

# ROSEMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL

*CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL  
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL*



**2021 - 2022**

## **8<sup>TH</sup> Grade Course Guidebook**

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# **WELCOME to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade at ROSEMONT**

**School Motto: Honor, Excellence, and Pride**

Welcome to your 8<sup>th</sup> grade year at Rosemont Middle School. This booklet has been prepared to help you in planning your educational schedule for next year. The required classes are listed below and the elective classes are described on the following pages.

More information about Rosemont and the upcoming school year will be mailed to you in July. Parents may call our Counseling Office at 818-248-4224, if they have any questions.

*Dr. Anderle, Principal*

## **8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE REQUIRED CLASSES**

***ENGLISH or ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (ELD)***

***UNITED STATES HISTORY***

***MATHEMATICS***

***PHYSICAL SCIENCE***

***PHYSICAL EDUCATION***

- All required classes are scheduled for one full year. For details regarding the content of each class, please refer to the California Standards on the California Department of Education website at [www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov). or [www.corestandards.org/](http://www.corestandards.org/).
- Elective classes that are described on the following pages may last one-semester or one-year, based on the course.
- Every effort is made to accommodate each student's elective choices. Due to staffing, enrollment and/or program conflicts, this may not be possible, and alternate electives may be assigned.
- Rosemont suggests the use of a Reminder Binder. It assists students with organizing their work and recording homework. It is also an important tool to keep parents informed. Rosemont rules and guidelines are published in the front of the book. Parents and students should review these pages together.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

### One-semester electives are:

Art Production (Art & Animation)  
Ceramics  
Computer and Multimedia Essentials  
Computer Science Discoveries  
Drama  
Exploring Spanish  
Forensic Science  
Junior Assistant (TA)  
Mixed Chorus (Fall Only)  
Office Training 8  
Robotics/STEM Intro  
Wood Technology 8A

### Full-year electives are:

Advanced Chorus  
Advanced Strings  
Concert Band (Zero Period Only)  
FLAG Korean Language & Literature  
Intro to Media & Digital Arts  
Publication Design (Yearbook)  
Spanish 1-2  
Spanish 3-4  
Stage and Video Production 8  
String Ensemble  
Student Government (ASB)  
Wind Ensemble

**Advanced Chorus** is an advanced class for students who already have some experience singing in a vocal group. Several concerts are held throughout the year, including winter concert, festival competition, and the Rosemont Bowl.

Audition/Approval by instructor required  
Full-year class

**Advanced Strings** is an advanced class for string instruments and piano. Students must audition and demonstrate adequate proficiency. Concerts include a winter concert, festival competition, an end-of-the-year concert and various community performances.

Audition/Approval by instructor required  
Donation requested if instrument is needed  
Full-year class

**Art Production (Art & Animation)** is an introduction to art with a focus on animation. Students will learn about the history of animation and basic drawing techniques. Comic character design, Manga/Anime drawing styles and visual perspective are among the topics explored in this class.

No drawing experience is necessary; assignments are geared to all levels of ability  
This course is to be taken once only  
Donation requested  
One-semester class

**Ceramics** is an art class with a focus on animation. Students will learn about the history of animation and basic drawing techniques. The history of ceramics and clay, as well as glaze application and kiln safety will be covered.

No drawing experience is necessary; assignments are geared to all levels of ability  
This course is to be taken once only  
Donation requested  
One-semester class

**Computer and Multimedia Essentials** will provide an introduction to computer basics and give students the opportunity to create a variety of multimedia projects using the latest software and up-to-date equipment. This class will cover introductory skills in a variety of the CTE pathways. These pathway skills will include computer-based careers and trends, terminology, best practices, real-world applications, collaboration, problem solving, and leadership skills. This course promotes skills that can be applied across the curriculum and offers preparation relevant to 21<sup>st</sup> century skills.

Donation requested  
One-semester class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Computer Science Discoveries** is a one semester introductory course to the world of Computer Science and coding. This course will cover the five concept areas of computer science: computing systems, algorithms and programming, data and analysis, networks and the internet, and impacts of computing. Computer Science Discoveries introduces students to the Information and Communication Technologies CTE pathway.

No experience is necessary  
One-semester class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Concert Band** is for advanced brass, woodwind, and percussion students. Concerts include the Montrose Christmas Parade, the winter concert, festival competition, and the Rosemont Bowl.

Audition/Approval by instructor required  
Donation requested if instrument is needed  
Full-year class  
Class meets at 7:00 a.m. (zero period) and an additional elective must be taken.

**Drama** students will get on their feet and learn acting through drama games, improvisation, pantomime, and scene work. Games from the TV show “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” and acting exercises help students learn to play character roles, focus, and overcome nervousness and fear. Students will also learn creative writing techniques for scripts and short stories. Drama games and fun daily. If you like to laugh and act out wacky skits, this class is for you!

No experience is necessary  
Donation requested  
One-semester class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Exploring Spanish** will introduce students to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking people. Students learn Spanish through storytelling, songs, games, online programs, and plenty of interactive group activities and projects.

One-semester class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**FLAG Korean Language and Literature** courses are electives designed for those who have completed the FLAG program in elementary school. Prerequisites for these courses are (1) completion of the FLAG class in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or passing a target language proficiency test, and (2) meeting English proficiency criteria through reclassification.

**Forensic Science** will introduce students to the fundamentals of forensic science. Utilizing the steps of the scientific method, students will learn how to collect various pieces of evidence from a number of different crime scene scenarios and test the evidence to determine the perpetrator(s) of the crimes. Students will collect as evidence: simulated blood and blood spatter samples, fingerprints, hair and fiber samples, DNA samples, ballistics, key/tire/footprint impressions, glass fragments, soil samples, and handwriting analysis samples.

After completion of this course, students are encouraged to join the Academy of Science and Medicine at Crescenta Valley High School, which is a career pathway program offering students the opportunity to explore the various careers available in the fields of science and medicine.

One semester class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Intro to Media & Digital Arts** is an introductory course to the arts, media, and entertainment industry sector. Students will learn basic foundations of graphic design and computer graphic fundamentals. Specialized curriculum in contemporary media involving digital design and moving graphics will be introduced. Careers in the arts, media, and entertainment sector fall in three general pathways: Media and Design Arts, Performing Arts, and Production and Managerial Arts. The foundation and pathway standards make explicit the appropriate knowledge, skills, and practical experience students should have to pursue their chosen profession through whatever course of postsecondary, collegiate, and graduate training or apprenticeship it may require.

Taking Computer and Multimedia Essentials is not a prerequisite, but strongly recommended  
Donation requested  
One-year class  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Junior Assistant (TA)** one semester class where students work in the classroom with an individual teacher and students. Students will be allowed the opportunity to assist the teacher with clerical duties, lesson set up, bulletin board set up, and other general classroom and student needs as assigned by the teacher.

One-semester class  
Teacher recommendation only

**Mixed Chorus** is for students who like music, like to sing, and want to perform for others. You don't need to audition and you don't need to have a great voice. We will help you improve your singing techniques and confidence. There will be opportunities for solos, and small groups. The chorus sings at the pancake breakfast and winter concert. Students have the option of joining advanced chorus for second semester.

First semester only

**Office Training 8** offers a select group of students the opportunity to gain practical office experience in such areas as telephone protocol, filing, and using simple office equipment. Students develop interpersonal skills, along with attitudes needed for success in entry-level office jobs. Excellent citizenship required.

One-semester class  
Counselor recommendation only

**Publication Design (Yearbook)** is an art class that focuses on the design skills needed for designing a publication. The class is involved in the production of the school newspaper (The Spartan Scroll) as well as the design and production of the school yearbook. Students will be drawing, writing, interviewing, photographing and designing in this class.

Application required  
Strong writing skills are recommended  
Donation requested  
Full-year class

**Robotics/STEM Intro** is a one-semester projects-based course that introduces students to Robotics, Electronics Engineering (with soldering), Mechanics, and 3D Computer Aided Design. Students will build and program a virtual and/or physical robot (VEX IQ, VEXcode VR, LEGO Mindstorms NXT or EV3); create virtual (DCAC Lab) and/or physical circuits in series and parallel; design and build a Rube Goldberg Machine using the six simple machines; and design a 3D object using a computer aided design (CAD) software.

One-semester class  
No experience is necessary  
Donations requested for take-home projects  
Students should not take this class if they had it as a 7<sup>th</sup> grader

**Spanish 1-2** *¡Hola! ¿Cómo estás tú?* Did you know that Spanish is the most popular world language studied in the USA and the third most spoken language by native and secondary speakers in the world? Would you like to be a part of that? You can start your journey here at Rosemont Middle School to become connected in the future with Spanish speakers in 21 countries and four continents. You will learn the basics of communicating in Spanish through storytelling, songs, cultural celebrations, games, online programs, and interactive group activities. Heritage speakers are encouraged to take this course to continue developing their proficiency in Spanish. This course satisfies the California State University and University of California LOTE “E” 1<sup>st</sup> year World Language requirement *if* you take Spanish 3-4 in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. If you have any questions, please speak with your counselor or email Sra. Rivera at LRivera@gusd.net.

Full-year class and a recommended two-year commitment (8<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Additional years of Spanish are **strongly encouraged** by colleges and universities  
Pathway towards college-level courses, including Advanced Placement Spanish  
Pathway towards attaining the CA State Seal of Biliteracy on your high school diploma

**Prerequisites:** A grade of A or B in English, a strong academic record, excellent study habits, maturity, self-discipline, and a lot of ganas (desire) to learn

**Spanish 3-4** *¡A comunicarnos!* Spanish 3-4 is a continuation of Spanish 1-2. It is aligned to the World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools: K-12 (2019) and the Common Core State Standards. You will learn about different topics such as vacation and travel, daily routines, food, and celebrations. You will explore similarities and differences between life in the USA and in Spanish-speaking countries. Emphasis will be placed on speaking and understanding Spanish and storytelling. Heritage speaking students are encouraged to take this course to continue developing their proficiency in Spanish. This course satisfies the California State University and University of California LOTE “E” 2<sup>nd</sup> year World Language requirement. If you have any questions, please speak with your counselor or email Sra. Rivera at LRivera@gusd.net.

The course qualifies as the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of language in the A-G CSU and UC entrance requirements  
Full-year class and a recommended two-year commitment (8<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup> grade)  
A grade of A or B in Spanish 3-4 is highly recommended to continue to level 5-6 in 9<sup>th</sup> grade  
Additional years of Spanish are **strongly encouraged** by colleges and universities  
Pathway towards college-level courses, including Advanced Placement Spanish  
Pathway towards attaining the CA State Seal of Biliteracy on your high school diploma

**Prerequisite:**  
Spanish 1-2 with a grade of A or B in both semesters

**Stage and Video Production 8** Students in this special, year-long class will be on stage and also be in front of the camera! Students will perform in the spring play for parents and students! Costumes, mics, lights, and fun are all a part of our productions. Students will also learn all about movie making. They will create their own videos on a personal IPAD. Video shoot teams will get a chance to use a boom mic, stage lights, and direct their own movies! Storyboarding, acting for the camera, and basic directing skills are all covered. The fall film festival will be open to parents with the classroom being turned into a movie theater, complete with popcorn, drinks, a red carpet, and student ushers with flashlights.

In addition, drama games, skits, and scene work will help students improve their acting ability, and students will be able to write their own skits and monologues. The video project will include students performing and shooting their own funny cooking show and news show. Our spring play will conclude with a cast party and special treats.

Full-year Career Tech class for 8<sup>th</sup> graders  
\*This class is a career tech pathway to Clark High School and CV High School programs

**String Ensemble** is for beginning and intermediate level string and piano players who want to polish their skills before moving on to the advanced level. Students perform in the winter concert and end-of-the-year concert and participate in festival competition.

No experience is necessary, although a private teacher is recommended

Donation requested if instrument is needed

Full-year class

**Student Government** (Associated Student Body – ASB) is a leadership course. It develops the ability to take initiative, plan, and organize and lead others. Students participate in the decision-making process, learn effective communication principles, make ethical decisions, problem-solve and learn parliamentary procedure.

No experience is necessary

Full-year class

Application and interview required

**Wind Ensemble** is for beginning or intermediate-level woodwind, brass, or percussion, students who want to polish their skill before moving on to the advanced level. Students will perform in the winter concert and end-of-the-year concert and participate in a festival competition, as well as march in the Montrose Christmas parade.

No experience is necessary, although a private teacher is recommended

Donation requested if instrument is needed

Full-year class

**Wood Technology 8A** is for students with limited or no background in woodworking. Practical application is emphasized as students work on projects and develop skills with hand and power tools. Safety in the lab is stressed throughout the class, and if safety rules are violated, you can be removed from the class.

Donation requested

One-semester class