Richfield Middle School
Elective Course Offerings 2018-19

5th and 6th Grade		
Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
Chorus Computers and Keyboarding Cooking 1 Google Apps Public Communication 1	Cooking 1 Poetry ELA/Spelling Support JA Biztown	Computers and Keyboarding Lego Robotics Google Apps Public Communication 1
7th and 8th Grade		
Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
2D Art Intro to Drama Tech Ed. 1 Chorus Team Sports Fundamentals of Coding	3D Art Public Communication 2 Tech Ed. 2 Ukuleles Fit for Life Mixed Media Art Discovering Computer Science	Advanced Art History of Rock N Roll Drafting and Design Page to Stage Art and Nature Band Cooking 2 Student Designed Games

Grade	Trimester	Art Electives
7th/8th	**1, 2**	**2D Art** This course is a two-dimensional art course that will explore a variety of dry and wet media including graphite, colored pencils, pastels, charcoal, markers, watercolors, tempera, and acrylic paints. Students will develop their drawing skills by working from both flat imagery and real life objects. Students will study color theory and techniques in producing interesting compositions. They will compare and contrast styles and genres of various artists while improving creative problem solving skills.
7th/8th	**2**	**3D Art** This course enables students to experiment with a wide variety of media to create three-dimensional forms. Students will study themes in art such as Form vs. Function and Memory vs. Imagination. Projects will include paper mache, clay, fiber coiling, assemblage, armature sculpture, and more. Students will be expected to complete preliminary sketches and all planning tools prior to constructing each project. Contemporary artists and modern 3D works will be emphasized.
7th/8th	**3**	**Advanced Art** This course is designed for the highly motivated art student. The main objective is to prepare students for advanced art classes in high school. Art criticism, art history, aesthetic judgment, and art careers will be emphasized. Students will use a wide variety of media to create both 2D and 3D projects. Students will learn how to prepare art for display, practice presenting artwork to an audience, and develop an ability to talk about their work and the work of others in classroom critiques. Students must have the ability to work independently, and will be expected to create a portfolio

		of all work. Admittance will be granted by teacher recommendation.
7th/8th	**3**	**Art & Nature** This course explores artistic themes in nature while emphasizing the value of wildlife conservation. Students will study systems in nature, local wildlife, and natural ecosystems as inspiration for their work. Students will create artwork that will raise awareness on environmental issues in the school and community. Projects will include observational wildlife drawings, ephemeral art, animal prints, awareness posters, the use of organic media, and more. This is an elective course that may only be taken once.
7th/8th	**2**	**Mixed Media Art** Mixed Media Art is a course that will explore the use of various combinations of media or materials to communicate themes and ideas through art. Students will practice a variety of techniques while producing art including printmaking, fibers, altered books, collage, and more. Students will use multiple techniques/ media in conjunction with one another to create unique pieces. Students will study historical and contemporary artists who work in mixed media and will discuss the influence of mixed media art on modern society. This is an elective course that may only be taken once.

Grade	Trimester	Music Electives
5th/6th 7th/8th	1-3 1-3	**Band** In this year-long class, students will learn how to play woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. The class includes graded performances at the winter and spring concerts. Students in band will receive 1-1 lessons throughout the year as well as whole-group instruction. Band is a great way to deepen and develop a love for musical instruments.
5th/6th 7th/8th	1 1	**Chorus** This course is offered to current and aspiring singers in grades 5-8, regardless of their previous choral experience. The core curriculum explores basic vocal technique, music theory, and history as it related to the blues, jazz, musical theater, gospel, folk, R&B, rock, hip-hop, classical and other genres. This exploration takes place on a solo and group performance level, as well as lecture and listening. Students are expected to participate in one evening concert as a major part of the grade.
7th/8th	3	**History of Rock & Roll** Students will explore the origins of rock and roll that lead to the formation of supergroups like the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Metallica. Students will also listen to superstars like Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan, Elvis Presley and Katy Perry.
7th/8th	2	**Intro to the Ukulele** Students in this class will learn the basics of the Ukulele. During the trimester, students will learn chords, strumming techniques, and basic songs. There is not a performance requirement with this class.
5th-8th	CCR	**Orchestra** Whether it's the violin, viola, or bass, orchestra is a great way for students to build on their previously learned skills

or learn how to play for the first time. Students will receive 1-1 lessons throughout the year in addition to their whole-group instruction. Students are also expected to perform at the winter and spring concerts.

Orchestra will take place during the end-of-day CCR period. Students taking orchestra may sign up for other elective courses.

Grade	Trimester	Physical Education Electives
7th/8th	2	**Fit for Life** This class is geared for individuals who wants to focus on personal fitness and how to incorporate fitness into their daily lifestyle. The focus will be on the five health related components of fitness, which are cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Participating in regular health-related fitness helps control weight, prevents diseases, improves your mood, boosts energy, increases test scores, and promotes better sleep. Students will develop skills in activities like cross-fit training, strength training, yoga, pilates, cardio kickboxing, and many more.
7th/8th	3	**Student-Designed Games** This class is unlike traditional physical education because student choice and voice will be used to guide the curriculum. After gathering student perceptions of gym class, the teacher will highlight sampler lessons to show students what is possible. There will be no sitting out or waiting for turns in this gym class. Students will design the rules, scoring, and equipment for cardio based games. Each group will teach their game to the rest of the class. This will give students an opportunity to take ownership of their own learning, use their creativity, and let their voice be heard.

7th/8th	1	**Team Sports** This class is designed to expose students to a variety of team-based activities including basketball, volleyball, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, run 'n shoot football, team handball, hockey, baseball, softball, and many more. These activities promote the development of the six skill components of fitness. The components are agility, balance, coordination, speed, power, and reaction time. Enhancing these components will improve performance in any sport.

Grade	Trimester	Technical Education and Computer Electives
5th/6th	1,3	**Computers/Keyboarding** In this class, students will practice keyboarding and work towards mastering their technique. Students will track their progress using an online program and watch themselves grow during the trimester. Students will also learn how to create and format different types of word processing documents.
7th/8th	2	**Discovering Computer Science** This course is designed for students to dive further into their computer science knowledge. Students learn to use HTML and CSS to design their own web pages, explore programming concepts through development of animations and games, and create prototypes of internet-connected physical computing devices using a Circuit Playground board. This course will empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.
7th/8th	3	**Drafting, Design and Visual Communication** Students will explore aspects of the Engineering Design Process through various modeling activities including drafting, computer-aided design and drawing, and

		aspects of 3D modeling. Students will also complete activities that explore aspects of 3D prototyping, product development and advertising. Students will need to purchase materials for projects that they will get to keep. Students will need to purchase their own safety glasses, or buy them from the school for a small fee.
7th/8th	**1**	**Fundamentals of Coding** This course is an opportunity for students to explore the problem-solving process and the different ways humans and computers solve problems. Students will learn to create computer programs that will help them learn to collaborate with others, develop problem-solving skills, and persist through difficult tasks. They will study programming concepts, computational thinking, digital citizenship, and develop interactive games or stories they can share. At the end of this course students will create their very own game or story to share.
5th/6th	**1,3**	**Google Apps** This class is a great introduction to all things Google. Throughout middle school, high school, college, and work, students are asked to use Google apps to produce presentations, papers, and projects. In this class, students will deepen their understanding of all that Google has to offer. Students will use their creativity and imagination as they learn how to navigate the different online applications.
5th/6th	**3**	**Lego Robotics** In Lego Robotics, students will learn how to create and program small robots. The class will push students' creativity and help them develop problem-solving skills. In addition, students will learn basic programing and design techniques.
7th/8th	**1**	**Tech Ed 1** The class will guide students through the Engineering Design Process while focusing on activities that promote

		problem-solving skills, communication, teamwork, creative design, and woodworking and building techniques. Possible topics/projects include paper towers, measurement, paper race cars, How-it-Works research, Rube Goldberg machines and simple machines, woodworking projects, and possibly others. Students will need to purchase materials for some projects that they will get to keep. Students will need to purchase their own safety glasses, or buy them from the school for a small fee.
7th/8th	**2**	**Tech Ed 2** This advanced class will continue to revisit the Engineering Design Process while focusing on activities that further promote higher-level problem-solving skills, communication, teamwork, creative design, additional woodworking and building techniques. Possible topics/projects include bridges and bridge-building, prototyping and the iterative process, hearing safety, negative impacts of technology, flight and airplanes, woodworking projects, and possibly others. Students will need to purchase certain materials for certain projects that they will get to keep. Students will need to purchase their own safety glasses or buy them from the school for a small fee.

Grade	Trimester	Business Education Electives
5th/6th	**2**	**Junior Achievement BizTown** 5th and 6th graders are not quite old enough for the real world of driving, working, voting, or being the boss. JA BizTown provides the opportunity for students to run a bank, restaurant, city hall, newspaper, retail store, and a variety of other businesses. Students will prepare for a day-long visit to the simulated town towards the end of the semester.

Grade	Trimester	Culinary Arts Electives
5th/6th	1,2	**Cooking 1** Student in Cooking 1 will be introduced to basic recipes, culinary techniques and safety. Students in this class will research healthy eating habits and learn about nutritious foods. Most importantly, students will enjoy creating and eating great tasting food.
7th/8th	3	**Cooking 2** Students will learn safety tips in the kitchen, as well as cooking and baking techniques. The class will discuss proper nutrition and healthy living, too. Students will also have the opportunity to explore cuisines from different cultures and create simple and easy meals at home. There will be a fee to cover the cost of ingredients.

Grade	Trimester	Performing Arts Electives
7th/8th	1	**Introduction to Drama** Students will receive an introduction to drama including its history, stage directions, theatrical terms, blocking, improvisation and various acting techniques. Students will perform a monologue and group scenes.
7th/8th	3	**Page to Stage** Lights! Camera! Action! Students in this class transform a story from written form to presentation on the stage. Acting, ownership, creativity and responsibility are requirements for this class. Students use sheets, paints, and other materials to create their own scene drops. Students must prepare their own costume from head-to-toe and memorize lines with expression. This is a small fee to purchase the script.
5th/6th	1,3	**Public Communication 1**

		In this introductory class, students will learn the basics of developing and delivering speeches. Students will learn how to write an introduction, body, and closing to a speech. This is a great way to build confidence in public speaking!
7th/8th	**2**	**Public Communication 2** The purpose of this class is to introduce students to spoken communication, as well as, written and non-verbal communications. Students will present speeches on a variety of topics. Students learn to write introductions, conclusions, and organize presentations.

Grade	Trimester	English/Language Arts Electives
5th/6th	**2**	**ELA/Spelling Support** This teacher-recommended class is a great opportunity for students to deepen their English/Language Arts skills. In particular, this class will really help students with their spelling and word-recognition skills. Please contact your child's teacher if you think he or she would be a great candidate for extra support in English/Language Arts.
5th/6th	**2**	**Poetry** In this class, students will study the different types of poetry. From haikus to limericks, students will deepen their understanding of how to form poems. Students will also create their own poetry throughout the trimester. In the end, students will have published poems to share.