

## SIXTH GRADE - ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

**Physical Education** – The physical education program consists of a variety of instruction in physical fitness, lifetime, and leisure activities, individual, dual, and team sports.

**Fundamentals of Art** – This course is designed to give students with no previous Art experience a sampling of art projects that emphasize the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. We will be using a variety of art materials like tempera paints, watercolor, color pencils, markers, oil pastels and mixed media. The class provide students with the knowledge and skills to further their creative expression in the arts.

**Coding Fundamentals-** This Computer Science course covers the problem-solving process and programming activities to encourage students to build their own programs for apps and physical computing devices. The purpose of this course is to assist information Technology students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the career cluster.

**Explore Robotics Technology & Career Planning** – The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of robotics technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes, and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of robotics technology on our everyday lives. Students will be introduced to basic programming as well as problem-solving strategies.

**Beginning Chorus** – Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills. Students will engage in critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Beginning Band** – Beginning Band is for students wishing to learn how to play an instrument and read music. This class will develop foundational knowledge of fundamental musicality and tone production. The Beginning Band also serves as a course for students that would like to learn to play a secondary instrument.

**Speech & Debate-** The purpose of this course is to increase students' understanding of the communication process, argument construction, and research as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies for debate in a variety of given settings. This course introduces types of public speaking and students are required to attend tournaments outside of school.

**Gaming & Design-** This introductory Computer Science course empowers students to create authentic computer artifacts and engage with Computer Science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing. Students will learn how to create digital computer games and animations while grasping the foundation knowledge and skills related to coding and software development.



## “Engage, Educate, Elevate”

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff at Glades Middle School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2025-2026 School year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure your children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that to be successful in school, our children need support from both home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child’s education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children’s success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

Please know that we highly value home/school communication here at Glades Middle School. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student’s success. We encourage you to contact us if/when the need arises and to *stay informed* about your child’s studies, assignments, assessments, school activities, and other events and happenings.

We look forward to a very positive and productive year together! We extend a special, yearlong invitation to our families to join us at school activities and events whenever possible. We want, we need, and we value your involvement and support in your child’s education! Your active participation is vital to the success of your young Glades Cougars during his/her middle school years.

Again, we welcome you to The Glades Family and our wonderful learning community, where we Engage, Educate, and Elevate! It is, indeed, a place where opportunities abound! Here is to an AWESOME new school year as we work together to make our school a great place to work and learn daily!

Sincerely,

Daniela Fatout  
Principal  
Glades Middle School

## SEVENTH GRADE – ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

**Physical Education** – The physical education program consists of a variety of instructions in physical fitness, lifetime and leisure activities, individual, dual, and team sports.

**2-D Art** – Students experiment with media and techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional artworks through the development of skills in drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students practice, sketch and create pieces composed from observation, research, and imagination. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work. Pre-requisite: must have completed at least 1 middle school Art course.

**Intermediate Choir** – Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Vocal Ensemble** - Students with little or no small vocal ensemble experience develop musicianship and performance skills as they study, rehearse, and perform high-quality ensemble literature in diverse styles. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. **Audition based only. Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Theatre** - Students learn the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Concert Band** – The Concert Band is a beginning band for students in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade wishing to learn how to play an instrument. This class will develop the basic fundamentals of tone production and musicality. The Concert Band also serves as the tool for students who would like to learn to play a secondary instrument.

**Symphonic Band** – The Symphonic Band provides instruction in musical style and basic music fundamentals. This ensemble continues to develop the techniques learned in the beginning band. As a member of the Symphonic Band, students will begin to focus on the fundamentals of playing as an ensemble. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Wind Ensemble** – The Wind Ensemble provides instruction in musical style, tone production and ensemble playing. This ensemble is the top-performing ensemble and is available to seventh and eighth graders. Students in this group perform an average of two times per year outside the regular school day. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**\*Speech Debate** – The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the competitive speech events, as sanctioned by the National Speech and Debate Association. Students will learn the basics of speech and debate competition, and other necessary components such as tournament etiquette, and performance strategies. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**\*Spanish I** – The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the target language and its culture, and to develop communicative skills and cross-cultural understanding with an emphasis on both oral communication and writing skills. The content includes, but is not limited to work in listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as vocabulary and grammatical concepts. Students enrolled in this full year course will have the opportunity to earn high school credit.

**Multi-Media Production** - This is an elective course offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students learn the basic elements of television production, including news reporting, the research process, video equipment operation, and digital video editing. The course also explores various aspects of television production as a career. In addition, students will have the opportunity to produce the Glades Middle School Morning News Show daily and produce a hard cover edition of the school yearbook. **A Multi-Media Production application is required for this course.**

**Explore Engineering & Tech.** – The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the areas of engineering technology, robotics technology, and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes, and systems while gaining and understanding of the effects of engineering and robotics technology on our everyday lives.

**\*Computer Science Discoveries** – This course builds on the basic concepts learned in Coding Fundamentals and introduces students to computer science as a vehicle for problem solving, communication, and personal expression. The course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Digital Discoveries in Society** – This is an introductory Computer Science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing.

**Peer Counseling I** – Students will develop awareness of self and others. Emphasis will be on acquisition of basic skills for thoughtful planning, peer facilitation, effective communication and making healthy choices. **A Peer Counseling application is required.**

**Immersive Media-** The Immersive Media (IM) course empowers students to become digital storytellers and 3D content creators by using virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and branching narrative software. Students travel to four virtual planets in this galactic-themed adventure to complete a series of "missions" that hone their technical and soft skills. Students then put their skills to the test by choosing from a menu of three sustainability projects per planet!

**Intro to Technology-** This course explores the fundamentals of computer systems, including the distinctions between hardware, software, and various operating systems. It covers networking principles and techniques for troubleshooting internet connectivity issues. Students will learn about data storage, file management, word processing, and conducting research using different web browsers.

**Software Development-** The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Information Technology career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to foundational knowledge and skills related to web and software development in the information technology industry.

**\*Denotes a High School Credit Course.**

## EIGHTH GRADE - ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

**Physical Education** – The physical education program consists of a variety of instructions in physical fitness, lifetime, and leisure activities, individual, dual, and team sports.

**3-D Art**– Students will further develop skills in additive, subtractive, and assemblage sculpture, ceramics, and visual problem solving. Students will broaden their visual art and descriptive vocabularies as they pertain to three-dimensional works. Through individual, group inquiry and art creation, students will increase their knowledge of sculpture media and techniques. Prerequisite: must have completed at least 1 middle school Art course.

**Intermediate Choir** – Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

\* **Vocal Techniques** - Students with experience in vocal ensemble, musicianship, and performance skills study, rehearse, and perform high-quality ensemble literature in diverse styles. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. **Audition based only. Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Theatre** - Students learn the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Concert Band** – The Concert Band is a beginning band for students in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade wishing to learn to play an instrument. This class will develop the basic fundamentals of tone production and musicality. The Concert Band also serves as the tool for students who would like to learn to play a secondary instrument. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Symphonic Band** – The Symphonic Band provides instruction in musical style and basic music fundamentals. This ensemble continues to develop the techniques learned in the beginning band. As a member of the Symphonic Band, students will begin to focus on the fundamentals of playing as an ensemble. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Wind Ensemble** – The Wind Ensemble provides instruction in musical style, tone production and ensemble playing. This ensemble is the top-performing ensemble and is available to seventh and eighth graders. Students in this group perform an average of two times per year outside the regular school day. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

\***Spanish I** – The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the target language and its culture, and to develop communicative skills and cross-cultural understanding with an emphasis on both oral communication and writing skills. The content includes, but is not limited to work in listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as vocabulary and grammatical concepts. Students enrolled in this full year course will have the opportunity to earn high school credit.

\***Spanish II** – This course will reinforce and enhance the basic skills previously acquired in the target language. The content will include further development of listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammatical concepts, as well as a broader understanding of the target culture. Students enrolled in this full year course will have the opportunity to earn high school credit. **Spanish I is a pre-requisite for this course. Teacher approval is required for this course.**

**Multi-Media Production** - This is an elective course offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students learn the basic elements of television production, including news reporting, the research process, video equipment operation, and digital video editing. The course also explores various aspects of television production as a career. In addition, students will have the opportunity to produce the Glades Middle School Morning News Show daily and produce a hard cover edition of the school yearbook. **A Multi-Media Production application is required for this course.**

**Intro to Engineering** – This course exposes students to the design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. In addition, they will learn to use 3D solid modeling design software to design solutions to problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions, document the process, and communicate the results. **Certification: ADESK032- Autodesk Certified User - Fusion 360**

\***Advanced Info Tech/IT Coding** – This course is designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information systems and trends, and to introduce students to fundamental skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information-based society.

**Digital Discoveries in Society**- This is an introductory Computer Science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing.

**Explore Engineering & Tech.**– The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the areas of engineering technology, robotics technology, and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes, and systems while gaining and understanding of the effects of engineering and robotics technology on our everyday lives.

\***Peer Counseling II**– Students will build upon the concepts learned in Peer Counseling I and also develop basic knowledge and skills in communication, meeting human needs, and conflict resolution. Students enrolled in this full year course will have the opportunity to earn high school credit. **A Peer Counseling application is required.**

\***Speech Debate I** – The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the competitive speech events, as sanctioned by the National Speech and Debate Association. Students will learn the basics of speech and debate competition, and other necessary components such as tournament etiquette, and performance strategies. **Teacher approval is required for this course.**

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