

**South Charlotte Middle School**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Elective Course Offerings & Descriptions 2020-2021**

**Yearlong Courses – 36 weeks (every other day)**

- **Band 6 (woodwinds, brass, percussion)** This course provides beginning class instruction in playing a musical instrument. Level I performance standards for band are achieved. Prior music experience is not required. Might need to provide your own instrument, although the school does have some. Student will be able to select instrument at the beginning of the school year, selection is not guaranteed. \*\*CMS Performing Arts Department - Instrumental Music Study Permission Form required\*\* located on Registration Process tab on SCMS website.
- **Orchestra 6** This course provides beginning instruction in playing violin, viola, cello, or bass. Level I performance standards for orchestra are achieved. \*\*CMS Performing Arts Department - Instrumental Music Study Permission Form required\*\* located on Registration Process tab on SCMS website.

**Semester Courses – 18 weeks (every other day)**

- **Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing** is a CTE course which teaches students basic keying (alpha and numeric), building speed and accuracy, and basic business correspondences.
- **Project Lead the Way: Design and Modeling** is an intro to engineering class. Students investigate, research, and compare topics and careers in the STEM areas. Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives and around the world. They work in teams to design real world applications such as hovercrafts, airplanes, cars, catapults, 3D printing and more.
- **Project Lead the Way: Automation and Robotics** is an introduction to engineering class. This course supports students in tracing the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as windmills, pull toys, and robotic arms.

**Quarter Courses – 9 weeks (every other day)**

- **Exploring Arts: Drama** Students explore various dramatic elements through the eyes of the playwright, actor, designer, and director. They will learn artistic choices and critique dramatic works. Students will use drama as a means of expressing themselves and developing their “personal voice.”
- **Exploring Arts: Dance:** This course provides beginning instruction in dance as personal expression. Students learn to create compositions, learn performance values, use movement skills, analyze dance, and understand cultural, historical, and interdisciplinary connections with dance.
- **Exploring Arts: Visual Art** builds upon students’ individual skills in visual arts. The focus is on applying elements and principles of design to interpret the environment, to elaborate on an idea, and to use as a means of communication. Students use creative and critical thinking skills as they study the purpose and function of art, the history of art, and the impact of art in cultures.
- **Exploring Arts: Music:** Students learn beginning singing techniques within an ensemble setting. In addition to music skills, students will demonstrate skills of cooperation, and learn to compromise and be team players.

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- **Exploring Spanish:** This course provides an introduction to world languages with an emphasis on basic communication and cultural concepts.