

FORT CLARKE ELECTIVES



FCOINMS



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THE ELECTIVES DEPARTMENT

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|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Art: Ms. Hill | hills |
| Band: Mr. McConn | mconnwe |
| Musical Theater: Mrs. Boyd | freemankl |
| Computer Applications: Mr. Church | churchbj |
| Personal Development: Mrs. Galasso | galassosj |
| P.E.: Coach Carr | carrma |
| P.E.: Coach Ragukonis | ragukonismj |
| Spanish: Ms. George | georgelm |

ART

The visual arts program provides a sequential program of art education, which builds a foundation for developing the knowledge, skills, and processes for visual art literacy and creative expression. Art students are introduced to the formative methods of studio artwork which develop sketching and painting proficiency utilizing both live and still life reference materials. Practical application and home practice is encouraged to advance skills and prepare for careers that can be enhanced with artistic ability. Career exploration includes a range from engineer draft designers to museum curators and restoration artist. Class discussions expound on the areas where artists have evolved to be highly sought after in industries such as medical illustration and software development.

BAND

The Fort Clarke Band is a performing arts oriented class of Beginning, Concert, Symphonic, and Jazz Bands. Band is a yearlong course where students learn the fundamentals of reading and making music while playing a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Students gain important life skills in the areas of teamwork, social interaction and the value of hard work under inspired leadership.

MUSICAL THEATER

Musical Theatre is designed to be highly interactive. This course will show students the basics of theatre arts and theatre history while building their ability to perform on stage with confidence as they rely on teamwork to create multiple stage and theatre design projects.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

The Fort Clarke Computer Applications Program offers IC3 Digital Literacy Certification. The IC3 Digital Literacy standard is a globally recognized way to ensure that students and employees are prepared to succeed in a technology-based world. The digital skills are validated through three certification exams: *Living Online*, *Computing Fundamentals*, and *Key Applications*. No experience is necessary - just your best effort!

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P.E. (PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

Fort Clarke physical education classes focus on teaching sportsmanship, sport skills, fitness concepts and the ability to maintain and enjoy lifelong physical fitness.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

“What are you cooking today?” I am often asked this question by former students, as their time in our kitchen remains an ever-present memory, particularly as they are met with the pleasant aromatic reminders that waft out of our classroom on a daily basis.

While the “*Home Economics*” title may have fallen by the wayside, replaced by the updated “*Personal Development*” course description, developing kitchen competence is alive and well at FCMS! One of the highlights students enjoy during their semester of *Personal Development* is the opportunity to create a variety of edible treats, all while developing appropriate sanitation practices, developing skills in math, logic and reasoning, as well as engaging in positive interpersonal relationships.

The study of various contemporary topics, such as the ethics of photoshopping, the impact of smartphones, and the effect of sugar on the body, comprises another major component of the *Personal Development* curriculum. Knowledge about how the mind and body function empowers students to make informed decisions toward healthy living.

SPANISH

Studying a foreign language is a wonderful opportunity for learning more about the world around us, developing an important skill, and teaching us more about our own language and culture.

The main goal of the program is to present the target language within the context of the contemporary Spanish speaking worlds and their diverse cultures. By using a variation of the “direct method,” the instructor is able to teach in the target language as much as possible. This technique is effective because the students are able to hear the target language in a variety of “real life” situations and in a fun way.

We use models, games, role-play activities, skits, writing and computer activities, and additional visual and auditory aids to help the students learn. We take a multidisciplinary approach to language learning by incorporating some of the area studies in students’ other classes.