

**SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL
ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
2016- 2017**

ART

Students will create works of art while implementing the Elements and Principles of Design. They will use a variety of media that may include: crayon, marker, colored pencil, oil pastel, clay, acrylic paint, watercolors, textile designs and monoprinting. The cost for this course is \$10

AROUND THE WORLD

Around the world is a one-semester course structured to give the student an understanding of current event issues in many areas of a political, social, and economic nature. The course emphasizes a variety of topics going on around the world and the amount of coverage on the topics will fluctuate on any given day, week, or month depending on topics current in the media.

BAND - Full Year

6th grade

Beginning Band is available to students whose parents can provide a beginning band instrument. Beginning band instruments are flute, clarinet, saxophone, cornet, trombone, and orchestra bells. Due to media exposure, some instruments enjoy greater popularity. Therefore, a limited enrollment maintains a uniform balance in ensemble instrumentation. Consequently, the number of students permitted to enroll in classes for the flute, saxophone, and orchestra bells (drums) is based upon the student's score on the Selmer Music aptitude survey which is administered during the pre-enrollment process. Clarinet, cornet and trombone are considered the "backbone" instruments of the band and are critical to a successful band program. Therefore, there are NO LIMITATIONS on the number of students who wish to participate.

7th & 8th Grade

Seventh & Eighth grade band is available to all students who have completed the prior year of band instruction. A contest band will be composed of all 7th or 8th grade band students who perform with the musicianship and discipline required to represent their school in a competitive situation and meet the rehearsal attendance requirements. When necessary, the director will call extra rehearsals before and after the normal school day. For 8th grade, a concert uniform is required.

CHORUS - Semester or Full Year

Chorus is available to all students who wish to develop their vocal abilities, performance skills, and musicianship.

Students participate in school-day field trips/rehearsals and evening concerts. Students are required to attend performances and purchase a choir shirt.

7th Grade and 8th Grade

Students may have the opportunity to audition and participate in an honor chorus. Vocal music contests are available to students in the spring semester of choir. Students are required to attend performances.

DRAMA - Semester

This course introduces the student to various theater arts. Emphasis is placed on confidence building through positive feedback given to each student. In sixth grade students do improvisation, pantomime basics, puppets, careers in costuming, and end with a short play.

Seventh grade drama introduces students to the fundamentals of acting through group and individual work, in addition to proper stage technique. The class does miming, improvisation, and a semester play. There are three performances for an audience. The 8th grade course is designed to prepare students for participation in theater arts at the high school level. Emphasis is placed on performances, evaluation methods, and self-discipline. Units include voice and movement development, acting terminology, and dialects. A play will be performed during the semester.

ENRICHMENT –

Set your sights on adventure! Open your mind to explore new challenges! Expand your horizons! Create, explore, and dream. You will do all these things and more. Logic puzzles, game design, and survival activities are some of the enrichment project experiences. We will look at topics such as robots, future city design, space, Medieval Times, mock trials, and much more. Students will brainstorm and help choose what topics are studied. Projects are done in class! One of our goals at Summit is that students receive the full benefits of the enrichment program. Therefore, only students who meet the district and state requirements will be enrolled in this class.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE (FACS) - Semester

This exploratory class will help students discover skills and explore topics needed for the personal development. Students will delve into learning through hands on activities in the areas of values, ethics, and leadership, goal-setting, decision-making, problem-solving, dealing with emotions, learning to cook, good grooming, and personal safety. Student leadership through Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is an integral part of this course.

FIT FOR LIFE - Semester

As an introduction to fitness, we will focus on muscular strength and endurance, cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, and general health and wellness issues. Activities will include circuit training, Wednesday Workouts (weight training, aerobics, or jump rope), and Fitness Friday (agility training, conditioning, or team-related activities). Tuesday/Thursday activities will be determined week-to-week. Health topics may include nutrition or tobacco and alcohol awareness.

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY (GTT) - Semester

GTT is a middle school program designed to engage students in learning how to use engineering skills to solve everyday problems. Through hands-on projects and problem-based learning, students are engaged in using scientific principles and math concepts to solve real-world problems. The course focuses on active learning to help strengthen math, science, and technology inquiry skills. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration, and innovation.

LEADERSHIP- Semester

This course is designed to help students expand their horizons by infusing energy and purpose in all they do. Self-confidence, self-esteem, independence, interdependence are all goals of this class where trust and teamwork prevail. There will be many student activities and current event discussions.

MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS – Semester

7th Grade

The class will begin with an introduction to several musicals. Students will prepare a monologue, musical selection for use in an audition, and a performance resume. The classes will then work on scenes, dances and songs, and perform a review for the 7th grade. The class will be team-taught by the drama and vocal music teachers.

8th Grade

The students are thoroughly introduced to a musical that will be performed for the school. They will experience the audition process and work on character development, production style, and costuming. The class will be team-taught by the drama and vocal music teachers.

ORCHESTRA - Full Year

6th Grade

Beginning Orchestra is available to 6th grade students whose parents can provide a beginning string instrument. Beginning string instruments are violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Students will be placed in classes according to the instrument they play. Emphasis is placed on fundamental training with a performance in the fall and spring by the 6th grade orchestra(s). Periodic reports on the progress of each individual student are made to the parents.

7th Grade & 8th Grade

Seventh and eighth grade orchestra are available to all students who have completed the prior year of orchestra instruction. A contest orchestra will be composed of all 7th grade orchestra students who perform with the musicianship and discipline required to represent their school in a competitive situation and meet the rehearsal attendance requirements. An 8th grade contest orchestra will be composed of all 8th grade students who meet the same requirements. When necessary, the director will call extra rehearsals before and after the normal school day. A concert uniform is required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Semester

The physical education class is co-educational with an emphasis on team and lifetime activities-as well as noncompetitive, organized games. Units of study may include basketball, ultimate football, volleyball, soccer, tennis, badminton, pickle ball, table tennis, etc. Requirements for this class include a weekly activity log for homework and two book reports presented either orally or in written format.

JOURNALISM - Semester

Join the staff of the Eagle Express as we create a newspaper for our school! As reporters, you will keep your peers updated. This course will develop interviewing, presentation, and writing skills.

JOURNALISM (Yearbook) - Full Year

Join the staff of the Summit Eagle and help create the school yearbook. Exceptional time management and writing skills are a must for this class. A recommendation from your 7th grade writing teacher and/or the Publications teacher is required for enrollment.