

San Tan Charter School Power Campus

Course Description Catalog



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San Tan Charter School

Course Description Catalog

Corporate Board

Dr. Kristofer Sippel, Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Rita Sippel, Chief Customer Officer
Mr. Sam Tomlin, Corporate Board Treasurer
Mr. Tony Fiori, Corporate Board Member
Father Tom Enneking, Corporate Board Member

School Board

Dr. Kristofer Sippel, Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Rita Sippel, Chief Customer Officer
Monica Dippre, 3rd Grade Gifted Teacher
Ms. Sarah Laramie, Recker Campus Principal

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Registrar – Ms. Christine Gray – cgray@santancs.com



Dear Roadrunners:

If you ask any student what makes San Tan Charter School special, their first response would be the community. As a community we work together to develop students academically, physically and emotionally. In just a short time San Tan has grown and developed into a college preparatory school that offers a rigorous program that includes Advanced Placement, Honors and dual enrollment classes.

San Tan Charter School recognizes the importance of academic excellence while staying true to our belief of developing the entire student through youth programs, sports and the thrill of competition. We have an excellent athletics program and are in the process of developing top-notch career and technical education programs.

At San Tan Charter School, academic excellence is more than just achieving good grades. It is about maximizing a student's intellectual development through a strong course of study, and vast opportunities to participate in enrichment programs. It is about instilling self-confidence, encouraging hard work and providing opportunities for leadership. At San Tan Charter School, we believe that an intimate, small-school environment best allows many students to develop as an individual student and prepares you for great success for the future.

Beyond the classroom, opportunities abound for you to develop your talents and step outside your comfort zone. We are building a long-standing tradition to prepare well-rounded students in mind, body and soul. From athletics, to community service, to fine arts programs and activities, San Tan provides a safe, supportive environment to develop your passions and leadership skills.

San Tan's focus on preparing students for the next level is reflected not only in our teaching styles and methods, but also in our *One to One* technology policy, which mirrors the computer use found at most colleges and universities.

Step out of your comfort zone and try new things! Play football and act in a play? Sure! Tinker with building projects for competition and sing in the choir? Why not!

We are all Roadrunners!

Sincerely,

Brandon Tauscher

Brandon Tauscher
Principal, Power Campus
San Tan Charter School

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San Tan Charter School

MISSION

San Tan Charter School, as a school community, works collaboratively to ensure each student has an academic and social environment designed for their individual success; fostering creativity, critical thinking, and inspiring happiness while honoring each person's humanity.

VISION

The San Tan Charter School Family honors and invests in the community by leaving a legacy through individualized and interactive learning experiences.

Values

As a member of the San Tan Charter School Community, I LEAD with integrity, Love, and Empathy. I hold myself Accountable and am Dedicated to serving others by demonstrating these values in my words and actions.

I NTEGRITY

Speaking the truth and presenting oneself genuinely with a focus on the whole person through self-discipline and determination.

L OVE

Valuing close relationships with others by thoughtfully demonstrating kindness, patience and a deep respect for the diversity, feelings and opinions of others.

E MPATHY

Imagining what it is like to be another person, in their situation, seeking understanding prior to acting.

A CCOUNTABILITY

The acknowledgment and acceptance of responsibility for one's decisions and actions along with the results.

D EDICATION

Deeply committed to our community with a strong loyalty to our shared goals.

Annual Public Notification of Nondiscrimination: San Tan Charter School does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations.

San Tan Charter School does not discriminate in enrollment or access to any of the available programs. The lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the district's activities and programs. San Tan Charter School also does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to the designated compliance coordinator at 3232 S. Power Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85234, or at the phone number 480-222-0811.

This course description catalog is a comprehensive list of courses at San Tan Charter School. Course offerings are based upon available facilities, highly qualified staff, and adequate student enrollment.

Academic Guidance & Counseling

Services

San Tan Charter School provides services with an emphasis on academic advice. The advising department helps students plan for a successful post-secondary education path and career pathway planning. Services provided include:

- San Tan orientation programs.
- Annual individualized conferences for each 9-12th grade students to help develop an ECAP (Education and Career Action Plan).
- Information on careers, college/university entrance, financial aid, and service-related programs.

ECAP

The Education and Career Action Plan shall at minimum allow students to enter, track and update the following information:

1. Academic Goals that include identifying and planning the courses necessary to achieve the high school graduation requirements and their postsecondary education and career options. Advisors, students and parents will analyze assessment results to determine progress and identify needs for intervention and advisement; document academic, service-related opportunities, and work related documentation.
2. Postsecondary Education Goals that include identifying progress toward meeting admission requirements, completing application forms and creating financial assistant plans.
3. Extracurricular activity goals that include documenting participation in clubs, organizations, athletics, fine arts, community service, recreational activities, volunteer activities, leadership opportunities and other related activities.

Parent Portal

San Tan Charter subscribes to a virtual parent/teacher/student communication web portal called Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parent Portal is a safe and easy way for educators, parents and students to monitor grades, tardies, attendance and fees. Using Parent Portal is helpful for parents to be up to date in real time as to how their student is doing in their classes.

Courses Offered

San Tan Charter School prides itself on offering a multitude of course offerings from which our students can choose. We offer many electives for students to take in order to explore and gain experience in preparation for their post-secondary plans.

Graduation Requirements and In State Admission Standards

The chart below shows the course requirements to receive a high school diploma from San Tan Charter, School in addition to what is recommended for university admission. The courses below represent the typical plan of study for high school students at San Tan Charter School. [*University bound students must carefully examine the specific requirements of the university of their choice.*] This information can be found on the university's admissions website. It is recommended that parents, students and the academic advisor work as a team to help the student choose their classes.

Subject	San Tan Charter School Graduation Requirements	In-State University/College Requirements
English	4 credits	4 credits
Math	4 credits *	4 credits through pre-calculus
Science	3 credits	3 Lab Science Credits
Social Studies	3 credits	2 credits
Foreign Language	2 credits	2 credits
Physical Education	1 credit	0 credits
CTE/Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit
Electives	4 credits	0 credits
	22 credits	16 credits
	* Algebra 1 or higher Arizona State Requirements: -All Students must pass the American Civics Exam with a 70% or higher to graduate. -All students must complete CPR training to graduate.	SAT or ACT exam may be required. Contact the college or university of your choice for specific entrance requirements, including GPA, rank or test scores.

Students are required to earn no less than 22 credits in the following subject areas:

- English (4 credits) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit each of English I, English II, English III, and English IV. College level English courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Math (4 credits) – This requirement will be met by earning four credits in math, Algebra I or higher. College level math courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved PRIOR to enrolling in the course.
- Science (3 credits) – This requirement will be met by earning three credits in science. College level Science courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved PRIOR to enrollment in the course.
- Social Studies (3 credits) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit of World History/Geography, one credit of American/Arizona History, one-half credit of Economics, and one-half credit of American/Arizona Government. College level Social Studies courses MAY be completed to fulfill this requirement, but must be approved PRIOR to enrollment in the course.
- Foreign Language (2 credits) – This requirement will be met by successfully completing two credits of a Foreign Language.
- Physical Education (1 credit) – This requirement will be met by successfully completing one credit of Physical Education.
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) or Fine Arts (1 credit) – This requirement will be met by completing one credit in either CTE or Fine Arts.
- Electives (6 credits) – This requirement will be met by successfully completing any six credits of elective course offerings.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION – NCAA Please check with your counselor for information regarding NCAA academic requirements or visit www.eligibilitycenter.com.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS – NAIA Please check with your counselor for information regarding NAIA academic requirements or visit www.play.mynaia.org

End of Course Assessments

Each high school course has a final exam at the end of each semester. This exam is a part of the final grade. Students who do not attempt the final exam will be given an incomplete and will not receive credit for the course. It is the student's responsibility to work with staff to take the final exam within a timely manner. After four weeks, the incomplete will be changed to an 'F', if the final exam has not been completed. Beginning with the 2017 graduating cohort, all students must take and pass the American Civics Act Exam and complete CPR training in order to graduate.

4 Year General Studies Sample

Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
English Science Math Physical Education Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Foreign Language Elective	English Science Math Social Studies Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Foreign Language Elective	English Science Math Social Studies Elective/Fine Arts-CTE Elective Elective	English Math Social Studies Elective

- *If attending EVIT, students must attend a minimum of 4 classes per day at San Tan Charter.*

Career & Technology Education/Fine Art Requirements

One credit in either a fine art or CTE course is required for graduation from San Tan Charter School.

Policies & Procedures

Class Standing & Graduation Requirements

Class standing and specific graduation requirements are determined by the graduation year, and will not change after enrollment in the freshman year. San Tan Charter does not have a 5th year senior program.

Credits

A student earns one-half credit per period, per semester.

- **Credit Minimum**

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must take a minimum of 3 credits (6 classes) per semester. Any less than 3 credits, must have written approval. Seniors must take a minimum of 2 credits (4 classes) per semester. Any student who drops below 2 credits per semester may be dropped from school.

Middle School students in High School Courses

Credit and grades may be included in the high school transcript for core classes. Course selection and placement is dependent upon student readiness, past performance and must be approved by the Principal. The approval for high school credit must be determined and approved prior to the start of the course.

Repeating Courses

Courses that are designed to only be taken once. If a student chooses to retake a course, the previous course and grade remains on the student's transcript. Transcripts for students repeating courses will reflect the original and repeated course grade.

Correspondence Courses

Credit for graduation may be earned through correspondence courses from an accredited institution. No more than four credits may be earned toward graduation. Students must receive permission in writing prior to enrolling for correspondence courses.

Online Courses

San Tan Charter School accepts credits taken online through accredited online programs. Students must receive permission in writing **prior** to enrolling in an online course.

Student Aide

A student aide assignment is available to students with administrator permission. The grade will be pass/fail. Students may only enroll in ½ credit of student aide courses per semester

Internships

Internships are a valuable experience for students. These are not student aide positions. These are higher level opportunities to experience real-world work experience opportunities while on campus. These opportunities will have specific completion requirements and will be graded traditionally.

Course Sequencing and Credits

Students are expected to follow the course sequencing as outlined. Any exception to this must be approved prior to taking the course.

College Courses for High School Credit

Concurrent and Dual Enrollment are available through the Maricopa County Community College district. For more information regarding taking college courses while in high school, contact the Academic Achievement Coordinator.

Students may be granted high school credit for course work they complete in community college and universities. The following will apply:

- The institution where the course is taught must be accredited. The hours of the course must correspond with the amount of time that would normally be spent in the equivalent high school course.

Transfer Credit/Evaluation of Transcripts

Transferring students will be evaluated by Administration and credits will be entered into the school database by the registrar.

Late Enrollment

A student who enrolls after the 20th day will need to meet with Administration in order to review progress made in their previous school. It will be at the discretion of administration as to how the classes will transfer in. Every attempt will be made to ensure a smooth transition of classes in order to record the credits earned appropriately.

Dropping/Adding Courses

A student may drop a class and enroll in another class through the 10th day of the semester. After this time, the student will receive an 'F' on the transcript. This grade will be included in the GPA, class rank and will affect extracurricular activity eligibility. Students who wish to appeal this ruling will need to meet with the Administrative team to determine if there is a legitimate educational plan and true need for dropping this course.

School Attendance

School attendance is important and in order to receive the best education, students need to be on time and at school unless they have an illness or emergency. Regular attendance also has a cumulative effect on establishing life-long positive traits -- responsibility, determination, respect for rules of society -- that are all critical for developing career readiness skills, success in college and adult life.

- All students are required to attend school for 180 instructional days per school year.
- All tardies are considered unexcused without a doctor's note.
- Four unexcused tardies in a class equals an absence.
- Academic penalties will not be imposed for excused absences.
- Whenever a student needs to be out for more than **five** days, each teacher will provide work for the student to work on to lessen the impact of a student missing instruction in class.
- Students who miss **ten** days (excused or unexcused) of class in a semester will be put on an attendance contract that may lead to the student losing credit for the course.
- Excused absences can include:
 - Personal illness
 - Medical, dental, or mental health appointment
 - Serious illness in the student's immediate family
 - A death in the student's immediate family or of a relative
 - Religious holiday
 - Emergency conditions such as fire, flood, or storm
 - Unique family circumstances warranting absence and coordinated with school administration
 - College visits that cannot be scheduled on non-school days
 - Attendance at school-related sporting events
 - Field Trips

Scheduling Procedures

Registration Process

Students will use an online registration program. The Course Catalog is available online on the San Tan Charter School Secondary School Website. A paper copy is also available in the guidance department.

All courses listed in the catalog are subject to availability based on enrollment and qualified instructors. Courses with insufficient enrollment are canceled, and students are given an alternate course selection. Scheduling conflicts are also resolved through alternate course selections.

Parents and students are encouraged to work together on the registration process since critical decisions are made during this time.

Schedule Changes

When dropping/adding courses, specific procedures must be followed as outlined by the school's guidance department and will be accommodated on an as-needed and space available basis.

1. Student-initiated schedule changes are handled prior to the beginning of the school year.
2. Students may ask for a schedule change the first 10 days of academic school days of each semester.
3. Valid reasons for schedule changes are:
 - a. **Errors in scheduling**
 - b. **Changes needed to meet graduation requirements**
 - c. **Not meeting prerequisite needs**
 - d. **Changes required due to health (Doctor's letter necessary)**
 - e. **Successful completion of accepted course during the summer**
 - f. **Inappropriate placement as determined by teacher/counselor consultation**
4. Students may appeal a denial for schedule change to the school administration. The decision of the school administration will be final.
5. Students may not add new classes to their schedule after the 10th day of semester.
6. Students will receive an 'F' for classes dropped after the 10th day of the semester.
7. Level changes may be made at any time when recommended by the teacher and approved by administration.

Administration changes to balance classes or correct student misplacement will be made as soon as possible.

Progress Reporting

Report Cards

Official report cards are available two times a year. Only semester grades are entered on the official transcript. Report cards are available online through the Infinite Campus portal.

Grading

Students attending San Tan Charter School will be assessed using the following grading scales. Students must abide by the Academic Misconduct and Cheating policy as outlined in the student handbook.

Grading Scale	GPA	Weighted GPA
90-100 A	A=4.0	A=5.0
80-89 B	B=3.0	B=4.0
70-79 C	C=2.0/P=2.0	C=3.0
60-69 D	D=1.0	D=1.0
0-59 F	F=No Credit	F=No Credit

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Numerical averages are used to calculate the grade point average

Unweighted (Student has not taken Honors, Dual Enrollment or AP classes)

A=4 points B=3 points C=2 points D=1 point F=0 points

Weighted (Student has taken Honors, Dual Enrollment or AP classes)

A=5 points B=4 points C=3 points D=1 points F=0 points

The grade point average (GPA) is determined by the sum of the numerical equivalent for the grade divided by the total number of classes. Weighted GPA is used for determining class rank

which may be used for admission to most colleges, universities and for scholarships. The weighted GPA is also used to determine valedictorian and salutatorian.

Weighted

Weighted grades are assigned to courses that are accelerated and more challenging. A 5.0 grade-point scale value is possible because of the academic rigor and higher expectations in the work required for that course. Certain advanced/accelerated high school courses (9th-12th grades only) taken at San Tan Charter School receive weighted grade point values. The grade point values for these courses are: A = 5.0, B = 4.0. Weighted grades are only granted when the student completes the entire year-long course with a grade of B or higher. Otherwise, no weighted grade point value is applied.

Grade point average (GPA) for transferring students is computed according to courses earning weighted grades at the receiving school. This ensures that each student's GPA at any high school is computed the same way.

Weighted classes include Advanced Placement, Dual Enrollment and Honors courses.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

AP courses prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement examination given in late spring of each school year. Students may be granted advanced placement status and/or college credit on the basis of how well they perform on these tests. Information regarding advanced placement courses and examinations is available from the counseling offices at each high school or please visit <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/hom>.

Dual Enrollment

Dual credit from a college or university course may be granted if prior approval has been received. See school administration for specific information. Dual credit courses require the payment of tuition to the cooperating community college. Dual enrollment credit is earned when the course is taken at San Tan Charter School. To receive college credit for a Dual Enrollment course, students must meet all community college enrollment guidelines; earn a 'C' or better and pay tuition. Please contact the Dual Enrollment Coordinator for more information. Dual Enrollment courses will provide high school credit as well.

Scholars Prep & Honors Course Minimum Requirements

The minimum requirements to enroll in a Scholars Prep or honors course at San Tan Charter have been established to maintain the rigor and high expectation for the course. Students must meet the following minimum requirements.

- Top 25% of MAP data per cohort and/ or Gifted Scores
- No D's and F's in honors courses.

Honor Roll

Students who qualify for honor roll must:

1. Be enrolled in four courses.
2. Earned a GPA of 3.75 or better
3. Earn a grade of 'B' or higher in all courses

National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society

San Tan Charter Students who qualify for the National Honor Society are encouraged to participate in this program. Students must maintain a 3.75 GPA, have received no 'C's in any classes and must go through a rigorous application process. Students complete 20 hours of community service, including one school sponsored event.

Extracurricular Eligibility

Arizona Interscholastic Association

- A student is charged an activity fee for each activity or sport as established in the Governing Board policy.
- Students participating in athletics and other interscholastic competitive activities must be enrolled in five classes during the semester of competitions. (Seniors only require four.)
- Students participating in athletics must have completed, and have on file, a current physical examination form, emergency information card, and a signed STCS Athletic Code of Conduct form.
- Students participating in athletics must pay the fee per sport prior to the first day of competition, or they will be deemed ineligible until the fees or arrangements to pay the fees have been met. If a family misses the due date for the payment arrangements, the student will be considered ineligible.
- Eligibility for extracurricular activities are determined on weekly grades. Beginning the second week of the semester, eligibility is run. Students with an 'F' in any course will be considered ineligible for one week. Eligibility weeks run from Wednesday through Tuesday. When a student is ineligible for the week that student will not travel with the team nor be released early from class for home games.

Student Athletes

NCAA Initial Academic Eligibility Clearinghouse for Prospective Student Athletes Interested in Division I & II Colleges and Universities

Students who are considering the possibility of participating in college or university athletics must be cleared by the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to graduation with their class. Students should contact their Athletic Director for assistance with the process during the sophomore athletic season. Students and parents are encouraged to visit the NCAA website at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Information for college bound student athletes will be found under the Academic & Athletics Eligibility and Recruiting Sections. Students who plan to enter a Division I or II college or university and want to participate in athletics or receive an athletic scholarship during the first year must have:

- Completed these 16 core courses
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
 - 2 years of physical/natural science (one of which is a lab science)
 - 1 year of additional English, mathematics or science
 - 2 years of social studies
 - 4 years of additional core courses (from any area listed above, or a foreign language, non-doctrinal religion or philosophy.) Students should meet with their counselor about guidelines for non-traditional courses
- Earned a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA and test score sliding scale found on the NCAA website (for example, a 2.4 GPA average needs to score a minimum of 860 on the SAT); and earned a minimum required GPA average in their core courses

To determine which high school courses meet the NCAA Clearinghouse requirements a student should go to www.ncaaclearinghouse.net and

- Click on Prospective Student-Athletes
- Click on List of Approved Courses

Academic Integrity

The definitions of behaviors that are considered to be violations of the school's Academic Integrity Policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ***Cheating on Tests or Assignments:*** Any selling, digital imaging, photocopying, sharing, or using unauthorized assistance while taking a test, quiz, or other individually graded assignment without the express permission from the teacher is considered cheating. This includes looking at another student's paper, sharing answers, copying another student's assignment/paper, allowing someone to copy your paper, or using unauthorized notes or an electronic device while testing.
- ***Fabrication:*** Any falsification and/or invention of data, citation, or another authority in an academic exercise, such as laboratory data.
- ***Unauthorized Collaboration:*** Copying work or collaborating on assignments that was assigned to be done independently. Unauthorized collaboration includes any intentional attempt to copy or share an assignment, a paper, and/or test information with another person or the act of giving information, materials, answers, or an unfair advantage to another person.
- ***Plagiarism:*** Any representation of another's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism includes the misuse of published material, electronic material, and/or the work of other students. The original writer who shares his/her paper for another to copy, without the permission of the teacher, is engaged in plagiarism. Recycling or reusing papers, projects, and/or assignments without authorization in multiple classes is also considered plagiarism.
- ***Alteration or Theft of Material:*** Any unauthorized alteration or theft of student, teacher, library, school data/information and/or electronic materials.
- ***Collusion:*** Collusion occurs when any student knowingly or intentionally helps another student perform an act of academic dishonesty. Collusion is an act of academic dishonesty and will be disciplined in the same manner as the act itself.

Cheating and plagiarism are forms of academic misconduct and are both dishonest choices that students can avoid. Ignorance about what constitutes cheating is not a defense. If you are uncertain if something you are doing is considered academically dishonest, you should ask your teacher.

JR. HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 7

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

Scholars Prep Language Arts 7

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students enrolled in this course must be ready to more deeply connect writing and reading. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of a higher-level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Language Arts 8

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based program to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. All students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

Scholars Prep Language Arts 8

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills to teach the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards. Students enrolled in this course must be ready to more deeply connect writing and reading. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of a higher level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

MATHEMATICS

7th Grade Math

Students will cover the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 7th grade mathematics. The five domains are Ratio and Proportional Relationships, the Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.

Scholars Prep Math 7

Students will cover the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 7th grade mathematics more in depth than in Math Course II. The five domains are Ratio and Proportional Relationships, the Number System, Expressions and Equations, Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. This mathematics course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take higher level math classes in high school.

8th Grade Math

This course covers the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 8th grade. The domains are Number Systems, Equations and Expressions, Functions, Geometry and Statistics and Probability. This course will prepare students for Algebra I.

Scholars Prep Math 8

This course covers the Arizona College and Career Ready Standards for 8th grade. The domains are Number Systems, Equations and Expressions, Functions, Geometry and Statistics and Probability. This mathematics course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take higher level math classes in high school.

SCIENCE

Science 7

This course is designed to teach a selection of Life Science topics. Students will use three-dimensional inquiry as a discovery method in order to describe and analyze the interactions of living organisms within ecosystems. Life Science topics include Structure, Function, and Information Processing; Growth, Development, and Reproduction of Organisms; Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems; Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems; and Natural Selection and Adaptations. Scientific persons and events of historical significance will be integrated to support the curriculum and help students make relevant connections to their lives.

Scholars Prep Science 7

Students will learn the general spectrum of biology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations. An average of one day per week will be devoted to lab work. Students may be expected to complete one or more projects per quarter. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Science 8

This course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of Physical Science. Students will use three-dimensional inquiry as a discovery method in order to describe and analyze the phenomena central to the physical sciences. Physical Science topics include Matter and its interactions, motion and stability, energy and waves and their applications in technologies. This inquiry-based course will teach hands-on laboratory skills and methods as a means to learning the content curriculum.

Scholars Prep Science 8

Students will use experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. Students will be required to keep a lab notebook and may be required to do several projects as part of the class. A minimum of one day per week will be devoted to laboratory studies. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 7

Students will study the development of society from the Scientific Revolution to the Modern Era. Discussions will include political revolutions, the industrial revolutions, imperialism, both world wars and the interwar period, and other world conflicts.

Scholars Prep Social Studies 7

Students will study the development of mankind through such topics as geography, early civilizations, Middle Ages, the Reformation and the modern world with an emphasis on Western Civilization. Discussions will include the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

Social Studies 8

Students will study civics and the many characteristics of the United States government. Discussions will include foundations of the U.S. government, the structure of the U.S. government, civil rights, immigration, human rights, terrorism, environmental issues, and economics.

Scholars Prep Social Studies 8

Students will, with appropriate textbook and supplemental readings in the form of documents and essays, provide both chronological and thematic coverage of American History. Emphasis is placed on political history, foreign affairs, and economic and social development, including literary and cultural history. This Scholars Prep course is designed for those students who possess the motivation and skills necessary to be prepared to take AP and Dual Enrollment classes beginning in High School.

HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

English I

This course will integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills using a thematic based approach. All students are taught strategies to effectively read both fiction and nonfiction and respond through varied writing activities.

English I Honors

This course will integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills. Advanced writing skills and reading strategies will be emphasized through the use of higher level curriculum, including formal writing workshops and independent reading of multiple literary genres. **Note: This is a weighted course.**

English II

This course will emphasize narrative, expository, and functional writing. In addition, students are introduced to the persuasive essay. Students will study universal themes in world and multicultural literature with an emphasis on critical reading skills. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English II Honors

This course will develop the essay and language skills required for entry into advanced placement programs in English. World literature will be used as the basis for the reading and writing activities. Composition skills will be emphasized. **Note: This is a weighted course.**

English III

This course will emphasize poetry, short and long fiction, nonfiction and dramas from American Literature. In writing, students will master essay structure in narrative, expository, persuasive, research, and functional writing. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English IV

Students will focus on the critical analysis and evaluation of literature including fiction, nonfiction, drama and poetry. In writing, students will master creative, persuasive, narrative, expository and functional writing models and study corresponding vocabulary. Students will complete a research project. Students will be expected to complete assignments in speaking/listening and viewing/presenting.

English – Language and Composition AP/Dual Enrollment

The course is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the Advanced Placement Exam. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

English - AP English Literature

AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Students will focus on a study of sets of real numbers, solution of first and second-degree equations, graphing on the coordinate plane, applications of algebra to data analysis and probability, patterns and functions and their applications, measurement and discrete mathematics, and basic mathematical structures.

Algebra I Honors

This course will extend algebraic and geometric concepts and apply these to an in-depth study of polynomial, radical, rational, exponential with real exponents, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, as well as piecewise defined functions. Students will continue to develop fluency in writing, comparing, solving (including complex solutions), and interpreting problems represented by the above function families as well as explore the effects of transformations on their graphs. Students will examine data on two quantitative variables to choose functions and make conclusions in context of the data. **Note: This is a weighted course.**

Algebra II

Students will study solution techniques for polynomial equations, properties of functions, logarithms and exponents, coordinate geometry, complex numbers, elementary conic sections, matrices, arithmetic and geometric sequences, and an introduction of trigonometry and its applications. Technology will play a part in this course, especially the use of hand-held graphing calculators.

Algebra II Honors

This course will extend algebraic and geometric concepts and apply these to an in-depth study of polynomial, radical, rational, exponential with real exponents, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, as well as piecewise defined functions. Students will continue to develop fluency in writing, comparing, solving (including complex solutions), and interpreting problems represented by the above function families as well as explore the effects of transformations on their graphs. Students will examine data on two quantitative variables to choose functions and make conclusions in the context of the data. **Note: This is a weighted course.**

Geometry

Students will study formal geometric proofs, polygons, circles, coordinate geometry, solution of right triangle trigonometry problems, Euclidean transformations, and mathematical structure and logic.

Geometry Honors

The course will conduct an in-depth study of congruence, similarity, trigonometry, circles, expressing geometric properties with equations, coordinate geometry, geometric measurement and dimension, and conditional probability with an emphasis on real-world modeling contexts. Concepts will be developed through investigation of rigid and non-rigid transformations, constructions and proof. **Note: This is a weighted course.**

Personal Finance

This course will explore the principles and practices of personal and family financial planning, including savings, budgeting, credit, buying versus renting, and general principles of consumerism.

Pre-Calculus (Dual Enrollment Available)

Students will study topics such as angle measure, relations and graphs of trigonometric functions, coordinate and polar trigonometry, reduction formulae, fundamental triangle solutions and solutions of trigonometric equations, complex numbers, DeMoivre's theorem, real number line, the plane functions, conics, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, polar and parametric functions, sequences and series, limits and rates of change. Technology will play a large part in this course, especially the use of hand-held graphing calculators. This college preparatory math course is designed for students who seek to meet admission requirements for state university.

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

AP/Dual Enrollment Calculus 1

This course will center around the foundational concepts of calculus: limits, derivatives, and integrals and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. These concepts will be developed through mathematical practices for AP Calculus: (1) Reasoning with definitions and theorems; (2) Connecting concepts; (3) Implementing algebraic/computational processes; (4) Connecting multiple representations; (5) Building notational fluency; and (6) Communicating. This course is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the Advanced Placement Exam. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam \ Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

AP/Dual Enrollment Calculus 2

AP Calculus BC is an introductory college-level calculus course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change, limits, and the analysis of functions. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam \ Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

Dual Enrollment Calculus 3

Calculus III covers parametric equations and polar coordinates, vectors, functions of several variables, multiple integrations, and second-order differential equations.

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

SOCIAL STUDIES

*All students enrolled in a history class participate in the annual San Tan Cultural Fair.

American Government & Politics

Students will have an understanding of our constitutional principles as it relates to executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. Students study such topics as political parties, law, citizens' liberties and responsibilities, federalism, media, and foreign affairs.

AP Government

AP U.S. Government and Politics is an introductory college-level course in U.S. government and politics. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis.

Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam \ Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

American (US) History

Students will, with appropriate textbook and supplemental readings in the form of documents and essays, provide both chronological and thematic coverage of American History. Emphasis is placed on political history, foreign affairs, and economic and social development, including literary and cultural history.

AP/Dual Enrollment US History

This college-level course covers the major themes of U.S. history from settlement to contemporary times with an emphasis on American identity, economic and social life, political change and continuity, and the U.S. role in the world. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam \ Dual Enrollment Tuition Exam fees

Economics

Students will cover the economic conditions and policies that affect our daily lives. Issues such as inflation, recession, unemployment, the national debt, and personal economic decisions are discussed. The course provides an opportunity to compare other economic systems and how changes affect the global economy (i.e., trade).

AP Macroeconomics

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level macroeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like economic measurements, markets, macroeconomic models, and macroeconomic policies. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

World History/Geography

Students will study the development of mankind through such topics as geography, early civilizations, Middle Ages, the Reformation and the modern world with an emphasis on Western Civilization. Discussions will include the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

AP/Dual Enrollment World History

AP World History: Modern is an introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

SCIENCE

*All students enrolled in a science class participate in the annual San Tan SciFest each year.

Biology I

Students will learn the general spectrum of biology. It includes laboratory procedures and investigations. An average of one day per week will be devoted to lab work. Students may be expected to complete one or more projects per quarter.

AP Biology

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics like evolution, energetics, information storage and transfer, and system interactions. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

Chemistry

Students will use experiments to introduce the principles of chemistry. These experiments will introduce the principles of chemistry. Students will be required to keep a lab notebook and may be required to do several projects as part of the class. A minimum of one day per week will be devoted to laboratory studies.

AP Chemistry

AP Chemistry is an introductory college-level chemistry course. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based lab investigations as they explore the four Big Ideas: scale, proportion, and quantity; structure and properties of substances; transformations; and energy. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

Earth Science

This course will be a study of the earth and its environment and the earth as an object in space. Major topics include: astronomy, geology, weather, and map reading. Students will be expected to write term papers and perform applied mathematical problems related to earth science.

Physics

Students will focus on the physical nature of our world. The class involves frequent labs with appropriate reports. Topics may include mechanics, electricity and magnetism, wave propagation, energy and modern physics. Research projects may be required.

AP Physics

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study, in-class activity, and hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work as they explore concepts like systems, fields, force interactions, change, conservation, and waves. **Students registered for this class are expected to take the AP Exam in May.**

Note: This is a weighted course.

Fees: AP Exam fees

ELECTIVE COURSES

GENERAL ELECTIVES

ACT Strategic Skills

The Strategic Skills Course is designed to empower students with the essential tools to develop healthy study habits and effective test-taking strategies, instilling a sense of confidence and success in various academic assessments. This comprehensive course is tailored to equip students with the necessary techniques to excel not only in standardized tests but also in regular pop quizzes.

Creative Writing

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or play writing)

Family Consumer Science

This course provides a foundation for managing individual, family, career, and community roles and responsibilities. Students apply problem solving and leadership skills as they explore areas such as personal goal achievement, responsibilities within the family, accountability for personal safety and health. Students learn skills related to financial management, clothing maintenance, food preparation, positive relationships with others, and self-assessment as related to career exploration. Mathematics, science, English, social sciences, fine arts, and technology are integrated throughout the course.

Film Studies

This course will introduce students to the film industry and history of cinema through the study of classic and contemporary films. Emphasis will be placed on exposing the class to a wide variety of styles and genres as well as formulating and justifying criticisms of the work. Hands-on projects, written analyses, research, keeping a film journal and participation in class discussions will be requirements for successful completion of the course. Students enrolling in Film Studies will view and analyze a variety of quintessential films that have made a lasting impression on America's society. Students will explore what film means in the context of a multicultural society, studying canonical pieces as well as new and rediscovered voices. Students will explore social, historical, economic, political, and artistic issues.

Forensics

This class is an elective, inquiry-oriented science class that will focus on criminal forensics. Through a sequence of lab-based activities, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the role of science in solving crimes. These activities will include fingerprinting, ink chromatography, and an introduction to DNA analysis

Gaming Industry

Welcome to an immersive journey into the multifaceted realm of gaming! This course goes beyond playing games; it's a dynamic fusion of gameplay exploration, coding, and a deep dive into the gaming industry. Students will engage in hands-on gameplay analysis, dissecting the mechanics and strategies that make games captivating. From there, we transition to coding sessions, where students unravel the mysteries behind game development, crafting their own digital worlds. But it doesn't stop there—we venture into the gaming industry's heartbeat, dissecting market trends, and exploring business landscapes.

Math for Mathematicians

In this course, students will discover what mathematicians see in mathematics until now; clearly, since mathematicians do it for fun, they see something in it that most people don't. These mathematical wonders have typically been hidden deep in courses that only math majors take. This course will teach students to love mathematics, and to treat it like the art form that it is. Mathematics is full of beauty and elegance for those who look in the right places, and this course shows students where to look.

Requirements: An open, inquisitive mind. A solid understanding of basic algebra (Algebra I, or a good performance in Math III).

Mindfulness

Mindfulness means to intentionally live in the present moment. We practice this art by having non-judgemental awareness of our thoughts and feelings. Students will practice meditating, breathing techniques, and different exercises/activities to enhance their focus, reduce stress, and foster emotional well-being. They will also learn the benefits of gratitude journaling, the circle of control, the window of tolerance, test taking strategies, and strategies to help with anxiety, depression, anger, etc. All of these things will help you to become more mindful which will improve your mental health.

Model UN

The purpose of the San Tan Charter Model United Nations course is to increase student knowledge about international issues, policy making and the activities of the United Nations. Students will also gain valuable skills in public speaking, research and writing, negotiation and powers of persuasion, leadership, organization, and interpersonal communication. Students will gain these skills through course assignments, class activities and, most importantly, by playing the role of United Nations delegates. Students may have the opportunity to represent STCS as a MUN delegate at Model UN conferences. Students are the primary decision-makers and leaders for the organization. By choosing to participate in this challenging but rewarding class, students will gain valuable knowledge and skills, and join a committed and highly motivated group of students.

Mythology

Myths are traditional stories that have endured over a long time. Some of them have to do with events of great importance, such as the founding of a nation. Others tell the stories of great heroes and heroines and their exploits and courage in the face of adversity. Still others are simple tales about otherwise unremarkable people who get into trouble or do some great deed. What are we to make of all these tales, and why do people seem to like to hear them? This course will focus on the myths of ancient Greece and Rome, as a way of exploring the nature of myth and the function it plays for individuals, societies, and nations. We will also pay some attention to the way the Greeks and Romans themselves understood their own myths.

Odyssey of the Mind

In this course, students learn how to think divergently by answering open-ended problems in a team setting. Embedded in the process are the skills necessary for student readiness for careers and colleges such as creativity, innovation, problem-solving, critical thinking, global awareness, interpersonal and collaborative skills, self-direction and adaptability. **There will be after school and travel obligations for students that take this course.**

Note: A Fee Applies to this course.

Psychology

This course will examine human behavior. Topics will include the history of psychology, and will explore the topics of learning and memory, methods of research, states of consciousness and analysis of behavior.

Personal Development & Leadership

Leadership courses are designed to strengthen students' personal and group leadership skills. Typically intended for students involved in extracurricular activities, and have an interest in business and entrepreneurship studies. These courses may cover such topics as public speaking, effective communication, human relations, the effects of a positive mental attitude, organization and management, and group dynamics

Student Government

This course will provide training to students to be sensitive listeners and to use communication skills to encourage positive problem solving and behavior. Peer counselors will act as role models, peer tutors, big brothers and sisters to elementary and junior high students, as well as encourage and monitor students with attendance problems. This course will also emphasize leadership skills. A major part of the course will be performing the duties of Student Council. This course provides opportunities to study, practice and develop group and individual leadership and organizational skills. These skills include decision-making skills, problem-solving techniques, communication skills, leadership roles, human relation skills and understanding the need for civic responsibility. Students enrolled in the course will apply these skills in dealing with peers, school administration and the community. Students will demonstrate a hands-on, active learning approach to leadership.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career Explorations

This course will concentrate on career exploration and post high school planning in the areas of education, training, and employment. Students will participate in various career and personal interest assessments and explore career options for the future. By the end of the course, students will learn how to analyze their personal skills and strengths as they relate to current and future jobs, explore different careers through interviews and observations, and discover what it means to be successful at work.

Coding

In this course, young students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects. The course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop interactive projects. At the end of the course, students create their own phone app.

Culinary Arts I

Find out if the Culinary Arts industry is for you in this hands-on class where foundation standards are stressed. You will obtain your food handlers, CPR, and First Aid cards preparing you for industry standards. Learn knife skills, how to work in a commercial kitchen, ways food leavens, plus in-depth nutritional concepts. This course will focus on math skills in measuring metric versus standard, scale operations, baker's percentages, determining food costs, knife sharpening angles, graphing with fats and oils, and change counting.

Advanced Culinary

Students will study Hot and Cold Foods (fish/beef/pork/poultry) as well as sauce and stock preparation. This course will focus on math skills in measuring, menu pricing, ratios with stocks, edible portioning, percentages with meat fabrication. Students will gain skills in Breakfast Foods and Garde Manger* (*cheese, eggs/sandwiches/salads/dressings/hor d'oeuvres). Students will obtain knowledge and practical culinary skills in Baking and Pastry (cakes/breads/pastries).

Prerequisite: Culinary Arts I

Culinary III – Baking

This course is a study of the fundamentals of baking including, dough, quick breads, pies, cakes, cookies, tarts and basic items made in a bakery.

Prerequisite: Culinary Arts I

Culinary IV - Student Cafe

Students in Culinary IV will experience a more independent course as they delve into entrepreneurship by running their own cafe. Culinary IV students will be challenged to develop the following:

- Their own menu for the cafe with at least 1 special a week.
- Responsible for cafe hours being published.
- Responsible for the marketing of the cafe, including:
 - approved social media,
 - flyers, and
 - school announcements.
- Maintain their own cafe budget spreadsheet.
- Maintain food cost below 29%.
- Establish staffing sheets.

- Ordering and storage of products.
- Maintain OSHA and Serv-Safe sanitation protocols, with a focus on cleaning and storage.
- Meet with San Tan Culinary Instructor every Friday to review:
- cost sheet and food cost,
- menu for the following week,
- staffing hours, and
- marketing strategies.

Prerequisite for this course: Advanced Culinary or Advanced Baking

Introduction to Aviation

The course will provide the foundation for advanced exploration in the areas of flying, aerospace engineering, and unmanned aircraft systems. Students will learn about engineering practices, problem-solving, and the innovations and technological developments that have made today's aviation and aerospace industries possible. Students will look at the problem-solving practices and innovative leaps that transformed space exploration from the unimaginable to the common in a single generation. Students will also gain historical perspective, starting from the earliest flying machines and leading to the wide variety of modern aircraft and the integral role they play in making today's world work.

JROTC

The San Tan Junior Recruit Training Corps (JROTC) is not just a class, it is a program concentrated on developing the leadership skills and qualities of our young adults. Each cadet in the program will be given the opportunity to take on leadership roles which help them grow as individuals and good model citizens. At San Tan Charter School, we understand that not everyone will be attending college or going into the military; however, each person at one point or another will be in a position in which they need to be in charge or voice their personal opinion. This program is designed to support those attributes and characteristics needed to insert themselves in a positive and confident manner.

Life Connections

This activity-based class is the beginning step in preparing students for adult life in culinary arts, child development, education and many other workplace opportunities. Students will gain skills in leadership, job seeking, decision making, nutrition, parenting, money management, and safety/sanitation in the work-place. Students will learn how to budget, plan and run a household. Students will continue learning career explorations, what is necessary to apply for college, and apply for scholarships. Students will learn to write a resume and cover letter.

Photography

Students in Photography will develop and expand their skills in producing both artistic and commercial photographs using digital DSLR cameras and equipment. Photography meets the credit requirements for Career and Technical Education (CTE), Fine Art, and elective graduation requirements. Students learn to take artistic digital photos following rules of composition, light, exposure, elements of art and principles of design which also enhances their ability to produce quality commercial work. Adapting and updating a student's skill set to the ever changing software and hardware technology is a constant goal of all the photography courses.

Digital Media/Broadcasting

Entering the ever-changing world of digital media and broadcasting, this class will give students a hands-on introduction to video/audio production and digital media creation. The course will discuss the landscape of broadcast journalism while teaching the technical skills to write, record, and produce content from radio/podcast segments, to broadcast-ready video packages and live streaming. Students will have the freedom to create content related to their passions, along with content related to school activities like sports and on-campus clubs that will be shared around the school and on social media throughout the year. This course will be taught by Coach Robert Desimone, who has a degree and several years of experience in sports and entertainment related to digital media, journalism, and broadcasting.

STEM

This course challenges students of all levels to develop higher order problem solving skills by stimulating creativity in a hands-on learning environment. Academic subject disciplines such as applied physics, Algebra and geometry powerfully come alive as students design, build and test modern structure and vehicle prototypes. Students acquire 21st Century Skills through project based learning. (This class is only for students who have not previously taken a STEM class at the middle school level.)

Yearbook/Graphic Design

If you love to take pictures and are interested in learning how to write like a journalist, then this class is for you. Learn more about layout design, photo angles, backgrounds, foregrounds, cropping and action shots. This class will address advanced techniques of retouching and printing of photos in addition to exploring various aesthetic domains such as portraiture, landscape, architecture and documentary photography.

FINE ARTS

Art

This course is an introduction to art with the basic elements and principles of design. Students will learn drawing techniques emphasizing line, positive/negative space, perspective, value, texture, lettering, and portrait proportions. Students will also explore studies in color and advanced drawing and painting techniques.

Art - Advanced

This course is an advanced level art class with advanced elements and principles of design. Students will hone the skills they have learned in Art & Design II and finish the class with a portfolio of artwork.

Prerequisite: Art I

Band

Band provides opportunities for the skilled band student to play a wide range of musical forms and styles. Emphasis is placed on improving individual reading and performance skills. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. A minimum of a half an hour a day of homework practice is required for this course. Students are required to participate in performances and it is a part of their grade.

Choir

Students will learn to improve their musical skills, sight-reading techniques, vocal techniques and stage presentation. Students will explore music history and vocal pedagogy through the performance of various genres of choral music. Students will participate in performances outside the classroom setting. Special concert attire may be worn. Students are required to participate in performances and it is a part of their grade.

Drama

This course will help students experience and develop skill in one or more aspects of theatrical production. Introductory courses provide an overview of theatrical elements including acting, set design, stage management, directing, playwriting, and production. Advanced courses concentrate on extending and refining dramatic technique, expanding students' exposure to different types of theatrical styles, genres, and traditions, and increasing their participation in public productions.

Show Choir

Show Choir is a mixed ensemble that combines the movement of dance and singing. Through this course, students will develop greater musicianship, proper use of breath support, phrasing, interpretation, postures, stage presence, and the other important musical disciplines. In this class students will study and perform vocal music in the Jazz, Pop, and Swing styles. Students will learn the art of movement and dance as well as the enhancement of the vocal rendition of various works. Show Choir is appropriate for all abilities and is a fantastic way to step into the art of music!

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I

Introduces students to the basic vocabulary of the language and components of the culture of the countries in which Spanish is spoken. Prepares students to begin to read, write, speak and understand the language.

Spanish II

This course is an in-depth study of Spanish, requiring the student to think in the language. The class will help students to become more fluent in the language while continuing to learn about the culture. Grammar and conversation will be emphasized.

Sign Language I

This American Sign Language course will introduce basic sign vocabulary with an emphasis on developing fluency in expressive and receptive signing and fingerspelling.

Sign Language II

This course will be an in-depth study of American Sign requiring the student to think in the language.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Athletic Physical Education

This physical education class is for those students who play a competitive sport. Athletes may enroll in this course with the permission of the head coach of a school sport, or by permission from the school's athletic director.

Dance

This introductory course will include an introduction to various dance techniques and styles. Studies will experience and understand technique/skill, knowledge, history and improvisation of multiple dance styles. Students will participate in performances during the school year that are a part of their grade. Students will use dance to enhance their overall physical fitness

Boys Weight Training

This course provides students with a variety of different lifetime activities to improve their overall fitness and health. Students will focus on muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular, and flexibility. Coaches will work with athletes for their specific sports in order to engage in activities that help meet their personal goals.

Girls Weight Training

This course provides students with a variety of different lifetime activities to improve their overall fitness and health. Students will focus on muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardiovascular, and flexibility. Coaches will work with athletes for their specific sports in order to engage in activities that help meet their personal goals.

Health & Wellness

This course provides students with an overview of good nutrition principles that are necessary for physical and mental wellness as well as a long, healthy life. The class will include discussions of digestion, basic nutrients, weight management, sports and fitness, and life-span nutrition. The Health and Fitness class is a lifetime wellness course that emphasizes an understanding of today's food and eating trends and gives students the capacity to intelligently evaluate all available sources of nutrition information and make informed decisions. Unit topics include a course introduction, wellness and food choices, digestion and major nutrients, and body size and healthy lifestyle management in addition to physical activity. This course will also include creating a physical fitness and healthy lifestyle plan that students will implement and follow with parental and school staff support.

Physical Education

This class will incorporate some of the many ways to stay active and healthy. Team sports such as baseball, football, soccer, volleyball, badminton, and more are incorporated. Strength training, flexibility, and cardiovascular improvement are also emphasized. Quarterly Fitness Assessments will be administered to show the yearly progress.

Strength & Conditioning

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime.

Yoga

This course will introduce students to beginning yoga asanas. Emphasis will be placed on awareness of technique, skill, flexibility, posture, history, knowledge, vocabulary, core strength, and aesthetics of each asana. Students will learn and apply components of health-related fitness. Cardiovascular conditioning will be taught on a regular basis.