



**Bernice Ayer Middle School**

**2022-2023**

**ELECTIVE GUIDE**

**Grades 6, 7, 8**

# **CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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## **BAMS PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS 2022 - 2023**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Choices**

#### **6th Graders**

##### **EXPLORATORY WHEEL (8071)**

Students will rotate through all the courses in the exploratory wheel. Courses may be quarterly or by semester. The wheel provides students with a sampling of courses, which they may choose as a yearlong elective in seventh and/or eighth grade. The exploratory wheel classes are **NOT** offered to students in Two-Way Immersion.

##### **Exploratory Wheel – Art**

This course introduces a variety of media techniques: drawing, painting, lettering; two and three-dimensional design; and a number of craft experiences. As students become acquainted with the elements and principles of art, they gain basic understanding of art concepts pertinent to our present-day society as well as the past.

##### **Exploratory Wheel - Computer Applications**

The computer wheel class is designed to assist students in becoming better digital citizens. The class will devote 10-15 minutes every session to develop and assess proper keyboarding habits and skills. Students will learn about online safety, cyber security, cyberbullying, appropriate computer use, etc. They will also learn about the various programs offered by Microsoft and Google (word, power point, excel, google doc., slides, and sheets)

##### **Exploratory Wheel – Chorus**

This course is a combination of choral work and a sample of musical theater. It allows students a taste of the performing arts discipline. Students will gain an understanding of chorus and help them determine whether they would like to audition for Advance Chorus or Musical Theater as a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student.

## 6th Grade Band

This class is for 6th grade students with or without experience who would like to play a wind or brass instrument. Students will perform traditional and popular music, attend field trips, and study music theory and history in a fun and structured environment. **A limited number of concerts outside of the school day are a required part of this class.**

## 6th Grade Orchestra

This class is for 6th grade students with or without experience who would like to play a string instrument. Students will perform traditional and popular music, attend field trips, and study music theory and history in a fun and structured environment. **A limited number of concerts outside of the school day are a required part of this class.**

## Dual Immersion Program – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students (6732)

***\*\*Dual Immersion students will take Spanish Dual Immersion as their elective. They may take an additional elective class of either Band or Orchestra ONLY. This will require they begin school at 7:30 am. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent. \*\****

## Spanish Dual Immersion - 6th grade

A one-year course of study for Spanish speakers with an emphasis on literature. Students will participate in learning activities that emphasize meaningful communication, fluency, critical thinking skills, cultural awareness and will use their oral reading, and writing skills to complete projects and to interpret literature.

## 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Choices

### Advanced Chorus

Advanced choir is designed for students at the intermediate level. All students will review correct sitting and standing postures. Proper breathing techniques will be reviewed as they relate to correct tone production. Students will have the opportunity to learn and perform solos, duets, trios, and small group numbers.

**All choir students will perform in selected concerts outside of the school day. *Admission Audition Required***

### Associate Student Body (9193)

The ASB Leadership Program is an elective class that serves the school as the student council, providing representation and activities for the entire student body. The program focuses on leadership development, through an emphasis on planning techniques, decision-making skills, problem solving, organizational skills, group dynamics, principles of communication, budgeting and issues of public relations. The class emphasizes skill building, planning, implementation evaluation and experiential learning for growing the individual students in the areas of respect, responsibility, service and initiative. An outgrowth of the program is the promotion and enhancement of a positive school climate. Students are expected to support school wide activities during lunch a minimum of two times per week. In addition, students are expected to support ASB activities before and after school a minimum of once a quarter. Class size is limited. ASB student leaders are an inclusive and diverse group that represent our school demographics. Students will be chosen based on their responses to a questionnaire and assignments required.

*Teacher recommendation and interview required.*

### Advanced Orchestra (0522)

This class is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade strings players. Continuing seventh and eighth grade music students will further develop technical proficiency on their instruments while gaining increased knowledge of music theory, as well as historical and cultural contexts of a variety of music. The Advanced Orchestra will perform at school events, concerts, and festivals throughout the school year.

### Chamber Orchestra (0523)

This Yearlong class requires students to audition. This group will further their skills on their instruments, work on repertoire for competitive performances, and perform out in the

community in local events such as community holiday performances, Knott's Berry Farm and Disneyland. Attendance at extra rehearsals and all performances is required. ***Audition Required***

## MUSICAL THEATER (7982)

The joy of musical theatre is not only performing the songs and choreography, but the compelling music and lyrics that are an integral part of the storytelling. Students will focus on dance/movement, vocal work, and acting. In addition to performances, students will learn the history of the American musical and how the past has influenced the great musicals we have today. Our time together will culminate in a Broadway Night performance. No experience necessary for this class! ***Admission Audition Required***

## PAL / PEER ASSISTANT LEADERS (1383)

This community service-based class is dedicated to helping others. It is the mission of **Peer Assistant Leaders** to make a difference in our school and in our community and to reach out and make other people's lives better. This class is designed for students who have hearts filled with compassion and kindness who want to devote their year to building a better world. Some of the projects and services that PALs oversee are: New student lunch, Teacher Assistance, Elementary School Mentorship, New Student Tours, Back to School Night Guidance, Red and Blue Ribbon Week, Holiday Food Drive, Toys for Tots, 5th Grade Tours, and many other events in between. PAL is a class that everyone can benefit from, but is geared towards students who are unselfish and giving and who will dedicate their time to the benefits of others. These PALs are responsible for enacting these projects with responsibility and enthusiasm; they are also required to be positive role models for their peers 100% of the time as they have been selected to be generous and thoughtful leaders at BAMS. Class size is limited. PAL student leaders are an inclusive and diverse group that represent our school demographics. ***Admission by application, interview, and teacher recommendation. Students must maintain a 2.75 grade point average and have an outstanding grade in citizenship.***

## Video Production (M2352)

Introduction to Video Production Program In this class, students will learn the basics of video production, storyboarding, layout, lighting, recording and editing using WeVideo. Students will learn about the various film shots that are used when making and producing short films. They will need to film/edit a series of videos in groups, which will require them to work together as a team in order to produce a quality product. ***Teacher recommendation required.***

## Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band)

This class is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade wind, brass and percussion students. Continuing seventh and eighth grade music students will further develop technical proficiency on their instruments while gaining increased knowledge of music theory, as well as historical and cultural contexts of a variety of music. The Wind Ensemble will perform at school events, concerts, and festivals throughout the school year.

## Yearbook (9173)

Students enrolled in this course will have the opportunity to create and publish the school yearbook. Activities include establishment of theme, creating and conducting student surveys, taking photographs, learning about the different aspects of photography (Composition, Framing & Negative Space, Rule of Thirds, etc.), understanding elements of effective layout and design, sales of the yearbook and eighth grade dedication ads, and publicity. Students will use an online yearbook program and will be asked to meet strict deadlines. Yearbook students are expected to maintain satisfactory academic and citizenship grades in all classes. *Teacher recommendation required.*

## TWIS 1 - 7th Grade (2185)

This course is designed for Native and Heritage Spanish language speakers and students in the Dual Immersion Program. The class will be conducted entirely in Spanish to develop and improve the overall Spanish linguistic skills that the students already possess. Students in this class will learn the standard grammatical aspects, the mechanics (punctuation), and spelling of the Spanish language.

## TWIS II Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1A/1B - 8th grade (2186)

This course is designed for Native and Heritage Spanish language speakers and students in the Dual Immersion Program. The class will be conducted entirely in Spanish to develop and improve the overall Spanish linguistic skills that the students already possess. Students in this class will learn the standard grammatical aspects, the mechanics (punctuation), and spelling of the Spanish language.

## **Exploratory Wheel 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (8465)**

Students will rotate through all the courses in the exploratory wheel. Courses maybe quarterly or by semester.

### **Performing Arts**

Art wheel includes the basics of acting, speech and singing. Students perform in all three areas as well as research behind the scenes jobs involving the arts. No prior experience is required

### **Career Tech. Education**

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore technologies being employed in current careers. Students will be exposed to programming, graphic design, photography, computer-aided design, audio/video production, engineering, and many other technologies. The goal of the class is to expose students to as much technology as possible so that they can begin to make informed decisions about future classes and careers.

### **ART**

In this Elective Art Class, students will initially become familiar with all of the "Art Elements" (LINE, SHAPE, FORM, VALUE, COLOR, TEXTURE, and SPACE) before applying these concepts to projects that are more involved. Basic drawing & painting techniques will be taught, and students will learn how to demonstrate the "Design Principles" (MOVEMENT, PATTERN, RHYTHM, BALANCE, EMPHASIS, CONTRAST, UNITY, & PROPORTION) in their artwork. Art History is embedded within this class, which is designed to be a fun way for students to build knowledge & creativity, while gaining confidence