

Encore Course Descriptions

2017 - 18



Career and Technology Education (CTE) Opportunities

1. Fundamentals of Manufacturing – Automation and Robotics

Students are engaged in various computer simulations and robotics programming. In our CTE class, students construct and apply their own knowledge, “design under constraints,” analyze social, environmental, economic impacts, and use multiple resources and solutions. This enables students to analyze existing solutions and to skillfully communicate their findings to others. Modifying the delivery of education from a passive (lecture) experience to a participatory experience is the key to developing and enhancing creativity and real world problem solving capabilities in students.

1a. Advanced Fundamentals of Manufacturing – Automation and Robotics – Participation is by CTE Instructor Recommendation.

2. STEM Investigation: Web and Software Design

In this CTE class students integrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills. Students will engage in activities that prepare them for college and careers, think like a scientist and solve real world problems. Collaborative student teams will problem solve while developing scientific language and solutions. You can expect hands on, inquiry based fun activities and ask a lot of “WHY” questions. Field experiences include participation in Sarasota County Science Fair.

3. TV News

Learn the “ins and outs” of TV production as part of the WSMS News Team. Experience news research, copy writing, and anchoring while you learn to operate the camera equipment and computer board. Open to all grade levels.

4. Technology Student Association (TSA) (After School Opportunity)

In this club, students explore additional robotics programming and questions and have the opportunity to compete in local, state and national competitions.

5. Digital Media/Journalism

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Business Management and Administration career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to instruction in advanced keyboarding, advanced word processing, advanced hardware, advanced Internet, intermediate spreadsheet, introductory digital design, and skills for business applications. These competencies provide the skills necessary to ensure increased productivity and efficient utilization of equipment.

Literary Opportunities

1. Creative Writing

This course is designed for students who wish to experiment in self-expression through writing. The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop and use fundamental writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Emphasis will be on development of a personal writing style. The content will include analysis of literary models, impact of audience, purpose, and writing mode, writing process strategies, personal writing style and various creative writing experiences.

2. **Speech I – Open ONLY to 8th Graders – High School Credit**

This course provides instruction in the fundamentals of formal and informal oral communication. Major instructional areas include forms of oral communication, techniques of group discussion, techniques of effective listening, analysis of the audience, and techniques of public speaking.

3. **Yearbook Creation**

Create the SMS yearbook. Theme, cover and page creation. Work with proprietary software and photographer and make sure students are represented in a spectacular yearbook!

Music Opportunities

Band Opportunities

1. **Beginning Band – Band I**

No previous musical training necessary. Open to 6th grade students interested in learning to play an instrument, including flute, oboe, clarinet, alto saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium (baritone), tuba, or percussion. Fundamentals of music theory, history, appreciation, and instrumental technique are taught. Beginning Band performs in Fall, Winter, and Spring Concerts.

2. **Symphonic Band – Band II**

7th and 8th grade students with one or more years of experience on one of the band instruments above. The focus of this course is on performance of music literature, utilizing and developing good technique. The Symphonic Band performs in three concerts a year, at the Florida Bandmaster's Association Concert Band Music Performance Assessment, and the FBA Solo and Ensemble MPA as well as other community events. **Participation is by Director Recommendation.**

3. **Wind Ensemble– Band III**

7th and 8th grade students with one or more years of experience on one of the beginning band instruments above. The focus is on performing advanced level music, utilizing advanced technical and musical skills. The Wind Ensemble performs three concerts a year, at Florida Bandmaster's Association Concert Band Music Performance Assessment and the Solo and Ensemble MPA, in addition to other community and school events. **Participation is by Director Recommendation.**

4. **Jazz Band – (Before School Program)**

6th, 7th, and 8th grade students with musical experience. The class is for traditional band instruments as well as bass guitar, guitar, piano, and drum set. Jazz Band participates in all band concerts and selected school and community events. Students must participate in a band class during the school day to maintain their membership in Jazz Band. **Participation is by Director Recommendation.**

Choral Opportunities

1. **Beginning Chorus**

Students in *Beginning Chorus* are in their initial stages of vocal development. Through ensemble and solo singing, students will develop vocal skills, musicianship, specific performance skills and sight-singing skills. Includes the study of music history, music notation and quality repertoire in diverse styles appropriate in difficulty and range for the *beginning* student. Class provides opportunities for performing, creating and responding to music. Students who participate in chorus will develop self-confidence, teamwork and critical thought processes. Students are required to participate in a limited number of performances outside of the school day that support and extend learning in the classroom. No prior experience is needed.

2. Intermediate Chorus

The SMS *Intermediate Chorus* is made up of students who are continuing their musical development through experiencing more challenging repertoire and skill sets. This repertoire includes core literature as well as compositions in two-parts, three-parts, accompanied, and unaccompanied. Choristers demonstrate a practicing knowledge of singing posture, effective breathing for singing, and principles of diction. They also demonstrate an evolving understanding of musicianship, music theory, sight-singing and performance skills. Students are required to participate in a limited number of performances outside of the school day that support and extend learning in the classroom.

3. Advanced Chorus

The SMS *Advanced Chorus* is comprised of students who are ready to experience and demonstrate a high level of musicianship and performance standards. The repertoire includes core literature, compositions in two-parts, three-parts, and music requiring extended vocal techniques. Members in the advanced level chorus must be able to retain complex melodic, harmonic and rhythmic material. Students must demonstrate evolving knowledge of musicianship, music theory, sight-singing and performance skills. Students are required to participate in several performances outside of the school day that support and extend learning in the classroom.

4. Joyful Voices Honor Choir (Before School Program)

The purpose of this elite choir is to provide a quality musical experience that transcends a singer's traditional level of expertise and to expose singers to superior choral performance opportunities which include community performances, collaboration with other schools and vocal performance assessments. **This is an audition only choir for students enrolled in the *Intermediate and Advanced SMS Chorus*.** A limited number of students will be selected for this group.

Orchestral and Guitar Opportunities

1. Beginning String Orchestra

Beginning Orchestra offers instruction of the string instruments found in the symphony orchestra (violin, viola, cello, bass). Students will learn a sequential curriculum which will enable them to perform string orchestra literature at the beginning level. This course includes the study of music notation, music history and listening skills. No prior experience is required and there is no cost to the student. Instruments will be provided by the music department.

2. Intermediate/Advanced String Orchestra

Advanced String Orchestra is open to all second and third year orchestra students. Students in this ensemble have completed at least one year of instruction. Students will learn a sequential curriculum which will enable them to perform string orchestra literature at the intermediate to advanced level. This course includes the study of music notation, music history and listening skills.

3. Guitar

The Guitar class focuses on the skills necessary to play the guitar at the beginning to intermediate/advanced level. No experience is required and no cost to the student. Instruments will be provided by the music department. This course includes chord identification, rhythm guitar techniques, tablature reading, standard music notation and song learning in a variety of styles. Beginning and Intermediate/Advanced classes are offered.

Physical Education

1. General Physical Education

Physical education is offered to all SMS students. Students will participate each school day in activities which promote athletic skills, dance and personal fitness. Physical and social growth will be enhanced as students learn and engage in various individual/team sports and fitness center activities. Physical education organizes both intramural and interscholastic athletic programs.

2. Physical Education with a Dance/Cheer/Aerobics Emphasis

This high-energy course will combine elements of dance, cheerleading and aerobics. Students will learn and develop skills and combinations from each of these three disciplines. Students will also perform and create choreographed dance routines to popular songs.

3. Intramural and Interscholastic Sports (Before or After School Opportunities)

Throughout the school year, various intramural activities will be offered to all 6, 7, and 8th grade students from 8:00 am – 9:00 am. Interscholastic sports include basketball, volleyball, and track and field. These sports occur outside of the regular school day. Paperwork for these activities is available in the physical education department and on our S.M.S. website.

Visual and Performing Arts Opportunities

1. Art

Art classes at SMS are an exploratory, hands-on adventure with emphasis on real life drawing, color theory applied to realistic and abstract paintings, clay work, sculpture, perspective studies and architectural renderings. Master artists and their works are introduced through the teaching of critical thinking and writing skills, in which students describe the elements of art, analyze how the artist created the work using the principles of design, interpret the message or mood of the work, and finally, evaluate the piece through writing. Written work is kept in a student art journal and is done on a daily basis.

2. Drama

Students will learn to “Be Seen” by using expression and gesture, “Be Heard” by speaking with good volume and clarity, and “Be Brave” by appearing relaxed and having stage presence. Students will refine their skills as they learn to express emotions and ideas using interpretive movements and dialogue, dramatize literary selections in pairs or groups, and participate in skits and scenes. Public speaking skills are emphasized, and students use these skills as they make presentations in other courses.

2a. Advanced Drama – Continuation of the skills learned in drama classes. **Participation is by Drama Director Recommendation.**

World Language

1. Beginning Spanish of Chinese

This course is designed for students to learn about culture, games, places and basic language skills.

2. Intermediate Spanish or Chinese

Designed for our 7th grade students. Continuation of basic language skills in the chosen language. It is not necessary for a student to have taken Beginning Spanish or Beginning Chinese to participate.

3. Spanish I (Grade 8 only) or Chinese I (Grade 8 only) High School Credit

Courses are designed to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing competency. Students should expect daily homework, quarterly projects, and oral presentations. Students who successfully complete the Spanish I or Chinese I course will receive a high school credit.