

### 8th Grade Electives

1. **Art – Semester/Year:** Art is designed to emphasize the elements and principles of design. Students will create drawings, paintings and sculptures utilizing aspects of the elements and principles of design. They will be exposed to a variety of techniques, styles and media.
2. **Athletics:** 8<sup>th</sup> Girls - Fall sports: Basketball , Softball \*Spring sports: Tennis, Track, Golf  
8<sup>th</sup> Boys – Fall sports: Football, Wrestling, Basketball, Baseball \* Spring sports: Baseball, Golf, Track, Tennis \*All spring sports are after school, as well as, softball.
3. **Automation & Robotics (Tech. Ed)** – 1st semester: Students trace 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 robots, work on listening skills & following directions. Students will have the opportunity to join TSA. Activities include Peanut butter/jelly sandwiches, building robots, gears, teams and group work.
4. **Avid:** Advancement Via Individual Determination is a course that develops learning, study and academic behavioral skills that are essential to success in rigorous coursework. In the AVID elective class, students receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college. AVID includes career exploration develops partnerships with organizations to help students find pathways to careers, and supports and prepares students in degree and certificate programs to be successful in the workforce.
5. **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band:** Advanced Band is composed of students on all of the major woodwind and brass instruments as well as student percussionists. Instruction concentrates on advanced technical and expressive skills in an ensemble-focused setting.
6. **Boy's Wellness:** The goal of this class is to create an environment that would address boy specific topics as well as to educate boys about the importance of “whole self” health and wellness. The class will incorporate diet, exercise, team/character building, personal development, confidence building, self awareness and communication skills.
7. **Current Events:** Students will discuss current issues in the school, town, state, United States or world. We will get information through newspapers, news, Channel One or CNN student news. There will be 2 assignments per week- one writing about a current issue and the other reading a current event article and answering questions or outlining the article.
8. **FACS Basics for 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls:** Family and Consumer Science Basics is a yearlong class designed to provide students with basic information and skills needed to function effectively within the family and within a changing, complex society. Emphasis is given to the development of competencies related to: health/safety procedures related to child care, family and individual health; nutrition and food selection; meal planning preparation, and service; and career skills. Upon completion of this course, the student should have developed basic life skills that promote a positive influence on the quality of life. Student leadership through FCCLA is an integral part of this course. This course has an EOI.
9. **Flight & Space (Tech Ed.)** – 2nd semesters: Students will learn how the exciting world of aerospace comes alive. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel. Students will have the opportunity to join TSA. Activities: Peanut butter/jelly sandwiches, hot air balloons, paper airplanes, kites, teams and group work.
10. **Fundamentals of Technology:** This year long CareerTech and Ok Promise course for 8th/9th graders is designed to provide students with fundamental computer concepts and in depth Windows based professional software knowledge specifically Microsoft Word, Publisher, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. Students will create and edit photos and videos, and utilize applications from Google, Adobe, and the web. They will have the opportunity to create businesses,

collaborate with their peers, and learn basic marketing skills while building websites, making qr codes, and exploring trending technology and media. Students will have the opportunity to join BPA and compete against other students from Oklahoma at the state & national level. This is the prerequisite to all technology, marketing, and business courses at the high school.

11. **Girl's Nutrition and Wellness:** This course introduces students to areas of personal management, wardrobe building, nutrition and food management, health and wellness, and personal relationships. Attention is also focused on assisting students in participation in the Family and Consumer Sciences youth organization –FCCLA. Students are required to work out in the gym two days a week and participate in class activities such as food labs or planning a fashion show. This class is engaging and relevant to today's teenage girls.
12. **Humanities/Social Sciences:** Would you like to learn how to be a better human? Ever wonder what's happening in the whole wide world around you? Would you like to become one of the most interesting people in any room? This is the class for you! We study anthropology, economics, history, political science, psychology, sociology, art appreciation, and much more!
13. **Intro. To Spanish:** A brief survey of familiar vocabulary. We have fun investigating the differences between English speaking and Spanish speaking cultures. Also, we do one project that helps to put student's Spanish skills into practice. It's a fun class that helps students overcome their fears of learning a new language.
14. **Jazz Band:** Jazz Band is for students who already have an understanding of basic music reading, instrument assembly and maintenance, correct playing position and sound tone production. Instruction includes an introduction to the jazz medium, and includes exercises in jazz technique and improvisation. Students must be concurrently enrolled in band.
15. **Library Aides:** This course introduces students to basic library management. Library aides will assist students and staff in locating and using materials in the library media center, as well as perform general secretarial responsibilities such as typing and filing. Library aides will be responsible for circulation of library materials, including, checking in/out books and audio/visual materials, as well as maintaining the library collection. In addition, students will be responsible for shelving books, reading shelves, adding /withdrawing items, mending /repairing items, and assisting with inventory. Students will be expected to read and recommend books, as well as create book trailers, and other visual displays.
16. **Office Aide:** The goal of this class is to assist with office duties. Students in this class will represent the school. They are the first person an AJHS visitor will come in contact with at the school. They must be able to greet visitors with a welcoming attitude. They must be able to answer the telephone using proper telephone etiquette. They will learn how to use all office machines including computer, fax, telephone, copier, and intercom system. In addition to assisting in the main office with day to day office duties they will assist the counselors, teachers, and librarian. Students will learn to interact with the general public, teachers, and students.
17. **Performing Arts:** Performing Arts is an 8th grade entry level course open to everyone. The intention of this course is to develop understanding and enjoyment of theater and how it operates as a unit. In this course the student will participate in live productions and perform two, one- act plays in front of a live audience. The first is at the end of the first semester and the second, right before Spring Break. There is also an opportunity to do some technical theater. It is a participation course; Saturday rehearsals and after school rehearsals are required during Tech week and the week before and the week of the production, in preparation for the show.
18. **Spanish 1:** Is a novice low to novice mid-level class that works through the skills required for acquiring a new language using interpretive, interpersonal and presentational skills in listening, reading, writing and speaking. We learn about culture, comparisons, community, connections,

and communication revolved around learning a new language and about the world around us, as well. We do no less than one project a year to help concrete the language skills we acquire.

**19. Strength & Conditioning:** The purpose of the strength and conditioning class is to increase the student athletes' overall athletic ability as well as teaching those sound nutritional practices. The class requirements are that the student is already enrolled in athletics and have physicals and other paperwork on file because of the intensity of exercise that will take place in the class. The class will use full body weight training in various planes of motion as well as functional strength and footwork drills.

**20. Teen Life 2 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls:** This course is a semester long class designed to assist students in developing essential skills for healthy growth and development. Students will gain skills through setting goals, making good decisions and developing problem solving abilities. The course offers students the opportunity to explore learning through hands on activities in the areas of relationships, physical development, money management, child care, sustainability, and career exploration. The skills gained at this early age will assist in creating a work and family life balance in the future. Student leadership through Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is an integral part of this course.

**21. Vocal Music:** Vocal music is open to students who enjoy music and singing; no prior experience necessary. A variety of music will be studied and sung. Basic music fundamentals will be studied. Students will participate in performances in school for assemblies/programs and will participate in a concert at the end of the school year. Students are encouraged to participate in appropriate enrichment opportunities such as All District Honor Choir, All State Honor Choir, and solo & ensemble competition.