

Sarasota Middle School Encore Course Descriptions

Physical Education Department Courses

Physical Education - Students will participate in team/individual activities which promote athletic skills and personal fitness.

Physical Education with Dance Emphasis - This high-energy course combines elements of dance, cheer, and traditional Physical Education sports. Students will learn and develop skills and combinations from each of these three disciplines. Throughout the course, students will learn, create, and perform choreographed dance routines to popular songs.

Arts, Humanities, and Foreign Language Courses

Art - An exploratory, hands-on adventure with emphasis on real life drawing, color theory applied to realistic and abstract paintings, perspective studies and architectural renderings, and much, much more! Master artists and their works will be introduced and analyzed along with both college and career opportunities in the visual arts.

Creative Writing - In this course, students can express themselves through fun and exciting writing projects. Students will use their imaginations to become active characters in their own stories to further develop their written voice using a variety of literary forms.

Spanish – Learn basic language skills including listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The culture and history of Spanish speaking countries will be introduced. No prior Spanish Language experience required. Sixth graders take beginning, seventh takes intermediate, and 8th grade takes ***Spanish 1 for high school credit***. FSA Levels are considered for placement.

Speech – This course will help students become effective public speakers. Students will play games, participate in cooperative learning activities, and engage in coaching sessions as they learn the techniques of public speaking, speech writing, and analyzing presentations. ***Speech is for a high school credit***. FSA Levels are considered for placement.

Student Leadership (Peer Counseling) - The purpose of Peer Counseling is to develop leadership skills in order to support the SMS student body. This is done by developing self-awareness and the awareness of others through learning effective communication skills, peer facilitating, and conflict resolution through fun, engaging activities.

Music and Performing Arts Courses

Band – Learn to play a band instrument. Select from flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and percussion. All students are welcome in Beginning Band. Intermediate and Advanced classes require teacher permission.

Chorus – Learn ensemble and solo singing and vocal performance skills. Includes the study of music history and notation. All students are welcome in beginning chorus. Intermediate/Advanced choruses require teacher permission. Students in chorus can audition for the select Honor Choir.

Drama - Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of theatre arts. Students will use various creative drama techniques to build confidence and trust, stimulate imagination, movement, and role-play. This will be accomplished through participation in theatre games and activities. Students will also exhibit and reinforce their skills through individual and group presentations, performances, script and journal writing.

Guitar – Learn to play the guitar including how to read music notation and tablature. All students are welcome in beginning guitar. Intermediate and Advanced Guitar require teacher permission.

Orchestra – Learn to play an orchestral instrument such as violin, viola, cello, or bass violin as a member of a symphony. All students are welcome in orchestra. Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra requires teacher permission.

Career and Technology Education (CTE) Courses

Computer Applications/ Information Technology – These paired, semester courses will allow students to learn the basics of computer hardware and software concepts including operating systems, file management, common applications, digital citizenship and safe computing, the basics of Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and introduction to coding with students creating a website using HTML and CSS. Students will prepare for the IC3 GS5 Key Applications digital tool certification. This course is recommended for all sixth-grade students, but can be taken at any grade level. ***This course is required if you want to take Computer Business Applications TWO, a class that gives you the opportunity to work on the SMS Morning News Program and the School Yearbook. This course cannot be repeated.***

Computer Applications TWO – Delve deeper into the various Microsoft Software Applications including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, Teams, OneNote and other applications. This class will apply these skills in ***producing segments for the SMS Morning News show*** including news research, copy writing, and anchoring while learning how to operate the camera equipment and computer board. Also, students in these classes will ***work on the school yearbook. Successful completion of Computer Applications required. This course may be repeated.***

Coding – Are you a gamer? Learn how to program games beyond the basics of block-based code in Javascript and Python with online learning platforms. This class provides the foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development. ***SPARK certification OR Computer Applications and Information Technology strongly recommended prior to taking this course. This course cannot be repeated and is available to 6th, 7th, and 8th grader.***

Emerging Technology – Average salary of \$74,862 for Information Technology (IT) professionals with their CIW-Internet Business Associate certification sound good to you? This course explores careers in IT with the knowledge of Internet connection methods, cloud computing, mobile devices, software development, databases, Internet security, and effective communication using social networking tools. You will learn business soft skills along with Microsoft Software Applications. Students will research new technologies for a capstone project in topics such as AI (artificial intelligence), VR (virtual reality), etc. ***ETB is for high school credit and students will take the adult level CIW-Internet Business Associate industry certification.*** This class can be taken by 7th and 8th graders. Placement for this course is based on FSA Levels and prior CTE classes. Seventh grade students require a CTE (technology) teacher's signature.

Introduction to Digital Design (Fundamentals of A/V, Print Tech) – This is an entry level **Technology-Based Art Course** designed to provide instruction in basic computing, electronic presentation, and business applications skills with an emphasis on Digital Design careers. Students will explore the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work utilizing ADOBE Creative Cloud.

Introduction to Print Design (Intro A/V & Communication) - This is a second level **Technology-Based Art Course** designed to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. Student work will be Digital Design Project based. In addition to ***helping create the School Yearbook***, students will explore ADOBE Creative Cloud programs while developing their technology literacy. ***Prior CTE Course Required.***

STEM - Designed to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the area of STEM Occupations. Students receive initial exposure to the skills and attitudes associated with occupations in a diverse range of careers, and will learn to gather data through research, including a required STEM Project.

Fundamentals of Manufacturing Technology (FMT) – Students are engaged in various computer simulations, robotics programming, 3D printing, and participating in engineering projects. Utilizing the Engineering Design Process, students apply their own knowledge by designing under constraints and using multiple resources to formulate solutions.

SMS Technology Student Association (SMS TSA) – Students participate in multiple Career Technology Education (CTE) related challenges in a competitive environment designed to prepare them for future employment in an increasingly technology-dependent workplace. Participation requires membership in the SMS TSA Student Organization, Satisfactory completion of FMT, and Teacher/Advisor approval. For more information see: www.tsaweb.org and www.smstsachapter.weebly.com