

Technology Electives: Each fulfills the computer requirement

21Things4Students

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

21things4students allows students to complete fun projects using different Web 2.0 tools. Students will increase their technical proficiency in many different areas through these projects.

Computer Science Discoveries 1

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Computer Science Discoveries 1 is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. Computer Science Discoveries 1 is designed to be an accessible and engaging course for all students, regardless of background or prior experience. It provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover problem-solving and computing, web development, and animations and games.

Computer Science Discoveries 2

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: grade of D- or higher in Computer Science Discoveries 1

Computer Science Discoveries 2 is a computer science course that builds on Computer Science Discoveries 1, continuing to empower students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving and fun. The course provides students with opportunities to engage with culturally and personally relevant topics in a wide variety of contexts and aims to show all students that computer science is for them. This course will specifically cover the design process, data and society, and physical computing.

Everyone Can Code

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Everyone Can Code introduces students to core coding concepts using the Swift programming language. Students use real Swift code to solve puzzles and create projects.

Minecraft: Education Edition

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

A game-based learning platform that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem

-solving in an immersive digital environment. Through project-based lessons, students build critical 21st-century skills like collaboration, creative problem solving, and digital citizenship.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW): Automation and Robotics

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Students trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics© platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

Science & Technology

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: an overall grade of C or better in Science 7

This class will focus on how science has affected technology and learn about applied physics through exploratory activities and projects. The class usually has 3 main projects, and the culminating project is a Rube Goldberg. Students will work independently and in pairs. Students will have an opportunity to expand their collaborative and communication skills.

Physical Education Elective: This fulfills the physical education requirement.

Physical Education 8

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

The class will focus on improving students' fitness levels. Students will engage in daily fitness and team sport activities in order to improve cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, endurance and flexibility. This course will provide students with information about finding and tracking their heart rate, as well as basic health and nutrition information. Regular class discussion will include self-motivation, self-pacing, teamwork, fair play and related topics. *May be taken more than once during the school year.*

Fine and Performing Arts Electives:

Band 8

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Previous band experience or director approval

Previous band experience is expected. An audition will be required for students who did not participate in 6th and 7th grade band. Students in this class will continue to develop their ensemble skills. Daily rehearsals will prepare the group for evening concerts, Memorial Day Parade, and performances at MSBOA Band Festival. Extra individual performance opportunities are available through MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival. Attendance/participation at all performances is required. Students must be willing to practice at home on a daily basis and must bring their instrument to class.

Full Year Advanced Choir 8

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Credit in 7th grade choir and/or permission from/audition with Ms. Micik or Ms. Sharp

This course is a full-year option for students serious about becoming better singers through performance. This class focuses on the basics of vocal production, professional performance practices, self-confidence and learning to read music. Full Year Advanced Choir will perform 3-5 concerts a year. **Audition permission from the teacher required.**

Advanced Art 8

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: passed art in 7th grade with a 70% or higher, or have special permission from the art teacher

This is a semester-long class in which we build upon the skills we have learned up to this point. The first quarter has a strong focus on drawing, and painting in different art styles. The second quarter is heavily focused on design through sculpture, and textiles.

Digital Art 8

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

.In this class we will dive into different forms of digital art. We will talk about typography, graphic design, animation, and photography. You do not need to have taken a previous art class to be successful in this class, but you do need access to a Chromebook or laptop everyday.

Foreign Language Elective: This will fulfill one year of the required two years foreign language graduation requirement

French 1

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: C or better in ELA and/or teacher recommendation

In this course, students will learn the fundamentals of the French language with emphasis on listening, speaking, and introductory reading and writing exercises. Activities such as directed dialogue and memorization of small pieces enhance these skills. Elements of francophone culture are also presented. Daily study is essential for learning a world language.

Spanish I

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: C or better in ELA and/or teacher recommendation

In this course students will learn the vocabulary for classroom objects, numbers and information related to the calendar, greetings, likes and dislikes, school subjects, and how to tell time. They learn about the culture of Latin American countries and simple conversations related to the vocabulary learned in the classroom as well as writing short sentences in Spanish. In this course students will begin to acquire the Spanish language through comprehensible input with an initial emphasis on listening and reading. Students will gradually begin speaking and writing in the target language. Additionally, they will learn about the culture of Latin American countries.

Spanish II

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: Credit received in Spanish I

This course will focus on grammar study as it becomes more in-depth, with a continued emphasis on reading, writing, and speaking skills. Oral presentations to the class are required. Culture continues to be an integral part of study. Daily study is essential for learning a world language. In this course students will continue acquiring the Spanish language through comprehensible input with an emphasis on reading and listening skills. Students will expand their ability to speak and write in the target language. Culture continues to be an integral part of study. Daily study is essential for learning a world language.

Spanish IV

Length of course: 1 year

Prerequisite: member of Spanish Immersion program and/or teacher/counselor recommendation

In Spanish IV, students will continue acquiring the language and learning about the cultures of Spanish-speaking people. Students will further develop and refine listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills while participating in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational activities. The course is taught exclusively in Spanish, and the students are expected to communicate in Spanish. At the end of this course, students should be at the intermediate-mid proficiency level as defined by the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language (ACTFL). Upon successful completion of this course, students may enroll in either Spanish V or AP Spanish Language and Culture.

Core Enrichment Electives:

African American History through Literature and Film

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

Students will explore Black History through literature and film beginning with African folktales and continuing through modern day fiction, poetry, and media written and produced by African Americans.

Creative Writing

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Creative writing is a class that teaches proper writing strategies through fun, creative topics. Students are allowed to write about anything they wish, as long as it is within the stated guidelines and is school appropriate. Emphasis will be on the use of proper grammar, proper use of punctuation, and how to write conversations. The objective of the class is to further prepare the middle school students for high school writing, and to help start preparing for the essay that is needed for future college application essays. A large percent of the student's ability to write improves from 2-3 paragraphs to several pages of typed material.

Graphic Novels

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

Graphic novel is the name given to a book-length comic of any genre. This course appeals to the novice and experienced graphic novel fan, and it encourages reluctant readers to explore books. We study the history of the genre and literary

analysis through group texts. Daily independent reading and journaling are mandatory. Students are responsible for multiple reading projects and creating their own computer generated graphic novel in class.

Health

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This class focuses on the following health topics during the marking period: Communicable diseases; Nutrition and Exercise; Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs; Social and Emotional Health; Understanding HIV and other STI's. Students will explore these topics through partner discussion, group discussion and skits, whole class discussion, real life examples, and video usage for examples. Most work is done in class, but there will be a few assignments to be completed at home. Physical activity is also a portion of the student's grade. Participation is required.

History Through the Movies

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

We are hardwired for stories, and this class will use film and their stories to explore significant periods of history. Along with viewing films, students will be required to participate in classroom discussions, complete learning packets and maintain a learning log.

Intro to Entrepreneurship

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course is for students interested in business. This is a course for designers, engineers, techies, writers, and all students interested in excelling in the 21st Century. Students will develop an entrepreneurial mindset, a mindset capable of critical thinking and problem solving in a fast-paced professional setting. Through field experiences and real-world projects, students will be exposed to different types of innovative entrepreneurial concepts, such as design thinking, rapid prototyping, and team-building. Students will also be challenged to identify and develop their personal professional strengths along with their innovative spirits.

iSocial Studies 8

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course will engage students in learning Social Studies in an online and traditional environment. Students will be learning about: current events, civics, economics, geography and history. Part of the focus of the course will be to prepare students for future social studies classes and curriculum. Students must feel comfortable using the computer and have grade appropriate skills

Japanese Language and Culture I

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

In this class you will be introduced to basic information about Japanese language and culture. Activities can include describing yourself, family and friends using Japanese language. In addition you will learn to read simple Japanese

sentences written in Hiragana letters and partially in Katakana letters by using the Japanese alphabet tables. ***This does not satisfy a high school foreign language requirement.***

Japanese Language and Culture II

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: Completion of Japanese Language and Culture I with a final grade of C+ or better

In this class you will build upon concepts and skills learned in Japanese Language and Culture I. This can include describing hobbies, habits and activities using the Japanese language. In addition you will compare products, practices and perspectives of Japanese-speaking cultures with those of your own. You will also have the opportunity to read Japanese sentences written in Hiragana letters and partially in Katakana and Kanji letters. ***This does not satisfy a high school foreign language requirement.***

Overcoming Obstacles

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

An education that includes life skills makes a difference, and Overcoming Obstacles offers a comprehensive curriculum designed to prepare young people for all of the challenges life will present. Students taking this class will become positive contributing community members who value themselves and others. Learning life skills helps our children create a better future. Common core and PBIS standards are met with the Overcoming Obstacles curriculum.

Everyday Math

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

In this quarter long class, students will work with mathematical concepts that are found in everyday life. Mini-units include designing a home and calculating the costs, researching the stock market, career choice, budgeting based on a career of choice, among others.

Science Adventures

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

This course is an enrichment elective that will focus on exploratory skills and information on the subject of Science. This course may include lab skills, experiments, astronomy, anatomy, environmental issues, forensic science, and green energy.

Theater Arts

Length of course: 1 quarter

Prerequisite: none

If you like to work with your classmates to prepare and perform skits and plays, this class is for you. All that is required is a willingness to try new things and the ability to work well in a group.

LMS Yearbook

Length of course: 1 semester

Prerequisite: none

This class will focus on publishing to the internal digital bulletin board, create a school newsletter including short narratives about middle school events and work on the 2021-22 yearbook.

WEB

Length of course: 1 semester (0.50)

Prerequisite: class members must be Lincoln Middle School WEB Leaders (the application process and selection occurs during the fourth quarter of their seventh grade year).

The purpose of the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) elective is to tap the potential and maximize the benefits of the Lincoln Middle School WEB program, as well as develop the potential of the LMS WEB leaders. The benefits for the school include increased sense of community, improved climate, and successful transition of students. Eighth grade students will develop and strengthen their leadership skills by exploring several units of study that focus on increasing student academic success and social-emotional wellbeing. Class members will experience a sense of personal growth and character development in order to better serve their school and community. We will implement a proactive, instead of reactive approach to meeting the challenges middle school students face. Units of study include, but are not limited to; personal and character development, leadership, anti-bullying, service, organization, communication, and several academic follow-up skills. There is truly nothing better than allowing young people to start working toward their full potential and letting them be major contributors to their school and community.