

1 or 2 Semesters	Descriptions of Elective Choices
1 Semester	7th grade Art - This course is designed to provide an appreciation for art and to give students an opportunity to try a variety of art making techniques. There is also an emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and individual development. The course might include: drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture.
1 Semester	8th grade Art - Students will receive instruction in the basic principles and elements of art and art history. Creativity is encouraged and taught through a variety of techniques using various artistic mediums. A focus on 2-dimension will possibly include pencil, marker, colored pencil, paint, pastel, and/or conte crayon. Working with sculpture may include paper mache, construction paper, or clay. Time limitations will determine how many mediums we are able to work with.
1 Semester Required	Personal Wellness (PE/Health) - The purpose of this class is to empower students with tools to maintain a balanced health triangle emotionally, socially, and physically. Emphasis will be on improving physical fitness. Assessments and goal setting. Requirement for success: Appropriate athletic shoes and clothing daily, proper participation in activities, positive mental attitude, and completion of required assignments. (Required Course)
1 Semester	7th & 8th grade Sports and Recreation - Basketball, dance, soccer, volleyball, and tennis are just a few sports and recreational activities to have fun with friends, to make new friends, to improve health and self-esteem. Unique outdoor opportunities only available to sports and recreation students will have you out of your seat and smiling ear to ear. Being physically active during your school day is not only proven to make you feel better, it is also connected to improved focus and higher grades. <u>Requirement for success:</u> Athletic shoes and clothing daily, appropriate communication and cooperation with peers, and a positive mental attitude.
1 Semester	Introduction to World Cultures - Students taking this course will spend 6 weeks each studying French, German, and Spanish. The course goes through various units exploring different vocabulary, geography, and cultural aspects of the three languages. This course has an emphasis on organization and study skills to help prepare students for what is expected in foreign language classes at the high school level. (<i>Prerequisite for Advanced World Cultures. Students who complete Intro to WC in 7th grade cannot take this course again in 8th grade</i>)
1 Semester	8th grade Advanced World Cultures - This course is a continuation of Introduction to World Cultures. It is geared to maximize comprehension of the different languages offered at the high school level: French, German, and Spanish. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the presented vocabulary by creating projects and presentations that specifically spotlight their comprehension. We will compare each language and their histories and cultures, and use creative outlets to display new learning.
1 Semester	7th grade Project Lead the Way - (PLTW is PMMS's S.T.E.M. class) ' <i>App Creators.</i> ' This curriculum will expose students to computer science as a means of 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.
1 Semester	8th grade Project Lead The Way - (PLTW is PMMS's S.T.E.M. class) ' <i>Engineering, Design, & Medical Detectives.</i> ' Students will begin by learning about the engineering Design Process and how to think critically to engineer solutions to real-world problems in team based units using modern design & 3D modeling practices. They will then transition into 'Medical Detectives.' PLTW Medical detectives explores types of medical careers (EMT, forensic pathologist, detective, etc) and defines the common responsibilities of these jobs. Students will also experience hands on ways to take vital signs like a medical detective, recording peers' temperature, blood pressure, and heart rate. Students will also explore human anatomy and physiology of the human brain by dissecting a sheep brain and identifying parts as well as possibly even identifying life threatening neurological abnormalities.