# BRANDON ACADEMY

# HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVES 2017/2018

Greetings Parents and Students. This email contains information for electives in the High School for the first semester. Please note that some elective choices will fill up. Therefore, it is important for students to indicate your second and third choices. Be sure to read over the course descriptions carefully before completing the Elective forms as some have changed.

Teachers will be presenting these electives to the students during the assembly on the first day of school.

**HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVE DESCRIPTIONS**

*Total Sound-*In this HALF-YEAR Fall elective, the class will conduct, teach, train, and transform singers into a finely tuned, choreographed vocal ensemble. Genres to be performed in this choir will range from medleys of modern and "legit" Broadway musicals, to pop/rock, to pieces from the standard choral repertoire. This group performs in many capacities throughout the Fall semester and will also include off-campus performances. There will be times during the semester when it may be necessary for the Total Sound to rehearse outside of school hours.

*Drama* – In this HALF-YEAR course, we’ll be working with all aspects of performance, from projection and enunciation to staging and sets. We’ll work on getting into character, practice improvisation skills, and building performances from first reading to after-performance critique. We’ll examine different genres and the different ways we approach them, as well as non-performance aspects such as set-building and costuming. All of this will culminate in a performance at the end of the semester.

*Intro to Film Study* - This is a HALF-YEAR course. Film is the most popular artistic medium in today’s culture. Many of us do not recognize the various techniques used by directors to convey their message. This elective aims to teach students to think critically about what they see in film and to learn about the filmmaking process. This course will place films in a historical context to better understand the social issues of the movie's time and learn about why certain creative decisions were made along the way. This elective is for Grades 8-11

*Stock Market* - This is a HALF-YEAR course. The stock market game is anonline simulation of the global capital markets that engage students in the world of economics, investing and personal finance. It prepares students to be financially independent and responsible adults. The SMG teaches students how to properly invest money, so that they might grow it over time. In the SMG, students are given $100,000. With this money they will build and manage an investment portfolio in a real world, dynamic marketplace. The students will then analyze and make decisions, explore the consequences of their choices, and seek new ways to strategize for success. This elective is for Grades 8-11.

*Coding -* In this HALF-YEAR course, students will be introduced to the principles of coding. Each student will have the opportunity based on his/her skill and understanding to create various coding programs. Activities such as logic games, Compare/Contrast popular apps, utilizing coding apps like Tynker, Scratch and Hopscotch, introduction to Web Design, use of 3d Printer and lite CAD design, possible flying drones (if successful in acquiring funding via annual fundraiser or other events). NOTE: A small fee may be associated with this elective for various apps. This elective is for Grades 8-11

*Virtual School Electives –* Brandon Academy offers many courses through Florida Virtual School for high school students to enroll. Students who wish to take a choice, will submit their choice to the Upper School Head for approval. Course descriptions can be found at <https://www.flvs.net/flex/courses>