

May 18, 2015

To Parents/Guardians of Seventh Grade Students:

Eighth grade Wheel and Music Courses have changed for the 2015-2016 school year. Students have the opportunity to choose the following music courses: Band, Choir, Band/Choir (every other day) or Band and Choir (everyday). Students have the opportunity to choose four of the following Wheel courses: Project Lead the Way, Art, Health, Technology Education and Life Skills. Additionally, students have the opportunity to choose year-long French or Spanish for high school credit. Here are the possible Wheel/ Music/Foreign Language configurations:

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Band everyday	Band everyday	Choir everyday	Band and Choir every other day	Year-long Spanish <u>OR</u> French
Choir everyday	Year-long French <u>OR</u> Spanish <u>OR</u> 4 Wheel Classes	Year-long French <u>OR</u> Spanish <u>OR</u> 4 Wheel Classes	Year-long French <u>OR</u> Spanish <u>OR</u> 4 Wheel Classes	4 Wheel Classes

If Wheel Classes are selected, students must rank the following courses according to preference: Technology Education, Art, Health, Life Skills and Project Lead the Way. Students will receive **four** of their choices as each wheel class will be one quarter long. Descriptions of the preference courses are included below. Please note that preferences are not guaranteed.

As our community continues to grow and our enrollment increases, it is imperative that we have accurate course selections so that appropriate staffing decisions may be made. Therefore, please discuss these course options and make your selection after careful consideration. Changes in music scheduling beyond the first five days of the new school year will negatively affect your child's music grade for the first nine weeks of school.

To simplify elective course selection for your child, please select the link below and indicate your child's options no later than Friday, May 22, 2015.

<http://goo.gl/forms/vOa8ICVz14>

Sincerely,

Mark E. Kurz
Principal

Health

Students will have the opportunity to learn the process of maturity with the development of the human body. They will also learn and understand the side effects of sexual intercourse and sexual activity along with the warning signs of dating violence. The students will also explore the heart and circulatory system and how to stay healthy along with avoiding drugs and alcohol.

Global Connections

Students will develop information literacy skills by using a framework with which they can use to evaluate a variety of web-based and online resources. Students will develop a global context and frame of reference as they consider potential career pathways. Students will use Chrome books as an instructional tool on a regular basis as they access a variety of online resources.

Art

This is mainly a hands-on course. A student could experience an acrylic painting, a clay/glazed project, a mixed media project such as a fabric/ yarn weaving, a “recycled” sculpture, or a scratchboard drawing. Techniques, art history, art criticism will be taught in relationship to the Art Elements and Principles. Choices in the 3 Categories of Art will be encouraged for self-expression!

Technology Education

This is a hands-on course in woodworking and technology. It is designed to instruct students in the areas of building projects, knowledge of woods, and project procedures. Students will construct various projects as well as have the opportunity to create, design and build personal projects of their choice with teacher guidance and close on. Projects include: Corn Hole Boards, CO₂ Cars and other woodworking projects.

Project Lead the Way

Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

Spanish

This class is a high school level Spanish I class. This class will count for high school credit. The class focuses on Spanish pronunciation, reading in target language, and writing in the target language. Spanish conversational skills are stressed as well as fundamental grammar and cultural understanding.

French

This class is a high school level French I class. This class will count for high school credit. The class focuses on French pronunciation, reading in target language, and writing in the target language. French conversational skills are stressed as well as fundamental grammar and cultural understanding.