

Chorus

Students will have the opportunity to prepare and perform vocal selections in rehearsal and concert settings. Students learn to read notes and rhythms, learn basic music theory and history and performance etiquette. Students perform in winter and spring concerts and festivals.

Strings

Students will have the opportunity to experience the joy of creating and performing music while learning to play a stringed instrument. Students learn basic to advanced rhythmic patterns, music theory and history, intonation, performance etiquette, and teamwork. Students perform in fall, winter, and spring concerts and festivals.

Physical Education (Semester 6th, 7th and 8th and 8th Grades)

P.E. classes place a strong emphasis on the importance of promoting a positive self-image for all students. Students learn the value of exercise, proper nutrition, sun safety, cardiovascular fitness, health physiology and how to incorporate fitness in their everyday lifestyles. Our objective is to assist each student to develop physically, emotionally and mentally. We believe that these valuable skills will help students establish lifetime appreciation of the value of fitness. The 6 pillars of character and good sportsmanship are incorporated into all activities including individual, team and lifetime sports and fitness activities. Students are encouraged to consider how the idea of wellness integrates into other content areas. SUSD middle level Physical Education hopes to promote the development of healthy habits and an awareness of wellness as students are encouraged to consider physical fitness plans for life.

World Languages

Two years of the same language are required for Arizona state universities (example: French I and French II), but many universities have a three year requirement. Specific university admission policies should be referenced. SUSD's World Language courses are rigorous courses with an emphasis placed on listening, reading, speaking and writing to facilitate communication in the target language. Vocabulary acquisition and a cultural overview are integral components of Level I coursework, which is based on District and State Standards.

Students who are considering enrollment in the International Baccalaureate program in high school should plan to take Spanish I or French I in their 8th grade year. Semester and/or year-long World Language classes vary depending on the school and grade level.

NOTE: As of the 2011-12 school year, students enrolled in Spanish I, French I or Mandarin I in 8th grade will be allowed to choose whether they'd like to have these courses count for HS credit on their HS transcript. Parents and students will be notified to indicate their choice after grades have been awarded to students. For detailed information about the timeline parents and students can elect to earn credit for World Language I courses, please see the "letter to 8th grade parents" in the SUSD Digital Backpack (available on the SUSD website).

Multi-cultural Exploratory-1867

Prerequisites: None

This exploratory Middle School course is designed for students to acquire a basic knowledge of at least eight major world languages. They will gain the ability to communicate and understand basic greetings, colors, numbers, dates and information on family, school and activities. They will also learn about the cultures in the historical/geographical context.

French Exploratory -1766

Prerequisites: None

This exploratory Middle School course is designed for students who have minimal or no prior knowledge of the French language. It will include, but not be limited to:

- Brief introduction to French as well as francophone cultures across the world through topics such as Geography, Family/Home, Food, Leisure/Recreation and Shopping
- Acquisition of basic French pronunciation
- Introduction to French phonetics
- Listening and speaking practice for daily conversation on the topics listed above as well as numbers, colors, dates and weather

Learning will be enhanced by simple dialogues, songs, short movies, illustrations and group games that incorporate TPR (Total Physical Response) and individualized instruction for differentiated learning.