



7th Grade Exploratory Classes 2025-2026

7th Grade students will take two (2) semester long exploratory courses, or they may elect to take Intermediate Band (yearlong).

***All students, regardless of exploratory choice, are eligible to participate in any of our Clubs throughout the school year. Middle school clubs meet monthly on Club Days to provide additional opportunities for students to explore the areas of Art (Art Society), Agriculture (FFA), Business (FBLA), Chorus, Family and Consumer Science (FCCLA), and Technology (TSA).*

Intermediate Band 7 - (yearlong)

Intermediate Band 7 is a continuation of 6th Grade Band, designed for students who have had at least one year of experience on a band instrument. Continuation and expansion of previous instruction will be emphasized. Students will be eligible and encouraged to participate in Valley and District Honor Band during the year. Course activities include a Winter Concert and two Spring Concerts.

Agriscience Exploration – (semester)

Students explore science as it relates to agriculture and develop an understanding of human relations, communication, the importance of agriculture to the economy, and key scientific terms related to the field of agriculture.

7th Grade Art – (semester)

Seventh grade art provides students with activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic practice, and appreciation of art culture and art history. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. This course will include two-dimensional art projects such as drawing using wet and dry types of media; painting to include color theory, color mixing, developing technique and composition; and three-dimensional art projects such as clay hand-building techniques, crafts, etc.

7th Grade Choir - (semester)

A singing class for any 7th grader! This class is open to any student who is interested in singing in a group, or by themselves. Chorus covers a variety of music, including pop songs, traditional tunes, and even songs in different languages. Because this is an ensemble-centered class, students will never be required to sing by themselves in front of other students. Students will learn about how their voice works, how to sing in a group, in separate parts, and the basics of music reading. At SMS the 7th and 8th Grade Choir, *Nova Voce*, is a public representation of the performing arts program at SMS. All in class work is designed with the goal of public ensemble performance. Since this is a performance-based class, there are two major performances for students.

Explorations in Coding I – (semester)

Explorations in Coding I is a course that covers foundational concepts and skills of computer science. The course is designed to be fun, engaging, relevant, collaborative, and creative. Students will build their understanding of core computing concepts through interactive project-based coding practices using a unique drag-to-text toolkit that helps students gain familiarity with Python syntax and commands. Each module builds computer science competency through highly engaging, interactive coding projects as well as a series of online and unplugged activities that introduce students to foundational computer science concepts and skills, reinforce core programming concepts, and support students in strategic problem solving practices.

Family & Consumer Sciences II – (semester)

Students will develop essential knowledge and skills to lead better lives, be career-ready, build strong families, and make meaningful contributions to their communities. They will learn about food safety and prepare simple, nutritious recipes. Students will also learn about child development and education.

Instrumental Ensemble I – (semester)

An Instrument class! This class explores a variety of musical instruments, primarily focusing on guitar. Students will learn the basics of rhythm reading and guitar playing to explore the different styles of music that can be created with the instruments available. As this is a performance based class, students participate in at least one concert each semester.

Inventions and Innovations – (semester)

Students apply the engineering design process to plan, build, and communicate inventions or innovations that address problems facing them, their community, and the world. This hands-on course allows students to apply creativity and innovation that emphasizes working in teams and the safe use of technological and engineering tools and equipment.

Make It Your Business (Computer) – (semester)

Students will design, create, and operate a small-group business, producing a product or service that meets an identified school or community need. Emphasis is placed on basic business terminology and entrepreneurship concepts. Students will use online publication sites to create professional business documents and a business website.

7th Grade Musical Theater- (semester)

Musical Theatre gives students a beginning working knowledge of Musical Theater as a form of creative expression and communication. The class will utilize essential elements of Chorus and Straight Theatre to enable students to perform, listen and respond to musical compositions and incorporate these musical experiences with other theatrical activities. This is a performance-based course.