Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School
2024-2025 Elective Course Selection Descriptions

Below are the elective courses that are planned to be offered during the school 2024-2025 year. Students will be able to select five elective courses.

Course	Description	Requirements	Available for 6th	7th	8th
Advanced Academics 6-8 (**Part-Time Gifted**)	High-level, engaging, interdisciplinary curriculum designed for gifted learners with opportunities to develop all seven gifted goals: knowledge, questioning, research, critical/creative, leadership, goal setting, and products.	Required for part-time Gifted students. Codes P7- PX	X	X	X
Advanced Academics (**Full-Time Gifted**): Social Science	High-level, engaging, interdisciplinary curriculum designed for gifted learners with opportunities to develop all seven gifted goals: knowledge, questioning, research, critical/creative, leadership, goal setting, and products.	**Required for Gifted students** that have an EP.	X	X	X
Advanced Academics (**Gifted**): Literature	Engage in reading enrichment incorporating research, critical/creative thinking, and leadership skills.	None. This course is in addition to the required course.	X	X	X
AVID	**A**dvancement **Vi**a **I**ndividual **D**etermination, prepares students for college readiness and success. It uses tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities, and academic success skills. Students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading to support their academic growth. Additionally, students engage in activities centered around exploring college and career opportunities and their own agency.	Must take at least 1 advanced course. Application and approval required. Student needs to be a Level 3, 4, or 5 in Reading & Math	X	X	X
Band 1	Develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature.	Participate in after school performances	X	X	X
Band 2	Build on the instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature.	Must have taken Band 1. Participate in after school performances	X	X	X
Band 3	Build on the instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature learned in Band 1 and/or Band 2.	Band 1 or 2. Participate in after school performances		X	X
Band 4	Expand on the learning from Band 1, 2, and 3. Instrumentalists refine their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Specific focus on jazz style, including but not limited to: jazz, blues, swing, Latin, funk, and rock music.	Band 1 or 2. **Audition and Class Agreement**. Must be enrolled in another music class.		X	X
Chorus 1	Develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time.	Participate in after school performances.	X	X	X
Chorus 2	Build on previous choral experience to expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality choral literature.	Chorus 1. Participate in after school performances		X	X
Chorus 3	Build intermediate-level knowledge of vocal technique, musical literacy, ensemble skills, and related musical knowledge through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality 2-, 3-, and 4-part choral literature.	Chorus 2. Able to sight read at a Middle School Level 2. **Class agreement.** Participate in after school performances.		X	X
Chorus 4	Develop advanced knowledge of vocal techniques, music literacy, ensemble skills, and related musical knowledge through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality advanced choral literature.	**Audition and Class Agreement**.			X
Orchestra 1	Explore and learn how to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Explore high-quality music literature written or transcribed for string orchestra.	Participate in after school performances.	X	X	X
Orchestra 2	Development of instrumental technique, musical literacy, performance skills, and increasing aesthetic awareness through study, rehearsal, and performance of a variety of high-quality orchestra literature. (Student needs to be proficient in three basic scales and able to sight read Level E literature.)	Successfully pass Orchestra 1 and participate in after school performances.		X	X
Orchestra 3	Demonstrate intermediate-level knowledge of instrumental techniques, musical literacy, ensemble performance skills, and related musical knowledge through study, rehearsal, and performance of a variety of high-quality orchestral literature.	Successfully pass Orchestra 2 and participate in after school performances.		X	X
Visual Art 1 & 2	Introduced to the rigor and routine of the art production process including planning, producing, and reflecting on art. Investigate contemporary and historical art themes using 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques; while engaging in the art production process within a studio arts environment.	None	X	X	

Course	Description	Prerequisite			
2-D Studio Art & 3-D Studio Art	Explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Exploration of the structural elements of art used when creating 3-D forms. Additive and subtractive processes are used to manipulate and construct sculptural or ceramic forms in media.	None		X	X
Pre-AP Visual Arts	Observe, investigate, and discuss a limited number of anchor works, which are works of art central to the themes and content of a particular module, and relate these examples to their own creative work. Students engage in structured conversations with peers to share ideas, respond to and offer advice on works in progress, critique final works, and discuss next steps. **High School Credit Course**	Teacher Recommendation			X
Journalism 1 (Yearbook)	Develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Strong written communication skills are needed for the tasks/activities in the class.	None		X	X
Journalism 2 (Yearbook)	Build on what was learned in Journalism 1.	Successfully pass Journalism 1.			X
Theatre 1	Learn the basics of performing and design/technical theatre. Explore theater history, costumes, character building, puppetry, props, pantomime, and jobs in the theater through collaborative group projects.	None	X	X	X
Theatre 2	Build on what was learned in Theatre 1 in this production-based class. Explore the significant playwrights, participate in playwriting workshops with American Stage teaching artists.	Successfully pass Theatre 1 and participate in after school performances.		X	X
Theatre 3	Apply what was learned in Theatre 2 and improve their theatre knowledge and skills through more challenging plays and theater leadership roles. This is a production-based class.	Successfully pass Theatre 2 and participate in after school performances. **Participation Agreement**			X
French 1	Introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. **High School Credit Course**	None		X	X
French 2	Build on what was learned in French 1. Develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in French 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **High School Credit Course**	Successfully pass French 1 with a 'C' or higher.		X	X
Spanish 1	Introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. **High School Credit Course**	None		X	X
Spanish 2	Build on what was learned in Spanish 1. Develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **High School Credit Course**	Successfully pass Spanish 1 with a 'C' or higher.		X	X
Info & Comm Tech 1	Introduces students to core concepts associated with computer technology, components, and their use. It provides hands-on opportunities to explore various software applications such as word processing and presentation software.	None	X	X	
Info & Comm Tech 2	Builds on the previous course and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills. Students will be provided opportunities to extend their skills with various software applications such as spreadsheet and database software. Prerequisite: Info & Comm Tech Essentials 1	Successfully passed Info & Comm Tech Essentials 1		X	X
Coding Fundamentals	Includes foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences.	None		X	X
Digital Info Technology (DIT)	designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information systems and trends. It introduces students to skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. It prepares students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information-based society. It explores different programs using software that meets industry standards. **High School Credit Course**	None			X