

2011-2012 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 7/8
- Earth Science
- Latin American History
- Physical Education

- Spanish 8

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

Choose math track:

- Pre-Algebra (normal, 70% final grade in Math 7 required)
- Algebra I (advanced, 80% final grade in Pre-Algebra required)

➤ 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
- _____ Health
- _____ Intro Guitar (teacher initials: _____)

Second Semester

- _____ Alternative Sports
- _____ Arts/Crafts
- _____ Choir (teacher initials: _____)
- _____ Drama

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 3. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 5, 2011. 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.

Health: Students will learn about physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health. As students study the human body, they will cover the cardio respiratory, 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.

Intro Guitar: Students will receive guitar instruction on a beginner level. *Students must have their own guitar.*

Alternative Sports: Students will get the chance to play team and individual sports that are not normally played at our school, including lawn games. Students will have classroom as well as playing time, which will take place on the soccer field or basketball court. The time in the classroom will be spent learning the game: rules, origin and history, strategy, etc. Playing time will be spent playing the game and mastering the specific skills involved.

Arts/Crafts: Students will be introduced to basic techniques of a variety of crafts, and develop their ability to design and create art pieces. Students will develop a love for creating art out of common materials and will learn to appreciate different kinds of art. *Taught in Spanish.*

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 dramatic reading, improvisation, storytelling, monologues, and short skits. As part of this class, students will be involved in at least one chapel and will perform for various audiences.