If you want more information about any of these classes, please contact your student's counselor.

***** This is a list of all possible electives. It is possible that not all electives listed here will be offered in 2019-2020. It is important, therefore, to make sure you list a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.***