

## 2017-2018 Course Selection: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Please make your course selections for the coming school year. Feel free to add comments to help clarify your preferences. Course descriptions for the electives are on the back.

### ➤ Core Courses:

- Bible 9/10
- English 9
- Physical Science
- World History 9
- Physical Education

- Spanish 9  
(History and Geography of  
Nicaragua)  
*(Spanish department determines placement  
in normal, mainstream SSL, or tutoring)*

Choose math track:

- Algebra I
- Geometry (advanced)  
*(70% required to be  
promoted to the next level)*

➤ **Elective Courses:** Rank your #1, #2 and #3 preferred elective choices in each semester. Please explain any special interests or reasons to be in any of the classes (i.e. "Art Tools is my #1 choice because I plan to major in Art in college.").

#### First Semester

- Health (Required for 9<sup>th</sup> grade)

**If you already took Health in 8<sup>th</sup> grade:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Accelerated Reader
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese 1A (year-long course)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Intro Ukulele (Mrs. Ocón's init: \_\_\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web Design
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weight Lifting

Other (if required):

- ELL (authorized: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Study Skills (authorized: \_\_\_\_\_)

#### Second Semester

- \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Coding
- \_\_\_\_\_ Astronomy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese 1B (year-long course)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Choir (Audition required;  
Mrs. Ocón's initials: \_\_\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drama
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health Sciences
- \_\_\_\_\_ Physical Fitness: Core Strength
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Theater Production

Other (if required):

- ELL (authorized: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Study Skills (authorized: \_\_\_\_\_)

I understand that although every attempt will be made to meet my requests, limitations of class size, teacher availability, and requirements for graduation may make my first choice unavailable. In such cases, taking all of my stated priorities into consideration, I will allow the school to make the elective decision in my best interest.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return it to the school office by Monday, May 29. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 4, 2017. Schedule changes will only be made in extraordinary circumstances.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

---

**Health (Mrs. Thomas):** Students will learn about physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health. As students study the human body, they will focus on healthy and unhealthy habits that affect those body systems. The course will also include units on safety, decision-making, and creating and maintaining healthy relationships. *Required for 9th grade students who did not take health in 8th grade.*

**Accelerated Reader (Miss Randall):** Students are given time to read books of their choice at their appropriate reading level and take comprehension quizzes to earn points. Students will set reading goals at the beginning of the semester.

**Chinese 1 (Mr. González):** This is an introductory course in Chinese language and can count as a foreign language credit. It will be available to interested students in grades 9-12 during 5th period electives. *Students who are interested in the elective class should select Chinese 1A for Semester 1 and Chinese 1B for Semester 2.*

**Intro to Ukulele (Mrs. Ocón):** Students will receive ukulele instruction on a beginner level. *Students must have their own ukulele.*

**Web Design (Mr. Faber):** Students learn the basics of HTML and JavaScript to create functional web sites. Grading will be based on weekly computer assignments, quizzes, class presentations and the final project, a fully operational web site ready to post on the Internet.

**Weight Lifting (Mr. Norman):** Students will learn weight lifting techniques and spend time developing their own physical abilities. *Gays only.*

---

**Advanced Coding (Mr. Faber):** Students will continue to develop skills and concepts of coding and computer programming.

**Astronomy (Mrs. Stuebner):** In this survey class, we will explore the solar system, various types of stars, and other features of the universe. We will also learn about the interactions between these objects, and about the tools used to study them.

**Choir (Mrs. Ocón):** Students will participate in choir activities including vocal technique exercises, tonal and rhythm exercises that facilitate musical understanding, and rehearsal of songs that span various musical styles. *Audition required.*

**Drama (Mr. Seipel):** This is the class for students who enjoy performing on stage and want to perfect their craft—or for beginners who would like to learn how. Topics include understanding stage presence, conveying emotions through actions and words, use of voice, characterization, and different forms of drama. Active involvement in class is expected each day.

**Health Sciences (Mrs. Thomas):** This course includes units of study in CPR, first aid, medical terminology, and beginning patient care. If you have an interest in a medical career, this is an excellent course choice.

**Physical Fitness: Core Strength (Mr. Norman):** Ninth through twelfth grade women will be introduced to the many benefits of physical fitness, with a special emphasis on strengthening their core. By using various strength and conditioning techniques, such as stretching, resistance, circuit, endurance and light weight training, each activity will be used to help develop their overall physical fitness and core strength. This class is ideal for students desiring to strengthen their body for sports activities or just for general health. *Girls only.*

**Publications (Mr. Thomas):** Students will learn the fundamentals of graphic design, which consists of working with text, graphics, and the elements and principals of design. Work will be done on the computer with special design programs. Students will produce the NCA Annual Yearbook among other projects such as brochures, flyers, and advertisements. Students accepted for the publications staff will also be responsible for taking pictures at first semester school events.

**Theater Production (Mr. Weigand):** The purpose of the class is for students to understand the inner workings of producing live theater, including set design and construction, sound, lighting, casting, directing, props, make-up, costuming, etc. Physical labor is required for constructing sets. All students in this class will be required to participate in at least one aspect of the school musical in March.