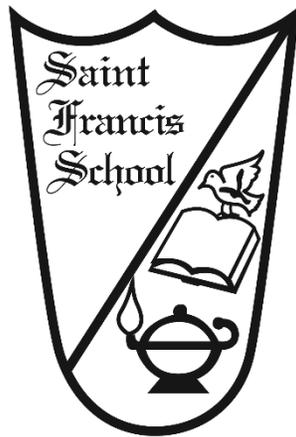


# Saint Francis School High School

## Middle School Curriculum Guide



# **Saint Francis School**

## **Middle School Curriculum**

**Saint Francis School Middle School is a state-of-the-art-learning environment where the staff, parents and community are actively involved in preparing our students to be resourceful, productive and responsible members of our diverse society.**

## **Seventh Grade Curriculum**

**Seventh Grade students at Saint Francis School will be enrolled in the following courses: Honor Classes are established based on teacher's recommendation.**

### **Spanish**

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in Spanish reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, and literature.

### **Language Arts**

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, and listening, viewing, speaking and language.

### **Literature**

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in English Literature such as of reading, writing, listening, viewing, and speaking.

### **Math**

**Pre-Algebra-** The purpose of this course is to initiate the development of algebraical concepts and skills. That can be used for the understanding of Algebra and Geometry.

## **Science**

Life Science- The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study concepts of the life, beginning of biology and their applications to everyday life.

## **Social Studies**

**Puerto Rico History** The purpose of this course is to enable students to acquire and organize information about the history and geography of our country and its relations with the United States, the Americas and the world, and therefore develop a sense of their own personal and social identity.

## **Physical Education**

The focus of this course is to provide the opportunity to improve individual physical fitness and to acquire knowledge of fitness concepts and how an individual's lifestyle affects health and fitness. Also includes theory and practice of sports and its history, origin and development in Puerto Rico.

## **Electives**

All students will select two of the following elective courses for the entire year. All elective courses have a weighting of one (1) credit.

### **Health**

The focus of this course is the human development and the consequences of the use and abuse of Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs. Students learn to understand their roles and responsibilities within school, family and community. Students learn to gain a better understanding of themselves and their relationships with others.

### **Drama**

Drama is offered to 6th through 8th grade student. Students learn to create characters using their bodies, voices, and minds while exploring such areas as directing, playwriting, and stage design.

## **Band**

Band is an elective that is offered to all students at each grade level. The fundamentals of band class include proper training in breath control, embouchure control, and tone production. Students also work on the development of technical proficiency. There is also an emphasis placed on several aspects of music reading and theory. Students are trained in physical and mental response to establish an even rhythmic pulse and phrase recognition.

Students will understand the basic differences between music of different time periods. They will have many opportunities to play various styles of music and use recordings to illustrate style, balance, and intonation, phrasing, and tone production. Students will learn proper concert etiquette, the importance of preparation for effective performance, and the importance of teamwork for effective performances.

## **Choir**

Chorus is an elective that is offered to all students at each grade level. All chorus students are expected to participate in concerts and activities during the school year. Additional opportunities are given to more motivated students.

Chorus students will study the following skills: Sight reading, proper breathing techniques, singing in two and three part harmonies, and proper vowel placement.

## **Art**

The focus of this course is to provide a basic foundation in drawing and other visual arts and explores concepts of composition, content, visual and technical skills. Includes using color for expressing ideas and feelings, painting for personal expression, developing sensitivity to design and studying works of artists to develop criteria for evaluating painting.

## **French**

The focus of this course is to develop the communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing and fundamental skills of grammar in French.

## **Computer**

This course Develops proficiency with touch keyboarding and some MS Office Programs such as Word and Excel. These software applications are taught as tools for accomplishing keyboarding techniques performance.

## **Self-esteem**

This course helps the students develop a better self-image of its feelings, emotions and its position on the world that surrounds them.

## **Handbell I**

This course provides music history and theory. In this performing group, students are expected to prepare and practice the music they are given as well as the fundamentals of handbells. After-school rehearsals will be required during the year. Students are required to participate in public performances on some school and outside activities.

# **Eighth Grade Curriculum**

**Eighth Grade students at Saint Francis School will be enrolled in the following courses: Honor Classes are established based of teacher's recommendation.**

## **Spanish**

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in Spanish reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, and literature.

## **Language Arts**

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, and listening, viewing, speaking and language.

## Literature

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in English Literature such as of reading, writing, listening, viewing, and speaking.

## Math

The purpose of this course is to continue the development of mathematical concepts and processes that can be used to solve real-world problems with an emphasis on math applications.

**Algebra I-** It is offered for high school credit for eighth grade students. Content includes equations, exponents, factoring graphing, problem-solving and other topics.

## Science

**Earth Science-** The purpose of this course is to develop the skills and processes necessary to be successful in lab science. Content includes basic concepts of the earth, the solar system, space exploration, rock formation, and the weather.

## Social Studies

**United States History** The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand the development of the United States within the context of history by examining connections to the past to prepare for the future as participating members of a democratic society. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings.

## Physical Education

The focus of this course is to provide the opportunity to improve individual physical fitness and to acquire knowledge of fitness concepts and how an individual's lifestyle affects health and fitness. Also includes theory and practice of sports and its history, origin and development in Puerto Rico.

## **Electives**

All students will select two of the following elective courses for the entire year. All elective courses have a weighting of one (1) credit.

### **Health**

The focus of this course is the human development and the consequences of the use and abuse of Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs. Students learn to understand their roles and responsibilities within school, family and community. Students learn to gain a better understanding of themselves and their relationships with others.

### **Drama**

Drama is offered to 6th through 8th grade student. Students learn to create characters using their bodies, voices, and minds while exploring such areas as directing, playwriting, and stage design.

### **Band**

Band is an elective that is offered to all students at each grade level. The fundamentals of band class include proper training in breath control, embouchure control, and tone production. Students also work on the development of technical proficiency. There is also an emphasis placed on several aspects of music reading and theory. Students are trained in physical and mental response to establish an even rhythmic pulse and phrase recognition.

Students will understand the basic differences between music of different time periods. They will have many opportunities to play various styles of music and use recordings to illustrate style, balance, and intonation, phrasing, and tone production. Students will learn proper concert etiquette, the importance of preparation for effective performance, and the importance of teamwork for effective performances.

### **Chorus**

Chorus is an elective that is offered to all students at each grade level. All chorus students are expected to participate in concerts and activities during the school year. Additional opportunities are given to more motivated students.

Chorus students will study the following skills: Sight reading, proper breathing techniques, singing in two and three part harmonies, and proper vowel placement.

## **Art**

The focus of this course is to provide a basic foundation in drawing and other visual arts and explores concepts of composition, content, visual and technical skills. Includes using color for expressing ideas and feelings, painting for personal expression, developing sensitivity to design and studying works of artists to develop criteria for evaluating painting.

## **French**

The focus of this course is to develop the communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing and fundamental skills of grammar in French.

## **Keyboarding/Computer I (depends on schedule)**

This course Develops proficiency with touch keyboarding and some MS Office Programs such as Word and Excel. These software applications are taught as tools for accomplishing keyboarding techniques performance.

## **Self-esteem**

This course helps the students develop a better self-image of its feelings, emotions and its position on the world that surrounds them.

## **Handbell I**

This course provides music history and theory. In this performing group, students are expected to prepare and practice the music they are given as well as the fundamentals of handbells. After-school rehearsals will be required during the year. Students are required to participate in public performances on some school and outside activities.

## **Leave it Home**

Gum and candy are not permitted at Saint Francis School anytime! Music players, headphones, skateboards and electronic games should be left at home. This is not an exhaustive list. Anything your child uses as a toy or weapon or to disrupt learning environment may be included (i.e., paperclips, rubber bands, etc.). These items will be confiscated and held in the office for a parent to pick up. Tablets will be allowed to use in the math classroom, students are responsible for their electronic equipment.