

## 8th GRADE RELATED ARTS OFFERINGS (2023-2024)

### HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

**Life-Long Wellness and Physical Education – (Semester PE) - Teachers Ben Hahs, Dennis Harrison, Anne Johnson, and Kristin Young** The semester 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. With the addition of our Viking Fit Room, students will have the opportunity to be in a weight room setting. In this portion of the class, students will learn basic body weight movements and cardiovascular exercises, through high intensity interval training. In the health portion of the course, students will study nutrition.

### FINE ARTS

#### *Art Courses*

**Studio Art – (Semester) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey** Have you been dying to have more time to work on your art skills? Do you love coming up with ideas and seeing where they end up? This course is for you! In this course, we will use a variety of materials to create original works of art based on class-generated themes or independent themes.

**Design – (Semester) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey** Design is everywhere! We see it in fashion, architecture, products, and home interiors. In this course, we will explore design and gain inspiration from real examples to create our own designs. We will experiment with many different media such as Procreate, 3D modeling, photography and traditional materials to help accomplish our design goals.

**Art Meets Music - (Semester) - Teacher, Leah Lindsey** If you like music AND art, this class is for you! In this course, we will create visual art as well as music and discover how both can be used together for artists to express their creativity.

#### *Theater Courses*

**Theatre 8th Grade – (Semester) - Teacher, Meredith Daniel** Semester Theatre is designed to build upon the foundational theatre skills established in 6th and 7th grade which include building confidence through performance, memorization, collaboration, reading comprehension and written expression. Through games and activities, we will study character development, published works, and technical theatre. We will also study various moments throughout theatre history including Commedia dell'arte and Elizabethan Theatre.

**Advanced Theatre – (Semester) - Teacher, Meredith Daniel** The Advanced Theatre class focuses on the mastery of character analysis, play analysis, theatre as a cultural influence, and technical theatre. Students will learn proper voice, diction, and movement techniques while learning how to produce a show from beginning to end. The semester will conclude with a performance from a written work. Students will be responsible for performing, directing, producing, and running all technical aspects for the production. Students taking this class must have taken Musical Theatre or Scriptwriting in the seventh grade.

#### *Music Courses*

**8th Choir – (Year) - Teacher, Colby White** In this class, students will learn proper vocal 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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**Band – (Year) - Teacher, Juliet Lang** Eighth grade band is open to students who have at least two years of experience on their instrument. Students will continue to expand their playing ability, improve their range, tone and technique, refine their ensemble skills, apply music history and theory skills, and perform individually and as a group. 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. Students will be expected to practice individually in preparation for classes and to attend performances including: winter and spring concerts, WCS Band Exhibition, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Night, and several culminating concerts and activities. An overnight trip to an out-of-state concert band competition is usually the culmination of the year for this group.

**Orchestra – (Year)** This class is only open to students with prior experience on an orchestral string instrument. 8th grade students will focus on advanced tone production, intonation, tuning, shifting, vibrato, advanced bowing techniques, and more. This class concentrates on more advanced rhythmic and technical accuracy as well as preparation and performance of Grade 3 string orchestra literature. 8th Grade Orchestra is fundamental preparation for participation in the Brentwood High School Orchestra Program. Students have the opportunity to participate in the Williamson County Honor Orchestra Clinic, MTSBOA Concert Performance Assessment, and are eligible for the MTSBOA Mid-State Orchestra. The 8th 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.

**Music Production: GarageBand and Recording Technologies – (Semester) - Teacher, Colby White** This class explores combining songwriting, musical creativity, and technology. In this class students will see musical ideas come to life as they discover different sounds, use of instruments, and even their voices to create. In Music Production, students will be hands-on with Digital Audio Workstations and recording equipment doing anything from modifying the effects of recorded tracks to creating an orchestral arrangement. This class will also explore the songwriting process. Students will have a deeper understanding of musicianship/theory to aid that process as well as learn about the recording and songwriting industry throughout the semester. The seventh-grade class, Intro to GarageBand and Production, is a prerequisite for this class; however, students not meeting this requirement must be approved by the instructor.

## **STEM Classes**

### ***Coding and Computer Science Courses***

**Applying Computer Science - (Semester) - Teacher, Terri Schoof** Applying Computer Science (ACS) is a new class meant to give students the opportunity to explore a variety of computer science topics in one place. All Google and Microsoft applications will be used throughout the semester; applications for video editing, CAD, and code editing will also be used. Topics covered may include computer basics,

information processing, introductory coding, web design, analysis of 21st century skills and much more. Students will have the opportunity to design a final project which will include multiple elements learned during the semester.

**Video Game Design – (Semester) - Teacher, Terri Schoof** In this class, students will begin with a study of video game characteristics and the various elements necessary for successful video games. As they progress through the online curriculum, they will learn to think like programmers. They will learn technical skills like programming, graphic design, and animation that will help them in the creation of several games. They will also learn to test and debug the programs they are creating. Students enrolling in video game design need to be adept at reading and following directions, detailed-oriented problem-solvers, and motivated learners ready for higher-level thinking challenges.

### *Media Course and Video Courses*

**Advanced Media Creations and Web Design – (Semester) - Teacher, Terri Schoof** In this class, students will conduct background research to help them gather inspiration for an upcoming semester-long project. Students will work collaboratively to create a business plan, design various attractions and buildings, and publicize an amusement park. They will complete projects that incorporate desktop publishing, website design, 3D-design, spreadsheet usage, database queries, document creation, video and audio production.

**Advanced Video Design and Production – (Semester) - Teacher, Terri Schoof** Students taking this class will explore the various careers associated with the movie and television industry. Students 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 7-8 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.

### *Robotics Courses*

**Advanced Robotics – (Semester) - Teacher, Debra Schaefer** Students will build and modify various VEX IQ robots, as well as a drone to participate in Drone Soccer. Students will document their progress and testing while working through the engineering design process in daily engineering notebooks. 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 7th Grade Robotics is recommended, but not required.

**Drone Soccer – (Semester) – Teacher, Debra Schaefer** Students will build a drone to participate in Drone Soccer. Students will document their progress and testing while working through the engineering design process in daily engineering notebooks. 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. Maximum number of students: 24 (12 teams of 2 students).

**8th Grade Competitive Robotics (VEX Vikings) – (Year) - Teacher, Debra Schaefer** In order to enroll in Competitive Robotics, students must be selected to be on the 2023-24 VEX Vikings team after an application process, and parents must attend a mandatory interest meeting in February.

Participation in 7th Grade Competitive Robotics is required, but exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. 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 Game. Students then test and collect data on the performance of their prototype. Based on that data, they will redesign and modify their robot to improve its performance. They will also program both

autonomous and driver control modes. 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 entries. Students will use their robots and engineering notebooks to compete in Vex IQ tournaments. Competitive robotics students are required to pay a \$75 Robotics fee to cover tournament fees. Fundraising activity may be necessary, depending on State and World Championship qualifications. Maximum number of students: 20 (4 teams of 5 students).

## **WORLD LANGUAGE (2022-23)**

### *Prerequisites:*

- Students must be in the 80<sup>th</sup>-99<sup>th</sup> Percentile on TNReady Math and ELA.
- Must receive 7<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts teacher recommendation.
- Positive disciplinary record
- Superior work ethic

### **World Language Options:**

1. Students can choose to take a world language class in place of their Related Arts. For example: A student can choose to have Spanish 1 (or another language) and a Focus class at the end of the day
2. Students can also choose to take a world language class and a Related Arts class. For example: A student can choose to have Spanish 1 (or another language) and Band (or another related arts class). These students will NOT have a Focus.
3. Students do not have to take a world language during their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year and can have both Related Arts and a Focus class at the end of the day.

### **World Language Course Options**

**Latin I Honors** (Offered at Brentwood High School - Subject to seats available). Latin I students are introduced to the principles of Latin grammar, basic vocabulary and English derivatives in order to build reading and writing proficiency. An emphasis is also placed on the study and understanding of Roman mythology, culture and history. Daily participation and study are required.

**German I Honors** (Offered at Brentwood High School - Subject to seats available). Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills (listening, speaking, writing and reading) with an emphasis on the ability to communicate orally and in writing. Students explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the German-speaking world. This interactive course employs a variety of teaching methods and daily participation, and study are required.

**French I Honors** (Offered at Brentwood High School - Subject to seats available). Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills (listening, speaking, writing and reading) with an emphasis on the ability to communicate orally and in writing. Students explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the French-speaking world. This interactive course employs a variety of teaching methods and daily participation, and study are required.

**Chinese I Honors** (Offered at Brentwood High School - Subject to seats available). Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills (listening, speaking, writing and reading). Students explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the Chinese-speaking world. This interactive course employs a variety of teaching methods and daily participation and study are required. Students will participate in regular performance assessments.

**Spanish I Honors** (Offered at Brentwood Middle School). By the end of the course students will understand and express himself/herself and participate in simple conversations on several 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 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 explore 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).

**Spanish 1 Honors (8B)** (Offered at Brentwood Middle School). Students enrolled in this course must have taken Spanish 1 (7A) during their seventh-grade year. In Spanish I (8B) students continue to develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment through the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Students demonstrate an increased proficiency in these three communication modes by listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the target language. Students continue to explore the similarities and differences between American culture and that of the Spanish-speaking world. This interactive course employs a variety of teaching methods. Daily participation and study are required. One world language high school credit is earned by completing both the Spanish 1 (7A) and Spanish 1 (8B) courses. This credit will be calculated into a student's high school GPA. They will receive .5 credit for the 7A and .5 credit for the 8B class.