

To Parents/Guardians of Grade 8 & 9 students:

At Greystone Centennial Middle School we offer a number of complimentary Fine Arts and Career & Technology options to our Grade 7-9 students. These course are a great opportunity for students to learn more about something that they are passionate about, or perhaps to discover skills and interests they didn't even know they had!

Grade 8-9 options are offered in a double block on Wednesdays. Students will choose a different option for each of the three terms. Some options do have a fee associated with them to cover additional materials or field trips specific to that course.

Students will complete their option choices online at school. Students will pick their top 3 option choices; we will do everything possible to ensure that students are placed in one of these 3 choices, but this is not always possible. Students should be prepared to be placed in one of the classes they indicate.

During Term 2 the following courses are offered for Grade 8 and 9 students (some course changes may be made due to student enrollment/interest); please take some time to review these with your child:

<b>Music</b>	Students will develop as performers, listeners, consumers, critics and composers. Students will hone their skills, strive for musical excellence and express their feelings and ideas through music. As they are exposed to a variety of styles, they will explore the history of music as well as the role of music in their own life.
<b>Travel Around the World</b>	Come take a trip around the world! In tourism class you will learn about the different countries and their culture. You will also explore the tourism industry and plan a successful trip on a budget. In this course, students will explore tourism on a local, national and global level. Students will access, interpret and communicate tourism information and enhance their creative thinking, communication, organizational and interpersonal skills. By learning about the tourism industry, students will gain an understanding and appreciation for the world and its diverse nature.
<b>Hockey 101 *\$30</b>	Hockey 101 is an option that consists of 4 of the major components of ice hockey: passing, skating, shooting, and stickhandling. Students will have an opportunity to learn, develop and maintain these skills over the course of the term. Students will also develop the skills to create practice plans for different age levels of students. The majority of this class will take place at the Grant Fuhr Arena.
<b>Drama</b>	Students will have fun playing a variety of dramatic roles to develop skills in acting, improvisation, movement and speaking. They will study the elements of

	drama and theatre and have the opportunity to express themselves in this active class.
<b>Study Hall/Study Skills/ Classroom Assistants</b>	Middle years students will learn about their own personal learning styles and preferences in order to be able to study and learn in the most effective way. Different strategies and techniques for studying, time-management and learning will be explained. Time will be given to implement these strategies to organize for learning as well as for reviewing learning to strengthen understanding. There will be a certified teacher available to assist students with assignments etc. The second block of this option will be either used for further work on study/learning skills or for students to take part in the Classroom Assistants program. In this challenge, middle years students take on a mentorship or supporting role with early years students. Teachers need your help! If you accept this challenge, you will experience the joy of helping others, and be given the opportunity to share your talents and passions while becoming a role model for students in grades 5 & 6! This block will be dedicated to the assisting in other classrooms or other volunteer needs in the school.
<b>Mental Health Matters</b>	You see and hear comments or attitudes towards mental health and mental illness everyday. You have heard of initiatives like Bell’s “Let’s Talk” and feel like there are things you would like to do to help end the stigma around mental illness. First, you need to get informed and learn as much as you can about causes and treatments for the many different mental illnesses. Then, you can begin to plan anti-stigma events and activities for students in your own school and other schools in Spruce Grove. You will help plan guest speakers and a full day event aimed at ending stigma around mental illness.
<b>Ebert, Roper and Rotten Tomatoes</b>	Move over Ebert & Roper; Greystone film reviewers are taking over! In the challenge, students will explore the elements of effective filmmaking and gain an understanding of editorial writing techniques through viewing a variety of films and writing movie reviews. Titles selected will cover a variety of genres and periods, and students will have the freedom to express their inner voice and preferences. Students will also uncover what makes a film and review “good”.
<b>Lego Robotics</b> * \$5.00	Have you ever wanted to build your own robot? Are you ready for a challenge? Using a Lego Mindstorms robotics kit and software program, students will learn the basics of how to build and program. Once you have completed a basic robot, you will be presented with a challenge where your own unique design must meet specific criteria. Perseverance and teamwork skills are a must!
<b>“Follow the Leader” (Student Leadership)</b>	Students in this option course will act as ambassadors for the GCMS learning community. They will develop and grow leadership skills as well as increase their social consciousness through the organization, preparation, and execution of school events, fundraisers, and other opportunities. Student leadership

	committees may include but are not limited to: classroom mentors, cross grade advisory, school spirit, fundraising, advertising, assembly planning, theme days, school canteen etc.
<b>Art</b>	A variety of tools, materials and media are used in the junior high art program. Students will express their feelings, think artistically, value the act of creating art and value art forms. They will draw and create, and explore the art that others have made.
<b>Foods</b> <b>* \$30.00</b>	Students will learn the necessary techniques needed to be a cooking expert! This challenge will allow them to explore their inner foodie as they learn to prepare delicious and nutritious recipes.
<b>Pinteresting!</b> <b>*35.00</b>	Have you even spotted something in a store and thought “I could make that”? Here is your chance! After planning and decoratively designing a digital home, students will select and create a final home decor project (with assistance from the Barn Owl store in Stony Plain) to demonstrate their ability to utilize a variety of techniques within their preferred creative mediums.