

Description of Middle School Electives

Middle School Elective – Computer Concepts

Web Design - Students will expand their knowledge of the internet and the World Wide Web and will learn the basics of creating web pages.

Assigned class projects include:

- ✓ Modifying the St Anne School web site
- ✓ Creating new pages for various school activities

PowerPoint Presentations - Students will develop techniques for creating effective presentations using MS PowerPoint software.

Assigned class projects include:

- ✓ Creating presentations on various subjects for teachers
- ✓ Making presentations to class

Computer Research / Report Writing - Students will learn how to create research papers using Internet information resources in a MS Word document.

Assigned class projects include:

- ✓ Researching various classroom subjects
- ✓ Writing a research paper using MLA guidelines in MS Word

Middle School Elective - Yearbook

Mrs. Reiser's Yearbook Class (Fall Semester Only)

- Yearbook Class is offered in the fall only for the entire First Semester. This course elective will allow the student to partake in the hands-on creation of the school's annual. They will learn proper layout and design techniques. In addition, they will learn to write and edit feature stories, captions, and interviews with use of the Walsworth Publishing Company's Online Design program. Each student will be assigned to create two or more pages in the publication. This will account for 50% of their final grade. It will be based on their time and effort put forth as well as their attention to detail and skill application. Unit quizzes on yearbook vocabulary terms will be given and in class, and copy writing activities will be implemented. As a result of taking yearbook class, each student will develop skills in collaboration, leadership, and team building, as well as model professional conduct with deadline completion, time management, and editorial decision-making. In addition, students will be encouraged to solicit ad space to support the additional costs of the publication.

Middle School Elective – Photography

Mrs. Reiser’s Digital Photography Class (Qtrs. 3 & 4)

- Photography Class is offered in the spring as both a third quarter and fourth quarter elective. EACH STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A DIGITAL CAMERA FOR USE BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM. This course is designed to introduce the student to various traditional approaches to digital photography. Students will apply their newly acquired photo skills and techniques in both indoor and outdoor photography assignments. In addition, students will be required to create a PowerPoint presentation showcasing their photography, as well as an end of quarter Photography Portfolio that will be displayed in the school lobby and account for 50% of their final grade. Unit quizzes on photography vocabulary terms will also be implemented. Furthermore, students will be introduced to Photo Shop. They will learn and practice how to correct digital imperfections and visually and artistically enhance the quality of their images.

Middle School Elective – Vocal Arts

Choral singing, solos singing, public speaking, acting are all combined to educate the student in how one uses the voice to accomplish the best of communication both in the arts and in public speaking. Typically a musical or play or both are performed during the school year as well as field trips in the arts and participation at a local festival or singing the National Anthem at a ball game.

Middle School Elective – Spanish

Spanish I

- Review of fundamentals: prayers, alphabet, numbers, colors and shapes
- Continued review of vocabulary and cultural aspects of the Spanish speaking world
- Study of more specifics of Grammar and continued review of sentence structure
- Careful study of culture and maps of the Spanish speaking world
- Conjugation of regular verbs
- Expansion of Adjective
- Subject/verb agreement
- Affirmative negative forms
- *Ser Vs. Estar*
- Use of verb *Hay*
- Telling time
- Expressing likes and dislikes
- School subjects
- School items
- Use of Indirect Object Pronouns
- Family relations
- Food

- Sports
- Occupations
- Clothing
- Weather
- Review of greetings, farewells, directions, interrogatives, sentence structure,
- Some irregular verbs
- Some stem-changing verbs
- Pronouns in the Object - after a preposition: "a mí", "a ti"
- Indirect object pronouns: *me, te, le, nos, os, les*
- Direct object pronouns: *me, te, lo, la, nos, os, los, las*

Spanish II

- Review of fundamentals: prayers, alphabet, numbers, description.
- Continued learning vocabulary and cultural aspects of the Spanish speaking world
- Study more specifics of Grammar and continued review of sentence structure
- Review conjugation of regular verbs present tense.
- Conjugation of preterit tense.
- Subject/verb agreement
- Weekends activities
- Universal signs
- Use of commands
- Use of the imperfect verbs
- Use of the imperative
- Reading different topics
- Writing essays
- Lots of conversation

***Spanish I and Spanish II will learn about celebrations of different places in various Latino countries.*

- *i.e. Independencia de México*
- *Día de muertos*
- *Las posadas*
- *Quinceañera*
- *Cinco de mayo*

Sixth Grade Elective:

The 6th Grade semester elective includes an historic appreciation and imitation of ancient art; introduction to portrait drawing; contrasting warm & cool colors; development repeating patterns and illusions; papier mache projects; Halloween and Christmas pottery; multicultural assignment (Ecuador and Mexico).

Seventh and Eighth Grade Elective:

The 7th and 8th Grade Middle School Art classes include advanced water color and tempera painting techniques (tints, shades & values); multicultural art (such as Australia, China, or Mexico); advanced pottery projects, sculpture (including papier mache or wire); art appreciation (focusing on characteristics or style of art associated with particular artists or periods of Art); challenging and creative experiences in areas of drawing, design, painting, pastels, print-making, perspective, collage and texture.

Middle School Elective – P.E.

Physical Education

Objectives/Purpose/Goals: Provide a safe and positive atmosphere for various physical activities for students to continue for a lifetime. Exercise has been proven to overwhelmingly improve mental health, prevent diseases, and promote challenging skills and problem-solving.

Implementation: Students will participate in a number of different indoor and outdoor sports and games. Some include hockey, basketball, kickball, capture-the-flag, volleyball, badminton, baseball/softball, lacrosse, football, ultimate Frisbee, tennis, bowling, President’s Fitness Challenge, indoor and outdoor soccer, and jai alai.

Assessment: The students will be graded on participation and sportsmanship.

Middle School Elective – Band

Beginning Band – 6th Grade

A student chooses the band because of a desire to learn a musical instrument other than the piano. No piano or previous note reading experience is necessary for this class. 6th grade band class meets five days a week for 40 minutes a day in addition to individual practice at home. A student who completes the Beginning year of band will be able to do the following:

- Sing (Read) on note names or Play a simple 3-5 note melody of short (2-4 measures)
- Perform on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument melodies and rhythms from the Beginning Band book with a level of difficulty of I-II on a scale of I-VI in large group or as a solo
- Perform as a member of band with proper tone quality and posture and respond to simple visual cues from conductor
- Perform independent instrumental parts while others play contrasting

parts

- Notate rhythmic dictations of 2 measures
 - Describe and analyze a piece of music using appropriate terminology
 - Perform music from different historical periods and cultures.
- *Understanding music in relation to history and culture

Concert Band – 7th/8th Grade

A student who has successfully completed the Beginning Band course, or who has been auditioned by director as a new 7th or 8th grader will choose Concert Band. The Concert Band meets five days a week for 40 minutes a day in addition to individual practice at home. A student who completes the Concert Band elective will be able to do the following:

- Sing (Read) on note names or Play a 5-8 note melody of 4-8 measures
 - Perform on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument melodies and rhythms from text and supplemental music with a difficulty of Grade IIIII (on I-VI scale) in large group, small ensemble or solo
 - Perform 5 major scales and a 2 octave chromatic scale
 - Perform various genres, i.e. Traditional overture, march, waltz, jazz, latin, with appropriate expression and articulation
 - Perform music in Meters of 2, 3, and 4/4, 6/8 and 2/2 Alla Breve and rhythms through sixteenths and dotted eighth sixteenth and corresponding rests
 - Compose a short melody for their instrument over an assigned accompaniment
 - Evaluate (using relevant terminology) their own performance or that of another group after hearing recording of various pieces of music.
- *Develop criteria for these evaluations
- Classify by genre and style various pieces of band and solo literature from Western music

Middle School Elective – Jazz Band