

# CHIEF KANIM MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### SEMESTER LONG ELECTIVES

#### 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Art Concepts/Techniques

In this course students experience drawing, painting, ceramics (clay), printmaking, and more! They will create 2D and 3D pieces to take home at the end of the semester in a portfolio that encapsulates their body of original work. Students will get out of their seats and use hands-on tools to express their important ideas. This class teaches students to speak their minds through specific visual art skills and kinesthetic projects that promote health and wellbeing. Free your mind and soul! Learn important job skills! Come dive into the art world to share your voice in an original and authentic way.

#### Digital Media/Video/Photography

In this course students focus on photography, video, animation, graphic design, and digital art. They have access to DSLR cameras, camcorders, drawing tablets, audio and lighting gear and the entire Adobe Creative Suite and use these industry-standard tools to aid in the creative process every day. Students work individually and collaboratively for digital design and storytelling. They learn and practice effective workflow strategies to manage their creative projects from start to finish.

#### Computer Science Explorers 1

Also counts as an Art Equivalent

In this hands-on computer science course, students will dive into the realms of coding, 3D printing, and robotics to explore the endless possibilities of technology with a focus on art concepts. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to programming through interactive lessons and engaging exercises. Students will learn the basics of 3D printing by transforming digital designs using computer aided design software and creating characters using 3D printing based on their story-making code. Students will enter the world of robotics and automation as they delve into building and programming robots through hands-on activities. In this STEAM based class, students will emerge with a solid foundation in computer science and art concepts.

#### Computer Science Explorers 2

Also counts as an Art Equivalent

Building upon the foundational knowledge of Computer Science Explorers 1, in this second level, students will continue to build on their STEAM skills by learning how to animate while using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to write a story and create characters. Students will continue to build their coding skills while exploring these technologies to help solve problems and learn responsible use of such technologies. Students will continue to build their skills in robotics and coding through more challenging projects. **COMPUTER SCIENCE EXPLORERS 1 IS PREREQUISITE**

#### Computer Science Explorers 3

Also counts as an Art Equivalent

In this advanced level of Computer Science Explorers, students will delve deeper into the realms of coding by using more text-based programming for creating apps, LED art, music and more as a means for creative and social expression. Students will build upon their previous experience with 3D printing and learn advanced techniques for modeling complex shapes and prototyping. Robotics will continue to be a focus with more advanced exploration and challenging projects. **COMPUTER SCIENCE EXPLORER 2 IS PREREQUISITE**

#### Lifelong Fitness

This class will be focusing on physical activities that can generally be pursued throughout one's lifetime. Students will learn rules and fundamental techniques for a variety of fitness activities. Students will learn basic techniques and safety guidelines that should be followed when exercising. The course will include body weight strength training, yoga, Pilates, cardio endurance activities and other life time fitness activities.

#### Advanced Fitness Training

This is a high-level fitness class, meant for students who really enjoy exercise. They will learn rules and fundamental techniques for a variety of fitness activities—The course will include body weight exercises, weight training technique, cardio endurance, muscular strength and endurance activities. Students will be expected to be ready to exercise at a high level every day.

#### Competitive Team Sports

Competitive Team Sports is a competitive sports class that will focus on a variety of lifelong team-based sports (i.e. soccer, volleyball, etc.). This class will focus primarily on building a competitive mindset, implementing game strategies, and improving on required core skills to play the game. Requirements for this class include having a competitive mindset, basic understanding of game play and willingness to participate in **high-level** team-based activities with a positive attitude.

# YEARLONG ELECTIVES

## Spanish

This high school level full-year course provides an introduction to fundamental Spanish language concepts and patterns. Specialized vocabulary and culture are presented in units covering many topics like the family, school life and travel. The course emphasizes reading comprehension for cultural understanding, writing skills, oral conversation and the basics of Spanish grammar.

## Band

### Beginning Band

*(anyone who is new to playing an instrument)*

Students looking to begin their musical journey in band start in the CKMS Beginning Band. We welcome any student in grade 6, 7, or 8 who is curious and enthusiastic about learning a band instrument to join the Beginning Band. Instruments students can learn include flute, oboe, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, and percussion (by audition). In Beginning Band students learn the fundamentals of reading music and playing an instrument. Beginning band students also benefit, instructionally, from being split into two different classes by instrument type; brass and woodwind. These students can look forward to performing in two concerts at the Mount Si High School Performing Arts Center this upcoming school year.

### Intermediate Band

*(majority 7th graders)*

Intermediate Band at Chief Kanim is open to any band student who has completed at least one year of instrumental instruction in band. Students in Intermediate Band have the option of starting new instruments such as bassoon, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, and tuba. In Intermediate Band, we continue to build upon the fundamentals learned in Beginning Band, start adding higher level skills, and begin to work on more challenging music for concerts. Students in Intermediate band will perform in two concerts in the Mount Si High School Performing Arts Center this upcoming school year and take a fun trip together in the spring!

### Advanced Band

*(majority 8th graders)*

Advanced Band is the premiere concert band at CKMS and is open to any student who has completed two years of instrumental instruction. Alternatively, a student who shows very advanced skills after just one year of instruction may receive a special invitation from Mr. Talbott joined the Advanced Band. Students in Advanced Band shift their focus from developing fundamental skills to working on high level music for performance in many concerts and festivals throughout the year. The Advanced Band will perform in two concerts at the MSHS PAC, travel to one regional band festival, take a tour of the local elementary schools to recruit incoming band students, and can look forward to a fun trip at the end of the year!

## Choir

### Beginning Choir

Beginning Choir is a performance-based class that builds the fundamentals of singing and musicianship. Students will learn healthy vocal technique and tap into the power of their voices, learn to read music, and sing in 2- and 3-part harmony. Beginning Choir will perform a wide variety of musical styles at concerts throughout the year, including songs from around the world, songs from movies/musicals, jazz-inspired styles, and pop songs. Students in this class have the opportunity to go caroling in the winter and take a field trip in the spring.

### 7th & 8th Grade Choir

7th and 8th Grade Choir is a performance-based class that continues to build on fundamentals of singing and musicianship. Students will focus on developing healthy vocal technique as their voices change, reading music, and singing in 3- and 4-part harmony. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir will perform a wide variety of music at concerts throughout the year, including songs from around the world, songs from movies/musicals, jazz-inspired styles, and pop songs. Although most students in this group have taken choir in 6th grade, anyone is welcome to sign up for this course, even if you have no prior experience. Students in this class have the opportunity to go caroling in the winter and take a field trip in the spring. In addition, all 8th grade choir students (along with 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students) can attend an overnight field trip during a weekend in April.

### Jazz Choir

Jazz Choir is an advanced course for 7th and 8th grade students. Auditions are held in the spring for the following school year. Jazz Choir performs at the regular CKMS choir concerts, as well as several additional events throughout the year. This group sings mainly jazz music but also learns some other styles. Students will continue to develop healthy vocal technique as their voices change, read advanced music, sing in 4- and 5-part harmony, and improvise (scatting). Jazz Choir students will have the opportunity to go caroling in the winter and take field trips throughout the year. In addition, all 8th grade choir students (along with 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students) can attend an overnight field trip during a weekend in April.