



**Mill Creek Academy**  
**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> grade Electives and Course Information**  
**2022-2023**

**Core Courses:**

Students are automatically placed in appropriate core courses (Standard, Advanced and Gifted) based on a review of previous grades, standardized testing and in some cases, teacher and guidance recommendations, in accordance with the district's pupil progression plan. Gifted and ESE services are also provided to students who are appropriately staffed in those programs. *Verification will be opened on HAC at the end of April. For any change request, please use the link provided on the MCA website and fill out the form provided.*

**Elective Courses:** Your child will have (3) non-core courses.

***Elective options may change based on availability and student interest. Please see course descriptions below:***

**Physical Education (year-long required class)**

*All 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are enrolled in Phys. Education. Should a student choose 3 full year non-core electives, a waiver MUST be submitted prior to the start of school. Waivers are available on the District website.*

**Beginning Spanish (1 year)**

**Computer Science II/Digital Tools (1 year)**

**Beginning Band (1 year)** *student has not had band before*

**Band II (year)** – *MUST have taken Band in 6<sup>th</sup> grade*

**Percussion (Drums) (year)** – *Must be recommended by Band Director*

**Studio Art II (1 year)**

It may not be possible to place students in their chosen electives due to constraints in the master schedule, adjusting for class size, course availability and/or enrollment in specialized courses (i.e., Intensive Reading and/or specialized instruction, if offered). We will most likely NOT be able to accommodate changes once the master schedule has been created. Once the school master schedule is finalized, changes in electives are addressed by need and availability.

Every effort will be made to honor requests. **Please keep an open mind when choosing electives because adjustments may cause your child to be enrolled in a course other than the one he/she chose.**

**Students receiving a level 1 or 2 on the FSA Reading and/or Math could be placed in an Intensive Reading/Math course in lieu of a non-core course(s). This would be a yearlong course.**

**Title: Physical Education (Team Sports Grade 7/Comprehensive 7<sup>th</sup> PE) (Year)** - This course is designed for 7th grade students. This course develops the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies & tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course. In addition, the purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle.

**Beginning Band** - This full-year course is designed for students who have no previous musical training, where they will develop their musicianship while performing music in a concert band setting. Financial obligations and occasional time commitments outside of school hours are part of this course.

**Title: Band II (Year)** - Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists extend their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Cost of instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source and "fair play" fees, as well as fees associated with field trips, should be considered when choosing this elective.

**Title: Percussion Ensemble (Year)** - Percussion Ensemble is a course specifically designed for percussionists to explore the plethora of playing techniques and instruments in the percussion family. The class will provide students the opportunity to perform music from a wide range of styles.

**Title: Computer Science Discoveries 2(Year)** - Computer Science Discoveries 2 introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. The course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. This course will include digital tools instruction and the opportunity to take exam for certificate associated with web development, internet communications, computer programming and logic and gaming. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials, and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

**Title: Beginning Spanish (Year)** - M/J Beginning Spanish introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills of listening and speaking and be introduced to basic skills in reading and writing in Spanish. Also, culture and comparisons are included in this one-year course.

**Title: Studio Art II(Year)** - Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art with increasing independence to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork.

**\*\* Consistent with all course requests, if you would like your child to take an online course at Mill Creek Academy during the school day, the course MUST be requested by filling out the link provided on the MCA Website prior to the registration deadline. We will NOT drop or change any course (core course or elective) after the registration period ends () without going through an administrative review. An online course taken during the school day does not have on-campus teacher support, only adult supervision. The virtual teacher is not on campus. **Please contact our middle school counselor, Mrs. Crystal Dean, if you would like to pursue online courses (Crystal.Dean@stjohns.k12.fl.us)****

### **BLENDED (with GIFTED)**

Some students may be placed, or “blended”, into gifted courses (even though they are not identified as gifted) based on standardized test scores, grades and /or teacher recommendations. The decision to be “blended” is made by administration and guidance. This option varies from year to year based upon performance and availability.