2026-2027 Middle School Exploratory
Course Name: Film Production & Studies
Mr. Tim Harmon
Ms. Jenny Lynch
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Course Description: This course consists of two components: film production with Mr. Harmon and film studies with Ms. Lynch. Students will alternate weekly between the two teachers. In **film studies**, students will study the filmmaking process, while also learning how to analyze and interpret a film as a visual text. In **film production**, students will explore the fundamentals of film production while training on a variety of tools and platforms, including iMovie, CapCut, green screens, iPhones, iPads, and GoPro cameras. Students will learn the basics of filming and editing short films, gaining practical experience in storytelling and visual communication. This course offers a creative, collaborative environment where students can bring their ideas to life on screen.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Learn the basics of video editing
- Compare, contrast, and analyze the qualities of and relationships between the **components**, content, and intentions in media artworks (lighting/sound/sets/dialogue).
- Understand a film's cultural and historical significance
- Students will create video productions, edit and produce a final product, and upload it online.
- Students will contribute constructively to project teams and assume various roles and responsibilities to work effectively toward a common goal.

Grading Policy/Rubric:

The class grade will be split evenly between the components of the class. The grade will be calculated as follows:

- Production: Assessments - 10%
- Production: Projects/Performance - 25%
- Production: Classwork/Participation - 15%
- Studies: Assessment - 25%
- Studies: Classwork/Participation - 25%

Film Production Expectations and Responsibilities

Because of the collaborative nature of this course, all students are expected to work responsibly in groups both inside and outside the classroom. Students are entrusted to follow the SOAR principles outlined in the student handbook:

- **Safe:** Use equipment properly and follow all safety expectations.
- **On-task:** Stay focused and actively contribute to group assignments.
- **Accepting:** Cooperate with classmates and value different ideas and perspectives.
- **Respectful:** Treat classmates, staff, equipment, and school property appropriately.

Students must demonstrate responsible conduct and earn the trust required to use class equipment and participate in production activities. Students may be held responsible for the misuse, damage, or loss of equipment resulting from careless, unsafe, or inappropriate behavior.
Failure to follow these expectations may result in appropriate consequences, including removal from the Film Production elective and placement in another elective at any time during the trimester.

I have read and understand the course syllabus.

Parent/Guardian printed name: _____

Parent/Guardian signature:_____

Student printed name: _____

Student Signature:_____