

Bear River School Course Catalog

2023 – 2024

Elective Choices

Advanced Band

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: One year of beginning band or audition

Elective

Students develop their knowledge of music as they learn new skills and reach higher performance levels in the Falcon Concert Band and the Falcon Marching Band. Instruments are provided by the school for use during the class. Students are required to perform at several concerts to earn a passing grade. Students are graded on their participation in both classroom rehearsals and all performances. Advanced Band students participate in the Spring Festival trip which takes place in May.

Ag Art

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course will allow students hands on opportunities through wood projects, painting, sculpting with clay and flower projects. Students will learn to use the scroll saw for some wood projects. Students will learn to sculpt different garden statues using clay and finally you will learn the art of floral design by arranging flowers. Students will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Ag Art CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course will give students hands on opportunities through wood projects, painting, sculpting with clay and flower projects. Students will learn to use the scroll saw for some wood projects. Students will learn to sculpt different garden statues using clay and finally students will learn the art of floral design by arranging flowers. Students will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Ag Horticulture 6th grade only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course is a very hands-on, active participation type of class. If you like movement and getting your hands dirty, this is the class to have. If you like to work with younger students, this class is the answer. The focus will be on the development and production of different plant crops. You will mentor kindergarten and preschool students several times during the school year. You will also learn different floral techniques and get to apply what you have learned by creating floral arrangements every month. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Electives cont.

Ag Horticulture 1 CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course is a very hands-on, active participation type of class. If you like movement and getting your hands dirty, this is the class to have. If you like to work with younger students, this class is the answer. The focus will be on the development and production of different plant crops. You will mentor Kindergarten and preschool students several times during the school year. You will also learn different floral techniques and get to apply what you have learned by creating floral arrangements every month. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course. **This is a prerequisite for CTE Horticulture 2.**

Ag Horticulture 2 CTE

Grade Level (s): 8

Prerequisite: Horticulture I CTE

Elective

This course is a very hands-on, active participation type of class. If you like movement and getting your hands dirty, this is the class to have. If you like to work with younger students, this class is the answer. The focus will be on the development and production of different plant crops. You will mentor Kindergarten and preschool students several times during the school year. You will also learn different floral techniques and get to apply what you have learned by creating floral arrangements every month. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course. **Must have completed CTE Ag Horticulture 1. You will receive Wheatland High School course credit for The Art & History of Floral Design with successful course completion of both Ag Horticulture 1 and Ag Horticulture 2.**

Ag Projects 6th grade only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

If you like to create and build, you have found your elective class. In this class you will learn how to work with wood. You will learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary for woodworking and carpentry. You will create projects using various skills learned. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Ag Projects 1 CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

If you like to create and build, you have found your elective class. In this class you will learn how to work with wood. You will learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary for woodworking and carpentry. You will create projects using various skills learned. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course. **This class is a prerequisite to Ag Projects 2. This class will be based in the shop.**

Electives cont.

Ag Projects 2 CTE

Grade Level (s): 8

Prerequisite: Ag Projects 1

Elective

If you like to create and build, you have found your elective class. In this class you will learn how to work with wood. You will learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary for woodworking and carpentry. You will create projects using various skills learned. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

You must have completed CTE Ag Project 1.

STEM- 6th Grade Only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Students will be introduced to STEM concepts and how these concepts relate to the real world. This discovery course will include a variety of science, technology, engineering, and math labs taught through agriculture that will promote critical thinking and collaboration among students. The labs are designed for students to apply basic engineering principles. In addition, students will help with the creation and facilitation of the nursery aquaponics system (using live fish to grow plants without soil) and vermiculture project (using worms to convert organic waste into nutrient rich soil). You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Ag STEM CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Students will be introduced to STEM concepts and how these concepts relate to the real world. This discovery course will include a variety of science, technology, engineering, and math labs taught through agriculture that will promote critical thinking and collaboration among students. The labs are designed for students to apply basic engineering principles. In addition, students will help with the creation and facilitation of the nursery aquaponics system (using live fish to grow plants without soil) and vermiculture project (using worms to convert organic waste into nutrient rich soil). You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Electives cont.

Agriscience Class

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Have you always questioned the world around you? Have you been interested in learning how and why things work? You will have an opportunity to run your very own Agriscience experiments. Do you love hands on learning where YOU get to decide what you test and research? If you can answer “yes” to these questions, this is your class! In this class you will prepare an Agriscience Fair project for competition at the State FFA conference (you can win money!), and possibly the National FFA conference where you will earn the opportunity to travel to Indianapolis Indiana! Come join us for an experience you won’t forget!

Ag STEM CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Students will be introduced to STEM concepts and how these concepts relate to the real world. This discovery course will include a variety of science, technology, engineering, and math labs taught through agriculture that will promote critical thinking and collaboration among students. The labs are designed for students to apply basic engineering principles. In addition, students will help with the creation and facilitation of the nursery aquaponics system (using live fish to grow plants without soil) and vermiculture project (using worms to convert organic waste into nutrient rich soil). You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Art

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Our art program offers a variety of activities. Students create many art projects that we are pleased to display throughout our school, district, and community. Our program is designed as an introduction to art where students will learn and analyze the elements and principles of art while developing their visual arts knowledge and vocabulary. Students are exposed to several art mediums.

Beginning Band

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Open to all middle school grades. Students gain knowledge of music as they learn how to play band instruments and perform in the Falcon Concert Band and the Falcon Marching Band. Students may choose to study brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. These are provided by the school for us during the class. Students are required to perform at several concerts to earn a passing grade. Students are graded on their participation in both classroom rehearsals and all performances. Beginning Band students participate in the Spring Festival trip which takes place in May.

Electives cont.

BRTV- 6th Grade Only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course is basic introduction to the equipment and techniques of video production. Students gain basic knowledge and experience with hands-on assignments involving video cameras, video, and audio editing, writing and special effects. Practical applications include broadcasts of school news, BRTV. Examples of student projects during the year can include PSA's, commercials, short films, music video, filming and editing class presentations, and school sporting events.

BRTV 1 CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course is basic introduction to the equipment and techniques of video production. Students gain basic knowledge and experience with hands-on assignments involving video cameras, video, and audio editing, writing and special effects. Practical applications include broadcasts of school news, BRTV. Examples of student projects during the year can include PSA's, commercials, short films, music video, filming and editing class presentations, and school sporting events. This course will combine competencies in film, video, computer, and live production, as well as foundational knowledge in design to introduce students to a variety of jobs in the multimedia/communications/game design workforce. Students will also explore career options within this rapidly expanding industry sector.

BRTV 2 CTE

Grade Level (s): 8

Prerequisite: BRTV I CTE

Elective

This course is an intermediate course designed to add to student knowledge, and hands on experiences with equipment and techniques of video production. Students gain intermediate skills knowledge and experience with hands-on assignments involving video cameras, video, and audio editing, writing and special effects. Practical applications include broadcasts of school news, BRTV, PSA's, commercials, short films, music video, filming and editing class presentations, and school sporting events. Students will also have to opportunity to submit their work to the national Student Television Network's This course will combine competencies in film, video, computer, and live production, video and audio switching equipment, motions graphics as well as foundational knowledge in design to introduce students to a variety of jobs in the multimedia/communications/game design workforce. Students will also explore career options within this rapidly expanding industry sector.

Choir

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Open to all middle school grades. Students gain knowledge of music as they learn how to sing, read music, and perform as a choral ensemble. The class will use music from a variety of styles and cultures. Students will learn good rehearsal etiquette and high-performance standards.

Electives cont.

Computer Animation- 6th Grade Only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course allows students to create animation projects using principles of design to combine graphics, images, and sound. A variety of techniques will be explored, including storyboarding, scripting/programming, inter-activity, and rendering. The emphasis will be on utilizing the features in Crazy Talk 7 a photo animation tool that uses sound and text to vividly animate facial images and Crazy Talk Animator, a new approach to traditional 2D animation with innovative new tools that allow users to apply full body 3D motions to 2D characters. Students will also have an introduction to Adobe After Effects, a digital visual effect, motion graphics, and compositing application.

Computer Animation CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

This course allows students to create animation projects using principles of design to combine graphics, images, and sound. A variety of techniques will be explored, including storyboarding, scripting/programming, inter-activity, and rendering. The emphasis will be on utilizing the features in Crazy Talk 7 a photo animation tool that uses sound and text to vividly animate facial images and Crazy Talk Animator, a new approach to traditional 2D animation with innovative new tools that allow users to apply full body 3D motions to 2D characters. Students will also have an introduction to Adobe After Effects, a digital visual effect, motion graphics, and compositing application. This course provides students with a foundational understanding of digital design, tools, processes, and systems common to careers in graphic arts and digital production. This course serves as an introductory course to a variety of AME Pathways including, Graphic Arts, Professional, Photography, Animation, and Game Design.

Falcon Gardens

Grade Level (s) 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Do you dream of opening your own business? This is the class for you. This course will give students hands on opportunities through understanding how to manage and market a successful working nursery. In this course students will be involved in setting up and managing the new greenhouse plant sales weekly. Students will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Forensics

This course introduces students to the science field of forensics. Students will take on the role of crime scene investigators in order to solve fictional crimes using fingerprints, blood tracing, DNA typing, fibers, tracks and remains, blood, chemical residues, entomology (insects), as well as evidence collection. Students will also be introduced to a variety of forensic science careers.

Electives cont.

Intro to Animal Science CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Students get hands on opportunities observing the lifecycle of various animals. They will have real-life experiences to learn about animal husbandry and care for animals such as chicks, fish, worms, goats and horses. Students will have opportunities to explore various body systems of animals and their functions and differences. Students will have the opportunity to be in FFA in the course. **All 7th and 8th grade students taking an animal to the Yuba County Fair must enroll in this elective.**

Leadership

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: Placement is made by the Leadership teacher once an interview selection process has been completed.

Elective

The Leadership class is designed to offer students the opportunity to develop skills necessary to become leaders in their school and in the community. Students will learn how to effectively work with others, set goals, communicate ideas, plan, and coordinate activities, promote school spirit, and become an active member of the community. Students must fill out an application to be eligible for the class.

Percussion 1

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Elective

Open to all middle school grades. Preference is given to students with band experience. Students gain knowledge of music as they learn how to play marching percussion instruments and perform as part of the Falcon Marching Band. All students will learn rudiments and form, as well as reading and memorizing of music for performances. Instruments are provided by the school for use during the class. Students are required to perform at several concerts to earn a passing grade. Students are graded on their participation in both classroom rehearsals and all performances. Percussion students participate in the Spring Festival trip which takes place in May.

Flex Choices

Ag Projects Flex 6th grade only

Grade Level (s): 6

Prerequisite: None

Flex

If you like to create and build, you have found your elective class. In this class you will learn how to work with wood. You will learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary for woodworking and carpentry. You will create projects using various skills learned. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Flex Choices

Ag Projects 1 CTE Flex

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

If you like to create and build, you have found your elective class. In this class you will learn how to work with wood. You will learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary for woodworking and carpentry. You will create projects using various skills learned. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course. **This class is a prerequisite to Ag Projects 2. This class will be based in the shop.**

Animal Explorations – Where the Wild Things Are

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Students will participate in a variety of activities that explore all types of animals. Activities will include but are not limited to: art, animal care, learning classifications, raising animals, field trips, guest speakers, and experiments.

Art Flex

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Our art program offers a variety of activities. Students create many art projects that we are pleased to display throughout our school, district, and community. Our program is designed as an introduction to art where students will learn and analyze the elements and principles of art while developing their visual arts knowledge and vocabulary. Students are exposed to several art mediums.

Drama

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Students in this class will have an opportunity to learn the art of performance. Lessons on acting technique, voice control and projection will be introduced to students who show an interest in performing. Opportunities for performances will be developed through the year as students build confidence and skill.

Flex Choices

Coding

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Learning to code involves learning how to think methodically – what is known as “Computational Thinking”. Students that learn to code, learn how to take difficult problems and break them down into their root components, making it easier to find effective solutions. Coding teaches students deep analysis and strong problem-solving skills. This course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. Students will utilize coding to build and design games, animations, and other digital media, utilizing a variety of coding languages to create their games and digital media.

English Learner Assigned Class

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

This class is designed to build language, improve literacy skills, and content knowledge for Long Term English Learners. The academic emphases of this course are: 1) language development, 2) academic vocabulary acquisition, and 3) reading comprehension. Support is designed to assist students in making connections to science, math, and social studies core content reason. The course uses an inquiry-based process, teaching literacy skills, building on background knowledge and constructing background knowledge if students do not possess it. Students learn basic organization and social skills that help them better understand how to achieve academic success. Students engage in lessons with culminating writing and oral projects, which are supported with the use of research-based strategies for teaching reading and writing, as well as access strategies for English Learners.

Falcon Gardens

Grade Level (s) 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Do you dream of opening your own business? This is the class for you. This course will give students hands on opportunities through understanding how to manage and market a successful working nursery. In this course you will be involved in setting up and managing the new greenhouse plant sales weekly. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in this course.

Intro to Animal Science CTE

Grade Level (s): 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

Students get hands on opportunities observing the lifecycle of various animals. They will have real-life experiences to learn about animal husbandry and care for animals such as chicks, fish, worms, goats and horses. Students will have opportunities to explore various body systems of animals and their functions and differences. You will have the opportunity to be in FFA in the course.

Flex Choices

Intro to Piano

Grade Level (s):6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

In *Intro to Piano* students will learn basic music theory and piano skills on a digital keyboard. Student will learn songs at their own pace to impress their friends and family!

Intro to Robotics

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

This class is for students who have very little or no experience in robotics and programming. This class will have robot building but will focus on learning how to program basic robots.

Paths to Success

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

The goal of this class is to provide students with the opportunity, tools, and materials to understand plan and achieve a positive academic experience through their middle school years. Students will develop organizational skills. Students will develop long and short terms goals with measurable objectives to track their progress towards those goals. They will understand the value of their education and the importance of these middle school years in building a foundation for successful high school career and adult life.

PE Games

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None

Flex

PE Games is a physical education related course offered during the flex period as an additional opportunity for students to compete in team sports. Developing teamwork strategies, sportsmanship and participation are stressed and grades are based on class conduct as well as participation. Students are expected to dress-out daily.

Flex Choices

Renaissance (Reni Flex)

Grade Level (s): 6-8

Prerequisite: None
Flex

Do you like planning events? If you do, take the Renaissance class, and plan our school Renaissance rallies. Do you like giving gifts? This class allows you to reward others for their achievements. Are you creative? In this class, we design and develop decorations, posters, events, awards, and fun activities. Students will build their organizational, cooperative learning, public speaking, technology, and leadership skills. Goal setting and personal growth opportunities will also be addressed. They will help in organizing and creating our Renaissance rallies, Renaissance Wednesday activities, and many other on-site spirit-building functions. This year students will not be working in the shop or greenhouse.

Sign Language -Beginning

Grade Level (s): 6-8
Prerequisite: None
Flex

American Sign Language (ASL). Students will focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, numbers, colors, facial grammar, and sentence structure; students will also learn conversational/cultural behaviors necessary to hold a beginning-level conversation in ASL, with deaf/hard-of-hearing native users of the language. Introductory information about deaf culture will also be presented to provide students with a broad picture of language and culture. This class is for beginning/first year student students only.

Study Hall

Grade Level (s): 6-8
Prerequisite: None
Flex

A period set aside during the school day for students to work independently or receive academic assistance from a teacher. Students will work on time management, organization, and work completion skill

Yearbook

Grade Level (s): 6-8
Prerequisite: None
Flex

Students who are artistic, computer literate, or who may have interest in digital photography and/or scrapbooking should ask their current teacher to make a recommendation on their behalf. Students should be responsible, able to take initiative, attend after school activities and be self- motivated.