

RMS Curriculum Night

Connections

During the Connection block, students alternate Health and Physical Education with other Connection classes. Students rotate through different Connections offerings each nine week period unless they have the year-long classes of Band and Chorus.

The Connections classes encompass three broad areas: Fine Arts, Personal Learning, and Vocational. The classes are graded using 80% summative and 20% formative.

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Newspaper

Newspaper is an exciting course that allows students to explore various aspects of the printed newspaper as well as develop skills that will lead to the production of *The Golden Times*, the RMS school newspaper. The students receive specific instructions covering photography, interviewing, developing news stories, editing, and layout designing. The students will also explore the local newspaper to sharpen their reading skills, vocabulary development, and study skills.

Technology and Engineering

This course introduces students to the engineering design process while looking at technological impacts on society through practical application and hands-on activities. Exposure to engineering and technology related careers, work ethics, and leadership skills will be important components in this course.

Physical Education (PE)

The Physical Education program at Riverwatch Middle School is designed to introduce students to a variety of physical activities which include fitness, lifetime sports, recreational sports, rhythm and dance, and team sports. Beginning in the 2011 – 2012 school year, the law requires each local school district to conduct an annual fitness assessment program for all students in grades 1 – 12 enrolled in Georgia public school physical education classes taught by certified physical education teachers. The State Board of Education adopted the Fitnessgram program as the state's physical fitness assessment tool. The assessment measures three components of health-related physical fitness: aerobic capacity, body composition, and muscular strength. Students will become involved in a multitude of fitness activities that instill enthusiasm while creating positive life skills and habits.

Course/Instructor List

- Art
Albie McCann
- Band
Matt Koperniak
- Chorus
Miriam Reynolds
- Engineering and Technology
Jeff Whiting
- Exploring Communication Technology
Suzy Ruckert
- Health and PE
Jeff Brumbelow
Terri Gill
Wendy Hill
Chuck Pruitt
Shannon Hackett
Natalie Viti
Josh Unger
- Newspaper and Yearbook
Linda Scheaffer

Yearbook

Yearbook is now offered as a connections class and is open to eighth graders only. Students must apply in the spring of their seventh grade year to be selected as member of the yearbook staff. The RMS yearbook is created and produced entirely by the yearbook staff. Although most of the production is completed in class, the staff is expected to spend time before and/or after school hours when needed to meet deadline dates. The staff is also expected to attend after school activities for the purpose of taking pictures.

Art

Art students will gain an understanding of the visual arts world through studio practices, art criticism, examining art history, and, of course, art production. Using the *elements of art* and the *principles of design*, students will solve problems visually in two dimensional (2-D) and/or three dimensional (3-D) forms. The students will develop critical thinking skills through the process of completing tasks, discussion, and the evaluation of works. Projects and curriculum are developed to address the Georgia Performance Standards.

Health

The Health Education is a nine-week course offered to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Its purpose is to study physical, mental, emotional, and social well being. It seeks to provide each student with the information and skills necessary to lead a healthy and active lifestyle. Students participate in enriching learning activities central to health topics that encourage discussion and critical thinking. The curriculum differs with each grade level and the course topics are located on our Health website at www.forsyth.k12.ga.us at Riverwatch Middle School.

Exploring Communication Technology

Exploring Communication Technology is designed to teach students how to integrate the use of computer applications and research opportunities into academic and real life situations. Programs include, but are not limited to, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, graphic design, Photostory and MovieMaker. Activities are accomplished through group and individual work.

Thank You!