

2008-2009 Course Selection: 8th Grade

Please make your course selections for the coming school year. Feel free to add comments to help clarify your preferences. Course descriptions for the electives are on the back.

► Core Courses:

- Bible New Testament
- English 8/7
- Life Science
- World Studies
- Physical Education

- Spanish 8

(Spanish department determines placement in normal, mainstream SSL, or tutoring)

Choose math track:

- Pre-Algebra (normal)
- Algebra I (advanced)
(70% required to be promoted to the next level)

► Elective Courses:

Rank your #1, #2 and #3 preferred elective choices in each semester. Please explain any special interests or reasons to be in any of the classes (i.e. "Advanced Art is my #1 choice because I plan to major in Art in college.").

First Semester

- _____ Basic Art
- _____ C.S. Lewis Fiction
- _____ Dance
- _____ Health

Second Semester

- _____ Alternative Sports
- _____ Art / Music Appreciation
- _____ Choir
- _____ Drama

► Extra-Curricular Activities:

Mark any of the following areas that you wish to participate in next year.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Club – recycling and stewardship club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball | <input type="checkbox"/> IGNITE – community service club |

I understand that although every attempt will be made to meet student requests, limitations of class size, teacher availability, and requirements for graduation may make my first choice unavailable. In such cases, taking all of my stated priorities into consideration, I will allow the school to make the elective decision in my best interest.

Student name: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Please complete this form and return it to the school office by Friday, June 6. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 8, 2008. Schedule changes will only be made in extraordinary circumstances.

8th Grade Electives

Basic Art: Students in Basic Art will be taught principles of art such as line, shape, value, perspective, composition, color, and design. Students will complete a variety of weekly drawing assignments using pencils and sketchbooks and a variety of media such as tempera paint, watercolor, charcoal, pastel, and construction paper. Additionally students will research famous artists and make class presentations on their findings.

C.S. Lewis Fiction: Students will explore several of the fictional works of C.S. Lewis, including *The Screwtape Letters*; *The Chronicles of Narnia*; his space trilogy: *Perelandra*, *Out of the Silent Planet*, and *That Hideous Strength*; and *The Great Divorce*. The class will involve reading, discussion and writing, with a short time devoted to studying the life of the author.

Dance: Students will develop corporal expression through rhythm, melody and harmony, deepening their non-verbal expressive capabilities. Students will learn basic dance elements in classic, modern and folk styles. They will understand choreography, scenic movement and dance-acting.

Health: Students will learn about physical, emotional, and spiritual health. As students study the human body, they will focus on the cardiorespiratory, musculoskeletal, and nervous systems. Students will look at healthy and unhealthy habits that affect those body systems. The course will also include units on safety, first aid, and creating & maintaining healthy relationships.

Alternative Sports: Students will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills in several different partner and individual sports.

Art / Music Appreciation: The purpose of this course is to help students acquire musical and art literacy by presenting to them great musical works and works of art found throughout history, starting with the Middle Ages. The students will be introduced to musical instruments, compositional forms, important vocabulary and famous composers and artists. This course is an excellent vehicle for showing the student how music and art have been an integral part of Christian praise and worship throughout the ages.

Choir: Students will participate in choir activities including vocal technique exercises, tonal and rhythm exercises that facilitate musical understanding, and rehearsal of songs that span various musical styles. Students will probably participate in a spring musical or concert.

Drama: This class will offer students a chance to explore the world of acting while becoming familiar with a variety of materials. Students will learn and practice vocal and nonverbal presentation skills. They will be able to apply and hone their skills through improvisation, mime, puppetry, storytelling, monologues, and short skits. In addition to performance skills, the class will learn about set design and props by assisting with other school productions. As part of this class, students will be involved in at least one chapel and will perform for various elementary grades.