

SMS Course Information

Grade 7



Full Year Elective Opportunities

Band- This class explores different types of music and teaches more complex music. Students will become more familiar with the concepts that they have learned in the past. We will have at least 2 concerts, one in the winter as well as one in the spring to show off some of the hard work the students have been putting in. Your student will need to practice their instrument on their own to be able to keep up with the pace of the class.

Chorus- In this performing arts class, we will be exploring different types of music and learning complex music as the students become more familiar with the concepts that they have learned in the past. There will be two concerts to show off what we have been working on. If you love to sing and want to learn more about it, this is the elective for you.

Spanish A- Full year course designed with the intention of students developing fluency in the Spanish language. Students acquire skills in speaking, listening, writing and reading in Spanish. The course objectives will focus on learning the vocabulary and grammar that allow students to communicate with others on a basic level in Spanish. *This course is a prerequisite to Middle School Spanish B for 8th Grade.*

Art Appreciation- Students will advance their art skills past the foundation level. This class is for passionate art students who want to refine and hone their skills and techniques in both 2D and 3D art with materials including drawing, painting, sculpting, printing, clay, and more. Students will experience lessons that incorporate art production, art history, and aesthetics.

Semester Course Opportunities

Introduction to Spanish- A semester course which offers basic Spanish language skills. Students will be introduced to the Spanish language with basic conversational topics such as greetings, numbers, colors, clothing, and weather. Students will also learn about the culture, food, music and daily life in Latin America.

Home Economics- Learning basic cooking and sewing skills provides students with foundational skills needed in everyday living.

Art Appreciation – Students will discover the many ways art impacts their lives and help students realize their own unique artistic abilities. To achieve this, students will experience lessons that incorporate art production, art history, and aesthetics. Students will be involved in projects designed to teach the basic elements and principals of design as well as provide opportunities to learn about artists from a variety of different cultures. Students will explore a wide range of techniques and materials including sketching, painting, clay work, sculpting, paper projects, printmaking, and more.

Music Appreciation - This course is designed to help students understand how music is integrated into many aspects of daily lives, including other subject areas (i.e. math, science, social studies). The lives of several composers are examined, as is the history of popular American music and the musical theatre.

Agricultural Science Technology- This course is an introduction to agricultural systems and technologies combined with computer access and usage. Students will be accessing information through computer use, lab activities and guest speakers. Students will be extensively involved with all phases of the Smyrna Agricultural

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science Department including FFA, Environmental Resources, Wildlife Management, Agribusiness Management and Agricultural Mechanics and Technology.

Computer Technology- This course is an introductory keyboarding and Microsoft Office class. Students acquire proper technique for managing the keyboard. They learn basic skills for completing several types of projects using Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power Point. Completion of the course meets the state requirements for computer literacy, which focus on word processing, spreadsheet, presentation software, basic computer terminology, and computer ethics.

STEM- Green Architecture - Students learn how to apply environmentally friendly concepts to the field of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using 3D architectural design software.

STEM-Flight and Space - Students become engineers as they design, prototype, and test models to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

STEM-Design and Modeling - Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child.

Public Speaking- This course will focus on mastering a major skill that many CEO's and employers say is the number one job skill, which is the art of successful communication. In Public Speaking, students will develop this critical skill by learning to organize their thoughts in practicing interpersonal communication skills. Students will learn how to debate and defend a current topic/issue.

Philanthropy and Future Readiness- This course will focus on volunteerism. Students will also learn life skills such as creating a resume and organizing events.

Novel Studies - Students will engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Students will reshape and add onto their understanding of literature as they construct meaning with other readers.

Wellness- General Wellness is a class that explores various ways to nurture yourself. Course will include mindfulness, healthy eating habits, and strategies to improve physical health.

Inclusion in the Community- This course is designed to promote meaningful social inclusion in our community by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities to create accepting school environments. The primary objective is to provide opportunities for students to use the diversity that naturally exists to make our community stronger. As a Special Olympics Unified Champion School we will utilize unified sports, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement to achieve our goals.