

Half Hollow Hills CSD

ART DEPARTMENT

COMMON CORE INITIATIVE

Department Mission Statement:

“The art staff in Half Hollow Hills recognizes the value the arts have in developing the human mind as a whole and in contributing to the Common Core State Standards initiative. Within this realization, we understand the importance of making common connections with all subject areas and whenever practicable, seek opportunities to do so.”

What are we doing in our art classes to support the Common Core Initiative?

- We infuse children’s literature into our elementary lessons as the introduction to a new art project.
- We relate our art lessons to historical events and time periods, most intensely in courses such as AP Art History.
- We enhance students’ competency in literacy through arts-specific, content-area vocabulary.
- We reinforce math by integrating quality, precise measuring, perspective, and the use and understanding of geometric shapes.
- We collaborate with teachers in other subject areas to connect our lessons with classroom units of study.

- We utilize interpretation, comparative analysis, critique, and in-depth studies of works similar to the critical analysis and evaluation of literary works.
- We endorse and incorporate repetitive reinforcement as a teaching strategy to obtain mastery learning.
- We teach our students how to listen and observe more intensely and with greater depth.
- We teach our students life-long organizational skills (portfolios) and proper work habits (home practice) that traverses all disciplines.
- We teach our students foreign languages such as Latin, Italian, French, Swahili, German, and American Sign Language throughout various global works of art.
- We encourage students to write self-reflections and construct self-assessments on their completed artwork and portfolios.
- We teach descriptive language as part of the art critiquing process.
- We promote and engage our students in the educational philosophy of *Graduation by Exhibition* in our portfolio assessments.
- We teach our students technology literacy in the art classroom, preparing them for the 21st Century work place.
- We integrate modern technologies within the classroom, and relate our art lessons to real-life scenarios.
- We encourage students to understand and appreciate other perspectives and cultures through art lessons.
- We allow students the use of digital media and visual projects/assignments to express their feelings and emotions.