

8TH GRADE SEMESTER ELECTIVE COURSES

SAGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL 2009/2010

A SEMESTER COURSE IS 1/2 OF THE SCHOOL YEAR OR 18 WEEKS

ART: DRAWING AND PAINTING-Rotation A

(Supplies: \$20.00 fee may be subject to change)

This course rotates its content and projects over a 2 (two) year period. Students are welcome in this course at any time as the curriculum is not sequential. Students will study two dimensional art techniques and processes while creating personal works of art. Graphite, acrylic, watercolor, tempera, scratchboard, colored pencils, and airbrush are examples of the media studied. An atmosphere of creativity and exploration is provided for the student.

ART: SCULPTURE AND CERAMICS-Rotation A

(Supplies: \$20.00 fee may be subject to change)

This course rotates its content and projects over a 2 (two) year period. Students are welcome in this course at any time as the curriculum is not sequential. We will explore the vast world of three-dimensional art including jewelry. Clay, papier mache and lost wax pewter, are some of the media that is studied through the creation of personal works of art. An atmosphere of creativity and exploration is provided for the student.

BEGINNING GUITAR

This is an introductory course to acoustic guitar. Topics covered will include tuning, note reading, basic chords and playing techniques. Students will need to provide their own acoustic guitar and purchase the method book. Public performances are not a requirement of this class.

COMPUTER 1-Internet Permission is required for this class.

This project-based class focuses on using the computer as a tool to gather, organize, create, and present information. Topics explored in this class are keyboarding, internet research, desktop publishing, spreadsheets, and multimedia production. We will work on a Mac platform using the following software: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Firefox, Safari, Typing Pal, Inspiration, Comic Life, Media Blender, Photo Booth, and GarageBand.

COMPUTER 2-Internet Permission is required for this class.

This project-based class focuses on using the computer as a tool to manage and present information. It also explores computer programming. Topics included in this class are keyboarding, internet research, intermediate desktop publishing, spreadsheets, multimedia productions, flowcharting, and writing program code. We will work on a Mac platform using the following software: Typing Pal, Comic Life, iWeb, iPhoto, iMovie, Excel, Firefox, and Safari. We will work on a PC platform using Pascal.

CONCERT CHOIR

This class is also available for one year.

Concert Choir is an exciting class for experienced as well as inexperienced singers. Learn about good singing techniques, different styles of music and basic music reading. Have fun learning about and making music with your friends, in a relaxing class with minimal homework.

CONSUMER & FAMILY STUDIES-Rotation A

(Supplies: \$20.00 fee may be subject to change)

This course will rotate its content and projects over a 2 (two) year period. The class content promotes skills that will give

students competence to be successful adults. Students will use problem-solving skills in a variety of areas relating to today's teen. Topics covered will be nutrition with an emphasis on meal planning and comparison of foods made from scratch versus those prepared from a box or store bought. Attention will be given to nutrition labeling, additives, ingredient lists, as well as, analysis of cost. Students will prepare meals in class. In addition students will use decision-making skills related to budgeting, goals, character and self-respect. Students will also have the opportunity to create a sewing project from scratch.

DRAMA-Rotation A

This course will rotate its content and projects over a 2 (two) year period. Students are welcome in this course at any time as the curriculum is not sequential. It will cover dramatic skills such as character, movement, technical theatre, and imagination. Activities will include pantomime, vocal exercises, improvisation, theater games, and performance of scenes and monologues. Students will be given the opportunity to perform for parents and school audiences.

EXPLORING WORLD CULTURES 7/8-Rotation A

This exploratory class is designed to expose students to many different world cultures. There will be hands on projects and fun activities related to these cultures. In this class students learn about different people and their culture and language. Students will study a variety of topics such as tourism, sports, education, holidays, food, and basic language as they virtually travel the world. This course is for students who have never studied a foreign language, as well as, students who are studying a language and want to learn more about the people in today's world. The class will focus on different countries and cultures each year.

STUDENT ASSISTANT

Prerequisite: Students will be selected by formal application, teacher recommendation, and possible interview. The student assistant program is for selected students who will assist with those duties assigned by the sponsoring staff member. Students must have displayed above average performance in the following areas: leadership, character, responsibility, and citizenship. Students may apply to be an assistant in the following areas: Classroom, Counseling Office, and Library/Media Center.

APPLICATIONS FOR STUDENT ASSISTANT POSITIONS MAY BE PICKED UP IN THE STUDENT SUPPORT CENTER.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION-Rotation A

(Supplies: \$20.00 fee may be subject to change)

This course will rotate its content and projects over a 2 (two) year period. Tech Ed is designed to explore careers and to increase a student's understanding of technological skills that are used in our work world. Instruction is delivered through multimedia platforms. There are hands on student-centered stations that are project oriented. Students will have the opportunity to explore eight or nine modules of technological topics within a semester. This learning environment brings to life real world applications of math, science, reading, writing, and research skills, complementing National Technology Standards. Some of the 19 areas of technology that will be explored in this course are Engines, Rocket Science, Engineering Bridges and Towers, Audio Broadcasting, Computer Graphics and Animation, CADD, Digital Video, Digital Design, Flight, Light and Lasers, Electronics, and Electricity.