

## 2021-2022 Sarasota Suncoast Academy Elective Course Selection Procedures & Guidelines

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**What is an Elective?** Electives are classes you take based on your interests. Course descriptions are included in this packet for our electives. According to the Middle School Progression Plan, all students will take Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies Core Classes. The level of each of these classes is determined based on students' needs.

**How many Electives can I take?** You can take two\* elective classes. One of those electives must be Physical Education (PE) unless you fill out a PE Waiver. If you complete a PE Waiver, and if there is space available in other electives, you will not have to take PE.

**How do I choose my Elective classes?** Complete and submit the elective selection form accurately and before the April 23rd deadline. Please note this is a REQUEST form. Choices are not guaranteed. Preference will be given to the forms that are submitted by April 23rd.

**The steps you and your parent/guardian must follow to complete your request for electives are:**

1. Review your elective options on the elective selection form and course descriptions.
2. If you plan to take PE, **then your first or second choice MUST be PE**. If you are not taking PE, **you must complete the attached PE waiver form**.
3. Make **5** selections on the elective selection form by ranking them in order of preference with 1 as your top choice and 5 as your last choice. You may make more than 5 selections, but you must make at least 5.
4. Your parent/guardian must sign the elective selection form. If necessary, your parent/guardian must sign the PE waiver.
5. **Submit your preferences to Sarasota Academy Middle:**
  - a. Follow the link below to enter your preferences and upload your documents <https://forms.gle/TKSRLc4xPGYJeGex7>
  - b. Complete the form by filling out all the required information.
  - c. Upload your completed elective selection form as well as your PE Waiver, if necessary.

Have questions? E-mail Mrs. Peggs at [erin.peggs@suncoastacademy.org](mailto:erin.peggs@suncoastacademy.org)

\*Please note that if it is determined that you need additional support in a Core Class (Language Arts, Math, Science or Social Studies) one or more of your elective periods may be used to provide this support.

## Sarasota Suncoast Academy Elective Course Descriptions

The following elective course descriptions are intended to provide Suncoast students and parents with information to aid in the selection of elective courses. Please review carefully before making your selection(s).

**CHORUS** 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.

**VISUAL ART** Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

**ORCHESTRA** Students who have little or no experience on violin, viola, cello, bass, or harp explore high-quality music literature written or transcribed for string orchestra. Study includes the development of foundational instrumental ensemble techniques, performance skills, music literacy, and aesthetic awareness. 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. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

**BAND** Students who have little or no experience on flute, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, tuba and percussion instruments explore learning and developing skills to play these instruments. Study includes the development of foundational instrumental ensemble techniques, performance skills, music literacy, and aesthetic awareness. 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. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

**GIUITAR** Students who have little to no experience in playing the guitar will learn to play, read music notation and tablature.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** Students will participate in team/individual activities which promote athletic skills and personal fitness.

**SPANISH** Students will learn basic language skills including listening, reading, writing and speaking. The culture and history of Spanish speaking countries will be introduced. No prior Spanish Language experience is required. Typical placement has Sixth graders taking beginning, Seventh graders taking intermediate and 8th graders take Spanish 1 for a High School credit. FSA scores are considered for placement as well as teacher recommendation for Spanish 1.

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** These paired semester courses will allow students to learn the basics of computer hardware and software concepts including operating systems, file management, common applications, digital citizenship and safe computing, the basics of Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets and introduction to coding with students creating a website using HTML and CSS. This course is required if you want to take Computer Applications TWO. This course cannot be repeated.

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TWO** Delve deeper into the various Google and Microsoft Software Applications. This course may not be repeated.

**EMERGING TECHNOLOGY** This course explores Information Technology careers with the knowledge and of Internet connection methods, cloud computing, mobile devices, software development, databases, Internet security and effective communication using social networking tools. Students will learn business skills along with Microsoft Software Applications. Students will research new technologies for a capstone project. ETB is for high school credit and students will take a high school level industry certification. This class can be taken by 7th and 8th graders. Placement for this course is based on FSA levels and prior Technology courses.

**STEM** Designed to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the areas of STEM Occupations. Students receive initial exposure to the skills and attitudes associated with occupations in a diverse range of careers and will learn to gather data through research, including a required STEM project.

**Sarasota Suncoast Academy Middle Grades**  
**8084 Hawkins Road, Sarasota, FL 34241**  
**941-924-4242 FAX: 941-924-8282**

**2021-2022 Elective Selection Form**

**Instructions:** Complete the form below and return to Suncoast Academy Middle by entering choices into the Online Google form found on [www.SuncoastAcademy.org](http://www.SuncoastAcademy.org). Preferences will be given to the forms that are submitted by April 23rd. This is a request form and not a guarantee. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Peggs at 941-924-4242 or [erin.peggs@suncoastacademy.org](mailto:erin.peggs@suncoastacademy.org).

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ N#: \_\_\_\_\_

**All Electives are Full Year Courses**

Rank elective selections in order of preference with 1,2,3,4,5. Please select at least five.

**Physical Education (must select as 1st or 2nd choice if PE Waiver not completed)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Physical Education (PE)

**Art & Foreign Language**

\_\_\_\_\_ Art

\_\_\_\_\_ Spanish - Beginning, Intermediate & Spanish 1

(Have you taken Spanish before? Circle One Yes No)

**Music**

\_\_\_\_\_ Band

\_\_\_\_\_ Orchestra

\_\_\_\_\_ Guitar

\_\_\_\_\_ Chorus

**Computer/Technology**

\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Applications/Information Technology

\_\_\_\_\_ Emerging Technology (Have you taken class above? Circle One Yes No)

\_\_\_\_\_ STEM

Additional Scheduling Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name & Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PE WAIVER MUST BE COMPLETE IF STUDENT DOES NOT WANT PE**