

COOL STEAM ELECTIVES OFFERED AT STONE MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL

(*Please note that some of the courses below are grade specific and may not be on your elective course sheet)

Art Electives

Art and Digital Design (2 separate courses same Art teacher) – 7th and 8th grade

Beginning Art: You won't get in trouble for doodling on papers in this class!! Stop saying you **can't** draw. We will teach you the basics, and we will build up drawings from there. We will also do painting, clay, printmaking, and many other artistic mediums. This is a very hands-on class, and we're looking for motivated students who can take an idea and run with it, or make your own creations.

The world is waiting for your creativity! Get into **2D Art** and use your imagination.

Digital Design: Want to learn to create images on your laptop? How about learning Photography techniques and Concept Art? Sign up for **Digital Design**. Stop saying you can't draw. Just like any other craft, it needs to be used, so give it another shot with this class!

Specialty Electives

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) – 7th and 8th grade *Application required

AVID is an elective class that focuses on preparing students for high school and college. This elective will help students become more organized, learning to work collaboratively, and plant seeds of desire to explore greater academic opportunities.

Science Research – 7th and 8th grade – Application Required

Science Research is an elective class in which students conduct individual and small group science projects with many opportunities for fun, hands-on activities. Students learn how to set up experiments, use science lab equipment, take care of plants and animals, analyze data, use computer apps and learn other skills needed to produce a great research project. Students can conduct projects involving marine biology, robots, 3-D printing, aquaculture, engineering, microbiology, environmental science and more. At Stone Magnet Middle School, Science Research students do their research at school with the help of our research teachers.

TV Production/Stone News Network (Teacher recommendation and application) – 8th grade (7th only by teacher recommendation)

Television Production is a multimedia communication course that models a broadcast studio. Students produce a daily news show for the Stone Magnet Middle School students and staff. Students learn nearly every aspect of a professional broadcast. They develop video and audio, composition, and editing skills. They utilize entry level and professional level software with an emphasis on creativity, design, and critique of digital communications. This elective has a very limited enrollment due to the size of the studio and responsibilities of the students participating. There is limited enrollment for 7th graders, usually around 7, and with nominations provided by 6th grade teachers. Students must have and maintain at least a high B average, be very responsible and trustworthy, and have a helpful attitude.

Yearbook – 7th and 8th grade *teacher recommendation required

Students in the Yearbook course will learn how to perform the duties involved in creating and publishing the annual school yearbook. Content includes instruction in photography, journalism, and marketing. Students will be responsible for marketing yearbook sales, designing the cover and content of the yearbook, proofing the content, and sending the content to be published. Students will be responsible for taking pictures at school events, including sporting events. They will acquire design skills to be used in creating the page layouts for the yearbook. These skills can be transferred to other business-related careers.

Performing Arts Electives

Chorus – 7th and 8th grade

Travel the world in song! In chorus you will have the opportunity to sing music from various places around the world and learn about their culture through music! Not only will you learn how to sing, but you will also learn how to become an independent musician by learning how to read music. **No prior experience is needed.**

Beginning Chorus: a beginning chorus is for students looking for an engaging and fun introductory experience. This chorus is open to both 7th and 8th grade and may be taken alongside other chorus classes; this group performs at all school concerts.

Advanced Chorus: an advanced level group, for students who have moved up from the beginning level, but need a little more vocal training before moving to a more advanced level.

Theatre – 7th and 8th grade

In this class, students will continue to refine their dramatic skills to perform more sophisticated work. Students will use various creative drama techniques to build ensemble, stimulate imagination, movement, and role-play with an emphasis on concentration. Students will be taught to direct their focus, intent, and motivation to create and sustain a character. Students will address plot, setting, and character in monologues. Students will learn and use drama and theatre vocabulary in class discussions and the activities will address the promotion and reinforcement of students' literacy skills. Students will exhibit and reinforce their skills through individual and group presentations, performances, and script and journal writing.

Musical Theatre – 7th and 8th grade

Sing and dance through life in musical theatre! In this class you will start by learning traditional songs and styles of singing. Then begin to experience a whole new world with acting and dancing. Not only will you learn how to perform, but you will also become an independent musician by learning how to read music. No prior experience is needed

Beginning Band – 7th and 8th grade

This class is for anyone who wants to play a band instrument, meaning we blow on stuff and hit things with sticks! Band instruments include: flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophones, trumpets, French horns, trombones, baritones, tubas and percussion. **Students do not need to have any previous experience playing an instrument in order to take the class.** Stone Magnet Middle School has instruments to rent, but most students rent from local music stores. This group performs twice a year, so there could possibly be after school rehearsals. Private instrument lessons are encouraged. Daily at-home practice is required.

Concert Band - 7th and 8th grade by teacher recommendation

This class is for students who have had at least 1 year of experience playing a band instrument and would like to continue to learn the fundamentals. Instruments are available to rent from a local music store or from Stone Magnet Middle School. This group performs twice a year, so there could possibly be after school rehearsals.

Symphonic Band - 8th grade

This class is for the top band students who have had at least 1 year of experience playing a band instrument. **7th graders can audition to be in this class.** At this level, students should be renting (or have purchased) an instrument from a local music store, but rentals from Stone Magnet Middle School are available. Private instrument lessons are encouraged. In addition to the two school concerts, students in this group are also able to audition for All-State and All-County, perform solos at District Solo & Ensemble Festival, and perform at the District Music Performance Assessment in the spring. Daily at-home practice is required.

Intermediate Orchestra – 7th and 8th grade

This class is for anyone who wants to play a string instrument. Typically, students who have had at least 1 year of string experience in the elementary schools take this course; **however, it is open to students who have never played before.** Orchestra instruments include: violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Stone Magnet Middle School has instruments to rent, but most students rent from local music stores. This group performs twice a year. Private instrument lessons are encouraged. Daily at-home practice is required.

Advanced Orchestra - 7th grade possible and 8th grade

This class is for students who have multiple years of experience playing an orchestral instrument. At this level, students should be renting (or have purchased) an instrument from a local music store, but rentals from Stone Magnet Middle School are available. Private instrument lessons are also highly recommended. In addition to the two school concerts, students in this group are also able to audition for All-State and All-County, perform solos at District Solo & Ensemble Festival, and perform at the District Music Performance Assessment in the spring. Daily at-home practice is required.

Career and Technology Electives

Computer Applications 1 & 2 – 7th or 8th grade

This course is available to 7th and 8th grade students who would like to learn more about computer programs. Students will take Computer Applications 1 the first semester and Computer Applications 2 the second semester. Students will learn the concepts of word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software, and other digital tools while earning certifications to show off their new skills.

Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

This class will prepare students interested in taking **Digital Information Technology** with the skills necessary for the Microsoft Office certification exams.

Digital Informational Technology (DIT) – 8th grade only HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

In this course you will learn about the Microsoft Office Suite (MOS) programs and will have the opportunity to get certificated in Word, PowerPoint and Excel. This is a high school credit, so it is a faster paced course. We do a lot of projects to prepare for our certification exams, so you will learn everything you need to better prepare you for the upcoming tests.

Coding

Students in this course will focus on fundamental programming concepts. Students will learn to use functions and create programs. They will learn to troubleshoot those programs. Students will focus on Python 1 & 2. They will also learn about cyber security and web design. This class will give an introduction for students looking to take courses in game/simulation/animation/programming at the high school level.

Culinary 1 – 7th & 8th grade and Culinary 2 – 8th grade if you've completed Culinary 1

The class provides instruction in the application of the principles of food preparation, food selection and storage. This program provides students with the opportunity to learn about the restaurant and food industry.

Forensic Science 1 – 7th and 8th grade

This year long course exposes students to a wide variety of traditional forensic careers and advanced concepts in scientific analysis and terminology. This course emphasizes the scientific principles and methodologies used by forensic scientists to solve problems. This would include DNA technology, pathology, and toxicology with the incorporation of guest speakers.

Forensic Science 2 – 8th grade if you completed Forensic Science 1

This year long course allows students to utilize the curriculum in Forensic Science 1 to build on advanced concepts in Forensic Science. Course studies include anatomy and physiology, pathology, psychology, cybercrime and current forensic practices. Using inquiry investigations, career exploration, graphic design, and safety procedures will develop students who have strong occupational understanding of Forensics.

Making it with STEAM/FUSE Studios – 7th and 8th grade

An elective that engages pre-teens and teens in science, technology, engineering, arts/design, and mathematics (STEAM) topics while fostering the development of important 21st century skills. The core activities in our FUSE Studios are delivered through a set of challenges. Each challenge allows you to "level-up" and is carefully designed to engage teens in different STEAM topics and skills sets.

FUSE currently has dozens of challenges in areas such as robotics, electronics, biotechnology, graphic design, Android app development, 3D printing and more. For students that learn by creating and doing rather than just listening, this class is full of potential projects...The future is bright with possibilities.

World Languages

Spanish I & II – 7th and 8th grade HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

These two courses constitute a high school credit each. Spanish is an introduction to the five C's: communication, connection, comparisons, culture, and community. In this course students read and analyze fiction and non-fiction text, prepare presentations, practice formal conversation, and expand vocabulary. The course will broaden students' understanding of Hispanic culture and foster interest in continuing in the study of Spanish in the future.

Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1 – 8th Graders only

Basics of reading comprehension, culture, and language for students who have an ear for Spanish. This course is ideal for those who speak Spanish at home or did some of their education in a Spanish speaking country.