

7TH GRADE RELATED ARTS COURSE CATALOG (2023-2024)

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Life-Long Wellness and Physical Education – (9 Weeks) – Teachers: Ben Hahs, Dennis Harrison, Anne Johnson and Kristen Young The nine-week class will include participation in games such as volleyball, tennis, ping pong, flag football, circuit training, ultimate frisbee, frisbee golf, and spike ball. Fitness testing and re-testing will be completed to evaluate student progress. In the health portion of the course, students will participate in the D.A.R.E. program.

FINE ARTS

Art Courses

Sculpture- (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey Do you like to build things? In this course we will learn several different sculpture techniques that will be applied to create original works of art. Some projects will be collaborative while others will be independent.

Drawing and Painting- (Semester) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey Love to draw and paint? Then this class is for you! Drawing and Painting is designed to expand students' basic drawing and painting skills. This class will take a deeper look at different mediums and how to use them to best suit our ideas. Media used may include colored pencil, charcoal, oil and chalk pastels, watercolor, and acrylic paints.

Digital Art - (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey Do you love making digital art or want to learn more about it? Then this course is for you! We will practice developing ideas and improve our creative and artistic skills using digital platforms with some photography as well!

Theater Courses

The Art of Acting – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Meredith Daniel Seventh grade drama is a course exploring theatre from the perspective of an actor. Throughout the class, students will focus on crafting a character, play analysis, the rehearsal process, scriptwriting, and improvisation. Students will also study theatre as a historical and cultural influence throughout the world.

Musical Theater – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Meredith Daniel This is a course focused on creating a strong foundation in musical theatre. Using exercises, theatre games, and activities, students will explore various areas of musical theatre such as choreography, acting through song, scene study, auditioning, and musical theatre history. Students taking this class will be eligible to take Advanced Theatre in 8th Grade.

Music Courses

Choir – (Year) - Teacher, Colby White In this class, students will learn proper vocal production techniques, music literacy, and methods of expression that will further their individual musicianship. While students develop their own vocal abilities, they will practice the art of unified music-making in creating balance and blend. Students will explore choral literature from varied time periods, styles, and cultures. Together we will transfer musical ideas to other academic areas and daily life outside the choir room. Performance opportunities include in-class, annual winter and spring concerts, honors choir, festivals and, occasionally, a choir trip.

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Intro to GarageBand and Production (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Colby White This class will introduce students to the combination of musical creativity and technology as we use recording software to let our musical ideas come to life. This class introduces basic piano skills, musicianship/music theory and recording equipment for use in recording software as well as introduces an understanding of acoustics and audio engineering. Students will experiment creating guided musical projects as well as creating projects entirely of their own. Students will also understand the history of the recording industry. This is a prerequisite for the Music Production class.

Band – (Year) - Teacher, Juliet Lang The concert Band is open to seventh grade students who have at least one-year experience playing their instrument. The course is a continuation of the technical training started in the sixth grade. Students will expand their playing ability, improve their range, tone, and technique, enhance their ensemble skills, continue to assimilate music history and theory, and perform individually and as a group. Students will be expected to practice individually in preparation for class and to attend all performances including the winter and spring concerts. Students achieving at a high level will be encouraged to audition for the MTSBOA Mid-State Clinic Bands and the MTSBOA Solo and Ensemble Performance Assessment. Students will attend the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association Concert and Sight-Reading Performance Assessment in the Spring. An overnight trip to an out-of-state concert band competition is usually the culmination of the year for this group.

Orchestra – (Year) - Teacher, Tiffany Turner This class is only open to students with prior experience on an orchestral string instrument. Second year students will continue to refine fundamental skills and begin to develop more advanced knowledge of music theory and playing techniques. This class concentrates on rhythmic and technical accuracy as well as preparation and performance of Grade 2 string orchestra literature. Students can participate in the Williamson County Honor Orchestra Clinic, MTSBOA Concert Performance Assessment, and are eligible for the MTSBOA Mid-State Orchestra. The 7th Grade Orchestra has at least four large concerts each year and may participate in a variety of other festivals and performances, including a Spring Trip.

STEM COURSES

Media and Video Courses

Media Creations and Desktop Publishing – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Terri Schoof In Media, students begin by exploring intellectual property including copyrights, trademarks, and patents. Students will research and report on topics such as plagiarism, copyright infringement, netiquette, online safety, hacking, and fair use. Cooperative learning groups will study the history of media advertising, develop marketing plans, and create product promotions. Desktop publishing activities, the creation of 2D and 3D graphics, and basic web design concepts will be the focus of print mediums. Students will modify and create audio clips and use video cameras and editing software to create the broadcast mediums.

Introduction to Video Production – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Terri Schoof Students taking this class will have the opportunity to work both in front of and behind the camera. They will learn how to plan, create, record and edit video projects. As students create a variety of projects, basic video terminology will be

explored. Throughout this class, students will complete 3-4 video projects. Students taking this class should be able to work both independently and collaboratively. They should also be organized, detail-oriented, and able to meet deadlines. This class is a prerequisite for students wanting to take Advanced Video Design and Production in the 8th grade.

Coding Courses

JavaScript Coding 2 – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Terri Schoof Students wanting to take this class should be detail-oriented and determined to meet challenges involving higher order thinking and problem solving. They should also be methodical thinkers who can easily read and interpret instructions. Students will then learn the basic components associated with JavaScript including variables, input, output, arrays, conditionals, functions, loops, and much more. The concepts will be presented through an online curriculum that includes a variety of hands-on activities. Participation in the 6th Grade coding class is helpful, but not required.

Robotics Courses

Intermediate Robotics – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Debra Schaefer Students will design and build the VEX IQ Clawbot to perform specific tasks and obstacle courses using both remote control and autonomous coding. They will document their experience working through the engineering design process in daily engineering notebook entries. They will also complete coding challenges using the VEX Virtual Robot online program. Students will be expected to be self-driven and innovative. This challenging, creative class will work to stimulate higher order thinking skills and bolster self-confidence. Participation in 6th Grade Robotics is recommended.

Competitive Robotics (VEX Vikings) - (Year) - Teacher, Debra Schaefer

In order to enroll in Competitive Robotics, students must be selected to be on the 2023-2024 VEX Vikings team after an application process, and parents must attend a mandatory interest meeting in February.

Competitive Robotics is a very independent, self-driven class. Students will spend the fall semester using the engineering design process to design and build a robot to best perform the Vex IQ Tournament Game for the year (search YouTube for past years' Vex IQ Games). Students will then test and collect data on the performance of their prototype. Based upon that data, they will redesign and modify their robot to improve its performance. They will also practice basic coding for use in robot autonomous mode and learn to program novel variations of remote control. They will document the process in an engineering notebook daily, and a major portion of their grade will be derived from the quality and regularity of their entries. Students will use their robots and engineering notebooks to compete in Vex IQ tournaments in the fall and spring semesters. All building and practice will be done in class, and various Middle TN tournaments will be held on Saturdays, typically from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. All competitive robotics students are required to pay a \$75 Robotics fee to cover VEX registration fees, tournament fees, and t-shirts. Additional fundraising may be needed if students advance to State and Nationals. Participation in 6th Grade Robotics is recommended.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I Honors (7A) - (Year) - Teacher, Rebecca Cooksey By the end of the two-year course students will understand and express himself/herself and participate in simple conversations on a number of familiar topics using short sentences. Students will be able to handle brief social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering simple questions. Students begin to communicate about self, others, and everyday life in familiar situations. Students can recognize the main idea from texts and understand the main topic of

what is read or said. Students write and present information on most familiar topics using a series of simple sentences. Students study the similarities and differences between American culture and the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students participate in regular performance assessments and may take ACTFL's Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL). One world language high school credit is earned by completing both the Spanish I (7A) and Spanish I (8B) courses. This credit will be calculated into a student's high school GPA. They will receive a .5 credit for 7A and a .5 credit for 8B.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Pathways: Maturing in Middle School – (9 Weeks) - Teacher, Rosemary Hood The class is a seventh-grade class that has been designed to help students succeed and lead through their remaining middle school years. This class will build on the foundation started in Pathways 1 and continue to reinforce effective study skills and organization while also developing a deeper understanding of leadership, conflict, social media, goal-setting and community service. Topics covered include goal-setting, vision and priorities in 7th grade; effective study skills (note-taking, summarizing, studying, etc.); time management and organization; healthy relationships; staying engaged in classes; qualities of effective leadership; social media and the Internet; conflict management; and community service projects.