

MEMORIAL SCHOOL
Guidance Department
Interest Survey for Enrichment Courses 2010-2011

The following are full year courses:

- **Chorus:** Sing current and traditional songs in a choral group. You are expected to attend after school rehearsals and two evening concerts. (A-day)

- **Concert Band:** Come hone your instrumental music skills by rehearsing current and traditional musical selections as part of our Concert Band! Concert Band is available for any student playing a traditional band instrument (flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, or percussion). Students should have a strong foundation on their instrument, however no audition is necessary. Additionally, students are required to attend one lesson per week and perform in the winter and spring concerts as part of their grade for this course. (B-day)

- **Recycled Art: (FULL YEAR)** This full year enrichment art course will enable students to create different pieces of art (wall, sculpture, and functional art) using recycled items. Projects will be constructed using recycled materials such as metals, glass, fabric, bottle caps, aluminum cans, wire, paper, citrus rinds, old toys, can tabs, typewriters/keyboards, found natural and household objects, old hardware tool box findings – just about anything! Students will also be given the opportunity to enter select art pieces in the Teen Arts Festival. *This class may require some supplies to be purchased.* (A-day)

The following will run one semester:

- **Chess:** Students will learn about Chess including: the rules of the game, the movement of pieces, fundamentals of opening, middle game, and end game techniques. Students will further learn to record movements, analyze positions, sequence movements and coordinate strategies and execute plans.

- **Environmental Awareness:** Protecting the environment is an important issue in the world today. Can one person make a difference? Take Environmental Awareness and find out! In this class students will have some say as to the topics covered. Alternative sources of energy, endangered species and global warming are just a few of the topics that will be discussed. (S1 A-day)

- **Equine Science:** This course integrates history, math, language arts and science with the study of horses. Whether you are a horse owner, or simply a lover of horses, this course is for you. The curriculum will be tailored to the specific interests of the students in regards to horse history, care, breeding, riding, equipment, etc. Possible projects include; tracking costs and care of a phantom horse, oral presentation, debate current issues or news cast.

- ***Espionage in American History:*** Students will explore the role espionage played in American History. Students will examine excerpts from primary sources like diaries, newspapers and letters that show how spies gathered information/intelligence for America. Students will explore spies throughout the Civil and World Wars.
- ***Feeder Watch:*** Explore the world of birds. Learn the different species and their habits. Collect and analyze data on the number and types of birds which you will send to Cornell University. You will also be writing and submitting articles for possible publication in a bird magazine. (B-day)
- ***From Fiction to Film 1:*** J. K. Rowling and Stephenie Meyer know something many other authors do not – the astonishing success of having their writing translated into film. This class will dive into such young adult novels as The Golden Compass, Holes, Matilda, and the Secret Life of Bees. Students will analyze both books and films through interactive activities. (A-day)
- ***From Fiction to Film 2:*** We are excited to offer a second section of this enrichment course. Students do not need to have taken From Film to Fiction 1 in order to sign up for this course. This class will dive into the young adult novels turned movies of Inkheart, The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian, The Lightning Thief, and The City of Ember. Students will discover how novels are adapted for film by looking at elements of setting, character, plot and dialogue in the novels and movie adaptations. Be sure to come ready to read both during class and possible at home if needed. (B-day)
- ***Great Books:*** Students will work alone, in pairs or small groups for the sheer enjoyment of reading high interest novels such as Stormbreaker The Thief Lord, Eragon, Twilight, Hoot, Pretty Little Devils, etc. Students are given the option of working on a variety of activities to deepen their understanding of and appreciation for the novels read. (A-day)
- ***Girls Matter! I (7th grade only):*** Students will combine emotional, creative and intellectual abilities to learn from one another to voice thoughts with self-assurance and knowledge and to get engaged as young citizens. Students will enhance reading, writing, and listening skills, and use their voices and recognize issues in our community.
- ***Girls Matter! II (8th grade only):*** Students who have previously taken Girls Matter! Or eighth grade first timers are invited to enhance their advocacy and leadership skills.
- ***History through Movies I (7th grade only):*** Films are viewed that help us explore various topics including the Great Depression, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and America expanding west. As an active learner students are expected to respond to critical thinking questions and keep running diaries of historical evidence while viewing films. Movies are subject to change, but have included in recent semesters: Forrest Gump and Hotel Rwanda, as well as, topics mentioned above.

- ***History through Movies II (8th grade only):*** Students explore 5 or 6 topics in history through watching Hollywood movies. A few topics covered in this class include the Holocaust, WWI and WW II, September 11, 2001, in addition to others.
- ***Inventions:*** Identify and analyze how simple machines work and why inventions change. Students will use problem solving skills and creativity to complete activities which could include; Rube Goldberg devices, reverse engineering, robot building, egg drop devices, etc.
- ***Keyboarding:*** Students will learn how to keyboard using the correct fingers and positioning. Proper technique will be stressed as students learn to type alphabetic and punctuation keys. Typing Time Text, Microsoft Word and Typing Time Programs will be used.
- ***Law & Debate:*** Students will learn about various legal topics including crime, property disputes, individual rights and torts. Students will further examine the impact of the constitutional rights, particularly the first amendment upon society.
- ***Math in Art:*** Incorporate your math skills and art techniques to create beautiful works of art! Projects include: symmetry designs with pattern blocks, rotation and reflection art following transformation laws on the coordinate grid, Sierpinski Triangles, portrait drawings using symmetry techniques, and “lifelike” scaled enlargements of original pictures. Amaze yourself and others with your ability to create works of art with the math skills you already possess. ***It’s Math in Art! This class will require some supplies to be brought from home /purchased.***
- ***Movies with a Message:*** Students will watch movies that inspire and promote for discussion of important character traits. Themes include respect, team work, following your dreams, leadership, work ethic and sportsmanship among other.
- ***Non-Traditional Sports and Activities:*** Students will learn a variety of non-traditional activities through participation. Examples of activities when weather permits include the following: pickle ball, horseshoes, four square and bocce ball. When weather does not permit outside activity, students will be in the classroom playing a variety of board games. ***Students will need to change into a t-shirt, shorts and sneakers for outdoor activities.***
- ***PE Extensions I (7th grade only):*** Students will develop cardiovascular endurance and muscular endurance through fitness based activities. With this information students will be able to better understand how to live a healthy lifestyle. Some activities include jogging, spinning (stationary bike), jump rope and other physical activities. ***Students will need to change into a t-shirt, shorts and sneakers for this class.***
- ***PE Extensions II (8th grade only):*** Be A Better Athlete - You will enhance your speed, agility, and balance as well as explosive power through different sporting skills and games. Students will need to change into a t-shirt, shorts and sneakers for this class.

- ***Preparing for Sport:*** This course will help you to prepare for a sport physically, mentally and nutritionally. The objective is to help you avoid injury, eat healthy, become more mentally focused and assist you in performing at a more competitive level. ***Students will need to change into a t-shirt, shorts and sneakers for this class.***
- ***Research in 21st Century:*** Are you a curious person? Do you enjoy surfing the Internet? If you answered yes to either question, then this course might be for you. Learning to Research, Researching to Learn is exactly what the title indicates, it's a course designed to teach 21st century research skills, while simultaneously allowing students to learn more about something they are interested in. So, a student is interested in sports, film, fashion, etc...great! You will learn how to research (effectively) while learning more about something that's relevant to you.
- ***Safari Park:*** Students will learn about the connection between math, science, technology and art. These skills will lead up to the culminating activity of designing a class safari park. The process will involve research, planning and teamwork as students create animals, habitats and park structures.
- ***Science Extensions I (7th grade only):*** This enrichment course includes a focus on the fundamental principles of the scientific method and experimental design. Students will design and execute experiments individually or in small groups, as well as research interesting topics in science current events. Additionally, we will further our studies by extending the 7th grade science curriculum. Culminating projects for each experiment or inquiry will be created at each student's discretion. ***This class may require some supplies to be purchased.*** (S1 B-day)
- ***Science Extensions 2 (8th grade only):*** Students will be assigned to a group and a topic for their project or investigation. The students will collaborate with one another to develop and execute a project design. The groups will participate in a competition against the other groups in the class. Following each project the students will write a post project report based on the outcome of the competition. Some of the projects that the students will be working on are an egg drop capsule, catapults and water-pressured rockets. ***This class may require some supplies to be purchased.***
- ***Science Olympics:*** Calling all scientists! Do you like a challenge? Are you competitive? If so, then Science Olympics is the class for you. Over the course of the semester teams of students will compete against each other in a wide range of science topics and activities. ***This class may require some supplies to be purchased.*** (S2 B-day)
- ***Science Travel:*** Students will simulate travel to the Galapagos Islands, Iceland and Tanzania. Students will conduct research on these fascinating localities using online libraries, books and magazines. With the information gathered, students will create projects both individually and in groups. Examples of past students projects include video games, animal clay models, posters brochures, commercials, newscasts, power point presentations, skits and music videos.

- **Scrap booking:** Unlike traditional photo albums, scrap booking allows you to display your photos in a unique and personal way. This is a hands-on course where students will learn layout design, photo cropping and more. In addition to a scrapbook, possible projects include vision boards and greeting cards. **Most supplies for this class are to be purchased by the student.** (B-day)
- **Taking Center Stage:** Students will develop public speaking skills through introductions; informational, descriptive, and persuasive speeches, and commercials. This course will utilize theater games, acting exercises, improvisation, and poetry presentations. The class teaches participants how to develop a character, block a scene, and prepare a short play. Students also write original skits. Skills are further developed when students receive critiques and redo their scenes based on suggestions. (B-day)
- **Teknowledgey:** Want to explore careers in Medicine and Engineering? Want to expand your knowledge in math and science? Want to enhance your critical thinking skills? This is the course for you! Interactive games and simulations will pave your way to new “teknowledge”. This course is not for the squeamish!
- **World Traveler:** Are you interested in expanding your horizon? Do kids around the world share the same views as you? Take a virtual trip around the world as we explore global issues through independent and group work.
- **Writer’s Craft I (7th grade only):** Course begins with introductory lessons on story ideas, story starters and character and plot development. Students then write an original short story about whatever they choose. Some conferences are one-on-one with the teacher but most are done in a “writer’s workshop” format where a student’s finished rough draft is read by a large or small group of students and students and teacher give feedback to the author. After the short story students will work on poetry or whatever else they choose (another fiction or nonfiction story, narrative essay, etc.) (S2 B-day)
- **Writer’s Craft II (8th grade only):** Writers will begin by exploring springboard topics. In addition, they will examine a variety of exceptional teen and adult writing as models for structure and development. From that point, authors write what they are passionate about and have private writing conferences with the teacher. Further lessons on poetry, narrative, or non-fiction are tailored to the needs or interests of the class. Each marking period culminates in a Writers’ Convention during which authors share one published piece from that quarter. (S1 B-day)
- **Youth Speaks:** This course is designed to develop speaking and leadership skills. Whether you have extensive experience in public speaking or none at all. Youth Speak welcomes you! Learning to communicate in public builds confidence, improves persuasiveness, expands creativity and shapes you as a self-assured teenager and later as a courageous adult. Learn to control your nerves, present information in a logical and convincing manner and much more!