

# Course Descriptions 8th Grade

## FULL YEAR ELECTIVES

**BAND-BEGINNING** An introduction to brass, woodwind and percussion instruments

**CONCERT BAND** 2<sup>nd</sup> year band. Admission requires teacher approval

**SYMPHONIC BAND** 3<sup>rd</sup> year band. An advanced instrumental ensemble. Admission requires teacher approval.

**MADRIGALS** Pre-requisite: Audition with Mrs. Covington. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade full year class. A vocal performance class to develop the singing voice.

**CONCERT CHOIR** Pre-requisite: Audition with Mrs. Covington. Concert choir is a select performance group of mixed singers who perform in concerts, recitals, festivals and other community activities.

**ORCHESTRA-BEGINNING** This is an ensemble of beginning string players directed toward attaining the basic skills in string music. Lower string instruments (cello and bass) are available for school rental along with a limited number of upper strings (violin and viola). No previous experience is necessary

**ORCHESTRA-INTERMEDIATE** Pre-requisite; Audition or beginning orchestra required. This performance course provides continued instruction for students who have mastered beginning skills. Lower string instruments are available for school rental.

**ORCHESTRA-ADVANCED** Pre-requisite; Audition or Concert Orchestra required. Students will be part of an ensemble of advanced string players directed toward enhancing skills and performing the finest music. Lower string instruments are available for school rental.

**SPANISH 1** An introductory language class. No pre-requisite required.

**SPANISH 2** Pre-requisite Spanish 1

**SPANISH 3** (for Spanish Immersion students)

**FRENCH 1** This is an introductory French language course. No pre-requisite required

**FRENCH 2** Pre-requisite; French 1, with a C grade or better.

**YEARBOOK** Help design, plan, take pictures, do graphics, for yearbook.  
**\*Application and approval from teacher required.**

## SEMESTER ELECTIVES

**7/8 PE BOYS OR GIRLS** This class may be repeated as an elective. This course emphasizes team sports and individual physical fitness activities.

**ART FOUNDATIONS 2** (was Drawing & Painting) Open to 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will build up on the concepts learned in Art Foundations through various two-dimensional media. Subjects will include figure drawing, still-life, scratch board, painting, etc. Project materials cost for the semester is \$10.00.

**FAC CLOTHING** An instructional course that prepares students with basic skills in the principles of clothing construction, textiles, maintenance and care. \$5.00 fee.

**FAC FOODS** Basic understanding of the principles of nutrition and healthy life styles. Instruction is given in the relationship of nutrition to health and well-being; the selection, preparation, care of food; meal management to meet individual and family food needs. \$5.00 Lab fee.

**KEYBOARDING** Basic keyboarding skills are taught to gain proficiency on the computer.

**INTRO. TECH. ED. 1** Introduction to technology is a introductory hands-on class that introduces students to skills used in the technical engineering world of aerospace, communications, construction, transportation, power and energy, and manufacturing. The curriculum is designed around hands on activities that increase the development of problem-solving skill.

**TECH 2** Pre-requisite Tech Ed.1 Intermediate technology is a second level course that continues to build on the basic principles learned in Tech 1. This class will focus on advanced exploration of the skills used in the technical engineering world of aerospace, communications, construction, transportation, power and energy, and manufacturing. The curriculum will include the use of problem solving skills, and an introduction to the relationship between applied technology programs taught in the high schools.

**PEER TUTOR**-A unique experience for students to learn about and train students with severe disabilities in classroom, social and vocational settings. Peer tutors will be taught general teaching skills. They will develop positive attitudes and relationships with students with disabilities. Learning is mostly a "hands-on" experience with some written assignments. The class is fun and worth every student's efforts.

**SATB CHOIR** Non-Audition 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students rehearse suitable music for SATB (soprano, alto, tenor, bass) voices. They perform in concerts, festivals, recitals, and other community activities. Students develop the singing voice, learning part-singing and advance in citizenship and in musical skills. A uniform is required.

**DRAMA 1** Intensive study of the dramatic arts. This class not only covers the history of drama, but the various forms of performance and technical theater.

**DRAMA 2** This course is an advanced study of theater history and performance with emphasis on Shakespearean acting, children's theater, resume and audition preparation, and performance in school productions.

**COMMUNIC/DEBATE** Students will learn the fundamentals of debate. Communications skills taught will include verbal reasoning, public speaking and problem solving.