



## Grand Ledge Beagle Middle School 2022-2023 Elective Course Descriptions



**Band (Full Year)** Students learn and play instruments together in a class that is suited for their individual playing ability, from beginning through advanced. Beginning Band is for those participating for the first time...no music-reading experience required! Those who already play instruments will be assessed for placement in the appropriate group for their level.

**Choir (Full Year)** Have fun singing and learning the basics of music reading in Grand Ledge Middle School Choirs! Choirs are voice separated for a great learning environment for all singers. Grand Ledge Middle choir performs four concerts throughout the year: Fall, Holiday, Festival, and our Spring Pop Concert. Solo opportunities are available throughout the year as well.

**\*\*High School French 1 [8th Grade ONLY] (Full Year)** *This a very rigorous course, taught at the 9th Grade Level, and the final grade will transfer to high school transcript.* French 1 is an introductory course to one of the most popular languages in the world. Students will learn French through a variety of listening, reading, writing, and speaking activities. Some objectives will be: colors, numbers, days/months, greetings/good-byes, and ways to exchange basic information about self and others. As students learn the French language, they will learn about Francophone countries as well.

**\*\*High School German 1 [8th Grade ONLY] (Full Year)** *This a very rigorous course, taught at the 9th Grade Level, and the final grade will transfer to high school transcript.* German 1 is an introductory course to German language and culture. Students will learn German through a variety of listening, reading, writing, and speaking activities. Some objectives will be: colors, numbers, days/months, greetings/good-byes, and ways to exchange basic information about self and others. As students learn the German language, they will learn about German culture and its contributions to society.

**\*\*High School Spanish 1 [8th Grade ONLY] (Full Year)** *This a very rigorous course, taught at the 9th Grade Level, and the final grade will transfer to high school transcript.* Spanish 1 is an introductory course to the second most popular language in our country. Students will learn Spanish through a variety of listening, reading, writing, and speaking activities. Some objectives will be: colors, numbers, days/months, greetings/good-byes, and ways to exchange basic information about self and others. As students learn the Spanish language, they will learn about the Latino culture and its contributions to society.

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**Creative Writing (Trimester)** In this elective, students will write as a form of self-expression while exploring different genres of writing. As a writer, you'll find support and encouragement in judgment-free writing circles. Discover the genres of art journaling, poetry, memoir and short story in this class.

**Health (Trimester) [7th Grade Requirement]** Students learn about stress, nutrition, personal differences, substance abuse, body image, relationships, human sexuality, and risks associated with sexually transmitted infections. (Students may be exempt from the HIV/Human Sexuality Units through a waiver.)

**Intro to Acting (Trimester)** Action! Are you interested in improv, acting and performance? Well, you've come to the right place. This class teaches the many skills needed to become a better actor and performer. This is a very hands-on class and will involve group work, performing and creative thinking. So, if you've looking to get out of your comfort zone or looking to improve your performance skills this is the class for you!

**Musical Theater (Trimester)** Do you love musicals? If so, Musical Theater is the class for you! This one trimester class will go through the casting, rehearsing, and production process of musical theater scenes and songs leading to an end of the trimester performance!

**STEM - Introduction to Computers (Trimester)** This one-trimester course teaches students technology skills to be successful in their core classes. Students will build knowledge and learn new tech skills for the 21st century. Cyber safety, being a positive tech citizen, keyboarding skills and gaining knowledge of the Google and Microsoft Suite programs will be a strong emphasis.

**Exploratory Art (Trimester)** Students will learn how to express their creativity while incorporating the Elements of Art: line, shape, value, form, color, texture and space. Projects may include colored pencil drawings, oil pastel, marker,



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sculpture, painting, traditional and non-traditional materials. Students will also learn about art movements and famous artists from history and present day.

**Mixed Media Art (Trimester)** Focuses on design and color throughout a variety of media/materials. Projects use the Elements of Art and Principles of Design to allow students to explore their creativity while enhancing their artistic skills. Projects may include collage, clay, sculpture, painting and drawing. Students will also learn how to critique artwork in small groups and individually.

**STEAM Based Art (Trimester)** Projects in this class are inspired by the Biological Sciences, Math, Engineering, observational drawing and Technology. Students will learn to plan, create and present their creations as they relate to Elements of Art.

**Physical Education (1-3 Trimesters)** This course is designed to teach and develop skills, so students can play (with confidence) many team and individual sports. It also contains a fitness component, in which cardio and strength are targeted, as well as numerous lifelong skills units.

**STEM - App Creators [Project Lead the Way] (Trimester)** This unit will expose students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society.

**STEM - Automation and Robotics [Project Lead the Way] (Trimester)** 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 real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

**STEM - Computer Science for Innovators and Makers [Project Lead the Way] (Trimester)** This course will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Throughout the course, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life.

**STEM - Introduction to Engineering Design and Modeling [Project Lead the Way] (Trimester)** Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

**STEM - Medical Detectives/Crime Scene Investigation [Project Lead the Way] (Trimester)** This course examines how science is used to collect and analyze evidence in two important fields: medicine and crime scene investigation. Students will start by taking on the role of real-life medical detectives as they solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs. Students will measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structures and function, and investigate disease outbreaks. In the second half of the class, students will focus on some of the forensic science techniques and practices that can be used to help solve crimes. Evidence that students will examine includes fingerprints (their own, and those of others) handwriting and ink chromatography among others.

**Scan here to register for 7th Grade Classes:**

*(You must be signed in using your student GLComets Account)*



<https://forms.gle/GEfAKcq9aMfuTdfm8>

**Scan here to register for 8th Grade Classes:**

*(You must be signed in using your student GLComets Account)*



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