

2019-2020

GREELEY



OPTIONS

HOME SCHOOL PROGRAM



Course Descriptions

Class Ratings Explained

The class rating determines how much homework time each class will require. Please consider these ratings carefully as you select your student's schedule. Ratings will be followed closely throughout the year.

The ratings are as follows:

1 = no outside homework

2 = infrequent outside homework, not to exceed 1 hour per week

2.5 = between 1 to 2 hours of outside homework per week

3 = approximately 2 hours outside homework

4 = Approximately 3 hours outside homework.

Parent involvement (1 hour teacher instruction, 3 hours **parent supervised work**).

5 = Approximately 4 hours outside homework.

Substantial parent involvement. (1 hour teacher instruction, 4 hours **parent supervised work**).

Academic Homework Policy

Homework policy refers to *academic* class work done at home. This does vary from Elementary to Secondary classes and also depends on which Secondary academic class you're taking.

Performing Arts classes at Greeley Options, regardless of grade level, **ALL require** practice and individual rehearsal by the student as part of the grade.

There is what we term a **Modified Homework Policy** in place at Greeley Options - which is as follows:

Elementary Classes - enrichment only with little to no extra assignments ever sent home and only on a basic level.

Secondary Math Classes - homework assigned weekly and is an integral part of student's mastery of the subject and their grade in the class. Parent supervision **required**.

Secondary Science, Lang Arts, Foreign Language, Social Studies Classes -

- Teachers in these classes will strive to provide in-depth, hands-on lessons and experience within the 60 minute class period
- Satisfactory participation in the classroom will earn a student passing credit for that class.

- Teachers will also assign some homework as required, but these assignments will not be an across-the-board 4 or 5 hours each week.
- Homework will be more targeted and selective, the teacher determining what is the most effective way to teach the subject matter.
- These homework assignments will count towards the student grade.
- In addition, teachers will also make available, on request, extra reading assignments or extra credit projects for the student/parent who desires a more rigorous academic experience.
- Completed 'extra' assignments will also be graded for credit and count toward that student's academic experience and grade.
- The completion and submission of such 'extra' assignments will rest solely on the motivation and responsibility of the student/parent.

Academic Agreement for All '4' or '5' Rated Classes - Implicit

In a '4' or '5' rated class, assigning 4 to 6 hours of weekly homework, the teacher will go over new material, instruction and practice problems for each week's assigned lesson(s) to ensure understanding in class. Students will be expected to complete assignments for the week at home.

Parents are responsible for ensuring follow-up work is completed, reviewing lessons as necessary, grading daily homework, protecting answer keys, and proctoring home study tests.

Parents are required to oversee the work of the student and not depend on the 1 hour of in-class instruction to achieve mastery. Consistency in completing the lessons is crucial.

Students will be tested regularly at home and in the classroom. All tests will be graded by the teacher.

Please note - 4 and 5 rated classes may have some homework over the December break in order to maintain continuity of instruction and to allow the class to finish all required material on time.

Student Reading and Writing Level

All classes, regardless of homework rating or level, require enrolled students to have and exercise a grade-appropriate reading and writing level. Any student that is 2 or more years **below** their registered grade reading/writing level needs to request a meeting with the Site Coordinator, and possibly teachers, before their final class schedule is approved.

Multi-Graded Classes

At Greeley OPTIONS almost all classes are multi-graded.

The majority of grade ranges stay within the designations of Elementary, Middle or High School grade ranges.

Occasionally grade ranges are expanded to allow the greatest number of eligible students the opportunity to participate.

Classes with expanded grade ranges are presented with the thought that class content and activity will be appropriate for any enrolled student.

Study Halls and Teacher Aides

Study Hall periods are not part of the OPTIONS school day and will not be scheduled for students.

At times, particular classes / teachers can use the help of Student Aides and these can be scheduled under the following guidelines:

- 1) Students in grades 8 – 12 can request one period to be a teacher/office aide
- 2) All Aide positions will be approved by **both** the Teacher **and** the Site Coordinator
- 3) Teachers cannot approve Aides without Coordinator approval
- 4) Aide positions are not first-come, first served. In the case of multiple student requests to a particular class, the most *helpful* student will be enrolled as aide. *Helpfulness* will be determined by the Teacher and Site Coordinator.

Repeating Classes from Year to Year

Some classes are designed so that students can take them subsequent years and the content will be different. Other classes have the same content every year they are offered. Classes content will be marked 'Same' or 'Different' every year. Some classes will be marked 'Different Every Other Year' and are structured to be the same every 2 years. Parents and students can choose to repeat classes with the understanding that the content will be exactly the same and no additional lessons or resources will be provided.

A Note About 1-Chance Classes and 2-Day Enrollment

Normally students are not allowed to attend both days of Greeley Options. We do have some classes that are offered on one day but not the other. This is due to teacher schedules and also in an effort to expand some of our theater and music offerings.

Specifically we are offering the following 1-Chance classes this year:

Musical Theater - offered *only* on Tuesday (gr. 4-12)

Dramatic Performance - offered *only* on Monday (gr. 4-12)

Guitar 2 - offered *only* on Monday (gr. 7-12)

Musical Showcase - offered *only* on Monday (gr. 3-8)

We know that not offering these classes on both days will be a big disappointment to some students and families. In order to offer the greatest opportunity to all students the following policy is in place:

Students who wish to take any of the above classes on their 'opposite' day may do so, provided they maintain a full 6-period schedule on their enrolled day. The above classes are the only classes for which students may attend on their opposite day, (with the following exception):

High School students only may request taking an academic class in Science, Social Studies, Math or Language Arts on their opposite day if they cannot fit that class into their regular schedule. Again, they must maintain a full, 6-period schedule on their enrolled day.

Students who attend a class on their opposite day are expected to fulfill all practice and performance requirements of the class, during the school year and at performance time. Students also are expected to maintain diligent attendance on their opposite day. More than 3 non-health related absences and the student/parent will be counseled to drop the class.

Parents are also expected to fulfill any volunteer requirements for the specific class their student attends on the opposite day, specifically Musical Theater and Theater Performance classes.

In order to request enrollment in a class on your opposite Options day, you will email the Site Coordinator directly at: greeleyoptionsk12@gmail.com

How To Select Classes

All schedules must be submitted through our website:
www.greeleyoptions.org

There will be two active links to choose from:

[Monday Classes](#)

[Tuesday Classes](#)

Follow the below instructions as you select a schedule for each student enrolling in the OPTIONS Program:

- 1) **New Students must have ALL registration paperwork complete and submitted prior to selecting a schedule.**
- 2) **Select 1 Class and 1 Alternate Choice for each period.** Students will be placed in classes on a first-come, first-served basis based on the day and time your schedule is received. Classes may close based on enrollment numbers and students selecting a closed class will be placed in their alternate choice and may remain on a wait list to get into their first choice. Parents **will be** notified if their student has been placed in an alternate choice class.
- 3) **The Class Schedule Is Never Perfect For Every Student.** There may be a period or two where you must choose a class that is not ideal or not one that you *really* want but every student must select 6 class periods. Secondary Students must email the Site Coordinator to **request** a Student Aide or Office Intern period.
- 4) **Carefully read the Class Schedule.** Note all the classes available for your student's grade range in each period. Some classes encompass multiple grade levels. For a two-period block class the student must take both periods.
- 5) **Carefully read the Course Descriptions.** Make sure you are selecting levels, topics, skills and home work assigned (see Class Ratings) that are appropriate for your student and that compliment your larger, at-home educational program.
- 6) **Educational Level.** If you wish to enroll a student in a class that is above or below their grade level, please contact the Site Coordinator first.

Dropping / Adding / Changing Classes. Once initial class selections have concluded, schedule changes can be submitted beginning August 1st, again through the Options website. A schedule change form will be available to make changes. At the beginning of the school year there will be a 3-4 week add/drop period to make one final change to schedules. All classes are year-long and we do not change classes at semester. After the add / drop period class change requests are considered by the Site Coordinator on a case-by-case basis.

Kindergarten / 1st Grade Program at OPTIONS

Hands-on, Engaging Enrichment

Our Kindergarten and 1st Grade students do not select an individual class schedule like the rest of our students. These classes are in what we call a 'Block' schedule spending the day with their primary teachers and their K/1 classmates. The K/1 schedule does not necessarily follow the rest of the school day schedule, rather the teachers are able to plan unit and cooperative studies and a schedule that best meets the needs of our youngest students. K/1 students spend 60 minutes each OPTIONS day in an Enrichment class, which will usually be a combination of Music and PE but may also incorporate other enrichment activities - the rest of their schedule is divided into activities encompassing Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Art and Free Play.

A sample K/1 schedule might look like this:

8:15-8:30 – Morning Meeting

8:30-9:15 – Science

9:15-9:30 – Snack/Restroom Break

9:30-10:15 – Primary Math Concepts

10:15-10:45 – Recess

10:45-11:30 – Language Arts Enrichment

11:30-12:00 – Journal Writing / Handwriting Enrichment

12:00-12:45 – Lunch

12:45-2:00 – Music / PE *Enrichment Classes*

2:00-2:30 – Art

2:30-3:10 – Story Time / Reading / Clean up

3:15 – Dismissal

Kindergarten and 1st Grade classes at OPTIONS do not follow a sequential, core learning program. The parent remains the primary educator of their K/1 student and OPTIONS strives to complement and enrich the common skills and topics introduced in the primary years.

2nd Grade Track at OPTIONS

Transition Year for Individual and Academic Success!

In an effort to better meet the social and academic needs of our 2nd grade students, we have created a track of classes that offer a unique blend of change within a comfortable platform of familiar peer experience. This group of students will change classes every hour but take the same schedule with their classmates. Their classes will explore units in Science, Math, Art, PE, Spanish and Music. All subjects will be taught with enrichment focus and emphasize hands-on, engaged learning. The goal is to provide a transition year of gaining personal responsibility skills, being prepared for each class and enriching core foundational skills like reading, writing and math that will lead to greater individual success at the OPTIONS Program. The parent remains the primary educator and retains the responsibility for the child's sequential learning at home.

2nd Grade Students will eat Lunch at the same time as the OPTIONS student body.

2nd Grade Track Classes at Greeley OPTIONS

- 1st Period - 2nd Grade Spanish
- 2nd Period - 2nd Grade Music
- 3rd Period - 2nd Grade PE
- 4th Period - 2nd Grade Math Games
- 5th Period - 2nd Grade Art
- 6th Period - 2nd Grade Science

Course Descriptions by Subject

Science Courses:

Class Title: Elementary Science I & II

Grade Range: 2nd – 6th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Science at the Elementary level is hands-on and inquiry-based. Topics studied will be drawn from units in life science, earth science, physics, chemistry, space, technology and/or weather. Instruction is at a grade-appropriate level and easy for parents to build on at home with the curriculum of their choice. Students will be introduced to the scientific method and lab write-ups and be prepared for more advanced lab-based sciences in middle school. Some quizzes and tests may be introduced in the Science II Level.

Class Title: K'Nex Engineering Marvels

Grade Range: 3rd – 6th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: The K'NEX® Education curriculum provides an opportunity to combine real-world applications with STEM concepts in a classroom environment. Using these materials, students will be engaged and energized as they experience the interrelationships and further their knowledge and understanding of the science, technology, engineering and math concepts associated with building projects and activities. Build bridges, roller coasters, renewable energy-powered machines, elevators and airplanes and learn hands-on the complexity of building within the laws of physics and mathematics! This class is an opportunity to explore Elementary physics and STEM topics in a fun, engaging meeting and get your hands on lots of K'Nex!

Class Title: LEGO Mindstorms EV3 Robotics

Grade Range: 6th – 12th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This course will explore the electronic and computing aspects of scientific technology by building and programming robots using LEGO Mindstorms EV3 building sets. Topics covered include electronics of robots, understanding electricity and circuits, robotic programming, and computers and basic computing skills. Students will learn to work together to complete challenges

with the robots they create and program, design simple machines and understand how they work, learn the basics of programming robots using a unique programming language created by LEGO and indulge their love of LEGO building!

Class Title: Life Science w/ Anatomy

Grade Range: 6th – 9th

Homework Rating: 2.5

Class Content: Same each year

Description: Life Science is an inquiry-oriented course about principles and concepts concerning the biological world. Frequent laboratory activities introduce and reinforce concepts and principles of life science. A strong emphasis will be placed on helping students understand the processes of scientific investigation and learn to design, conduct, communicate about, and evaluate such investigation. Students will focus on use of microscopes, genetics, microbiology, botany, with an additional emphasis on human anatomy. Chapters on evolutionary theory and human reproduction are not covered during class. Laboratory experiments including dissections, plating of microbiological organisms and crafts are performed weekly. Hands-on participation in dissection is not required, but students are required to take notes.

Class Title: Anatomy

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same each year

Description: Anatomy will be taking a trip through the human body and learning animal systems and how they differ. This class will be set up similar to an unbiased sports medicine, exercise science, and health aspect. We will go through each of the body systems and be able to efficiently communicate how our bodies work by the end. There will be dissections in this class, but alternative activities will be available.

Class Title: General Science

Grade Range: 6th – 9th

Homework Rating: 2.5

Class Content: Same each year

Description: General science will be a glimpse into each of the scientific disciplines. Students will explore units in astronomy, life science, earth science, physical science, and chemistry. This class will do one dissection. Instead of using traditional, boring, dry science texts we are striving for a practical, hands-on general science class that does not require a heavy, math foundation to be successful. Instead this class will emphasize practical science and students will

complete the course having a better understanding of how science can and will be useful to them in everyday life. For those students who hate math, hate science OR for those students who LOVE science and want to learn some down-to-earth science they will use and enjoy knowing throughout their lives, we are designing this class for all of you in mind! Various resources and materials will be prepared by the instructor.

Math Courses:

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PARENT/STUDENT AGREEMENT</u> <u>FOR ALL MATH CLASSES:</u></p>

The teacher will go over the new material and practice problems for each assigned lesson to ensure understanding in class. Students will be expected to complete the assigned lessons for the week at home.

Parents are responsible for reviewing lessons as necessary, grading daily homework, protecting answer keys, and proctoring home study tests. Parents are expected to oversee the work of the child, not just check for completion.

Consistency in completing the lessons is crucial. If your child is missing problems on daily assignments this is an indicator that the concept has not been understood and needs to be reviewed. Students will be tested regularly at home and in the classroom. All tests will be graded by the teacher. **Parents are to provide re-teaching experiences to the child to ensure understanding of concepts.**

***Class Title:* Mathtastic! Math Games**

***Grade Range:* 2nd – 5th**

***Homework Rating:* 1**

***Class Content:* Different each year**

Description: Do you think you aren't any good at math? Take this class and you will become Mathtastic! This will be a hands-on math class supplementing your math curriculum at home. Students will begin the year with basic number skills and continue on to addition and subtraction, time, calendars, measurement, fractions and money. This class will use games and activities to learn and reinforce math skills. Students may take weekly timed tests to improve their speed and accuracy on timed tests and incorporate as many games, puzzles, brain teasers and manipulatives as we can find!

***Class Title:* Pre-Algebra**

***Grade Range:* 6th – 9th**

***Homework Rating:* 5**

***Prerequisite:* Mastery of Elementary Math**

***Class Content:* Same each year**

Description: Students will complete all of Pre-Algebra through home assignments four days per week and one class period per week. Students will study numbers and operations, relationships among numbers, and number systems. They will understand meanings of operations and how they relate to each other and will learn to compute fluently. Students will be introduced to Algebra concepts and solving for unknowns. Upon completion of this course students will be prepared to study Algebra I. Students will receive a textbook and answer key for class. Parents will be expected to work with their student daily at home on classroom assignments.

***Class Title:* Algebra 1**

***Grade Range:* 6th – 10th**

***Homework Rating:* 5**

***Prerequisite:* Pre-Algebra**

***Class Content:* Same each year**

Description: The Teaching Textbooks program uses a review method to ensure retention. The program also uses problems to prepare students for SAT/ACT tests. Students will complete all of Algebra I through home assignments four days per week and one class period per week. Students will understand patterns, relations and functions. They will learn to represent and analyze mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols. Students will solve for unknowns in varied situations, use graphing to represent mathematical systems, and compute fluently with number systems. Students will use the language of mathematics to express mathematical ideas precisely. Middle School students completing this course with a grade of A will be eligible to receive high school credit. Students will receive a textbook and answer key and CD Rom with step by step solutions. . Parents will be expected to work with their student daily at home on classroom assignments.

***Class Title:* Geometry**

***Grade Range:* 9th – 12th**

***Homework Rating:* 5**

***Prerequisite:* Algebra 1**

***Class Content:* Same each year**

Description: The Teaching Textbooks program uses a review method to ensure retention. The program also uses problems to prepare students for SAT/ACT tests. Students will complete all of Geometry through home assignments four days per week and one class period per week. Students will study concepts including lines and angles, congruent

triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, bisectors, proofs and theorems and coordinate geometry. Middle School students completing this course with a grade of A will be eligible to receive high school credit. . Students will receive a textbook and answer key and CD Rom with step by step solutions. . Parents will be expected to work with their student daily at home on classroom assignments.

Class Title: Algebra 2

Grade Range: 10th – 12th

Homework Rating: 5

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Class Content: Same each year

Description: The Teaching Textbooks program uses a review method to ensure retention. The program also uses problems to prepare students for SAT/ACT tests. Students will complete all of Algebra 2 through home assignments four days per week and one class period per week. Students will study concepts including solving higher degree equations with multiple variables, powers and roots, systems of equations, and absolute value. Trigonometry is not included in this course. Students will receive a textbook, answer key and set of computer CDs with step-by-step solutions Parents are expected to work with their student daily at home on classroom assignments.

Class Title: Personal Finance

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same each year

Description: This course will provide students with the essential financial knowledge they need to manage their money. Studies will include economics, forms of income, saving and investing options, payroll deductions and employer payroll tax payments, entrepreneurial ventures, consumerism, banking and wise use of credit.

Class Title: Mathematics Mastery

Grade Range: 6th – 8th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same each year

Description: This class is **not** intended to replace consistent, sequential math instruction and should not be used as a math credit for the student. This class is designed for students who have completed at least a 5th grade math course and need to beef up their basic math foundation before proceeding into algebraic classes. The class will be working on pre-algebra / pregeometry concepts and will use games and activities to learn and reinforce math skills and concepts such as algebraic functions, patterns in number sequences, graphing, fractiondecimal- percent relationships, angles and triangles, operations with positive

and negative integers, order of operations, and problem solving.

Social Studies Courses:

Class Title: U.S. Landforms, Landmarks & Geography

Grade Range: 3rd – 5th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Come and tour the United States and learn about the beautiful natural landforms from plateaus, bays, mountains, islands, and more! Some of our most beautiful landforms are also famous landmarks, like the Grand Canyon and Carlsbad Caverns. We will model what we have learned through creative writing and making hands on projects.

Class Title: Ameritowne

Grade Range: 3rd – 5th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Same each year (but repeat class participation is usually most valuable for students)

Description: We will be using the Young Ameritowne guide to bring activities and lessons into the classroom designed to teach about the free enterprise system. We will cover seven main concepts, including basic economics, banking, money management, government, communications, philanthropy, and business preparation. This is a hands-on lesson in free enterprise. The year will culminate with a field trip to the Ameritowne facility in Denver with a day to put their learning into practice running their very own mini American town. After the Ameritowne field trip in March each year, the class turns its attention to Ameritowne Shoppes! Students form mini-stores, choose their own hand-made products to sell to other students and become American entrepreneurs! All proceeds are donated to a local charity of the students' choosing. This past year both classes raised and donated over \$800 to Life Stories for abused and neglected children.

Class Title: World War II History

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Grade Range: 6th – 9th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same every year

Our WWII course will begin with the causes and events leading up to the war itself, beginning around 1932. We will complete in-depth character studies of some of the key

players for both the Allied and Axis Powers – the dictators, the presidents, the prime ministers. We will move along with soldiers from various countries through different theaters of the war and see things through their eyes via primary sources like letters and diaries. Our class will end with the lasting effects of actions taken during the war and just a taste of the beginnings of the Cold War which would last until 1990 with the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Class Title: 4-D History

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Homework Rating: 2.5

Class Content: Different every year

Description: Why does history have to be boring!

Because we forget that history is made up of people just like you and me that went to bed too late, ate the wrong foods, listened to ‘revolutionary’ music, looked at ‘scandalous’ art and wanted culture to change and reflect and remember who ‘they’ were! Well we can do that in 4-D History - we will be looking through the four lenses of literature, music, art, and food at different eras throughout history this time with a twist: as we move through our class we will be focusing on 30 different objects that have changed the course of history like the wheel, the printing press, photography, the computer, etc. We are not going to "reinvent the wheel", but we will study the immense impact of everyday objects that have changed the world. Culture is just as much a part of history as names and dates and battlefields. 4-D History will examine art, music, food, culture and more to help dispel the myth of dusty, boring old history and reveal folks who are more like you and me than you would have thought!

Class Title: Leadership Vision

Grade Range: 7th – 12th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Different every year

Description: We have a vision at Greeley Options to encourage our young people to strive to become leaders - in their homes, in their classrooms, in their communities, maybe eventually in their nation or the world! Leadership is a combination of personality traits, skills and experience. You can't make a leader out of a person who doesn't want to lead, but you can teach skills and place students in situations where they can practice those skills, thereby gaining experience they can apply to new leadership situations. This course will have two sections, one for Middle School and one for High School but both will be taught at the same time and the two sections will participate in much co-operative teaching and skill-building sessions. The three main texts that will be used are *What Do You Stand For: A Teens Guide to Building Character*, *The Student Leadership Challenge*, and *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*. Other resources and texts will be used throughout the class as well. Three main focal points of the

class will be 1) creating a better community around you; 2) service learning opportunity through one main community service project; and 3) direct service and leadership opportunity through hands-on work at Greeley Options. All three of these points will emphasize character building, leadership skills and team building. We hope to create a community of teens that catches our vision for the leaders they are growing to become.

Class Title: History of the Renaissance Period
(1300 A.D. – 1600 A.D.)

Grade Range: 6th – 9th

Homework Rating: 3

Pre-requisite: none

Class Content: Same every year

Description: The story of the Renaissance is the story of a world in transition. Popes continue to preach crusade, but the hope of a Christian empire comes to a bloody end on the walls of Constantinople. Aristotelian logic and Greek rationality blossom while the fear and ignorance of the Inquisition gathers strength. Kings and emperors continue to insist on their divine rights, but ordinary people all over the world seize power. New currencies are created, new weapons invented, and world-changing catastrophes alter the landscape: the Little Ice Age and the Great Famine kill millions, the Black Death millions more. In the chaos of these events, our own modern world begins to take shape.

Class Title: International Towne & World
Cultures/Geography

Grade Range: 6th – 9th

Homework Rating: 3

Pre-requisite: none

Class Content: Same every year (repeated class and field trip participation is most beneficial for students)

Description: This course will allow students to have a truly hands-on experience with world economics, global resources and international relations through preparation for and involvement in the International Towne Field Trip. The world cultures component of this course will be integrated within the International Towne curriculum to deepen students understanding of the peoples and resources of the world. After the conclusion of the I-Towne field trip, students will begin preparing for World Market – an opportunity to create small ethnic souvenirs from the countries the students just represented. The students will then sell their goods to their classmates and choose a local charity to support with their profits. **STUDENTS MUST ATTEND THE FIELD TRIP IN THE SPRING.**

Language Arts Courses:

Class Title: Lego Story Starter**Grade Range:** 3rd – 5th**Homework Rating:** 2**Class Content:** Different each year

Description: Ready to explore reading and writing in a whole new way? LEGO® Education Story Starter is a hands-on learning tool that enhances students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the use of a variety of Lego bricks and technology. Students create models that help them develop the beginning, middle and end of their story then use the Story Starter software to share their stories and pictures of their models in creative ways. This high interest course will engage all students in learning to write... and loving the process!

Class Title: Speech & SAT Prep**Grade Range:** 10th – 12th**Homework Rating:** 3**Pre-requisite:** HS Reading Level and Algebra 1**Class Content:** Different every year

Description: Learn all you need to know about these college entrance exams, including standardized test-taking strategies, time management, and skills practice. Students will brush up on academic skills such as reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, algebra, geometry, and essay writing. With ample experience on practice tests and lots of instructor feedback, students will be well-prepared for standardized testing, as well as have the opportunity to develop important college study skills. In addition, proper speech-making and giving techniques will be taught and practiced. After all, no student should prepare for college without learning how to give a good speech!

Class Title: Fantasy Novelist**Grade Range:** 6th – 12th**Homework Rating:** 3**Pre-requisite:** MS Reading/Writing Level**Class Content:** Different every year

Description: Have you ever wanted to write your very own novel, start to finish? Using mentor texts, students will learn the craft of fantasy writing, embarking on their very own hero's quest story-writing experience! Through a series of literature-based lessons, students will learn to use various forms of figurative language; write dialogue and action scenes; create mood and suspense; and fully develop their main characters. They will create their own imaginary

fantasy-land, draw maps, illustrate their own creatures and characters, complete a plot map, and ultimately write an entire novel, complete with illustrations based in this fantasy land! Take your first steps towards becoming the next J.R.R. Tolkien or C.S. Lewis!

Class Title: MS Mythology**Grade Range:** 6th – 9th**Homework Rating:** 2.5**Pre-requisite:** MS Reading/Writing Level**Class Content:** Different every year

Description: **MS Mythology** - In this class, we will explore the many worlds of mythology. We will discuss the roles of the many gods and goddesses throughout the world of mythology. We will look at Korean mythology through *Dragon Pearl* by Yoon Ha Lee. We will also explore Norse mythology through *Magnus Chase and Odd and the Frost Giants*. We will then travel to the world of Egyptian mythology through *The Kane Chronicles*.

Class Title: HS Mythology**Grade Range:** 9th - 12th**Homework Rating:** 2.5**Pre-requisite:** MS Reading/Writing Level**Class Content:** Different every year

Description: **HS Mythology** - In this class, we will explore the more traditional world of mythology, focuses on Roman and Greek mythology. We will discuss the roles of the many gods and goddesses within the Roman and Greek realm. Some of the books we will read include *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, *Antigone* (play), and parts of *The Odyssey*.

Class Title: Journalism & Broadcasting**Grade Range:** 6th – 12th**Homework Rating:** 2**Class Content:** Different each year

Description: This class will incorporate print journalism, filmmaking and tv journalism as students work to create our very own *Options Newsletter* and *Newscast*. In this class, we will look written journalism and broadcasting. We will then apply this knowledge and create a monthly newsletter that will be given out to the whole school! We will also go through the process of creating a video broadcast of all the news that's fit to report happening at the Options Program - class news, teacher news, fellow student news, activities news - students will learn the basic of print and broadcast journalism and learn an awful lot about everything Options!

Spanish Foreign Language Courses:

Class Title: Beginning Spanish Fiesta!

Grade Range: 3rd – 8th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class is intended for the student in grades 3 - 8 with hardly any or zero exposure to the Spanish language. There is no differentiation between the grades as all beginning students learn to hear, repeat and then speak the foreign language. The intent for the older, middle school student is that after this introductory class they may progress to Advanced Spanish Fiesta which moves a little faster and is a little more challenging. Or the MS student may move into Spanish 1 which will require more classroom rigor and homework. This interactive Spanish class utilizes songs, games and hands-on activities to learn common Spanish phrases and vocabulary.

Class Title: Advanced Spanish Fiesta!

Grade Range: 3rd – 8th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class still focuses on hearing and speaking but will continue to emphasize the hands-on interactive songs, games and activities with very little homework. This class will move faster and be more challenging than the beginning Spanish Fiesta class but is still open to 3rd thru 8th grade students who wish to move at a faster pace.

Class Title: Spanish 1

Grade Range: 7th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same every year

Description: This is a secondary language course designed to introduce the Spanish language and culture to middle and high school students. The beginner High School student may take this class. We recommend beginning Middle School students start with the Spanish Fiesta classes to establish their language foundation. The focus of the in-class time will be on basic conversational Spanish, simple grammar structures and geography. The course will also cover cultural topics like art, music, dance, and food. Through the use of projects, games, songs, videos, vocabulary building and conversation practice, students will learn about Spanish speaking cultures and acquire skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. There

will be homework weekly. Parents who wish their student to receive a full HS-credit of foreign language need to supplement this class with additional coursework. This class is not able to provide the content for a complete HS credit.

Class Title: Spanish 2

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Same every year

Description: This is a secondary course for students who have successfully passed Spanish 1 or similar course. The focus of the in-class time will continue the conversational Spanish, grammar structures and geography, but at a higher more challenging level. Students will be exposed to more complex communication themes and grammatical structure. The students will continue their studies about Spanish speaking cultures. Through the use of projects, games, songs, videos, vocabulary building and conversation practice, students will learn about Spanish speaking cultures and acquire skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. There will be homework weekly. *Parents who wish their student to receive a full HS-credit of foreign language need to supplement this class with additional coursework. This class is not able to provide the content for a complete HS credit.*

Music:

Class Title: Beginning Piano

Grade Range: 3rd – 6th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This group class will give students with little or no piano experience a chance to learn to play. Students will learn piano technique, note reading, rhythm and ensemble playing. **Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class.** *Beginning students are expected to practice at least 10 minutes 6 days a week, for the 1st Semester, increasing to 15 minutes daily, 6 days a week by the end of 2nd Semester. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change.*

Class Title: Intermediate Piano

Grade Range: 3rd – 7th

Homework Rating: 3

Prerequisite: Instructor permission

Class Content: Different each year

Description: A continuation of piano skills from Beginning Piano, beginning with Alfred All-In-One Book 3. Improving music reading skills, music theory and solo work and adding in music scales and technique exercises. *Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Intermediate students are expected to practice at least 15 to 20 minutes 6 days a week. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change.*

Class Title: Catch The Beat! Percussion, Rhythm, Music Concepts

Grade Range: 3rd – 8th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Recorders, drums, xylophones, singing and more! Explore music in an exciting way with both pitched and non-pitched percussion instrument, your voice, your hands... what else can we find to make music? Following the ideas of "STOMP", everything makes a noise and students will discover how to put that "noise" into a musical presentation. Explore sound and rhythm in both ensemble and solo playing on a variety of instruments. Rhythm will be taught through notation and rote technique. Beginning concepts of music theory and harmony will be incorporated throughout the year. Students will have the opportunity to perform each semester. Most activities will be in class except for minimal recorder practice at home. This class is strongly encouraged prior to taking an instrument class. New material is introduced each year, so this class can be repeated several times.

Class Title: Catch The Beat! V. 2.0

Grade Range: 6th – 12th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Catch the Beat! V. 2.0 is our next level of percussion for our secondary students. In addition to instruction in rhythm and tuned percussion, V. 2.0 students will have the opportunity to create and perform in the new Options Hand Chime Choir.

Class Title: Beginning Strings

Grade Range: 3rd – 7th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class is an exciting exploration of learning to play the violin, viola or cello. Holding the instrument, naming parts of the instrument, tone production, holding and moving the bow, music terms associated with playing, and performing songs will be taught. Parents will need to provide a properly sized violin, viola or cello. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend class, especially in the first 6 weeks, in order to be able to better assist the student with at-home practice. Students are strongly encourage to take our General Music class before taking this class to help them develop a basic understanding of music. *NOTE: Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Beginning students are expected to practice at least 15 to 20 minutes 6 days a week. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change.*

Class Title: Intermediate Strings Ensemble

Grade Range: 4th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Prerequisite: Instructor permission

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This intermediate/strings orchestra class will give students the opportunity to continue learning to play the violin viola or cello. Students will be introduced to ensemble performance and advance to music with two or three parts. Tone production, ensemble playing, intonation, music terms associated with playing, and performing songs will be taught. Parents will need to supply a properly sized violin, viola or cello. Students will perform several times per year at school performances. Class can be repeated multiple times as students continue to advance as musicians. *NOTE: Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Intermediate students are expected to practice at least 15 to 20 minutes 6 days a week. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change.*

Class Title: Advanced Strings Ensemble

Grade Range: 4th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Prerequisite: Instructor permission

Class Content: Different each year

Description: For advanced players of violin, viola or cello. An individual student audition is required to enroll

in this class. Please contact the Site Coordinator directly to learn more about scheduling an audition.

Class Title: Beginning Ukulele

Grade Range: 3rd – 6th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: The Ukulele is a member of the lute family of instruments. It generally employs four nylon strings and is plucked, picked or strummed similar to a guitar. Because of its small size, this is an ideal instrument for younger students to be introduced to a string instrument. We should have a lot of fun this year as Mrs. Stutzman teaches Ukulele for the very first time! Ukuleles are generally not for rent but must be purchased. Popular sites like Amazon, Musician's Friend and Guitar Center carry ukuleles ranging from \$20 to over \$100. **NOTE: Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Intermediate students are expected to practice at least 15 to 20 minutes 6 days a week. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change. All students must provide their own ukulele.**

Class Title: Guitar 1

Grade Range: 7th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Pre-requisite: Students will provide their own guitar

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class is an introduction of learning to play the guitar on a variety of styles which may include folk, jazz, blues, and classical. Students will learn to read the treble clef, tab, and chord charts while playing melodies, lead lines, chord accompaniments and strumming patterns. The first year covers first position on all 6 strings. Students will perform as an ensemble throughout the year. **Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Beginning students are expected to practice at least 10 minutes 6 days a week, for the 1st Semester, increasing to 15 minutes daily, 6 days a week by the end of 2nd Semester. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change. All students must provide their own guitar.**

Class Title: Guitar 2

Grade Range: 7th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Pre-requisite: Students will provide their own guitar

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class goes beyond Guitar 1, teaching notes and scales across the fret board, and continues to advance students' guitar playing skills and abilities as an ensemble. Students may participate in this class in their 2nd year of playing guitar and are welcome to continue in the class into their 3rd year of playing using book 3. Students will perform several times per year at school performances. Students will perform as an ensemble throughout the year. **Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. Intermediate students are expected to practice at least 20 minutes 6 days a week, for the 1st Semester, increasing to 30 minutes daily, 6 days a week by the end of 2nd Semester. Practice records are a part of students' grades. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be counseled about making a schedule change. All students must provide their own guitar.**

Class Title: Choir

Grade Range: 3th – 12th

Homework Rating: 2

Class Content: Different each year

Description: No audition necessary! Choir will provide students with the opportunity to sing choral music especially suited to their abilities, needs and interests. Special attention is given to the changing voice and basic fundamentals of voice production, rehearsal procedures, attitudes, song literature, and general music knowledge. Students will study a variety of musical styles and will perform several times per year.

Class Title: Music Mountaineers

Grade Range: 3rd – 6th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Music Mountaineers is Greeley Options offering of music appreciation for the elementary student. Music appreciation enriches the primary classroom through discovery and sonic exploration. The simple act of music listening develops a child's language development and ability to "decode" the abstract. Research shows that students that actively engage in musical performance, whether in the classroom or in the concert hall, exhibit increased cognitive ability and self-expression. Music Mountaineers will give your student the opportunity to explore the peaks of music - introducing American music

through instruments and songs, exploring music both familiar and unfamiliar. Individual instruments like recorders will be introduced along with introduction to reading music and transferring written music to an instrument.

Theater/Film Classes:

Class Title: Musical Theater

Grade Range: 4th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: THIS IS A TWO PERIOD BLOCK CLASS. This is a performance class; students are required to spend time in memorizing lines and rehearsing musical numbers and parents and students are required to agree to a contract for performers and performance dates. All families enrolled in this class must provide at least 1 parent to actively engage in one of the numerous volunteer support committees needed to put on this production (costumes, scenery, makeup, cast party, back stage support, etc...) This class will be taught by both our drama and music teachers. Students will audition, rehearse, costume, produce and perform a large-scale musical theatre performance. Singing, dancing and acting will be incorporated into this class; however, lack of experience should not be a deterrent to participating. Instruction will be provided for required skills and there are many roles available for students of all abilities and interests.

Consistent, regular practice is a requirement of this class. This is a performance-based class and parents/students who do not comply with practice requirements and coming prepared to class will be asked to drop the class.

Class Title: Dramatic Performance

Grade Range: 4th – 12th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This is a performance class; students are required to spend time in memorizing lines and parents and students are required to agree to a contract for performers and performance dates. This year our Dramatic Performance class will select, rehearse and perform a non-musical play to perform for friends and family at the end of the school year. Titles under consideration include: *Clue*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Peter and the Star Catcher* (a prequel to Peter Pan), *The Three Musketeers*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. All plays require a minimum number of characters in the cast before it can be considered so we

hope that at least one of these titles catches your eye and we attract a lot of budding young thespians for some fine theatrical experience.

All families enrolled in Dramatic Performance must provide at least 1 parent to actively engage in one of the numerous volunteer support committees needed to put on this production (costumes, scenery, makeup, cast party, back stage support, etc...)

Class Title: Musical Showcase

Grade Range: 3rd - 8th

Homework Rating: 3

Class Content: Different each year

Description: A less rigorous introduction to the Musical Theater class, Musical Showcase is designed to give the younger, less experienced, less confident student exposure to great music, great choreography and great performance all in a 60 minute class period with a chance to show off their stuff for mom and dad at the end of the year. A script/show will be chosen to best suit the class size and diversity.

Class Title: Lights! Camera! Action!
Filmmaking Class

Grade Range: 6th – 12th

Homework Rating: 2

Pre-requisite: Students must have access to a video recording device and video editing software for projects

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Lights...Camera...Action! Students will explore and express their creativity through the art and magic of movie making. This class incorporates both individual as well as group project opportunities. Students need to be prepared with a video recording device (laptop, ipad, iphone, droid OR camera) as well as a working flashdrive. Students also are required to have access to some video software such as Windows Movie Maker or iMovie. Some simple costuming and props to aid in classroom is expected but should be minimal cost to families. Students will have movie days to enjoy their creative efforts. Cut!....That's a wrap!

Art/Phys. Ed/Cooking & Student Aide Enrichment Classes:

Class Title: Art

Grade Range: 3rd – 12th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: This class covers ideas that are key to understanding the visual arts. Students compose, imagine, & observe things in the world around them. Students explore elements of shape, form, line, space, and color and work with drawing, painting, sculpting, and paper craft in a variety of media.

Class Title: Physical Education (PE)

Grade Range: 3rd – 12th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Students will be involved in multiple sports and physical activities, covering basic skills and rules. In addition, students will be introduced to health topics and the benefits of movement and exercise as a part of a healthy lifestyle.

Class Title: Cooking

Grade Range: 3rd – 7th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Come explore the kitchen with us! Students will learn basic cooking skills such as measuring,

following a recipe, mixing, baking, stove-top preparation, menu planning and good nutrition. Through the course of the year, students will create yummy meals that they can take home and make for their families. We'll explore everything from breakfast and snacks to dinner and dessert. Students will explore a recipe or two that are gluten free and dairy free, but the bulk of our cooking will not be gluten or dairy-free. **Students with food allergies or strong dietary restrictions should not take this class.** All our wonderful recipes will be compiled into our very own cookbook for students to have and keep.

Class Title: Teacher Assistant

Grade Range: 8th – 12th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: Students may elect to spend one period assisting a teacher in the classroom. This elective is designed to give students leadership experience and hands-on classroom teaching exposure, not a study hall or a period-filler. Students must specify which class they would like to be an assistant for and must be approved by the instructor. **LIMIT ONE TEACHER ASSISTANT PERIOD PER STUDENT. SITE COORDINATOR HAS FINAL APPROVAL FOR ALL STUDENT AIDE REQUESTS.**

Class Title: Office Intern

Grade Range: 9th – 12th

Homework Rating: 1

Class Content: Different each year

Description: High school students may elect to spend one period assisting the OPTIONS administrative staff. Students may be asked to do filing, computer work, preparation tasks for teachers, etc. Students should also bring school related work to complete during this period in case the office staff does not have tasks for him/her. **LIMIT ONE OFFICE ASSISTANT PERIOD PER STUDENT. SITE COORDINATOR HAS FINAL APPROVAL FOR ALL OFFICE INTERN REQUESTS.**