

Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School

2024-2025 Grade 6 Options



General Information for Options:

- The school year is divided into 3 terms and each term has 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.
- Students and parents should talk about which options to select ahead of time.

*All Grade 6 Students must choose one music and one arts option.

PLEASE NOTE: Every effort will be made to accommodate your choices, however, be advised that availability of options may change due to space restrictions, staffing changes, and demand. Choices are not guaranteed.

Questions? Please call us at 403-2977, or email us at SenatorJoyceFairbairn@lethsd.ab.ca



Information on Selecting Options

At Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School, we offer a wide variety of option courses. As a grade six student in Alberta, you are required to take one Music option and one Art option. Your remaining selections may be made from all options listed.

The following planning guide is designed to help you select your choices, while assuring you have met the requirements. The planning map has been designed to resemble the format and order in which you will be selecting your options online in PowerSchool. In addition, you will need to note that a few options are multi-term options meaning they occur for longer than one term.

What you need to know and do

1. Read through the attached information.
2. Make sure you have access to PowerSchool, either through the student or parent portal. Your school's administrative assistants can help you with this.

Reminders:

- This process does not prioritize preferred options, nor do we track who selects options or when. Once all selections are entered for all students, our software will populate as many students with their requested options as possible.
- Selecting more options than required is better than selecting fewer. It helps create flexibility if some options fill up before others.
- You will learn what options you will be taking in the fall when PowerSchool opens at the end of August



Step 1: Grade 6 students are required to take an Art option, so please make sure you select ONE of the Arts based options listed below when you are registering in PowerSchool.

Art _____ Art Exploration _____ Art Around the World _____

Wood Carving and Design _____ Culinary Art _____

Step 2: Grade 6 students are required to take a music-based option so please make sure that you select ONE of the Music based options listed below when registering in PowerSchool.

Band (3 terms) _____ Fine Arts Jam _____ Electronic Music _____

Intro to Musical Theatre (term 2) _____ World of Drumming _____ Choir _____

Step 3: Now you will be asked to select 3 to 6 additional option choices that you would be interested in taking. Even though you will only have a total of six option periods throughout the year, we will need to have some alternatives just in case.

- ◆ Drama
- ◆ Foods
- ◆ STEM
- ◆ Yoga
- ◆ Handcrafts
- ◆ French
- ◆ Falcon Academy
- ◆ Industrial Arts
- ◆ Outdoor Ed
- ◆ Digital Design
- ◆ Book Club



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)

ART AROUND THE WORLD

In this class, you will "travel the world" to fill your own artist passport by exploring a variety of cultural artworks throughout history. As an artist, you will learn about specific themes and styles of other people as inspiration for the creation of your own artwork.

Course Fee: \$15.00 (supplies & materials)

ART EXPLORATION

In this class, artists will create their own handmade sketchbooks and use them to explore and experiment with a variety of tools, techniques, and art media. As an artist, you will learn that skills practice is important in the development of artistic style. You will also use your knowledge to create a variety of finished artworks.

Course Fee: \$15.00 (supplies & materials)

BAND (3 Terms)

This class is designed primarily for students who are new or continuing to learn how to play a band instrument. No prior musical experience is necessary – only the will and desire to play an instrument. The instruments offered are: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Bari- tone, Tuba and Percussion. Students will perform in at least two concerts during the year and travel trips may be offered.

Course Fee: \$45 which includes a method book and folder that will be used for the year.

Additional Costs: Most students will privately rent from a local music store (flute, clarinet, alto/tenor saxophones, trumpet, and trombone). Percussion, bass guitar and larger wind instruments are rented from the school for a fee of \$65



BOOK CLUB

Find your fellow book lovers here! This option will support multiple book clubs as they choose texts from our extensive collection, set a reading schedule, and develop their literacy, self-advocacy, and decision-making skills.

CHOIR

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

Course Fee: \$20.00 for purchasing music, folders, equipment rentals, and for costs related the in-city choir retreat.

CULINARY ART

Like food? Want to learn how to make food? This option will introduce you to all things culinary. Students will work in groups to create culinary delights and complete assignments to gain knowledge about kitchen safety, nutrition, simple meal planning, and food preparation techniques. Additionally, students will look at design and artistic aspects in the culinary world. Students will have the opportunity to design and create layouts, menus, and interior/ exterior design for the food industry. By the end of this option, you will be “bacon” to be in the kitchen and have a greater understanding of the role food plays in our world!

Course Fee \$30.00 (supplies & materials)

DIGITAL DESIGN

Welcome to Digital Design, where imagination meets technology! Led by Mr. Miller, this class invites Grade 6 students to explore the exciting world of design elements using their laptops as creative tools. Through hands-on projects and interactive learning experiences, students will delve into three captivating areas of digital design: E-Music, Minecraft Education, and 3-D Printing. In the E-Music module, students will dive into the realm of digital sound creation, learning the fundamentals of music production and composition using software and digital instruments. In the Minecraft Education segment, students will embark on an educational adventure like no other, using the popular game platform as a canvas for creativity and learning. Finally, in the 3-D Printing module, students will discover the fascinating realm of three-dimensional design and fabrication. Digital Design offers an innovative and dynamic learning experience that empowers students to unleash their creativity, develop critical thinking skills, and explore the boundless possibilities of digital design.

Course Fee: \$20 technological upkeep and purchase of 3D printing materials.



DRAMA

Drama is all about creating and expressing, whether that is through a character or just an exaggeration of oneself. This introductory option will have students learning the basic skills needed to begin a flowering career in the dramatic arts. They will learn elements of acting, movement, stage design, theatre history, and be given multiple opportunities to create and explore. There will also be opportunities to perform in front of an audience of fellow students within this class, to further gain the experiences needed to be a well-rounded thespian.

ELECTRONIC MUSIC

Electronic music is designed to introduce students to the basics of electronic music production and performance. Students will learn about the history and evolution of electronic music, including the different genres and sub-genres that make up this diverse and dynamic field. Through hands-on projects and activities, students will explore the basic tools and programs used in electronic music production, such as digital audio workstations (DAWs) and virtual instruments. They will also learn about the techniques and concepts used in electronic music, such as sound design, synthesis, sampling, and effects processing. As they become more familiar with these tools and concepts, students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge through fun and engaging projects, such as DJing and sound scaping. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to experiment and explore their own creative ideas, and will receive guidance and feedback. They will also learn about responsible online behavior, such as copyright and licensing issues related to music production and distribution.

FALCON ACADEMY

At SJF we want our students to do things the R.I.G.H.T. way. We teach the 5 core principles of: resiliency, integrity, gratitude, humility, and thoughtfulness. We do all sorts of awesome things that build character by planning school spirit days, building escape rooms, learning how pets enhance our mental well-being, learning how to study, understanding how to deal with stress/anxiety, competing in outdoor games, by sending gratitude grams, and creating podcasts (...you get the idea). In Falcon Academy, we help prepare our students for middle school.

FINE ARTS JAM

Welcome to Fine Arts Jam, where creativity knows no bounds! This class is designed to introduce Grade 6 students to the vibrant world of musical and performative fine arts. Led by the dynamic duo of Mr. Miller and Mr. Harmon, Fine Arts Jam aims to ignite a passion for artistic expression through a diverse array of mediums. Students will embark on an exciting journey exploring percussion, guitar, physical theatre, improv, acting, puppetry, and more. Through hands-on experiences and collaborative projects, participants will uncover the joy of artistic creation while honing their skills and building confidence in their abilities. Fine Arts Jam is more than just a class; it's a celebration of imagination and creativity. By fostering a supportive and inclusive environment, Mr. Miller and Mr. Harmon aim to inspire students to embrace their artistic talents and discover the endless possibilities within the world of fine arts. Join us as we jam, create, and embark on a transformative artistic adventure!



FRENCH

Embark on an enriching journey into French language and Francophone cultures! Designed to accommodate all skill levels, students will explore the diversity of Francophone communities within our province while delving into topics ranging from local issues to Canada's bilingual heritage. Join us and expand your linguistic and cultural horizons in a supportive and inclusive learning environment

HANDCRAFTS

If you love to create beautiful things with your hands, this is the option for you! Come down to the Sewing Lab to experience a rich variety of handcrafts and how they have evolved through time and across different cultures. Practice cross-stitching, weaving, knitting, beading, and more in this class that will have you coming home with fine crafts that you will be proud to display. No prior experience needed!

Course Fee: \$20.00 (supplies & materials)

INDUSTRIAL ARTS—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 for shop supplies. These supplies include the cost of lumber, fasteners (nails, screws, glue), sand paper, clear coat, stain and any other items related to the cost of building materials.

INTRO TO MUSICAL THEATRE

"In the world of acting it's great to be what's known as a triple threat; singer, dancer and actor. Musical Theatre helps build those triple threat skills. This class will be working on the elements needed to put on a musical production, as well as preparing an audition for one. Students will then be taking part as the chorus (meaning they are involved in the large singing, and dance numbers) for the SJF Spring Musical, as well as preparing a short scene to be used as the pre-show for the production. This class has a performance expectation, whether it be on stage or behind the scenes. Performance dates will be announced later. An option fee of \$20 is attributed to this class so that all cast members can receive a t-shirt commemorating our performance."

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STEM

Innovation and creation, that's what STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is all about. Come help us build, explore, and learn through a plethora of project-based experiments and experiences. Seventy-five percent of jobs in the fastest growing industries require workers with STEM skills. Not only will you learn to solve problems and expand your creativity; you will have a ton of fun learning to code, create a box arcade, and design a business (the food truck comes to visit). In STEM we make the coolest things.

Course Fee: \$10 for materials.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor Education is a student-centered program designed to enhance the participant's knowledge and skill in an outdoor setting, while prompting growth in student learning ability, self-confidence, and self-discipline. This activity centered course will help forge personal connections between course content and future career opportunities through unique challenges, discussions, and exposure to lifelong hobbies.

Course Fee: \$30.00 The course fee for Outdoor Education falls in three streams. Maintenance of equipment (Archery, Disc Golf and fly fishing). Field trips (Bussing, facility entrance fees). Classroom supplies (Paracord, Survival shelters and fire starting).

WOOD CARVING AND DESIGN

This course is for students interested in learning beginner wood carving techniques and developing their knowledge & skills using traditional wood carving tools. Students will learn how to approach the carving process safely, using composition, drawing and step by step planning to create their own projects. Throughout the course students will learn how to improve their carving skills through attention to body position, work area organization, holding work safely and effectively, selecting the right tool for the job, sharpening tools and finishing their projects. Students will also be introduced the CNC machine in the shop!

Course Fee: \$20 for wood working supplies and materials



WORLD OF DRUMMING

"Wham Boom Pop" Course Outline - All Grades

Are you ready to say hello to your inner drummer? If so, you are invited to join this percussion ensemble class. This program is an introduction to playing percussion based music in a group. We will be performing and studying **world music** from Africa, Brazil, North America, Trinidad and elsewhere. This music is played on drums, pitched percussion instruments, classical percussion instruments and even garbage cans! Music experience is an asset but beginner musicians are welcome to participate in this group. If you would like to be in the **Wham, Boom, Pop** family, sign up for this exciting class.

Course Fee: \$15 for instrument upkeep and replacement of disposable materials (sticks/mallets).

YOGA

In this class students will participate in and explore the different components of Yoga and mindfulness. Students will engage in mindfulness, relaxation, strength and flexibility training. It will help students to understand and support their own unique needs, limitations and growth within their own bodies. This class is designed for students who will be mature and respectful to a practice that is based on a healthy mind, body, and soul.