

2018-2019 EXPLORATORY CLASSES

All elective classes are designed for specific grade levels. This means – yes – a student can take the same elective class multiple years; the content will be different each year.

BAND

Band is a year-long course that encompasses the music core content, instruction in playing a specific instrument as well as the performance of the group throughout the year as a grade level band and school band. Students have the opportunity to also participate in marching band at SK while in middle school. Music/drama core content is also covered in band class. Students are also encouraged to participate in the music contests throughout the year as a group and in solo/ensemble competitions.

CHORUS

Chorus is a performance-based yearlong class that encompasses the music core content as well as incorporates different aspects of musical theater and drama core content. Students are exposed to and perform many styles of music that cover a variety of cultures & time periods. In this class, students are expected to perform as a group for many different audiences including our state choral assessment that takes place in the spring. Students are also given many opportunities to grow as a musician. Students may also choose to participate in all-state choir, solo & ensemble, N.Ky Honor Choir, Kenton Co All-Star Chorus and Twenhofel Honor Choir.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Instrumental Music is a class for non-band/chorus students that will enable them to learn about music and playing of an instrument. Students learn melody chimes and other instruments in this class. Students have the opportunity to perform in front of other students within their class.

HEALTH

In this class, students will learn about general body health as well as living healthy. They will focus on nutrition and what their body needs to function on a daily basis. They will also focus on a drug awareness program to help students understand the effects of drugs and alcohol use to the body. Our hope is to improve the lifestyles our students have in the future and to instill them with the knowledge they need to make lifelong healthier choices.

ART (visual arts)

In this class, students learn how to evaluate their own and others' artwork using the elements & principles of design and how art can fulfill a variety of purposes. This knowledge helps them write and talk about art clearly and also helps improve their artwork. Media such as pencil, paint, clay and ink are just a few of the various materials used by all grade levels when creating artwork. Artworks from ancient & modern cultures are also studied. Sixth grade studies Latin American mural art & Chinese ceramics. Seventh grade studies ancient styles of architecture, and eighth grade students Neo-classicism, 19th century painters and development of photography.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

PLTW is a hands-on, project-based course that incorporates science & math into technology to introduce students to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) School of Study. Students will study different aspects of design and modeling in modern engineering. They begin learning about and practicing 3-dimensional design. They take that knowledge and apply it to a computer-assisted drafting program where they design a variety of projects. Some groups learn student automation and robotics in small group mechanical assembly challenges. Valuable lessons in problem solving and collaboration give students knowledge that they can use for a lifetime.

PRACTICAL LIVING

In PLVS, students explore all areas of everyday living. They investigate decision making and the consequences that come with the decisions that we make. Careers, public relations, job applications and interviews are covered. Dating, relationships with others and responsibilities that come with maturity are discussed. Problem solving and conflict resolution along with mediation skills are practiced. The New Hope Center also comes into the classroom at all grade levels to teach an abstinence based course so that students are empowered to take control of their own bodies in spite of peer pressure which makes them better prepared to move on to high school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The PE program is aimed at providing the student an opportunity to learn & experience various aspects of physical fitness & dance. Various skills and strategies will be taught associated with these activities. Team play, sportsmanship, and cooperation are emphasized. Participation is required because we "learn by doing". Safety & First Aid are also covered

MATH 180

This is a class for students who need to acquire specific skills in order to reach grade level in math. Students in this class have been intentionally placed due to assessment scores indicating this need.

MATH EXPLORATORY

This class is designed for students at all math ability levels. For those below grade level, we seek to find the point in their previous learning of potential breakdown so that the building blocks of their math education will continue to rise and so that they will not be lost moving forward. For students who are proficient in or who excel in math, the class seeks to expose them to even more advanced concepts in preparation for high school.

INTRO TO ENGINEERING/ GLOBAL ISSUES

Over the past several years, we have worked hard to provide RTI in the areas of reading and math. We now have an opportunity with our schedule to provide an intellectual experience and to strengthen students' science and/or social studies education. Intro to Engineering addresses science needs. Global Issues addresses social studies needs.

READING INTERVENTION

This is a class for students who need to acquire specific skills in order to reach grade level in reading. Students in this class have been intentionally placed due to assessment scores indicating this need.

CREATIVE WRITING (6th grade)

Students will utilize project-based learning to explore historical topics, such as the Titanic and early Americans. Students will read nonfiction texts and respond in writing, and then apply their research aptitude to create their own adventure. Students will collaborate and present their findings and products.

SPEECH AND DRAMA (7th grade)

Students will study several films and gain an understanding of standard American screenplay format. Students will conduct film analysis on various films that include such topics as backstory, plot development, conflict, and character development and compare the effectiveness of films to novel excerpts. Students will produce a framework for an original screenplay based on a short story and create a ten-minute film.

JOURNALISM (8th grade)

Students will learn local history, culture, music, and people who call Kentucky home through narrative writing. Students will then define the culture of Twenhofel and using place-based writing, collaborate to create the school yearbook. Students will study and apply aspects of journalism, such as photography and captioning, layout, formatting, and news writing. Students must attend one after-school event/game as a class requirement.