Menlo Park Academy
Developing the Potential of Gifted Learners

Elective-Schedule Development Survey

Creating a master schedule based on the "Whole Child" philosophy, which provides room for differentiation and acceleration, is an incredibly complicated undertaking. As Menlo Park Academy continues to hone our curriculum, it is important we take parent and student feedback and course preference into consideration when constructing a replicable and sustainable upper school offerings. Therefore, you and your child's (or children's) input is highly valued at MPA.

Please take the time to carefully read each question with your MPA student(s) and thoughtfully respond. Surveys that are incorrectly filled out will not be counted in an attempt to eliminate data compilation errors. Your responses are confidential and we ask that you **do not** write your name anywhere on the survey. Furthermore, please note that this survey is **not** a course registration form for the 2014-2015 school year.

A list of course descriptions is attached to the survey for your convenience.

Have your student return the survey to their homeroom advisory teacher no later than: _____

Thank you in advance for your sincere consideration and support of MPA's effort to advance its students' academic experience.

Section One: Technology Courses

1. *Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (or children's) level of interest for each of the following courses. Please place a check ☑ in the appropriate box for each.

Technology Courses	No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested
Digital Photography with Manipulation				
Digital Photography with Stop Animation				
Movie Making				
HTML (not currently offered)				
JAVA (not currently offered)				
Keyboarding (not currently offered)				

2. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of technology courses. Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference. Place a number in each box.

Course Duration	Rank Order
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

3. *Technology Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking technology courses during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested

Section Two: Engineering Courses

1. *Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (or children's) level of interest for each of the following courses. Please place a check ☑ in the appropriate box for each.

Engineering Course	No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested
General Engineering				
Lego Robotics				

2. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of engineering courses.   Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference.   Place a number in each box.

Course Duration	Rank Order
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

3. *Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking engineering courses during the 2014-2015 school year.   Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested

Section Three: Language

1. *Course Interest Ranking:*
   Please **rank** from 1 to 5 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) language preference. Place a number in each box.

Language Course	Rank Order
Spanish	
French	
Japanese	
Russian	
German	

2. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of language courses.   Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference.   Place a number in each box.

Course Duration	Rank Order
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

3. *Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (or children's) level of interest for each of the following courses. Please place a check ☑ in the appropriate box for each.

Language Courses	No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested
Spanish				
French				
Japanese				
Russian				
German				
Chinese (not currently offered)				

4. *Language Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking language courses during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested

Section Four: Music and Performing Arts

1. *Course Interest Ranking:*
   Please **rank** from 1 to 3 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) music preference. Place a number in each box.

Music Course	Rank Order
General Music	
Choir	
Band	

2. *Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (or children's) level of interest for each of the following courses. Please place a check ☑ in the appropriate box for each.

Music Course	No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested
General Music				
Choir				
Band				

3. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of music courses. Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference .   Place a number in each box.

Course Duration	Rank Order
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

4. *Music Course Interest <u>Rating</u>:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking another music class <u>in addition to </u>General Music during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested

5. *Theater Course Interest <u>Rating</u>:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking Theater during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested

Section Five: Art

1. *Course Interest <u>Rating</u>:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (or children's) level of interest for each of the following courses. Please place a check ☑ in the appropriate box for each.

Art Course	No Interest	Little Interest	Interested	Very Interested
General Art				
3D Art				
Modern Art				
Art Interests				
Drawing				

2. *Course Interest <u>Ranking:</u>*
   Please **rank** from 1 to 5 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) art preference.
   Place a number in each box.

Art Course	Rank Order
General Art	
3D Art	
Modern Art	
Art Interests	
Drawing	

3. *Course Length Preference <u>Ranking</u>:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of art courses.   Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference.   Place a number in each box.

Course Duration	Rank Order
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

4. *Art Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking another art course <u>in addition to</u> General Art during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	*Little Interest*	*Interested*	*Very Interested*

Section Six: Physical Education (PE)

1. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of PE class. Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference. Place number in each box.

Course Duration	*Rank Order*
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

Section Seven: Business Education

1. *Business Course Interest Rating:*
   Please **rate** you and your child's (children's) level of interest in taking business courses during the 2014-2015 school year. Place a check ☑ in the appropriate box below.

No Interest	*Little Interest*	*Interested*	*Very Interested*

2. *Course Length Preference Ranking:*
   MPA would like your input on the duration of business courses. Please **rank** from 1 to 4 (1=top choice, 2=second choice, etc.) you and your child's (children's) duration preference. Place number in each box.

Course Duration	*Rank Order*
Year Long	
Semester	
Trimester	
Quarter	

Section Seven: Student Data and Parent Comments

1. *Student Data*
   Please write the <u>number</u> of children you have in each grade this <u>current</u> school year. Only include children that go to MPA. You may leave boxes blank for grades your children are not in.

____	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Number of Children					

2. *Parent Comments: Optional*

_____

_____

_____

_____

<div align="center">**Course Descriptions:**</div>

<u>**Art**</u>

General Music:
General Art is a survey course designed to allow students the opportunity to explore various forms of art, learning about different art movements and world cultures. Working from a foundation of drawing, students will create works in paint, pastel, printmaking, and three dimensional media. Art History and Art Criticism are woven into the students experience as they make connections between artists, social context, and personal expression.

Drawing:
Learn the basics of observational drawing, giving you a great foundation for all art disciplines! We will cover still life, gesture, figure drawing, perspective, proportion, contour line and much more!

3D Art:
Leave the flat stuff behind as we explore art in the round! In this course we will use a wide variety of materials; from wire to glass, even clay and found objects, to create three dimensional masterpieces. Learning about composition and the basics of sculpture, we will take our art to the next level!

Modern Art:
In this course students study artistic movements from the 1920's through today. We discuss these various movement's artists, artwork, and the impact it had on the culture of that time as well as today. The students create projects associated with each movement to better understand the processes in which these art works were created.

Art Interests:
In this course students study non-western art from different cultures such as Egypt, Australia, China, the Middle East, and more! We discuss the culture as well as the art works created by the artists of that region. Students create projects using similar processes to the artists to encourage a deeper understanding of the way in which these art works are made.

<u>**Technology**</u>

Digital Photography with Manipulation:
Digital Photography Manipulation: Learn the basics of photo editing software. Use GIMP to add color to black and white photos, cut out images and create collages, make Warhol inspired pop art, create photo mosaics, and another of interesting projects. Learn the skills to add unique details to your own photos and complete a portfolio that displays your hard work.

Digital Photography with Animation:
Have you ever wanted to make stop motion animated movies or your own computer generated animation? Learn to do both in this class. Use Alice in order to create your own computer generated animations. The software is similar to Scratch, but may take a longer time to master. Create your own stop-motion animated short using a popular freeware and basic cameras. They are both time consuming, but the results make it well worth it.

Movie Making:
Learn the skills needed to take your own movies and edit them into personal masterpieces. Students will learn how to use various types of video cameras and upload their footage to lab computers for editing. Students will learn about lighting and transitions while filming, and will work together to create a final film project showing their knowledge of the material learned.

HTML:
Would teach students the basics of HTML programming language. Not currently offered.

JAVA:
Would teach students the basics of JAVA programming language. Not currently offered.

Keyboarding:
Would teach students proper keyboarding and typing skills. Not currently offered.

Engineering

General Engineering:
The objective of the Menlo Park Academy engineering class is to promote curiosity about every day mechanical devices. Furthermore, students will begin to understand the importance of manipulating the natural world in a sustainable way to design products that will promote overall human well-being.

Lego Robotics:
Learn to use NXT Software and program various robots to accomplish certain tasks. From following a line, picking up and depositing various items, and using sound and pressure sensors, students will learn to accomplish it all while moving their robots through various exercises and obstacle courses

Music and Performing Arts

General Music:
General Music introduces students to concepts of the musical elements. Students sing, play classroom instruments, and participate in activities that develop music appreciation.

Choir:
The students who volunteer for choir will participate in a weekly practice on Wednesday mornings. The focus during choir will be musicianship, choral technique, and individual vocal growth.

Band:
Band is offered to students in grades 5-8. Students will work together to practice, rehearse, and perform for various events throughout the year. Skills to be focused on in band class include: basic instrument care, tuning, playing scales, rhythmic accuracy, unison playing, playing with harmony.

Theater:
This class is a hands on practical introduction to acting and technical production. Basic acting, stage movement, character development, script analysis, scene preparation, makeup design and auditions are introduced. Fundamentals of theater appreciation as well as historical/literary aspects of drama are overviewed.

Business

Entrepreneurship:
Every young person can find their path to success by using the basic principles of entrepreneurship. The entrepreneurship curriculum provides students with economic and business knowledge that will help them develop professionally, regardless of what profession they ultimately choose to pursue in life. The curriculum will open the students' minds to how entrepreneurs take advantage of change to create opportunity. Lastly, the ultimate goal of the course is to cultivate the personal values and characteristics that exemplify the term entrepreneurship.