

Dear 7th Grade Parents/Guardians:

It is that time of year where we begin thinking about and choosing classes for next year. In your child's 8th grade year, you will have a choice in which elective class your child takes.

Studio in Art and Music Studio are full year, every day courses designed to afford students an opportunity to earn one (1) high school credit while in grade 8. These courses meet New York State high school graduation requirements for one unit of study in the Arts (Music, Art, Theater or Dance). Successfully completing one high school unit in Art or Music at the Middle School makes it easier to complete a five (5) unit sequence in the Arts (Visual & Performing) at the high school. As we believe all students should have a rich experience in the arts, we encourage students to take advantage of these opportunities. However, please discuss the ramifications of commitment to these courses, as the grade will be included in your child's high school transcript.

Technology 8, Computer Science, Robotics and Food Science are full year, every other day courses designed to afford students an opportunity to experience a hands-on elective while in grade 8. **Technology 8** focuses on Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing. Students design projects using CAD. They will create projects using 3D printers, vinyl cutters, laser cutters and a traditional workshop. **Computer Science** focuses on coding in Python. Students will be working on Kidoyo to gain greater understanding of computer language. **Robotics** focuses on utilizing robotic parts and programs to find solutions to various engineering challenges. **Food Science** is designed to help students learn about the relationships among science, food, and nutrition.

Please refer to the complete course description of these classes listed below. You can also view the PowerPoint that was presented to the 7th grade students on the homepage of the Middle School website today by clicking [here](#).

At this point we are asking 7th graders and their parents to inform us of their desire to participate in these classes. An online survey has been set up for you to indicate your choices for these electives. You can access the survey by double clicking [here](#) or cut and paste the URL below in your browser window.

<https://forms.gle/oGMCEX8fHDoDhQWh6>

We will do our best to honor your selections, however please be aware of the following:

- Support classes will take precedence over elective courses in students' schedules
- Some courses have a maximum number of students allowed.
- Priority will be given based on the order the survey was received.
- Students will not have room in their schedule to take both Studio in Art and Music Studio.
- All course offerings are subject to board approval.
- These course offerings are for electives. Other potential changes to the basic academic program are being considered.

The survey should be completed no later than **January 13, 2023**. If you do not have access to fill out the survey on-line, your child can pick up a paper version of the survey in the guidance office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Jones at 255-8983 or at cjones@rvcschools.org .

Thank you and best regards,
Shelagh McGinn