

Dent Middle School



2025-2026
Course Catalog
7th & 8th Grade

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Our Vision Dent

is a place where
POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS
are evident, PARTNERSHIPS
are maximized, and
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE is
top priority for every
student every day.

INTRODUCTION

Richland School District Two middle schools offer a core curriculum of common knowledge and a variety of exploratory electives. The classes are designed to meet the needs of students with opportunities for individual progress. Four core subjects are taught on a daily basis:

- English/Language Arts
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies / SC History (8th grade only)

Electives are offered daily as well. Electives are an integral part of an effective middle school program. It is important that middle level students experience a wide range of exploratory offerings so that they can make informed choices about elective offerings when they become high school students.

Physical Education/Health is considered to be of great importance for young people today and is a required class for all students in each grade level.

Dent Middle School offers the following exploratory electives for 7th & 8th Grade:

Art	General Music	Spanish 1
Advanced Art	Intro To Latin	Theater
Advanced Dance	Intro to Spanish	Video Animation & Media Production
Band	Latin 1	Video & Media Production
Chorus	Music	World Drumming (7th/8th)
Fundamentals of Computing 1 & 2	Orchestra	Guitar
Dance	Physical Education	AVID

ACADEMICS

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts 7th and 8th

The seventh and eighth grade language arts curricula use a literature-based format. Every lesson should involve students responding to literature. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be carried on before, during, and after reading. SC Standards are used to drive instruction.

English/Language Arts - 7th

The seventh grade English/Language Arts Advanced curriculum introduces components in composition, grammar, and vocabulary. Reference, listening, and speaking skills are introduced as well as the reading skills which encompass comprehension, word meaning, literary analysis, writing, oral and silent reading, locating information, and study skills. Literature genres such as fiction, non-fiction and poetry, are introduced during the course of the year. This class will move at a fast and rigorous pace with independent reading and writing projects.

Honors English/Language Arts - 7th

Prerequisites: Gifted/Talented Identified or **Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below:**

1. Fall MAP Reading RIT score at the 80% for 6th grade
2. An average of 90 or above in ELA by the end of 3rd nine weeks.
3. 6th grade SCREADY Reading: 80% or higher

Course Description: English/Language Arts Honors utilizes challenging texts and complex ideas as they relate to middle grade curriculum standards. Texts will be assigned in the form of novels, independent readings, and a variety of nonfiction sources in both print and non-print format. Grammar and writing standards will be taught and assessed in a variety of assignments. Direct student instruction relies heavily on the inquiry process through independent and group projects. Projects and

assignments will require knowledge of basic technology.

English/Language Arts Advanced - 8th

The eighth grade English/Language Arts curriculum is based on a complete literature program offering quality traditional and contemporary literary selections. The number and variety of selections offer choice and flexibility in meeting curriculum requirements as well as students' needs and interests. Grammar and vocabulary are studied in the context of literature. Composition is taught in conjunction with literature, research and personal experience. The writing process is used to ensure success for all students.

English I Honors - 8th High School Credit Course

Prerequisites: Gifted/Talented Identified or **Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below:**

1. Completed 6th and 7th grade Honors ELA
2. Completed Seventh grade ELA with a 90 or higher
3. Fall MAP Reading at the 80% or higher
4. SCREADY Reading at 80% or higher

Course Description: Students receive an introduction to literature and a general overview of literary genres and authors. The curriculum is designed to address state standards through emphasis on print and nonprint literature and informational text. Students are introduced to effective reading strategies, the writing process, the research process, and vocabulary and language development. In addition, students will use listening and speaking skills to communicate effectively, deliver formal presentations, and demonstrate a command of standard American English. The honors class is designed for students who want an extra challenge and are ready to accept significant responsibility for the learning process, including summer and independent reading.

SOCIAL STUDIES / SC HISTORY

Social Studies - 7th

In seventh grade, students study World History. They will examine global events, ideas, and people that impacted the creation of an international community. Students will discover the different time periods starting with Colonial Expansion through the Rise of Global Trade, The Age of Revolutions, Industrialization, Imperialism, the World Wars, to today. The class will focus on causation and context through utilizing hands-on activities, engaging in collaborative learning, project-based learning, and incorporating interdisciplinary methods. Students will have a firm grasp on not only the important players and events of history, but also on how each time period shaped the events to come. Students will gain a quality understanding of the world around them, and an appreciation of society's origins.

Honors Social Studies - 7th

Prerequisites: Gifted and Talented Identified or **Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below:**

1. Fall MAP Reading RIT score of 80% or higher
2. SC READY Reading 80% or higher
3. An average of 85 or higher in social studies by end of 3rd nine weeks prior to entering the program

Course Description: Students will study contemporary Geography of World Regions. Students will study Earth from a regional perspective focusing on the continents. This course will have four major areas of study: Places and Regions, Environment and Resources, Human Systems, and Applied Geography. Students will experience inquiry-based learning, make connections between people and places including identifying trends in those connections, explore complex topics and texts, and utilize the skills of a geographer.

SC History - 8th

In eighth grade, students study American History with a major emphasis on South Carolina History. The curriculum compares South Carolina's relationship to the overall development of our nation. The major emphasis of the relationship will be on the period

of colonization through the Civil War without neglecting South Carolina's role in the twentieth century.

SC History Honors- 8th

Prerequisites: Gifted and Talented Identified or **Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below.**

1. Fall MAP Reading RIT score of 80% or higher
2. SCREADY Reading 80% or higher
3. An average of 85 or higher in social studies by end of the 3rd nine weeks prior to entering the program

Course Description: In eighth grade, students study American History with a major emphasis on South Carolina History. The curriculum compares South Carolina's relationship to the overall development of our nation. Five areas of study will be covered in this course: Civic Participation, Cultural Interactions, Development of Political Ideas and Institutions, Economic Decision Making, and Geographic Relationships. Students will experience inquiry-based learning, analyze multiple complex primary and secondary documents at a time making comparisons amongst them and content throughout the course, and utilize the skills of a historian.

MATHEMATICS

Advanced Math - 7th

Math Advanced relates and applies algebraic concepts to geometry, probability, statistics, data analysis, and measurement. Students will make realistic and relevant applications from areas such as travel, shopping, and sports.

Interdisciplinary connections will be made to science, social studies, fine arts and other curriculum areas. The course integrates algebraic concepts with basic math skills.

Honors Math - 7th

Prerequisites: Gifted and Talented identified or
Must meet 2 of the 3:

1. 6th grade math with an average grade at the end of the year
With 80% or above.
2. Fall MAP RIT at 80% or higher

3. 6th grade SCREADY Mathematics score 80% or higher
 **Sixth graders enrolled in Honors Math must have average of 70% or greater to remain in the 7th grade Honors.

Course Description: In this fast paced course, half of the 7th grade standards and all of the 8th standards are taught. This course uses mathematical processes to develop students' conceptual understanding of the following key concepts:

- number system
- functions
- ratios and proportional relationships
- expressions, equations, and inequalities
- geometry and measurement
- data analysis and statistics

Advanced Math - 8th

Pre-Algebra Advanced is designed to develop algebraic reasoning and problem- solving skills with a greater depth of topics and at a quickened pace. This course should prepare students for Geometry which is offered at the ninth grade level.

Geometry Honors - 7th High School Credit Course

7th Grade Prerequisite:

Sixth graders that have successfully completed Accelerated Math with an 80% or higher will be enrolled in Geometry Honors. Only Geometry standards are taught.

8th Grade Prerequisite:

Seventh graders that have successfully completed Honors Math 6 and Honors Math 7. Only Geometry standards are taught.

Students who successfully complete 7th grade Honors Math with 80% or higher or **students must meet 2 of the 3:**

1. Fall Math MAP 80% or higher
2. Math grade 90% or higher
3. SCREADY Math: 80% or higher

Course Description: This course is composed of the Euclidean concepts that formalize the geometric experiences from elementary and middle school. This formalization occurs in

tandem by strengthening algebraic skills while investigating and applying new geometric concepts. Through the use of geometric and algebraic proofs, students develop deductive reasoning and analytical thinking skills that justify geometric relationships through the following key concepts:

- Circles
- Triangles and Polygons
- Congruence/Transformations
- Geometric measurement and dimension
- Expressing geometric properties with equations
- Modeling
- Similarity, right triangles, and trigonometry
- Interpreting data
- Logic and Proofs

A graphing calculator is required for this course.

Geometry Honors - 8th High School Credit Course

Prerequisites:

1. Completed Accelerated Math as a 6th grader
2. Completed Algebra I as a 7th grader with a C or higher

Course Description: This course is composed of the Euclidean concepts that formalize the geometric experiences from elementary and middle school. This formalization occurs in tandem by strengthening algebraic skills while investigating and applying new geometric concepts. Through the use of geometric and algebraic proofs, students develop deductive reasoning and analytical thinking skills that justify geometric relationships through the following key concepts:

- Circles
- Congruence
- Geometric measurement and dimension
- Expressing geometric properties with equations
- Modeling
- Similarity, right triangles, and trigonometry
- Interpreting data

Note: A graphing calculator is required for this course.

SCIENCE

Science - 7th

Science content for seventh graders includes a continuation of scientific inquiry, cells/heredity, human body systems and disease, ecology, and a unit on chemistry. Students will be reading and writing in this content area along with participating in hands-on science labs.

Honors Science -7th

Prerequisites: Gifted and Talented Identified or Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below:

1. Fall MAP Reading RIT score of 80% or higher
2. An average of 85 or above in science by end of the 3rd nine weeks prior to entrance into the program.
3. SCREADY Reading: 80% or above

Course Description: Science content for seventh graders includes a continuation of science and engineering practices, cells/heredity, human body systems, ecology, and a unit on chemistry. Students will be reading and writing in this content area along with participating in hands-on science labs. Honors science will take a deeper dive into lab activities.

Following SCPASS testing, students will participate in a Reproductive Health unit. Students will be given an opt out letter with additional information about specific details of this unit.

Science - 8th

Eighth grade students will have a third year of scientific inquiry. They will also study the Earth's biological history, structure and processes, astronomy, forces/motion, and a unit on waves. Students will participate in science labs along with writing assignments.

Honors Science - 8th

Prerequisites: Gifted and Talented Identified or Students must meet 2 of the 3 qualifications below:

1. Fall MAP Reading RIT score of 80% or higher
2. An average of 85 or above in science by end of the 3rd
Nine weeks prior to entrance into the program
3. SCREADY Reading: 80% or above

Course Description: Eighth grade students will have a third year of science and engineering practices. They will also study the Earth's biological history, structure and processes, astronomy, forces/motion, and a unit on waves. Students will participate in science labs along with writing assignments. Honors science will take a deeper dive into lab activities.

Following SCPASS testing, students will participate in a Reproductive Health unit. Students will be given an opt out letter with additional information about specific details of this unit.

ESOL/STUDY SKILLS

ESOL (Speakers of Other Languages) 7th and 8th

ESOL is a federally mandated program of study designed for students whose native language is not English. Skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are emphasized with regard to second language acquisition. Testing is required for placement and a deficit in any of the aforesaid areas qualifies the student for the program. Coursework is geared towards individual needs as well as vocabulary development, grammar mastery, reading comprehension, and developmental writing. Life skills, social skills, phonic and cultural awareness are also incorporated.

MATH INTERVENTION

7th and 8th

This course involves hands-on, interactive, real-world and technology-based activities that will focus on the South Carolina State Standards. Students' course work will be individualized to focus on their specific needs based on standardized test scores, classroom performance and teacher observations, as well as an overall daily focus on number facts and an understanding and application of word problems.

7th - 8th Course Code# 2101000

SPECIAL EDUCATION

7th and 8th

Special education services are provided in the middle school grades for qualified students. Classes are provided in math, reading, study skills, and social/emotional skills. Services are determined by the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

EXPLORATORY ELECTIVES

NOTE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS: selections for electives should be studied and selections made carefully. Every effort will be made to schedule students in requested classes. However, scheduling conflicts may prevent students from being enrolled in selected elective courses.

BAND

Band 7th and 8th

Band is offered for students in sixth, seventh and eighth grade who are interested in learning to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Band is a performance based class where individuals are graded on their effort, progress, and the ability to read and perform their music. The Dent Middle School band participates in statewide band festivals, presents a Christmas and Spring Concert, and performs at school pep rallies.

Note: Students are required to provide their own instrument.

Prerequisite for Band 7th: Completion of Band in 6th grade

Prerequisite for Band 8th: Completion of Band in 7th grade

7th - 8th Course Code# 25310000

PowerSchool Course Name - Instr Mus Band

CHORUS

Chorus 7th and 8th

Chorus is a performance-based class designed for students who desire to sing and to learn about various styles of singing. Students will learn proper singing skills including balance and blend, tone production, enunciation, articulation, and breath control. Students will also learn basic music theory, sight reading and ear training skills. In addition to various audition-based events, performance opportunities throughout the year may include winter and spring concerts and school performances. This course meets for one semester.

Prerequisite for Chorus 7th: Completion of Chorus 6th grade

Prerequisite for Chorus 8th: Completion of Chorus 7th grade

7th - 8th Course Code# 25410000

PowerSchool Course Name - Chorus

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra 7th and 8th

Orchestra offers seventh and eighth grade students the opportunity to continue developing music reading skills, theory, and string technique. Musical skills emphasized at this level include shifting, more intricate rhythms and learning to play various musical styles. Students have the opportunity to perform at winter and spring concerts, SCMEA Solo and Ensemble Festival, Region and All-State Orchestras, as well as Concert Performance Assessment (8th grade orchestra students only).

Note: Students are required to provide their own instrument.

Prerequisite for Orchestra 7th: Completion of Orchestra 6th grade

Prerequisite for Orchestra 8th: Completion of Orchestra 7th grade

7th - 8th Course Code# 25510000

PowerSchool Course Name - Instr Mus Orch

WORLD DRUMMING

Steel Band and Percussion Ensemble 7th and 8th

The percussion ensemble class is a course in which students will

learn all concert percussion methods and techniques. Students will learn and strengthen skills on the following instruments: timpani, snare drum, mallet instruments, and accessory instruments. The 7th grade percussion ensemble course is semester long. The 8th grade percussion ensemble course is year long.

The steel band class is designed for students who have completed a previous percussion class with superior grades or have had some music experience in the past. This is a course in which students will learn advanced rhythmic and melodic notation on steel pans, which connects them to Caribbean and Latin American cultural traditions. Steel band at both the 7th and 8th grade levels is a semester course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of a world drumming course

7th - 8th Course Code# 25992200

PowerSchool Course Name - Drum/Percussion

General Music

General Music/Guitar

This course is designed to introduce foundational skills of guitar playing, music reading, and reading of guitar tablature. No prior musical experience is required. As this is designed to be an introductory course and is only a semester in length, students who have studied guitar outside of this course may find that the curriculum and content covered in a high school year-long guitar class is more suitable.

Students can expect to gain knowledge and/or experience with real-world guitar skills such as: chords, strumming, fingerpicking, improvising, reading music, and practical applications of basic music reading skills. Additionally, students will have exposure to and participate in several different genres of music. Music and guitar-specific terminology, symbols, and tabs will be central to the course.

Prerequisite-None

7th-8th Course#25610000

PowerSchool Course Name-Music

ART

Art 7th and 8th

Art offers students an education in the visual arts. Students are able to develop basic and advanced skills that are aligned with the South Carolina Visual Art Standards. Throughout the art course, students are able to use a variety of materials, practice traditional and modern techniques, study different artists and cultures and produce final artworks that are personal to the students' own styles and interpretations. Students are able to learn about art careers and how art applies to other subjects. Students learn and practice how to critique their own work and the works of others. In 7th and 8th grades, the course is for one semester.

Prerequisite: None

7th - 8th Course Code# 25010000

Advanced Art 7th and 8th

Advanced Art is an in-depth course in which students explore various media in concentrated forms. This includes drawing, painting, sculpture, and various mixed media. As well, students in Advanced Art will be introduced to Graphic Design, exploring programs such as Adobe Photoshop, digital photography, Comic Life, iMovie and Garageband. During the course, students will not only produce works of art, but they will explore art history, learn how to write about and discuss works of art, and learn how to look at and appreciate art. Students' grades will be based upon projects, writings, notebooks, discussions, sketchbooks, and daily work. At the 7th and 8th grade levels, Advanced Art is a year-long course.

Prerequisites: Admission into the Advanced Art course is via application, recommendation, and portfolio submission.

7th - 8th Course Code# 25011000

PowerSchool Course Name - Advanced Art

DANCE

Dance 7th and 8th

The 7th and 8th grade *Making Dance Connections* courses offer students the opportunity to create, perform, observe and respond to dance. Students will explore methods of improvisation leading to creating their own dances. Students will work alone, with a partner, and in groups to demonstrate movement relationships between individuals, shapes, rhythm, gesture temp, and mood. Using dance as a way to communicate meaning, students will be challenged to compare and contrast dance elements in terms of space, time and movement qualities. The course encourages students to make connections between dance and the real world. Dress-out attire for Dance should be school-approved clothing appropriate for athletic activity. Both 7th and 8th grade courses are semester long.

Note: Other dance uniform requirements will be made available upon enrollment in the course.

Prerequisite: None

7th - 8th Course Code# 25250000

Advanced Dance I - 7th and Advanced Dance II - 8th

Advanced Dance I for 7th grade and Advanced Dance II for 8th grade are audition-based courses. Students will explore movement elements and skills representative of a variety of dance styles, study the social cultural and historical dimensions of dance, and experiment with choreographic principles, processes and structures under the supervision of the dance specialist. At both grade levels, the course requires independent and collaborative performance to view and analyze dance works. Students will perform in two showcases during the process of this course. Skills acquired in 7th grade Advanced Dance I will be built upon in 8th grade Advanced Dance II. In addition, 8th grade Advanced Dance II prepares students for high school dance programs. Dress-out attire for Dance should be school-approved clothing appropriate for athletic activity. Both Advanced Dance I and II are year-long courses.

Note: Other dance uniform requirements will be made available upon acceptance into the course.

Prerequisites: Admission is via audition, teacher recommendation, and a one paragraph submission entitled: "Why I want to be in Advanced Dance."

7th - 8th Course Code# 25250200

PowerSchool Course Name - Advanced Dance**DIGITAL LITERACY****Fundamentals of Computing I - 7th****Fundamentals of Computing II - 8th**

This digital literacy course is designed to introduce students to the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Through creativity and innovation, students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills to implement projects that are relevant to students' lives. They will create a variety of computing artifacts while collaborating in teams. Students will gain a fundamental understanding of the history and operation of computers, programming, and web design. Students will also be introduced to computing careers and will examine societal and ethical issues of computing. Both 7th and 8th grade level courses meet for one semester.

Note: This is a High School Credit Course. Students must complete both sections in order to earn the credit. There are no .5 credit courses offered at the high school level.

Course Code# 502800CH Grade 7 for 1½ high school unit

PowerSchool Course Name - Fundamentals of Computing I

Course Code# 502900CH Grade 8 for 1½ high school unit

PowerSchool Course Name - Fundamentals of Computing II

Video Animation & Media Production - 7th

This course is designed to provide the student with the skills needed to create and edit animated projects. Students will learn how to create and import images and add movement to them to create animated works of art. This course meets for one semester.

Course Code# 27994200

PowerSchool Course Name - Comp Learning Elective 2

Video & Media Production - 8th

This course is designed to provide the student with the basic knowledge and skills needed to produce interactive multimedia

projects. Multimedia combines computer-based text, graphics, audio, and video within an interactive environment. This course meets for one semester.

Course Code# 27994500

PowerSchool Course Name - Comp Learning Elective 3

AVID

AVID 7th and 8th

Advancement VIA Individual Determination (AVID) is a college and career readiness program designed to challenge, support, and inspire students in an effort to make sure they are college and career ready. We focus on collaboration skills, problem-solving, inquiry, organization, goal-setting, college and career research, and numerous other topics. Students participate in various community service activities and visit local colleges each year to experience a variety of campuses.

Prerequisite: No previous experience required, but all students must complete the interview process.

Note: 7th and 8th grade AVID courses are year long.

7th-8th Course Code# 27999000

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH Required 7th -8th

Physical Education is a vital school subject where students acquire skills, knowledge, and success through participation. If physical education is to make a valuable contribution to education, it is necessary that we work together to motivate our children to participate in these activities and to develop a positive attitude toward better health, fitness and skills.

The six major topics of the comprehensive Health Education Program includes:

- Health and wellness, including making healthy decisions, setting personal health goals
- Aspects of healthy social relationships, emotional and mental health
- Nutrition and physical fitness
- Substance abuse prevention

- Growth and development
- Physical diseases and prevention

The 7th and 8th grade physical education programs provide each student an opportunity to develop his/her own skills. Each grade-level curriculum includes individual sports, team sports, and physical fitness activities. An emphasis is placed on lifetime sports, recreational activities, and carry-over skills that will provide students with the ability to make wise and healthy use of their leisure time. Students are required to dress out, including gym shoes in order to participate.

Physical Education/ Health - 7th

Seventh grade physical education consists of the development of intermediate skills which include teamwork, sportsmanship, rules, leadership skills, lead-up games, and modified game situations. Safety concepts are reviewed.

Prerequisite: None

Note: P.E. is a semester-long course for all grades.

Course Code# 24600000

Physical Education/ Health - 8th

Eighth grade physical education moves from intermediate to advanced game situations using strategy and thinking skills. Students also have the opportunity to compete against each other. Again, safety concepts are stressed.

Prerequisite: None

Note: P.E. is a semester-long course for all grades.

Course Code# 24600000

SPANISH

Intro to Spanish - 7th

Spanish is designed to expose students to Spanish language and culture and introduce them to vocabulary and simple grammatical concepts in order to prepare them for continuing Spanish in high school. A portion of the high school curriculum content is introduced in 7th grade, resulting in the prerequisite requirements as

specified for 8th grade Spanish 1.

7th grade Intro to Spanish - one semester long

Course Code# 26500000

Spanish 1 - 8th

High School Credit Course

Spanish is designed to expose students to Spanish language and culture and introduce them to vocabulary and simple grammatical concepts in order to prepare them for continuing Spanish in high school. A portion of the high school curriculum content is introduced in 7th grade, resulting in the prerequisite requirements as specified.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 7th grade Intro to Spanish Spanish 1 is a year-long course.

Course Code# 365100CW

LATIN

Intro to Latin - 7th

Students will learn to read edited Latin, build Latin and English vocabulary, and increase knowledge of Roman history and culture. In this semester course, the following topics will be covered:

- Typical Roman family members and their relationships
- Roman housing: villa, domus, rooms of the house
- The Roman Forum
- Roman numbers/numerals and colors

7th grade Intro to Latin - one semester long

Course Code# 26300000

Latin 1 - 8th

High School Credit Course

Students will continue to read edited Latin, build upon learned Latin and English vocabulary, and increase knowledge of Roman history and culture. In this year-long course, the following topics will be covered:

- Roman slavery and freedom
- Recreational activities of Romans, such as gladiator fights

- and public baths
- Roman education and elections
- Eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79
- Geography of the Roman Empire

Prerequisite: Completion of 7th grade Intro to Latin with a grade of 70 or higher. Latin 1 is a year-long course.

Course Code# 363100CW

THEATER

Theater 7th and 8th

This course is designed to build upon what students learned in 6th grade, but will also enable those taking the class for the first time to understand the basics and build upon them. This course will also prepare students for 8th grade Advanced Theatre. We will cover the [South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency - State Board of Education](#). This course does NOT use a textbook. Required resources will be provided and used in the classroom. Students will be required to memorize lines for some units and will be expected to complete any work at home they do not finish in class.

Class Content Includes: Foundations of Acting, Tools of Scenework, Improvisation, Introduction to Set Design, Introduction to Costuming, Directed Scenes, and Introduction to Film Analysis.

Note: This is a rigorous Fine Arts course, and active engagement is an ongoing requirement. This course is semester long.

Course Code# 25210000

Theater & Drama - 8th

This course is designed to build upon what students learned in 7th grade Theatre. This course will also prepare students for Theatre 1 in high school. We will cover the [South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency - State Board of Education](#). This course does NOT use a textbook. Required resources will be provided and used in the classroom. Students will be required to memorize lines and will be expected to complete any work at home they do not finish in class.

Class Content Includes: Ancient Greek Theatre, Eastern Theatre

(Japanese/Chinese/Indian Theatre), Acting for the Camera, Character Creation, Storytelling, and Improvisation

Note: This is a rigorous Fine Arts course, and active engagement is an ongoing requirement. This course is semester long.

Course Code# 25990000

PowerSchool Course Name - Fine Arts Elective

TWO Academies

Two Academies at Dent Middle School is a nationally-certified magnet program that focuses on the needs of the whole child and reduces typical middle school adolescent pressures within a single gender environment. In separate classes for the day, boys and girls experience a rich, rigorous education in which maximizing the potential of each child is the goal. Parents, teachers, and community members work in partnership to deliver the best middle school experience.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in TWO Academies?

The TWO Academies Single Gender Magnet Program is for motivated students who want to experience a rigorous curriculum, filled with hands-on learning activities. Learning in a single-gender environment can reduce the pressures of middle school years, as well as provide a rich educational opportunity while defining the unique genius of each student.

How will the participation in TWO Academies help students matriculate to the next level of study?

The TWO Academies inspires the learning community to explore and collaborate, and helps to develop self-confident, responsible, and respectful learners who support all members in realizing their potential.

What makes TWO Academies unique?

- School within a school
- Single gender core classes

- Small class sizes
- Break after two classes
- Extensive electives, including FAME classes
- 6th grade focuses on transition skills/activities
- Introduction to Latin for 6th grade students

Benefits of Single Gender Education

- Fewer classroom distractions
- Custom-tailored learning and instruction
- Confidence levels increase for students
- Students feel more comfortable sharing and participating in class.
- Students tend to be more willing to ask questions and take academic risks.
- Students get opportunities to choose activities/topics that validate their interests and learning styles.

Student Empowerment

- Service learning opportunities
- Community Partnerships
- After-school program
- Overnight/Day field studies
- Honor Code and Academic Policy
- Community-building activities
- Balancing academics and other activities
- Coordination of major assignments and tests

The Learning Collaborative

TLC at Dent Middle School is a nationally certified magnet program that serves high-achieving and highly motivated students by immersing them in a rigorous, intellectually stimulating academic environment. The foundation of TLC is the emphasis on higher order thinking skills through the integration of the academic disciplines.

Mission

The mission is to provide students with community, collaboration, and core mastery. Students thrive when provided with a community

of learning where achievements are celebrated and relationships are nurtured. Collaboration between students and academic disciplines, is a top priority in order to allow for creativity, problem solving, and the development of interpersonal skills. The program's unique experiences allow for students to go above and beyond in the mastery of content and skills for a successful transition to their future endeavors.

What makes TLC unique?

TLC encourages students to embrace the academic experience as a consistent and engaging journey that requires them to view learning as a process versus a performance. Most importantly, students are expected to be accountable for their learning. The goal is to assist students in developing skills to acquire and use information, to ask thoughtful and engaging questions, and grow. TLC students participate in a core program of literature, science, and social studies. Students pursue rigorous studies, engage in collaborative assignments, and work on interdisciplinary projects.

This collaborative environment:

- demonstrates to students the interrelationships among subjects
- allows in-depth study and investigations of real-life problems
- allows for authentic performance-based assessments
- fosters better retention and transfer of knowledge
- provides for a variety of student groupings

What type of student would most benefit from participating in TLC?

TLC is a program best suited for motivated students who seek an academic challenge. The rigor of the classroom, coupled with a focus on collaborative and interdisciplinary skills, leads students to achieve at a high level both socially and academically.

How will participation in TLC help students successfully matriculate to the next level of study?

The blend of mentoring, enrichment, and field studies helps our students grow into empathetic and engaging individuals who are ready for high school and college.

FAME

Fine Arts & Media Enrichment

FAME at Dent Middle School is a unique program in that it offers visual and performing arts, infused with technology. FAME students build upon skills learned in the visual and performing arts through each grade level. Beginning/9 week classes are offered to the 6th graders, allowing them the opportunity to explore what the program is about. During their 7th and 8th grade years, students are exposed to the arts in more depth with semester-long classes, as well as year-long advanced classes. Students leave with a firm foundation in their arts area and can easily continue on through high school and beyond.

Mission

FAME provides active learning, individualized instruction, and an appreciation for the arts.

What makes FAME unique?

This program is unique in that it gives students opportunities to experience the arts through meaningful participation in a variety of creative projects and events. FAME is the only middle school arts and media program of its kind in Richland School District Two.

What type of student would most benefit from participating in FAME?

The FAME program is open to any student who has the desire to learn, grow, and flourish in the visual and performing arts.

How will participation in FAME help students successfully matriculate to the next level of study?

All students at Dent Middle School have the opportunity to participate in the FAME program. In order to help sixth grade students make an informed decision, the majority of their FAME classes are nine weeks long (except Band and Orchestra) allowing students to experience many of these classes. At the end of the

sixth grade school year, students will choose a major area to focus on. Upon entering seventh grade and continuing into eighth grade, students will have their FAME major as either a semester or year-long class during their co-curricular block. By the time FAME students leave Dent Middle school, they will be ready to apply for the Convergence Media program or audition for the Palmetto Center for the Arts program, both located at Richland Northeast High School.