

Unified Arts Class Descriptors for 8th Grade Electives

Art: Students will continue to grow in the fine arts using a variety of mediums such as drawing pencils, paints, clay slab building, ink, pastels, wood burning, and metal tooling tools. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

Band: 8th grade band is a full-year class that meets every other day. Students must have prior experience in band (or special permission from Miss Rockenhauser) and will study and perform more advanced instrumental music. Band members will perform in three concerts per year plus the Memorial Day parade. This is a year long, every other day class.

Chorus: 8th grade chorus is a full-year class that meets every other day. Students will use higher level music-reading skills, and will study and perform more advanced choral music. 8th grade chorus also has a music history component, studying American popular music from Louis Armstrong to Bon Jovi and everything in between! Chorus will perform in three concerts per year. This is a year long, every other day class.

General Music: Students advance their musical skills to the next level, on both piano and guitar by reading, rehearsing, and performing specific exercises which apply to required short songs and to their personal song choices. Eighth grade music students study intervals and chords as related to both piano and guitar, integrating these skills to produce an original song. Additionally, students will investigate the lives of several composers by reading short stories, listening to, and then analyzing the musical components of their exemplary works. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

Health: Students will study the human body, goal setting, self esteem, depression, suicide prevention, eating disorders, substance abuse, reproductive system, fetal development, sexually transmitted diseases, healthy relationships, abstinence, food safety, media literacy and environmental health. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

ICT (Information & Communications Technologies): Information Communication Technology class at the 8th grade level introduces students to basic website design, where students will create, maintain, and communicate with fellow students and teachers through their own personal blog. 8th grade students also learn how to generate QR codes and integrate them into other forms of digital media, as well as create and edit their own stop-motion animated movies (new for Fall 2017). 8th grade ICT also builds upon previously learned skills such as digital citizenship, application “video game” design, research and information fluency, graphic design, and building electronic “E” portfolios. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

FCS (Family & Consumer Science): FCS students will focus on subjects such as food safety and sanitation, planning nutritional meals, and higher level textile products. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

Phys Ed: During the school year students taking PE may have the opportunity to participate in the following activities: Basketball, Eclipse ball, Floor hockey, Indoor soccer, Soccer, Pickle-ball, Team handball, Ultimate football, Volleyball, Wiffleball. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

Pre Engineering/Career Exploration: This Tech Ed class will explore creating solutions to “real life” problems using the engineering design process. We will also explore career paths in order to help determine what careers may be most suited to individual characteristics. This is a one trimester class, every other day.

Spanish I: Spanish I is an introductory course designed to help the student understand, speak, read and write Spanish as it is used today throughout the Spanish-speaking world. This course is recommended for students with a high interest in learning the Spanish language and culture, and who have an adequate grasp of English grammar. Students must be able to analyze critically, memorize, and study/learn independently as well as in class. Must have a “B” or better average in 7th grade English. This is a year long, every other day class.