

7TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2013-2014

Exploratory Program

All students will complete the following four courses if they choose the Exploratory Program.

Each course will meet for nine weeks.

Art—Welcome to “Isms”! Students will be learning about some of the major Art movements that have brought us from the turn of the century to present day: Impressionism, Expressionism, Cubism, and Surrealism. Students will learn about several artists and their styles, how he/she created the Art and will learn to do the various styles using paint, oil pastel, clay, and pencils.

Computer—Students will develop intermediate skills in using a Windows operating system, Microsoft Office, and the Internet. They will explore social and ethical issues related to technology. They will discuss the use of technology to locate and evaluate information from a variety of sources. Touch typing skills will also be reinforced.

Physical Education— Seventh grade PE uses many of the same activities as the previous year. Consistent practice is the best way to improve skills and become more physically fit. New opportunities and interactions increase student success with sports and physical fitness.

Spanish—The purpose of Spanish in the middle school is to teach an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. A combination of vocabulary, grammar, and culture is taught and the objective of Spanish is to give the students a firm foundation on which to build language skills and to inspire in them an enthusiasm for the language and the culture.

Music Programs

Participation in music integrates a person's physical, intellectual and expressive qualities. This provides a very positive experience during an influential period in the lives of students. Students that choose band, orchestra or choir will meet each day for the entire year.

Band -- The Seventh Grade Band is designed to develop the skills, understandings, and attitudes necessary to properly perform instrumental music. The course content includes the study of technical exercises designed to develop the student's performance ability, plus the study of various styles of music written by many different composers representing different periods of history. Prior experience is not required; participation outside class time is required for Concerts, and there are options for additional activities including All-District Band, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and various Honor Bands.

Orchestra--The CAL 7th/8th grade Orchestra class is designed to develop string technique and performance ability to the advancing string student. Class time will include technical development on the instrument and rehearsal of performance literature. Weekly practice logs and concert performances are required for this class. Participation outside class time is required.

Choir --- Seventh Grade Choir is a non-auditioned group for students desiring to develop and enhance fundamental vocal skills independently and as an ensemble. They will perform as their own ensemble, as well as in combination with 6th and 8th grade choirs. Choir meets every day with the purpose of emphasizing basic choral skills, which include music literacy, sight reading methods, and vocal technique. Students will perform regularly and compete in choral festivals throughout the duration of the class. Participation outside class time is required.

Study Hall

Study Hall – This course is designed for independent quiet study time. Homework help will not be given in class, and this will not be considered time for tutoring. Students will be required to work silently and diligently. Students will be placed in this course with other students of the same grade level and with teachers who teach their grade level. As with other elective options, students and parents will not have a choice as to which period this study hall is scheduled.