



3921- 39 Street
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 0Y6
Phone: 403-346-8951
Fax: 403-346-2125
www.staschool.ca

Grade 8 Option Descriptions (2020-2021)

Dear parents/guardians:

Students at St. Thomas are able to make requests for option classes that will occur in 3 terms during the 2020-2021 year.

- Term One: August 31 - November 26 (13 weeks)
- Term Two: November 30 - March 18 (13 weeks)
- Term Three: March 22 - June 29 (13 weeks)

Students will be able to make option **requests** for the year later this week **online**. This selection process will be done as a google form that will be available on the website from May 27 - June 5.

Listed below are the different options available to choose from for the year. Students will be able to take **two** options during each term. Take some time to consider options that your child will be interested in. Students will rank the choices from most desirable to least desirable. Students may not get his/her top choices during the year, as there are over 600 students enrolled in the school.

OPTION DESCRIPTIONS

Art

Students will be encouraged to think and generate ideas as artists while expanding their appreciation and experience with various art forms. This course is intended to help students improve their drawing (forms, 3D shading, perspective) and art using paint (colour theory, basic brush techniques, and acrylic and pastel), as well as use non-traditional materials to create sculpture (wire, foam board, toothpicks, etc). Students will learn about influential artists from historic and contemporary times as they learn to critique their own art.

Band

Students will have the opportunity to learn how to play a concert band instrument of their choice and will prepare for various performances throughout the year.

Construction

Students will be designing and developing small projects made out of wood using various tools and machinery. These projects are able to be brought home once they are graded.

Cosmetology

In Cosmetology 8, students will be exploring basic personal grooming which includes learning about personal hygiene, skin, hair, face, and nail care in a safe environment. Part of this course will be practicing hairstyles (braiding, curling, up-dos) and makeup application. Students will have the opportunity to create all natural skin care products and hair tutorial videos. Another part of this course will include the possibility of connecting with cosmetology facilities at a high school or community level and learning about career related opportunities in this field. Join Cosmetology for a fun, hands on learning experience!

Dance

Are you looking to pursue your interest in the fine arts realm of dance? In this option we will explore all of the different avenues that fall under the umbrella of dance including: rhythm, choreography, group work, presentation, and so much more. Students will develop the skills and attitudes they will need in order to be successful in this option as well as the ability to get up and perform in front of others.

Design Technology

Will explore the nature of how and why humans design the things we manufacture & build. Students will use AutoDesk Inventor software which employs 2D and 3D drafting on computers. This leads to 3D printing, CNC machining, architecture, everything and anything engineering.

Drama

We explore self confidence/team building and finding our comfort level with ourselves and each other through competitive drama games, and games that allow us to be goofy and have a laugh. We will hone our drama skills by exploring performance etiquette/technique (facing audience, vocal projection, facial expressions). We also take a look behind the scenes with technical theatre, where we develop skills with makeup and costumes.

Film

Students will learn about various types and purposes of films. Student portfolios can include editing film-trailers, creating music videos, developing commercials and advertisements, and shooting and editing their own short films.

Foods

This is an introduction to foods. Students will be introduced to basic cooking techniques, kitchen safety, cooking concepts and nutrition through hands-on activities.

French

Students will be looking into the French culture and exploring the Quebecois identity through food, dancing, music, and most importantly conversational language. This is the beginning of providing students with essential skills and attitudes that will allow them to utilize the language at higher levels of education and while travelling within Canada or abroad.

Leadership

Students will plan and implement school wide activities and a theme week during each term. Students will also choose different skills and interests they are passionate about and find a way to make a difference using those skills through community volunteering opportunities. Have your voice and choice in what happens in your community!

Photography

Students will develop photography skills with DSLR cameras. Modules will include depth of field, motion, photo series, composition, and photo editing.

Programming Technology

Programming Technology: Students will engage in the beginnings of programming logic. We will use Scratch, developed at MIT. It is an excellent visual way to start thinking like a computer. More advanced students will use UNITY, it is the software used to create the Angry Birds APP. Again, great software, very user friendly, very relevant to today's programming.