

Every Nowlin student will take 6 classes over the course of the school day. A student's schedule will consist of 5 required classes per day and 1 Elective class per day.

### Required Classes

Each student is required to take the following classes for the entire school year.

- English Language Arts (ELA)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education

### Elective Classes

In addition to the required courses listed above, students will participate in elective classes. If a student chooses to participate in Band, Choir, or Orchestra, he/she will participate in this class each day all year long. Remaining Elective courses are semester long classes. Elective classes include (class descriptions on the back):

- Band  
 Flute, Trumpet, Clarinet, French Horn, Saxophone, Trombone, Baritone/Tuba, Percussion\*  
 \*Enrollment in Percussion is by director approval only.
- Orchestra  
 Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass
- Choir
- Visual Arts
- Acting and Debate
- Intro to Technology
- Foreign Cultures
- Intro to Gateway

### Academic Support Classes

Nowlin Middle School is pleased to offer two additional academic support classes, Essentials in Literacy and Essentials in Mathematics. Students in need of additional academic support in literacy and/or math will be enrolled in one of these two classes. These classes will replace the Elective class choice and placement is determined by student's academic performance.

### Elective Class Options

Students must select 1 of the 2 Elective course options below.

#### Option #1:

Select **ONE** Performing Group

**Band\***

(Circle Instrument Choice)  
 Flute, Trumpet, Clarinet,  
 French Horn, Saxophone,  
 Trombone, Baritone/Tuba,  
 Percussion\*

**Orchestra\***

(Circle Instrument Choice)  
 Violin, Viola, Cello, String Bass

**Choir**

**\*The financial obligation of the purchase or rental of a Band or Orchestra instrument is the sole responsibility of the student/parent. Local instrument vendors will be present during our Fall Open House event to support the rental/purchase of instruments.**

**OR**

#### Option #2:

Rank sections below with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; you will be assigned **TWO** of these classes, one each semester.

\_\_\_\_\_ Acting and Debate      \_\_\_\_\_ Foreign Cultures      \_\_\_\_\_ Visual Arts  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Intro to Technology      \_\_\_\_\_ Intro to Gateway

Please turn this form to your elementary school by March 13<sup>th</sup>. We ask that a parent provide a signature below to verify a review of this form prior to submission.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Elective Class Descriptions

### Acting and Debate

Acting and Debate is an introductory course that provides students a variety of ways to perform and speak in front of their peers in a comfortable environment. Students will create short one act plays, a silent film using pantomime, and learn characterization through storytelling. They will also learn basic theater concepts such as stage and body positions. Students will use research skills to write a debate using voice and reasoning. Students will then refute by evaluating and disproving their opponent's case. Students will participate in a variety of theater activities (games) to assist them in feeling relaxed while speaking in front of their peers.

### Band

At Nowlin Middle School, students have the opportunity to begin their secondary instrumental music education. One of the options provided is BAND! Our students are able to be in instrument-based classes ie: flutes; clarinets; saxophones; trumpets; French horn; trombone & baritone; tuba; and percussion. In this set-up, students are able to get instruction on their instrument by specialists working with one instrument at a time.

\*Students interested in percussion must meet with Mr. Molina to audition at our Elective Night.

### Choir

Choir is for students who like to sing and want to learn how to do it better. The choir meets daily within the school day. There are evening performances, and students are challenged on a wide variety of songs. Students will learn how to explore their voice, and how to best and safely use it to perform. No need to be a soloist, or have a lot of experience singing, just a hard working attitude!

### Introduction to Gateway

This course will serve as an introduction to the Project Lead the Way curriculum. If your student is potentially interested in the engineering field, this course will prepare students for Engineering Fundamentals and Introduction to Computer Science, electives they will be able to take in 7th grade. It will also cover some basics of internet safety, touch typing, and file management.

### Introduction to Technology

This course will provide a comprehensive overview of basic technology skills that every student will need for the future. We will cover touch typing, internet safety, digital citizenship, Microsoft Office, Google Apps, basic coding, and multi-media tools.

### Foreign Cultures

Foreign Cultures is a semester long course that introduces various aspects of other countries. Topics will include language, holidays, geography and more.

### Orchestra

Orchestra is a class that combines fun, music, and exploring the world of Strings. We include only the violin, viola, cello, and bass. We have many students who play other instruments at home like the piano and guitar that join us to learn a different instrument and be part of a group. Orchestra is a great way to be part of a team as well as learn a lifelong skill.

### Physical Education

Through our physical education program, students will be provided with the knowledge and skills to value and apply physical activity and its benefit for a lifetime. Our program provides students with the knowledge, skills, fitness, and attitude necessary to lead an active, fit and healthy life. The learning of motor and skill development, cognitive assessment, team-building, and social interaction are crucial for one's overall fitness. Some of the units involved in our curriculum include archery, basketball, weight training, volleyball, hockey, Frisbee golf, and spike ball. Overall, the goal is to have our students develop an understanding of lifelong fitness and instill healthy living at a young age to create positive lifestyle choices and patterns for a lifetime.

### Visual Arts

Much like in elementary art, Visual Art students will explore art materials to create original works of art. They will continue to build on their knowledge of Elements of Design (Line, Shape, Color, Value, Form, Texture, and Space) through new projects and experiences. Students will also learn to develop individual viewpoints about art and how it impacts the world we live in.