

**Hall Middle School  
8th Grade Elective Options  
2020/21**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select four elective options from the following list, ranked #1 - 4, with #1 and #2 as your top two choices, and #3 and #4 as your alternates.**

**#1** \_\_\_\_\_

**#3** \_\_\_\_\_

**#2** \_\_\_\_\_

**#4** \_\_\_\_\_

**Studio Art (7/8 Grade):** In this course, students will have the opportunity to further develop their technical skills as well as their personal style of making art through in-depth projects. They will learn how to create art using a wide range of materials, techniques, and processes, including drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture. Students will also create an 'altered book' to record their processes and to challenge themselves as artists. The skills students learn in this class will strengthen their ability to communicate visually and build on what they have learned in previous art classes.

**Band 8:** This course is designed for students who played an instrument in 6th and 7th grade. The class is open to students who play flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, trumpet, trombone, french horn and percussion. Students will learn many musical concepts including melody, rhythm, articulation, dynamics, intonation, sight-reading, posture, blend, listening, project based learning, and composition. Students will perform throughout the year.

**Digital Art (7/8 Grade):** Students will explore many ways to create artwork using digital tools. Students will learn to use a digital tablet to draw and paint in the computer, draw using vector based tools, create simple 2D animation, sculpt in 3D virtual clay, and manipulate digital images. Please note that while we primarily use computers to create our work, this is an ART class, and as such we will study art history, critique, and examine the very meaning of what it means to be an artist.

**IDEA (Innovation, Design, Engineering, Architecture) (7/8 Grade):** Join our adventure into the world of innovation as we look to combine ideas from the fields of engineering, digital design (including games), architecture and good, old-fashioned maker education. Students will utilize the engineering design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in our lives. Students will be challenged to think big and toward the future, like learning how to apply energy-saving (green) concepts to the fields of architecture and construction. Tools students will use include 3D printing, Scratch game program, Sphero coding bots, GlowForge laser engraver and the full variety of Maker Ed workshop tools. During the year

students will rotate between Mr. Montes and Mr. Stoeckley, who will teach different components of this course.

**Game Design (formerly Introduction to Programming) (7/8 Grade):** Learn to build fun games using block programming techniques! This year-long elective course focuses on computer program design through game building. Students are exposed to introductory programming concepts in the 2d and 3d programming environments Scratch and Alice. Join the gaming party now!

**Spanish 1:** We will learn most of the High Frequency vocabulary words and basic grammatical structures in Spanish. The vocabulary includes but it's not limited to: likes & dislikes, leisure activities, describing ourselves and others, the school, food and healthy living, going places, around the house etc. The grammar includes the present tense, articles, pronouns, sentence structures etc. Students will learn to communicate using simple sentences and dialogues.

**Spanish 2:** Focus on developing fluency and more in-depth understanding of the language. We will also continue expanding our vocabulary and grammar knowledge. This class will review the concepts learned in Spanish 1 and expand the grammatical concepts to include the present progressive, preterite and some imperfect. Students will also learn to use the object and reflexive pronouns. The vocabulary includes but it's not limited to: going shopping and buying for self and others, going on vacation and helping in the community. [Students must complete Spanish I in order to qualify for this course.]

*Upon the completion of Spanish 1 and Spanish 2, the students will have completed the first year of high school level Spanish in the Tamalpais High School District.*

#### **Electives that require application:**

**Leadership (by application only):** Students will plan and lead activities that include assemblies, lunchtime activities and student/staff recognition programs. They develop and implement a budget that meets their goals and carry out school-wide fundraisers to support the many programs for students at the school. Students will also promote school spirit, develop leadership skills and build connections with our elementary feeder schools. Student Council Officers are required to enroll in this course.

**Teacher Assistant (by application only):** This is an opportunity for students to assist in a classroom or in the office; this can include working as an additional support for students in Math and other subject matter. This is only available with special permission and a prior approval from the teacher and the office. Applications available in the office which includes list of expectations. Accepted students will then inform office of their preferred elective.