

GRADE 8 OPTION DESCRIPTIONS

Feb 2021

French (full year option)

Students selecting French should be interested in achieving fluency in a second language and learning about our French-Canadian culture. They should plan to continue the study of French in Grade 9 and in High School. French is taught like a core subject and therefore requires effort and diligence for success. Experience an increase in detail and depth of study, both in grammar and oral speaking, and study of French culture. French is spoken 70-80% of the time. Every other year, Grade 8 & 9 French students may have an opportunity to participate in a trip to Quebec if interest is sufficient. **Prerequisite: Grade 7 French or background knowledge of French.**

Music/Band (full year option)

The Music program objectives are to: develop skills in listening, performing, and using notational systems; encourage students to strive for musical excellence individually and as a member of a group; enable students to understand, evaluate, and appreciate a variety of music, and provide experiences which foster the development of self-expression, creativity, and communication through music. **Prerequisite: Grade 7 band or music experience.**

Approaches to Learning

This option gives students the opportunity to work in a group or individually with a teacher to discover personal learning techniques and apply them to further understand concepts taught in their academic subjects. Some of the techniques are organizational skills, time management skills, test preparation, and test taking. Teachers will use current assignments and exams to assist the students in reaching their full potential in exam writing and assignment completion. Students will also explore a variety of practical tips and techniques to achieve greater academic success.

Art

Introduction to the basic elements of art: line, color, form, texture, value, space, and shape. Students should have a general interest in art. Activities include basic drawing, sculpture, and painting as well as development of art appreciation, and critique. The Art program aims to be project based and allow for students to develop as their own unique expression as an artist.

Computer Science

Tasks will include looking at hardware, software, and processes to write or create codes and programs that use the data. Students will program with code and invent their own creations. Students will also participate in a module on communication technology whereby they will discover and develop skills related to technologies used to design, construct, and relay a message for the purpose of connecting, informing, entertaining, or selling products. They will have the opportunity to explore the principles of digital design through print, video, and audio media.

Construction and Design

Students will complete a 'Lab Safety Procedures' test, as well a 'Hand and Power Tool Safety' test prior to beginning their projects. Students will be given a thorough demonstration on all power tools and will complete a step by step plan of their project at the beginning of the semester. Students will be exposed to a variety of joinery skills and techniques, while solving basic woodworking problems as they complete their project.

Environmental Stewardship

The Environmental Education program provides students with the knowledge, appreciation, and experience to further their awareness of the environment. Students should be interested in conservation, upland game birds, waterfowl, big game, archery, first aid, environmental issues, agriculture, mapping and orienteering, camping, hiking, and outdoor survival. Note: Students in good standing may have the opportunity to attend an outdoor camping trip during the year.

Film Studies

An Option for those students who have the desire to investigate the cultural significance and influence of film on society. Students will develop the ability to think critically about movies in terms of content, techniques and theme through analysis and evaluation. They will be taught film terminology and begin to develop an understanding of the various filmmaking techniques.

Foods

The Grade 8 Foods program provides opportunities for students to experience intermediate cooking activities. It includes the study of safety in the kitchen, meal and nutrition research, the study of food borne illness, and many practical cooking labs.