

Leesville Road Middle School 2016-2017 Rising 7th Grade

All 7th graders will take Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Healthful Living. In addition, they will take two semester-long electives or one year-long elective (Band, Strings).

Intermediate Band (year-long course) This class is a continuation of the skills taught in Beginning Band with further development of tone production, breath support, and music reading. Students are introduced to performance skills and techniques. They are encouraged to perform as individuals and as members of an ensemble. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

Intermediate Strings (year-long course) The curriculum for Intermediate Strings is a continuation of Beginning Strings, or for students who enter middle school with previous experience. Solo and orchestral literature from a variety of time periods and cultures is studied in this class. Emphasis is on varied bowing, ear training, identifying and playing various styles, and the deeper understanding of musical terms. Students prepare a number of concert selections that are performed for an audience. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

Drawing Students are taught drawing techniques using various media. They work with line, value, and basic perspective. In addition, students will learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.

Pottery/Sculpture Students will create their own work with a wide variety of media such as paper, wood, clay, plaster, papier mâché, or fabric. Students explore various cultures, art history and learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.

Introduction to Dance This course introduces students of any level to the elements of dance (space, time, energy), improvisation, and choreography through basic dance/movement techniques. Students will understand cultural and historical connections as well as how using an interdisciplinary approach will benefit their learning as they create meaningful works using their knowledge from other subject areas.

Dance I This course continues developing technical skills, choreographic skills, interdisciplinary connections and creativity through various styles of dance. Students may participate in formal and informal performance activities.

Computer Skills & Applications This course will be broken down into two 9 week sections. Students will learn proper keyboarding technique while working on building their speed and accuracy. Those skills will then be applied as they are introduced to basic word processing skills and document formatting. During the second quarter, students will use online modules and classroom activities to take a look at Digital Literacy with a focus on Computer Basics, the Internet, and World Wide Web, along with Computer Security and Privacy and Productivity Programs.

Advanced Computer Skills & Applications (Prerequisite – Computer Skills and Applications 1) This course will be broken down into two 9 week sections. Throughout this semester students will really get a chance to familiarize themselves with the Microsoft Office Programs. They will expand on their current word processing skills learned in Computer Skills and Applications 1, as well as be introduced to spreadsheet, presentation and database software. Desktop Publishing Skills are also taught and used as a means to enhance projects created in the course.

Exploring Engineering and Design I In this course, students learn all about the nature of technology, creative thinking and problem solving. Students have opportunities to study the scope of technology and engineering and their impacts on society. They learn about the core concepts of technology and engineering and about the various approaches to solving problems, including engineering design and experimentation. Students participate in engineering-design activities to understand how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Students are involved in activities and experiences where they learn about brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, constructing, testing, experimenting, and refining designs. In addition, students will learn to use tools and machinery used to develop products and systems.

Exploring Engineering and Design II In this course, students will learn to design systems and devices to get desired results as well as evaluate them for improvement. The activity-based nature of the class introduces students to systems and processes to develop an understanding of the impact of technology on humans, the environment, and the global community. By investigating systems through their function, design, and development, students will understand what systems are, why they are developed and how 'systems thinking' can be used to describe them. Students engage in activities and experiences where they evaluate the impacts of technology through the lenses of culture, society, economics and the environment. Activities in this course will allow students to use tools, machinery, and software to design, test, and evaluate various systems.

Family and Consumer Sciences: Family Focus This course will give students the opportunity to explore interpersonal relationships, nutrition and wellness and child development. Course will include opportunity for Red Cross Babysitter certification.

Family and Consumer Sciences: Consumer Focus This course will give students the opportunity to explore personal finance and resource management, food service and hospitality, apparel and interior design. Course includes opportunity to achieve a Personal Financial Literacy certification and the NC eFoodhandler certification.

Exploring Careers This middle school course provides an orientation to the world of work. Competencies included in this course are self-assessment, matching interests to career choices, exploring the world of work, career research, and education and career planning. Opportunities for leadership development, critical and creative thinking, decision-making, problem solving, teamwork and technology, and work-based learning provided.

Beginning Spanish Major topics include greetings, colors, numbers, classroom objects, the calendar, telling time, weather expressions and geography, questions and interrogatives, likes and dislikes, pastimes, school subjects, holidays and art.

Intermediate Spanish (Must have completed Beginning Spanish and is a prerequisite for Advanced Spanish)

This course continues the study of the Spanish language and culture. Major topics include food, eating customs, health, leisure activities, feelings, and the community. Grammar topics include conjugation of regular and irregular verbs, plural adjectives, expressing quantity, and stem-changing verbs. Students are required to take all three levels of Spanish AND pass the Wake County Public Schools Spanish Exit Exam in order to receive high school credit.