

Knox County R-1 School District



CAREER PATHWAYS GUIDE

2025 - 2026

Revised 7/22/25

OVERVIEW AND BENEFITS OF CAREER PATHS

The Knox County R-I High School is accredited by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of Missouri. It offers a four-year program for Missouri residents. Non-residents may apply for admission by contacting the school administration; tuition payments are required for non-resident students.

PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE

The purpose of this guide is to provide assistance to students, parents, and counselors in developing the students' four-year sequence of high school classes and preparing for post-secondary decisions. Students should look at their interests, abilities, and talents to choose one of the six broad career pathways and then consider the possible careers in each pathway. The intent is not for students to decide on a specific occupation for the rest of their lives, but to focus on a broader career path to help them select school courses.

The Career Pathway Guide will help students to focus on and provide relevance to their course selections throughout high school. Each career path provides a suggested program of study for careers in entry and college prep levels. A change in paths or levels of post-secondary education can occur any time during the student's high school career. It is hoped that career paths will help parents and other adults provide better assistance to students as they develop a four-year sequence of courses at Knox County R-I School.

OVERVIEW AND BENEFITS OF CAREER PATHS

Career paths are clusters of occupations/careers grouped according to participants' interests and talents or skills. Selecting a career path is not a lifelong commitment; it is a place to begin focusing one's energies. As students take different courses and learn more about themselves and careers, they will probably change career paths. Students who understand the career path concept will be aware that there are a variety of other related possibilities if the first path they choose no longer fits them. If different career paths become more interesting, the students can reevaluate plans, make appropriate decision, and pursue other plans.

Benefits:

- All paths include a variety of occupations that require different levels of education and training.
- Career paths provide a plan for all students, whatever their interests, abilities, talents, or desired levels of education.
- Selecting a career path provides all students with an area of FOCUS, along with FLEXIBILITY and a VARIETY of ideas to pursue as they make decisions regarding course selection.
- Career paths allow all students to see a relevance to their selected school courses. Thus, students are more apt to do better in school.
- Career paths help parents and other adults provide better assistance to students as they discuss careers and select courses.

CHOOSING A CAREER CLUSTER

Knox County R-I students complete a career exploration unit in the 8th grade. At the end of the unit, a tentative career cluster is chosen by each student. Interest inventories and aptitude surveys are used in assisting the student in this choice. Students will then produce a 4 year plan to assist them in choosing classes that will guide them along their career cluster.

11th and 12th grade students are encouraged to sign-up for and take aptitude and ability assessments. Sophomores take the ASVAB. Juniors may sign up to take the district ACT in the spring of their junior year. The national ACT may be taken as many times as necessary for the student to receive their desired score. The Missouri Connections Career Interest Inventory will be given to all freshman and juniors.

As Knox County's students begin high school and gain new experiences, it is important to remember that planning is an ongoing developmental process with different activities at each grade level. Classroom presentations, workshops, career fairs, college days, testing, inventories, job shadowing, college and military representative visits, individual conferences, school bulletins, counseling office and library reference materials are provided for all Knox County students.

As students have new experiences and participate in these activities, they will learn new things about themselves and may change career clusters. A career path is not a permanent commitment.

The following are suggested activities by grade level for students and parents to complete. These activities will help the student prepare for graduation and to look ahead both educationally and occupationally. These are in addition to other activities being conducted by the staff at school.

GRADE 9
Solidify Four Year Plan
Get involved in extracurricular activities
Review graduation requirements
Participate in mentoring program
Take the Career Interest Inventory on Missouri Connections
Develop good study habits
Develop Activities and Awards Portfolio
Review 10th Grade education plans with parents and counselor
Enroll in 10th Grade

GRADE 10

Continue to be involved in extracurricular activities

Evaluate Four Year Plan

Explore the possibility of vocational/technical school programs

Take the ASVAB

Start to explore post-secondary plans

Consider job shadowing

Updated Activities and Awards Portfolio

Review graduation requirements

If interested in taking dual credit courses, take the ACT for qualifying scores in English & Math
(See course descriptions for qualifying scores)

Review 11th grade education plans with parents and counselor

Enroll in 11th Grade

GRADE 11

Take ACT

Update Activities and Awards Portfolio

Evaluate Four Year Plan

Continue to monitor academic progress

Continue to be involved in extracurricular activities

Take Career Interest Inventory on Missouri Connections

Solidify post-secondary plans and begin collecting information about various programs

Review graduation requirements and 12th grade education plans with parents and counselor

Enroll in 12th Grade

Choose electives that are consistent with post-secondary plans

GRADE 12

Review post-secondary plans with counselor and parents

Take ACT

Take WorkKeys

Update Activities and Awards Portfolio

Visit prospective college campuses

Complete scholarship applications by posted deadlines

Attend FAFSA Frenzy Night

Meet deadlines for post-secondary plan

Contact individuals for possible recommendations and references

Attend College Day - college reps that come to KCHS

YOUR CHOICES AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

On-the-Job Training: Some occupations do not require training before employment.

Apprenticeship: Apprenticeship is a three- to four-year training program where you earn money while you learn; you are working on the job. You receive a license at the end of training. Examples of trades that use apprenticeship are bricklaying, jewelry making, electrical repair, plumbing, iron working, etc.

Vocational Technical: Programs at these schools are generally one month to two years in length.

Trade Schools: Examples of vocational technical/trade school programs include practical nursing, robotics, and business.

Community/Junior College: Offers two-year “degree” vocational training, associate degrees, or credit transfer to a college or university where you can pursue a bachelor’s degree. Most community colleges have an open enrollment policy for high school graduates and individuals with GEDs. They may offer remedial courses.

College/University: A bachelor’s degree requires approximately four years of college. A master’s degree usually requires one to two years of college beyond the bachelor’s degree. A minimum of a bachelor’s degree is required for about 20 percent of the occupations in the United States. Entrance requirements depend on the desired program/major.

Job Corps: Vocational/skill training is provided at various locations throughout the nation. Training, room and board, and sometimes child care are provided free to economically disadvantaged youth, male and female, ages 17-20.

Military: Training is available for many jobs while you are enlisted. You also receive financial assistance for college, pay, room and board, and insurance benefits. High School graduation is required.

LINKING THE CAREER CLUSTERS TO CAREER PATHS

The state of Missouri has identified six career paths as a way to help students become aware of and explore careers in a logical and meaningful way.

Arts and Communication

These occupations are related to the humanities and the performing, visual, literacy, and media arts. They may include audio and video technology and film, printing technology, visual arts, performing arts, journalism and broadcasting, and telecommunications.

Business, Management and Technology

These occupations are related to the business environment. They may include network systems, information support and services, interactive media, programming and software development, management and entrepreneurship, professional sales and marketing, buying and merchandising, marketing, distribution and logistics, e-marketing, financial and investment planning, business financial management, banking, insurance, management, business management and accounting, human resources, business analysis, and administrative and information support.

Natural Resources Agriculture

These occupations are related to the environment and natural resources. They may include food products and processing systems, plant systems, animal systems, power, structural and technical systems, natural resources and environmental systems, and agribusiness systems.

Human Services

These occupations are related to economic, political and social systems. They may include early childhood development, counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care services, consumer services, restaurants/food/beverage services, recreation, amusement, and attractions, travel and tourism, lodging, public management and administration, governance, national security, foreign service, revenue and taxation, correction services, emergency and fire services, security and protective services, law enforcement, legal services, administration and teaching.

Industrial and Engineering Technology

These occupations are related to the technologies necessary to design, develop, install or maintain physical systems. They may include engineering, design, construction, maintenance and operations, production, manufacturing, installation and repair, quality assurance, logistics and inventory control, health safety and environmental assurance, transportation, warehousing and distribution, sales and service.

Health Services

These occupations are related to the promotion of health and the treatment of disease. They may include biotechnology research and development, therapeutic services, diagnostics services, health informatics, and support services.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How can a student explore their career options?

- Research careers and required training programs. Seek out information from counselor or professionals in the career field.
- Visit work places, observe, shadow and volunteer.
- Investigate technical or trade schools, community colleges, and four-year colleges.

Q: What if students change their minds?

- A career path choice is not a permanent commitment.
- As students have new experiences, they will learn new things about themselves and may change career paths. If they decide on new career paths, they can discuss it with their counselor and adjust future course selections accordingly.

Q: What steps are involved in making a career path decision?

- Identify interests, abilities, and talents.
- Consider the possible careers in each path in relationship to those interests, abilities, and talents.
- Decide which career path seems to fit best.
- Select courses that are related to the career path chosen.

Q: How can parents and other interested adults help?

- Assist student in identifying interests, abilities, and talents by discussing strengths with them.
- Share information about careers and work experiences.
- Arrange for students to talk with people about careers that are of interest.

Q: How can I decide which Career Path best fits me?

- Start by thinking about yourself and answering the questions at the top of each career page.
- Consider the possible careers in each path.
- Decide which career path best fits your interests and strengths.
- Select courses that are related to your career path.

KNOW YOURSELF

Consider the following questions and select courses that are of interest to you, will meet your needs, and help you define the direction in which you would like to go after high school. Don't forget leisure time activities and take advantage of courses offered to explore interests.

EDUCATION What courses have you taken? With how much academic challenge are you comfortable? Do you want to continue with college, vocational training, or on-the-job training?

INTERESTS What are you interested in – working with people, working alone, working indoors or outdoors? Develop a list of the types of jobs and conditions you like best, but be flexible. Have you chosen one of the six career paths?

SKILLS & ABILITIES Make a list of your skills and abilities. Include your organizing skills, your management skills, and your special talents.

EXPERIENCE What has been your involvement in clubs, social activities, travel, volunteer work, or paid employment? Include the types of responsibilities you have had in these activities.

VALUES What are your beliefs and attitudes toward yourself, other people, and the world?

STRENGTHS What are your best personal qualities? What attributes do you want your potential employer to know about you?

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT What do you want to improve about yourself?

GOALS What do you want to accomplish in four to five years? Develop a plan for immediate and long-range goals.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE CAREER PATHWAYS GUIDE

If your answers to “Know Yourself” above indicate that you want to:

Enter the work force immediately after graduation:

- Select courses that give you specific information and skills for employment
- Examine job placement opportunities

Enter the military:

- Graduate from High School.
- Select courses that prepare you for the military occupational specialty (MOS) in which you are interested
- Examine the vocational school options, which are related to your MOS choice
- Contact local recruiters by telephone or talk with them when they visit our school

Enter technical school, community college, four-year college:

- Observe the admission requirements and articulation requirements
- Select the courses required by the school(s) of your choice
- Maintain your record of activities, leadership roles, honors, achievements, and courses completed when applying to schools
- Explore high school educational options that help you develop your lifestyle plan and follow procedures for those you choose

CAREER-RELATED ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

In order to assess students' interests and abilities and assist them in making career plans, assessments are given to students beginning in their 8th grade year and continuing through their 12th grade year. The assessments are as follows:

Eighth Grade Year: The Missouri Connections Career Interest Inventory will be taken. It helps students explore various careers and plan for their futures. It does this by categorizing students' responses to questions into 16 major clusters of interest. This helps students to identify which career and educational goals best relate to their interests. Essentially, it helps eighth graders narrow down their career possibilities by helping them decide what they like to do.

Ninth Grade Year: All students will begin a portfolio as part of the students' ongoing career education and assessment that will be reviewed and updated annually during their four years of high school. The portfolio will include a four-year plan that designates a course of study or career pathway, which requires parent/guardian involvement and allows for change in course of study or career pathways. The Missouri Connections Career Interest Inventory will be taken.

Tenth Grade Year: The ASVAB will be taken. The Department of Defense's ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) is a multi-aptitude test battery. It consists of 10 short individual tests covering Word Knowledge, Paragraph Comprehension, Arithmetic Reasoning, Mathematics Knowledge, General Science, Auto & Shop Information, Mechanical Comprehension, Electronics Information, Numerical Operations, and Coding Speed. Individual and combined scores given to yield three academic scores: Verbal, Math, and Academic Ability. A career exploration program follows the academic testing, which allows juniors to identify careers that match their abilities, values, and interests. The military also uses this battery to determine which jobs entering persons are eligible for. The Missouri Connections Work Values Assessment will be taken.

Eleventh Grade Year: Juniors have the option to take the ACT in April.

Twelfth Grade Year: Seniors will take the WorkKeys Assessment.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board of Education has established the following guidelines for graduation from the Knox County R-1 High School:

Students will be required to complete *at least* **28 credits** to graduate high school.

1. All non-handicapped students graduating will be required to have completed at least 28 units of credit. Specific subject area requirements are listed below. Graduation requirements for educationally handicapped students will be addressed in the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).
2. Transfer students who are unable to meet these requirements for graduation will be permitted to graduate if:
 - They have done satisfactory work the date of transfer, and
 - They have been unable to meet these requirements due to conditions beyond their control, and
 - They would have graduated from their former school if they had not transferred
3. One unit of correspondence credit will be applicable toward units required for graduation. This must be from an accredited public institution of higher education, designed for the secondary level, and approved in advance by the high school principal.
4. In addition to the program of study for graduation, a student must pass proficiency examinations concerning the Missouri Constitution (11th grade; 80% or above), United States Constitution (8th grade; 70% or above), and United States Civics (9th grade; 60% or above) as well as receiving 30 minutes of CPR/Heimlich maneuver training to qualify for graduation.
5. Only students meeting the criteria for graduation will participate in the graduation ceremony.

Students must complete the following MINIMUM requirements in order to graduate from Knox County High School.

Communication Arts	4 Credits
Mathematics	3 Credits
Science	3 Credits
Social Studies	2 Credits
Government/Civics	1 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Practical Arts	1 Credit
Physical Education	1 Credit
Health	0.5 Credit
Personal Finance	0.5 Credit
Electives	11 Credits
TOTAL	28 Credits

Communication Arts must consist of English I, English II, and English III, English IV, or select college courses. Upon completion of three Communication Arts credits, students may take Multimedia Journalism to earn their fourth credit. Other courses may account with administrator approval.

Students may choose the **embedded option** to earn a science credit. An embedded credit course incorporates competencies from one subject into another (host) subject and allows students to earn credit for both. The embedded content should align closely to the state standards that are grade appropriate for the course. For example, in Missouri, those standards would be the Missouri Learning Standards. If a student successfully earns 3 credits of Vocational Agriculture (AG I, AG II, and Crop Science or Plant Science, Animal or Food Science, Greenhouse Operations and Management, or Conservation of Natural Resources), those three credits may be used to waive 1 unit of Science.

The following table shows the sequence of classes students will take each year:

	FRESHMEN	SOPHOMORE	JUNIOR	SENIOR
English	Language Arts I	Language Arts II	Language Arts III or higher	Language Arts IV or higher Multimedia Journalism
Math	Pre-Algebra Algebra I Geometry	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II	Geometry Algebra II Consumer Math College Algebra &/or Trig/Stats	If college bound, dual credit math course
Science	Physical Science Biology	Biology Chemistry	STEM Upper level science	If college bound, upper level science
Social Studies	American History	World History	Government	If college bound, dual credit history course
Physical Education			One Credit (Recommended 9 th or 10 th grade)	
Fine Arts			One Credit (Recommended 9 th or 10 th grade)	
Practical Arts			One Credit (Recommended 9 th or 10 th grade)	
Health			0.5 Credit (Recommended 11 th grade)	
Personal Finance			0.5 Credit (Recommended 11 th grade)	
Foreign Language			If college bound take Spanish I and II	
Suggested Career Specific Electives			11 credits—see Career Pathways section below for specific class suggestions.	

CLASS STATUS

To qualify for specific grade status, students must meet the following criteria:

STATUS	
Freshman	Promotion from the 8th grade
Sophomore	Minimum of 7 units of credit prior to beginning of school year
Junior	Minimum of 14 credits prior to the beginning of the school year
Senior	Minimum of 21 credits prior to the beginning of the school year

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Knox County High School uses a weighted 4-point scale in calculating honor rolls and student grade point averages. All semester and full year classes are included in the calculation, except classes on a pass/fail grade. A pass grade does not affect grade point average, but a fail grade is calculated in the student grade point average.

ACADEMIC LETTERS

Letters will be awarded in the fall of each year and will be given to students not previously receiving the letter and who have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or better in three of the four quarters in the preceding year. Students already possessing a letter will receive the appropriate bar. A gold bar will be given to students on the A honor roll three of four quarters and a silver bar to those on the B honor roll three of four quarters.

GRADUATION HONORS

Knox County High School will formally recognize students graduating with honors during the graduation ceremony. Academic honors will be awarded based on three distinct levels of achievement. The criteria for each honors designation are outlined below.

Summa Cum Laude

GPA 3.95-4.00+

Minimum 22 ACT

Rigorous Course of Study

Magna Cum Laude

GPA 3.75-3.94

Minimum 22 ACT

Rigorous Course of Study

Cum Laude

GPA 3.50-3.74

Minimum 22 ACT

Rigorous Course of Study

Students who receive graduation honors will be designated by special cords during the ceremony. Knox County High School will select the graduation speakers through a faculty/student committee process. The following steps will be taken to select the speakers:

March: Seniors who are interested in being the graduation speaker will submit a written speech to the principal for approval. A committee of teachers and seniors (selected from senior student council members) will read the anonymous speeches and narrow down the pool.

April: Seniors who had their written speeches selected by the committee will perform their speech for the committee and the final graduation speakers will be selected.

May: Graduation speakers will work with appropriate faculty members to prepare for graduation.

A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Knox County R-I High School has been designated by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as an A+ High School. The A+ vision for the Knox County R-1 School District is to provide all students the necessary knowledge and skills to be successful in their endeavors beyond high school.

The three goals of the A+ Schools Program are to ensure that all students graduate from high school, to ensure that all students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and has identified learning expectations, and to ensure that all students proceed from high school graduation to a college, post-secondary vocational or technical school or a high wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.

Graduates of Knox County R-I High School may be eligible for two years of paid tuition and fees to attend any Missouri public community college, vocational school, or technical school for a period of four years from the date of graduation.

To be eligible, students must meet the following requirements:

- Sign an A+ Participation Agreement
- Attend three consecutive years and graduate from a designated A+ School
- Graduate with a 2.5 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 GPA scale
- Graduate with an attendance record of 95% for the four years of high school
- Complete fifty hours of unpaid tutoring/mentoring (SAM during senior year)
- Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs, tobacco and alcohol
- Make a good faith effort to first secure all available post-secondary funds that do not require repayment by submitting the FAFSA to receive funds
- Have achieved a score of proficient or advanced on the Algebra I end of course exam or a higher level DESE approved end of course exam in the field of mathematics.
- If a student meets all of the eligibility requirements for the program except the end of course exam requirement, they may establish eligibility by achieving a combined Pre-ACT or ACT math sub score and high school GPA in accordance with the following scale:

ACT Math Score	AND	High School GPA
17 or greater	AND	2.5 or greater
16	AND	2.8 or greater
15	AND	3.0 or greater

DUAL CREDIT

Knox County High School offers several dual credit classes. Students enrolled in these classes can receive college credit in addition to their high school credit. All the dual credit courses are weighted.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Arts and Communication - Creative Path

Are you....creative, imaginative, innovative, original, good at communicating ideas?

Possible Arts & Communications Occupations

Fashion Designer	Florist	Graphic Artist
Industrial Designer	Merchandise Display Worker	Motion Picture Camera Operator
Photographer/Camera Operator	Set Designer	Sign Painter and Letterer
Visual Artist	Interpreter/Translator	Public Relations Specialist
Radio/Television Announcer/ Newscaster	Reporter/Correspondent	Technical Writer
Journalist	Actor/Director/Producer	Dancer/Choreographer
Model	Musician	Archivist

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Public Speaking, School Publications, Multimedia Journalism, Art 1, Draw/ Paint, Interior Design, Apparel Construction, Ceramics & Sculpture, Arts & Crafts, App Development, Desktop Publishing, Band, Composition, Graphic Arts And Printing (Vo-Tech)

Natural Resources & Agriculture - Nature Path

Are you...Interested in Nature, Physically Active, Interested in Plants and Animals, Curious about the Physical World, Good at Observing, Learning, Investing, or Problem Solving?

Possible Natural Resources & Agriculture Occupations

Chemist	Geologist	Meteorologist
Agriculture Scientist	Geophysicist	Conservationist/Forrester
Farm Worker	Biological Scientist	Coop. Extension Personnel
Nursery Worker	Farm Operations Manager	Physicist/Astronomer
Agriculture Engineer	Fish/Game Specialist	

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Computer Applications, Chemistry, Ag Science I & II, Animal Science, Ag Management, Ag Plant, Greenhouse, Conservation Management, Botany, Zoology

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Business, Management, and Technology - Business Path

Can you...lead, organize people, plan activities for others, talk with people, work with numbers or ideas, carry through with an idea?

Possible Business, Management, and Technology Occupations

Accountant/Auditor	Cashier	Construction Contractor
Education Administer	Real Estate Agent/Broker	Appraiser
Stockbroker/Securities	Personnel/Training	Sales Representative
Marketing Research Analyst	Adjuster/Investigator/ Collection	Bookkeeping/Accounting
Court Reporter	Postal Clerk/Mail Carrier	Programming
Insurance Agent/Broker	Health Services Manager	Retail Sales Manager
Computer Systems Analyst	App Development	

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Computer Applications, Accounting I & II, Psychology, Economics, Sociology, Agriculture Science I & II, App Development, Ag Business, Ag Management, Speech, Computer Technology (Vo-Tech)

Health Services - Health Path

Are you interested in...helping people get/stay well, how the body works, observing and noting changes in patients?

Possible Health Services Occupations

Physical Therapist	Occupational Therapist	Registered Nurse	Chiropractor
Speech/Language	Pathologist	Dentist	Audiologist
Optometrist	Dietitian	Physician	Pharmacist
Podiatrist	Veterinarian	Respiratory Therapist	Medical Records Technician
EMT/LPN	Dental Hygienist	EEG/EKG Technologist	Surgical Technician

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Chemistry I & II, Anatomy & Physiology, Psychology, Child Development, Sports Management, Foods & Nutrition Agriculture classes, Health Services (Vo-tech), Child Care (Vo-Tech),

Human Services - Helping Path

Are you...friendly, open and outgoing, understanding and cooperative, good at solving problems, interested in making things better for others?

Possible Human Services Occupation

College Professor	Teacher	Counselor
Archivist/Curator	Court Administrator	Rail Transportation Worker
Lawyer/Judge	Paralegal	Chef/Cook
Police Officer	Firefighter	Social Worker
Guard	Special Agent	Animal Caretaker
Cosmetologist/Barber	Flight Attendant	Librarian
Therapist	Corrections Officer	Detective
	Truck Driver	

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Computer Applications, Psychology, Child Development, Agriculture Science I & II, Foundations of Education, Sports Management, Child Care (Vo-Tech), Computer Technology (Vo-Tech)

Industrial & Engineering Technology - Building & Fixing Path

Are you...mechanically inclined, good with your hands, practical, good at building things, interested in knowing how things work?

Possible Industrial & Engineering Technology Occupations

Bindery Worker	Prepress Worker	Aerospace/Nuclear Engineer
Electrical/Electronics Engineer	Mechanical/Petroleum Engineer	Machinist
Carpet Installer	Welder/Tool/Die Maker	Electrician
Roofer	Surveyor	Architect/Landscape
Drywall Worker	Aircraft/Auto/Diesel Mechanic	Painter
Water Treatment Plant	Heating/Air Conditioning	Sheet Metal Worker
Air Traffic Controller	Broadcast Technician	Computer Programmer
Bricklayer	Insulation Work	Carpenter
Glazier	Aircraft Pilot	Civil/Industrial/Chemical Engineer

Suggested Career Specific Electives

Computer Applications, Agriculture Science I & II, Metals, Woods, Electrical, Drafting I & 2, Industrial Arts, Auto Collision (Vo-Tech), Construction Trades (Vo-Tech), Auto Mechanics (Vo-Tech)

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Some courses have pre-requisites, or requirements that must be met in order to enroll in that course. If a course is listed as a pre-requisite for another course, a student had to successfully complete the pre-requisite course.

COMMUNICATION ARTS

Middle School Speech

Grades 7-8

This class helps students build confidence and develop essential communication skills. Through fun activities, group discussions, and individual presentations, students will learn how to organize their thoughts, speak clearly, and connect with their audience. Topics include voice projection, body language, persuasive speaking, storytelling, and active listening. By the end of the course, students will be able to deliver effective speeches and feel more comfortable speaking in front of others.

Language Arts I

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed to help students with their mastery of basic skills. Literature study presents varied human experiences through forms of short stories, drama, non-fiction, poetry and the novel. Language student includes a strong emphasis on grammar, usage, spelling, and vocabulary. Composition concentrates on variation of sentence structure in the organization of paragraphs.

Language Arts II

Grade 10

1 Credit

Students will study grammar and vocabulary to increase communication skills within and beyond the classroom. By studying all genres of literature, students will acquire the knowledge and skills to gather, analyze and apply information and ideas. Classroom activities and projects are designed to aid the student in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to recognize and solve problems as well as in making decisions and acting as responsible members of society.

Language Arts III

Grade 11

1 Credit

This course focuses on American Literature, literary elements, vocabulary, grammar, style and essays. Language Arts III students will learn the fundamentals of research and will write a research paper for this course. Language Arts III students will learn the fundamentals of research and will write a research paper for this course.

Language Arts IV

Grade 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to help students become exposed to epics and classical literature while reviewing classical literature while reviewing elements, style, comprehension, analysis, vocabulary, and grammar. Students will also learn steps of obtaining a job including but not limited to applications, resumes, cover letters and interview. Career research is also covered in this class.

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Multimedia Journalism**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

The course is a reporting and production course in which students gather information using journalism practices, such as in-person interviews, conduct research and learn to use various technologies to produce journalism stories for online and print distribution. Students will create numerous original stories using varied structures and writing techniques. Students will also learn the basics of photojournalism and caption writing. The work may require that the student attend school activities outside of the regular school day. ****Can be taken multiple times**

MATHEMATICS**Pre-Algebra****Grade 9****1 Credit**

This course is targeted to help students with math computation to build foundations needed for Algebra. The course will review and solidify concepts of mathematical factors including multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction in addition to introducing beginning algebra concepts such as solving equations, linear equations, slope/rate of change, and systems of equations.

Algebra I**Grades 9 - 11****1 Credit**

This is a traditional algebra course designed to help students understand the basic structure of algebra and apply basic algebraic concepts to problem solving.

Geometry**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course will increase the student's ability to carry on logical thinking and employ geometric processes. Students will study figures and measures, parallel lines, congruent, polygons, quadrilaterals, trapezoids, and asymmetric polygons and coordinates.

Algebra II**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit**

Pre-Requisite: "C" or Higher in Algebra I or teacher recommendation

This course is an extension of Algebra I, studying equations and inequalities, polynomials, roots, quadratic equations, exponents, logarithms, statistic, and probability. This class will help students improve logical thinking skills. ***Weighted**

College Algebra (Dual Credit MACC)**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit**

Pre-Requisite: Algebra II and MACC's Placement Criteria

MTH 140

Topics include solving equations, various functions and their graphs, including polynomial and rational functions and exponential and logarithmic functions; and introductions to analytic geometry. The course includes systems of equations and inequalities. ***Weighted**

College Trigonometry (Dual Credit MACC) **Grades 11 - 12** **0.5 Credit**

Pre-Requisite: Algebra II and MACC's Placement Criteria **MTH 145**

This course includes angle-based trigonometric functions and their inverses, multiple angle formulas, identities, trigonometric equations, radian measure, arc length, angular velocity, graphs of trigonometric functions, and solution of right triangles. ***Weighted**

College Statistics (Dual Credit MACC) **Grades 11 - 12** **0.5 Credit**

Pre-Requisite: Algebra II and MACC's Placement Criteria **MTH 160**

This course includes elementary probability and statistical inference, descriptive statistics, testing hypotheses and estimation, t-distribution, chi-square distribution, correlation and significance. ***Weighted**

College Analytic Geometry and Calculus I **Grades 11 - 12** **0.5 Credit**

Pre-Requisite: Algebra II and MACC's Placement Criteria **MTH 201**

Students are introduced to plane analytic geometry, including limits, continuity, derivative for functions of a single variable, differentials, indefinite and definite integrals, and applications of the derivative and integral. ***Weighted**

Consumer Math **Grades 11 - 12** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to equip students with essential mathematical skills and concepts that are applicable in real-world financial situations. Students will explore a variety of topics including budgeting, banking, credit management, loans, taxes, and investments. Through practical problem-solving activities, students will learn how to make informed financial decisions, understand financial documents, and apply mathematical reasoning to everyday scenarios.

SCIENCE

Physical Science **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

A basic course designed to introduce the sciences of chemistry and physics providing a general knowledge of these physical sciences.

Biology **Grades 9 - 10** **1 Credit**

Students will use the methods of scientific investigation to gain an understanding of important biological concepts. Students will gain an appreciation of the natural world from the level of the molecule to the global biosphere.

Chemistry I**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit**

This course is a study of matter and the change it undergoes. Topics studied include measurement and solving problems, atoms, the periodic law, chemical bonding, formulas and compounds, reactions and equations, stoichiometry, gas, liquids, solids, solutions, acids, bases, pH. This course includes hands-on laboratory approximately one per unit.

STEAM: Science is Fun!**Grades 11- 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Biology**

A year long course where students will learn about real life problems and how to solve them through the uses of science, technology, engineering, and math. This class is completely hands on learning.

Anatomy & Physiology**Grades 11- 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Biology**

Human Anatomy and Physiology explores the inner workings of the human body and focuses on anatomical and medical terminology. This course is the perfect foundation for students wanting to expand their vocabularies and learn about the body and its levels of organization.

Advanced Biology (Dual Credit MACC)**Grades 11- 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Biology****BIO 101**

This course is designed for upper-level high school students who have a strong interest in biological sciences and may be considering a future in medicine, research, or related fields. Advanced Biology provides an in-depth exploration of major biological concepts, building on foundational knowledge while introducing more complex systems and scientific thinking.

Weighted*Botany & Zoology****Grades 11- 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Biology**

This course offers students an exciting introduction to the biological sciences through the study of animals (zoology) and plants (botany). Students will explore the structure, function, classification, and life processes of a wide variety of organisms, from microscopic life forms to complex animals and plants. Hands-on labs, field observations, and interactive projects will deepen understanding of ecosystems, biodiversity, evolution, and the interdependence of plant and animal life. Ideal for students curious about nature, biology, or pursuing careers in science, this course lays a strong foundation in the life sciences.

SOCIAL STUDIES

American History

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course will cover American History from Reconstruction to modern day America. It will focus on the major events and personalities of recent American History. Highlight of this course will include settling the West, the two world wars, the cold war, and finally modern America.

World History

Grade 10

1 Credit

A sophomore level required course, which explores ancient civilizations, the Middle Ages and Twentieth Century events. An overview of geography is an integral part of each unit. The long-term impact of civilizations, nations, and individuals is studied. Economic, social, and political influences over time are also studied. Students develop critical and analytical thinking skills and work on research and writing skills as well.

Government

Grade 11

1 Credit

This course is designed to make students knowledgeable of governmental processes and prepare them to be informed and involved citizens. Students will study the development of our government and issues relating to our rights and responsibilities. In addition, the Missouri Constitution will be studied and the required test will be given.

BUSINESS

Middle School Introduction to Business

Grades 7 - 8

This course is designed to introduce students to how business works in today's society and to provide a foundation for future business courses. Students will also master beginning skills in the areas of word processing, spreadsheet applications, and desktop publishing.

Personal Finance

Grade 11

0.5 Credit

This one semester course is based on the Missouri Personal Finance Competencies and presents essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about real world financial issues. Students will learn how choices influence occupational options and future earning potential. Students will also learn to apply decision-making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal goals. The course content is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success.

Entrepreneurship**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

This course is designed to provide students with the fundamental knowledge needed for organizing, developing and implementing a business. Topics of study will include learning the advantages and disadvantages of owning a business, preparing a business plan, choosing a location, securing a loan, determining organizational structure, and promoting a business.

Marketing**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding of skills and resources needed to manage a business. Instruction includes a general overview of This semester long course is designed to provide an understanding of the fundamental marketing processes. This course includes instruction on the creation, execution, transmission, and evaluation of commercial messages concerned with the promotion and sales of products and services.

Desktop Publishing & Multimedia**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students develop proficiency in using desktop publishing software, Photoshop and Indesign, to create a variety of business publications such as flyers, brochures, newsletters, etc. They also design and create custom items for individuals. In addition, students will learn to create Web pages and use multimedia equipment including scanner and digital camera. Students will work with multimedia software to develop electronic presentations. They will learn how to manipulate text, art and graphics, photography, animation, audio and video for presentations in various media formats.

Business Law**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

This course is designed to acquaint students with the basic legal principles relevant to their roles as citizens, consumer and employees through a mixture of personal, business, and consumer law. The content includes the basic characteristics of the American system of free enterprise, rights of private property, basic elements of contracts, employer-employee relations, landlords and tenants, individual rights, wills and estates, family and juvenile justice law and community property

Business Communication**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

This course provides reinforcement of students' basic language arts skills (composition, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.) and development of essential competencies for oral and written communication in today's technological workplaces. Emphasis is placed on using the computer to compose and produce accurate and effective documents (including email message, letters, memos, reports, etc.) for personal and professional purposes. Using technology (presentation software and telecommunications) to develop oral communication skills such as making presentations, giving instructions, interviewing, and making reports in an effective manner is reinforced in this course.

Accounting I**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Accounting I introduces students to the basic double-entry accounting concepts and related career opportunities. The student will analyze and record business transactions in journals, ledgers, and prepare financial documents. Students learn to keep records for three types of business – sole proprietorship, partnership, and corporations. Students will work on accounting problems and complete two simulations (one with actual source documents) covering the complete accounting cycle. Thus students have the opportunity to develop accounting skills for personal use, the workplace, and for more advanced study of accounting.

Accounting II**Grades 10- 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Accounting I**

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to develop in-depth knowledge of accounting procedures and techniques using an automated accounting system. With the use of computers, students will review basic accounting procedures; and will learn: departmental and payroll accounting, partnership and corporation accounting, accounting control systems, accounting for taxes, notes and drafts, cost accounting, special problems in accounting for sales, and how management uses accounting data. It is designed for any student planning to continue the pursuit of a business or accounting program in college, as well as for those who have an interest in accounting careers upon high school graduation.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**Middle School FACS****Grades 7 - 8**

This class is designed to equip students with essential life skills for family, career, and community. From values clarification and decision-making to child development and health, this course covers it all and will help you reach your full potential as a leader at home, in school and in our community.

**Career Development & Entrepreneurship
(School Store)****Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Gain job ready skills in Career Development and Entrepreneurship class! Students will train as employees of The Nest, KCHS's school spirit store, gaining hands-on experience in product development, markup, merchandising, and promotional strategies. This practical approach prepares you for the real world of work. **** Can be taken multiple times**

Child Development**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course focuses on the crucial stages from prenatal to school age, examining physical, emotional, intellectual, and social growth. Students will tackle developmental challenges, make informed decisions to support healthy development, and evaluate parenting roles in society.

Interior Design**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Unlock your potential in the housing & interior design industry! Our comprehensive course introduces students to the critical aspects of behavioral, social, economic, and aesthetic considerations in design. Learn to analyze, plan, and create residential and leisure spaces that meet diverse user needs.

Apparel Construction**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Step into the world of fashion! This course dives into the physical, psychological, social, and cultural aspects of clothing. Students will learn design elements and principles, textile selection, and essential sewing skills while developing crucial skills such as time management and independent work. This course integrates art, communication, mathematics, science, and technology.

Nutrition & Foods**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Are you passionate about health and nutrition? Are you ready to master the kitchen? This course prepares you to understand the principles of nutrition and how it impacts your overall wellness as well as learning the fundamentals of food preparation, kitchen safety, sanitation, and proper tool usage. From food safety and sanitation to meal preparation, this course is designed to empower students with knowledge and cooking skills that promote healthier lifestyles and informed decisions. This course is designed to empower students with the knowledge and cooking skills that promote healthier lifestyles and informed decisions. Get ready for delicious food labs and fun hands-on experiences!

International Foods**Grades 11- 12****1 Credit**

Ready to explore the world through food? Join our International Foods class where we'll dive into the exciting world of global cuisines while learning about the cultural, psychological, and social influences that shape food choices. Enhance your culinary skills while gaining a broader perspective on the world's diverse culinary landscape.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY**Middle School Industrial Technology****Grades 7 - 8**

This course will allow students to explore basic wood processing practices involving basic hand tools, basic electrical circuits and how alternative energy is produced. Students will then learn to build and test a bicycle generator one year. The next year students will build a candy dispenser. Students also will turn their very own ink pen on the wood lathes every year. If some students get their projects completed early they have the option of marking their own small project or they can assist on other projects underway in the shop. During this time, students will have the opportunity to learn the torch mate software so they are familiar with it when they get into high school.

Revised 7/22/25

Drafting I**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

Introduction to 2D engineering drawing using AutoCAD. This course will include orthographic projections, proper dimensioning, instruction of tolerances, section views, and fasteners. The final project will be to produce a complete set of working drawings.

Drafting II**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Drafting I**

During 3rd Quarter, Students will be introduced to Solid Works program and apply it to create solid models. From these models students can create fully dimensioned orthographic projections, isometrics, various sections, and animated assemblies. They then can be printed on the 3D printer. Then, during 4th quarter - Students will be introduced to Chief Architect software. With this students will be able to plan and design their own house. They will design it from top to bottom and have a complete set of building plans they can have when they're ready to build.

Woods I**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

This course will introduce students to basic wood processing practices involving basic hand tools and machine operations. Students will become proficient in using measuring tools and project layout techniques. Students will be assigned 4 small projects that will use a variety of hand tools and must be completed before students will be able to choose one heirloom project to construct from a predetermined list.

Woods II**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Resquisite: Woods I**

This course will introduce students to the more advanced wood processing practices involving shapers, routers and other machining operations. Students will be required to make a set of plans complete with a material list for five predetermined projects. These include a headboard, cabinet, steamer trunk, checkerboard, toolbox, or hedge bow (without arrows). Their only limitation is their wallet.

Machine Tools I (Dual Credit MACC)**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit**

Students will learn basic machining methods, and will master the use of measuring instruments such as calipers, micrometers, and snap gauges to manufacture parts with tolerances of $\pm .001$. Students will be required to layout and mark pieces for proper hole, and thread placement. Threading will be completed by the use of taps, or by cutting threads on the lathe. Students will become proficient in the use of manual lathes, mills, and the surface grinder. ***Weighted**

Machine Tools II (Dual Credit MACC)**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit**

Students will build on the knowledge gained in Machining Methods 1 by learning how to program and operate the CNC Mill and the CNC Press Brake. This course will be accompanied by the use of the Torchmate in producing professional looking parts for both assignments and community members. ***Weighted**

Electrical**Grades 10-12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Algebra I**

Scientific theory of magnetism and electricity. This course will introduce students to the generation and distribution of electrical energy. Students will practice using Ohm's Law and Watt's Law to DC and AC circuits containing resistors, and/or capacitors, and/or inductors in series, parallel, and series/parallel combinations. The lab will include the use of testing equipment, bread boarding, and troubleshooting of basic DC and AC circuits. An introduction to residential wiring according to the NEC will also be covered. Students will build and solder their own multimeter and work on electrical projects around the school if they should arise. Students will learn industrial automation by programming and testing a PLC and VFD like what is in the bus wash.

Welding**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course will start with the basics of arc, mig, tig welding, and oxy welding and cutting. Students will be graded on a variety of welds from each process. Students will then submit their final assignment for dye testing. This course will be complemented by the TorchMate design software where students will be able to design a project and then cut their parts out on the Torchmate. Every student gets a 2x2 foot piece of 16 Ga. metal to design and cut from. This class will also work on projects for customers that may need welding or parts cut on the TorchMate. Students will design and make projects to sell for donations to help fund the Ind. Tech Program. This will all come full circle with a class trip to Vermeer Mfg. in Pella, Ia. and a trip to Clow Valve foundry and machine shop in Oskaloosa Ia. This trip will assist in tying together lessons in the classroom and the welding lab, as well as, giving students insight into the various manufacturing processes.

Industrial Tech**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisites: Woods I, Welding, and Application**

This course will introduce students to residential maintenance. Student may have the opportunity to build another shelter for the PTO. They will work on various projects ranging from cabinet building, residential maintenance, metals projects, framing and construction. Students will also be able to design, write a bill of materials, and build projects of their choosing. Other maintenance projects from around the school will also be available for students to practice on. This class will also work on projects for customers that may need welding, machining, or cut on the TorchMate. Students will design and make projects to sell for donations to help fund the Ind. Tech Program.

****Can be taken multiple times**

Small Engines**Grades 9-12****1 Credit**

During this course students will become Master Certified Technicians through Briggs and Stratton as well as through Stihl for 2-cycle engines and Kohler. Students will study the five major components of an engine during which they will have a hands on lab to explore each of those. With each of these sections students will take online test through the Brigg and Stratton website. At the end of these five sections students will take the six Master Technician exams on the Briggs website. Once completed students will completely disassemble their engine and reassemble it upon which the engine has to start within 5 pulls of the rope. After completing this students will take the online tests for Kohler Engines. Once the Briggs portion is complete then we will focus on the Stihl 2-cycle portion by taking Stihls online tests and working on chainsaws and trimmers. ○ All the above is usually completed by the end of the 1st semester. Second semester students work on their own projects or projects brought in by community members. We also have two Honda motorcycles to refurbish and a 4 wheeler that has been donated.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE**Exploring Agriculture****Grades 7 - 8**

A general literacy course designed to introduce and apply life skills related to one of America's basic industries – agriculture. All students will receive their Hunter Education certification.

Agricultural Science I**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course is designed for instruction in animal science, agricultural mechanics, careers, leadership, and supervised agricultural experience. Units may include agribusiness, fish and wildlife management, and food science.

Agricultural Science II**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science I**

This course is designed for instruction in plant and crop science, soils, entomology, horticulture, forestry, mechanics, careers, leadership, and supervised agricultural experience.

Conservation of Natural Resources**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course prepares students for activities in the conservation and/or improvement of natural resources such as oil, water, air, forests, fish, and wildlife for economic and recreational purposes.

Biotechnology**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course focuses on the sciences behind plant and animal biotechnology and its effect on agriculture.

Crop Science**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course focuses on the production and management of crops that are used for food and other agriculture purposes. Soil, weed, and pest management will also be discussed.

Ag Communications**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course will enable students to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to demonstrate effective communication in agriculture. Areas of focus include public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, written communication, meeting people, good first impressions, and setting personal goals.

Ag Leadership**Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course will enable students to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills to demonstrate positive leadership for agriculture. Focus will be on personal development, team development, and career ready skills.

Ag Management and Economics**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II**

This course combines farm management, agribusiness management, and content based agricultural economic principles. Computer applications are included to enhance student understanding and utilization of current technology. Units include human relations, verbal and written communication, microcomputers in agriculture, economic principles, farm planning, agribusiness functions, and business management.

Greenhouse Operation and Management	Grades 11 - 12	1 Credit
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Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II

This course develops a basic understanding of greenhouse techniques. The production of greenhouse crops will be used to demonstrate procedures such as plants started from cuttings, seeds, grafts, and layering. Students will manage their own crop as a greenhouse project. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Animal Science	Grades 11 - 12	1 Credit
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Pre-Requisite: Ag Science II

Advanced study in animal production, management, marketing, nutrition, breeding, production records, selection, animal health, waste management, and biotechnology may be included in this course.

FINE ARTS

Art I	Grades 9 - 12	1 Credit
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This course introduces students to foundational art techniques through drawing, painting, and sculpture. Students will explore the elements and principles of art and design while creating a series of projects. The class focuses on developing technical skills, creative expression, and an understanding of artistic concepts.

Arts & Crafts	Grades 9 - 12	1 Credit
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This project-based course explores a variety of craft media, including found materials like aluminum cans and traditional materials such as yarn. Students will have the opportunity to collaborate on selecting project ideas and will showcase their work in the end-of-year art show. The class emphasizes creativity, hands-on learning, and the development of practical artistic skills.

Drawing and Painting	Grades 10 - 12	1 Credit
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Pre-Requisite: Art I

First semester of this course focuses on developing drawing skills using a variety of media, including pencil, charcoal, and marker. Students will create artwork while exploring techniques, styles, and creative expression. The class emphasizes building intermediate skills and fostering individual artistic growth. The second semester of the course introduces students to the techniques and processes of painting using watercolor, acrylic, and oil paints. Through hands-on projects, students will explore color theory, composition, and creative expression while building foundational skills in each medium. The class encourages experimentation and the development of a personal artistic style.

3D Modeling and Animation**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course introduces students to 3D design using the computer program Blender. Students will create digital art, animations, and models for 3D printing while learning tools and techniques for modeling, texturing, and rendering. The class emphasizes creativity, technical skills, and the application of 3D design in art and technology.

Digital Art**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course introduces students to digital art creation using industry-standard tools such as Procreate, Photoshop, and Illustrator. Students will explore techniques for drawing, photo editing, and graphic design while developing skills in digital composition and visual storytelling. The class emphasizes creativity, technical proficiency, and the application of digital tools in art and design.

Ceramics and Sculpture**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Art I**

First semester of this course introduces students to the fundamentals of working with clay through various hand-building techniques. Students will create functional and decorative pieces while learning methods such as pinch, coil, and slab construction. The class emphasizes creativity, craftsmanship, and the development of technical skills in ceramics. The second semester focuses on creating three-dimensional art using clay and other sculptural materials. Students will explore techniques such as modeling, carving, and assembling to develop their skills in form, texture, and spatial design. The class encourages creativity, experimentation, and the understanding of sculptural concepts.

Independent Art**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Another art class and application**

Available with signed approval from both the teacher and counselor, this course is designed for students seeking to build a professional art portfolio. Students will explore advanced art media and techniques while self-directing their projects. The class emphasizes independent creativity, skill refinement, and the development of a cohesive body of work for presentation or further study.

****Can be taken multiple times**

Choir**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This class offers an opportunity for students to work intensively with vocal music. Students will learn to evaluate, interpret, and perform different types of vocal music. In addition to singing, students will learn about the physiology of the voice, proper vocal technique, and music theory pertinent to singing. Students are expected to attend all performances and rehearsals. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Band**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students enrolled in band will have the opportunity to continue their personal music development of skills and knowledge needed in instrumental music performance. As a part of the group, band students will work towards excellence in performance marching, concert, small ensemble and solo events. Students are expected to attend all performances and rehearsals. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Drama**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course will explore various aspects of theater, including acting techniques, improvisation, script analysis, and performance. Students will develop their acting skills, enhance their creativity, and gain an appreciation for the art of drama.

Piano**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course is designed to introduce students to the basics of piano playing, including technique, music theory, and performance skills. Students will learn to play a variety of pieces, develop their musical ear, and gain confidence in their playing ability.

Music Appreciation (Dual Credit MACC)**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit**

This course is an introduction to music, emphasizing the various phases of musical beauty, designed to furnish a rational basis for intelligent listening to music. Focus is on basic elements of music and listening techniques; representational Renaissance, Classicism, Romanticism, and Post-Romanticism composers and their music; and discussion of extra-musical factors that bear upon lives and works. ***Weighted**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH**Middle School Health****Grades 7 - 8**

This course provides students with essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their health and well-being. Topics include personal hygiene, nutrition, mental and emotional health, substance abuse prevention, human growth and development, healthy relationships, and safety practices. Emphasis is placed on building decision-making, communication, and goal-setting skills to promote a healthy lifestyle. The course is aligned with national and state health education standards and encourages personal responsibility and respect for self and others.

Physical Education**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students will perform fundamental skills and gain a basic knowledge of rules and strategies related to the individual, team, and lifetime sports. Physical fitness is the emphasis of the course. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Weight Training**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students will perform stretching exercises in a warm-up period, perform basic plyometric form running exercises in a cardiovascular period, and perform general conditioning lifts, which concentrate on developing the overall individual strength. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Health & Family Education**Grade 11****0.5 Credit**

This is a required course that will cover the areas of infectious and non-infectious diseases, nutrition, drug, alcohol, tobacco abuse, mental wellness, first aid, human reproduction, systems of the body, AIDS, and STDS. These topics will be covered because of their importance of mental, physical and social well-being.

COMPUTER SCIENCE**Middle School Esports****Grades 7 - 8**

This course is an exploration of the field of Esports gaming through both the player aspect as well as related careers. Students will learn how to analyze and improve gameplay through collaboration, as well as how to record and broadcast to an audience.

Computer Science**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students will learn the basics of computer programming along with the basics of computer science. The material emphasizes computational thinking and helps develop the ability to solve complex problems. This course covers the basic building blocks of programming along with other central elements of computer science. It gives a foundation in the tools used in computer science and prepares students for further study in computer science. The course allows students to work independently in text-based Python. The course also includes a career focus, where at the end of units, students meet (via videos) individuals from different industries who work in coding (medical, music, etc.).

Game Development**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

In this course, students will use Unity and C# programming to design and develop games. The first semester focuses on 2D game creation, with progression to 3D and VR development in subsequent terms. Students may retake the course to work independently on advanced projects, further refining their skills in coding, design, and game mechanics. This class encourages creativity, problem-solving, and technical proficiency in game development. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Esports**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This program introduces students to the growing esports industry, aligning with ISTE standards and preparing them for careers in fields such as information technology, media production, marketing, business management, and event planning. Through hands-on learning, students will develop 21st-century skills, teamwork, and workplace readiness. Enrollment is limited based on the availability of computers in the esports lab.

App Development**Grades 9 - 12****0.5 Credit**

In this course, students will use Xcode and Swift to design and build apps. The first semester focuses on learning coding fundamentals through guided projects, while the second semester allows students to create their own independent apps. Returning students may continue developing more advanced and complex projects in subsequent years. This class emphasizes problem-solving, creativity, and technical skills in app development. ****Can be taken multiple times**

OTHER**SWAT****Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Application**

Students Working to Advance Technology: This course is a hands-on study of technology use in the classroom. Students will gain skills in Apple apps and devices as well as other technologies used by teachers and students at all grade levels. Students will use their skill and knowledge to help students and teachers across the district use the technology effectively. ****Can be taken multiple times**

**Foundations of Education
(CSC Dual Credit)****Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit**

A study of the sociological foundations of education will be explored as necessitated by diversity in society, social challenges in schools, and education that is multicultural. Five hours of observation is required. Students will study the legal, historical, philosophical, ethical, and sociological foundations of education. ***Weighted**

**Education Strategies & Field Experience
(CSC Dual Credit)****Grades 11 - 12****0.5 Credit**

Examines the diverse needs of English Language Learners in the school setting. Strategies and techniques to be used. This diverse population will be discussed. The student will perform 30 or more hours of direct consultation and collaboration with a master teacher in selected classrooms. Students will be required to teach two lessons. ***Weighted**

Sports Medicine & Management**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit**

This course provides high school students with a general overview of sports medicine and its history. It includes introductory information about the scope of practice: injury prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, emergency injury management and administrative functions. This course will also provide students with an understanding of the business side of sports, including management, marketing, finance, and law, within the context of the sports industry.

School Publications**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Production of the yearbook will be the primary focus of this class. As the year progresses students will be learning an online publishing interface, exploring what makes an effective photograph and how to take one, and writing copy and captions for each layout in the book. Students will be required to sell commercial advertisements, interview students and staff, layout information, meet deadlines, and work as a team. This hands-on course demands that the student be a self-starter and motivated in order to achieve quality design and text. It is preferred although not required that students have successfully completed Desktop Publishing before taking this class. The work may require that the student attend school activities outside of the regular school day. ****Can be taken multiple times**

Middle School Leadership**Grades 7 - 8**

In this course, students will discuss different traits that are necessary in becoming a good leader and being a successful member of a group. Students learn about the traits, discuss and learn about how they are used in real life situations, and put them into action. Students put these actions into practice by working together in groups/teams to complete different tasks. A few topics that are covered are self discipline, knowing and understanding strengths and weaknesses, gratitude, creating core values, and ethics.

Introduction to Spanish**Grades 7 - 8**

In the course, students will learn and review basic Spanish vocabulary. Illustrations will be given as cues to the meanings of the Spanish words. Since all Spanish words are phonetic, once the Spanish alphabet has been mastered, the students should be able to pronounce any Spanish word. This is an introduction to language learning. The vocabulary and expressions from this unit will be recycled throughout the course with the emphasis here on recognition and limited use, not on mastery. Students will learn fundamental structures of the language by engaging in brief conversations, directed dialogues, and a variety of oral activities.

Spanish I (Edmentum Platform)**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

Students in Spanish I will have a course of study in the Spanish language in conversation, grammar and culture.

Spanish II (Edmentum Platform)**Grades 10 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Spanish I**

Students in Spanish II learn communication skills appropriate for beginning to intermediate level students. These skills will be learned by writing, reading, listening, speaking and study of the culture.

Spanish III (Edmentum Platform)**Grades 11 - 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Spanish II**

A study of the fundamentals of the Spanish language with attention to grammar, composition, and conversation.

SAM - Student Academic Mentoring**Grade 12****1 Credit****Pre-Requisite: Signed A+ Agreement and earned at least 21 credits toward graduation**

This curriculum will include strategies of tutoring/mentoring of younger students in an academic setting. **The course is only available to students in the A+ Program.**

Senior Seminar**Grade 12****1 Credit**

This course is designed to prepare seniors for life after high school—whether that means college, career, military, or other post-secondary paths. Through hands-on activities, guest speakers, and practical projects, students will build essential life skills, develop a post-graduation plan, and prepare for the responsibilities of adulthood.

Podcasting**Grades 9 - 12****1 Credit**

This course is a digital media literacy course that explores diverse formats of digital media, audio production, and sound design while incorporating the fundamentals of literature and journalism by developing compelling narratives, followable characters, and marketable products.

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION

This educational program is available for juniors and seniors through the Kirksville Area Technical Center. If possible, the school district will provide transportation to Kirksville. Knox County High School is allotted a designated number of openings in various courses. Students wishing to enroll in a Vo-Tech program should contact the counselor. Students may articulate credits in some of the courses to post-secondary programs at area community colleges. Students must have solidified their Vo-Tech schedule prior to the school year ending. Students may choose from the following programs of study:

Allied Health/Biomedical Science

Automotive Collision Repair

Automotive Technology

Computer Science

Construction Trades

Culinary Arts

Digital Design & Graphics

Engineering

Pathways to Teaching

Welding