



Junior High Elective and Enrichment Course Descriptions



Character Education (Grades 5 and 6)

This year-long course is designed to prepare students to become productive members of a democratic society based on the assumption that various character traits are accepted values, and that all individuals can demonstrate personal and social accountability. An important part of a well-rounded education is teaching students about good character and character traits. Many aspects of character will be our focus, including moral, performance, intellectual, and civic.

Students will achieve growth in academics, social-emotional learning, citizenship, leadership, and service. They will acquire skills related to optimistic thinking, self-management, relationship skills, goal-directed behavior, decision making, personal responsibility, and self-awareness.

Digital Art (Grade 6)

Digital Art involves everything from advertising to animation to photography and more! Students will sharpen their creative skills. This course aims to enhance computer literacy, analyze current and emerging technologies, and challenge each student to produce unique and creative multimedia projects. They will learn to use a variety of equipment and software programs to create various types of media. Concepts may include digital imaging, photo manipulation, graphic design, webpage design, basic animation, storage and file management, and copyright/ethical issues.



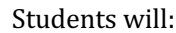
Journalism/Yearbook (Grades 7 and 8)

This year-long course is designed for students who wish to create and market a yearbook and other media that records their middle school memories and events. This course offers students a creative process that also incorporates real-world skills like working as a team and meeting deadlines.

The student will:

- Improve writing skills through the study of news writing, feature writing, headline writing, and editorial writing
- Study yearbook design and advertising
- Understand copyright laws and the First Amendment
- Collaborate with others in a cooperative effort in the planning and production of the school yearbook
- Develop the yearbook within time constraints and budget limitations
- Oversee the publication of the yearbook
- Create and implement advertising and circulation campaigns for the yearbook
- Produce and edit photographs
- Write and edit/proofread copy
- Produce effective graphic art
- Develop interviewing skills

Keyboarding is a fall semester course that familiarizes students with the keyboard and builds skills essential to life, especially in the workplace. Emphasis is placed on correct typing techniques and practice in production problems such as centering, letters, memos, reports, and tables using Microsoft Office and other programs.




- Digital Literacy is the extension of Keyboarding and is offered in the spring. This course is designed to promote and foster the continuously developing norms of appropriate, responsible, and empowered technology use.

- Digital access
- Digital commerce
- Digital communication and collaboration
- Digital etiquette
- Digital fluency
- Digital health and welfare
- Digital law
- Digital rights and responsibilities
- Digital security and privacy



voices to fight against injustices. Students will understand the value of resiliency and how to utilize a framework for working through life challenges, enabling them to lead a meaningful and fulfilling life.

Skills & Career Readiness is a semester course designed to encourage students to start the process of becoming career-ready.

- Complete personal assessments, explore career clusters, and develop skills for personal, academic, and professional success
 - Research and create a presentation on a career that aligns with their interests
 - Learn and utilize effective employability skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, time management, and goal setting
 - Participate in lab and hands-on activities in areas such as food preparation, etiquette, basic hand and sewing skills, and other projects
 - Gain skills for becoming self-reliant and career-ready
- 

Students will:

- Explore colleges based on career interests and will include their high school graduation plans and post-secondary opportunities
- Research and create a college presentation on a college that aligns with their goals
- Gain an understanding of personal money management using technology which includes planning a budget that will support their desired lifestyle
- Participate in lab and hands-on activities to advance their skills.



Spanish I and Spanish II are each year-long courses focused on developing the student's ability to communicate directly and effectively in Spanish. *Both courses offer one (1) credit of high school credit upon successful completion. Texas high school graduation plans require students to earn two (2) credits in a Language Other Than English course. Both credits must be in the same language.*

- Be introduced to the basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing comprehension
- Learn vocabulary and grammatical structures necessary to communicate in everyday situations
- Become familiar with various aspects of the Spanish-speaking culture
- Develop the ability to effectively communicate verbally and using the written word in Spanish.