**Elective Course Descriptions**

**Academic Electives**

Spanish: Students will begin to acquire proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of interpretive listening and reading, interpersonal communication and presentational speaking and writing.

French: Students will begin to acquire proficiency in French through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and on acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar.

American Sign Language: The purpose of this course is to teach hearing students basic conversational skills in American Sign Language (ASL) and awareness of various aspects of deafness. The content should include, but not be limited to, conversational vocabulary and the grammatical features and principles of ASL. The audio logical, educational, social, cultural and historical aspects of deafness are also included. Essential Learning’s are practiced and assessed throughout the course.

AVID 1: Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) is an elective class that provides academic support for students through tutorials, organizational and time management skill-building, collaboration, public speaking and life skills. Preparing students for college and careers is AVID’s focus. **\*\*Application Required**

Creative Writing: The purpose of this course is to develop skills in writing through the study of literary forms. Emphasis is placed on using all aspects of the writing process to produce publishable pieces of writing in various literary forms. Students will evaluate representative examples of literature as models for writing.

AP European History: Students acquire an understanding of the history of Europe from the Renaissance to the present.

AP Computer Science: Introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language.

AP Psychology: Students cultivate their understanding of the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes through inquiry-based investigations as they explore concepts like the biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology.

**Fine Art Electives**

Band: The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop technical skills on band instruments in an ensemble setting. The content will include developing performance techniques and reading musical notation. (Students should indicate on their request form if they are in Brass, Wind or Percussion).

Orchestra: Development of fundamental music skills, appropriate tone production and performance techniques on orchestral instruments. The content will include the knowledge of basic rhythmic values and meters and identification of simple musical terms.

Keyboarding: This course will provide students with introductory experiences on the piano in performance skills and interpretation of simple notation. Content includes the development of music fundamentals, appropriate vocabulary, and listening skills.

Chorus: The purpose of this course is to develop vocal techniques and musicianship skills through the study of varied choral literature. The content will include fundamental skills in vocal tone production, choral performance techniques, musical literacy and music appreciation. (Please indicate Male or Female for appropriate Chorus placement)

Musical Theater: The course work focuses on, but not limited to, acting, vocal performance, dance, non-dance movement, and staging, which transfer readily to performances in musicals.

Journalism: The purpose of this course is to refine writing and production skills related to journalistic media. Emphasis is placed on writing, graphic design, and/or photographic techniques. Students practice managerial skills in journalistic contexts. (Indicate newspaper, yearbook or literary magazine.)

2D Art 1: Two dimensional design and essential art concepts. Course will include instruction in painting and drawing.

3D Art 1: Three dimensional design and essential art concepts including paper, plaster and clay.

Theatre 1: This year-long, foundational class, designed for students with little or no theatre experience, promotes enjoyment and appreciation for all aspects of theatre. Classwork focuses on the exploration of theatre literature, performance, historical and cultural connections, and technical requirements.

Theatre Cinema & Film: Students explore the elements of film and cinematic techniques used by those who create movies.

Theatre Improvisation: Students learn to communicate effectively, both verbally and non-verbally; develop and build critical listening and collaborative skills, and think and solve problems quickly and appropriately on the spot, which transfers well to academic, career, and social arenas. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Career & Technical Education Electives**

Digital Information Technology: This course is designed to provide an introduction to information technology concepts and careers, as well as, the impact information technology has on the world, people, and industry. The content includes information technology career research, emerging technologies, operating systems, office productivity software, and specialized software applications. Students will be introduced to electronic communication techniques including e-mail and Internet services (May obtain industry certification in Microsoft Office)

Business Software Applications: This course is designed to develop proficiency in using the advanced features of software program. (May obtain master level certification for Microsoft)

Digital Design 1: This course is designed to develop entry-level skills required for careers in the digital publishing industry. The content includes computer skills; digital publishing concepts and operations; layout, design and measurement activities; decision making activities, and digital imaging.

Graphic Communications and Printing Tech: This program prepares student for employment in the Printing Industry as Press Operators, Screen Printers, Copy Machine Operators, Binder Operations, and Graphic Designers. Level I students cover the essentials of printing through a variety of projects.

UAS Operations 1: The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations 1 course prepares students for entry into the UAS aviation industry. Students explore a basic understanding of the operational aspects that are key to the requirements to be part of the industry.

Nutrition and Wellness/Principles of Food Prep: This course will prepare students to understand principles of nutrition in relationship to wellness, food choices, food preparation, and food storage. The concepts of meal planning and management are also addressed. Classroom food laboratory activities are an integral part of this course. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a food’s lab using hands-on experiences. Activities provide instruction in the application of the principles of food preparation, food selection and storage. Ethnic, regional and international foods may also be studied and prepared.

Coast Guard JROTC: The JROTC curriculum includes coursework on leadership, civics, health and wellness, Coast Guard operations and history, nautical science, and teamwork. The curriculum is based on the principles of performance-based, learner centered education and promotes development of core abilities: capacity for lifelong learning, communication, responsibility for actions and choices, good citizenship, respectful treatment of others, and critical thinking techniques.

**PE Electives**

Team Sports: Team sports selected may include, but not be limited to, basketball, flag football, flicker ball, soccer, softball, speedball, track and field, and volleyball. Activities selected in Team Sports I shall not be repeated in Team Sports II. Strategies of team sports play, skill acquisition, and maintenance and/or improvement of personal fitness should be stressed.

Volleyball: Students will demonstrate awareness of: safety practices, rules and terminology, biomechanical and physiological principles related to exercise and training, potential benefits derived from participation in volleyball. In addition, students will demonstrate the use of skills and techniques and exhibit an improved level of skill.

Basketball: This course expands and refines concepts and activities introduced in elementary and middle school. The content should include, but not be limited to, in depth knowledge and application of skills, techniques, strategies, rules and safety practices necessary to participate in basketball, and knowledge of the organization and administration of basketball games. Strategies of team play, skill acquisition, and the maintenance and/or improvement of personal fitness should be stressed.

Weight Training: The content should include, but not be limited to, knowledge of the importance of muscular strength and endurance, assessment of muscular strength and endurance, knowledge of health problems associated with inadequate levels of muscular strength and endurance, knowledge of skeletal muscles, knowledge and application of biomechanical and physiological principles to improve and maintain muscular strength and endurance.

HOPE: Develop and implement an individual nutrition and wellness plan. Demonstrate knowledge of depression, suicide prevention, and stress management skills. Apply knowledge and skills for safety, injury and disease prevention. Utilize technology to facilitate health and personal fitness. Apply effective communication skills to enhance interpersonal relationships, refusal skills and decision making to promote teamwork, and cultural diversity.