

2025-2026 MONDAY SCHEDULE					
Room	9:00 - 10:00	10:10 - 11:10	11:20 - 12:20	1:05 -2:05	2:15 -3:15
Nursery C	Playroom 12 months to 7 years	Playroom 12 months to 7 years	Playroom 12 months to 7 years	Playroom 12 months to 7 years	Playroom 12 months to 7 years
Nursery D	What Day is It Mr. Fox Linda Smith 3 to 5	Just For Me Rochella Olson 5 to 7	Discovering Art Linda Smith 4 to 6	Investigating Animals A to Z Linda Smith 3 to 5	Exploring Stories Linda Smith 3 to 5
203	Pre-Algebra Math U See Danielle Lankester 11 to 14	Middle School Math: MUS Zeta Danielle Lankester 10 to 13	All About Fractions: MUS Epsilon Danielle Lankester 9 to 12	Fairy Tales and Engineering Heather Angelo 7 to 9	Meet the Masters Heather Angelo 7 to 9
204	The Science of Food Ashley Enriquez 12 to 14	No Class	Plants as Medicine Mary Sutton 13+	Five in a Row Geography Lisa Bailey 5 to 7	Shurley Grammar 1 Lisa Bailey 8 to 11
302	Created to Create! (7 to 9) Laura Jarrell 7 to 9	Mixed Media Laura Jarrell 10 to 14	No Class	Created to Create! (10 to 13) Laura Jarrell 10 to 13	Creative Lettering Laura Jarrell 12 +
304	Writing II (IEW): Structure and Style AmyJoy Stoesz 9 to 12	Writing I (IEW): Structure and Style 1A AmyJoy Stoesz 8 to 11	Draw, Write, Sculpt: Animals Arnd the World 2 AmyJoy Stoesz 6 to 9	Writing III (IEW): Structure and Style 1B AmyJoy Stoesz 11 to 14	Writing IV (IEW): Structure and Style 2B AmyJoy Stoesz 12 to 15
305	German 1 Annie Borrero 12 and up	German 2 Annie Borrero 13+	High School Geometry Veronica Huffines 12+	Watercolor Veronica Huffines 13 to 18	Drawing with Children Veronica Huffines 6 to 8
312	Algebra 1 Hingdi Brown 11 to 17	No Class	Algebra 2 Hingdi Brown 12 to 18	Navigating Big Emotions & Jammie Tanton Jammie Tanton 9 to 11	No Class
313	No Class	Intro to Science Kate Smith 6 to 8	Book Club for Eager (And not-so-eager) Readers Kate Smith 11 to 13	The Art of the Argument Sandi Hull 12 to 15	No Class
Cascade	Essay Writing Alice Wescott 13+	Writing with Grammar Alice Wescott 9 to 12	US History: Civil War to Civil Rights Jammie Tanton 14+	Visual Lit: Writing & Literature Through Graphic Novels Kathleen Ortiz 14+	Reading and Writing Through Graphic Novels Kathleen Ortiz 10 to 13
Chapel	PE and Leadership Development Michael Purcell 7 to 10	PE and Leadership Development Michael Purcell 12 to 16	History Comes Alive! (12 to 15) Bella Albers 12 to 15	NYTSSC Analiisa Reichlin 13+	HS Musical Theater & Acting (3:45 end) Caproni / Wilson 13+
Clubhouse	Introduction to Spanish Emily Norton 10 to 12	Spanish 1 Emily Norton 13+	Spanish 2 Emily Norton 14+	Spanish 3 Emily Norton 15+	Hablo Espanol Emily Norton 5 to 7
Mt. Baker	Advanced Latin Analiisa Reichlin 10 to 13	Beginning Latin Analiisa Reichlin 8 to 11	Intermediate Latin Analiisa Reichlin 9 to 12	Intro to Cinema and Filmmaking Chris Gove 14+	No Class
Student Center	The Hangout 6 and up	The Hangout 6 and up	The Hangout 6 and up	The Hangout 6 and up	The Hangout 6 and up
Student Center Classroom	No Class	Intermediate Band Robin Stangland 10 and up	Beginning Band Day 1 Robin Stangland 10 and up	Advanced Band Robin Stangland 12+	No Class
Sunrise	Private Piano Lessons: Robert Campbell - 7 and up (9:00 to 3:45)				
Summit Lodge	Singing Through the Alphabet Leslie Schmunk 4 to 6	Music Workshop A Leslie Schmunk 5 to 7	Music Workshop B Leslie Schmunk 7 to 9	History Comes Alive! (8 to 11) Bella Albers 8 to 11	Music Workshop C Leslie Schmunk 9 to 11

2025-2026 WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE					
Room	9:00 - 10:00	10:10 - 11:10	11:20 - 12:20	1:05 - 2:05	2:15 - 3:15
110	Quiet Study				
102	No Class	Jazz Band <i>Robin Stangland</i> 13 and up	Beginning Band Day 2 <i>Robin Stangland</i> 10 and up	Made to Move <i>Sharon Duguay</i> 7 to 9	Bodyworks <i>Sharon Duguay</i> 10 to 12
126	Private Piano Lessons: <i>Robert Campbell</i> - 7 and up (8:30 to 3:45)				
109	Music Through the Seasons <i>Leslie Schmunk</i> 3 to 5	Musical Passports <i>Leslie Schmunk</i> 6 to 10	Come Alive: Telling Scripture and Stories <i>Bella Albers</i> 7 to 10	Storybook Drama: History Through <i>Bella Albers</i> 4 to 6	Shakespeare One Act <i>Bella Albers</i> 12 and up
107	No Class	Precision in Practice: Grammar, Editing, and Revision <i>Emily Lorelli</i> 12 to 16	College Prep Writing <i>Emily Lorelli</i> 15 and up	Finding your Life Purpose <i>Kim Hanson</i> 14 and up	Yearbook <i>Elisa Handley</i> 14 and up
108	HS Chemistry (8:30 start) <i>Cyd Adler</i> 14 and up	Forensic Science <i>Cyd Adler</i> 15 and up	Physical Science <i>Cyd Adler</i> 13 and up	General Science <i>Cyd Adler</i> 11 to 13	High School Biology (3:45 end) <i>Cyd Adler</i> 14 and up
111	Navigating Big Emotions & Jammie Tanton 6 to 8	Songwriting 101 <i>Alicia McLeish</i> 15 and up	Intro to High School Writing <i>Alice Wescott</i> 12 and up	Chronicles of Our Contients <i>Steve Carrier</i> 13 and up	Basic Training <i>Steve Carrier</i> 13 and up
112	French 1 <i>Annie Borrero</i> 13 and up	Writing With Ease IV Sandi Hull 9 to 11	Writing With Ease II Sandi Hull 7 to 9	Shurley Grammar 2 Lisa Bailey 9 to 12	Shurley Grammar 3 Lisa Bailey 10 to 13
122	The Hangout	The Hangout	The Hangout	The Hangout	The Hangout
113	Social Graces <i>Addison Nohr Done</i> 5 to 8	God Bless America: The 50 States <i>Addison Nohr Done</i> 8 to 11	All Around the World Geography <i>Addison Nohr Done</i> 5 to 8	WOW History <i>Addison Nohr Done</i> 8 to 11	History through American Girls <i>Addison Nohr Done</i> 8 to 11
120	US History <i>Chris Gove</i> 14 and up	No Class	Voices of Praise Choir <i>Leslie Schmunk</i> 11 and up	Newton's Workshop <i>Rebecca Crane</i> 9 to 12	Intro to Photography <i>Laura Jarrell</i> 14 and up
121	Exploring Art <i>Huffines</i> 9 to 12	Marine Biology <i>Kate Smith</i> 11 to 13	Middle School Drawing <i>Veronica Huffines</i> 10 to 14	High School Art <i>Veronica Huffines</i> 13 to 18	Drawing with Children <i>Veronica Huffines</i> 6 to 8
123	No Class	Exploring Electricity & Magnetism <i>Ed Morin</i> 11 to 15	Engineer Your World <i>Ed Morin</i> 11 to 12	Exploring Arduino Microcontrollers <i>Ed Morin</i> 12 to 15	Exploring Electronics <i>Ed Morin</i> 12 to 15
124	History Through Games <i>Alex Binz</i> 12+	Current Events Around the World <i>Alex Binz</i> 14+	Chronicles of Narnia <i>Alex Binz</i> 11 and up	Solving Problems Flexibly: Middle School <i>Danielle Lankester</i> 11 to 14	Understanding the Times <i>Jason Fouts</i> 14 and up
205	Latin III <i>Analiisa Reichlin</i> 14 and up	Latin I <i>Analiisa Reichlin</i> 12 and up	Latin II <i>Analiisa Reichlin</i> 13 and up	Apocalypse Now? Unraveling Mysteries of Revelation <i>Analiisa Reichlin</i> 14 and up	Astronomy <i>Kay Swartwood</i> 8 to 10
206	Algebra 1 Math U See <i>Marna Marteeny</i> 11 to 16	Geometry <i>Marna Marteeny</i> 12 to 17	Algebra II <i>Marna Marteeny</i> 13 and up	Interpretive Lit 1: Hero's Journey <i>Emily Lorelli</i> 13 and up	Interpretive Lit III: Short Stories <i>Emily Lorelli</i> 13 and up
207	Genesis to Deuteronomy and Ancient Egypt <i>Buffy Johnson</i> 9 to 12	Joshua to Malachi & Ancient Greece: A Year of History, Geography, and <i>Buffy Johnson</i> 11 to 13	Science Fair Projects <i>Kay Swartwood</i> 11 to 13	Speech and Debate <i>Heidi Barnes</i> 14 and up	Health and Wellness <i>Heidi Barnes</i> 14 and up

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Advanced Band	Robin Stangland		<p>Advanced Band is a concert band for students who have played for 3+ years. If you are new to Advanced Band you must complete an audition and receive the teacher's permission to join. We will be playing high school level music. Instruments of the band are flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, bass clarinet, trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba, bass and percussion.</p> <p>We will have two concerts per year, and attendance is required at all performances. Students are expected to practice 20-30 minutes a day, 5 times a week. Sheet music will be on loan to the student and must be turned in when done. If you have any questions or want to audition, email Robin at robin.stangland@connectionsnnw.org. Parents play for free and pay supply fee.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Audition or permission of instructor.</p> <p>Supplies: Instrument, supplies, and folding music stand. Text TBD.</p>
Advanced Latin	Analiisa Reichlin	<p>Latin for Children, Primer B, Version 4.0 or later, ISBN: 978-1600510069, Classical Academic Press</p> <p>Aulus Anser, Andrew Olimpi, ISBN: 979-8536107560, Comprehensible Classics Press - Amazon link</p>	<p>Advanced Latin is for students not quite ready for Latin I, but who wish to continue learning Latin after finishing Latin for Children Primer A. This year, we will review all of the concepts from Beginning and Intermediate Latin, as well as learning Latin personal and demonstrative pronouns, interrogative pronouns, cardinal and ordinal numbers, a full complement of adverbs, 3rd conjugation verbs, and 3rd declension nouns. We'll focus on medieval history (386 A.D. through 1560 A.D) through curated videos and activities, while working through two Latin readers - Ego, Polyphemus (based on the works of Virgil and Ovid) and Aulus Anser (taken from a famous passage by Livy).</p> <p>This year gives us the opportunity to read the epic poem Jason and the Argonauts, by Apollonius of Rhodes, which is the thrilling adventure story of Jason and the Argonauts (his noble band of heroes) who venture out from Greece aboard the ship Argo, in search of the fabled Golden Fleece of a magical ram.</p> <p>We'll delve into the innovative world of Roman architecture, full of new ideas such as concrete, domes, the perfection of arches and vaults, the development of sewer systems, and the building of bridges and roads, many of which are still standing thousands of years later. Our class project will involve building our own Roman architecture, and we'll end the year with a Roman convivium (banquet), complete with togas, Roman food, and entertainment!</p>
Algebra 1	Hingdi Brown	<p>BJU Press Algebra 1, 3rd Edition, ISBN-13: 9781628565621</p> <p>BJU Press Algebra 1 Test Pack, 3rd edition, ISBN: 1606820478</p>	<p>PLEASE NOTE: This class meets 2 days per week.</p> <p>Monday in person</p> <p>Thursday online, 9:00-9:55 Online sessions will be recorded for students who can't make it - although this will be the exception.</p> <p>The curriculum will cover real number operations, variables and equations, solving inequalities, relations and functions, linear systems and graphs, exponents, polynomials, radicals, and quadratic functions.</p> <p>Daily homework will be assigned and self-grading (or parent grading) done amounting to approximately 5 hours of homework a week. Homework grades will be recorded according to completeness. Some tests will be in class, while others are take-home. These will be graded by the teacher or in as a group class. Students completing this class can move on to Geometry or Algebra 2. Homework and grading can be adjusted to accommodate for Honors Algebra 1.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 5-7 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Pre-algebra or an understanding of the following: Negative numbers, absolute value, exponents, square roots, order of operations, fractions, decimals and percentages.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Algebra 2	Hingdi Brown	<p>BJU Press Algebra 2, 3rd Edition, ISBN-13: 9781646264759</p> <p>BJU Press Algebra 2 Test Pack, 3rd Edition, ISBN: 1606824597</p>	<p>PLEASE NOTE: This class meets 3 days per week.</p> <p>Monday in person</p> <p>Tuesday online, 11:00-12:00</p> <p>Thursday online, 11:00-12:00</p> <p>Online sessions will be recorded for students who can't make it - although this will be the exception.</p> <p>This class will cover linear relations, solving systems, matrices, quadratic equations, polynomial functions, radicals and exponents, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational expressions and equations, basic trigonometry, sequences and series, probability and statistics, and conic sections.</p> <p>Daily homework will be assigned and self-grading (or parent grading) done amounting to ~5 hrs of homework a week. Homework grades will be recorded according to completeness. Some tests will be in class, while others are take-home. These will be graded by the teacher or as a group in class. Students completing this class can move on to Precalculus and Trigonometry. Homework and grading can be adjusted to accommodate for Honors Algebra 2.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Algebra 1 or an understanding of the following: real number operations, variables and equations, solving inequalities, relations and functions, linear systems and graphs, exponents, polynomials, radicals, and quadratic functions.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 5-8hrs</p>
All About Fractions! (Math U See Epsilon)	Danielle Lankester	<p>Math U See Epsilon Student Pack, mathusee.com</p>	<p>Fractions are a key part of our number system; we need fractions in real life to represent parts of a whole. This is an upper elementary or early MS core math class all about fractions! Students will start the year with visual representations to build conceptual understanding of fractions as numbers and will then apply their understanding all year long to fraction and mixed number calculations (adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing). Word problems are integrated into each week's lesson and there will be time in class to play games that reinforce fraction concepts.</p> <p>As part of a core math curriculum, adults will need to support their child with 3-4 hours of homework each week. Parents must check students' homework using the teacher provided answer key. Microsoft Teams will be used as the class online hub for assignments, videos, and other resources. Students will receive a binder for storing their weekly math handouts from class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-4 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Math fact fluency with whole numbers. Able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit numbers.</p>
Beginning Band Day 1	Robin Stangland	TBD	<p>Note that this class meets both Monday and Wednesday. Tuition covers both days. On Wednesday, this class meets during third hour.</p> <p>The goal of Beginning Band is to teach a band instrument to someone who may or may not have had any prior musical experience. The student may begin on flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. Later in the year they may switch to other instruments of the band such as saxophone, percussion, horn, etc. The teacher will demonstrate all of the instruments the first day of class and will check lips, hands, and teeth to make sure they choose an instrument they can be successful playing. You will also be given information on renting or buying an instrument. Please do not choose an instrument until after the first class meeting. We will have two concerts per year, and attendance is required at all performances. Class meets twice a week until January, then we will have sectionals every other week, so you may not need to come both days each week. Students are expected to practice 20-30 minutes a day, 5 times a week. Sheet music will be on loan to the student and must be turned in when done.</p> <p>Students from Intermediate, Advanced, and Wind Ensemble who want to learn a second instrument will be put on a waiting list for Beginning Band until September, and then if there is still room in the class they will be able to join. If you are playing a second instrument, have already played in band a year, and you obtain Robin's approval, you only have to come to band on Monday. If you have any questions, email Robin at robin.stangland@connectionsnc.org. Parents play for free and pay supply fee.</p> <p>Prerequisites: No prior music experience needed.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 20 minutes a day, five days a week.</p> <p>Supplies: Instrument, music stand, and method book (TBD)</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Beginning Latin	Analiisa Reichlin	Latin for Children, Primer A, Version 4.0 or later, ISBN: 978-1-60051-000-7	<p>Influential author and academic Dorothy Sayers said, The best grounding for education is the Latin grammar. I say this not because Latin is traditional and medieval, but simply because even a rudimentary knowledge of Latin cuts down the labor and pains of learning almost any other subject by at least 50 percent.</p> <p>About 80% of all English words are derived from Latin. Studies of elementary students who have taken Latin show a significant advancement in world knowledge, reading, grammar, spelling, science, and social studies. Young children's brains are ripe for learning a language, and studying Latin has the added benefit of increasing English vocabulary and improving the understanding and usage of English grammar, all while learning to read, write, speak, and translate sentences in Latin.</p> <p>Students will also develop literary and cultural appreciation for the Romans through ancient Greek and Roman myths and other stories. To connect how the Romans still influence the world today, students will complete projects like mosaic tile making, creating a Latin version of Clue, and performing plays in Latin. As well, the arts will be integrated into the classroom to promote the growth of neural pathways in the brain so that the learning is more cohesive and permanent!</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 45 minutes</p>
Book Club for Eager and Not-So-Eager Readers	Kate Smith		<p>Join us for a social and engaging book club where 11-13 year olds dive into incredible stories while learning to think critically and share ideas! Each week, students will take on key roles and responsibilities as part of literature discussions, helping them develop leadership and conversational skills. Together, we'll explore the Notice and Note Signposts, tools that help readers uncover how authors craft their stories effectively. Through lively conversations and creative activities, students will connect with their peers and gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of literature. This is a class for book lovers and for those who don't love to read. Teacher will provide a list of book choices and students will select the ones they want to read as a class. We will read 8-10 books in the school year.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Reading will be about 50 pages/week outside of class.</p> <p>Textbooks:</p> <p>Book list is TBD by students, based on a list teacher will provide. These books will need to be provided by family: either checked out from library, or purchased used or new.</p>
Created to Create! (10 to 13)	Laura Jarrell		<p>Created to Create! will encourage your student to explore their God-given creativity regardless of ability. In this 'general art class', students will learn to use a variety of art supplies and techniques with guided projects, allowing for plenty of individual creative expression along the way. Our classroom will provide a fun and relaxing atmosphere for creativity to flow, with a wide variety of projects introduced throughout the year. We will use watercolor paints, markers, colored pencils, soft pastels, oil pastels, and other fun supplies. Projects will generally be completed in one to two weeks. Students' artwork will be matted and placed in a binder they will keep and enjoy for years to come. All supplies are provided in class. ** Please note: If your student took Created to Create! the last time it was offered, this year's class will offer all new and different projects than the ones in the previous class. I work to ensure that students may take the class more than once and not repeat projects.**</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Created to Create! (7 to 9)	Laura Jarrell		<p>Created to Create! will encourage your student to explore their God-given creativity regardless of ability. In this 'general art class', students will learn to use a variety of art supplies and techniques with guided projects, allowing for plenty of individual creative expression along the way. Our classroom will provide a fun and relaxing atmosphere for creativity to flow, with a wide variety of projects introduced throughout the year. We will use watercolor paints, markers, colored pencils, soft pastels, oil pastels, and other fun supplies. Projects will generally be completed in one to two weeks. Students' artwork will be matted and placed in a binder they will keep and enjoy for years to come. All supplies are provided in class. ** Please note: If your student took Created to Create! the last time it was offered, this year's class will offer all new and different projects than the ones in the previous class. I work to ensure that students may take the class more than once and not repeat projects.**</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Creative Lettering	Laura Jarrell		<p>God's Word speaks to the importance of our words, and what better way to incorporate good words into our daily life than with calligraphy and creative lettering! With an emphasis on Scripture and other words of wisdom, students will learn and practice lettering skills which will be applied to in-class projects such as frameable quotes, gifts, notes, decor, and more. The year begins with fun explorations of the basic letterforms of the alphabet before we jump into traditional calligraphy with a broad-edged nib. After that, we jump into the modern calligraphy style so popular today. Added to the mix will be creative artwork and drawings/doodles with watercolor, colored pencil, and pen & ink. Tossed in for good measure will be a look back in history at illuminated manuscripts and other examples of lettering and related art forms.</p> <p>Students will be introduced to a variety of alphabets and techniques throughout the year and will use a variety of pens and other media. Students willing to do additional practice at home will get the most out of this class (even 10 minutes a day will do wonders!), and some projects may need to be started in class and finished at home due to the patient nature of careful lettering. All supplies are provided in class, and by the end of the year each student will have a notebook full of resources they can use for years to come. All supplies are provided in class and students will be given some pens to keep.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1 hour per week outside of class</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Discerning Arguments: A Study in Informal Fallacies, Statistics, and Ambiguity	Sandi Hull	The Art of Argument, ISBN-10: 1600514502 How to Lie with Statistics, ISBN-10: 0393310728	<p>In this class, students will practice discerning all sorts of information. Our primary workbook text will take us on a in-depth journey of the twenty-eight informal fallacies. Our secondary text will uncover ten ways that statistics can be used in deceptive and manipulative ways. Experience with these two texts alone will help readers, thinkers -- conversationalists of any age -- to become critical, to discern where information might not substantiate the claims that are being made.</p> <p>While giving students tools to question, I will also challenge them to be curious instead of quarrelsome -- to use their skills to search for truth, to pursue peace, and to make conversations more meaningful.</p> <p>This class will not only teach students to recognize illogical or unsubstantiated claims, but it will help them practice the habit of supporting their own ideas with truth, meaning, and clarity.</p> <p>Homework will include reading assigned portions of The Art of Argument and completing assigned questions. Occasionally students will be asked to summarize short passages from our statistics reading. Our writing will be limited to exercises in practicing clarity, forming strong thesis statements, and making arguments with claims. Students in this class have the opportunity to master small, important pieces of the classic persuasive essay. We will not be writing full-length essays.</p> <p>This class carries the value of one semester high school elective (logic) or English credit.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: I expect that the homework in this class will take about one-and-a-half hours per week.</p>
Discovering Art	Linda Smith		<p>Time to roll up your sleeves and join me in creating all new art projects. Each week we will discover new ways to have fun with art. Whether you use a pipe cleaner or a cotton ball there are all kinds of things that you can use to discover art.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Must be potty trained</p>
Draw, Write, Sculpt: Animals Around the World 2	AmyJoy Stoesz		<p>**All New Animals**Drawing and handwriting require many of the same skills. Weekly, students will follow step by step drawings of animals. Children will express their creativity and imagination in the backgrounds they add to each picture. Students enjoy sharing their unique, hand drawn books with their families and friends. Some of the art concepts covered are perspective, color, size, line and shape, symmetry, shading and blending, etc. Art mediums include pencil, black pen and crayons. Penmanship and sculpting with Play-Doh included in this fun, interactive class.</p> <p>No Homework</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should be able to independently write all of the letters in the alphabet.</p>
Drawing with Children Monday	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to use play to introduce younger students to techniques of value, scale, shape, proportion, and color using simple art tools like pencils, markers, and art crayons. Students will learn to draw and create pieces from photographs or models, and will understand how each relates to and uses a critical art skill. Parents are invited and encouraged to join their students in the drawing and fun!</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students are expected to participate in class discussions, which includes sharing their work in class. There will be no homework, but students will be encouraged to draw at home</p>
Essay Writing	Alice Wescott		<p>This class will focus on the writing skills necessary to be successful in high school and college. First semester, the basic components of essays will be taught. Second semester, we will study specific types of essays: compare/contrast essays, persuasive essays, writing critiques, and other types of essays. This class will meet the requirements for one-half to one English credit, which will be determined by the parent teacher. There will be 1.5-2 hours of homework each week. Past students regularly contact me to say that this class was one of the best classes they took for preparing them for college.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Approximately 1 hour</p> <p>Prerequisites: Introduction to Essay Writing is recommended but not required.</p>
Exploring Stories	Linda Smith		<p>Listening to a good story is so fun. Each week we will adventure into a new book and have fun talking about it. We will spend time playing with centers and creating new crafts each week. Come join us for all new stories.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Must be potty trained</p>
Fairy Tales and Fables Engineering	Heather Angelo		<p>Fairy Tales and Fables Engineering is an interactive class where students tackle challenges, construct, test, and refine their creations. This course draws inspiration from nursery rhymes, fairy tales, and fables to explore engineering concepts. Students will engage in the engineering process, which includes asking questions, imagining solutions, planning, creating, and improving their designs. Each week, we will read a fable, nursery rhyme, or a summary of a fairy tale. Students will have two specific tasks to complete weekly, and those who finish early can use Plus Plus blocks while others wrap up their projects. Some exciting projects we'll undertake this year include designing a four-poster bed for Goldilocks and creating a protective case for Jack's golden eggs. I would be thrilled to have you join my class this year!</p> <p>No Homework</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Five in a Row Geography	Lisa Bailey		<p>Students will explore exceptional children's literature through the popular Five in a Row curriculum. This year our class focuses on geography as we take a yearlong trip around the world. A unit study approach includes investigation into social studies, writing, art, and science topics. Every two weeks, a well-written and illustrated picture book takes center stage. Students hear the book read aloud; indicate on a map the location of the story; learn various literary and artistic techniques; and experience hands-on projects, games, skits, and songs. They create their own special notebook and work on a handwriting page at home each week.</p> <p>Titles include Climbing Kansas Mountains, The Story About Ping, Wee Gillis, How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World, Grandfather's Journey, When I Was Young in the Mountains, and many others.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 30 minutes</p>
German 1	Annie Borrero		<p>This class is an introduction to the basics of the German language. We will start with the alphabet and pronunciation of every letter before learning basic reading skills. The students will learn how to formulate sentences and dialogues through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grammar is presented in class and practiced through homework. The weekly vocabulary quizzes ensure that the students keep up with the new words in order to be able to participate in class.</p> <p>A phone (parent or student) is needed to be able to use the App that comes with the text and work book. The App has the students listen to exercises and practice the lesson's content during the week.</p> <p>The lessons will be blended with cultural presentations from many German-speaking areas in Europe and we will have in-class celebrations of some German holidays. I offer each student an additional time to meet during the week to read together and work on pronunciation as well as answer questions to the homework.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours at home + 15 minutes on Thursdays over Teams to practice speaking</p> <p>Supplies students are to provide: binder/folder, pen, pencil, colored pens, box that fits index cards (3 x 5) with alphabetic tabs (A - Z)</p>
German 2	Annie Borrero		<p>German 2 is a continuation of German 1. We will review and then build on the knowledge gained from the previous class. As the goal is to speak more fluently at the end of the year, we will do many dialogues through role play and by reading stories in class. Weekly word quizzes ensure that the students enlarge their vocabulary and can participate in class. Grammar is taught during the class time and practiced through the homework.</p> <p>A phone (parent or student) is needed to be able to use the App that comes with the text book. The App has the students listen to exercises and practice the lesson's content during the week.</p> <p>The students will also learn about Germany and other German speaking countries, their culture and traditions through stories and in-class celebrations. I offer each student an additional time to meet during the week to read together and work on pronunciation as well as answer questions to the homework.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours at home + 15 minutes on Thursdays over Teams to practice speaking</p> <p>Prerequisites: German I or other German speaking skills</p>
Hablo Español - The World Around Me	Emily Norton		<p>Hola, Amigos! Welcome to Hablo Espanol! which means I speak Spanish! This class is an interactive beginner's Spanish class, perfect for newcomers AND for those returning from last year's Hablo Espanol! Passports class.</p> <p>This year the class is titled, The World Around Me. We will learn many things about the world right around us in Spanish. These include greetings, basic expressions for conversations at the dinner table, weather and seasons, transportation, nature, feelings and emotions, animals, and more! We will use stories, songs, games and activities for interactive, hands-on learning.</p> <p>At the beginning of the year, students will be given a notebook which will be filled throughout the year with basic vocabulary exercises, fun interactive songs, scripture to memorize, and some cultural information about life in Central and South America. Around the holidays, we will look at how different countries celebrate and learn about folkloric dances and music. Throughout the year special guests will come to share about their experience with and love for the Spanish language. I am looking forward to sharing my bilingual life and multicultural world with your child this upcoming school year!</p> <p>*Note: While there is no homework to turn in, there will be a weekly newsletter for ideas and videos for at home-based practice. Each family decides how to best use it for their student.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Weekly newsletter for ideas and videos for home-based practice. Each family decides how to best use it for their student.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
High School Geometry	Veronica Huffines	<p>Discovering Geometry: An Investigative Approach, by Michal Serra (3rd Edition), Publisher: Key Curriculum Press ISBN-10: 1-55953-459-1 or ISBN-13: 978-1-55953-459-8 Available in print or (as it is an abandoned copyright) as a free pdf.</p>	<p>This course is designed to be a complete year of high school Geometry. Topics will include: lines, planes, angles and their relationships; three-dimensional objects, their volume and surface area; inductive and deductive reasoning and proofs; intro to Trigonometry. Some Algebra I review will be built into the course.</p> <p>To cover a full year's worth of material in 32 meetings will require a minimum 4-5 hours per week at home as we will be moving through the material at a brisk pace. Each week students will be responsible for completing and checking their own homework, reaching out for help if needed and completing a weekly quiz on Teams. There will be established standing office hours video meeting on Friday at noon to have a set spot to respond to questions. The teacher is also readily available by Teams Chat to answer questions.</p> <p>Tests will be completed in class, there will be some talk about test taking skills, as this is its own necessary life skill.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Algebra 1 or teacher permission.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 4-5 hours</p>
History Comes Alive! 12 to 15	Bella Albers Dwyer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adam of the Road by Elizabeth Janet Gray (ISBN - 978-0142406595) 2. The Lion the Witch & the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis 3. The Faithful Spy by John Hendrix (ISBN - 978-1419732652) 4. The Boys in the Boat - Young Readers Adaptation by Daniel James Brown (ISBN - 978-1432850289) 5. God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew (ISBN 978-0340964927) 6. Stories from Robin Hood by H. E. Marshall (ISBN - 978-1482037340) 	<p>In this exciting theater class, history will come alive as we act out different stories of people or events that shaped history! Topics may include: Early American history, the Middle Ages, World War II, stories from the Bible, and much more! We will bring these stories and events to life onstage as we act them out, and share them with friends and family at a few showcases throughout the year. Students will learn important theater skills such as projection, being in character, what blocking is, and how to engage with their fellow actors - just to name a few.</p> <p>Alongside practicing for our showcases, we will enrich our learning through reading and discussing a few novels together over the course of the year, which are related to the people or historical time periods we're learning about. We will also keep a timeline in class to track when each historical figure or event took place, and will look at maps to further enrich our experience. The goal of this class is to have history come alive in a new way, and to have each student glimpse that they, too, have a role to play in God's Big Story.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2 hours per week to read the novels we are discussing together and practice for our showcases.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students must be ready to wholeheartedly commit to whatever role/homework they are given, and come prepared to participate in lively class discussion.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
History Comes Alive! 8 to 11	Bella Albers Dwyer	<p>1. George Washington's World by Genieveve Foster (ISBN - 9780964380349) Available on Amazon or Beautiful Feet Books.</p> <p>2. Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin by Marguerite Henry (ISBN - 978-1481403948)</p> <p>3. Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder (ISBN - 978-0064400039)</p> <p>4. Daniel Boone by Augusta Stevenson (ISBN - 9780020418306) Not available on Amazon, but can be found used multiple places online and also at Barnes & Noble, etc.</p> <p>5. Stories from Robin Hood by H. E. Marshall (ISBN - 978-1482037340)</p> <p>6. Snow Treasure - by Marie McSwigan (ISBN - 978-0142402245)</p>	<p>In this exciting theater class, history will come alive as we act out different stories of people or events that shaped history! Topics may include: George Washington's life and Early American history, the Middle Ages, stories from the Bible, and much more! We will bring these stories and events to life onstage as we act them out, and share them with friends and family at a few showcases throughout the year. Students will learn important theater skills such as projection, being in character, what blocking is, and how to engage with their fellow actors- just to name a few.</p> <p>Alongside practicing for our showcases, we will enrich our learning through reading rich picture books (fit for all ages!) and by reading and discussing a few novels together over the course of the year, which are related to the people or historical time periods we're learning about. We will also keep a timeline in class to track when each historical figure or event took place, and will look at maps to further enrich our experience. The goal of this class is to have history come alive in a new way, and to have each student glimpse that they, too, have a role to play in God's Big Story.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours per week reading the novels we will be discussing together and memorizing/practicing for our showcases.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students must have the ability to read and memorize and be ready to wholeheartedly commit to whatever role/homework they are given.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
HS Musical Theater & Acting Intensive - 3:45 end time	Bronwen Wilson, Theresa Caproni		<p>Calling All Aspiring Performers!</p> <p>Are you passionate about the performing arts? Eager to refine your musical theater and acting skills? Then this intensive high school class is tailor-made for you!</p> <p>Dive into a dynamic and exciting journey designed for students who are ready to put in the effort and have an unforgettable time. This class is perfect for dedicated and focused individuals with prior experience while also welcoming those with a genuine drive to excel in the performing arts.</p> <p>What to Expect: This 1.5-hour class mixes musical theater with extended-scene acting, giving you many chances to sharpen your performance skills. Throughout the year you'll tackle a wide range of content, from solos and duets to group numbers, covering multiple genres—musical and non-musical. Dive into different characters, dance styles, and vocal pieces to become a more versatile performer. You'll also get to work closely with your classmates, building strong connections as you grow together. Some highlights include personalized coaching from two experienced teachers and an end-of-year performance where you'll showcase your talents and create amazing memories. Let your passion for performing shine in this dynamic class!</p> <p>Expectations and Requirements: Memorization: Mandatory memorization of material. Vocals: Students should be able to sing in tune and be ready to learn harmonies in group arrangements. Attendance: Consistent and regular attendance is required. Please note this class is 1.5 hours long (ending at 3.45 pm). Collaboration: Willing collaboration with class members and teachers is expected. Rehearsals: Participation in occasional lunchtime rehearsals and 1-2 out-of-class rehearsals (only if needed). Performances: Participation in the end-of-year performance is required. The performance date is yet to be determined (aiming for late April or May). Parents: Parents will be asked to provide minimal production support e.g. thrifting minor costume pieces and sourcing simple props.</p> <p>Video Submission Requirement: All students who register for the class must submit a short, informal video to show themselves singing and acting. This allows teachers to prepare individualized content over the summer and to ensure that the curriculum is tailored to the specific needs of each student. Once your family is registered, teachers will provide details about this required submission. More information: Please email drama@connections nw.org</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 30 mins Supplies: Students must provide Jazz shoes.</p>
Intermediate Band	Robin Stangland		<p>Intermediate Band is geared toward instrumentalists who have played their instrument 1-3 years and have finished any band method book. Students must be able to read music. This is a concert band, which includes all traditional woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. There are no strings, guitar, or piano. We will have two concerts per year, and attendance is required at all performances. Students are expected to practice 20-30 minutes a day, 5 times a week. Sheet music will be on loan to the student and must be turned in when done. If you have any questions, email Robin at robin.stangland@connections nw.org. Parents play for free and pay supply fee.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 20 minutes a day, five days a week. Prerequisites: Beginning Band or at least have made it through the 1st Band book. Contact the instructor if you have questions about placement. Supplies: Instrument, supplies, and music stand. Text TBD.</p>
Intermediate Latin	Analiisa Reichlin	Latin for Children, Primer A, Version 4.0 or later, ISBN: 978-1-60051-000-7 (We will use the same textbook from Beginning Latin)	<p>This year, we'll continue the Latin journey we started in Beginning Latin. We'll build a solid foundation of both English and Latin grammar, vocabulary, derivatives, and translation. By the end of the year, students will have learned over 250 Latin words plus all of their endings. (That's 3,500 forms of words!)</p> <p>Students will be introduced to the great ancient works of Homer as we read age-appropriate versions of Homer's The Iliad and The Odyssey. Cultural appreciation for the Romans will be developed through fascinating stories and projects like Roman sword fighting and shield making. Both a Roman gladius and student-designed shield will be given as part of the class materials. As well, the arts will continue to be integrated into the classroom to augment the growth of neural pathways in the brain so that learning is more cohesive and permanent!</p> <p>If your student would like to enroll in Intermediate Latin but has not completed Beginning Latin, a self-paced Beginning Latin course may be completed before class begins. Please contact the instructor.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 45 minutes</p> <p>Prerequisites: Beginning Latin or teacher's permission</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Intro to Cinema and Filmmaking	Chris Gove		<p>This class will explore the world of films and filmmaking. We live in a world dominated by visual media; from Youtube shorts to major Hollywood blockbusters, films are deeply ingrained in our culture as both communication and entertainment. Understanding how filmmakers use the art of cinema to impart messages and meanings is a powerful tool in the belt of young people who are preparing to impact our world.</p> <p>In this class students will learn the basics of filmmaking and film criticism. Students will explore how themes, meanings, and messages are communicated through the art of visual storytelling. They will examine how historical and cultural contexts impact the ways movies are made and viewed. And they will hone the analytical skills used to discern the value of the meanings and messages contained in films. Students will engage in group discussion, analytical writing, and informative and persuasive presentations to enhance their learning.</p> <p>This class will also explore the process of creating films. Students will get hands-on experience with the different skills, technologies, and thought processes that filmmakers use to create impactful films. From the writing and planning, to production design and cinematography, to editing and audio design, students will practice the methods and techniques of professional filmmakers. Students will work individually and collaboratively to create their own short film projects.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 4-6 hours per week</p> <p>Prerequisites: 6th grade or higher reading and writing skills. Basic computer skills.</p>
Introduction to Science	Kate Smith		<p>Young scientists, get ready for a fun-filled adventure! This hands-on, interactive class will introduce 6-8 year olds to the wonders of science through exciting experiments, living books, and creative activities. Students will learn how scientists observe, measure, and use the scientific method while exploring topics like plant growth, the life cycle of a tree, marine animals, and the solar system.</p> <p>We'll also investigate the human body by building a life-size model, explore fascinating creatures like mammals, birds, and insects, and marvel at God's amazing world. Through observation and hands-on activities, students will develop curiosity and foundational science skills, all while having a blast!</p> <p>Come ready to explore, experiment, and discover the incredible world God has created!</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Introduction to Spanish	Emily Norton		<p>This class is an interactive beginner's Spanish class. At the beginning of the year, students will be given a notebook which will be filled throughout the year with bilingual stories, basic conversation phrases, games, basic vocabulary exercises, scripture to memorize, and some cultural information about life in Central and South America. Around the holidays, we will look at how different countries celebrate, and learn about folkloric dances and music. This class is meant to help your student fall in love with learning about other cultures and languages.</p> <p>HOMEWORK: There is about 45 minutes to 1 hour of homework per week. Some is written, and some are activities to be completed * Note to my returning students: last year I introduced a NEWLY revamped curriculum and with additions based on many of your suggestions. This upcoming year there will be even MORE additions, so this continues to be a great fit for you as well!</p> <p>I am looking forward to sharing my bilingual life and multicultural world with your child this upcoming school year!</p> <p>Access to a computer is needed at home. *No computer access is needed for in-class work.*</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 45 minutes to 1 hour</p>
Investigating Animals A to Z	Linda Smith		<p>There are so many animals in our world. Come investigate them with me. We will start with the letter A and go to Z. Every week we will learn fun new facts about a new animal, spend time with playing with centers, put together fun crafts and engaging in circle time. This is a whole new year of animals without any repeats from the past two years.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Must be potty trained</p>
Just For Me	Rochella Olson		<p>Does your child have a unique learning style potentially impacted by ADHD, ASD, or other learning differences? I would love to invite your child to join me in a highly individualized setting for a year of relationship building and learning.</p> <p>This class emphasizes conversation and movement, allowing students to learn from each other by utilizing active participation. Each student will gain ownership and excitement by submitting suggested themes representing their own special interests. I will create a unique curriculum based on their suggestions! Our year will be divided into themed units supporting 1st grade learning objectives and can easily be scaled up or down to accommodate individual needs. Our curriculum themes are primarily science-focused, and will also integrate applications of math, language arts, and social studies throughout the year.</p> <p>Prerequisites: NOTE: Approval from the instructor is required for enrollment in this class. Please contact Rochella Olson for a questionnaire and further details. Submissions for potential students are due by April 7th, 2025. Students who have received approval will be automatically enrolled by the registrar during their registration window.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Meet the Masters	Heather Angelo		<p>In our Meet the Masters class, we will explore a different artist each week, diving into their life and work. Students will create projects that reflect the unique style of each featured artist. We'll experiment with various art materials, including colored pencils, watercolors, and crayons. Each week, we'll also introduce new vocabulary through fun activities, like using yarn to create lines that express different emotions or exploring the textures of different types of paper. Some of the artists we'll study include Edgar Degas, known for his beautiful ballerinas in the impressionist style. We'll also look at Andy Warhol's vibrant style by painting cups with watercolors. Additionally, we'll explore Pablo Picasso's Cubism through self-portraits created with crayons. I can't wait to paint, draw, and color with you this year!</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Middle School Math: Math U See	Danielle Lankester	Math U See Zeta Student Pack, mathusee.com	<p>Students who have mastered operations with whole numbers are ready to dive deeper into computation and problem solving with decimals and percents. Those skills are the focus of this course. Students will also study exponents, relate decimals to the metric system, and begin to build basic algebra skills for working with equations and solving unknowns. Students who complete this course will be ready to move to Pre-Algebra next year.</p> <p>As a core secondary class, be prepared to spend 3-5 hours per week on homework. Parents will need to ensure homework is completed and checked for correct answers. Though students will not regularly meet online with Microsoft Teams software, some resources will be posted to Teams for additional support at home, and Teams can be used for students to contact the teacher.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-5 hours, depending on the student</p> <p>Prerequisites: Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of multi-digit numbers. Students should be familiar with fractions operations, though some review will be built into the year.</p>
Mixed Media	Laura Jarrell		<p>Break out of the box and create with us in this class which is a little bit 'art' and a little bit 'craft'! No experience needed for this class geared toward upper elementary and middle school students. This class will offer **new and different projects from the ones offered this past school year.** Students will try their hand with a number of supplies and techniques that could include clay, painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, wire, found objects, and more. Most supplies will be provided, but students may be asked to go through the recycling bin to find a few materials to add once in awhile. Projects will be fun and varied, and will usually take more than one week to complete. Much of the artwork (but not all) will be abstract in nature. As students explore art through a variety of projects and processes, they will gain much confidence in their ability as artists.</p> <p>No Homework</p> <p>Supplies Needed: Art class can be a little messy at times, so appropriate clothing is advised. Students may need to bring their own hammer or another tool occasionally. All other supplies will be provided. Students should be familiar with Teams in the event they are asked to watch a video or slideshow during the week before a class. This will be communicated via Teams and email.</p>
Music Workshop A	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Did you know that studying music makes your child smarter? Start your child on their journey through the wonderful world of Music Workshop. Music Workshop is a three-part sequential program that teaches the fundamentals of music in a fun and engaging manner. We will be introducing students to music theory, great composers, and musical instruments through age appropriate songs, dance, games, and playing instruments. It is aligned to state and national standards for each age and grade level. In each level, concepts previously taught will be reviewed while new concepts are being introduced. Each level contains two years' worth of material, so students joining the class for a second year will have all new material to learn.</p> <p>Music Workshop A is the first in this series. Through this class, students will develop their listening ear, focusing on high/low, loud/soft, fast/slow, and vocal timbre. They will also begin their journey in music reading with graphic notation and stick notation while developing their sense of steady beat and melodic understanding.</p> <p>Students will also prepare performance pieces and share their musical accomplishments during Connections' Christmas and spring choir concerts. With each additional year in class, students will gradually acquire deeper and more thorough knowledge and skills in music.</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Music Workshop B	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Did you know that studying music results in enhanced language capabilities, improved memory, more powerful study habits, and heightened mental processing & problem-solving skills?</p> <p>Music Workshop is a three-part sequential program that teaches the fundamentals of music in a fun and engaging manner. We will be introducing students to music theory, great composers, and musical instruments through age appropriate songs, dance, games, and playing instruments. It is aligned to state and national standards for each age and grade level. In each level, concepts previously taught will be reviewed while new concepts are being introduced. Each level contains two years' worth of material, so students joining the class for a second year will have all new material to learn.</p> <p>Music Workshop B is the second in this series. Through this class, students will be developing their listening ear, reading rhythm and melodic patterns, being introduced to the instruments of the orchestra, working with subdivided beats and reading notes on the staff. Students will also prepare performance pieces and share their musical accomplishments during Connections' Christmas and spring choir concerts. With each additional year in class, students will gradually acquire deeper and more thorough knowledge and skills in music.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Music Workshop C	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Did you know that studying music improves study habits, increases IQ and improves test scores? Music Workshop is a three-part sequential program that teaches the fundamentals of music in a fun and engaging manner. We will be introducing students to music theory, great composers, and musical instruments through age appropriate songs, dance, games, and through playing instruments. It is aligned to state and national standards for each age and grade level. In each level, concepts previously taught will be reviewed while new concepts are being introduced.</p> <p>Each level contains two years' worth of material, so students joining the class for a second year will have all new material to learn.</p> <p>Music Workshop C is the third in this series. Through this class, students will develop skills in music reading and performance, sing rounds and partner songs, and be introduced to singing harmonies. They will also be introduced to music and instruments of other cultures and languages and play recorders, bucket drums and ukelele. Students will prepare performance pieces and share their musical accomplishments during Connections' Christmas and spring choir concerts. With each additional year in class, students will acquire deeper and more thorough knowledge and skills in music.</p>
Navigating Big Emotions and Friendship 9 to 11	Jammie Tanton		<p>Being a kid is hard sometimes, and navigating big feelings and friendships can be overwhelming. In this class, students will learn how to manage their big feels through different modes of learning such as art, games, play, and discussion. They'll learn how to understand and put words to what they're feeling and how to calm themselves down before their feelings explode. We'll learn how to be mindful of the engines that drive our bodies and learn what to do when their engine is running too fast or too slow. We'll practice making friends, showing empathy, and using words to avoid conflict. Kids will get the opportunity to do activities in small groups. This will help the students build friendships within the class and learn skills they can use in any social situation. Kids will be encouraged to embrace who God created them to be, and to embrace others as God created them.</p> <p>No Homework</p>
Not Your Typical Study Skills Class	Analiisa Reichlin	<p>Focus & Thrive - Executive Functioning Strategies for Teens, Laurie Chaikind McNulty ISBN 978-1-64739-651-0; Amazon link</p> <p>The Way We Work, Cynthia Tobias, ISBN 0996456988; Amazon link</p>	<p>Executive skills are a set of mental skills that develop self-management, leading to independence. They are critical to success in school, work, and life. We use these skills every day to track information, assess risks, and manage tasks. Struggles with executive function can make it hard to focus, follow directions, and handle emotions.</p> <p>Study skills are the part of executive skills that involve thinking - working memory, planning and prioritization, organization, time management and metacognition (thinking about thinking). With good study skills, you can learn efficiently by taking in and organizing information in a way that allows you to retain and access it when needed.</p> <p>Study skills alone do not lead to success; teens also need to develop executive skills that involve behavior - self regulation, sustained attention, task initiation, flexibility, and persistence.</p> <p>There is no one size fits all way to develop executive function skills, and everyone has different strengths and weaknesses. What works for you may very well not work for your child. Through games, activities, exploration, self-assessment, and thinking about thinking, this class will help students to discover how they can learn, think, and function at full potential and capacity in their environment.</p> <p>Each week they will take the tools that we learn in class and apply them to a real-world situation such as completing homework, maintaining a job, setting and achieving goals, managing their schedule, and developing solutions to problems. Over the course of this class, students will create a personalized toolbox that will help them to guide their behavior as they make decisions in school, work, and life.</p> <p>Weekly Homework:</p> <p>30 to 45 minutes. Other homework is integrating what they learn into their daily routines.</p>
P.E. and Leadership Development 12-16	Michael Purcell		<p>The P.E. and Leadership Development class will consist of three parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Physical Fitness 2) Games/Activities 3) Teaching/Instruction <p>The physical fitness portion will include challenging workouts that don't require equipment. Students will learn to do pushups, planks, squats, lunges, and leg lifts, as well as other exercises that build strength and improve their cardiovascular health. Students will learn that exercise increases their strength, energy, and athletic performance and improves their mental health.</p> <p>The games and activities will be fun and consist of games, challenges, and activities that require teamwork, problem-solving, and overcoming challenges. Some examples include dodgeball, relay races, team tic-tac-toe, charades, handball, steal the bacon, sharks and minnows, and more.</p> <p>The teaching will aim to instill principles from the Bible in the students that will serve them well for the rest of their lives. I want them to grow in character and be an example others will follow. Here are some examples of the principles that will be taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be Humble *Listen Well *Take Initiative *Be Compassionate *Have Courage *Work as a Team *Strengthen Others *Speak to Persuade

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
P.E. and Leadership Development 7-10	Michael Purcell		<p>The P.E. and Leadership Development class will consist of three parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Physical Fitness 2) Games/Activities 3) Teaching/Instruction <p>The physical fitness portion will include challenging workouts that don't require equipment. Students will learn to do pushups, planks, squats, lunges, and leg lifts, as well as other exercises that build strength and improve their cardiovascular health. Students will learn that exercise increases their strength, energy, and athletic performance and improves their mental health.</p> <p>The games and activities will be fun and consist of games, challenges, and activities that require teamwork, problem-solving, and overcoming challenges. Some examples include dodgeball, relay races, team tic-tac-toe, charades, handball, steal the bacon, sharks and minnows, and more.</p> <p>The teaching will aim to instill principles from the Bible in the students that will serve them well for the rest of their lives. I want them to grow in character and be an example others will follow. Here are some examples of the principles that will be taught:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Be Humble *Listen Well *Take Initiative *Be Compassionate *Have Courage *Work as a Team * Strengthen Others *Speak to Persuade
Parent-Led Playroom	Naphtali Carlson		<p>The Parent-Led Playroom is so much more than a typical class. While there is not an assigned teacher, we have a team of playroom coordinators who oversee a rotation of parents with students registered for each hour of playroom. Parents share in the opportunity to supervise and care for our youngest learners. Every parent takes turns contributing time and leading simple enrichment activities. Each hour functions as a distinct class so parents with kids enrolled in multiple hours will have the opportunity to rotate for each hour. Please contact a playroom coordinator if you have any questions.</p> <p>All participating parents will be asked to submit a Voluntary Disclosure Statement for a Washington State Patrol background check.</p> <p>To sign up for Playroom, families must have at least one child actively enrolled in a Connections class other than Playroom. If you are only on waitlists, this does not qualify as actively enrolled.</p> <p>This year there will no longer be the one-time \$25 playroom fee per family. The Playroom will now have a \$10 supply fee per student, per hour</p>
Plants as Medicine	Mary Sutton		<p>This class will investigate plants, often found in our backyard or spice cabinet, focusing not only on the nutritional benefits, but medicinal uses. Medicine is best given in the forms people will take it, so this hands-on class will learn about teas, infusions and decoctions; infused honey and vinegars; tinctures and glycerites, herbal salts and pesto. We will have fun with fermenting, making fruits and vegetables even more nutritious and healing. There will also be a series on homeopathy, what it is, and the remedies most often used. Through the year, students will put together a notebook of information and recipes for referencing.</p> <p>Occasionally there may be small projects assigned.</p> <p>Supplies:</p> <p>Students may need to provide pint or quart canning jars. Everything else is provided.</p>
Pre-Algebra: Math U See	Danielle Lankester	Math U See Pre-Algebra Student Pack, mathusee.com	<p>Welcome to Pre-Algebra! First, students expand their understanding of the number system to negative numbers, and then apply their knowledge of the numbers to algebraic equations and word problems. Students will also explore other concepts from the number system, geometry, and measurement. All students who demonstrate mastery of concepts via class assignments will be prepared for Algebra 1 the following year</p> <p>As a secondary core math class, students will spend 4-5 hours on homework each week. Parents must ensure homework is completed and checked for accuracy using the teacher provided answer key. Microsoft Teams will be used as the class online hub for assignments, videos, and other resources. Students will receive a binder for storing their weekly math handouts from class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 4 to 5 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Basic math fact fluency with all four operations (+, -, x, /). Ability to calculate multi-digit whole numbers, decimals, and fractions when adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Private Piano Lessons	Robert Campbell		<p>Robert Campbell's desire is to make piano lessons fun and meaningful for all his students. Beginning through advanced students are invited to take lessons with Robert. Lessons are individual, and most lessons are 30 minutes. Students will be assigned either the first or second half-hour of the class time.</p> <p>For a free consultation, please see Robert on Monday or Wednesday or call him (425-273-5657) to schedule an appointment. To schedule a Monday or Wednesday lesson time, please call or email him.</p> <p>Supplies Needed: Materials vary according to the experience and desires of the student and parents. Instructor will inform parents what books to purchase for their student. Lessons are for individual students. There are no group lessons.</p>
Reading and Writing Through Graphic Novels	Kathleen Ortiz		<p>**Students who took this class last year may take this course -- new books, literary devices and papers will be taught**</p> <p>This is a middle grade reading and writing course, which will include writing various forms of essays, critical thinking, as well as reading and interpreting graphic novels.</p> <p>By the end of the course, students should be able to write multi-paragraph pieces that may be in the form of essays, stories, descriptions, and narratives. Students will also leave the course with a stronger understanding and appreciation of character, themes and literary devices, in addition to images, icons and how one interprets what they see.</p> <p>Graphic novels are an increasingly more popular fiction and non-fiction format and can be a gateway to reading for more reluctant readers and a new method of consuming information for the seasoned reader. With graphic novels, students can learn to handle ambiguity in a text and exercise more reading and interpreting skills by analyzing images in addition to text. Reading comprehension, as well as the comprehension and interpretation of themes, literary devices, and social issues is improved through the study of graphic novels.</p> <p>Students will have weekly writing and reading assignments and should expect 1-2 hours of homework per week. There will be no quizzes or tests in this class; however, students should be prepared to complete projects and writing assignments.</p> <p>Due to work obligations, I will be missing 2 classes per year. Please note that classes will still be held in my absence.</p> <p>A sample selection of graphic novel titles that will be included in the course, include the following: (titles subject to change; all books used in this course for the year are included in material fee)</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should know how to write a complete paragraph before enrolling in this class.</p>
Shurley Grammar 1	Lisa Bailey		<p>This is an introductory level course. The curriculum is simple, straightforward, and fun! If your student has had little or no grammar, this class is for them. Grammar is a great foundation for launching into Latin class with ease.</p> <p>We will learn all eight parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation rules, sentence structure, four kinds of sentences and other basics. Catchy jingles cement memorization of the grammar rules and parts of speech while adding to the fun of making grammar an enjoyable subject. We also learn all 50 states, capitals, postal abbreviations, and locations on a map.</p> <p>There will be homework each week including journaling, vocabulary words, and grammar exercises. Expect to spend 1-3 hours per week on homework.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-3 hours</p> <p>Supplies: The supply fee covers the Shurley Grammar Student Workbook, Practice Booklet, a notebook, and all homework pages for the student. The student only needs to provide their own personal blank journal on the first day of class.</p>
Singing Through the Alphabet	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Did you know that music can help facilitate learning in other academic areas?</p> <p>Singing Through the Alphabet is a precursor to the Music Workshop series. We will be introducing students to music theory, great composers, and musical instruments through age appropriate songs, dance, games, and playing instruments.</p> <p>Through this class, students will be developing their listening ear, learning to identify high, low, and medium sounds, moving and playing to a steady beat, identifying various classroom instruments by their sound, learning to identify sections in a piece of music, and identifying loud/quiet, fast/slow, smooth/separated music.</p> <p>In addition to the fun songs, dances, instruments and other age-appropriate activities, there will be a focus on the alphabet with a letter of the week. For each letter, we will have a short story, an animal, and at least one song to go along with that letter. Previously taught letters will be reviewed with their songs as well.</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Spanish 1	Emily Norton	Spanish is Fun Book 1, by Heywood Wald, 5th edition, soft bound, ISBN: 9781634199285 Spanish is Fun Cuaderno de Ejercicios, ISBN 1531106331	Hola, Amigos! Welcome to Spanish 1. I am looking forward to sharing my bilingual life and multicultural world with your student this upcoming school year. Vocabulary, grammar, and conversation will be our emphasis this year. We'll also cover telling time, numbers, dates, definite and indefinite articles, adjectives, the three types of regular Spanish verbs (-AR, -ER, IR), some irregular verbs, and much more. We'll use online and in person games, quizzes, scripture memorization, and special projects throughout the year to make learning fun. This class covers the first full year of high school Spanish. Most students take this class for a high school credit, so all students must be prepared to keep up. There are 2-3 hours of homework per week. This includes both your bookwork and online work. Around the holidays we will look at how different countries celebrate, and learn about folkloric dances and music. Access to a computer is needed at home. *No computer access is needed for in-class work.* Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours
Spanish 2	Emily Norton	Spanish is Fun Book 1, by Heywood Wald, 5th edition, soft bound, ISBN: 9781634199285 Spanish is Fun Cuaderno de Ejercicios, ISBN 1531106331	The students in Spanish 2 will continue their written and verbal study of Spanish at a more advanced level. Students will continue to study Spanish grammar as they learn to converse in this wonderful language. We will continue to build upon conversation skills learned in Spanish 1, increase vocabulary, and cover more in-depth grammar. We will study direct and indirect objective pronouns, stem changing and reflexive verbs, negative and positive commands, and preterit and imperfect tenses. Spanish 2 covers the entire second year of high school Spanish. It is a very intense class, and the material is very advanced. Plan on 2-3 hours of homework per week. Around the holidays, we will look at how different countries celebrate and will learn about folkloric dances and music. I am looking forward to sharing my bilingual life and multicultural world with your student this upcoming school year. Access to a computer is needed at home. *No computer access is needed for in-class work.* Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours Prerequisites: Spanish 1
Spanish 3	Emily Norton	Barron's 501 Spanish Verbs - sixth edition or newer	The students in Spanish 3 will continue their written and verbal study of Spanish at an advanced level. Students will be able to give input at the beginning of the year as to which areas/subjects of the Spanish language they would like to learn in this remaining year. Their ideas will be incorporated into the weekly conversations and writing we do as a class. Advanced daily conversation skills, writing assignments and scripture memorization will round out the already fun class environment we have had in Spanish 1 and 2. In class games and online homework will reinforce the new language skills. We will continue to build upon conversation skills learned in Spanish 1 and 2 by increasing vocabulary, and cover more in-depth grammar, particularly verbs tenses. We will study the remaining 7 simple tenses and 2 of the compound tenses. Spanish 3 covers the entire third year of high school Spanish. It is a challenging but fun class. Plan on 2-3 hours of homework per week. Around the holidays, we will look at how different countries celebrate and will learn about folkloric dances and music. I am looking forward to sharing my bilingual life and multicultural world with your student this upcoming school year. Access to a computer is needed at home. *No computer access is needed for in-class work.* Weekly Homework: 2-3 Hours Prerequisites: Spanish 1 and 2
The Science of Food	Ashley Enriquez		Lets embark on a culinary odyssey with a hands-on kitchen science adventure! I invite your kiddos to explore the world of cooking through the enchanting lens of their five senses. From blindfolded taste tests to sizzling molecular gastronomy, I hope to ignite their creativity through hands-on-activities, live demonstrations, kitchen skills and techniques needed to recreate recipes for the whole family to enjoy. This adventure will include sensory- driven project showcases each quarter to see their new skills in practice. I hope to elevate their knowledge of how our bodies work to determine our love for different methods of cooking. Please note that the class tuition and supply fee were incorrect when schedule was published in March; they have been raised to reflect the original cost of the class as proposed. Weekly Homework: 30- 45mins

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
US History: Civil War to Civil Rights	Jammie Tanton		<p>This class will cover US history from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Era. Students will learn to use critical thinking to understand the causes and events of the American Civil War and the Reconstruction Era. We'll follow the timeline of events leading to the Jim Crow laws and the Civil Rights Movement. We will explore how our nation's history affects today's politics with solid research, critical thinking, and respectful discussion. Studying history is not just about learning names and dates; it's about learning to use primary sources and understand bias to interpret history accurately. This will be a hands-on class using a multi-media approach to learning with materials such as Ken Burns: The Civil War series, biographies, novels, graphic novels, primary sources, and experiential learning. This class will count as an American History HS credit.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students should expect to work 3-4 hours on homework each week.</p>
Visual Literacy: Writing and Literature Through Graphic Novels	Kathleen Ortiz		<p>Visual Literacy is a higher-level high school literature course, which will include writing several forms of essays, critical thinking, research, reading and interpreting graphic novels.</p> <p>The class is set up so over the course of every few weeks, we will analyze a graphic novel story and how it relates to our society and life's experiences. Throughout the year, students will learn how to write analytical, expository, descriptive and persuasive writing essays. Students will have weekly reading and/or writing assignments and should expect 2-3 hours of homework per week. There will be no quizzes or tests in this class; however, students should be prepared to complete two projects, in addition to the essays listed above.</p> <p>As an increasingly more popular fiction and non-fiction format, graphic novels can be a gateway to reading for more reluctant readers and a new method of consuming information for the seasoned reader. With graphic novels, students can learn to handle ambiguity in a text and exercise more reading and interpreting skills by analyzing images in addition to text. Reading comprehension, as well as the comprehension and interpretation of themes, literary devices, and social issues is improved through the study of graphic novels. Students will leave the course with a stronger understanding and appreciation of character, themes and literary devices, in addition to images, icons and how one interprets what they see.</p> <p>This class is worth a full English credit.</p> <p>A sample selection of graphic novel titles that will be included in the course, include the following: (titles subject to change; all books used in this course for the year are included in material fee and will be provided by the teacher)</p> <p>Borders by Thomas King</p> <p>Pride & Prejudice Jane Austen (Illustrated by Stacy King)</p> <p>A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle (Illustrated by Hope Larson)</p> <p>They Called Us Enemy by George Takei</p> <p>Hidden Systems by Dan Nott</p>
Watercolor	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to help students build the practical techniques and skills to paint with watercolor. Students will learn how to mix colors and will be guided in choosing their own limited color palette of artist grade paint. Students will learn how to move the watercolor over the paper to achieve different effects. They will use these skills to create paintings from photographs or still lifes. Students will also work with color values, composition, and explore different techniques, including using direct watercolor. Near the end of the year, students will aim to make a few finished paintings. Painting outside of class will be encouraged, but not mandatory. Students wishing to assemble a portfolio will receive guidance but will be expected to do so largely outside of class time.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students are expected to participate in class discussions, which includes sharing their work in class. There will be no homework, but students will be encouraged to draw at home</p> <p>Supplies: Students wishing to create a portfolio will need to provide their own materials.</p>
What day is it Mr. Fox?	Linda Smith		<p>This is a class preschoolers will have fun learning about the concepts of seasons and time. We will learn days of the week, months of the year, seasons, holidays and even create some of our own special days. Time is an abstract concept, and one kids at this age are challenged to understand. Ever heard a child say, the day after yesterday trying to convey the passage of time? Bringing these concepts into smaller understandable pieces will help kids know the answer to the question What day is it Mr. Fox?.</p> <p>Prerequisites: potty trained</p>

MONDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Writing I (IEW): Structure and Style 1A	AmyJoy Stoesz	Structure and Style for Students: Year 1 Level A (Binder and student packet). Parents may purchase this on IEW.com.	<p>Writing I is based on the Institute of Excellence in Writing (IEW) program by Andrew Pudewa. While students do not need prior IEW experience, they do need to read at the third grade reading level. We will begin writing with key word outlines and turn those outlines into paragraphs. We will also learn how to structure a well written paragraph and then expand on those concepts later in the year by writing a three-paragraph essay. This highly structured writing class helps eliminate the frustration for the student who just stares at their paper not knowing what to write. Parent involvement greatly increases student success. This class is being taught by an IEW accredited instructor. Approximate homework time: 1-2 hours per week.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students need to read at the third grade reading level or higher.</p>
Writing II (IEW): Structure and Style 2A -	AmyJoy Stoesz	Structure and Style for Students: Year 2 Level A (Binder and Student packet/SSS-2A-BRS). Parents may purchase these on iew.com.	<p>Students who have completed Writing I (SSS1A) are ready for Writing II. Students will enjoy reviewing and refining the seven previously learned IEW units, then pressing on to Units 8 and 9, Essays and Formal Critiques. Writing II moves at a quicker pace than Writing I. For this reason, students must have completed Writing I prior to enrolling in Writing II. Parent involvement greatly increases student success. Parents are highly encouraged to observe class, especially if they are unfamiliar with IEW. Students submit weekly typed compositions. This class is being taught by an IEW accredited instructor. Approximate homework time: 1-2 hours per week.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students must have successfully completed Writing I: (IEW) Structure and Style 1A. Additionally, students need to be reading at the third grade reading level or higher.</p>
Writing III (IEW): Structure and Style 1B	AmyJoy Stoesz	Structures and Styles 1B student packet and binder (SSS-1B-S). Parents may purchase these on www.iew.com.	<p>In Writing III, students will hone their writing skills using the IEW (Institute of Excellence in Writing) method. Students learn to organize their thoughts before they write. Additionally, students will engage the reader with stylistic techniques. While students do not need prior IEW experience, they do need to easily read at the sixth grade reading level. Parent involvement greatly increases student success. Parents are highly encouraged to observe class, especially if they are new to IEW. Students submit weekly typed papers. Approximate homework time: 1-2 hours per week.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students need to read at the sixth grade reading level or higher.</p>
Writing IV (IEW): Structure and Style 2B	AmyJoy Stoesz	Structure and Style 2B student packet and binder (SSS-2B-S). Parents may purchase these on iew.com.	<p>Students who have completed Writing III (IEW) Structure and Style 1B are ready for Writing IV. Students will enjoy reviewing and refining the nine previously learned IEW units, then pressing on into writing responses to literature. Additionally, students will be stretched to apply their skills to new lessons including analyzing the stylistic writing of authors and then choosing their own Aesop Fable to retell in the style of their chosen author. The curriculum provides clear daily assignments and is excellent preparation for future high school classes.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students must have successfully completed Writing III (IEW): Structure and Style 1B.</p>
Writing with Grammar	Alice Wescott		<p>Grammar is taught with the expectation that it will improve a child's writing skills; however, research shows that this is not the case. Studying grammar does not help a child's writing. Thus, to address this problem, each part of speech will be studied and the child's weekly writing assignment will emphasize using that part of speech.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 45 minutes</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Algebra 1: Math U See	Marna Marteeny	Math U See Algebra I (Legacy Edition) Student Pack, Math U See Algebra 1 Note: BUY LEGACY EDITION (\$48)	<p>Students develop a strong grasp of fundamental Algebra concepts, such as linear equations, linear inequalities, systems of equations, exponents, and polynomials, factoring and more. Students acquire the skills to solve and graph equations manually, as well as identify and apply algebraic principles in real-life scenarios, enhancing their problem-solving and critical thinking abilities. This course will prepare students to advance to either Geometry or Algebra 2.</p> <p>Class consists of reviewing previous weeks work, introducing new material, and practicing homework problems. We will develop strategies for approaching all types of word problems fearlessly! Math U See is an excellent program developed for homeschoolers in a co-op environment. Math U See works well within the Connections' experience to support parents. Parents are responsible to correct each assignment and make sure homework is loaded each week on-line. Homework should take about 4 hours per week.</p> <p>All homework must be corrected weekly by students (or parents) and loaded onto Homeschool-Life weekly in .PDF format. Understanding what you missed and how to get the correct answers is a mandatory part of your homework</p> <p>All videos and handouts are on-line. If you miss a class, you can print out the in-class handout and watch each week's video. Students are always welcome to ZOOM into class remotely if you are sick or on vacation and would still like to attend.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Mastery of basic math facts, understanding of Fractions/Decimals/Percents, and completion of a Pre-Algebra course.</p>
Algebra II Math U See	Marna Marteeny	Math U See Algebra II Student Pack (\$48) https://store.demmelearning.com/collections/algebra-2/products/algebra-2-student-pack?variant=15706874642467	<p>Please note: this high level math class meets twice each week. In person classes are on Wednesday and virtual classes are Thursdays online.</p> <p>Meets: Wednesday 11:20 - 12:20 PM at Connections</p> <p>Thursday 2:00 - 3:00 PM (on Zoom, Click Join, type 458 466 1456)</p> <p>Welcome to Algebra II! This course is where math becomes exciting! We will cover Exponents, Rational Expressions, even MORE Factoring of Polynomials, Conjugate Numbers, Binomial Theorem, Conic Sections, Vectors, Trigonometry and SO MUCH MORE!</p> <p>We will need two hours a week to cover all of the material, but will also have time on Thursday's to work on some homework and answer questions.</p> <p>Students are always welcome to text me questions during the week, or ask questions on Teams. Videos for each Chapter are pre-loaded in case your student misses class or wants to start early, as well as the handouts for each class.</p> <p>Students will need a TI-84 Plus CE calculator for this class, as we will be learning how to use this calculator to our best advantage for future college courses.</p> <p>All homework must be corrected weekly by students (or parents) and loaded onto Homeschool-Life weekly in .PDF format. Understanding what you missed and how to get the correct answers is a mandatory part of your homework.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 4 - 5 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : Solid B in Algebra 1 and Geometry</p> <p>TI-84 Plus CE Calculator is required.</p>
All Around the World Geography	Addison Nohr		<p>Join us on a learning adventure as we explore destinations across the globe through books and videos! We will talk about the continents, the United States, and lots of countries! This includes Countries like Japan, Canada, South Africa, Mexico, Germany, Australia and more. We will dive into each location as we unravel the facts of their geography, talk about the flavors of their cuisine, and immerse ourselves in their traditions. This is also accompanied by engaging activities, coloring pages, and creative crafts to enhance the learning experience, expand their knowledge of different countries, send them home with some fun facts to share, and show them the splendor of God's creation.</p> <p>Prerequisites : Basic beginning writing skills</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Apocalypse Now? Unraveling the Mysteries of Revelation	Analiisa Reichlin	Students will need a bible in the NET (New English Translation) version.	<p>Are you curious about the cryptic visions, strange symbols, and dire prophecies contained in the Bible's final book? In this captivating exploration of the book of Revelation, we'll dive headfirst into one of the most complex, controversial, and influential texts in all of scripture.</p> <p>Together, we'll unpack Revelation's vivid descriptions of the end times - the four horsemen, the seven seals, the beast, and the battle of Armageddon. Along the way, we'll grapple with big questions about good and evil, divine judgment, how to be righteous in difficult circumstances, and have hope in the midst of crisis.</p> <p>Students will learn how to study scripture for themselves and come to their own conclusions by examining biblical context, culture and history, word studies using the original Greek and Hebrew language, and near and far prophecies.</p> <p>Whether you're a devout believer, a skeptical seeker, or simply curious about one of the most perplexing books of the Bible, this course promises to be an eye-opening journey into the heart of the apocalypse!</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3 hours</p>
Astronomy	Kay Swartwood		<p>This class will cover both modern astronomy (generally what mankind has learned since the invention of the telescope) and classical astronomy (what we can learn from the patterns of movement of the sun, moon, and stars for practical use like timekeeping). For modern astronomy, we will use the Apologia Exploring Creation with Astronomy as a guide to our solar system and beyond and for an overview of the history of space flight. We will also learn about current space technology. For classical astronomy, we will use Signs and Seasons as a guide to the historical practices of observing the sky in ways that many of us no longer learn how to do.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: There will be no homework for this class, though there will be a variety of optional activities to do at home. Students will also have the optional opportunity to give a presentation during class based on research they do at home.</p> <p>Prerequisites : Students should be able to read and write for upper-elementary level worksheets.</p>
Basic Training for Boys Only	Steve Carrier		<p>The early and mid-teens are tough on a boy. He is emerging from a carefree childhood - into a pivotal age filled with mystery, promise, problems, and dreams. He thinks he wants independence, but the apron strings are still comfortable. He wants to emancipate himself, but he has no idea how to do that. In his head he wants daring and excitement, but in his heart, there is uneasiness and just a little fear. Socially, to get himself noticed, he will try on personalities like a starlet tries on shoes. He craves attention but what he really wants is acceptance, and everything points to that end.</p> <p>This class, Basic Training, might help. The boy does not know it yet, but what he needs before he ever launches a pursuit - is identity. He needs to know who he is - and why he is. More than anything, he needs to know that there is a God who loves him, and there is an enemy who wants to destroy him. Basic Training is a 32-week conversation that centers on the things the boy will appreciate all his life. The goal is not to get him through a confusing time, the goal is to pour a foundation on which he can build a life triumphant. To do this, much of the class time will be spent in conversation. It will not be preachy. This is not a discipleship class, instead we will talk openly of fears, fascinations, anxieties and dreams. It is a simple year-long Kingdom-based discussion about growing up to be meaningful.</p> <p>The basic problem we have as human beings is that we do not realize how valuable we are. Derek Prince</p> <p>Boys only</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Beginning Band Day 2	Robin Stangland		<p>Note that this class meets both Monday and Wednesday. Tuition covers both days. On Monday, this class meets during third hour.</p> <p>The goal of Beginning Band is to teach a band instrument to someone who may or may not have had any prior musical experience. The student may begin on flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. Later in the year they may switch to other instruments of the band such as saxophone, percussion, horn, etc. The teacher will demonstrate all of the instruments the first day of class and will check lips, hands, and teeth to make sure they choose an instrument they can be successful playing. You will also be given information on renting or buying an instrument.</p> <p>Please do not choose an instrument until after the first class meeting. We will have two concerts per year, and attendance is required at all performances. Class meets twice a week until January, then we will have sectionals every other week, so you may not need to come both days each week. Students are expected to practice 20-30 minutes a day, 5 times a week. Sheet music will be on loan to the student and must be turned in when done.</p> <p>Students from Intermediate, Advanced, and Wind Ensemble who want to learn a second instrument will be put on a waiting list for Beginning Band until September, and then if there is still room in the class they will be able to join. If you are playing a second instrument, have already played in band a year, and you obtain Robin's approval, you only have to come to band on Monday. If you have any questions, email Robin at robin.stangland@connections nw.org. Parents play for free and pay supply fee.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 20 minutes a day, five days a week.</p> <p>Prerequisites: No prior music experience needed.</p> <p>Supplies: Instrument, music stand, and method book (TBD)</p>
Bodyworks	Sharon Duguay		<p>A little bit of health, a little bit of science, and a little bit of PE all rolled into one. In this class we will look at how our body works and how we should take care of it. We will examine major body systems and how our lifestyle choices affect the health of that system. Part of each class period we will spend doing physical activity in the form of indoor and outdoor games and activities. Participation in physical activity is a major portion of this class and students should come dressed to play! Bring water bottle to class.</p>
Chronicle of Continents	Steve Carrier		<p>A Summary History of North and South America, from the Arctic Circle to Tierra del Fuego</p> <p>This is a history class for the student who doesn't love history - - yet. It moves fast because it has to, since it needs to cover the two American Continents plus the European back stories that led to the Age of Discovery and colonization. From Colonization, we are committed to cover the rise of nationalism and the subsequent fall of empires. We discuss earth science and geography, and we explore how the shape of events (and even the shape of the globe) shapes you and me. There will be some emphasis on geo-political dynamics and the Columbian Exchange, the major eco-historical impact on both the Americas and Europe. Finally, we cover the highlights of the national stories - all in thirty-two weeks.</p> <p>It is an overview, an extraordinarily broad canvas, and admittedly it is a frustrating class to teach because everything left out is so interesting. The good news is - the kids love it. It is a summary approach fits nicely with our fast-food-drive-through mentality.</p> <p>The objective is of course, to inform, but a secondary objective is to tease the student into an interest in history in general. During exit interviews over the years, I am gratified to hear students tell me they would like to re-visit certain eras (topics) for further study. Apparently, teaching a summary history, works.</p> <p>CAUTION: We play war games in this class. Each year, students are formed under national flags - or social and political banners, and they fight it out. The British go up against the French, the Portuguese against the Spanish and the loyalists against the separatists. Nobody gets hurt (not yet), but it sometimes gets heated. It's fun, and they learn...and that's the idea.</p> <p>There is no homework, but class interaction is mandatory.</p> <p>Students receive a binder and weekly handouts. This becomes the curriculum text.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
College Prep Writing	Emily Lorelli	<p>Grammar for College Writing, A Sentence-Composing Approach (Student Worktext), by Don and Jenny Killgallon, ISBN 978-0867096026</p> <p>Rhetorical Devices: A Handbook and Activities for Student Writers, by Brendan McGuigan, ISBN 978-1580497657</p>	<p>College Prep Writing will prepare students for college-level writing. The class will focus on expository writing, specifically rhetorical and literary analysis, research argument paper, personal narrative, and in-class essay writing practice.</p> <p>To this end, students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop a writing process that includes prewriting, drafting, revision, editing, and publishing. use concrete evidence to support arguments. study and apply syntactical patterns and rhetorical devices to compose powerful sentences. study Aristotelian appeals (logos, ethos, and pathos) as methods of persuasion. review grammar and punctuation rules to become precise writers and adept editors. acquire an awareness of their reader. discover their unique writing voice and practice many other skills necessary to writing at the college level. <p>Students will have weekly writing and grammar assignments of varying length. Students should expect 4-6 hours of homework per week. This class is worth a full English credit. This class taken along with College Prep Reading meets the requirements of an Honors Level English class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 4-6 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Previous writing course</p>
Come Alive: Telling Scripture & Stories Through Drama!	Bella Albers Dwyer		<p>It can be hard to wrap our minds around the astonishing things we read in the Bible - the parting of the Red Sea, Noah and his obedience to build the ark, Daniel surviving a night in a den of hungry lions, a young Jewish girl named Esther risking her life to save her people. It's hard to grasp that these events actually happened in history, and that the people we read about in Scripture were real people - just like us! There is something so powerful about acting out the Bible that really does make it come alive!</p> <p>It's incredible to see how the stories of Scripture all weave together to tell One Big Story, illustrating God's faithfulness to His people! In this class we will act out portions of Scripture to share with families at a few showcases throughout the year. We will explore a bit of the history behind each Bible story we act out and how it fits into the larger Story of Scripture. There will be some props involved, and some memorization will be required.</p> <p>Please come to class every week with a pencil and a water bottle.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1 hour per week to work on memorizing lines / practicing the show, etc.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should have the ability to read and memorize.</p> <p>Supplies: Please come to class every week with a pencil and a water bottle.</p>
Current Events Around the World	Alex Binz		<p>The goal of this class is not merely to follow events happening around the world, but to learn how to understand why they happen. This class brings together a variety of topics, including geography, world history, politics and economics in order to provide that understanding.</p> <p>While the week-to-week schedule may be adjusted, the overarching format is fairly straightforward: I will introduce major themes and give a broad overview of world history in the first few weeks of class, then we will move around the world, spending about a month exploring the historical and modern experiences of each major region. Our primary focus is on the rest of the world, though we will also spend a month on U.S. politics.</p> <p>Homework should take 3 hours per week. This class is equivalent to 1 high school credit of Social Studies.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should be able to read and write at a high school level. Students will also require the emotional maturity to handle difficult and challenging material.</p> <p>Textbook: Students need to have access to an atlas or map. I recommend the Rand McNally Historical Atlas of the World (ISBN 978-0528004919). Students are encouraged to fill out an outline map for each region, marking the location of each event they learn about from their readings or from the class sessions.</p>
Drawing with Children Wednesday	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to use play to introduce younger students to techniques of value, scale, shape, proportion, and color using simple art tools like pencils, markers, and art crayons. Students will learn to draw and create pieces from photographs or models, and will understand how each relates to and uses a critical art skill. Parents are invited and encouraged to join their students in the drawing and fun!</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students are expected to participate in class discussions, which includes sharing their work in class. There will be no homework, but students will be encouraged to draw at home</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Engineer Your World (5th and 6th grade)	Edward Morin		<p>While the scientific method is focused on asking good questions and making discoveries, engineering is all about skillfully applying our knowledge to solve problems. The goal of this class is to learn the engineering process by applying it to solving a series of presented challenges that will require design, construction, testing, and improvement. Over the course of the year, students are introduced to the basic engineering design process, different materials, and example applications to equip them to engineer their own solutions that meet specified requirements.</p> <p>Several classes will be dedicated to applying the engineering process to challenges such as towers, bridges, catapults, land and air vehicles, Rube Goldberg chain reaction machines and more using common materials (all instructor-provided). As this class is very interactive and group-oriented, the number of students is intentionally kept small with a narrow age range to facilitate working in small, dedicated teams to experience the satisfaction and joy of what can be accomplished through good engineering.</p> <p>This class is specifically for 5th and 6th grade students. Instructor permission is required; please complete this form to apply.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Good fine motor skills. Temperament and self-discipline to be patiently engaged interactively with the class.</p>
Exploring Arduino Microcontrollers	Edward Morin		<p>Over the last 50 years, tiny computers have made their way into nearly everything including cars, household appliances, smart-home control, toys, utility infrastructure and even the manufacturing machinery to make these things! In this class, students will get an introduction to the popular, easy-to-use microcontroller development system called Arduino. It is designed to provide foundational knowledge for working with robotics and Internet of Things (IoT) applications. The curriculum for this class has been overhauled to incorporate and highlight Object-Oriented Programming.</p> <p>Using dozens of fun, hands-on projects with the popular electronics breadboard system (no soldering required), students will learn about basic input and output control for common devices including LEDs, pushbuttons, simple games, environmental sensing and remote control using the C++ programming language. Classes utilize a flexible, self-paced, lab-style approach where students can save an unfinished project for the next class or opt to continue working on it outside of class.</p> <p>Prerequisites : A basic understanding of electrical circuits, electronics, and electromagnetism (covered in Exploring Electricity & Magnetism). Sixth grade math and reading skills. Competency in laptop system use including file and folder management. Good fine-motor skills. Ability to read small printing and color-codes on electronic components. Desire to learn about microcontrollers.</p> <p>Textbooks: Students will need to provide their own laptop computer. The requirements are modest - even an old laptop with an extra USB port and a lame battery will suffice. ;-)</p>
Exploring Art	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to give students a quick brush with different types of art units. Students will sample a variety of media and forms including still life, watercolor, popups, flipbooks and/or block printing while learning about the elements of artistic styles and eras. In this survey class, students will be exposed to the many forms that art takes, and the tools and tropes artists use to express ideas and feelings.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students will be encouraged, but not required, to do art outside of class time.</p>
Exploring Electricity and Magnetism	Edward Morin		<p>In 600 BC, the Greek Philosopher Thales discovered static electricity. Over time, other scientists and inventors continued to observe, hypothesize, and experiment, expanding our understanding of this curious phenomenon. Allessandro Volta's breakthrough invention of the battery in 1800, followed by Hans Christian Oersted's discovery in 1820 that an electric current creates a magnetic field, initiated a series of discoveries and innovations which enabled us to harness and benefit from these amazing properties of the natural world.</p> <p>Over the course of the year, students will tour the same path of discovery using dozens of hands-on experiments and projects enabling them to explore and experience the basic principles of electric charge, electric current and electromagnetism. Significant discoveries and inventions, and the scientists and inventors behind them, will be acknowledged along the way.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Fifth grade math and reading skills, good fine-motor skills and a desire to learn about Electricity & Magnetism.</p>
Exploring Electronics	Edward Morin		<p>Today's enormous electronics industry is only about 100 years old and yet has become the foundation for our modern world underlying all communications, computers, internetworks, and more. In this exciting sequel to Exploring Electricity and Magnetism, students will use customized electronics kits with the popular solderless, electronics breadboard system and real electronics components.</p> <p>Over 80 fun, hands-on projects are designed to progressively introduce and explore the basic concepts and functions of modern semiconductors including diodes, LEDs, transistors, integrated circuits, and digital logic. Classes utilize a flexible, self-paced, lab-style approach where students can save an unfinished project for the next class or even opt to continue working on it outside of class. Towards the end of the school year, students will have an opportunity for some hands-on soldering instruction (optional).</p> <p>Prerequisites: A basic understanding of electricity, electric charge, circuits, and electromagnetism (covered in first class Exploring Electricity and Magnetism offered last year, or equivalent). Sixth grade math and reading skills, good fine-motor skills, ability to read small printing and color-codes on electronic components and a desire to learn about electronics.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Finding Your Life Purpose	Kimberly Hanson	<p>A Leader's Life Purpose-calling and destiny discovery tools for Christian Life Coaching-Workbook Tony Stoltzfus ISBN #0979416388</p> <p>Your Gifts: Discover God's Unique Design for You By: Larry Gilbert ISBN: 1570522898</p>	<p>Does your child/student ask these familiar questions: What am I good at? Should I go to college? What do I study? Do I have to go to college? What else would I do? What should I do with the rest of my life? What on earth did God put me here to do?</p> <p>In this course, we will explore 3 major areas being guided by the questions above:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Personal strengths as they relate to different career paths/roles 2) Spiritual gifting for the church/ministry 3) Character development for life <p>These 3 areas make up the core of your life purpose- at work, at home or in the church.</p> <p>First, we will look at your unique, God-given design. We will study personality traits, strengths, core interest areas, values and desires from a Christian perspective. Assessments/textbook reading will be given for deeper understanding. There will be frequent, short presentations on personal discoveries and interaction in small groups to increase understanding of the world of work, careers and jobs.</p> <p>Second, we will explore your unique spiritual gifting. This will include reading, presentations & short papers. This will provide a fuller understanding of the spiritual gifts that God gives so that the church is built up, others are served well, and joy comes in the unique ministry He has for you.</p> <p>Lastly, we will explore core biblical character traits. From integrity to perseverance, compassion to humility, essential traits will be studied so that each student's career path, ministry positions and other roles will represent Christ well.</p> <p>There will be regular, required reading, note taking, presentations, in class conversations, video presentations and role playing. Students should plan for 1/2- 1 hour of homework per week.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1/2-1 hour per week</p>
French I	Annie Borrero	AMSCO French is Fun Book 1	<p>This class is an introduction to the French language. We will start with the alphabet and the pronunciation of the letters. The reading skills will develop as we learn new sounds and words every week. The students will learn how to formulate sentences and dialogues through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The vocabulary is learned through weekly quizzes and grammar is taught in class and practiced at home through the homework. Every week has a different theme which makes it interesting and engages the students to master the basic vocabulary words for every day speech. The lessons will be blended with cultural presentations from French-speaking countries and in-class celebrations of the countries' traditions. I offer each student an additional time to meet during the week to read together and work on pronunciation as well as answer questions to the homework.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours at home + 15 minutes on Thursdays over Teams to practice speaking</p> <p>Prerequisites: N/A</p>
General Science	Cydney Adler	Exploring Creation with General Science, 3rd Edition, Seligson, Publisher: Apologia Educational Ministries	<p>Creation with General Science, 3rd edition, is part of Apologia's line of award-winning homeschool science curriculum. It has been rewritten to truly walk each student through middle school's transition time from the elementary years to the high school sciences. Specifically designed to be the first course taken during junior high, it was created to give middle school students a basic understanding of the world so that they can appreciate the real-world relevance of scientific inquiry and the beauty of creation. This course covers a wide range of the branches of science while making the connections between each. Students will learn what science is and, in a detailed and engaging way, how to utilize proper scientific method. Throughout the course, students are able to see evidence of God's creation as they learn scientific principles. Class time will include hands-on experiments, lecture, video and tests.</p> <p>Student Notebook included in materials fee. Do not purchase the Student Notebook.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students will be expected to read 15 - 20 pages of text, complete notebook activities, and do experimental write-up for each chapter. Two weeks per chapter.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should be able to complete all assignments and test. No audits.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Genesis to Deuteronomy & Ancient Egypt, a Year of History, Geography, & Bible	Buffy Johnson	The Golden Goblet, by Eloise Jarvis McGraw, ISBN-13 9780140303353	<p>A study of the people and events in Genesis to Deuteronomy including the study of the surrounding geography, history, and culture that influenced the imperfect people God called His own. Further, a study on who our God has revealed Himself to be through creation, redemption, law giving, and covenant.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: None except for one novel</p>
Geometry w/Algebra Review ? Math U See	Marna Marteeny	Math U See Geometry Student Pack, www.mathusee.com	<p>High School Geometry consists of planar Geometry with a thorough review of Algebra 1. Students learn congruency, similarity , areas, volumes, radicals, how to solve proofs and more. Construction using compass and protractors. Trigonometry is introduced.</p> <p>Class consists of reviewing previous weeks work, introducing new material, and practicing homework problems. We will develop strategies for approaching all types of word problems fearlessly! Math U See is an excellent program developed for homeschoolers in a co-op environment. Math U See works well within the Connections' experience to support parents. Parents are responsible to correct each assignment and make sure homework is loaded each week on-line. Homework should take about 4 hours per week.</p> <p>All homework must be corrected weekly by students (or parents) and loaded onto Homeschool-Life weekly in .PDF format. Understanding what you missed and how to get the correct answers is a mandatory part of your homework.</p> <p>All videos and handouts are on-line. If you miss a class, you can print out the in-class handout and watch each week's video. Students are always welcome to ZOOM into class remotely if you are sick or on vacation and would still like to attend.</p> <p>This year students learn how to develop a Formula and Definition Sheet to synthesize multiple weeks of information before each test.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Completing Algebra 1.</p>
God Bless America: The 50 States	Addison Nohr		<p>We are going on a cross-country trip exploring the United States of America. We will learn about our national capital and symbols, and then visit all fifty states. This class is full of colorful maps and fact pages that help us learn each state's capital, major cities, attractions, bird, flower, flag, and motto. We will also discuss each state's history, famous citizens, and foods. Each week we will talk about 1-2 states, filling out a fact page for each, as we watch a PowerPoint and video to place us right in that state. Students will also have the opportunity to give an oral report on a state of their choosing. There is no required homework outside of class other than preparation for the oral report and several optional activities.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Basic reading and writing skills: primarily copy work within class.</p>
Health and Wellness	Heidi Barnes	High School Health for the Whole Person, by Vicki Tillman, M.A. and Marilyn Groop, B.S.	<p>DESCRIPTION: This course will help students develop an understanding of a healthy lifestyle and will prepare them to care for themselves - physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. This is a holistic course that will give an overview of the physical systems. As well, it will cover the way the brain and emotions work, relationship skills, self-care, and spiritual care. It will help teens make healthy choices and learn ways to stay safe in our current culture. The course covers the topics needed for a full credit in Health.</p> <p>EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS: To meet the class learning goals, students will accomplish the following: come to class weekly, on time, and prepared; actively participate in class and small group activities; interact respectfully with classmates and teacher; complete all assigned homework and projects by the due dates; and do their best work! Weekly homework will take approximately 2 hours outside of class.</p>
High School Art	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to build the skills to successfully make art. Students will learn how to observe their world and art subjects and how to transfer what they see onto the page in their own style and medium. Students will also learn techniques for making art in various media, and how to think about and critique their own art so they can self-direct and improve as long as they pursue art. Students will explore shape, value, composition, proportion and perspective in pencil & ink.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Homework will be minimal, but students wishing to assemble a portfolio will receive guidance but will be expected to do so largely outside of class time.</p>
High School Biology - 3:45 end time	Cydney Adler	Exploring Creation with Biology (3rd Edition), by Vicki Dincher, Apologia Educational Ministries, 2020, ISBN-13 978-1946506450	<p>This is a Christ-centered, college-prep biology course that provides a detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of general biology. It provides the student with a strong background in the scientific method, the five-kingdom classification scheme, microscopy, biochemistry, cellular biology, molecular and Mendelian genetics, creation vs. evolution, dissection, and ecosystems. It also provides a complete survey of the five kingdoms in creation. This is an intensive study which will prepare students for college level classes. Class time will be used for lecture, videos and experiments. This class fulfills the requirement for a high school lab science. I do not recommend by-passing age requirements.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students will be expected to read 20-25 pages of text and complete study guides, tests, and lab notebook entries for each module (two weeks/module) .</p> <p>Prerequisites: Read, write, and comprehend at grade level. All students are expected to fully participate in homework, tests, and labs. This class may not be audited.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
High School Chemistry ? 8:30 start	Cydne y Adler	Exploring Creation with Chemistry, Text AND Solutions Manual (3rd Edition), Kristy Plourde, Apologia Educational Ministries, 2014, B00ORZD5AG	<p>This is Apologia's general (core) high school/college prep chemistry course. This Christ-centered course covers significant figures, units of measure, the mole concept, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, acids and bases, redox reactions, solutions, atomic structure, Lewis structures, molecular geometry, the gas laws, and equilibrium. Class time will be used for lecture, videos and experiments. Students will be expected to read 20-25 pages of text, complete Review Questions and Practice Problems, tests and lab notebook entries for each module (2 weeks/module). I do not recommend by-passing age or class requirements. No auditing.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra 1. All students are expected to fully participate in homework, tests, and labs. This class may not be audited.</p>
High School Forensic Science	Cydne y Adler	Fundamentals & Investigations 2nd Edition (2015), Bertino & Bertino, ISBN-13 978-1305077119	<p>CSI - Connections! Forensic Science or forensics is the application of a broad spectrum of sciences to answer questions of interest to the legal system. Learn and use concepts from biology, chemistry, physics, history and political science to analyze and evaluate evidence. Learn techniques for evidence collection and wrap your mind around deductive reasoning puzzles. Many hands-on activities and intriguing case studies make this an interesting and engaging class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Class time will include lecture, labs, and videos. There are no tests in this class. Students will read ~ 20 pages per week, answer review questions and maintain a Laboratory Notebook. Homework will be 2-3 hours per week.</p> <p>Prerequisites: All students are expected to fully participate in homework and labs. Auditing is not allowed.</p>
History through American Girls 1	Addison Nohr	Classic six book set (discontinued) or the two book BeForever set for each character that was mentioned above.	<p>Join us on an exciting adventure through American history as we learn about the lives of five amazing young girls! With confidence and curiosity, we'll explore different moments in history in the order they happened. This year, we'll meet: Kaya - A Native American girl in 1764. Felicity - A patriot living through the Revolutionary War in 1774. Caroline - A sailing enthusiast during the War of 1812. Josefina - A girl living in New Mexico along the Santa Fe Trail in 1824. And Kirsten - A pioneer immigrant seeking a better life in 1854. We'll use PowerPoints, worksheets, crafts, lapbooks, timelines, and have lively discussions to bring history to life. Along the way, we'll learn about geography, important people, inventions, science, and music. To help us understand these amazing stories even better, students will read one book (4-5 chapters) outside of class each week which is about 60 minutes of reading. Additionally, they will answer four comprehension questions. By completing their reading and homework, students will earn American Girl dollars, which they can use to shop at a special store before Christmas and at the end of the year! This fun reward system encourages hard work and dedication while making learning even more exciting.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-1.5 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : Basic reading and writing skills: primarily copy work within class</p>
History Through Games	Alex Binz	Each family must purchase the 2007 computer game Sid Meier's Civilization IV: The Complete Edition from GOG.com.	<p>Some of my earliest memories of history come from playing games: whether scrambling to connect San Francisco to Omaha in 'Ticket to Ride', or training Cataphracts to beat up my brother's Huskarls in 'Age of Empires', or constructing the Notre Dame in Sid Meier's Civilization series. 'Gamification' &mdash; learning by playing &mdash; is an exceptionally effective way to inspire interest in a subject.</p> <p>This class will use classic board games and computer games to lay the foundations for a lifetime of learning history. Students will also learn and discuss the principles of game design, gain experience with public speaking, and create a history-themed game of their own. The class itself is organized as a year-long game, with points earned and prizes claimed at auctions held throughout the year.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-4 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should be able to read and write at a middle school level (e.g., understand a rule book, write a 100-word paragraph).</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Interpreting Literature I: Hero's Journey	Emily Lorelli	Call It Courage by Armstrong Sperry, ISBN: 978-0689713910.	<p>*This will be the last time that this course will be offered at Connections.*</p> <p>How often do we, in our lives, get to solve a problem (climactically or not) and then ride off into the sunset to live happily ever after? We don't, do we? The Hero's Journey provides an alternative understanding of story pattern - one that more accurately depicts life's story. In this paradigm, the usual pattern of main conflict, rising action, climax, resolution is reexamined as a circular journey that involves a separation, a transformation, and a return. The Hero's Journey, unlike the standard plot line, can be seen as the pattern of human experience as reflected in most literature and film, in that the human experience is cyclical not linear. This new understanding provides students with a foundation for literary, cinematic, and personal analysis.</p> <p>The Hero's Journey paradigm fits wonderfully into a Christian life-view in that we are each called upon to heed God's call, learn to use our God given talents to grow personally and spiritually, and ultimately give back to and enrich our communities for the glory of God. It is also possible to refuse the call and to live life selfishly; however, we will find in stories where the call is refused, the hero that refuses the call, brings evils upon himself and his community.</p> <p>The class will explore The Hero's Journey through film, myths and legends, novels, and creative writing.</p> <p>As they will be writing interpretive paragraphs and short essays, students should be able to write a paragraph and support their assertions with textual evidence. This class can be taken to fulfill a full English credit.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-5 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : As they will be writing interpretive essays, students should be able to write a paragraph and support their assertions with textual evidence; therefore, previous enrollment in a writing class is encouraged.</p>
Interpreting Literature III: Short Stories	Emily Lorelli		<p>*This is the last time this course will be offered at Connections*</p> <p>Reading, discussing, and interpreting wonderful literature is one of life's joys. Finding the time to read, discuss, and interpret full novels when we only meet once a week can be difficult. However, there are many tremendous short stories to be found--many written by authors whose names we recognize: Hemingway, Twain, Dickens. In this class we will focus our interpretive efforts on great short stories. We will study short story as a particular genre but will employ the same interpretive reading and writing skills used when reading full novels. By focusing on short stories, we will have the opportunity to read them more than once, delve deeper in our discussions, and build our interpretive writing skills. This class can be taken to fulfill a full English credit.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-5 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : As they will be writing interpretive essays, students should be able to write a paragraph and support their assertions with textual evidence; therefore, previous enrollment in a writing class is encouraged.</p>
Intro to High School Writing	Alice Wescott		<p>This class will prepare the student to be successful in high school writing. Thus, it will cover a variety of topics, all of which will prepare the student for essay writing, report writing, and the type of writing necessary to be successful in high school content subjects. Parent involvement is encouraged as it greatly increases student success.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Approximately 1-1.5 hours</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Intro to Photography	Laura Jarrell		<p>Students in this class will be introduced to both the technical and creative aspects of basic photography, gaining an understanding of how to look at their world through a framed lens and confidence to communicate on a visual level. On the technical side, students will learn to use the features of their camera, including both auto and manual modes. They will learn how to choose aperture, shutter speed, and ISO for proper exposure in different scenarios. On the creative side, students will learn composition strategies for taking visually pleasing and compelling photos, and how to digitally edit their photos using a free browser-based photo editing program similar to Adobe Photoshop.</p> <p>Weekly photo assignments outside of class will be fun and engaging, culminating with a portfolio of samples of their best work by the end of the year. Students should plan to spend 1-2 hours outside of class each week taking photos, editing, and uploading to our class sharing site. Weekly participation in these activities is essential to the class dynamic as students inspire and learn from each other's work. Class time will consist of instruction/learning time, review and feedback, photo editing tutorials, editing photos, and shooting time; as such, we may not do everything every week, but our time will be full. For the final year-end project, students will compile a photo book in class of their own favorite photos from the year, and it will be printed and mailed from the photo sharing site we use. The cost is covered by the supply fee.</p> <p>This class will constitute either .5 or 1 high school credit, depending on the amount of time spent by the student, and this determination, along with grading, will be left to the parent. I am happy to answer questions or supply general guidelines.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours per week outside of class</p> <p>Supplies: Students will need a DSLR camera and related equipment (battery, cords, card reader, etc.), a laptop they can bring to class with wireless internet and good battery. Students should already know how to upload photos from their camera to the laptop, and should have some understanding of the computer and where images are stored. We will utilize Teams for class information and announcements every week, so students should be familiar with Teams and able to check it frequently.</p>
Jazz Band	Robin Stangland		<p>The Connections Jazz Ensemble is for instrumentalists who want to continue to learn and perform jazz music. The ensemble combines youth and some adults for a unique learning experience, emphasizing swing, contemporary jazz, jazz rock, and Latin styles. Two performances are scheduled with attendance required. Individual practice 20-30 minutes a day, 5 times a week is expected and private lessons are suggested.</p> <p>Instrumentation: piano, bass, guitar, drum set, trumpets, trombones, saxes. Other band instruments may be considered by the Director on a case-by-case basis. Participants must be able to read music and commit to the entire year (Sept- May). Parents play for free and pay supply fee.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 20 minutes a day, five days a week.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Audition only, please contact instructor for audition materials.</p> <p>Supplies: Instrument, supplies, and music stand. Text TBD.</p>
Joshua to Malachi & Ancient Greece: A Year of History, Geography, and Bible	Buffy Johnson		<p>A Bible study survey of the Old Testament from Joshua to Malachi along with a study of Ancient Greece and the geography of the current Middle East</p> <p>Supplies: Bible, notebook, pencils Teacher provides any other required texts.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Latin I	Analiisa Reichlin	<p>Latin Alive! Book One, Classical Academic Press, Version 3.0 or later, ISBN 978-1-60051-054-0 (Note: Purchase the older version that is orange and blue.)</p> <p>Rhea Silvia et Romulus et Remus: Reges Romae Volumen I, Paul J. Hayes, ISBN 979-8851433931</p> <p>Libellus Exercitiorum - Rhea Silvia et Romulus et Remus: Reges Romae Volumen I, Paul J. Hayes, ISBN 979-8851443824</p>	<p>Influential author and academic Dorothy Sayers said, The best grounding for education is the Latin grammar. I say this not because Latin is traditional and medieval, but simply because even a rudimentary knowledge of Latin cuts down the labor and pains of learning almost any other subject by at least 50 percent. Studies also show that Latin students consistently outperform all other students on the verbal portion of the SAT and continue to maintain a higher GPA in university.</p> <p>This comprehensive and rigorous class presents Latin in an engaging and enjoyable manner. We work hard but we also have fun - I promise! Students will solidify their understanding of English grammar by learning to conjugate and decline Latin words. Students will also translate Latin sentences in a logical progression, using all eight parts of speech.</p> <p>The relevance of Latin in history and ancient and contemporary culture will be explored, and English vocabulary will increase through the study of derivatives. 90% of all polysyllabic English words come from Latin! Readings adapted from Latin literature will also develop logic and problem solving skills. Using the comprehensible input method, students will begin to read and speak in Latin right away. Training in Roman culture, myths, and history will be done through arts integration and hands-on projects. Students will be required to memorize noun and verb endings, as well as about 275 Latin words.</p> <p>I teach Latin using a blend of grammar-based instruction and comprehensible input. Grammar study gives students the tools to understand how the language works, while comprehensible input—reading, hearing, and using Latin in understandable contexts—helps them internalize vocabulary and structures naturally. This combination strengthens both accuracy and fluency, keeps students engaged, and helps them see Latin as a living, meaningful language.</p> <p>I use a flipped classroom, which means that students will watch bits of the lecture before they come to class and try some of the homework, which will allow for a lot more one on one help and collaborative work during the class hour. I think the students learn more that way. It's like having Latin two or three times a week instead of just once. Access to email and the internet is required. One high school language credit.</p> <p>Previous Latin experience not required. For students who would feel more confident having learned some basic Latin before taking this class, a no-cost, twelve week self-paced introductory course is available to take over the summer. Contact the instructor for more information.</p> <p>Latin I overview: There is no doubt that Latin is hard, and there are easier foreign language options out there. But as I always tell them on the first day of Latin I, This may be one of the hardest classes you will take at Connections, but when you are twenty-five and your frontal lobe has fully developed, you'll come back and thank me!</p> <p>In Latin I, it is not just about Latin, although they do learn a lot of Latin. Your student's English vocabulary will increase, thanks to the fact that 90% of English polysyllabic words come from Latin, patterning and problem-solving skills transfer from Latin to math and music, logic and reasoning skills will develop, and they will have a richer understanding of ancient history and how it affects us today. Plus, they learn new technology, lots of study skills, how to work as a team, how to read and follow a rubric, time management (some will still be working on this!!!), appropriate social behavior in a group, and how and when to ask for help from a grownup other than a parent.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-4 hours</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Latin II	Analiisa Reichlin	<p>Latin Alive! Book One (from Latin I)</p> <p>Latin Alive! Book Two, Classical Academic Press, Version 1.0 or later, ISBN 978-1-60051-057-1 will be used 2nd semester (Note: Purchase the older version that is orange and blue.)</p> <p>Latin dictionary such as Collins Latin Dictionary and Grammar</p> <p>Latin Readers: (These may be available for purchase from a previous Latin II student)</p> <p>Familia Mala: Saturnus et Iuppiter, Andrew Olimpi, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2018, ISBN 978-1986448611; Amazon link</p> <p>Duo Fratres: Familia Mala Volumen II, Andrew Olimpi, Comprehensible Classics Press, 2020, ISBN 978-1733005210; Amazon link</p> <p>Pandora: Familia Mala Volumen III, Andrew Olimpi, Comprehensible Classics Press, 2020, ISBN 978-1733005227; Amazon link</p> <p>Numa Pompilius: Reges Romae Volumen II, 2023, ISBN 979-8852683434 Amazon link</p> <p>Libellus Exercitiorum - Numa Pompilius: Reges Romae Volumen II, 2023 ISBN 979-8852683991 Amazon link</p>	<p>This class is a continuation of Latin I. We will complete Latin Alive! Book 1 and continue on to Book 2. Students will learn reflexive, relative, and interrogative pronouns; pluperfect and future perfect; passive voice in all tenses; past, present and future participles; deponent and irregular verbs; and comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs. Extensive study of Latin derivatives and stories of Roman culture, myths, and history make Latin come alive. Substantial Latin readings and translation exercises adapted from Latin literature will develop English grammar, vocabulary, and logic and problem solving skills. Training in Roman culture, myths, and history will be done through arts integration and hands-on projects. Through carefully curated Latin readers, students will begin to smoothly read interesting and captivating (dare I say fun??) stories in Latin.</p> <p>Students should expect to spend about 3-4 hours each week on homework outside of class. Access to email and internet is required. One high school language credit.</p> <p>Live remote option available for students who are absent from class.</p> <p>Latin II Overview: In Latin II, they additionally learn how to process and retain lots of information and details. Our more in-depth look at English and Latin grammar as well as parsing out sentences and putting them back together into grammatically correct English sense (rather than literally translating), reading large chunks of real Latin taken from the classic Latin writers and translating it as chunks, rather than word for word takes a new kind of plasticity in their brains that will serve them well whether that is in project management, planning and design, writing, or the sciences.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Latin I or instructor's permission.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-4 hours</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Latin III	Analiisa Reichlin	<p>Latin Alive! Book Two, as used in Latin II</p> <p>Latin Alive! Book Three, Classical Academic Press, Version 1.0 or later, ISBN 978-1-60051-084-7 will be used second semester</p> <p>Latin Readers: (may be purchased from a previous Latin III student)</p> <p>Perseus et Rex Malus: A Latin Novella (Puer Ex Seripho), Andrew Olimpi, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017, ISBN 978-1547155873; Amazon link</p> <p>Perseus et Medusa: A Latin Novella (Puer Ex Seripho), Andrew Olimpi, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017, ISBN 978-1548787479; Amazon link</p> <p>Vox in Tenebris, Andrew Olimpi, Comprehensible Classics Press, 2020, ISBN 979-8620196357; Amazon link</p>	<p>This class is a continuation of Latin II. We will finish Latin Alive! Book 2 and complete Book 3. Students will learn all forms of participles, independent, dependent and relative clauses, all infinitives, gerunds, deponent verbs, supine, subjunctive, conditions, purpose, result, relative, result, and proviso clauses. Extensive study of Latin derivatives and stories of Roman culture, myths and history make Latin come alive. Latin poetry will be studied, including dactylic hexameter, developing English grammar, vocabulary, logic, and problem solving skills. At this point, students will be able to easily read Latin for pleasure, and our readers are chosen for that purpose.</p> <p>Students should expect to spend 3-4 hours each week on homework outside of class. Access to email and internet required. One high school language credit.</p> <p>Live remote class available for students who are absent from class.</p> <p>Latin III Overview:</p> <p>In Latin III, we work on the more obscure grammar like ablative absolutes and participial phrases, all of which transfer at a high level into English and make students competent and interesting writers. Verbs start to behave like nouns and adjectives, and look like them, too, and the student must sort out which job a verb is taking on and why! This skill transfers out of the Latin classroom into the ability to think outside of the box and to look at problems and projects from all angles to see different possibilities. After three years, we develop relationship and rapport that allows me to speak into their lives in a way that I would not be able to otherwise. That, I think, is my favorite part.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Latin II or instructor's permission.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3-4 hours</p>
Made to Move	Sharon Duguay		<p>Building motor skills is an important step in the growth of every child. In this class students will learn and practice a variety of fine and gross motor skills. We will work on activities and exercises that will promote balance, coordination, muscle control, organized thinking, hand eye coordination, following instructions, quick responses, and overall movement and fitness. Students should come to class prepared to play, have fun and engage with their friends.</p> <p>Supplies: Come dressed to play, and bring a water bottle to class.</p>
Marine Biology	Kate Smith	Exploring Creature with Zoology 2: Swimming Creatures of the Fifth Day, ISBN 1932012737	<p>Dive into the fascinating world of marine biology while building essential academic skills! This interactive course will explore the classification of marine animals, tides, currents, food webs, and the impact of humans on the ocean. Along the way, students will develop key science skills such as note-taking, listening to lectures, test preparation, and test-taking&mdash;essential for success in high school sciences. Our textbook will be part of the class, used mostly for homework, but will not be the core of the class. This is not a textbook class, instead, hands-on learning will be a big part of this class! Students will participate in exciting science investigations, including a real dissection, to deepen their understanding of marine life and ecosystems. Through engaging discussions, experiments, and literature-based learning, students will gain both scientific knowledge and practical academic skills to set them up for future success.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours</p>
Middle School Drawing	Veronica Huffines		<p>The goal of this class is to teach the skills to successfully make art. Students will learn basic skills on how to observe their world and art subjects and how to transfer what they see onto the page in their own style and medium. Students will also learn techniques for making art in various media, and how to analyze and improve their own art. Students will begun exploring shape, value, composition, proportion and perspective in pencil and ink, colored pencils, and other media.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Students are expected to participate in class discussions, which includes sharing their work in class. Homework will be daily drawing, which is strongly encouraged but not required. During the second semester, students will work on an art project, which probably will require some work at home.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Music Through the Seasons	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Music and movement can have a dramatic effect on babies, toddlers, and older children as well. Some studies indicate that early music instruction positively impacts language and literacy development; other studies point to improved pattern recognition skills which are the basis for mathematical learning; still others reveal the social and emotional benefits of being involved in music.</p> <p>Music Through the Seasons begins building a foundation for music literacy as well as a foundation for academic success.</p> <p>Celebrate your preschooler's growing independence and love of the outdoors with musical activities involving the four seasons in The Cycle of Seasons. Activities include singing, chanting, moving, focused listening, musical games, exploring musical instruments, creative movement, and storytelling. The Cycle of Seasons nurtures your growing child's ability to use language and participate in dramatic play within a musical context.</p>
Musical Passports	Leslie Schmunk		<p>Everywhere in the world, there is music. Even if we have many differences, live in different kinds of homes, wear different clothes, or eat different foods, music can bring us together. All around the world, music helps us face any challenge with a song in our heart and, often, a dance in our feet. Join us on this journey through our marvelous Musical World!</p> <p>For each country that we visit, we will locate the country on a map, see a travelogue video, learn a song and a game or dance, and earn a stamp for our passport.</p> <p>Students in this class will share music from the countries we visit as part of the two concerts performed by Mrs. Schmunk's other classes.</p>
Navigating Big Emotions and Friendship (6-8)	Jammie Tanton		<p>Being a kid is hard sometimes, and navigating big feelings and friendships can be overwhelming. In this class, students will learn how to manage their big feels through different modes of learning such as art, games, play, and discussion. They'll learn how to understand and put words to what they're feeling and how to calm themselves down before their feelings explode. We'll learn how to be mindful of the engines that drive our bodies and learn what to do when their engine is running too fast or too slow. We'll practice making friends, showing empathy, and using words to avoid conflict. Kids will get the opportunity to do activities in small groups. This will help the students build friendships within the class and learn skills they can use in any social situation. Kids will be encouraged to embrace who God created them to be, and to embrace others as God created them.</p>
Newton's Workshop	Rebecca Crane		<p>A dynamic, hands-on class where students explore fundamental physics concepts through exciting activities and experiments. Using K'nex and other materials, we'll investigate force, energy, motion, and more through hands-on models, experiments, and creative builds. Along the way, students will design, test, and discover the physics behind their creations&mdash;all while having fun!</p> <p>While some activities may resemble engineering projects, this class focuses on the physics principles behind them. Each week, students will engage in designing, building, or testing models to deepen their understanding. Units will span multiple weeks to allow for thorough exploration. For example, during our bridge unit, we'll study structural integrity, construct different bridge types, and test their ability to withstand static and dynamic loads.</p> <p>This class uses tiered instruction to ensure all students are challenged and engaged at the right level.</p> <p>No homework&mdash;just come ready to think, build, and explore!</p>
Physical Science	Cydney Adler	<p>Title: Exploring Creation with Physical Science Textbook (4th Edition) By: Vicki Dincher</p> <p>Vendor: Apologia Educational Ministries Publication Date: 2024</p> <p>ISBN-13: 9781940110141</p>	<p>This 15-module, creation-based science text introduces students to physical science through engaging lessons, formal experiments, and You do Science mini-experiments that give students the opportunity for even deeper-learning. Four modules cover the basics of chemistry, including properties and states of matter, atomic structure and the periodic table, chemical bonds, and reactions and energy. Six modules are dedicated to physics and include the study of motion, forces, energy, light, and electricity and magnetism. Students finish out their year learning about Earth science. Discussions, videos and many hands-on experiments and activities keep students engaged and learning.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Homework ~ 2-3 hours weeks includes completing the Student Notebook assignments and Study Guides.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students are expected to do all tests and complete homework.</p>
Precision in Practice: Grammar, Editing, and Revision	Emily Lorelli	<p>Textbook: Grammar for High School: A Sentence-Composing Approach (ISBN-13: 978-0325010465)</p>	<p>Prepare your teen for upper-level writing courses and academic success with this hands-on intermediate course. Tailored for 12-16 year olds, this program emphasizes grammar mastery, editing techniques, and structured revision practices.</p> <p>Students will review the parts of speech and their roles in crafting clear, effective sentences. They will also explore advanced syntactical structures and learn to apply them skillfully by studying the techniques of celebrated authors as sentence mentors. With practical exercises, constructive feedback, and a focus on mastering writing fundamentals, this course equips students with the skills needed for high school-level coursework and polished communication.</p> <p>This course can be taken for half an English credit. (Recommendation: supplement with a reading curriculum. Suggested reading list available upon request.)</p> <p>Pre-requisites: An introductory level grammar course or curriculum is encouraged.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Private Piano Lessons	Robert Campbell		<p>Robert Campbell's desire is to make piano lessons fun and meaningful for all his students. Beginning through advanced students are invited to take lessons with Robert. Lessons are individual, and most lessons are 30 minutes. Students will be assigned either the first or second half-hour of the class time.</p> <p>For a free consultation, please see Robert on Monday or Wednesday or call him (425-273-5657) to schedule an appointment. To schedule a Monday or Wednesday lesson time, please call or email him.</p> <p>Supplies Needed: Materials vary according to the experience and desires of the student and parents. Instructor will inform parents what books to purchase for their student.</p> <p>Lessons are for individual students. There are no group lessons.</p>
Science Fair Projects	Kay Swartwood		<p>This class is an opportunity for students to participate in two co-op Science Fairs by creating independent science fair projects. (Note that the majority of the work on each student's independent Science Fair projects will be completed at home.) Each student will come up with a topic for the Science Fair project, though the teacher will provide suggestions for students who can't decide what they want to do. Students and parents should expect that the research, experimentation, analysis, and display preparation will be performed at home. Additionally, all expenses related to the project and presentation will be incurred by families (with the exception of the presentation trifolds and science notebook that will be provided by the teacher).</p> <p>The first Science Fair will likely be the end of January. The students will then decide whether to expand on the first project or do an entirely new project for the second Science Fair in May. The purpose of this class is to inspire students to ask questions and explore their interests using the scientific method; therefore, the Science Fair projects will not be judged or graded.</p> <p>In addition to learning about general standards and expectations for Science Fair projects, in class we will practice tasks that will not only help students prepare their Science Fair projects, but will help them navigate future science classes. Tasks that we will explore in class include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding the scientific method - Asking scientific questions - Keeping a science notebook - Researching a science topic - Giving and receiving input on preparing for the Science Fair through small groups - Planning and conducting science experiments - Recording procedures and results - Analyzing results and making a conclusion about them - Deciding when to use tables, charts, and graphs - Preparing science project displays - Practicing a science project presentation <p>But in class we won't just be covering these tasks, we will also be having science-inspired fun! Students will observe and sometimes help conduct science experiments prepared by the teacher. With each experiment, we will follow steps of the Scientific Method where appropriate to reinforce the concepts we are learning in class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: As mentioned in the class description the majority of the student's work on the Science Fair project will be completed at home. The teacher will provide a suggested schedule that will spread out this work over the months leading up to each Science Fair, but the amount of time spent each week will depend on the project topic and scope and also on how consistently the student works on it.</p>
Shakespeare One Act!	Bella Albers Dwyer		<p>Calling all thespians who are ready to dive into the exciting world of Shakespeare! In this class we will rehearse a One Act Shakespeare play (title TBD) to be performed in class at the end of the year. Along the way, students will grow in their knowledge and understanding of Shakespeare through playing theater games and discovering tools to unravel the puzzle Shakespeare's language can be. We will dive into the overall plot of the Shakespeare title we're performing, and each student will be coached and challenged to bring their character to life onstage. This class is open to all - whether this is your first time performing Shakespeare, or you are very familiar with the Bard. Come prepared to be stretched and challenged, while having loads of fun!</p> <p>Homework Hours: 2 hours per week to memorize/practice the show, do character work, etc.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students must be prepared to dive in wholeheartedly and fully commit to whatever role they are given.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Shurley Grammar 2	Lisa Bailey		<p>This is an intermediate level course. The curriculum is simple, straightforward, and fun! If your student has had some grammar, this class is what they need to give them a great foundation as well as set them up to do well in Latin. Catchy jingles cement memorization of the grammar rules and parts of speech while adding to the fun of making grammar an enjoyable subject.</p> <p>We will review the basics of grammar, punctuation rules and sentence structure, and move on to noun/verb agreement, helping verbs, homonyms, and singular and plural possessives. This class is a continuation of Shurley Grammar 1. For those that have not taken the first class, we will review at the beginning of the year to get all students to the same place.</p> <p>There will be homework each week including journaling, vocabulary words, and grammar exercises. Expect to spend 1-3 hours per week on homework.</p> <p>Supplies: The supply fee covers the Shurley Grammar Student Workbook, Practice Booklet, a notebook, and all homework pages for the student. The student only needs to provide their own personal blank journal on the first day of class.</p>
Shurley Grammar 3	Lisa Bailey		<p>Shurley Grammar is a great curriculum that uses catchy jingles to cement memorization of the grammar rules and parts of speech while adding to the fun of making grammar an enjoyable subject. The curriculum is simple, straightforward, and fun!</p> <p>In Shurley Grammar 3, we go over the basics of grammar, punctuation rules, sentence structure, noun/verb agreement, helping verbs, homonyms, singular and plural possessives, and move on to direct and indirect objects and Pattern 2 and 3 sentences.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: There will be homework each week including journaling, vocabulary words, and grammar exercises. Expect to spend 2-3 hours per week on homework.</p> <p>Prerequisites: If your student has had some grammar, this class will take it to the next level. It is a continuation of Shurley Grammar 2 and it moves along at a much faster pace. For those that have not taken SG2, we will very quickly review at the beginning of the year to get all students to the same place.</p> <p>Supplies: The supply fee covers the Shurley Grammar Student Workbook, Practice Booklet, a notebook, and all homework pages for the student. The student only needs to provide their own personal blank journal on the first day of class.</p>
Social Graces	Addison Nohr		<p>A child's social foundation is essential when helping to prepare for the future. A strong foundation helps to foster important life skills and grows their character. This class will teach us how to develop and grow in areas like emotional self-management, responsibility, kindness, friendship, empathy, compassion, and relationships. The class focuses on teaching children how to become more socially aware and understand how their actions can affect those around them. It also helps to foster a growth mindset and encourages children to think positively while learning to create healthy boundaries while striving to reach their goals. This might sound a tad serious and boring; however, we will achieve this through daily discussions, activities, board and card games, interactive role-playing, storybooks, and crafts. Our goal will be through this class, for children to learn how to be better friends, family members, and citizens in their community.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Basic Writing Skills</p>
Solving Problems Flexibly: Middle School Math	Danielle Lankester		<p>This is an applied middle school elective class where students bridge to new math concepts based on what they already know. The class asks students to collaboratively apply math skills from the middle school years to open ended questions. My class goals are that students persevere when problem solving, evaluate strategies, generalize math concepts, and practice thinking flexibly with numbers, data, and space.</p> <p>While students will explore the number system, ratios, data, geometry, and more, this class applies ideas to build math conceptual thinking and is not a replacement for a grade level core math curriculum. It is a great class to build flexibility in math thinking, both for reluctant mathematicians and those who love to play with numbers and math ideas. There is no required homework, only optional activities to supplement your family's existing math time at home.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Mastery of whole number and fraction calculations in four operations (+, -, x, /)</p>
Songwriting 101	Alicia McLeish	Beginning Songwriting: Writing your own lyrics, melodies and chords. ISBN: 978-0-87639-163-1	<p>Students in this class will be learning the basics of writing songs such as composing catchy melodies, writing lyrics that connect with listeners and creating beautiful music underneath that supports our melodies and our lyrics. We will also be learning how to share our songs with one another and offer constructive feedback, this will be a very interactive class! We will be learning to write a variety of different types of songs such as congregational worship songs, Christmas songs, personal songs, kids' songs and more. Plan on 1-2 hours of homework per week, most of this time will be spent on songwriting assignments. You will be amazed to see how quickly you pick up the skill of songwriting!</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 1-2 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : Basic understanding of chords on the piano or the guitar.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Speech and Debate	Heidi Barnes		<p>DESCRIPTION: This is a beginners-level speech and debate course. Students will experience public speaking in a non-threatening and supportive environment. They will be introduced to different types of speeches and their purposes. Students will learn more about the communication process and begin to understand how we incorporate various nonverbal skills into our speeches. Students will also understand the steps of putting together a speech from start to performance. As well, they will practice some basic life-skills speaking such as interviewing, reading to others, listening skills, and elevator-pitches. Class activities involve practicing diverse forms of communication - to inform, entertain and persuade. A portion of this class will also give the students an introduction to debate. Using the Lincoln-Douglas debate style, students will learn how to prepare and participate in a debate, as well as how to present an argument in a respectful and thoughtful manner. My goal for this course is to provide an environment that is content-rich, encouraging, and fun!</p> <p>EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS: To meet the class learning goals, students will accomplish the following: come to class weekly, on time, and prepared; actively participate in class and small group activities; interact respectfully with classmates and teacher; complete all assigned homework, speeches, and debates by the due dates; and do their best work! Weekly homework will take approximately 3 hours outside of class.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3 hours per week</p>
Storybook Drama: History through Stories!	Bella Albers Dwyer		<p>In this class, history will come alive as we read picture books about various people and events that shaped history! Topic examples may include: George Washington's life and Early American History, the Middle Ages, stories from the Bible, and much more! Students will discover how history is all connected in One Big Story, and that they, too, have an important role to play. We will play many theater games and act out parts of the stories we read in class. We will also make a timeline showing when each person or event we're learning about took place, and how they connect to one another. The goal of this class is to have history come alive, and for our eyes to be opened to the ways the Master Storyteller is at work. Students may keep a binder for anything they create during the year, though most class activities will be movement-based.</p>
The Chronicles of Narnia	Alex Binz	C.S. Lewis, The Chronicles of Narnia (ISBN: 978-0061992889)	<p>When I was ten, I read fairy tales in secret and would have been ashamed if I had been found doing so. Now that I am fifty, I read them openly. (C.S. Lewis, On Stories)</p> <p>In this class, students will read and discuss the seven books of C.S. Lewis's The Chronicles of Narnia. We will read the books by publication order, not by chronology - this will help us see Narnia as Lewis saw it, as a world being built in his mind. Students will learn how Lewis drew characters, designed plots, and emphasized key themes in each book. Along the way, students will keep a reading journal, collaborate on creative projects, and learn to write a five-paragraph persuasive essay.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-3 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students should be able to write at a middle school level (coherent sentences and paragraphs)</p>
Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews	Jason Fouts	<p>Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews, ISBN 13: 9781434709585</p> <p>Understanding the Times Student Manual (5th), ISBN 13: 9780936163215</p>	<p>Our world revolves around ideas. Politicians, military leaders, CEOs, media moguls, and academics may think they are in charge of world affairs, but what they think—the ideas in their heads—actually control them. Ideas are the guiding force behind every twist and turn in public opinion. They determine what we accept or reject in the arts, media, business, science, education, politics, family, church, and the list goes on endlessly. We cannot understand what's going on in the world until we look below the surface at the ideas that influence our beliefs and behaviors.</p> <p>This curriculum is about the ideas that construct our worldviews. Everyone has a worldview, which helps them interpret what is happening around them. Christianity has an explanation for reality, but so does Islam, Secularism, Marxism, New Spirituality, and Postmodernism. Each of these worldviews is founded upon a pattern of interconnected ideas. These worldviews dictate (consciously or unconsciously) how we interpret and respond to issues like stem-cell research, abortion, transgenderism, human rights, poverty, technology, etc.</p> <p>Make no mistake, these worldviews are at war. This curriculum will open your eyes to the factions competing for your heart and mind. The stakes couldn't be higher. Because all humans are sinners (Romans 6:23), the worldviews developed apart from God will be sinful and flawed. But with the Christian worldview, we get God's perspective on the challenges we face and how best to deal with them.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 3 to 4 hours outside of class each week. Some weeks there will be more, and some less.</p>

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
US History	Chris Gove	America: The Last Best Hope (Volume I): From the Age of Discovery to a World at War America: The Last Best Hope (Volume II): From a World at War to the Triumph of Freedom	Welcome to U.S History! This course will provide a general survey of the story of the United States, from colonization to the Second World War, with special focus on pivotal moments that shaped the development of our country. Students will examine the impact of people, ideas and movements on the course of American history, and the context in which they existed. Students will gain an understanding of how the historical contexts of sources and interpreters impact how history is recorded and related. While participating in this course, students will have weekly reading assignments from the textbook and other sources, write essays, collaborate in group projects, engage in in-class discussions, and complete a final research project. Students will be expected to accomplish 3-5 hours of homework per week. Weekly Homework: 3-5 hours Prerequisites: 6th grade or higher reading and writing skills. Basic computer skills.
Voices of Praise Choir	Leslie Schmunk		Voices of Praise provides opportunities for students of all ability levels to learn and grow together as singers and as musicians. Students will be singing together with the large group as a member of a team honing their ability to harmonize and to blend. They will also have an opportunity to collaborate with other students in duets and small ensembles as well as a possibility of some solo work. In addition, they will have an opportunity to be involved in the selection of songs and music literature. Students perform songs of our Christian faith in all styles including but not limited to contemporary worship music, hymns, jazz, songs of faith from movies, and sacred music from all periods of music history. Emphasis is placed on the use of proper choral and vocal technique, music theory, and music reading skills. Connections choirs present two concerts per year; a Christmas concert and a spring concert. Weekly Homework: 1 hour to 1.5 hours
WOW History	Addison Nohr		Have you ever heard something so interesting that you have to learn more? Or a story from our past that seemed almost unbelievable? The concept of this class is to wow your child with the stories of our past to make them interested in history for the future. We will be talking about everything from the history of ice cream to the pig war in our state's San Juan islands. The history of Hershey's chocolate, and how its history correlates with the turn of the century, the great depression, and World War II. The goal of this class is to captivate these young minds and grow their curiosity for the past while also learning how to ask why and learn the domino effect of how we've gotten to where we are today. This is a no homework required class, my goal is to open their minds to the love of history. We will likely have a few in-class worksheets, but our class will primarily be PowerPoint, in-class discussions, and hands-on projects. Prerequisites: Basic reading and writing skills: primarily copy work within class.
Writing with Ease IV Plus	Sandi Hull	Writing with Ease 4, ISBN-10 : 1933339314 or ISBN-13 &rm;: &rm;978-1933339313 Sentence Diagramming, Beginning, The Critical Thinking Co. ISBN 1601448538 Sentence Diagramming, Level 1, The Critical Thinking Co. ISBN 1601448554	In this class, I will bring students through the Writing with Ease Level IV and some supplemental material that will build competence in forming ideas and expressing those ideas in complete, well-punctuated sentences. Writing with Ease IV beautifully presents small passages from classic stories and well-chosen non-fiction as models to read and study. In class, we will engage in each passage, and the students will participate weekly in crafting a narration and/or a summary from the passage with me. A narration includes as much detail as one can remember from a short piece of text; a summary is a broad overview of a text with a few paragraphs. Both are important skills as a writer and a thinker. Each week in class, we will also study ideas at a sentence level using model sentences, classifying, diagramming, sentence combining, and punctuation exercises. Students will conclude this year with a solid understanding of many ways to express themselves at a sentence level and will gain a great amount of flexibility in their capacity to communicate ideas. The required homework for class will be for students to copy the narration or summary from the class that week into their notebooks and to study and/or copy the model sentence so that they are prepared to write it at the beginning of the next class period. They will also have diagramming homework to complete. Weekly Homework: Students should be able to complete the homework for this class in two hours per week. Prerequisites: Students will do best in this class if they can read at a fourth grade level and if they have the stamina to write one short paragraph without stopping. No previous grammar experience is necessary, but students who are familiar with the Shurley method will appreciate the connection that will be made between it and the diagramming model.

WEDNESDAY			
Title	Instructor(s)	Textbook	Description
Writing with Ease Level II	Sandi Hull	Writing with Ease, Level 2 Workbook, ISBN-10: 1933339292 or ISBN-13: 978-1933339290	<p>In this class, I will bring students through the Writing with Ease Level II. This curriculum is a complete language arts curriculum designed for second graders, yet it is easily scaled up or down.</p> <p>Writing with Ease beautifully presents small passages from classic stories and well-chosen non-fiction as models to read and study. In class, we will read the passage together, and the students will engage in the stories by helping me craft narrations and/or summaries from the passage. A narration includes as much detail as one can remember from a short piece of text; a summary is a short and broad overview of a text. Both are important skills as a writer and a thinker, and students love the challenge of putting their thoughts into words!</p> <p>Each week in class, we will also study the grammar, spelling, and punctuation in a model sentence that is related to the passage for that week.</p> <p>Supplemental punctuation or grammar exercises may be used in class to help students master specific concepts. We will make time to have fun thinking about words, spelling, and sentences with games and challenges.</p> <p>I send out a weekly email after class with the narration and summaries that we complete in class and with the dictation that we studied. The at-home work for the students is directly connected to what we create in class together.</p> <p>For students to experience the most growth from this class, they would regularly complete the following tasks at home:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Copy the narration or summary from class each week; 2) Study and/or copy the model sentence in preparation to write it at the beginning of the next class period; 3) Optional enrichment tasks like working to memorize a stanza of a poem will be occasionally offered. <p>Students who are ready to scale up in their workloads at home could add or vary any of the following tasks, each one flexing a skill in a different area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Complete the task from day three in WWE II, which is a new summary from a different passage; 2) Write the summary/narration from class while having a parent dictate it instead of copying it from the email. <p>I would be happy to make a scaling-up or scaling-down plan for the homework for any student.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: Typically, homework can be completed in three 20-min segments each week. There are options built into the curriculum for families who want to scale-up the workload.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Students will need the stamina to write one full sentence without taking a long break. (Pencil grips are welcome.)</p>
Yearbook Team	Elisa Handley		<p>The Connections Yearbook Team is a fabulously creative and collaborative group of students joining forces to design and produce a yearbook for all the students and families of Connections.</p> <p>The Yearbook is student-developed, with a high level of parental involvement, using a web-based yearbook design service. A wireless-enabled laptop is required for each student for in-class instruction. Homework during the week can be done on any internet-enabled computer from home. The students will plan, photograph, and layout the entire Connections Yearbook. They will receive instruction in layout and design, web-based publishing, and digital photography techniques. Having a digital camera for use is a plus.</p> <p>Approximately 2-5 hours per week of outside homework is expected to photograph classes and activities, conduct interviews, and complete online projects, which will require students to be self-motivated and able to work independently. Additional training or work parties outside of class may be scheduled as needed. Emphasis will be placed on teamwork, goal-setting, time management, task completion, and finally, producing and marketing the yearbook. Fundraising is required. Students will be expected to secure advertisements and participate in any other fundraisers. Grades are based on attendance, fundraising participation, quality of work produced, and deadlines met.</p> <p>Weekly Homework: 2-4 hours</p> <p>Prerequisites : Please complete questionnaire or interview with Yearbook Instructor Supplies: Students need a web-enabled laptop that they bring to class each week, preferably not a chromebook.</p>