

# Related Arts Course Descriptions

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**STEM – Engineering:** Application of the scientific method through the design and construction of bridges, buildings and rockets.

**Advanced Literacy – Young Adult Novels:** Students will learn to analyze and think critically about literature by using art, acting, and discussion to convey themes in literature.

**Band:** Students will explore all of the instruments and instrument families used in a band class setting. They will choose this instrument and begin the fundamentals of playing such as producing a characteristic sound sitting with proper posture and learning to read music and rhythms. Students will be able to perform rhythms in several time signatures and pieces of music in the keys of B flat, E Flat, A Flat and F. The textbook they will use is Measures of Success Book 1.

**Chorus:** Through a diverse selection of music, students will build a strong foundation of singing, performance, music reading, and listening skills. More than six performance opportunities are provided for every student, as well as individualized vocal instruction and opportunities to perform in state and district music events.

**French:** Students develop basic communication skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing in French about topics relevant to students. 6th grade topics include descriptions of self and friends, food, leisure activities, school and family.

**Graphic Art:** Students will learn very basic skills in Adobe Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator. Aside from creating artwork on the computers, students will also be creating 2D artwork by hand. Artwork created in this course will focus on bold images, typography, and visual communication. This entire course will ease students into graphic arts through a variety of art processes.

**Orchestra:** Students explore the 4 different instruments used in class: violin, viola, cello and bass. Students will work within the String Builder One book. By the end of year one, students should be able to perform basic rhythms and perform in the keys of D, G, C and F major.

**PE/Health:** In the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will be doing a variety of individual and small group activities in both physical and health education. Students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be given worksheets for homework, complete a health project and take skill and written tests as part of their grade.

**Robotics:** Robotics class uses the Engineering Process to complete specific multi-stepped challenges. Students will be able to design, build, program, test, and modify their Robots to complete open ended challenges. Students in Robotics 1 will focus on robot basics, simple building, and beginning programming.

**Spanish:** Students develop basic communication skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish about topics relevant to students. 6th grade topics include descriptions of self and friends, food, leisure activities, school and family.

**Visual Art:** Students in Art 1 study visual art in three related, ways: creating, producing, and responding to art works. The concepts and skills of visual art are explored through hands-on projects in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and textiles/fibers. Written thoughts and responses to works of art are also included in the curriculum.

# Related Arts Course Descriptions

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Advanced Literacy – CSI:** What goes on at the crime scene is called **crime scene investigation**, and what goes on in the laboratory is called **forensic** science. In this class students will use the science of forensics to study crime scenes.

**Advanced Literacy - Mystery:** If you like murder mysteries, this is the class for you. We'll study modern mysteries (The Westing Game, Clue, and your own favorites) as well as a few classics (Agatha Christie, Sherlock Holmes).

**Band:** Students will continue on their chosen instrument and perfecting technique and tone. Using the Measures of Success Book 2 they will develop into stronger musicians. At this point students should be able to play grade 2 and grade 3 levels of music. (7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels of music)

**Chorus:** Through a diverse selection of choral music, students will build their singing technique, music reading, listening, and analysis skills. More than six performance opportunities are provided for every student, as well as individualized vocal instruction and opportunities to perform in state and district music events.

**French:** Students build on what they learned in 6<sup>th</sup> grade French, developing better control of the language and knowledge of a wider variety of topics. 7<sup>th</sup> grade topics include the restaurant, house and chores, clothing, shopping and community.

**Graphic Arts:** Students will learn beginning skills in Adobe Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator. Artwork will stem from storytelling and imagination opposed to artwork from a business perspective. Artwork created in this course will focus on bold images, typography, and visual communication. Artwork will be created on both the computer, and by hand. Students will learn about abstractions, color theory, and the design process.

**Orchestra:** Students will continue on their chosen instrument from the previous year. Students will use the Mueller Rusch Book Two and will be able to perform music grade level 2 and higher. (7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.)

**PE/Health:** In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students will be introduced to team sports. They are going to be learning skills that will allow them to participate in MODIFIED team sports. The students will be responsible for being a productive team member during each team sport they play. The students will have 6 weeks of Health where they will learn how to achieve a healthy way of life. They will be given written tests, participate in fun activities and be required to do a health project.

**Robotics:** Robotics class uses the Engineering Process to complete specific multi-stepped challenges. Students will be able to design, build, program, test, and modify their Robots to complete open ended challenges. Students in Robotics 2 will focus on advanced programming and the use of sensors.

**Spanish:** Students build on what they learned in 6<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish, developing better control of the language and knowledge of a wider variety of topics. 7<sup>th</sup> grade topics include the restaurant, house and chores, clothing, shopping and community.

**Visual Art:** Students in Art 2 study visual art in three related, ways: creating, producing, and responding to art works. The concepts and skills of visual art are explored through hands-on projects in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and textiles/fibers. Written thoughts and responses to works of art are also included in the curriculum.

**World Language Exploration:** This course will use basic French and Spanish to introduce students to learning a foreign language.

# Related Arts Course Descriptions

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Advanced Literacy – Engineering:** Engineering projects apply science by building and testing, changing the design and then building again. This class involves building bridges, boats, egg drops, cities and more.

**Advanced Literacy – Journalism:** Students produce a school magazine.

**Advanced Literacy – Sports:** Students enrolled in Sports Literacy have the opportunity to learn more about their favorite sports and athletes. Sports related young adult novels are read in addition to learning about lesser-known sports from other places in the world.

**Advanced Literacy – Teen Novels for Girls:** Read novels, poems and prose about the trials and triumphs faced especially by teen girls.

**Band:** Students will develop even more on their instrument by practicing technique and musicality. They will learn to play in all keys of music going around the circle of fourths. They will perform music grade level 3 to level 4. (high school level music)

**Chorus :** A continuation of 7th Grade Chorus, Chorus 8th will continue to build upon students' knowledge of music history, singing techniques, and music theory. Opportunities for state and district events, as well as over six performance opportunities throughout the year are available. This course also prepares students for high school level choir.

**French:** Students gain better control of the French language and learn how to narrate and tell stories in the past. New topics are introduced, and students develop their ability to be more creative with the language.

**Graphic Arts:** This course will go in depth with the design software including Adobe Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator. Students will approach art from a business perspective. They will learn about advertising, print media, and package design. Students will focus on identity in this course- the identity of a company, of themselves and of others.

**Orchestra:** Students will learn to perform in 3rd position, will learn to play in the keys of C, G, D, A, F, Bb, and Eb. They will perform music grade level 2 1/2 to level 4. (high school level)

**PE/Health:** In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students will be participating in what we call “the sport ed. Model”. IN this model, students will be responsible for participation, officiating, coaching, and keeping stats for each different sport they will be learning. Each unit is 2 weeks long and every student will be graded on all aspects of the sport ed. Model. Students will also be participating in 6 weeks of Health that will include a major health project and different activities and lessons about various health issues in order to help them to build their knowledge of how to live a healthy life.

**Robotics:** Robotics class uses the Engineering Process to complete specific multi-stepped challenges. Students will be able to design, build, program, test, and modify their Robots to complete open ended challenges. Students in Robotics 3 will focus on advanced programming, use of complex sensors and data logging.

**Spanish:** Students gain better control of the Spanish language and learn how to narrate and tell stories in the past. New topics are introduced, and students develop their ability to be more creative with the language.

**Visual Art:** Students in Art 3 continue to study visual art in three related, ways: creating, producing, and responding to art works. The concepts and skills of visual art learned in Art 2 are explored in more depth, and more complex hands-on projects in drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and textiles/fibers. Written thoughts and responses to works of art are also included in the curriculum.

**World Language Exploration:** Students who have not taken a language in middle school will benefit from this course that will give them a head start on their high school language requirement.