

Things about our current curriculum of which we are particularly proud

These are crowning achievements our students attain in each year.

Grade	Course	Theory	Practice
7	Art I	Students learn the art of beautiful handwriting and basic drawing techniques while increasing their observation abilities.	Students produce and display works of art (each semester) such as formatted quotes, still life's, portraits, animal drawings, and perspective drawings. Museum visits reinforce & enhance learning.
7	Music I	All students learn to read music and construct major and minor scales	Instrumental performance in ensemble
8	Art II	Students learn basic color mixing, color theory, and art principles and its effects on artwork. Introductory Art history is learned through reading and relative art projects.	Students apply their understanding of art elements and principles in various projects such as color scheme designs, coat of arms design, art pieces inspired by master artists, master artist report or art history timeline, replication of inspired art from an art piece or style on canvas and final project (e.g. illustrated book). Museum visits reinforce & enhance learning.
8	Music II	Students possess a firm grasp of harmonic analysis and are very rhythmically savvy. Students mastered harmonic analysis of triads as well as became very facile with rhythm reading and rearranging rhythms to match time signatures.	Students performed sophisticated instrumental music, with good phrasing and in difficult keys. Select students performed with 9 th grade chorus. Students accomplished difficult works in a variety of keys which are traditionally difficult for recorders (g minor, Eb major, etc...).
9	Studio Art I	Students recognize art history through Impressionism	Students spend enough time to develop artwork to a new level of skill with success.
9	Poetry I	Students realize verse—and its application--is all around, already part of their own lives. They realize there is value in taking the time to decipher poems and think poetically.	They, themselves, can create effective verse; they have a literary voice; they now have a new venue of self-expression. They get published!
10	Music	Students gained heightened	Students sang in three languages

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	III	skills in both site-reading and aural dictation.	other than English. They sang in four-parts.
10	Poetry II	Knowledge of the major British poets and their works; Ability to scan poetry and determine meter and form	Writing in challenging forms such as the Petrarchan Sonnet and the Villanelle
11	Drama I	Examining that how we speak affects how we're perceived on stage and in real life.	Using vocal skills on stage. Confidence building in performance and public speaking.
11	Music IV	Analysis of orchestral score	Choral performance of original masterworks
12	Drama II	Performing contemporary language and creating three-dimensional characters. Writing first person dialogue.	Using the whole body on stage to become someone else. Creating original plays and experiencing the student's own work in a performance.
12	Studio Art II	Students are well versed in art history and can recognize all major artists and styles (e.g., at the National Gallery on the senior trip)	Students are encouraged to be creative and to create work of which they are proud

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 Last revised: 6/17/2008