

# Independence Middle School Course Enrollment Information

2015-2016

# P.E./Health: 6th-8th

## **Physical Education:**

Students learn the health-related benefits of regular physical activity and the skills to adopt a physically active, healthy lifestyle. The PE program also provides an excellent opportunity to ensure that students develop positive social skills, cooperate with others, and accept responsibility for their own actions. This class will focus on team sports concepts and skills and a variety of other fitness activities.

**Health:** Students learn about health behaviors that will safeguard their health as well as information related to understanding puberty and the reproductive process. Students are taught about factors in their environment that impact, not only their health and the health of their families, but the health of their communities as well. Middle school students learn to refine their critical-thinking skills to avoid unsafe situations, analyze health information and products, and maintain healthy relationships. Students begin to investigate health in the broader context of community.

# P.E./Health: Options for 7-8 Grade

**Personal Wellness:** Students learn the health-related benefits of regular physical activity and the skills to adopt a physically active, healthy lifestyle. The PE program also provides an excellent opportunity to ensure that students develop positive social skills, cooperate with others, and accept responsibility for their own actions. This class is intended for students who learn best in a non-competitive learning environment.

**Strength & Conditioning:** Strength and Conditioning class will provide an opportunity for development of strength and conditioning for various sports and fitness related activities. Free weights, exercise machines and conditioning activities will be incorporated to promote improvement in strength, endurance, balance, agility, and speed. Students will lift 3 days each week, and will participate in conditioning activities on 1-2 times per week. Proper technique, safety precautions and proper application of the Principles of Training will be emphasized. A plan to achieve goals will be developed and implemented during this year long course. This course also fulfills the requirements for health credits set forth by the district.

# Foreign Language

## Introduction to Spanish - One Semester

**This class is open to both 7th and 8th graders and provides students with the necessary foundation for the continued study of Spanish.**

**It presents basic structure and grammar of the Spanish language and encourages conversation with the introduction of basic vocabulary.**

**Cultural activities introduce the student to the customs and geography of the Spanish speaking countries.**

# Foreign Language

## Spanish I - Two Semesters

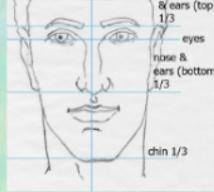
This is a high school level course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students only. It may be taken for high school credit. It is a fast paced study of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures.

This class focuses on providing students the opportunities to listen and speak in Spanish, as well as, learning to read and write Spanish. Class activities are based on real-life communication situations and cultural experiences. In order to take the Spanish I course a student must have earned a C or above in the ELA Writing class during semester 1 of their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year.

# Visual Arts



Click picture to view



# 6th Grade Art

Students will...

- Explore art materials to create original works of art and begin to develop basic knowledge of the Elements of Design (Line, Shape, Color, Value, Form, Texture, and Space).
- Learn to develop individual viewpoints about art and how it impacts the world we live in.





# VISUAL ARTS I

7th Graders (and 8th graders who did not take art as a 7th grader).

Prerequisite for Visual Art II

Students will...

- Explore a variety of art materials and techniques to create 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional works of art.
- Learn to develop a detailed description of a work or art and analyze how the Elements of Design were used.
- Explore historical and societal impact of art in our world.



# VISUAL ARTS II

*(Second semester 7th graders and  
1st semester 8th graders)*

**Prerequisite for Visual Art III**

**Students will...**

- Explore higher level experiences in 2-D and 3-D art.
- Develop a basic foundation of art criticism (describe, analyze, interpret, and judge) and learn to provide evidence to communicate and express ideas and opinions.
- Begin to explore the Principles of Design (Balance, Contrast, Emphasis, Movement, Pattern, Rhythm, and Unity).
- Develop A broader awareness of the historical and societal impact of art in our world.





# VISUAL ARTS III

(Second semester 8th graders)

Students will...

- Explore advanced experiences with a variety of art materials and techniques to create 2-Dimensional and 3-Dimensional works of art.
- Develop a solid foundation of art criticism and skills to communicate individual ideas and opinions about art by providing details and evidence to support their opinion.
- Express ideas and opinions regarding the historical and societal impact of art in our world.



DESCRIBE	ANALYZE
<p>Describe: Observe - Interpret - Identify - Explain - Evaluate</p> <p>From an 8-point Likert scale, students rate the quality of the work based on the criteria listed below. The total score is the sum of the ratings for each criterion.</p>	<p>Analyze: Explain why the work is or is not effective. Use the criteria listed below to support your analysis. Provide evidence from the work to support your analysis.</p>
<p>1. The subject is clearly identifiable.</p> <p>2. The drawing is well-proportioned and balanced.</p> <p>3. The drawing is well-executed and shows evidence of planning.</p>	<p>4. The drawing is well-executed and shows evidence of planning.</p> <p>5. The drawing is well-executed and shows evidence of planning.</p>
INTERPRET	JUDGE

# Performing Arts

- Acting and Debate
- Advanced Acting and Debate
- Competitive Drama
- Stagecraft



# Acting and Debate - 7th and 8th

- Semester Long
- Acting Skills
- Debate Skills
- Required for Advanced Acting and Debate



# Advanced Acting and Debate

## 7th and 8th

- Semester Long
- Advanced skills
- Class performances
- Must have taken Acting and Debate



# Competitive Drama - 7th and 8th

- Highly motivated students
- Performance techniques for competition
- Individual and duet performances
- Compete in tournaments
- MSHSAA eligibility required in order to perform at competitions



# Stagecraft - 7th and 8th

- Create sets, props and costumes for the Fall Production
- Tool identification and safety
- Construction techniques
- Stage painting techniques
- Costuming and make-up



# Guitar - 8th grade

This class is for the beginner or experienced guitar player. Learn to play popular songs, chords, and develop your guitar skills.

# 7th Grade Choir and 8th Grade Choir

Perform with these choirs at concerts and competition. Develop your singing skills and you may even get some solos in these choirs.

# Honor Choir - 7th and 8th

This exclusive, audition only choir not only performs in concerts and at competition, but also goes on field trips for outside performances.

# 7th Grade Orchestra and 8th Grade Orchestra

These classes are for students who took Orchestra the previous year. Participate in concerts, contests, and all sorts of performances throughout the year.

# Band

## 7th Grade

Students will continue to acquire skills in recognizing and playing correct notes, rhythms, and develop the ability to work and perform with other students.

Students will provide their own instruments with a few exceptions

Participation in extra-curricular ensembles may be available, such as pep/jazz band and solo/small ensemble.

At home practice and all concert/contest participation are required and are part of the students grade.

Prerequisite - Passing 6th grade band

## 8th Grade

-This course combines traditional performance opportunities with new ensembles to showcase student's talents.

- The students will participate in 8th grade marching band as well as concert band, and have the opportunity to audition for honor groups.

-Students will have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular groups such as pep/jazz band.

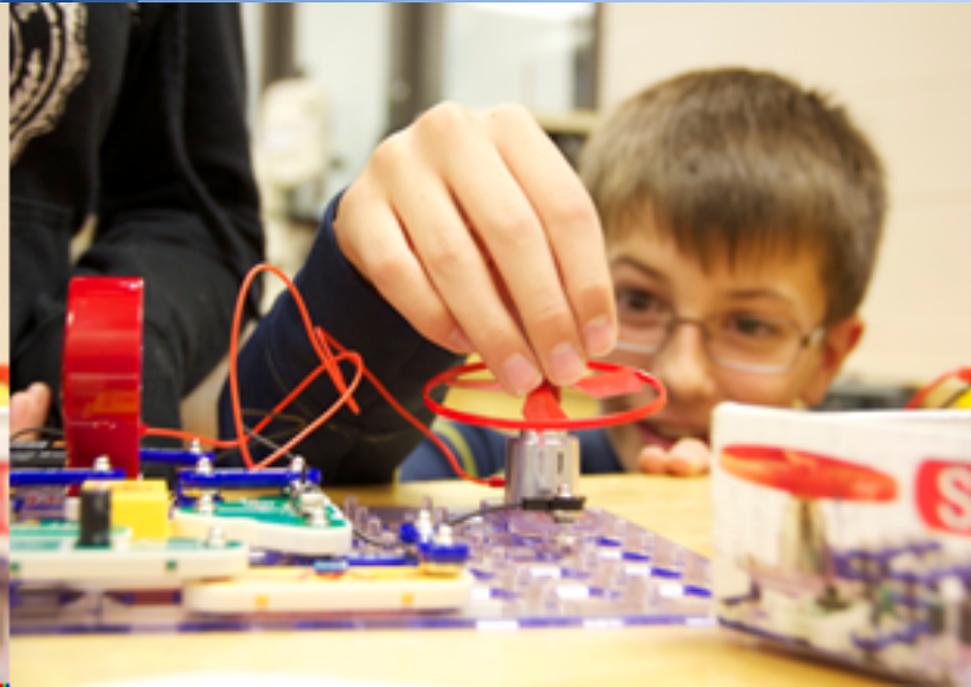
-At home practice and concert/contest participation are requirements, and included in the students grade

-Prerequisite - Passing 7th grade band

# Project Lead the Way



Engage Students' Natural Curiosity and Imagination





# Project Lead the Way



## **Automation & Robotics**

Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

## **Design & Modeling**

Students 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.



# Music



and each Graders can  
year-long  
for know.

mobvty