

GRADE 8 - 2020/2021 OPTIONS (Options are subject to change)

COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY/ROBOTICS Maximum 35 participants (A – option)

Robotics offers intermediate level experience in project management, computational thinking, design, and problem solving. Students grow their skills and knowledge in the area of building algorithms and structured programming. They complete projects in 3D design and digital graphics. Going beyond the basics, students develop skills coding in a variety of platforms and languages: RobotC, JavaScript or Python, and Scratch. Students will learn in greater detail about the hardware and software, coding for movement and sensors, conditionals and variables, and remote control features. Throughout the course, students will also be completing assignments in digital citizenship and workstation management.

FRENCH Maximum 35 participants (A – option)

French is driven by a communicative, experiential approach. Students purposefully build and expand their knowledge and skills through real-life tasks, sharing ideas, and acquiring information. With emphasis on conversation, students gain an understanding of French language and culture, as well as transferable learning strategies that carry into other curricular areas. Students also develop a sense of how knowing another language broadens their future horizons in terms of career aspirations and community building. Projects are hands-on and highly interactive; a Fine Arts and ComTech focus is integrated through each unit.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL Maximum 35 participants (B – option)

Prerequisite - Band 7 or by consent of the Band Department

The Instrumental Band option will develop and explore skills in playing a musical instrument through classroom rehearsal and performance. Students may play any of the following instruments with approval from the director: flute, oboe, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, euphonium, tuba, and percussion. Instruments are available to rent through the District for \$100 for the entire school year. The Junior High Instrumental Music program will offer a high quality and enjoyable music experience for our students as they increase their musical understanding of music theory, sight-reading, listening analysis, and ear training. Our students' talents and understanding of these musical elements will be showcased within the St. Albert community through involvement in workshops, festivals and performances.

RECREATION LEADERSHIP Maximum 35 participants (B – option)

The purpose of this course is to provide students involved in sports with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to understand the factors related to fitness and sports performance. By exposing students to both the theoretical and practical nature of sports, students will be expected to demonstrate outcomes in a variety of areas. These areas include current training principles, performance evaluation and enhancement, sports nutrition, leadership and personal development through sports participation. Students will become active in the school environment by being role models for other students, volunteering at various events, peer-coaching/teaching activities and final sports analysis

ART Maximum 35 participants (A & B – option)

Art allows students to express themselves through creative mediums. Art students learn to examine the objects and images around them, including advertisements, videos, magazines and artwork. Art students develop an understanding of their visual culture and how they are affected by it. Art applies to all senses. Art students see demonstrations of the process they are to complete, read or do research about the art, and then complete the process themselves. By incorporating all these types of learning, students who put in the time will find success. Art is always hands-on. Nothing solidifies knowledge more than by actively completing a task. Through the year you will be involved in some of the following projects: Sketchbook Drawings/Painting (Acrylic & Watercolor) /Sculpture/Clay/Pottery/Art History (Artist Studies)/Art Criticism/Elements & Principles of ART. Every student enrolled in art will need to purchase a sketchbook. Visual journaling is an important component to the visual arts experience.

DRAMA Maximum 35 participants (A & B – option)

The grade 8 Drama program is divided into 3 disciplines: character analysis, stage performance and theatre history. The overall goal of Drama 8 is to delve deeper into the techniques and exercises introduced in Drama 7. There is a greater focus on character building and motivation, as well as an introduction to the ancient origins of theatrical performance. Students will perform individually and in small groups before classroom audiences.