

8th Grade Year-Long Elective Courses

(A year-long course is the entire school year or 36 weeks)

Some year-long courses may be offered only one period in the day and may conflict with other elective choices. Year-long courses will take priority in scheduling for electives. You will be contacted and asked to make a choice if a conflict arises.

8th GRADE BAND

Prerequisite: Two years' experience playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument.

This course is for intermediate level student musicians with a primary emphasis on continued skill development, tone quality, music reading skills and overall musicianship. Students are required to perform in at least four concerts during the school year. **Expenses:** All percussionists pay a fee per semester. Contact the director regarding rental availability of larger WIND instruments; students provide their own smaller WIND instruments.

STRING ORCHESTRA (Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass)

This class focuses on varied levels of playing skills and ensemble experience. Students participate in several performances each year. Performances and individual practice are important grade requirements. Anyone who wishes to **begin** learning a string instrument should consult the teacher before beginning the school session. **Expenses:** Contact the director regarding rental availability of larger instruments; students provide their own smaller instruments.

CONCERT CHOIR

This course may be taken for the entire year OR for one semester only.

Concert choir is an exciting class for experienced, as well as, inexperienced singers. Learn about good singing techniques, different styles of music and basic music reading. Have fun learning about and making music with your friends, in a relaxing class with minimal homework.

SELECT TREBLE CHOIR

Prerequisite: Audition with SGMS director.

This choir is open to 8th graders only by audition. The Choir performs at festivals and choral competitions. This choir at Sagewood has a reputation of being one of the finest middle school vocal ensembles in the state.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES: It is recommended that students be making a content grade of A or B in Language Arts

1A courses are designed for students who have no previous experience in World Languages. Students will learn the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the language and will be exposed to the culture of the people(s) who speak the language. Students will learn these four skills through various activities such as partner work, games, projects, singing, and more! Students need to understand that studying outside of class is encouraged to enhance their enjoyment and full understanding of the language. Come explore the world of languages at SGMS!!

NOTE: Eighth graders taking French 1A or German 1A will enroll in the Level 1 class at Ponderosa, which means they will experience approximately one semester of review. This review will cover what was learned in 1A at Sagewood.

SPANISH 1A	(one year)
FRENCH 1A	(one year)
GERMAN 1A	(one year)

In order to be admitted to 1B, a student must have completed 1A and score 80% or above on the 1A minimal proficiency exam. 1B is a continuation of 1A with a more intensive curriculum. The student who completes 1A and 1B successfully will be ready to enter into Level 2 classes at the high school.

FRENCH 1B	(one year)
GERMAN 1B	(one year)
SPANISH 1B	(one year)

SPECIAL EDUCATION PEER PARTNER

Prerequisite: Students will be selected by formal application and teacher recommendation, and may be interviewed.

Students will be asked to work with students with varying abilities in the Significant Special Needs classroom and/or the regular education classrooms.

APPLICATIONS FOR PEER PARTNER ARE AVAILABLE IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY ON THE APPLICATION FOR TURN-IN DATE AND LOCATION. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.