

7th & 8th Grade Enrichment Course Descriptions 2017 - 2018 school year

Physical Education (required for all grade levels)

1 Semester

7th & 8th Grades

\$15 uniform fee

P.E. emphasizes health-related fitness and developing the skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity. These courses provide students with opportunities to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness and increase their knowledge of fitness concepts. The program includes: (1) health-related fitness activities (cardiorespiratory endurance, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and body composition), (2) aerobic exercise, (3) team sports, (4) individual and dual sports, (5) outdoor pursuits, (6) dance, (7) recreational games, (8) the use of technology in developing fitness. Ongoing assessment includes both written and performance-based skill evaluations.

Art:

7th Grade Art

1 Semester

7th Grade only

\$15 fee for supplies

This class, specifically designed for 7th graders, will explore drawing, graphic art, painting, crafts and pottery units.

8th Grade Art

1 Semester

8th Grade

\$15 fee for supplies

This class will explore drawing, graphic art, and painting. In addition, students will learn craftsmanship as they explore projects which may include: weaving, painted floor cloths, textile design, tie dye, batik and jewelry.

Pottery

1 Semester

8th Grade

\$15 fee for supplies

Students will learn all three hand building techniques: pinch, coil and slab. Students who master hand building will be given the opportunity to learn the potter's wheel. Students will learn a variety of decorative glazing techniques while creating functional art. After a level of mastery is demonstrated, student projects may be self directed, giving the student the freedom to explore the art form further.

Art (continued):

Painting and Drawing

1 Semester

8th Grade

Prerequisite: Must have taken at least one art class

\$15 fee for supplies

Students are introduced to methods and techniques of drawing that serve as a vehicle for creating art throughout the semester. Concepts such as perspective, shading, and proportion are introduced and practiced to help students develop their skills. Color theory and application are introduced and applied throughout the course as students make choices about their work.

Topics such as color mixing, color relationships, and vocabulary relative to color theory are discussed. Students are presented with opportunities to view, analyze, and discuss various works of art. As students build their understanding of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design, they progress in capacity to evaluate and extract meaning while making connections with the arts in relation to life and other subject matter.

Instrumental Music: (All Bands Are Year-Long with a \$50 sectional fee)

Beginning Band

Full Year

6th grade or students new to an instrument

\$50 sectional fee

Classes are split into groups: brass (trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone, baritone) and woodwinds (flutes, clarinet, alto sax). Those wishing to play percussion will be accepted into the program by audition only. Students must provide their own instruments and band method books for their respective instrument. Students are expected to practice a minimum of 100 minutes per week at home. Students will be expected to participate in an evening concert at the end of each semester.

Intermediate Band

Full Year

7th or 8th grade

\$50 sectional fee

This class is for students with prior band experience. Students are expected to practice a minimum of 100 minutes weekly in preparation for class assignments. Students provide their own method books and instruments, with the exception of specifically assigned instruments. Students will be expected to participate in an evening concert at the end of each semester and Large Group Festival in the spring.

Advanced Band

Full Year

7th or 8th grade (by audition only)

\$50 sectional fee

This course is for the student with at least two years of successful prior band training or equivalent skills. Students are expected to practice a minimum of 120 minutes weekly in preparation for class assignments. Students provide their own method books and instruments. Students will be expected to participate in an evening concert at the end of each semester, performances throughout the school year, and Large Group Festival in the spring. This group may also travel once annually to a regional or out-of-state competition (competitions requiring extensive travel are optional).

Vocal Music:

Pitch Perfect Panthers

1 Semester or Full Year

6th grade or students new to vocal music

This is a beginning choir that requires no audition. This is a performance group that will have at least 1 required concert per semester, and may have more as the schedule dictates. Participants will need to have a dressy, all black outfit that will be worn at concerts. Students will not only learn proper choral technique, but will learn basic music theory and basic sight reading.

Spotlights

1 Semester or Full Year

7th & 8th grade

This is a performance group that will have several required performances per semester. This group will travel off campus for festivals. Participants will need a dressy, all black outfit that will be worn at performances. Students will continue their learning of proper choral singing techniques and will learn music theory including key signatures, how to read music and chordal structure. Students will also learn intermediate sight-reading skills.

Odyssey

Full Year

7th or 8th grade (by audition only)

This is an advanced choir that has many required performances during the year and will travel off campus several times. Participants will need a dressy, all black outfit that will be worn at performances. Students will learn at a fast pace and will learn advanced choral singing techniques as well as advanced music theory and advanced sight-reading skills.

Music:

Beginning Guitar

1 Semester

7th or 8th grade

Students must provide their own guitar

This is a class for beginning guitar players. Students must have a classical, acoustic, or electric guitar with a small amp. This class will start with the parts of the guitar, how to hold the guitar and the proper playing technique. In this class students will learn how to read tablature, play chords; including power chords and Barre chords. They will learn a little about classical style guitar playing, lead guitar parts and rhythm guitar playing. Students will also learn the 12 bar blues and improvisation.

Chimes

1 Semester

6th, 7th or 8th grade

In this class, students will learn to read music, play chimes (hand bells) and play songs. Students may be required perform at some point during the semester. No prior experience is necessary.

Family & Consumer Science:

FACS 7

1 Semester

7th grade

\$15 fee for supplies

This course focuses on basic skills that students need to prepare them for life. Units of study include sewing, nutrition, and food preparation. Cooperation, problem solving, and evaluation of skills are emphasized throughout the course. This course serves as a foundation for further study.

FACS 8

1 Semester

8th grade

\$15 fee for supplies

Students will learn skills necessary for life in high school and beyond. Topics studied include personality traits, learning styles, career information, advertising ploys, buying a used car, insurance, writing checks, renting an apartment, food & nutrition and cooking skills. This course include a child development unit where students learn about pregnancy, birth, the first year of life, developmental phases of childhood, discipline techniques, and play as learning. Students are required to participate in the Baby Think It Over Program which involves care of an infant simulator.

Computers and Technology:

Advanced Computers

1 Semester

7th and 8th grade

This class will introduce students to computer programming, website design, spreadsheets, database management, and a variety of other useful software applications.

Digital Media

1 Semester

7th and 8th grade

Students in this class will learn to use a variety of software tools and applications to create effective multimedia presentations. Included in this class will be desktop publishing, concepts of layout and design, 3D design, photo editing, simple animations, screencasting, audio editing, and digital music creation.

Video Production

1 Semester

7th and 8th grade

This class will focus on the entire video production process: pre-production, production and post-production. Students will get “hands on” experience with a variety of videography equipment. All students will learn basic and intermediate video editing skills using and Sony Vegas - Movie Studio 13.

Panther News Network (PNN)

1 Semester

8th grade (by application only)

Prerequisite: Video Production & Digital Media (highly recommended)

Students selected for this class will plan, produce and distribute 4 PNN shows throughout the semester. Students will use and be responsible for expensive videography equipment, including all equipment in the green screen studio, as well as working with other advanced video editing tools. Skills in Broadcast Journalism will also be a focus in this class: planning, designing, and writing news stories, news anchor script & performance, and interview styles & techniques.

Special Interest

Buddies

1 Semester

7th or 8th grade (by application only)

Students selected to be a Buddy work directly with individuals with special needs under the direction of the special education teacher. Students selected will be assigned time in the SSN (Significant Support Needs) classroom and/or time in an enrichment such as PE or Art. In addition, students will be required to attend a monthly training during ROAR, so that buddies working at different times during the day can meet together. Students will receive a grade based on participation, homework and weekly journals.

History of Rock and Roll

1 Semester

7th or 8th grade

This course will look at the history of Rock & Roll music, beginning with it's jazz roots, all the way to today. Students will look at all the different milestones and musical styles that make up Rock and Pop music today. Topics include the King of Rock & Roll, the British Invasion, Soul Music, Surf Music, Woodstock, Punk Music, Disco Music, Hard Rock, Pop Music, Grunge and Dance Music.

Speech, Drama & Communication

1 Semester

7th or 8th grade

This class is designed to develop the skills and confidence for public speaking, acting and drama. Students may also be exposed to world languages and cultures. This course may include techniques for forensics and debate, development of creativity and characters, and possibly basic conversational Spanish. All performances will be in class.

STEM

1 Semester

7th or 8th Grades

The course explores the foundations of engineering in fields such as robotics, aerospace and energy regardless of previous experience. This course may include building simple robots, designing working models of flying machines and or designing alternative energy models.