**7th & 8th Grade Electives - Periods 1 and 9**

**7th and 8th grade Band – Sperry/Colglazier**

Seventh and Eighth grade band is a year-long class, meeting every day, designed to continue to advance the fundamentals learned in 5th and 6th grade band. Students must have had at least two years of band, or one year of band along with the director's permission. Students must have a musical instrument and required supplies. Students will perform a wide variety of concert music at two concerts, pep assemblies, and music festival. Students will have the opportunity to try out for district honor band, and perform a solo at music festival.

**7th and 8th Grade Choir - Rome**

This class is a mixed (male and female) ensemble that involves singing and performing a variety of music. Students will work on proper singing technique as well as skills in music literacy. Students will have the option of trying out for district choir and performing solos and in small ensembles at music festival. They will participate in 3 concerts and 1 music festival.

**Tech Lab – (Grades 6-8) Wagner**

Tech Lab is primarily a class of various projects. It resembles an engineering and design class.  Some possible topics include rockets, towers, bridges, solar cars, and kites. Each project requires a pre and post test, several days of research, and the engineering and designing of the object. We finalize the project with a competition to determine the best engineered project. This class is not open to 8th graders who have already taken the class.

**World Wars - Nuss**

World Wars is a class that will cover the years prior to World War I and conclude with the end of World War II. We will study both of the wars in depth and analyze the long term effects each had on the world today. The class will cover a wide range of topics relating to the wars including specific battles, changes in technology, and an in-depth look at experiences real people had during these events. It is advisable for most 7th graders to wait until second semester to take this class.

**Weights & Conditioning - Erway**

Weights will be an elective class that will focus on improving muscular strength, flexibility and overall health. The class will consist of 15-20 students working in a circuit training format. (They will move from station to station working on an arrangement of different muscle groups).

**Creative Writing (NP/Yearbook) - Herrman**

This class will be involved in writing poetry, generating a school newspaper and yearbook, basket stories and many other fun and exciting ways to write.

**Teacher's Aide**

The aide program is designed for students who have demonstrated appropriate behavior, good attendance, and average to above average grades. This is a position of trust and students will be assigned to best meet the needs of the faculty and staff of Larned Middle School. If your record wasn't "so great" this year, you may still apply but mark that you want to be considered for the second semester. This will give you an opportunity to improve and prove yourself during the first semester next year. You must have had to fill out the application before you can select.

**Environmental Science - Stearns**

This hands on project-based class explores environmental issues of the day and informs students how to be good citizens of the Earth. Issues covered include: climate change, alternative forms of energy, harmful chemicals causing cancer, oil and spill prevention & cleanup, deforestation, and protecting our oceans and animals. Projects include: making bird feeders/houses, vertical gardens, and maintaining the Butterfly Garden at Ft. Larned. By the end of the class, you will know how to care for our planet and protect our vital resources, plus you can eat whatever you grow in class!

**Algebraic Concepts – A. Cuadra (2nd semester only)**

**(Teacher and Administration selected based on criteria)**

This is an advanced placement class that is invitation only.  Students must have a recommendation from the 8th grade math teacher and meet score requirements on the state assessments testing.  Students in this class will receive additional math instruction designed to push them beyond typical 8th grade math standards, and prepare them to successfully complete Geometry and Algebra 2 their Freshman year.

**Advanced Computers (Computer Applications) - Strasburg**

This class composes the use of computer programs on the school Macs.  The three primary programs are ibook, Coding course, & Prezi.  The students will also use all Google Drive applications with a primary emphasis on Presentation and Documents.  The class basically taught on a project by project basis with normal 3 to 7 days to complete project.

**Impact Math Skills - Erway**

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students work at their instructional level on foundational math skills in small whole group, small group and one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice and independent work to show mastery of skills. Students will also have the opportunity to gains skills and see the lesson to be taught the following day.

**Impact Reading Skills - Reece**

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students will work at their instructional level on foundational reading and writing skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonics, & writing.  Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one skill work in the above mentioned areas.  Instruction will be scaffolded and include an abundance of modeling, guided practice and eventually independent work to show mastery of skills.

**Impact Study Skills - Hulse**

Teaching proper study habits.  Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills if needed.

**Spanish I - Wilcox**

Spanish 1 focuses on the basic foundations of Spanish. The course will include reading, writing, speaking, and listening in Spanish. Students will also learn about Spanish speaking countries and culture.

**Lego Robotics (Limited to 20 students, Gr 6-8) - Auldridge**

Get ready to explore the world of Robotics. We will dive into the creation process using programs and equipment like Lego MINDSTORMS EV3. Students will increase their planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creative skills. Students will also develop strong communication and collaboration skills as well as practice visualization and decision-making. By the end of the semester, students will know how robotics can help our everyday lives.  Students will also learn the importance of perseverance in the design cycle. Above all, we will have a ton of fun designing and bringing to life our very own Robots.

**News Broadcasting – A. Cuadra**

In this class, students will work with technology to broadcast news happening in the school.  Students will broadcast daily announcements as well as daily or weekly news in the school.  This class will focus on news happening in Larned Middle School.  Each day we will put together a short video to be used as the daily announcements for the next day.

**Physical Science– Stearns**

This physical Science course would include: atoms, chemistry, pulleys, ropes, resonance, sound, light, wavelengths, color, mass, velocity, speed, zero gravity & sports in space, all these projects investigated by hands-on activities.

**Introduction to Fine Arts - Strasburg**

This class will focus on writing structure with emphasis on narrative writing and writing prompts.  It will also include a presentation-style lesson, creating and acting out plays, and classic films.

**Game of Life - Hulse**

Using the Real Game Curriculum, this course will explore careers, personal finance/budgets, education and various life skills.  Students will take interest inventories to determine their strengths and what careers would compliment those strengths.  It will look into colleges, (costs and time frame for getting your degree).  Finally students will learn to use a checking account.  If time allows they’ll learn about insurance, credit cards, housing and vehicle expenses.

**Books and Beyond (Grades 6-8) - Herrman**

Do you love to read?  Would you enjoy having class time to read books YOU want to read instead of books that are assigned to you?  Would you like to tell others about great books you’ve read, hear suggested ‘must-reads’ from your peers, and create unique response projects for some of your favorites?  If so, this is the class for you!  Reading is the single most important thing students can do to enrich vocabulary and language development, so join us for a reading rendezvous!​

**Game Programming – M. Cuadra**

Designing games presents unique challenges distinct from the design issues of other interactive media. In addition to the user interface, one must consider story, culture, modeling, and implementation. This course will explore developing usable and engaging games, human computer interaction, thematic structures, graphic design, sound effects, and game aesthetics. One of the softwares that will be used is the Unity software and “Unity Technologies offers a platform for creating beautiful and engaging 2D, 3D, VR, and AR games and apps.” “Unity touches 770 million gamers all over the world through games made using our engine. By comparison, Twitter has 310 million monthly active users.” Students will plan and create games both individually and collaboratively using the software to create games. The goal of the course is to allow students to explore the creative possibilities presented through the field of game design and to develop an appreciation for the beauty and logic of programming.

**Statistics in Sports (Fall Semester) - Nuss**

Statistics in Sports will deal with how statistics are calculated in the world of sports.  From batting averages and ERA in baseball all the way to G-forces in NASCAR.  We will discuss how statistics impact an athlete's salary contract as well.  In addition we will run a Fantasy Football league for the class complete with a draft and weekly competitions.  The winner will receive the coveted "Indian Trophy"!

**Teen Leadership (Spring Semester) - Nuss**

This Teen Leadership course develops critical, life-changing skills including taking personal responsibility, expressing yourself well, and making good decisions when problems arise.  Curriculum topics might include: leadership skills, principle-based decision-making skills, personal responsibility, attitude, social skills, consequences of choices, resisting peer pressure, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, preparation for school-to-work transition, public speaking, and goal setting

**7TH GRADE ELECTIVE CIRCLE (9-week rotation) CLASSES**

**Current Events - Hulse**

The goal of a Current Events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in depth understanding and appreciation of current events. The focus of the class will be issues that affect the student as a resident of the World, the U.S., Kansas, and the local area. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. The objectives of this course are: to make the connection between current events and history, to enhance the student’s understanding of world events, and to encourage students to be informed citizens.

**Math Skill-Building – M. Cuadra**

Students work at their instructional level on math skills in whole group, small group or one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities and independent work in building math skills.

**ELA Skill-Building - Strasburg**

Students will work at their instructional level on reading and writing skills. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one language arts skill work. Instruction will be include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities, and independent work in building ELA skills.

**Keyboarding 7 - Wagner**

Keyboarding is an extension to proper keyboarding habits.  During the course of this class students will learn the correct fingering for entering, alphabetic, numeric, and symbolic information.  Emphasis is put on accuracy, speed, proper technique, and correct fingering.

**Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch**

**(Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long)**

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills.  Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.

**8TH GRADE ELECTIVE CIRCLE (9-week rotation) CLASSES**

**TechYES - Stearns**

A computer course based on the TechYES student technology literacy certification program. Students will learn a variety of computer software applications (Pages, Keynote, Numbers, Comic Life, IMovie, Garage Band, etc.) Additionally students will learn team cooperative computer skills utilizing Google Drive for presentations, reports, and spreadsheets.  Besides completing two TechYES projects, students will have a variety of mini-projects to complete such as: Field trips to learn how our network technology works, collaborative construction project, and others. Learning of computer technology is based on a hands-on approach that makes it fun and educational.

**Math Skill-Building – A. Cuadra**

Students work at their instructional level on math skills in whole group, small group or one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities and independent work in building math skills.

**ELA Skill-Building - Herrman**

Students will work at their instructional level on reading and writing skills. Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one language arts skill work. Instruction will be include modeling, guided practice, enrichment opportunities, and independent work in building ELA skills.

**Current Events - Nuss**

The goal of a Current Events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in depth understanding and appreciation of current events. The focus of the class will be issues that affect the student as a resident of the World, the U.S., Kansas, and the local area. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. The objectives of this course are: to make the connection between current events and history, to enhance the student’s understanding of world events, and to encourage students to be informed citizens.

**Study Skills/Test Taking Skills – McDonald/Bunch**

**(Teacher selected based on criteria - typically year-long)**

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills.  Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.

**6th Grade Electives - Period 9**

**Weights & Conditioning – Erway (open to grades 6-8)**

Weights will be an elective class that will focus on improving muscular strength, flexibility and overall health. The class will consist of 15-20 students working in a circuit training format. (They will move from station to station working on an arrangement of different muscle groups).

**Lego Robotics – Auldridge (limited to 20, open to grades 6-8)**

Get ready to explore the world of Robotics. We will dive into the creation process using programs and equipment like Lego MINDSTORMS EV3. Students will increase their planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creative skills. Students will also develop strong communication and collaboration skills as well as practice visualization and decision-making. By the end of the semester, students will know how robotics can help our everyday lives.  Students will also learn the importance of perseverance in the design cycle. Above all, we will have a ton of fun designing and bringing to life our very own Robots.

**Tech Lab – Wagner (open to grades 6-8)**

A computer course based on the TechYES student technology literacy certification program. Students will learn a variety of computer software applications (Pages, Keynote, Numbers, Comic Life, IMovie, Garage Band, etc.) Additionally students will learn team cooperative computer skills utilizing Google Drive for presentations, reports, and spreadsheets.  Besides completing two TechYES projects, students will have a variety of mini-projects to complete such as: Field trips to learn how our network technology works, collaborative construction project, and others. Learning of computer technology is based on a hands-on approach that makes it fun and educational.

**Environmental Science-Stearns (open to grades 6-8)**

This project based course will instruct students about the environmental issues of our time. Everything from global warming to alternative forms of energy will be discussed and researched through hands-on projects. We will create items for the Ft. Larned Butterfly Garden, make bird feeders, construct a cold frame, touch and build worm compost bins, grow plants, perform computer research on selected items, and learn by doing. Guaranteed you will not be the same after taking this environmental course on how to save our planet.

**Impact Math Skills (6th only) - Coles**

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students work at their instructional level on foundational math skills in small whole group, small group and one-on-one math skills work. Instruction will include modeling, guided practice and independent work to show mastery of skills. Students will also have the opportunity to gains skills and see the lesson to be taught the following day.

**Impact Reading Skills (6th only) - King**

(Assigned to based on teacher & administrative recommendation) Students will work at their instructional level on foundational reading and writing skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, phonics, & writing.  Class sessions will consist of whole group, small group and one-on-one skill work in the above mentioned areas.  Instruction will be scaffolded and include an abundance of modeling, guided practice and eventually independent work to show mastery of skills.

**Introductory Art (6th only) - Prescott**

This is an introductory Art course designed to give 6th graders a sampling of art projects that emphasize the elements (line, form, color, value, texture) and principles of art (balance, variety, harmony, emphasis). Understanding and appreciation of self and others through art history, culture, and heritage is emphasized. A variety of media and techniques create an active learning experience.

**Books and Beyond (Grades 6-8) - Herrman**

Do you love to read?  Would you enjoy having class time to read books YOU want to read instead of books that are assigned to you?  Would you like to tell others about great books you’ve read, hear suggested ‘must-reads’ from your peers, and create unique response projects for some of your favorites?  If so, this is the class for you!  Reading is the single most important thing students can do to enrich vocabulary and language development, so join us for a reading rendezvous!​

**6TH GRADE ELECTIVE CIRCLE (9-week rotation) CLASSES**

**3D Print Exploration - Auldridge**

- 3DPE (3D Printing Exploration) : Get ready to explore the world of 3D. We will dive into the creation process using programs like Tinkercad. Through designing 3D printing projects, students will increase their planning, critical thinking, reasoning, and creative skills. Students will also develop strong communication and collaboration skills as well as practice visualization and decision making. By the end of the quarter students will know how and when to use 3D printing technology and how to choose appropriate tools. Students will also learn the importance of perseverance in the design cycle. Above all, we will have a ton of fun designing and bringing to life our very own 3D imaginings. Topics covered include: History of 3D printing, CAD software, Tinkercad, Fair Use, Digital Citizenship

Design. A keychain will be the final project for the class.

**Keyboarding 6 - Coles**

Keyboarding is an introduction to proper keyboarding.  During the course of this class, students will learn the correct fingering for entering, alphabetic, numeric, and symbolic information.  Emphasis is put on accuracy, speed, proper technique, and correct fingering

**Reader’s Theatre - King**

This class with provide sixth graders with an opportunity to perform short plays.  This will be an interactive class that will focus on improving fluency and reading comprehension, while strengthening vocabulary.  It is a way to let students add movement to their learning by performing reader’s scripts.  Students will learn about expressiveness, intonation, and inflection when rehearsing various content-related texts.  Students will present plays and write reflection papers.

**Current Events - Prescott**

The goal of a Current Events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in depth understanding and appreciation of current events. The focus of the class will be issues that affect the student as a resident of the World, the U.S., Kansas, and the local area. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. The objectives of this course are: to make the connection between current events and history, to enhance the student’s understanding of world events, and to encourage students to be informed citizens.

**Study Skills/Test Taking Skills - (Teacher selected based on criteria) – McDonald/Bunch**

Teaching proper study habits and test taking skills.  Filling out agenda, organizing binders and lockers. Opportunity to get assistance with homework and build skills, if needed.