

Independence Middle School Course Enrollment Information

2016-2017

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 8th 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 7th grade year.

Visual Arts



Click picture to view

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



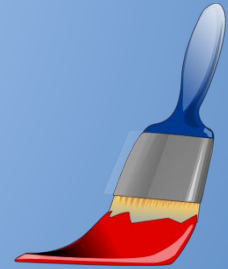
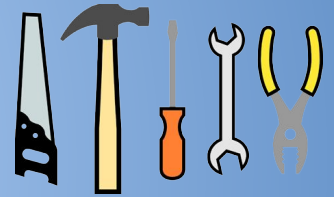
Competitive Drama - 7th and 8th

- 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.

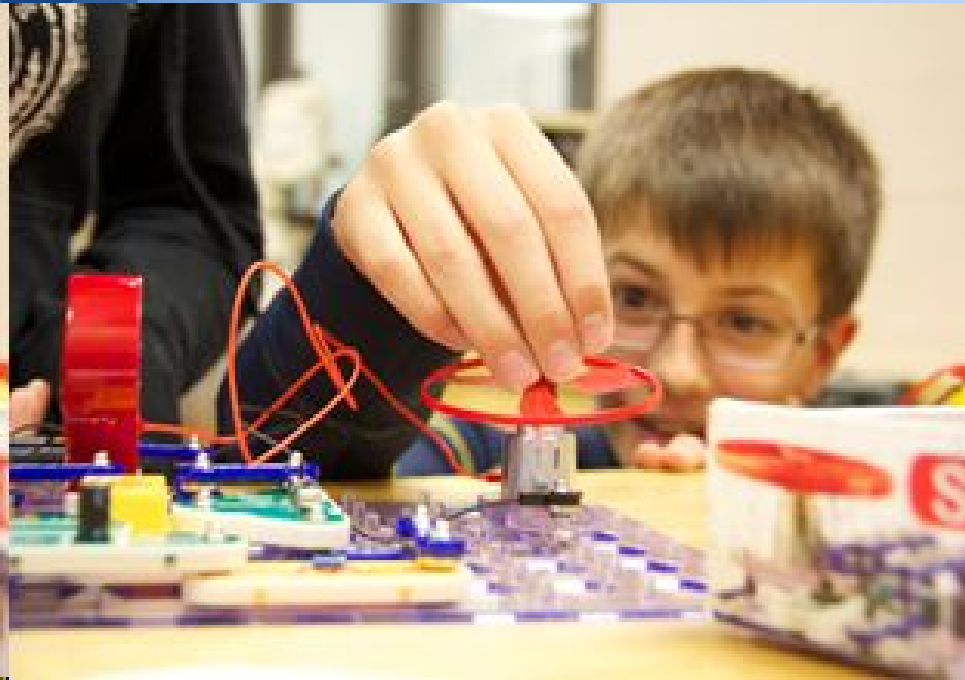
-At home practice and concert/contest participation are requirements, and included in the students grade

-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.

Project Lead the Way



Prerequisite: Any student planning to take Flight and Space or Medical Detectives must have TAKEN AND PASSED Automation & Robotics OR Design and Modeling.

Flight and Space

Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel.

Medical Detectives

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a “crime scene.” They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.



Music



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