



8th Grade Expressive Arts



2022-2023 School Year

Mission Statement

It is the goal of Expressive Arts to provide students with the opportunity to explore their talents in preparation for further education, work, and life.

Special Events

- Art Show (May 18th)
- Winter Concert (Dec. 6th)
- Spring Concerts (5/9 and 5/17)
- Expressive Arts Day (2/16)
- Tech Ed Toys for Tots Club
- Tech Ed Engineering Club

Expressive Arts

Your middle schoolers have been, or will be, very hard at work developing themselves to face their academic challenges of the future. At Arcola, we are very dedicated to supporting their efforts in every way possible. We are also dedicated to the task of developing *the whole person* including the Expressive Arts disciplines that your children will be required to participate in.

There is a person of the arts involved in the design and construction of the things that often matter most to your children, the things they use in every day life. In fact, they are neck deep in the arts, and often do not even realize it!

Supporting the arts guarantees that our future...*their future*...will be surrounded with all the things they find beautiful, helpful, useful,



and fun. The talented individuals who make all this beauty and design happen were once middle schoolers in Art, Music, Tech Ed, and Phys. Ed.

Technology Education

Mr. Pluscht:

Tech Ed class is Metal Technology and Design in which students learn sheet metal production, graphic design, and CNC laser usage.

The main focuses of class include tool identification, tool usage, problem solving, design, measuring, safety, and reinforcement of S.T.E.M skills.

Students are evalu-

ated on design creation, a worksheet, and project completion.

Mr. Mayan:

The 8th grade program is designed to make students think about design, cooperation, structure and safety. The challenge is to support a charity by designing a game, moving a ball through the use of a simple machine, which is fun and challenging to play. Students will

first choose a charity to support. Then, make a prototype game out of cardboard to work out any unforeseen problems and then make a wooden game based on the cardboard structure. Students will be using the tools learned in 7th grade along with a variety of new ones. The overall goal is for the students to use previous knowledge combined with current learning to solve a problem that is S.T.E.M. based.

Health

**Mrs. Harlow and
Mr. Hautzinger**

8th Grade health class is designed to provide students with resources and instructions on dealing with common issues faced by young people today. Topics such as healthy eating, exercise, stress and time management, goal setting, healthy relationships and

drug refusal techniques will be a part of the discussions during this 1 marking period long course. In addition to these topics, students will also spend time learning about the Nervous System and learning how actions today can play a role in their health tomorrow.



Music

Mr. McCaffrey:

8th Grade Advanced Music technology is a class that reviews basic music theory and turns music projects into music videos. Students begin with beatboxing. They then complete a music video, a movie trailer, and a commercial. Students must have wired headphones or ear-buds for this class.

Mr. Leonard:

The Arcola band program consists of students who study brass, woodwind, or percussion instruments. The program provides students with one small group lesson per week, as well

as a full band rehearsal three times per cycle. Students may also audition for the Arcola jazz band. Student focus in these subjects is on developing skills and technique on the instrument, solo and ensemble playing, musicality, and music theory.

Mrs. Saul:

Arcola Orchestra consists of students who study stringed instruments. The program provides students with one small group lesson per week, as well as a full orchestra rehearsal three times per cycle. Students may also audition for the Arcola String Ensemble which rehearses before school. Student focus is on developing skills and technique on their instru-

ment, solo and ensemble playing, musicality, and music theory.

Miss. Laguna:

8th grade general music delves into the history behind today's popular genres like alternative, rap and pop. Students learn about the progression of American music in the 20th century: singers and artists, genres and the decades that inspired their development. Next students will be reintroduced to the guitar. Building from 7th grade, students explore more complex chords, strumming patterns, styles, and repertoire.

Art

Mrs. Conrow & Mrs. Roberts

In 8th grade, students will make various projects in the following categories: sculpture, acrylic painting, graphic design, text in art, and various styles of drawing. We will also be introducing students to various digi-

tal art apps and programs.

The art department has started an Instagram account, as well as a Twitter account. Please follow us at @ArcolaArt on both platforms to see what awesome stuff we are doing in class!

There are some items that are used in the art room that

we would appreciate being donated. These include any old towels (we do please ask them to be laundered), wire hangers that are all metal, and newspapers. These items are used to make art projects as well as to help clean the art rooms in a more eco-friendly way.