

Robert Gray Middle School
Course Information
5505 SW 23rd Ave, Portland, OR 97239
503-916-5676
2018-19

Core Classes: Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Health/PE

Math Classes: Most students will be enrolled in Common Core Math. For some students, Compacted Math blends Math 7 + Math 8 + Algebra and results in high school credit.

Elective Classes: *(students request; assigned on space-available basis by RGMS administration)*

- **ACADEMIC SUPPORT:** Get extra support in reading, math and organization. This class is only available with administrative approval and is not a study hall.
- **ART:** *(each semester is different)* Learn about what other artists have done in the past. Gain experience thinking and talking about your own art work and the work of others. Find out about some really amazing artists' tricks. Have fun!
- **AVID ELECTIVE:** *(grade 7 in fall, grade 6 in spring)* Do you want to develop your academic leadership? Select students will be invited to participate in this elective to develop skills, go on field trips and do well in classes.
- **CADET BAND:** Beginning 7th or 8th grade students who want to play a musical instrument in the band will learn exciting new skills. You will perform in school concerts and have fun.
- **CONCERT BAND:** If you have some playing experience, this class is for you. Participate in annual parades, school concerts, special events and the Middle School Band Festival. You may even be selected for the All City and All State Middle School Honor Bands.
- **CHOIR:** Learn to read music and sing in three-part harmony and perform in school concerts and special events. Students may be chosen to perform in the All City and All State Middle School Honor Choirs.
- **FRENCH I & FRENCH 2:** Learn another language with ease through reading and listening to stories. Collaborate with classmates to create interesting and beloved characters. Play games to interact with the language in a low-stress environment. Celebrate the fun of Mardi Gras and make crêpes! One HS credit (requires a C average) upon completing French 2.
- **HEAD START TEACHER AIDE:** *(semester)* Work with 3 and 4 year olds in the Head Start classroom at Stephens Creek Crossing (located on the Capitol Hwy). Parents provide transportation.
- **PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** A wide range of activities ensures a fast-paced and exciting class with emphasis on personal and lifelong fitness. Be prepared to work hard and have a blast! All students will take PE for one quarter and health for one quarter. Some students may take PE for an additional semester.
- **JOURNALISM & ADVERTISING:** Emphasizing creative writing and graphic design, you will develop advertising campaigns for imaginary and real products. Learn to write in a variety of journalistic styles for newspaper, magazine, blog and social media. Dabble in photography and photojournalism in both digital and film formats. Though this course will have a good deal of daily writing, writers of all levels are invited.
- **MANDARIN CHINESE 1** *(year, grade 7 only—NEW!)* Develop language skills in Mandarin Chinese. Learn speaking, reading and writing comprehension. Simple questions, commands and statements are taught. Students will use the English alphabet to write "Pinyin" which represents Mandarin sounds. One high school credit for Mandarin 2 in grade 8.
- **MEDIA ARTS:** Tell a good story, get your shots clean! Media production thrives on compelling content. Make movies and record your own music in this elective.
- **SPANISH I & SPANISH 2:** *(full year)* Learn how to read and understand Spanish while creating crazy fun stories about kooky characters who do strange things. Spanish is spoken during each class period, but no worries. No homework or quizzes; periodic listening and reading assessments only. Do quarterly partner projects on Latino culture, listen to Latino pop music daily, learn how to make the best guacamole and learn to dance salsa and merengue. One high school credit (with at least a C average) upon completing Spanish 2.
- **TEACHER, OFFICE or LIBRARY AIDE:** *(semester)* Work in a classroom, the office or library, run errands, do homework, help teachers & staff.
- **TECHNOLOGY 1:** *(semester)* Students will improve keyboarding accuracy and speed by practicing daily. Learn online search skills, Internet safety awareness; Google MyMaps, Google Drawings, spreadsheets, computer programming and coding using Scratch or other tools, and 3D drawing using SketchUp.
- **TECHNOLOGY 2:** *(semester, can be repeated)* The curriculum will cover computer programming/coding in Python or JavaScript; photo/image editing using Pixlr; audio/sound editing using Looplabs and Audacity; 3D graphics using Sketchup, Sculpttris, Maya, 3DS Max, Mobile App creation; keyboarding; mapping using ArcGIS; video editing; independent projects and special teams for RGMS News