

SNOW CANYON MIDDLE SCHOOL
9TH GRADE REGISTRATION INFORMATION
2008-2009

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION

The selection of classes, which fill your graduation requirements and provide a positive and worthwhile experience, requires more than just a casual effort. As you prepare for registration you need to spend some time with your parents, perhaps your counselor, and maybe with some teachers in particular subjects about which you have questions. Once the classes are selected and the registration is completed, the entire school schedule will be built around your choices. **CHANGES IN YOUR SCHEDULE WILL BE DIFFICULT AND WILL BE DISCOURAGED. A \$10.00 fee will be charged for adding or dropping classes initiated by student or parent.**

The following are guidelines and policies, which will affect the selection of classes and the registration process:

1. You must register for a full 8-period day.
2. A unit of credit (1.0) represents a full year of study on a daily basis in any subject successfully completed. A half unit of credit (.5) represents one semester (one-half year) of study on a daily basis in any subject successfully completed.
3. Signatures for classes requiring teacher approval must be obtained **before** submitting your registration form. **YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED FOR A "TEACHER APPROVAL" CLASS WITHOUT A SIGNATURE.**
4. **PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR ALTERNATIVES!!!** It is very important that you select several alternates. When classes get too full alternate classes are used to take the place of your first choice. If you do not pick any alternates the counselors will pick a class for you.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Washington County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in it's educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 may be referred to: Mr. Marshall Topham, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Washington County School District, 189 West Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770, (435) 673-3553 ext. 210 or to the office For Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 1961 Stout Street, Denver, Colorado, 80294.

MINIMUM REQUIRED COURSES

Unless a student’s Educational Plan calls for a different arrangement, each student shall complete the following in grades 9-12. Credits earned in 9th grade are considered High School credits and count toward graduation.

<u>REQUIRED SUBJECTS AND CREDITS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>9th GRADE</u>
Language Arts	4.0	1.0
Math	3.0	1.0
Science	3.0	1.0
Social Studies	3.0	1.0
Arts	1.5	
Fitness/Health	2.0	.5
Career & Technology Ed.	1.0	
Computer Technology	0.5	.5
Financial Literacy	0.5	
Electives	9.5	3.0
TOTAL	28.0	8.0

For a complete list of Washington County School District’s graduation requirements please visit our school website www.scmiddle.org and look under the Guidance link.

Language Arts – 4 Credits Required (one in each grade)

Healthy Life Styles – 2 Credits Required (.5 in grade 9)

*Math – 3 Credits Required (one in grade 9)

Career & Technology Ed. – 1.0 Credits Required

*Science – 3 Credits Required (one in grade 9)

Computer Technology - .5 Credits Required (must take in grade 9)

Social Studies – 3 Credits Required (one in grade 9)

Financial Literacy - .5 Credits Required (must take in grade 11 or 12)

Arts – 1.5 Credits required

*****We now have our course catalog online as well. Check it out on our school website www.scmiddle.org. Along with course descriptions we also have video about most of our elective classes.**

Language Arts (Required)

Language Arts 9 (1.0)

This required Language Arts course develops language skills, comprehension (reading and listening) and composition (writing and speaking). Students will continue their study of poetry, short stories and novels. Descriptive, expository and persuasive papers will be required in this course.

Honors Language Arts 9 (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** 3.75-4.0 overall grade point average, IOWA and CRT test results, writing on demand to show writing skills. No N's or U's. There is an appeal process if you don't meet a requirement but feel that you could handle the class. 9th grade Honors Language Arts is a college preparatory class for the highly motivated student who has met the class prerequisites and who is willing to be challenged. The emphasis will be on quality reading, writing, and analytical thinking. It is assumed that the student already has high language and reading skills.

Social Studies (Required)

Geography For Life (1.0)

This course is required for all 9th Grade Students. The course will focus on a study of the interrelationships between our physical and cultural worlds using the five themes of Geography and the six essential elements. The students will study various regions, countries, and peoples of the world. Students will learn map skills, focusing on North America, South America and Europe.

Honors Geography For Life (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher Signature and GPA of 3.75
This course is for students who are willing to be challenged. This course will study the interrelationships between our physical and cultural worlds using the six essential elements of geography. Students will also be required to complete bi-weekly assignments analyzing current issues and world events. Students should have good reading, writing, and researching skills.

Science (Required)

Earth Systems (1.0)

In this class you will learn about the universe and how elements are created. We will also study what is needed for life to exist, the different ecosystems that exist, how life has changed over time, how the

continents move and what this movement creates. We will look closer at water and the dynamic ocean. A closer look will be taken at our atmosphere and global warming's effect on the earth. Lastly, we will investigate solar energy and how it is distributed through the different systems on earth.

Math (Required)

The sequence for college preparation in math is Elementary Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry, and Calculus.

Pre-Algebra (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher Approval

Pre Algebra is a course that is designed for students that are not ready for the rigorous concepts of an Algebra course. In Pre Algebra there is an emphasis on improving a students basic skills of decimal, fractions, percents and integers. Students will be introduced to solving equations, order of operations, absolute value and statistics. Graphing in the coordinate plane is introduced and so are basic concepts of area and perimeter. Students will also be introduced to the basic definitions and applications of Geometry.

Elementary Algebra (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Pre-Algebra & Teacher Approval

Elementary Algebra develops a mathematical model for the real number system involving the study of straight lines and numerical relationships. The properties of the real number system are used to solve linear equations and inequalities. Simple operations with polynomials are introduced and the laws of exponents are studied.

Geometry (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Elementary Algebra & Teacher Approval

The major postulates and theorems of Geometry form the basis of this course, logical structures are investigated. Coordinate geometry is studied.

Intermediate Algebra (Algebra 2) (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Elementary Algebra, Geometry and Teacher Approval

This course in algebra is an extension of the elementary algebraic concepts involving a study of quadratic relations and their graphs.

Other Required Courses

Physical Skills & Techniques (.5)

This course is required for all 9th grade students. In this class students will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills necessary to assess and maintain their own fitness. The emphasis in this class will be put on developing, first a desire and then the ability to stay physically fit throughout life. We hope to accomplish this through; fun and competitive life time sports, new exercise strategies and techniques, and most importantly learning to overcome the mental hurdles that are often associated with exercise.

Computer Technology

This course is required for all 9th graders and is needed for high school graduation. An introduction to computer application software that encompasses document processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. An understanding of ethics and use of operating systems, information resources, and electronic mail is included. Skills gained will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. **If you have not had a keyboarding class or type less than 20 words per minute Word Processing Basic is highly recommended.**

Fine Arts

Art Foundations I (.5)

Students will learn the basic skills related to drawing and painting. They will also learn about famous artists and how and why they created their artworks. Drawing assignments include cartooning, portraits, caricatures, still lifes, and fantasy art. A \$10.00 fee is required for supplies.

Art Foundations II (.5)

Prerequisite: Art Foundations I

This class is designed for students who want to improve their drawing skills as well as their interest in art. We will continue to explore a variety of contemporary artists and their work. The class is studio based and students will be able to develop and improve skills learned in previous art classes.

Chorus I Mixed (Beg./Int.) (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** the desire to sing and perform concerts. Some previous choral experience is recommended.

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through singing in a choral ensemble in two-part harmonies. Study includes the care and

cultivation of a beautiful tone, aesthetic awareness, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will strengthen listening skills and their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. One concert performance per quarter will be required.

Chorus II Mixed (Adv.) (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** at least one year of intermediate/middle school choir and the desire to sing and perform concerts. Teacher signature required (Mrs. Reep)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through singing in a choral ensemble in three and four part harmonies. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, aesthetic awareness, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will heighten listening skills and increase their ability to analyze and evaluate music and music performances. Attention will also be given to relating their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Two concert performances per quarter will be required.

Vocal Essence (Girls Choir) (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Previous musical training recommended. Audition and teacher signature required (Mrs. Reep)

This course is a specialty choir for girls. The girls will sing in 2 and 3 part harmony, build sight-reading and technical skills, create team spirit and responsible rehearsal habits. Extra commitment, costumes, choreography and performances will be required. This is an **audition-only group** and students will be expected to attend all of the scheduled performances.

Madrigals (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Previous musical training recommended. Audition and teacher signature required (Mrs. Reep)

This course is a specialty choir for an equal number of boys and girls. The students will sing in four part harmony, build sight-reading and technical skills, create team spirit and responsible rehearsal habits, create skills in jazz, blues, spiritual, classical, Broadway, pop and barbershop singing. Extra commitment, costumes, choreography and performances will be required. This is an **audition-only group** and students will be expected to attend all of the schedule performances.

Music Appreciation (.5)

This course is designed for students who have no prior experience with music, do not wish to perform in an ensemble and who seek the opportunity to extend their musical understanding, heighten music listening skills, and increase their ability to respond more fully to music. Experiences will include opportunities to experiment with sounds, learn basic musical techniques, notation and skills, analyze famous compositions representative of most styles, and inquire into music's connections to contemporary life, history, and cultures.

Band II Concert (1.0)

Level: 8-9 Composed of mostly 8th graders, this course is for students with two years of playing experience on a band instrument. This group learns grade 2 – 2 ½ music, which it performs at two concerts during the school year. It also usually performs in the Dixie College Junior High Band Festival in April. This band also helps to form the SCMS Scorpion Marching Band in the Fall for a number of local parades. A uniform is required (black pants, black shorts, white shoes and band shirt). Students must provide their own instruments and method books. Larger school-owned instruments may be rented for \$65.00/year.

Band II Percussion (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher Signature (Mrs. Czarnecki)
This course is designed to meet the needs of percussionists who have had at least one year of previous percussion experience. Students focus on learning rudiments on the drums, spend time working with the bells or keyboard and also receive instruction on timpani, bass drum, and other auxiliary percussion instruments. Students from this class form the percussion sections for each of the bands and orchestra and perform with them accordingly. The Drum Line is also formed from this class and performs with the SCMS Scorpion Marching Band in the Fall. Students are required to provide their own method books, bell kits with mallets and drumsticks. There is also a \$25 rental fee to help cover the costs of maintaining and replacing school owned percussion instruments. A uniform is required (black pants, shorts, white shoes and band shirt) for those students in the Drum Line.

Band III Symphonic (1.0)

Performing Grade 3 – 3 ½ music, this band is mostly made up of 9th graders or students with three years of playing experience on their instruments. It performs in two concerts during the school year and competes in the Dixie College Junior High Band Festival in April. This band also helps to form the SCMS Scorpion Marching Band in the Fall for a

number of local parades. A uniform is required (black pants, black shorts, white shoes and band shirt). Students must provide their own instruments and method books. Larger school-owned instruments may be rented for \$65.00/year.

Advanced Orchestra (1.0)

Intermediate Orchestra will help students develop proficiency in playing string instruments. Emphasis will be placed on playing techniques, orchestral literature, style, performance, creativity and appreciation of music.

Advanced Orchestra provides opportunities for advancement and refinement of musical potential, higher level thinking skills, aesthetic judgment, and musical appreciation. Emphasis will be placed on refining ensemble performance skills, recognition of musical styles and historical periods, the study of literature for orchestra, chamber ensemble performance, and creative development. Larger school-owned instruments may be rented for \$75.00/year.

Guitar (Beg.) (.5)

This course provides instruction for basic guitar use, reading music & tablature, chords, accompanying, and finger positioning. An evening performance may be included in the grade. Students must provide their own acoustical guitar, stand and music books by the first week of class. One half hour per day practice is required.

Theater I (.5)

This course examines dramatic theories and establishes the basics of role playing, pantomiming, oral interpretation and characterization. The course will include many performances, and the students will also develop the abilities to read plays critically and to understand dramatic techniques.

Theater II (.5)

***Prerequisite:** Beginning Theater & Teacher Signature. Must have B's or higher grades in Beg. Theater.

This course gives students advanced training in the fundamentals mastered in the Beginning Theater course. In addition, students will begin to develop proficiency in acting, directing, and auditioning.

Career and Technology Education

Teen Living (.5)

This course helps students understand and cope with personal, family and social challenges. Emphasis is placed on communication, decision-making skills and building stable relationships with family and peers. This course enables students to implement positive coping mechanisms and promotes understanding of self. It addresses issues that impact teenagers: self-concept, family and peer relationships, substance abuse, personal loss, dating and teenage pregnancy and child abuse. Emphasis is placed on students taking personal responsibility for life.

Clothing I (.5)

This course introduces students to the basic sewing and pressing equipment, sewing machines, sergers, textiles, introductory level project construction techniques, and techniques for constructing edge finishes. Students will apply these skills to construct various personal sewing projects, including: pajama pants, hooded sweatshirt, drawstring backpack, zippered bag and other fun projects of personal choice.

Food & Nutrition I (.5)

This course prepares individuals to understand the principles of nutrition and healthy lifestyles. Attention is given in selection, preparation and care of foods, and personal health and well-being.

Word Processing Basic (.5)

In this introductory course, students learn basic word processing skills. These invaluable skills include editing and proofreading documents, performing standard file management procedures,

keyboarding, and creating applicable business documents to simulate a real-life job environment.

This class is highly recommended for those students who have NOT had a keyboarding class or who would like more keyboarding skills.

Computers in Business (.5)

Students will be introduced to business systems and experience how computers are used as tools in business. The business information processing cycle, management principles, ethics, economics, finance, marketing, and communications will be presented. Exposure to business software applications will be an integral part of this class, including Internet browsers, search engines, e-mail, word processing, presentations, spreadsheet, web page development, and database software programs.

Introduction to Construction Technology (.5)

An activity oriented course that introduces students to construction industries and occupations through hands on experiences. Instructional activities focus on building structures using a variety of construction materials and processes involving design, carpentry, and electricity. Students will construct several individual products and have the opportunity to build a play house or shed as a class project.

Exploring Technology II (Shop) (.5) There is no prerequisite to take this class.

An activity oriented course that gives students an opportunity to explore technology and related occupations. Instructional activities focus on manufacturing, construction, and communication technology. Some activities include wood projects, metals projects (welding), screen printing, and graphic design projects. A few of the projects that students have to work on are skim boards, boomerangs, picnic tables, and computerized makeover.

Healthy Lifestyles

“Washington County School District is committed to co-educational course programs, including Physical Education and other athletic opportunities for both sexes as required by Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972.”

This statement is found in section 4-44 of the Washington County School District policy handbook.

Dance 1 (.5) (May count as Fine Arts credit)

In this beginning dance class, the emphasis will be on the fundamentals of dance. The main units of study will be jazz, modern and creative dance along with performance skills and choreography.

Dance 2 (.5) (May count as Fine Arts credit)

This is an intermediate dance class that will review the fundamentals learned in Dance 1 and continue a more in depth study of Ballet, Modern, Jazz and Hip Hop. Emphasis will be on proper technique and learning new steps along with opportunities to perform and do choreography for the dance review.

Social Dance (.5) (May count as Fine Arts credit)

This course teaches the proper etiquette and fundamental dance skills for social dance and folk dance. Some of the areas we will be studying are, line dancing, round dancing, folk dancing, social dance including; swing, two step, waltz and Latin styles.

Weight Training (girls & boys) (.5)

This class is designed for students with little or no experience in resistance training. In this class students will learn where different muscles are in their body and what exercises/lifts they can perform to strengthen each individual muscle. The importance of proper technique will be heavily stressed in this class to ensure safety and optimal results in each workout. As in all of our PE courses at SCMS our greatest desire is that the students in this class will develop skills that will assist them in their pursuit of life-long fitness.

Advanced Weight Training (girls & boys) (.5) (can be taken both fall & spring semester)

***Prerequisite:** Beginning Weight Training and teacher signature (Mr. Kelly)

This course is intended to be a continuation of the beginning weight training class, which students are required to complete before they can take this course. This class will continue to teach the latest trends in resistance training and fundamental techniques involved in core lifting. We will also implement plyometric training which is intended to improve quickness and agility. Students involved in extracurricular sports may want to sign up for this class to improve their strength and speed which will give them a competitive edge.

Electives

Creative Writing (.5)

This class will change your perspective, challenge your imagination, open up the world of fiction, and pull on your power to problem solve. You will be writing stories, poetry, and looking at the "what ifs" of life. If you like to write, with the freedom to also create, this is the class for you.

Newspaper / Journalism (1.0)

Introduction to Journalism is for students interested in exploring the exciting field of journalism including newspaper publication and photojournalism. This course emphasizes reporting, interviewing, and journalistic writing skills directly connected with producing the school newspaper. This is a writing intensive class.

Yearbook Publications / Advertising (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Application from Mr. Hansen must be filled out and teacher signature.

Yearbook Publications is a production class with hands-on application of classroom skills. Students expand their understanding of basic journalistic skills to planning, creating, and distributing the yearbook. Students will be involved in each step of production:

planning, design, layout, photography, writing, sales, advertising, and distribution. Students will also explore elements of desktop publishing, multi-media production, photojournalism, and other publishing-related fields. If selected, students will be part of production teams expected to meet regular goals and deadlines. 3.5 cumulative GPA is required.

Speech & Debate (.5)

This course is designed to help students improve listening and note-taking skills, verbal expression, teamwork, discussion and persuasion strategies that will help students succeed in school. It will include internet research and interacting with imaginative and persuasive students.

Secondary Reading Strategies (.5)

Students in this class will work on strategies designed to improve comprehension. They will learn a variety of ways to interpret and understand text.

Spanish I (1.0)

No previous knowledge of the Spanish language is necessary. Students will be exposed to a large amount of spoken Spanish, and, through listening, responding with actions, and participating in a variety of activities, they will come to understand and later communicate with the vocabulary they've been exposed to. Listening comprehension and communication are the primary emphasis, but reading and writing skills will also be taught and utilized. Furthermore, an understanding of the culture of Spanish-speaking countries will be emphasized.

Spanish II (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** Spanish I

Students will continue to expand their Spanish vocabulary as they increase their listening comprehension, communication, reading and writing skills. Further insights to Spanish and Latin cultures will also be expanded.

German I (1.0)

Students may begin without any previous knowledge of the German Language. The emphasis is on listening, reading, writing, and speaking of words and short phrases. This understanding is accomplished through repetition. Also an understanding of the German culture is emphasized.

German II (1.0)

***Prerequisite:** German I

Intermediate level students are distinguished from novice level by their ability to create and express their own thoughts both in speaking and writing the German language.

Student Aides

***Prerequisite:** Student must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher

In these classes students will be assigned to work under the supervision of either a teacher or one of the general school officials as an assistant. They will be expected to do filing, duplication, assisting in preparations of non-student and non-confidential records. They may be assigned to do other projects such as creating, preparing and posting bulletin boards and making room and hall displays. Student aides are expected to be responsible individuals who can do their assigned tasks with a minimum of direct supervision.

Teacher Aide (.5) (9th grade only)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher signature

Office Aide (.5) (9th grade only)

***Prerequisite:** Office staff signature

Media Aide (.5) (9th grade only)

***Prerequisite:** Media staff signature

Shop Aide (.5) (9th grade only)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher signature (Mr. Johnson)

Peer Tutor (.5)

***Prerequisite:** Teacher Signature (Mrs. Cheesman)

The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to assist and tutor students in the self-contained special education classroom. Peer tutors will learn how to teach functional concepts and other programs as trained by the classroom teacher.

Release Time

Release Time (0)

Students in this course are released from public school for 1 period of religious instruction.