

FRUITA 8/9 SCHOOL



Fruita 8/9 Eighth Grade Registration 2023-2024

Welcome to the Fruita 8/9 School, the registration process for your 8th grade year begins today!! The entire process should be taken very seriously – the courses you choose today will be used to build your schedule for next year.

Today you are receiving the following items:

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CLASS REQUEST FORM: This form lists all of the courses available to 8th graders at the Fruita 8/9 School.

It is critical that you do not lose these materials.

Directions:

Fill out the form with your parents.

Put your FULL name and ID# in the top right hand corner.

You are welcome to attend a Parent/Student Information night on March 7 at 5pm at the Fruita 8/9 School.

In the left hand column you will select your language arts, science, and social studies course. Be sure to read course descriptions. (We will receive math recommendations from math teachers, so you will not fill out the math portion). You do not need a teacher recommendation to take a honors class; you need to read the course description, meet the testing proficiency requirements and have the work ethic and desire to do well. Although we recommend you consult with your teachers.

In the second column, you will choose your electives. Rank your top nine electives in order of preference in the right hand column. If you do not put in nine choices, a backup choice may be made for you. Be sure to have your parent sign the completed form.

It is important that forms be received by March 10 so that your information can be entered into the system. Students whose forms are not received by the deadline will be scheduled at a later date (after all other students have been scheduled). Turn the form into the box in the FMS main office.

We will make every effort to fulfill student and parent schedule requests. However, based on a number of factors, including changes in staffing, classes may need to be added or removed from the course offerings. Additionally, the administration of the Fruita 8/9 school reserves the right to design and make changes to student schedules. These changes may occur after initial schedules are completed. Some courses listed may not be offered, this decision will be based on enrollment needs.

**Si usted desea una explicacion en Espanol de este articulo por favor llame a la oficina:
ELPA/E-SL 257-7101. Estamos para servirles.**

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 8

In eighth grade, the learning of reading, writing, thinking, speaking, listening and researching focuses on the concept of **cooperation vs. conflict**. Within this overarching theme, students will explore a variety of texts and genres through close reading and will write narrative, argumentative and informative texts. Students will compare and contrast texts and media that connect modern and traditional themes, ideas, and beliefs while focusing on text structures and how each structure conveys meaning. They will make connections between their own lives and the lives of those they read. They will continue to develop their understanding of mood, voice, and verb usage through their reading, writing, and dialoging. Students will develop speaking skills through continued rehearsal techniques and thorough preparation to include central idea, question preparation and paraphrasing of information. Students will continue to research authentic questions so they can orally articulate a claim supported by evidence while differentiating between primary and secondary document sources. They will continue to develop and monitor their own reading, writing, and thinking processes as they read self-chosen texts, write about self-chosen topics, and think about their thinking.

8TH HONORS LITERACY

Prerequisite: Highly proficient or advanced in reading & writing testing.

Complete summer reading assignment.

Honors Language Arts 8 is a rigorous academic course for students with high aptitude for reading and writing. The pre-requisite is a high proficient or advanced score on CMAS (or other standardized test). This course moves faster than regular Literacy 8, requires more independent work outside of the classroom, and requires reading and writing at above the 8th grade level. It is strongly recommended that students who do not maintain a C average move into the regular Language Arts classroom. If you sign up for this class you are committing to staying in it for the entire school year.

MATHEMATICS

8TH GRADE MATH

This course will address the 8th grade Colorado Mathematics Content Standards. It is designed to prepare students for the study of high school level algebra, geometry, and statistics content. Instruction emphasizes the use of rational numbers, exponents, powers, roots, ratios, proportions, and percentages. Focus is given to solving linear equations with attention to the concepts of slope and rates of change, as well as solving for a given variable. Conceptual mathematical models needed to solve real world problems are introduced. Application of Statistical methods such as data collection, organization, representation, and interpretation are practiced.

ALGEBRA 1 (High School Course)

Calculator requirement: TI-84 Plus Silver graphing calculator

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation & testing proficiency requirements

Algebra 1A is a semester long mathematics course where learners explore concepts that develop an understanding of mathematical relationships, functions, and models, both in and out of context, with an emphasis on problem solving. In the exploration of concepts, symbols are used in place of numbers to describe and generalize patterns and relationships. Learners utilize conceptual understanding, skills, multiple representations, and strategies that address linear functions, linear systems of equations, exponential functions, and use statistical models to analyze relationships represented by data, and apply these concepts in real world situations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES (U.S. HISTORY)

Students survey American History, reviewing explorers, Native Americans, and the Revolutionary War. Students are introduced to the development of the Constitution, westward expansion, the Industrial Revolution, the Civil War and finish with Reconstruction. Colorado Content standards covered include those from Geography, History, Civics and Economics.

HONORS U. S. HISTORY

Prerequisite: Proficient or advanced in reading & writing testing

Students survey American History from different perspectives, using a variety of instructional methodology. Students look in greater depth at selected subjects using biography, text book survey, research and oral presentation projects. These subjects will also be discussed in terms of how they are reflected in modern times. Emphasis will be on studying the Constitution, westward expansion, the Industrial Revolution, the Civil War and finish with Reconstruction. Colorado Content standards covered include those from Geography, History, Civics and Economics.

SCIENCE

8TH GRADE SCIENCE

Fee: \$5 per year

The 8th grade science course builds upon the foundation for students to work as scientists by asking testable questions, collecting and analyzing different types of evidence, and by providing rationale for interpretations through reasoning and/or argumentation. Students will be studying all three "strands" of science standards: physical science, life science, and earth science. Units of study will include Energy, Force and Motion, Magnetism, Waves, Earth Moon and Sun, Natural Selection, and Evolution. The course will conclude with a culminating capstone project.

HONORS SCIENCE 8

Requirement: Students must be enrolled in Algebra or Geometry

Prerequisite: Highly proficient or advanced in reading & writing testing.

Must maintain a C to continue in the course.

Fee: \$5 per year

The 8th grade science course builds upon the foundation for students to work as scientists by asking testable questions, collecting and analyzing different types of evidence, and by providing rationale for interpretations through reasoning and/or argumentation. Students will be studying all three "strands" of science standards: physical science, life science, and earth science. Units of study will include Energy, Force and Motion, Magnetism, Waves, Earth Moon and Sun, Natural Selection, and Evolution. The course will conclude with a culminating capstone project. Honors Science 8 is a rigorous academic course for students with high aptitude for science and math.

ELECTIVES

You may only take the following classes once during 8th grade.

ART

Fee: \$20.00

Art making and the creative process involves critical thinking/reasoning, invention/creativity, self-direction, collaboration, and information literacy. Students will develop an understanding of the fundamentals of art and design. Students will plan and execute their creative ideas using a variety of media in the production of basic 2D and 3D art. Students will begin to self-reflect and collaborate with teacher and peers in order to consider other points of view for the purpose of change/growth in their art. Students will create original art through planning and by applying a variety of processes and techniques. Students will explore career opportunities in visual and design arts, learn how the arts are used in various industries, and how safety, deadlines, teamwork and ethics relate to the arts. Students will advance based on mastery of the competencies.

ASTRONOMY

In this course you will learn about the Earth, Sun, Moon, planets, solar system, stars, galaxies, and the universe! Astronomy is science that will challenge your imagination. How many stars in a galaxy? How many galaxies in the known universe? How many strange worlds are out there on other planets, orbiting other stars, and what are they like? Is there life on planets besides Earth? The distances are mind-boggling; the numbers are immense.

CAREER ASPIRATIONS

This course is designed to focus on student's futures and strengthen their aspirations for high school graduation, college, and the workforce. It will provide exposure to different areas of expertise and explore multiple pathways into the future. The aim is to build communication, collaboration, and independent thinking skills in all students by exploring, examining, analyzing, researching, and critiquing the most inspiring practitioners in each discipline.

ELECTIVES

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Fee: \$5.00

The Creative Computing course is a first year computer science course introducing the basics of programming with Karel the Dog and Tracy the Turtle as well as designing a web page. Students will learn to code using blocks to drag and drop with Karel and using text with Tracy. Students will also create a personal portfolio website showcasing projects they build throughout the course.

CURRENT EVENTS

In this course we will be looking at a variety of current issues. Having students become informed citizens in our global society is the main goal of this course. The current events of the time will determine the main focus of this class with emphasis on recurring issues across society. This course will give students the opportunity to analyze the forces that are affecting our lives now and in the future and further allow students the opportunity to develop their own critical reading and writing skills in reporting these stories.

DRAMA

This is an introductory course to theater and acting. Students will work individually and within groups to learn the basics of drama, and prepare for small performances.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Forensic science is **a kind of science that blends biology, chemistry and physics to look at evidence, solve crimes and settle legal issues.** Forensic scientists use evidence like fingerprints, blood, hair, bullets and DNA to show the truth about what happened in a situation. The primary emphasis in this course will be for students to deepen their understanding of the sciences by applying scientific concepts and to develop and extend their scientific skills and processes through problem-based learning.

GERMAN 1—HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

Foreign Language is by nature an interactive class. Students must be willing to take chances and participate, because much of the class involves speaking and interacting with classmates in the target language. This course continues to build on information learned during the course of the year. As such, students must demonstrate proficiency in the language during the first semester in order to be eligible to continue into the second semester." **Prerequisite: Recommended you are proficient or advanced in reading on testing and minimum grade of "3" in language arts.**

Level One:

The level one world language course is designed to focus on high frequency vocabulary and language structures through student interaction with the target language. Language will be learned through a variety of activities including: stories, video media & technology, and cultural exploration.

HUMANITIES:

This course is designed to assist students in interpreting human relationships between past and present events and experiences by analyzing, questioning, discussing and evaluating the human experience through historical time periods. By using literature, history, art, film, and media throughout time and locations, students will explore the personal histories of the human race and ultimately connect the past to their own present day lives.

MORE ELECTIVES...

JOURNALISM

Learn to tell the story, ask the right questions, examine details. You'll see a story in any situation. You will learn how to be a reporter by gathering information, analyzing facts, editing, and formatting your stories for publication.

MODERN HISTORY—SPORTS

Students will view US History through the lens of sports. Students will learn about the growth and development of sports through historical perspectives. Learn about the impact sports had on history, economics, and politics.

PE (may take all year)

Fee \$5.00

PE shirts are required and must be purchased. Shorts may be purchased – blue or black is required. This one-semester course will focus on the physical, mental, social, and emotional development of the individual in cooperative and competitive settings. The goals of this course are accomplished through participation in team sports, individual/dual sports, fitness and wellness activities, dance/rhythms, and lifetime recreational activities. Rules, strategies, and safety will be emphasized in relation not only to being active participants but also in becoming knowledgeable spectators. **All 8th graders are required to take PE. Students can choose to take it all year.**

TECH ED

Fee: \$5.00

Students will develop an understanding of the nature of technology as well as the process for designing technology. Students will create a variety of basic engineering projects using transportation, structural, hydraulic, robotic, and manufacturing engineering concepts. Using the design process students have the opportunity to explore the concept of planning, design, and problem solving. Students will learn about the steps of the engineering design process. Industry standard safety practices and procedures will be emphasized. Students will advance based on mastery of the competencies.

TEEN LIVING

Fee: \$10.00

This class is designed to give students exploratory experience in all aspects of Family and Consumer Science (FACS). Students will learn about themselves through their identity, strengths, challenges, and opinions. We will explore family, consumerism, design, nutrition, relationships, careers, and making wise decisions that enhance their lives. This class is participation based and hands on.

ZOOLOGY

In this Zoology class, students will study the animal kingdom, specifically the species of "creatures that creep on the land". This includes the characteristics of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and many others. Students will study animal habitats, behaviors, diets, and adaptations.

MUSIC ELECTIVES

MIXED CHOIR 8

Fee: \$15.00 Folder/Uniform Cleaning Fee

This course is a vocal ensemble for students in grade 8. Students will study and perform a wide variety of choral literature, genre, and languages as well as learn the essentials of music reading. Public performances outside of class are part of this course and are required.

CONCERT ORCHESTRA 8

Fee: \$15.00

Prerequisite: Prior orchestra experience. New students may enroll if they are taking lessons and with instructor approval.

Students are eligible for participation in local honor groups, local festival, and Solo Ensemble. Students are expected to attend required concerts outside of the school day. Students are eligible to audition for the MCVSD #51 Middle School Honor Orchestra.

CONCERT BAND 8

Fee: \$15.00

Prerequisite: Prior band experience. Beginning band students may enroll with Director's approval. This class is open to players in the 8th grade and emphasizes further development of each student's musical literacy and individual performance skills. In order to sign up for this band, students should be fluent with note names and fingerings for their instrument. Students in this class will participate in clinics, evening performances and festivals during the year. Limited rehearsals and performances outside of class time are a part of this course and are required. You must be enrolled all year.

JAZZ BAND

Fee: \$15.00

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Concert Band at Fruita 8/9

This class is open to all members of the Symphonic or Concert Band at the Fruita 8/9 School and does not need director approval. This class is an intermediate class and will develop each student's musical literacy in the jazz idiom. Students will learn the art of improvisation and basic skills for advancing in the jazz field. Students will participate in evening performance and festivals during the year. Limited rehearsals and performances outside of class time are a part of this course.

GUITAR CLASS

Prerequisites: Students **must own** an acoustic guitar and purchase the appropriate method book. This is not a "Rock Band" class. Emphasis in this class for beginning students will be on reading of standard notation, chords, strums and picking patterns. For students with experience, the class will also explore and expand on the students' knowledge of tablature, power chords, finger style, hammering techniques, lead and accompaniment roles, and various strum patterns. The role of the guitar in several different styles of music will also be explored. This class does not involve rehearsals or performances outside of class time.