



# Dutcher Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Directory 2019-2020

This directory is provided to assist students, parents/ guardians and teachers to understand the list of required courses and to select elective classes for the coming year.

The Dutcher Middle School office staff is available to answer questions. Please call our counselors, Ms. Julie Perino or Mr. Derek Alvarado, at 667-8817 if you need further assistance.

## PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS

\*Credits are awarded for passing grades at the end of each quarter

7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Courses	Possible Credits per Year*	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Courses	Possible Credits per Year*
Language Arts	40	Language Arts	40
Mathematics	20	Mathematics	20
Science	20	Science	20
History	20	History	20
Physical Education	20	Physical Education	20
Elective	20	Elective	20
Total Credits Possible		Total Credits Possible	
	140		140
Total credits* possible		<b>280</b>	
Required to participate in promotion activities		<b>255</b>	

## ELECTIVE COURSES

(Choose One: Spanish, Technology, Music, Drama, Art, Speech)

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

#### SPANISH I (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This course is open to motivated 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to learn a new language. New vocabulary is memorized and spoken as students use and apply it in class and as they take part in cultural activities. Students speak, write, and listen to the language. Written and oral tests are part of the curriculum. The course content is the same as that presented in Spanish 1-2 at Turlock and Pitman High School. Successful completion (a grade of “B” or better) of two years at the middle school level will qualify students to take Spanish 3-4 in the ninth grade

#### PORTUGUESE I (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This course is open to motivated 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to learn a new language. New vocabulary is memorized and spoken as students use and apply it in class and as they take part in cultural activities. Students speak, write, and listen to the language. Written and oral tests are part of the curriculum. The course content is the same as that presented in Portuguese 1-2 at Turlock and Pitman High School. Successful completion (a grade of “B” or better) of two years at the middle school level will qualify students to take Spanish 3-4 in the ninth grade

## MUSIC

### Choir (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This course is designed to teach students to use their voices in ways unique to singing. They will learn to read, understand, and sing music of all styles including popular songs of today. The Choir will perform numerous concerts throughout the year. Participation in all performances is required. Instructor approval is not necessary.

### Jazz Band (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter) *Auditions will be held after school begins*

This is an advanced performance ensemble open to all Dutcher Middle School students. The jazz band performs a wide variety of swing, rock, and Latin tunes. This class meets during “0” period (7:25 am) and is taken as an additional elective. Even though this class meets outside the regular school day, it is a **full year class and the same rules and expectations apply regarding class attendance and performance participation**. No district transportation is available for “0” period students.

### Concert Band (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This is an intermediate performance ensemble comprised of woodwinds, brass and percussion. The group performs traditional concert band literature and various styles of popular music. This is a performance class and students are required to participate in all evening performances. The group is open to all wind instrument players and percussionists with at least on year of formal music instruction.

### Orchestra (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This is an intermediate performance ensemble consisting of violins, violas, cellos, and string basses. Class instructions will focus on skill development and musical growth. The orchestra will perform a variety of music throughout the school year. This is a performance class and students are required to participate in all evening performances. Students are required to take their music home for study.

## TECHNOLOGY (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

Our Interdisciplinary Exploration and Design Lab is designed to create “technology awareness”, to introduce students to basic concepts associated with a particular technology, to provide students with hands on experience working with the technology and to show how the technology is used in today’s world. The modules promote teamwork; communication, problem solving and self esteem and enable students to use their skills in math, science, language arts, and technology education. The modules include the study of: electricity, aerodynamics, biotechnology, computer animation, desktop publishing, robotics, automation and the environment.

**VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS****DRAMA** (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

This course is designed to teach students the basics of theater production. They will learn theater vocabulary, blocking, improvisation, and vocal and performance techniques. This drama course provides opportunities for students to develop skills in critical listening and thinking, as well as stage presence, ensemble work, and aesthetic awareness culminating in periodic classroom and/or public performances. Students additionally learn about the organizational structure of theatre and theatre literature. Of importance in Drama is students' opportunity to develop fundamental group- and self- assessment skills, problem-solving skills; the ability to connect the literature being studied to a variety of cultures, history, and other content areas; and development of 21st-century skills that will help students be successful after high school graduation. **(Audition is required for entrance into this class.)**

**ART** (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

Two- and three-dimensional art productions are included in this course. Basic design, drawing, painting and sculpture techniques will be explored. A concentration on the principles and elements of design, incorporated with emphasizing art history and the study of art masters, will serve as inspirations for art projects.

**SPEECH AND DEBATE** (Full Year, 5 credits/quarter)

Students will learn to plan, research, and organize effective speeches and are given practical experience of speaking in front of the class. Reasoning and argumentation are studied as well as the basics of good communication. Students will research and present arguments on current issues and learn the skill of cross examination. Students will also learn how to use visual aids and develop interpretation skills. Participation in tournaments is required if we qualify.