

## Cashion Middle School Elective Descriptions

### **Academic Achievement**

This course will be structured in order to fill academic gaps as well as challenge advanced students:

- Explore a variety of Google Applications including docs, slides, classroom, and drive, increase student keyboarding skill through drill, practice, and reinforcement of correct techniques
- Incorporate IXL to help strengthen students needs (twice per week)
- Test Prep/Strategies
- Hobby Connections

### **Academic Team**

- Learn the rules and procedures for competition in the OAAC (Oklahoma Association for Academic Competition)
- Daily practice with team for competition season (November-February)
- Teacher recommendation for enrollment
- Open to 7th and 8th grade students

### **Ag Orientation**

This course is designed to be the introduction of courses in agricultural education. Course content emphasizes science-based approaches to the agricultural industry, natural resources, animal science, plant/horticulture and soil science, agricultural safety, agribusiness, and economic principles, careers, and agricultural mechanics. Animals are NOT required. Students must pass a standardized safety test with 100% accuracy to participate in the course.

### **Art**

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- Refine and complete artistic work.
- Analyze, interpret, and select artistic work for presentation.
- Develop and refine artistic work for presentation.
- Convey meaning through the presentation or artistic work.
- Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.
- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

### **Band**

#### **Beginning Band**

This class offers students the opportunity to learn the basics of instrumental musical performance. Students will learn how to read notes and rhythms, as well as the basics of music analysis and theory.

#### **Middle School Band**

This class is for those students who have been in Beginning Band and wish to continue their music education. Students will continue to harness their skills while enhancing their overall musicianship. Many more performance opportunities will be available as well.

### **CSI: Forensic Science**

Does your child love detective stories, watch crime scene investigation (CSI) shows, or dream of being a forensic scientist someday? Forensic Science for kids may be just what you need! Mysteries and hands-on sleuthing experiences can build important critical thinking skills. Best of all, CSI science for kids covers different areas of science: physics, biology, chemistry, and earth science! Using crime scene activities, books, and investigations can help your child learn skills in data collection, observation, analysis, and problem-solving. Most of all, your child will love to learn this way!

### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

#### **7th Grade**

This course is designed to assist students in developing essential skills for healthy growth and development. Students will gain skills through setting goals, making good decisions, and developing problem solving

abilities. The course offers students the opportunity to explore learning through hands-on activities in the areas of relationships, physical development, money management, child care, sustainability, and career exploration. The skills gained at this early age will assist in creating a work and family life balance in the future. Student leadership through FCCLA is an integral part of this course. Students must pass a standardized safety test with 100% accuracy to participate in the course.

### **8th Grade**

This course is designed to provide students with basic information and skills needed to function effectively within the family and a changing, complex society. Emphasis is given to the development of competencies related to relationships, communication and conflict resolution, caring for children, designing personal space, basic sewing skills, clothing selection and care, promoting good health and nutrition, food selection and preparation, and career exploration. Upon completion of this course, the student will have developed basic life skills that promote a positive influence on the quality of life. Student leadership through Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is an integral part of this course. Students must pass a standardized safety test with 100% accuracy to participate in the course.

### **Financial Resources**

Students will participate in activities/lessons that will help them gain the financial literacy skills they'll need to manage their financial resources effectively throughout their lives. Students will have a "career" with a "salary" and they will have to "live" within their budget. Some activities include planning a vacation and designing a tiny home.

### **Leadership**

#### **6th Grade**

We will work on skills such as critical thinking, goal setting, self-directed learning, presentation-making and the ability to work in groups. Also, we develop listening, speaking and encourage a mindset of 5 principles that include:

1. LEADERSHIP "Everyone can be a leader. NOT leadership is for a few."
2. POTENTIAL "Everyone has genius, NOT a few people are gifted."
3. MOTIVATION "Empowering students to be in charge of their own learning. NOT letting influences decide your learning."
4. CHANGE "Change starts with yourself. NOT change yourself to be like others."
5. CHARACTERISTICS "Developing your own self. NOT developing to be someone or be group accepted."

Valuable leadership skills include the ability to delegate, inspire and communicate effectively. Other leadership traits include honesty, confidence, commitment and creativity. In Leadership, group projects are a great way to observe the characteristics of a student leader. There are some basic life skills of threading a needle and sewing a button on. Also, how to tie a tie on correctly. The group will have a project to help the community of Cashion.

### **Outdoor Leisure**

Outdoor Recreation is designed with the purpose of educating today's students on the time-honored traditions of outdoor pursuits. Students will gain knowledge in environmental conservation, stewardship & sustainability, camping, fishing, survival, and hiking. A major theme covered is safety.

### **STEM**

All classes utilize curriculum from the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program for middle school called Gateway to Technology (GTT). PLTW curriculum is continued at the high school level at Francis Tuttle in academic programs for high school students, via FT's academies where freshmen can apply to begin as sophomores. Students must pass a standardized safety test with 100% accuracy to participate in the course.

#### **6th Grade**

Semester long class in which students use tools such as the engineering design process, an engineering notebook, 3D modeling software, and possibly a 3D printer to invent and innovate. Learn how creative thinking and problem solving can change your world!

## **7th Grade**

Year long class - one semester is Medical Detectives and the other semester is Automation & Robotics.

Medical Detectives: Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, dissect a sheep brain, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

Automation & Robotics: Students use tools such as the engineering design process, an engineering notebook, and VEX Robotics® programming software to invent and innovate. Learn how creative thinking and problem solving can change your world!

## **8th Grade**

Year long class consisting of various topics from three areas of GTT listed below, as well as many additional hands-on projects such as mousetrap cars, CO2 dragsters, catapults (pumpkin launcher in November), and of course, the yard games project at the end of the year. STEM eighth grade students construct yard games utilized at our annual Field Day event the last week of school.

Flight & Space - The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil.

Science of Technology - Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. In this unit, students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nano-materials.

Magic of Electrons - Through hands-on projects, students explore electricity, the behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. They learn knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design, and examine the impact of electricity on the world around them.

## **TSA**

The TSA class will be focused solely on TSA student competitions at the state conference held in April. The expectation for this class is that all students in the class will compete in at least four events. The class meets daily, so students will complete the majority of one competitive event each month during the fall semester, with projects starting in August. Students must pass a standardized safety test with 100% accuracy to participate in the course. Students must have completed a STEM class at Cashion Middle School to enroll.

## **Vocal**

This course explores choral music from a wide variety of cultures, genres and time periods. Students will understand the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, music theory, and music history. Critical thinking skills will be developed through the analysis of musical elements. Non-academic goals include promotion of self discipline and motivation, aesthetic awareness, cultural exposure, social harmony, creativity, and appreciation of diversity.