

# Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School

## 2024-2025 Grade 8 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.

### 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

**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.



## **ACTING FOR CAMERA**

Lights, camera, action! Live theatre is great, but there is also another completely different world in dramatic arts. The world of film. This class will teach students the skills needed to become film actors as well as film makers. We will write screenplays and will have the opportunity to direct and star in short films. There will be a goal of a public performance with this class.

**Course Fee:** \$20.00 Acting for Camera - This fee is for the rental of special film equipment as well as purchasing of memory cards to ensure that our product is saved and produced without the fear of being rewritten over. It should also help go towards our subscription to Adobe Premiere Pro and After Effects as those are programs used in the editing process.

## **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 (3 Terms)**

This option continues to focus and extend on the fundamentals of wind & percussion instruments that were taught in grade 6 band. Through individual growth and co-operative group interaction, students become confident musicians. Goals of the program include learning to play an instrument, learning to read music, learning music theory, and participating in public performances.

**Course Fee:** \$15 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 \$90.

## **BASEBALL**

Do you want to hit like Shohei and field like Bo? Big leaguers didn't get to the "show" by accident, they had to put in the work. Come join us so we can develop our fielding, throwing, hitting, and base running skills. Not only will we play baseball, but we will also learn the game of Slow Pitch which is one of the world's most popular sports. Mental preparation, mind-set, positional play, sport specific conditioning, learning how to umpire and score keep are other strong components of this program. Ending the semester with a World Series Playoff is also a big attraction. See you on the field.

Pre-Requisite: You have to be able to throw and catch (safety reasons).

**Course Fee:** \$15 for equipment replacement costs



## **BASKETBALL**

This option is designed for students who are passionate about basketball and want to be challenged to further their current skill level. In this class, students will bring their dribbling, passing, and shooting skills to the next level. We will be exploring advanced aspects of basketball that the typical PE class does not have time to get into, such as offensive floor spacing and help-side defense. If you love basketball and want to hone your skills, this is the option for you!

## **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.

## **COMMERCIAL ART**

In this class, artists will examine how artwork has influenced our culture. You will examine advertising and mass production of art through the media and fashion. You will explore a variety of techniques to create works based on popular art.

**Course Fee:** \$15.00 for supplies and materials

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

This option will support aspiring writers in multiple genres. Students will learn about the writing & publishing process, receive and give feedback in writers' workshops and participate in creative writing challenges. We will examine decisions authors make to craft engaging texts, learn to write clearly and powerfully, and support students as they find their writing voice.



## **DRIVER'S ED & CAREER EXPLORATIONS**

Ready to start your driving journey? Become prepared to take your driver's learners license test and you will get ready for the road after learning fundamental rules of driving, best practices, and how to cope with various circumstances while behind the wheel. With safety as a key focus, you will develop decision making ability while studying real on road situations. You will also learn about traffic law, the Traffic Safety Act and related regulations. Test preparation will be a component of this class as well. This class will also help students develop an understanding of available career paths, educational requirements for various careers, your own aptitudes and skills, resume and cover letter writing, and job searching skills. This is an exciting way to plan your future and have a resume ready to get your first part-time job!

## **ESPORTS**

The Esports option introduces students to esports, covering its history, game types, and basic design concepts. Through team activities and competitions, students develop teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. They also learn about the physical and mental needs of esports athletes, creating nutrition and fitness plans during class.

**Course Fee:** \$25.00 Includes student access to \$5000 worth of gaming tech and basic cleaning and updating will be needed each year to ensure that all equipment runs smoothly. This fee is also used to pay for any local tournaments that our students participate in.

## **IMPROV**

Learn how to rock the improv stage! Develop skills like storytelling, teamwork, characterisation and quick thinking. Students will learn about and perform different improv forms including short scenes, long form improv, and tournament style play.

## **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 supplies which 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 GUITAR**

This class focuses on the fundamentals of guitar playing. Through individual growth and co-operative group interaction, students become confident musicians. Students will expand their skills in music notation reading, TAB reading and proper playing technique leading into fundamental chords. Styles will vary from classical to rock and a bit of everything in between. Performance opportunities may arise out of the work done in class.

**Course Fee:** \$10.00 includes use and upkeep of guitars

## **MATH ENRICHMENT**

This class is for math lovers who want to level up their math skills before heading off to high school. Students in this course will explore middle school math concepts at a deeper and more challenging level. In addition, students will also learn about many high school math concepts to give you an edge and boost your confidence in the math classroom.

## **MIXED MEDIA ART EXPLORATION**

In this class, you will create works using a variety of tools, techniques, and media. Using the elements and principles of design as a starting point, artists will examine mixed media artists and explore different ways to combine media as a basis for their own art. The main project for this course is completing a personal art journal.

**Course Fee:** \$15.00 for supplies and materials

## **MODERN LANGUAGES**

If you enjoyed learning Spanish and/or German last year or have an interest in different languages and cultures around the world, this class is for you. Explore different ways people communicate and interact based on unique cultures and histories and learn how they influence how we communicate and interact as well.

## **MUSICAL THEATRE**

In the world of acting, it is great to be what is 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 be cast in and perform in the Fairbairn Spring Musical. There will be a goal of a public performance with this class.

**Course Fee:** \$40.00- includes the purchasing of the rights to perform our desired and purchasing of our musical t-shirts.



## **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).

## **PUZZLES AND PROBLEMS**

In this course, we will use problem solving skills and strategies to work through number and word problems. We will explore strategy games and puzzles to expand our thinking

## **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:** \$20.00 includes consumables such as iron-on adhesive, poly-fill stuffing (which I provide because I can source it for cheaper and it prevents storage issues), thread and fabric used for teaching/practice purposes in addition to their personal projects that they take home, classroom-provided supplies (students do not have to purchase their own tools if finances are a barrier as I have a classroom supply of scissors, seam rippers, measuring tapes, pins, etc.)

## **SOFTBALL**

Did you know Canada is one of the highest ranked softball countries in the world (ahead of the U.S.A.)? We also have a girl's high school league in Lethbridge; however, many players don't start playing until they get to grade nine. Be a trail blazer and get on board to join our middle school softball program; this is your chance to master the diamond. We'll incorporate innovative drills and skills to foster the fundamentals of throwing, catching, and hitting. We work hard and play hard so we can learn the game that you can play for a lifetime.

**Course Fee:** \$15 for equipment replacement costs



## **SPORTS PERFORMANCE**

In this class students will be active participants in a variety of sports settings. They will explore sports leadership opportunities within the school. This class is designed for students who are willing to cooperate with others while learning the positive impact of an active lifestyle

## **STREET HOCKEY**

Wanna shred some asphalt and learn mad hockey skills at the same time? Street hockey is where it's at. When we aren't outside tearing up the pavement, hitting "Michies", or working on our toe drag releases, we will be competing in a hockey draft and learning all about the game. A student favourite is mini-stick Mondays which really get the juices flowing. Twice during the semester, we will go to Nicholas Sheran for an on-ice scrimmage (full gear). This class ain't "dust", we guarantee it.

## **TECH**

Tech 8 provides students with a solid foundation in computers, photography, videography, coding, and drone flight. Using Adobe Photoshop students learn green screen techniques, photography skills, filters, effects, and text. Students then record their own videos and use Adobe Premiere Pro to cut, sequence, and add effects to produce high quality short films. Students use BBC Micro:bits to learn simple python and block coding. Finally, each student will complete a Drone Flight Project where they learn to safely take off, maneuver, record video, and land a school-owned drone. Drones include: DJI Mavic Air, Spark, Mavic Mini, and Mini-2 models. If you have any interest in technology, this is the class for you!

## **VOLLEYBALL**

The goal of this class is to take students from a basic foundation of Volleyball to a more advanced understanding of the game. The class will be structured to encompass all skill areas of the game as well as officiating and scoring and game tactics (offense and defense).

## **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.