



# Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School

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Dear Future Falcons:

We hope you are as excited to come join our school community as we are to welcome you! Moving from one school to another, from elementary to middle school, can be a little overwhelming but we've got your back. Our plan is outlined below. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to help!

## **What you need to know and do - the short answer:**

1. Between today and May 8<sup>th</sup> – read through this information, watch the welcome video and the instructional PowerPoint found on our school's website ([sjf.lethsd.ab.ca/](http://sjf.lethsd.ab.ca/))
2. Between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> – use your parent PowerSchool login and follow the instructions from the PowerPoint on the website to select the options our Future Falcon would like to take next year.

## **What you need to know and do - the long answer:**

### Part 1 – Registration (The boring part)

Typically, around this time you get a pile of paperwork full of contact information and permission forms to fill out and return to the school. Not this year! Our school division is working on an online registration package that will streamline the process. We will let you know when that is up and running. In the meantime, don't worry about that part of things. Our Student Information System sends us all the important demographic information we need to get started.

### Part 2 – Option Selection (The fun part)

First, take a few minutes to talk with your Future Falcon about the different option classes they may want to explore. The descriptions of the courses offered are at the end of this letter. Keep in mind, this process does not prioritize preferred options. Selecting more options than required is better than selecting fewer. It helps create flexibility if some options fill up before others. Otherwise, students may be placed in options in which they have no interest. Although there are opportunities to change options at certain points throughout the year, the fewer changes we have to make once classes start, the better. Then, sometime between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>, follow the instructions from the PowerPoint and select options for next year.

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## 2020-2021 Grade 6 Options



### **General Information for Options:**

- Review the options descriptions and discuss which ones are of interest.
- The school year is divided into 3 terms, each term having 2 option blocks. This means students could potentially have six different options each year.
- Band is a FULL YEAR option. This means Band will take up 3 of the 6 option blocks.
- Some options have a supplementary fee to cover material and supply costs.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Depending on student numbers, students' option selections, and teacher schedules, options courses may be created or cancelled.

## ART

“Creativity is contagious, pass it on.” – Albert Einstein



Come and explore the wonderful world of Art! As an artist, you make others see, think and feel differently about the visual world around them. Here you will dabble in a variety of drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and fabric art techniques. If you love to create and design, this class is for you!

Course Fee: \$15.00 (supplies & materials)

## BAND

This option focuses on the fundamentals of wind & percussion instruments. Through individual growth and co-operative group interaction, you will become a confident musician. Goals of the program include learning to play an instrument, learning to read music, learning music theory and participating in public performances.

Additional costs: After instruments are assigned, most students will privately rent from a local music store (flute, clarinet, alto/tenor saxophones, trumpet and trombone). Percussion and larger instruments are rented from the school for a fee of \$65. All students pay an option fee of \$45 that allows them to attend a beginner workshop and includes a method book and folder that will be used for the year.

## CHORAL

Come as you are and make music with us! We'll sing a wide variety of music, including current hits you've heard on the radio...and classics your parents and grandparents might have heard too!

Course Fee: \$15.00 (supplies & materials)



## DANCE

We will explore a variety of styles including, Jazz, Lyrical, Bollywood, Broadway, Ballet, and more! You will improve your flexibility, balance, stamina, cardiovascular fitness, coordination and confidence. Students will have the opportunity to choreograph their own number as a solo or in a small group. *This class is suitable for all levels of dancers, from beginners to advanced.*

## DRAMA

In this class we will work together as a group to explore the joys of theatre. This will include movement, speech and acting as well as technical theatre to make props, design sets and run lights and sounds. Depending on class interests we will explore theatre through mime, clowning, children's theatre, puppetry and more! If you enjoy *any* aspect of theatre, this option is for you!

## FOODS

Do you like food? We like food! This option will introduce you to all things culinary. Learn to talk like a chef, cook like a chef, and eat like a pro! Students will work in groups to create culinary masterpieces and learn about food, kitchen safety, nutrition, simple meal planning, and food preparation techniques. By the end of this option you'll be "bacon" to be in the kitchen!

Course Fee: \$20.00 (supplies & materials)

## FRENCH

*Learning French is an important part of being Canadian.* Building on the foundation set in grades 4 and 5, you learn more about the French language and Francophone cultures. You will discover Francophone communities in Alberta, appreciate that Canada is a bilingual country. In French 6, the main topics include healthy habits, Alberta, the environment, *Le Carnaval de Québec*, and more!

## GUITAR

This class is an “intro” to playing the guitar. Through individual growth and co-operative group interaction, students become confident musicians. Students will learn the fundamentals of music notation, parts of the guitar and proper playing technique leading into fundamental chords. Styles will vary from classical to rock and a bit of everything in between. The class will have performance opportunities in the school at term end celebrations.  
Course Fee: \$10.00 (supplies and materials)



## INDUSTRIAL ARTS- Introduction to Construction

Students will learn woodworking skills and workshop safety. Students will work primarily with hand tools and some assorted power tools.

Course Fee: \$30.00 (materials and consumables)

## MODERN LANGUAGES = GERMAN + SPANISH

Explore other parts of the world, and learn more about your own, through language. More than just a romantic language, German is the language of quality engineering, winning soccer teams and anything that is efficient! It also has more in common with English than you may realize. You already know some German words like “kindergarten”, “hamburger” and “gesundheit”. Take this class and learn some more. *Übung macht den Meister!* And, did you know that more people on our planet speak Spanish than English? In fact, it is the second most spoken language in the world and is steadily becoming more relevant and important here in Canada. Give yourself an advantage and sign up for this class. Students will participate in daily activities to learn the basics and start *¡hablando la lengua más bonita del mundo!*

## MUSIC

This class is designed to meet the Alberta curriculum requirements for grade 6 students and will be mandatory for students not enrolled in any other music option (band, choral, guitar). Students will engage in a variety of projects and activities designed around musical awareness and appreciation.

## SEWING

Learn about the world of fashion, fabric and design! In this option, students will gain basic hand sewing and machine sewing skills while learning how to work with different fabrics, follow pattern instructions, sew basic stitches and explore garment design.

Course Fee: \$15.00



## TECH

What do Steve Jobs (Apple), Evan Spiegel (Snapchat), Kevin Systrom (Instagram), and Tim Sweeney (Fortnite) have in common? They have influenced people all over the world because of their creativity. Come join our team, and we will learn new skills to create projects that interest you. Why can't you be the next one to do something spectacular?

## YOGA

This is not a traditional yoga class! Students of all ability levels are encouraged to join and work on functional movement, mobility, locomotion, self-regulation, breathing and mindfulness. This class will provide basics in various types of yoga styles and variations and will give students an opportunity to increase their mental and physical strength.