

**CARROLL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**2011-2012**  
**ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**ATHLETICS / HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**COURSE:** Athletics 7<sup>th</sup> (Full year elective)

**GRADE:** 7

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides the student with the opportunity to participate in competitive sports. Athletics fulfills the one-year physical education requirement for middle school students but is not intended to be taken instead of P.E. To be enrolled in the Carroll Middle School Athletic Period, each athlete must complete ALL of the following:

- ✓ Fill out the following paperwork (found on the CMS Athletic Website):
  - Physical (performed by a doctor and complete with doctor signature)
  - Acknowledgement of Rules
  - Steroid Abuse Form
  - Athletic Participation Release (Must be Notarized)
- ✓ Read the Carroll ISD Parent/Student Athletic Handbook located on the District Website
- ✓ Tryout or participate in one of the following sports (failure to tryout/participate in one of the sports will be removal from athletic period and enrollment into PE or another elective per CISD/State PE requirements):
  - Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country, Track

*Soccer and Tennis participation DO NOT fulfill the requirements to be in the athletic period.*

*Soccer and Tennis are after-school only sports and do not require athletic period enrollment.*

Athletes will be expected to adhere to the following expectations during the athletic period:

- Dress out in required athletic clothing every day. The athletes must have black shorts (no soffes for girls). The athletic department will provide a workout t-shirt.
- Workout every day unless sickness or injury occurs.
- Participate in our strength and conditioning program when not active in one of the sports offered during the athletic period.
- Make passing grades each reporting period (Six Weeks). Athletes who fail at any six weeks are not eligible to participate in games/matches/meets of any kind for 3 weeks. If they pass at the 3 week grading report (Progress Report), they will become eligible again. All athletes will still be expected to be at every practice whether they are eligible or not.
- Follow all rules in the athletic department.
- Attend all practices and games for their selected sport(s). Practices will be held before and after school.

**COURSE:** Athletics 8<sup>th</sup> (Full year elective)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** Coaches Approval – Students must have completed the course requirements for Grade 7 Athletics

**DESCRIPTION:** This course provides the student with the opportunity to participate in competitive sports. Athletics fulfills the one-year physical education requirement for middle school students but is not intended to be taken instead of P.E. To be enrolled in the Carroll Middle School athletic Period, each athlete must complete ALL of the following:

- ✓ Fill out the following paperwork (found on the CMS Athletic Website):
  - Physical (performed by a doctor and complete with doctor signature)
  - Acknowledgement of Rules
  - Steroid Abuse Form
  - Athletic Participation Release (Must be Notarized)
- ✓ Read the Carroll ISD Parent/Student Athletic Handbook located on the District Website
- ✓ Tryout or participate in one of the following sports (failure to tryout/participate in one of the sports will be removal from athletic period and enrollment into PE or another elective per CISD/State PE requirements):
  - Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country, Track

*Soccer and Tennis participation DO NOT fulfill the requirements to be in the athletic period.*

*Soccer and Tennis are after-school only sports and do not require athletic period enrollment.*

Athletes will be expected to adhere to the following expectations during the athletic period:

- Dress out in required athletic clothing every day. The athletes must have black shorts (no soffes for girls). The athletic department will provide a workout t-shirt.
- Workout every day unless sickness or injury occurs.
- Participate in our strength and conditioning program when not active in one of the sports offered during the athletic period.
- Make passing grades each reporting period (Six Weeks). Athletes who fail at any six weeks are not eligible to participate in games/matches/meets of any kind for 3 weeks. If they pass at the 3 week grading report (Progress Report), they will become eligible again. All athletes will still be expected to be at every practice whether they are eligible or not.
- Follow all rules in the athletic department.
- Attend all practices and games for their selected sport(s). Practices will be held before and after school.

**COURSE:** Physical Education (Full-year or Semester elective)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Physical Education involves achieving and maintaining the optimal physical, mental, emotional and social well-being of the individual. Activities will include team-based sports as well as individual challenges. Physical education is the area for students to engage in activities that are non-competitive. Lifelong activities are learned to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Participating in healthy physical activity and practicing healthful behavior are the goals of the physical education program.

**COURSE:** Outdoor Education (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Outdoor Education / Adventures is a fun and exciting co-ed physical education course. Students are taught life-long skills by using integrated curriculum of science, math, writing, critical thinking skills, and computer technology. The focus is on outdoor activities such as: archery, orienteering, survival skills, first aid/CPR, trip planning, angling, tackle crafts, hiking, backpacking, camping, outdoor cooking, conservation/environmental issues and certifications through the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the American Heart Association.

**LAB FEE WILL BE REQUIRED**

**Carroll Middle School is very fortunate to be able to offer this course. The Dallas Ecological Foundation (DEF), the charitable non-profit arm of the Dallas Safari Club, proudly sponsors this outdoor education program in thirty public schools. Their goal is to get the youth, along with a parent, involved in outdoor activities. They are committed to each school having a quality program as well.**

**COURSE:** Health\* (Semester)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of the following areas: lifetime fitness, communicable diseases, mental health, drugs, alcohol and tobacco, safety and emergency procedures, first aid, body systems and environmental health.

**\*1/2 High School Credit**

## **FINE ARTS**

**COURSE:** Art I: 2-Dimensional Art (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This is an introductory course that explores painting, drawing, and printmaking techniques. Students develop painting and drawing skills to recreate ideas from the environment using the principles and elements of design. The roles of art history and different world cultures in creativity are analyzed. Student artwork will be displayed at art shows throughout the school year.

**LAB FEE WILL BE REQUIRED**

**COURSE:** Art II: 3-Dimensional Art (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This is an introductory course exploring form, shape, space and line using a variety of sculpture materials, including clay. Ideas are transformed from nature, imagination and everyday events with wire, paper, clay, and paper mache. A historical study of different cultures and artists accompanies studio projects. Student artwork will be displayed at art shows throughout the school year.

**LAB FEE WILL BE REQUIRED**

**COURSE:** Art III: Intermediate Art (Year-Long – Teacher Approval)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** 2D or 3D Art

**DESCRIPTION:** Intermediate art explores drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics and electronic media, in depth. Students do a variety of projects using acrylics, watercolors, oil pastels, colored pencils, pen and ink, scratchboard, clay and paper mache. Student artwork will be displayed at art shows through out the school year.

**LAB FEE WILL BE REQUIRED**

**COURSE:** CHOIR (Full year Elective)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** Attendance at all performances, sectionals and rehearsals is a requirement of all choir classes. Specific calendar dates of performances and other events are available at the beginning of the school year and are updated as necessary. Placement in each choir class is determined by grade history, conduct history and a performance audition the previous school year.

**DESCRIPTION:** The goal of the CMS choir program is to introduce and develop student's musical knowledge and ability through use of the voice. Each choir is a performance group that will participate in a number of formal and informal concerts. Students will work to develop skills in sight-reading, vocal production, and critical listening. Students will have the opportunity to perform individually as well as with an ensemble. Working in an ensemble helps to promote teamwork and personal responsibility. There are several opportunities for leadership positions. Students who sign up for choir are expected to have the appropriate attitude and work ethic. **Before** and/or **after** school rehearsals are required for all members of the CMS Dragon Choir. Though there are three ensembles, students will have opportunities to perform as a large group throughout the year. Any choir member not participating/or meeting the aforementioned requirements the first semester will not be allowed to re-enroll for the second semester.

### **Women's Choir (All Year)**

This is a performance-based choir that emphasizes the development of good musicianship, sight reading, vocal, and choral skills. Students will perform varied repertoire and musical styles. There will be 3 - 4 formal performances and several informal concert opportunities during the year. Students will travel to perform in both the region UIL and the Hurricane Harbor Contest. Students also have the opportunity to participate in All-Region choir auditions and UIL Solo and Ensemble contest. Students are also invited to participate in recruiting trips to local intermediate or elementary schools and social events throughout the year.

**FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

### **Men's Choir (All Year)**

This is a performance-based choir that emphasizes the development of good musicianship, sight reading, vocal, and choral skills. Students will perform varied repertoire and musical styles. There will be 3 - 4 formal performances and several informal concert opportunities during the year. Students will travel to perform in both the region UIL and the Hurricane Harbor Contest. Students also have the opportunity to participate in All-Region choir auditions and UIL Solo and Ensemble contest. Students are also invited to participate in recruiting trips to local intermediate or elementary schools and social events throughout the year.

## **FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

### **Varsity Women's Choir**

This is the premiere choral ensemble at CMS. This choir is a performance-based choir that emphasizes the further development of good musicianship, sight-reading, vocal, and choral skills. Students will perform varied repertoire and musical styles. There will be 3 - 4 formal performances and several informal concert opportunities throughout the year. Students will travel to perform in region UIL and Hurricane Harbor Contest. Students also have the opportunity to participate in All-Region choir auditions and UIL Solo and Ensemble contest.

## **FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

**COURSE:** BAND (Full year Elective)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** Completion of sixth grade Beginning Band or a Director-approved equivalent is required. Attendance at all performances, sectionals and rehearsals is a requirement of all band classes. Specific calendar dates of performances and other events are available at the beginning of the school year and are updated as necessary. Placement in each band class is determined by grade history, conduct history and a performance audition in May of the previous school year.

**DESCRIPTION:** Middle School band is a course of study which introduces and develops musical concepts and skills related to instrumental music performance. Participation in a performing group offers students the opportunity to experience a high level of teamwork, develop a high degree of personal responsibility, and acquire leadership skills. It is expected that students who sign up for Band will participate in all required band performances/activities as well as develop the proper attitude and work ethic that it takes to be a contributing member of the band "team". **BEFORE** and/or **AFTER** school practices and rehearsals are required for all students in the Dragon Band. Although students are enrolled in one of three band classes, there will be many performance opportunities that involve **ALL** members of the CMS Band who will perform as the CMS Dragon Band. This includes combined performances at Pep Rallies, concerts and other community events. Any band member not participating/or meeting the aforementioned requirements the first semester will not be allowed to re-enroll for the second semester.

### **Wind Ensemble (full year)**

Wind Ensemble is the top competitive performing ensemble at CMS that strives for the highest state and national standards. Expectations of practice (30 minutes/day, 6 days a week) and time commitment are placed on students in this ensemble. Students in this ensemble are **STRONGLY** recommended to study privately with a school-approved private lesson teacher to ensure proper development and mastery of the advanced music performed by the Wind Ensemble. Performance requirements take place throughout the year and will include 3-5 concerts including competition at the State UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contest and other performance opportunities determined by the director. Participation in the CISD All-City Band auditions, TMEA All-Region Band auditions, and the CMS Solo & Ensemble Contest will be required. Attendance each week at one 90 minute before-school section rehearsal is required. Sectionals are pre-approved to be excused from CMS Athletic team practices and students may fully participate in any school sport.

## **FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

### **Symphonic Band (full year)**

Symphonic Band is a competitive performing ensemble that strives to improve the students' skills in preparation for Wind Ensemble or High School band membership the following year. Expectations of practice (30 minutes/day, 6 days a week) and time commitment are placed on students in this ensemble. Students in this band are **STRONGLY** recommended to study privately with a school-approved private lesson teacher to ensure proper development and preparation for advancement in the program. Advancement into Wind Ensemble is possible by successfully making the TMEA All-Region Band, while some instrument vacancies in Wind Ensemble may be filled as needed by the director via audition. Performances requirements take place throughout the year and will include 3-5 concerts including competition at the State UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Contest and other performance opportunities determined by the director. Participation in the CISD All-City Band auditions and the CMS Solo & Ensemble Contest is required. Participation in the TMEA All-Region Band auditions is highly encouraged for students wishing to advance to Wind Ensemble. Attendance each week at one 90 minute before-school section rehearsal is required. Sectionals are pre-approved to be excused from CMS Athletic team practices and students may fully participate in any school sport.

**FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

### **Concert Band (full year)**

Concert Band is a developmental performing ensemble that strives to improve the students' skills in preparation for Symphonic Band membership the following year. Expectations of practice (30 minutes/day, 6 days a week) and time commitment are placed on students in this ensemble. Students in this band are **STRONGLY** recommended to study privately with a school-approved private lesson teacher to ensure proper development and preparation for advancement in the program. Advancement into Symphonic Band is possible by successfully making the CISD All-City Band, while some instrument vacancies in Symphonic Band may be filled as needed by the director via audition. Performance requirements take place throughout the year and will include 3-5 concerts and other performance opportunities determined by the director. Participation in the CMS Solo & Ensemble Contest is required. Participation in the CISD All-City Band auditions is highly encouraged for students wishing to advance to Symphonic Band. Students will attend one weekly 45 minute section rehearsal during school. There are no conflicts with CMS Athletic team practices either before or after school and students may fully participate in any school sport.

**FEES WILL BE REQUIRED**

**COURSE:** Theatre I: Theatre Performance (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 & 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is activity centered to help students acquire lifelong skills such as critical thinking, self-discipline, group cooperation, sensory and emotional awareness and self-confidence. Students will learn basic theatre vocabulary, audience etiquette, and performance standards. Topics studied include improvisation, voice acting, physical acting, film, and scene study.

**COURSE:** Theatre II: Theatre Tech (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 & 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This course covers behind-the-scenes theatre skills through hands-on experience. Topics studied include theatre design (set, props, costume, makeup, lighting, and sound), theatre production, film, and theatre history. Students also help construct sets, props, and costumes for school plays.

**COURSE:** Theatre III: Master Class (Full Year)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** Theatre Production and/or Theatre Tech, and Teacher Approval

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is modeled after the high school Master Class program. Students will focus intensively on theatre production, and will deepen their understanding of theatre topics through performance and student-led production. Topics studied include advanced acting technique, advanced improvisation, text analysis, character analysis, auditioning, and production. The UIL One Act play is produced and performed for competition solely with this class.

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**COURSE:** Spanish I (full year)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None, Application required

**DESCRIPTION:** Spanish I credit may be earned at the middle school level. Because this grade reflects the student's high school grade point average (GPA), we encourage students interested in this course to understand the responsibilities that are required. A strong base in Language Arts is recommended, as well as good study habits to complete the rigorous daily assignments. An application for students entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade is available on line. **NO HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CAN BE RETAKEN TO IMPROVE THE STUDENT'S GRADE.**

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

**COURSE:** Architectural and Interior Design (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Interior Design is a technical course that addresses psychological, physiological, and sociological needs of individuals by enhancing the environments in which they live and work. Individuals use knowledge and skills related to interior and exterior environments, construction, and furnishings to make wise consumer decisions, increase productivity, and compete in industry.

**LAB FEE:** \$15

**COURSE:** Money Management (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Money Management focuses on consumer practices and responsibilities, the money management process, decision-making skills, impact of technology, and preparation for human services careers.

**COURSE:** Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This laboratory course allows students to use principles of lifetime wellness and nutrition to help them make informed choices that promote wellness as well as pursue careers related to hospitality and tourism, education and training, human services, and health sciences.

**LAB FEE:** \$15

## **TECHNOLOGY**

**COURSE:** Business Success (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Business Success is an 18-week introductory course where students develop basic touch-typing skills with an emphasis on accuracy and speed in the first 6 weeks. The course also includes elements of Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher and Adobe Photoshop Elements with projects that include newsletters, business documents, programs, collages and magazine covers.

**COURSE:** Media Mania I (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Technology users who are beginners, intermediates and experts are welcome. You will learn the power of Adobe Photoshop Elements, Front Page, and Basic Animations. We will work on projects that consist of picture collages, magazine covers, and sports team creation and promotion.

**COURSE:** Media Mania II (Semester)

**GRADE:** 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Join the world of Video Game Design. In this class students will create their own 3D video game. Students will begin working as an intern at a video game design company. They will learn the importance of deadlines, work ethics, and be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of programming, and the design process.

## **STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**COURSE:** Broadcast Journalism (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Students will be introduced to news writing and television production, including school news, announcements, spotlight features, and school events to be aired on campus. Students will

learn basic and new technologies and also be able to apply critical thinking, writing and reporting skills necessary to meet the challenges of the news world.

**COURSE:** Photo-Journalism (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** Must be available to attend before and/or after-school activities.

**DESCRIPTION:** Students will learn how to use their digital cameras and will gain hands-on experience using digital imaging software. They will learn the basics of photography including composition and perspective. Photojournalism students are responsible for assisting the yearbook staff by taking pictures for the yearbook and will be required to turn in assignments on strict deadlines. Photographers will be required to attend before and after school activities, such as school sporting events, dances, and other functions as needed. Students must supply their own digital camera. A lab fee covers classroom supplies needed for photo printing and assignments.

**LAB FEE:** \$25 STUDENTS MUST HAVE THEIR OWN digital camera IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSE. More details will be given on the first day of class.

**COURSE:** Yearbook (Year)

**GRADE:** 7/ 8

**PREREQUISITE:** Application, Interview with Teacher, Teacher Approval, Journalism/Photojournalism Preferred, Attendance at before and/or after-school activities is mandatory.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed for highly motivated, independent and creative individuals who wish to create the school yearbook. Students must meet strict deadlines and work before, during, and after school. Students should be outgoing and have very strong writing skills. Students will also learn about page layout, photography selection, caption and copy writing, and more as they create each individual page of the yearbook using publication design software. All work is computer generated.

**SUMMER CAMP ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**

**SUPPLIES REQUIRED: High resolution digital camera at least 10.0 mega pixels a 2GB memory card or higher is required.**

## STUDENT ENRICHMENT COURSES

**COURSE:** H.O.P.E. "HELPING OUR PEERS EXCEL" (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/ 8

**PREREQUISITE:** Application and Selection through Interview

**DESCRIPTION:** H.O.P.E. is a peer-tutoring/mentoring program that pairs up seventh and eighth graders with students who are mentally or physically challenged at CMS. Peer tutors will assist these students one class period a day, either in a core class or an elective class. The peer tutor, in addition to helping the student with his/her class work, will also develop a friendship with the student. The H.O.P.E. class will take the place of one elective.

In order to be a qualified peer tutor, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Be responsible (no attendance problems)
2. Possess at least average academic skills
3. Have patience
4. Be respectful (to teachers and fellow peers)

**COURSE:** Teen Leadership (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7/8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** Students will work towards developing a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, and a sense of personal responsibility. Through the course, students will build skills in public speaking and communication as well as an understanding of personal image. Students will also develop an understanding of principle-based decision-making and learn to make responsible personal and financial decisions.

## **EXPLORATORY SCIENCES**

**COURSE:** Animal Sciences (Semester)

**GRADE:** 7 / 8

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**DESCRIPTION:** This course will introduce students to an in-depth investigation of Zoology. Students will interact with a wide variety of living and nonliving specimens while making scientific observations. This course will also focus on classification schemes, characteristics of specific animal groups, animal behavior, handling, and some research. We also learn to “see” from the animal’s point of view and practice writing in their “voice.” We will present a program for district second graders once each semester.

**LAB FEE REQUIRED**