



ELECTIVES 2024-2025

7th and 8th Grade

ART + BIOLOGY: Self-Portraits

Trimester 1

Students will learn how to draw their self-portraits over the course of the trimester. By studying facial features, the skull, and the bones of the face, students will practice rendering the facial structure and placement of highlight and shadow. Each component of the face will be studied separately by exploring the anatomy of each and ultimately drawing them.

Forensic facial reconstruction will also be studied to allow for deeper understanding of bone, soft tissue, and how the planes of the face are formed. In addition, students will learn how to create form and depth in a 2D drawing by practicing pencil techniques that will be used in their final self-portrait.

For the grand finale, the final self-portrait will be compared to the initial one!

ART + DESIGN: Fashion Illustration

Trimester 2

Fashion Illustration will begin with drawing the elongated and exaggerated fashion figure commonly seen in fashion magazines. Students will learn the nine-head rule for rendering stylized figures, as opposed to realistic representations. Time will be spent on drawing facial features, hands and feet, and stances based on bone structure and musculature. In addition, lessons on layering color to create textures (fur, sequins, satin, etc.) and folds in fabric will be shared with the class.

Students will design their own collections and mood boards to end the trimester!

ART + HISTORY: Ancient Egypt

Trimester 3

This course will explore the art and historical significance of Ancient Egypt, one of the most advanced civilizations in history! The units will explore the advancements, dynasties, and art of the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms, including the intermediate periods in between in which Egypt experienced division between two power bases. We will delve into pyramids, social structures, funerary practices, the most powerful ruling families, and noteworthy pharaohs within those groups.

The class will focus too on the art of Ancient Egypt such as pottery, sculpture, architecture, and wall art paintings known as reliefs. Some art projects include making faux papyrus, canopic jar printmaking, ceramic sarcophagi and more.

Music Electives

Creating Music

Trimester 1 & 2

Students will complete capsule projects that demonstrate their knowledge of basic music theory concepts, writing musical notation, and basic piano skills. This trimester, students will use their creativity to set poetry, scripture, or prayers to music, and write their own lyrics to eventually compose an original song.

Music with Technology

Trimester 3

Students will use Garageband, iMovie, and other tools to complete capsule projects that involve storytelling through music, composing music for others, learning about the different ways to listen and respond to music digitally, and sharing your creativity with your classmates.

Intro to Guitar

Trimester 3

In this elective, students will learn some basic guitar techniques and history. We will begin with a look at where guitars originated, and how they are made and innovated. We will then dive into different parts of the guitar and how they work together to make music, including some of the interesting ways artists have changed the sound of the guitar throughout its history. Lastly we will learn basic chord structures and progressions, giving students an opportunity to perform their favorite songs.

STEM Electives

eCybermission Student Choice Engineering Competition

Trimester 1

This course will have students find a problem in their community, and engineer a solution using any technology they would like. Students will then research the problem, design a prototype, test the prototype, iterate their solutions, and create an online presentation. eCybermission is a national competition sponsored by the US Army and the NSTA. (Students who take this course cannot take the Robotics Course the Following Trimester.)

Robotics

Trimester 2

Students will create a robot designed to compete in the US Army/NSTA eCybermission. The robot prototype will have to help find a solution to a problem in the community and designed to solve the problem. Students can use Lego Mindstorm Robotics or Vex V5 robots with simple programming to more advanced programming.

Beginning Animation

Trimester 3

Learn how to create your own animated short using stop-motion animation or 2D drawing animation. You will discover the fundamentals of shots and scenes, keyframes, timing, easing, spacing, and onion skinning. Then we will delve into Disney's 12 principles of animation to help make your animation come alive and to tell a story.

Fantasy Sports

Trimester 1

In this elective, students will have the opportunity to create fantasy teams and leagues for football, basketball, baseball and hockey. Students will learn about different ways to set-up fantasy leagues. Students will also learn different ways to draft teams including: auction drafts, live drafts, and virtual drafts. Students will have time to research players and learn about important statistics in each sport. Throughout the trimester, students will come to class and tally points that have been accumulated by their fantasy teams as well as propose trades with fellow students. By the end of the trimester, students will have a greater knowledge of sports related statistics.

Perilous Math

Trimester 2

Students will dive into adventures, using their math skills to avoid grave consequences! Each student will use The Book of Perfectly Perilous Math: 24 Death Defying Challenges for Young

Mathematicians by Sean Connolly which serves as a workbook for Math problems they won't commonly encounter in class. Whether it's just for fun or you enjoy dodging danger, come out to see what Perilous Math has to offer. They will also work through math projects that incorporate mathematics that have been learned through the students' math careers to this point. Some projects will include making food budgets, designing a dream house, using proportions to determine the height of extremely tall objects, determining how many kleenex will fit in my room, and more.

Strength and Conditioning

Trimester 2 & 3

Strength and Conditioning training involves a wide range of exercises developed to build a variety of skills with a focus on stability, strength, endurance, power, speed and agility. In this elective, students will learn the proper form and technique to use while exercising, resulting in gained confidence and athletic performance. Safety will be a priority. This elective will also help promote communication, character and teamwork.

Sports Management

Trimester 1

Sports management refers to the management of various business functions in sports and recreation. Students will learn a variety of skills related to organizing, planning, directing, budgeting, leading and evaluating sport related activities. This elective will also focus on creating spreadsheets, working with scoreboards, learning to officiate games along with scoring and keeping stats. The students will learn all ends of a sport activity.