



# BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY

## Middle School Electives Course Selection Guide

### SECOND TRIMESTER 2021-2022

Electives run on an A/B schedule, meaning that they rotate every other day. **Students will register for two electives (one A and one B).** The registration process will be online in the MySchoolBucks system on a seniority basis with 8<sup>th</sup> graders registering first, 7<sup>th</sup> second, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders last. All registrations are on a first come first served basis, so it is crucial that parents sign up when they are allowed.

Within the classes offered each trimester, there are spots for over 400 students. However, every class has a limit to the number of students per class. As you are registering, if the class is not showing in the list, that means it is full and you will need to select one of the open classes.

Several classes require pre-approval from the teacher, so please take that into consideration. These are noted in the class descriptions below. If you register for one of these classes and do not have pre-approval then you will be moved to a vacant class.

We are also limiting the number of students who can sign up for Study Hall, as each student has an advisory class during their schedule each day. This advisory class generally allows students additional time for studying and homework.

The following dates are when the registration window will be available by grade level. **Registration will open at 9 am on the dates listed.** Again, the registration process will take place online in the MySchoolBucks system by grade level seniority. All registrations are on a first-come-first-served basis. If the elective you wanted isn't listed, that means it is full and you must choose another class.

**8th grade: Tuesday, October 26th**

**7th grade: Wednesday, October 27th**

**6th grade: Thursday, October 28th**

**Registration will close at 10 pm on Wednesday, November 3rd.** Students that don't sign up during their registration window will need to meet with Mrs. Boland to be placed into a vacant elective course.

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Boland ([sboland@bfacademy.org](mailto:sboland@bfacademy.org)).

# **2021-2022 2nd TRIMESTER**

## **A DAY CHOICES**

### **ALL THINGS FOOTBALL/Crespo & Macias/Turf or Pierce's Room**

#### **Fee \$5**

#### **Limit 30 Students**

This elective is for students who really enjoy football or would like to become more familiar with the rules and skills of Football. This class will have some actual physical components, however, it will not be a full-time flag football elective. Students will work on football drills, run and devise plays, watch and analyze film of football, look at professional and college stats, create predictions during the bowl season and NFL playoffs, and learn about individual stats, the ranking system, and odds. Students will be splitting the elective between in-class and outside time on the field.

### **COMPUTER STRATEGY SIMULATION/Konesky/Konesky's Room**

#### **No Fee**

#### **Limit 26 Students**

In Forge of Empires, a strategy simulation game, you'll start as the leader of a small village in the Stone Age. Learn how to advance by finding new technologies, managing resources, and producing and trading goods. Expand your territory if you can but you must also ensure your people remain happy! With the right strategy, you can lead your village into the Middle Ages!

### **CURL UP AND READ/Erbaugh/Erbaugh's Room**

#### **No Fee**

#### **Limit 24 Students**

Do you love to read and want time in your school day to unwind and enjoy a good book? You will spend each class reading any book that you would like to read in a calm, quiet room. This is your time to read for pleasure. Are you ready?

### **GENERAL ART/Hinkle/Hinkle's Room**

#### **No Fee**

#### **Limit 15 Students**

In this elective, we will be looking at different artists and artisans and their bodies of work. Using some of their examples, we will practice different styles and techniques to create our own ideas.

### **GIRL'S BASKETBALL/Mares & Knudsen/Lightning Gym**

#### **No Fee**

#### **Limit 25 Students**

Join both girls' basketball coaches in an elective where we will further develop your basketball skills, knowledge, and love for the game while having fun and embracing some friendly competition!

## **HOLLYWOOD vs. HISTORY/C. Johnson/C. Johnson's Room**

**Fee \$10**

Limit 15 Students

Seabiscuit, Cinderella Man, Pearl Harbor, War Horse: all entertaining movies, but how accurate are they? In this elective, you will watch some American classics in addition to some blockbusters with the goal of using the films to enrich the themes studied in social studies class, as well as separating fact from fiction, and history from Hollywood. All movies selected will serve to deepen your understanding of American or World history and enhance your ability to think more critically about Hollywood's treatment of history. Movies and themes discussed will be voted on by students.

## **MATH ENRICHMENT/Harlow/Harlow's Room**

**No Fee**

Limit 26 Students

For those who are struggling to keep up with math homework, struggling with concepts, or in need of test preparation. This elective will provide the needed support.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL/Johnson & Gelley/Thunder Gym/Stage**

**\$40**

Limit 40 Students \*APPLICATION DUE 10/15 REQUIRED\*\* <https://forms.gle/jF9psVo4pr9ZNXrh7>

Perform in the middle school musical, James and the Giant Peach. When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that grows a tremendous peach, rolls into the ocean and launches a journey of enormous proportions. Featuring wickedly tuneful music by the composers of Greatest Showman and Dear Evan Hansen.

There are roles for performers that want to sing solos and performers that do not! All are welcome!

## **MUSICAL THEATRE TECH CREW/Pierce & Hinkle/Thunder Gym/Stage**

**\$25**

Limit 20

The tech crew will be responsible for creating sets, props and costumes for the school musical. During the performance these students will run lights, move props, run special effects and help with actors lines and entrances. You must be free for performances Feb 24th, Feb 25th after school and the 26th in the evening.

## **NJHS TEACHER ASSISTANT/Murphy/1st Meeting, Murphy's Room (then in partner teacher's room)**

**No Fee**

Limit 24 7th and 8th Grade NJHS Students Only

Students in the elective will be paired up with a teacher and will assist this teacher in several different capacities. Students will receive the required Service Hours for this elective.

## **RUBIK'S CUBE MOSAICS/Murphy/Murphy's Room**

**FEE \$15**

Limit 25 Students

Learn to solve and create works of art in The Rubik's® Cube elective! In this class you'll learn to solve with friends and create your own Rubik's Cube mosaics through peer collaboration. Using 100 Rubik's Cubes, students will create mosaics using templates provided as well as templates they create on their own. They will learn how to solve only one side of the Rubik's Cube to create mosaics and learn how to solve all six sides in record time!

## **STUDY HALL/Fritzsche/Commons**

**No Fee**

Limit 15 Students Per Grade Level

Students in this elective will have additional time to complete homework and work on their academic assignments.

## **Websites & Blogs/Tickle/Tickle's Room**

**No Fee**

Limit 26

Design a Blog/Website using Google Sites. In this elective, you will get your creative juices flowing with your writing, videography, photography and maybe tap into some new interests!

## **Yearbook/Svensen/Svensen's Room**

**No Fee**

Limit 22

Come be a part of our 2021-2022 Yearbook Staff. Students take charge of taking pictures, organizing the pages, and using their creativity and editing skills to put together a 120-page yearbook for the entire school. Students get to learn what goes into publishing a book, including working with the company's professional artists for the cover and mastering the Walsworth digital program to create the pages. It's a lot of work, but very rewarding and fun!

# **2021-2022 2nd TRIMESTER**

## **B DAY CHOICES**

### **BOY'S BASKETBALL/Crespo & Macias/Thunder Gym**

**Fee \$10**

Limit 25 Students

Boys interested in playing for the BFA team are encouraged to join this elective, but it is not a requirement to be on the school team. The additional practice time will allow for more work on passing, shooting and dribbling skills. All participants must wear proper basketball attire. We will divide students into small teams and will play games through several mini-tournaments.

### **FIBER ARTS 2.0/Pierce/Pierce's Room**

**Fee \$15**

Limit 26 Students

Bring your creativity and craftiness to this class! Fiber Arts 2.0 is a class for students who want to focus on and learn more about beginning knitting and crocheting. We will learn traditional techniques and try our hands at finger knitting, loom knitting, and various crochet stitches while also experimenting with nontraditional materials like t-shirt yarn and plarn (plastic yarn).

### **FLOOR HOCKEY/Dychus & Babb/Lightning Gym**

**Fee \$5**

Limit 25 Students

In this elective, students will be split into teams and enjoy fun competition playing floor hockey. Emphasis will be on developing fundamental skills, learning positions, and good sportsmanship. Sticks will be provided. Other equipment (such as gloves or shin guards) is optional and must be provided by the student.

### **HEALTH AND EXERCISE 101/Case/Case's Room**

**No Fee**

Limit 26 Students

Are you trying to take the first step in preparing yourself to be a better athlete? Everyone can aspire to challenge themselves to take that first initiative. In this class, I will challenge students to learn about what can take them to a new level in their athletic and fitness journeys. Students will be exposed to kinesiology, sports psychology, overall health and nutrition concepts, and everything they will need to know to build their own exercise routine. For many athletes High School sports is when it gets "real", getting a head start is everything.

### **LEGO CLUB/Inman/Inman's Room**

**Fee \$20**

Limit 28 Students

In LEGO Club the students will complete engineering challenges that will require creative solutions in an interactive and relaxed environment. Come build with us!

### **MATH ENRICHMENT/Harlow/Harlow's Room**

#### **No Fee**

Limit 26 Students

For those who are struggling to keep up with math homework, struggling with concepts, or in need of test preparation. This elective will provide the needed support.

### **MURDER AT OLD FIELDS/Denham/Denham's Room**

#### **Fee \$25.85**

Limit 20 Students

Forensic Science - Evaluate the crime scene of a 1842 double murder at Smith Farms in Old Fields, New York, and perform forensic analysis of hair, blood, fingerprints and more in this blended (online and hands-on) class. Who murdered Alexander and Rebecca Smith? Find out!

### **NJHS TEACHER ASSISTANT/Murphy/1st Meeting, Murphy's Room (then in partner teacher's room)**

#### **No Fee**

Limit 24 7th and 8th Grade NJHS Students Only

Students in the elective will be paired up with a teacher and will assist this teacher in several different capacities. Students will receive the required Service Hours for this elective.

### **RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS/Salberg/Salberg's Room**

#### **Fee \$0**

Limit 24 Students

Do you enjoy making others happy? Are you always the person who goes out of your way to help someone, or do you aspire to be? This elective is designed to spread Random Acts of Kindness. We will work together to come up with ideas on how to spread cheer to those inside our school, as well as members of our community. Let's leave a mark!

### **Short Stories and Animation/Tickle/Tickle's Room**

#### **No Fee**

Limit 14

The purpose of this class is to get your creative juices flowing with your writing and technology skills. We will be composing different short stories and using a program called Frames to animate and narrate your story.

### **STUDY HALL/Schmit/Commons**

#### **No Fee**

Limit 15 Students Per Grade Level

Students in this elective will have additional time to complete homework and work on their academic assignments.

## **THEATRICAL STAGE MAKEUP/J. Johnson/J. Johnson's Room**

### **Fee \$30**

#### **Limit 15 Students**

Scars and Special Effects, Age and Character Makeup, and even Zombies! In Theatrical Stage makeup, students will get hands on experience creating stage worthy makeup that helps bring any character to life. From mythical to monstrous, students will build skills in makeup for the stage. This program is ideal for any student who is interested in the arts and who isn't afraid of a little fake blood!