

The Journey Homeschool Group

Teacher Bios and Class Descriptions 2024-2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Teacher bios & Contact info	3-9
 <u>PRIVATE LESSONS</u>	
Violin, Viola, Cello	10
Voice	10-11
 <u>ELEMENTARY CLASSES ~ PREK-GRADE 6</u>	
PreK/Kindergarten	11
Science	11-13
Astronomy 3/4	13
Astronomy 5/6	13
Art	14
Geography	14-15
Writing	15-16
Music	16-17
Beginning Orchestra	17
Violin 2	17-18
Physical Education	18
Intro to French	18
Culinary Arts	18
 <u>MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSES ~ GRADE 7/8</u>	
Handicrafts	19
Violin 2	19-20
Civics	20
World History/Geography	20-21
Writing	21
Allegro Choir	21
Christian Living	22
Science	22
Intro to Public Speaking	22-23
 <u>COMBINGED MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SENIOR HIGH CLASSES ~ GRADES 7-12</u>	
Art	23
French 1	24
Advanced Culinary Arts	24
Orchestra 1	25
 <u>SENIOR HIGH CLASSES ~ GRADES 9-12</u>	
Bel Canto Choir	25-26
Government	26
Economics	26
World History	26-27
Apologetics	27
German 1	27-28
Intermediate Logic	28
Bible Doctrine	28
Old Testament Survey	28-29

SENIOR HIGH CLASSES ~ GRADES 9-12 CONTINUED

Chemistry.....	29
Advanced Biology.....	29-30
Public Speaking.....	30
Writing.....	31
French 2.....	31-32

TEACHER BIOS

Brooke Ahlert ~ French/ Handicrafts

brookeahlert@gmail.com

Hello! To say that I am excited to be teaching four classes this year is an understatement. I love teaching my daughters, and it has been such a blessing to be able to extend that teaching to the Journey students. I strive to bring creativity, enthusiasm, and diligence to the classroom. I also strive to glorify our Lord in my teaching. This year I will be teaching three French classes and a handicrafts class.

Outside of the classroom, I enjoy spending time with my family, spending time with my church family, playing tennis, bicycling, reading, knitting, crocheting, the list could go on and on! I have been married to my husband, Josh, for sixteen years and we share two daughters whom we've homeschooled from the very beginning. While we started out living in River Falls, little by little we've moved north and now reside in Amery which is as far north as we plan to go!

I can't wait to share my passion for French and handicrafts with your children!

Jeana Andrighetti ~ Elementary Physical Education

jeana.andrighetti@outlook.com

I am so excited to be bringing Physical Education for 1st and 2nd graders at The Journey! When I am not at The Journey, I am at home (in our tiny home on wheels!) with my three young kids doing homeschooling, hiking with my family or enjoying a good book with a cup of (hopefully hot, but usually cold) coffee. I am a certified Sports Nutrition Specialist with NASM and working towards a degree in Biblical Counseling and Theology through Liberty University. I fully believe that God created our bodies to be active and for us to feel well and alive in them. A few of my goals for the class is to teach your child leadership and kindness in sports (lose gracefully, taking turns etc), how to use our bodies and our energy for good and productive ways and new games to play with parents/siblings! I am looking forward to a fun year with you all!

Kendal Bauermeister ~ Middle School/High School Writing

bauermeisterkendal@gmail.com

This will be my first year teaching for Journey and I am thrilled to be able to share my love of writing with our next generation of writers, authors, editors, and reporters. It is my goal to prepare students for their next steps in life whether that be for high school level writing, college, careers or their own personal writing. We will examine writing for purpose, literary themes and structures, literary analysis, research based strategies, essay responses, and creating five paragraph essays to name a few. All units will be closed with the student's own writing as they develop their skills and voice in the written word.

When I am not teaching at Journey, I can be found at home reading or writing, homeschooling my three children (Logan, Oakley, and Porter) or traveling with my family. Looking forward to a great year!

Lisa Buckle ~ Elementary Geography

lisawwg@outlook.com

Hello, Families! I'm excited to be a part of continuing our Journey students' geography experience. I consider myself a lifelong learner and look forward to discovering more of our world alongside my students. Hudson has been my home for 14 years. I have been a part of homeschooling co-ops for over a decade and a half. I have loved homeschooling my own 4 children and one of my greatest joys is raising them while teaching them how to recognize the Lord's blessing in their lives. I enjoy cooking ethnic and diverse foods, gardening, and spending time outdoors doing whatever is in season with my family. I hope to bring my enthusiasm for discovery and missions into the classroom as we Gallop the Globe, Canter the Country, and Map the World by Heart together! I look forward to my twelfth year of teaching at The Journey Homeschool Group and the joy of sharing the amazing gift of this world that God gave us. Our world is so much more than a map!

Jill Burgess ~ PreK/Kindergarten

jburgess10@hotmail.com

Greetings, families! My name is Jill Burgess, and I will be the PreK/Kindergarten teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. This will be my third-year teaching here at The Journey. My husband, Samuel and I live in Ellsworth, WI on a small hobby farm with our three children. We decided to try giving homeschooling a try after I had been a stay-at-home-mom for a few years, and we were unsure where to enroll our eldest child during our transition from North Carolina back to Wisconsin.

I have a degree in Early Childhood Development from the University of Minnesota-Crookston. Prior to having children, I worked as the Assistant Center Director and Preschool teacher at a learning center in Menomonie, WI. I have always had a love for teaching and being engaged with children and the world around us. I have come to really enjoy teaching and learning beside our children at home. I am so excited to be teaching again this year and offering our youngest class available at The Journey!

Ingrid Cook ~ Middle School Modern World History & Geography / German 1

ingccook@gmail.com

I am really thankful to be able to continue teaching at the Journey Co-op! This will be my 8th year teaching at Journey and my 13th year homeschooling overall. I'm regularly amazed at how there are always new layers and levels of learning that God is just waiting to guide us into, if only we will take the time to seek truth, reflect and ponder. My hope is that I can guide students on their own journeys of gaining knowledge about what has happened in our world, and to see God's ever faithful, and ever present, involvement in all of it.

My educational background includes a BA in German and Animal Science from UW-River Falls, and an MA in German from UW-Madison. My life experiences include multiple trips to Europe that have been very impactful to me, with a family trip in 1976 that included the [at the time] communist countries of East Germany and Poland, and a visit to both West and East Berlin during the era of the Berlin Wall. I also spent a summer working in Germany through an internship at a Western horse training facility.

I have been teaching at various homeschool co-ops since 2012 because I have come to see that instructing and preparing the next generation is a true privilege and duty that God invites His people to carry out. My husband, Doug, and I have lived in the River Falls area since 1996 and have had the joy (and at times stress!) of homeschooling our own 3 children - Logan (now on to college), Klara (8th grade) and Ian (7th grade) - while also being a part of the Journey co-

op. My favorite personal pursuits include reading, praying, getting outdoors, working with & riding horses, taking walks with our dogs, traveling and cooking/baking.

Alex Davenport ~ Elementary Astronomy/ Middle School Civics

alexcorwindavenport@yahoo.com

Our family of five lives near Hammond, and you can usually find us at a local park, library, or out in the yard. We are members of Faith Community Church, part of the ECSC Missional Community, and involved in a local homeschool nature group. I'm looking forward to teaching this year, and sharing my enthusiasm for both Astronomy and Civics. I'm rotating out my previous classes of weather and navigation, and plan to bring them back in the following year. I have been an airline pilot for the past 20 years, and I've also taught as a flight instructor and in classroom settings. I'm very excited to be able to share the fun, excitement, and the awe of God in these topics.

Esther Deuth ~ Public Speaking

estherdeuth@gmail.com

Hi everyone! My name is Esther Deuth. I have a passion for public speaking. I competed in Speech & Debate in a national league (NCFCA) for three of my four years in high school and loved every minute of it! Since then, I have jumped at every opportunity to pour into current students and help them gain the confidence to stand up and speak that they will surely need in our world today!

Marra Dietsche ~ Elementary Music/ Violin/ Orchestra/ Private Lessons

marradietsche@gmail.com

Hello! My name is Marra Dietsche (rhymes with teach). I am excited to be joining the Journey this year after spending last winter and spring subbing for Mrs. Kari Slominski while she was on maternity leave. I will be teaching the 1/2 general music class, the 7/8 continuing violin class and the 7-12 beginning violin, viola, and cello classes this year.

I received my Bachelor of Music Education degree from Lawrence University in 2007 and my Master of Music Education degree from Anderson University in 2011. I spent the first eleven years of my teaching career in Kenosha, WI, my hometown. I taught K-8 general music, orchestra, and choir in the Kenosha Unified School District. During this time, I also taught private violin, viola, cello and piano lessons and worked as a church musician.

One of the greatest joys of my life is helping students discover and grow their musical ability and providing educational opportunities for them to enjoy the beautiful gift of music that God has given us.

In 2018 I met and married Greg Dietsche, a Western Wisconsin native who was more than worth the move across the state. Since moving to River Falls, I have taught middle and high school orchestra at St. Croix Lutheran Academy and elementary general music in the Baldwin-Woodville School District. I enjoy performing with my local string ensemble, playing for church services at Faith Lutheran in River Falls, learning how to cook delicious new dishes, and supporting my husband's work as a volunteer fire fighter with the River Falls department.

Jenny Johnson ~ Culinary Arts

lynn2sadaf@protonmail.com

I am excited to embark on this journey of teaching Culinary Arts for the Journey Homeschool Co-op. I have a Human Ecology degree (aka: Home Economics) and I enjoy cooking and teaching others about food and nutrition. Besides my formal education, I have had twenty plus years of experience in homeschooling my children, gardening and

preserving God's bounty to be enjoyed. I look forward to passing down these life skills and wisdom to the students of Journey. When I'm not cooking, gardening or sewing, I enjoy learning from God's word, planning vacations and visiting with family and friends.

Nathan Johnson ~ Elementary Astronomy

nathanjm42@protonmail.com

Hello! As a homeschool graduate, I am excited to share my passion for Astronomy with your students. This will be my first year teaching at Journey. God instilled a love of Astronomy in me since I was 13 years old and I have been an amateur Astronomer for several years. I love to show people some of the wonders of the night sky through one of my four telescopes. I have given Astronomy presentations to multiple homeschool groups (including Journey) over the last couple of years and I look forward to giving more presentations this fall. When I'm not viewing the night sky through my telescope, I enjoy reading about Astronomy, theology, and especially military history because my family and I are Civil War re-enactors. During the winter I love to go skiing (both downhill and cross-country).

Alyssa Kruschke ~ Elementary Writing

alyssakruschke@gmail.com

Hi, I'm Alyssa Kruschke. I'm looking forward to my second year as part of The Journey's community! For the last eight years I have been home raising my two sons Harrison and Jameson. Before having kids I was an elementary teacher in New Richmond, the town where my husband Joe and I were both raised. I absolutely loved teaching, although I seem to have become more of an "unschooler" with my own children. What I treasured most in the classroom setting was the time with "my" students - knowing them so well, guiding, teaching and watching them learn and grow. The Journey has opened up this opportunity to me again, and words cannot describe the heart I have for my students from my first year at Journey.

Outside of school, I love to journal, write, read, and study my Bible. We have two baskets designated for our insane amount of library books. (Thank you librarians!) My boys love to be outside in all types of weather and I'm right there with them! I never saw it coming, but I absolutely love playing in the mud, catching tadpoles in the ponds, fishing, skiing, gardening (with lots of weeds!), and just being outside as much as humanly possible. We enjoy every season and all the activities that go along with them.

Zach McCabe ~ High School Science

drzach@mccabechiropractic.com

I'm excited to be teaching high school science again this year! When I'm not teaching at The Journey, you will find me caring for others at my chiropractic center, spending time with my wife, Nikki, and our three children, Emma, Owen, and Addie, or being outdoors exploring creation in a variety of ways. Our Lord has placed in me a true passion for health and the natural world according to His design as well as a desire to share it with you and your children. My class goals each year are to 1) create in your child an understanding, respect, and awe for God's created order, 2) prepare them for the next step in their education, be it high school, college, or a vocation, and 3) do it all for the glory of God.

Eva Opseth ~ Choir and Private Vocal Lessons

eva.opseth@gmail.com

I'm excited to be teaching MS/HS choir and voice lessons a second year at Journey! I earned a Bachelor's degree in Music with an emphasis in Vocal Performance and have over 10 years of vocal training. My professional experience includes years of performing on larger stages (such as University of Wisconsin River Falls and Orchestra Hall), 4 years of teaching in schools and a professional children's choir and 3 years of teaching private voice and piano lessons. When I'm not teaching, you'll find me spending time with my husband, Zachary, or finding new parks and coffee shops to explore with my friends and family. Music has been my passion ever since I was old enough to sing and I am so excited to make a "joyful noise" with students!

My class goals are to 1) foster a love for singing that will grow your child in confidence, 2) instill musical knowledge and technical skills, 3) give your child a tool to use to glorify God, to draw close to God, and to bless others.

Tim Porter ~ High School Logic

worldviewteacher@gmail.com

Tim Porter is Senior Pastor for Faith Community Church in Hudson. Tim has earned a BA in Biblical and Theological Studies from Bethel University, a Masters of Divinity from Bethel Seminary, and has taught as an adjunct professor at Bethel Seminary, Northwestern College, and Bethlehem College and Seminary. Married to DJ Porter and father of 3 boys, his passion in shepherding is always focused on the heart. "Fun and silly, yet serious about Truth" best defines his teaching style with children!

Daniel Radke ~ Middle School & High School Bible Classes

dradke@ambassadorcollege.education

Greetings, Journey families! Faithfully teaching students God's Word is my vocational calling and delight! Since age 15, God has blessed me with the privilege of doing so in a variety of settings for children, teens, and young adults, including two years as a Christian school Bible and History teacher. I serve full-time with Ambassador College of Bible and Ministry, a part of Teens For Christ in Hudson. I love combining teaching with personal discipleship to equip my students for both life and ministry. My educational background includes earning a BA in Biblical Studies and a BS in History from the University of Northwestern - St. Paul, and a MA in Biblical and Theological Studies from Knox Theological Seminary. My wife Rachel and I are a homeschooling family with three young children. We enjoy reading good books, playing board games, and taking walks along nature trails. I am excited to be teaching middle school and senior high students Bible courses this year at The Journey as we endeavor together to grow in understanding and treasuring Christ and His Word!

Dan Schneider ~ Government/ Economics/ World History/ Apologetics

danschneider007@hotmail.com

Dan has been involved in education ministry for over 40 years as a teacher, Christian school administrator, home school consultant, and curriculum designer. For several years he served as a speaker on Christian education for Nehemiah Institute. He is a former family pastor and author of Education from the Biblical Worldview (2004, Nehemiah Institute). For the past decade he has served as a tutor for several Twin Cities area homeschool co-ops.

Caitlin Simon ~ Elementary Science

I feel so blessed to be teaching elementary science at Journey this year! I have a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Minnesota State University, Mankato. I taught as an elementary teacher in Southern MN for five years before leaving the profession to be closer to family and friends. I am so excited to be returning to the classroom! My hope and prayer for every child is that they not only develop a deep love for learning but they will also grow in their journey of faith while in my classroom. I believe the beauty of science is that you can see God everywhere in it! It is such a gift to share this with your children!

I live in New Richmond with my husband, Josh, and three children: Gabriella (9), Charlie (7) and Jack (5). In my free time I enjoy cooking/baking, homeschooling my children, gardening, reading, hosting, creating and traveling! My son Charlie was born profoundly deaf so American Sign Language (ASL) is actively used at our house. I plan on sharing this beautiful language with our young science students through weekly ASL vocabulary that relates to topics covered in class. So students, get ready to get your hands moving through experimentation, investigation and ASL!

Cara Skarsten ~ Middle School Science

cara.skarsten@gmail.com

I'm excited to be back in the classroom exploring earth science with your kids this year. Before I started homeschooling, I taught middle school and high school science. I got my teaching license at Viterbo University in La Crosse and my undergraduate in Cellular and Molecular Biology, with minors in Chemistry and Spanish at UW La Crosse. My overall goal in class is for each student to enjoy learning and science while also developing higher skills and confidence as we do experiments, make mistakes and try again. My husband Danny and I have three children, Sophia (13), Jubilee (11) and Peter (8). We love being outdoors, and summer is our favorite season. In our free time we've begun mountain biking and we enjoy finding new rivers or lakes for us to explore and swim. I also enjoy creatively gardening and growing mushrooms.

Kari Slominski ~ Music/ Violin/ Orchestra

me@karislominski.com

Hello families! This is my third year teaching music with Journey, and I am so excited to be part of this community. I earned my Bachelors of Music Education degree (Classroom and Instrumental Music) from Bethel University with a minor in Teaching English as a Second Language. During my 13 years of teaching, I have taught orchestra in public schools with grades 4-12, as well as private and group lessons on piano, violin, viola, cello and bass. Just before joining the Journey, I spent 5 years teaching 4th and 5th grade orchestra and 1 year teaching General Music K-5 in the South Washington County School District in MN. I was a long-time member playing bass in the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, and now I stay active making music on the Faith Community Church worship team. I grew up in the Twin Cities area, and was homeschooled in 3rd and 4th grade myself! My husband Jordan and I have been part of the Faith Community Church since before we were married in 2017. Our two children are such joys in our lives! Jonathan will be 3 in September 2024, and Sylvia (who has Down Syndrome) will be 1 in January 2025. Some of my favorite hobbies are hiking, reading, doing calligraphy, and spending time with my husband and two golden retrievers. Music is an incredible gift from God. It is one of the ways we express ourselves and connect with others and with God. It gives me so much joy to see young students grow as young musicians, because studying music helps to foster confidence, independence, responsibility, creativity- not to mention it's just fun! I look forward to meeting you and your

children this fall!

Liz Wertz ~ Elementary, Middle School, and High School Art

eliz.wertz@gmail.com

Hello from your Homeschool Art teacher! I've been teaching at Journey since 2010, and this is easily the best job I've ever had. Every year I'm here, I feel more and more excited to do what I do.

I have a BFA in visual art with a concentration in graphic design from Colorado State University, and I've been licensed to teach art for K-12 in WI and MN. My husband and I moved to River Falls after we got married in 2008; we love the St. Croix Valley and are so pleased to be raising our two kids here in a community so passionate about parenting and teaching!

When I'm not teaching art at The Journey, you'll find me enjoying long hours of read alouds with my own kiddos, working on my own art projects in my studio, mentoring young artists, hosting, creating lesson plans, being involved with my local congregation of The River Church, or enjoying the abundance of God's inspiring creation here in the Midwest. God's made us all in His image, which means our creativity reflects His...which is something I tell all my students, especially the ones who say those all-too common words: "I can't draw!" I feel incredibly blessed to be back at The Journey again this year, and I am looking forward to seeing what God's plan is for us in art!

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Private Lessons

Please note: Private Lessons are available throughout the co-op day, and are designated for registered Journey families only. Scheduling and payment are to be coordinated directly with the instructor and are not included in the registration payment materials. See individual class descriptions for more information.

Private Music Lessons: Violin, Viola, Cello

Grades: 3-12
Tuition: \$25/ 30 minute lesson
Teacher: Marra Dietsche
Email: marradietsche@gmail.com

Course Goals: Private lessons allow students to receive one on one instruction for either beginning or continuing study. An emphasis on technique and music literacy through the study of music repertoire and technical studies will be the focus. Students who wish to someday join the middle or high school orchestra and cannot fit beginning orchestra into their schedules can use these private lessons as an opportunity to become eligible for these ensembles in future school years.

Teacher Availability: 11:00-12:00 and 12:30-2:00 on Mondays during Co-op

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Rented violin, viola or cello. I recommend renting with Brickhouse Music in River Falls, WI. Please call to schedule an appointment with Blaine to set up sizing and rental agreement. 715-426-6776
2. Rosin
3. Shoulder rest for full size violin and viola (Kun or Everest Brand preferred). Shoulder pad is ok for smaller sized violins and violas.
4. Rock Stop for Cello
5. Folding Music Stand
6. Method Book TBD by Mrs. Dietsche when lessons begin
7. Spiral Notebook for Lessons Notes and Folder

Private Voice Lessons

Grades: 7-12 (first Semester)
Tuition: \$25/ 30 minute lesson
Teacher: Eva Opseth
Email: eva.opseth@gmail.com

In voice lessons, students will get to explore their voices through learning new pieces of music in various genres. Students will work individually with their instructor to create personal goals for their vocal journey and then work towards those goals in every lesson. Students will learn about vocal technique and health, how to read music, ear training, and how to sing expressively. Homework will be practice time at home and research of their pieces. At the end of the semester, students will get to perform in a voice recital for their parents and peers.

The Vocal Performance Studio Class is included with registered Journey student's voice lessons and is no extra fee. Students will work up a couple of pieces throughout the semester in their private lessons and then perform them in class. During class, students will receive constructional feedback from their instructor and, if they so wish, from their colleagues. Through this, students will grow in confidence in their performance abilities, and learn how to give and receive constructive feedback with encouragement and positivity; all while being in a comfortable space. They will also learn more about vocal technique by observing their colleagues, performing their pieces, and thinking critically about how to become the best performer they can be!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Black binder with loose leaf paper
2. Pencil and pencil sharpener
3. Water bottle

Elementary Classes: PreK-6th Grade

PreK/Kindergarten

3-HOUR PRE-K/K CLASS (AM OR PM)

For children ages 4-6: Must turn 4 years old (for Pre-K) or 5 years old (for K) BY September 1st

Tuition: \$475

Teacher: Jill Burgess

Email: jburgess10@hotmail.com

PreK/Kindergarteners will learn through a variety of lessons and activities based around children's rich literature. With these books we will have a chance to expand and explore social studies, language, art, applied math and even science. We will learn together through a variety of activities that will be developmentally age appropriate to your child. There will be a chance to further explore these activities with suggested books and activities to do with your child at home if you desire. Children will be exposed to a friendly classroom environment and expected to work respectfully and cooperatively with teachers, assistants, and peers learning/strengthening basic classroom manners. During the school year, we will also have a chance to explore our outside environment. Suggested and appropriate seasonal attire is required on all days unless severe weather is present.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Each week, children should bring a backpack with a *pencil box* filled with:

1. 2 sharpened pencils
2. 1 box of Crayola 8 Crayons (this gives the basic colors we will need to work with)
3. 1 child-sized scissor
4. 2 glue sticks
5. 1 bottle of white glue
6. 1 folder
7. 1 *non-lined* spiral notebook (for journaling)
8. 1 pair of dice

PLEASE LABEL your child's supplies.

*Parents are asked to sign up and supply a snack and drink item for the class 2-3 times during the school year.

Elementary Science: Investigate and Explore!

Grade: 1/2

Tuition: \$150

Teacher: Caitlin Simon

Email: caitlinmeath@gmail.com

This class will be all about fun and developing a love and curiosity for science, the world around us, and the God that made it all! It doesn't matter if your child learns best through visual, auditory, kinesthetic, or reading and writing-there will be something for everyone in this course! The principles for this "Investigate and Explore" adventure will be to expose students to a diversity of topics and vocabulary, without information overkill. Students will be exposed to American Sign Language (ASL) through ASL vocabulary of the week that relates to topics covered throughout the course. This year's topics will include things like space, botany, outdoor education, and animals. No text necessary and no outside class work required. For families who are interested in outside class work, review questions/answers and activity/experiment ideas will be emailed weekly for you to complete at home as you wish. (2-year rotation course)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Pencils
2. Colored pencils
3. Scissor
4. Glue stick
5. Folder

Elementary Science: Exploring Creating with Zoology- Land Animals

Grade: 3/4
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Caitlin Simon
Email: caitlinmmeath@gmail.com

Exploring Creation with Zoology 3: Land Animals of the Sixth Day

This year's topic for Grade 3/4 is Land Animals! It is going to be a fun class that I think your children will love! It doesn't matter if your child learns best through visual, auditory, kinesthetic, or reading and writing-there will be something for everyone in this course! Students will be exposed to American Sign Language (ASL) through ASL vocabulary of the week that relates to topics covered throughout the course too! We will cover three main groups of animals-wild animals, livestock, and creeping creatures. Land Animals gives us the perfect opportunity to begin to develop a love for exploring our environment. We will use Apologia's Exploring Creation series, which is a favorite science curriculum used by many homeschooling families. It is built on a solid creationist foundation, always directs our attention to the amazing character of our Creator God, and incorporates a Charlotte Mason approach using the tools of narration and notebooking. Class will be fast paced with a wide variety of activities including lots of exciting labs and experiments, Bible Knowledge, art, and life skills. Students will be asked to read certain portions of the text at home during the week and optional homework will be assigned. Homework will not be required but strongly encouraged as it will help reinforce understanding of topics covered in class. No previous exposure to any Apologia's text is necessary.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Zoology 3rd Edition: Land Animals of the Sixth Day*, textbook by Jeannie Fulbright.
2. Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Zoology 3rd Edition: Land Animals of the Sixth Day*, Notebooking Journal (NOT the "Junior" unless you feel it would be a better fit for your child.)
3. Nature Journal- Should be non-lined, with thicker paper that can hold up to watercolors. (Here is an example of one from Amazon-- Strathmore 400 Series Visual Watercolor Journal, 140 LB 5.5"x8" Cold Press, Wire Bound, 22 Sheets)
4. Pencil
5. Colored pencils
6. Scissor
7. Glue stick

Elementary Science: Apologia Human Anatomy and Physiology

Grade: 5/6
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Caitlin Simon
Email: caitlinmmeath@gmail.com

Human Anatomy and Physiology

This year's topic for Grade 5/6 is Anatomy and Physiology! This is a great course that covers subjects students will use the rest of their lives. From bones, to muscles, blood, digestion, development and much more, we are covering how and WHY our bodies work the way they do. It doesn't matter if your child learns best through visual, auditory, kinesthetic, or reading and writing-there will be something for everyone in this course! Students will be exposed to American Sign Language (ASL) through ASL vocabulary of the week that relates to topics covered throughout the course. We will use Apologia's Exploring Creation series, which is a favorite science curriculum used by many homeschool families. It is built on a solid creationist foundation, always directs our attention to the amazing character of our Creator God, and incorporates a Charlotte Mason approach using the tools of narration and notebooking. Class will be quick paced with a wide variety of activities including lots of exciting labs and experiments, Bible knowledge, art and life skills. Science meets life in this class! Students will be asked to read certain portions of the text at home during the week and optional homework will be assigned. Homework will not be required but strongly encouraged as it will help reinforce understanding of topics covered in class. No previous exposure to any Apologia's text is necessary.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology*, Textbook by Jeannie Fulbright.
2. Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology*, Notebooking Journal (Not the "Junior" version unless you feel it would be a better fit for your child)
3. Pencil
4. Colored pencils

5. Scissor
6. Glue stick

Elementary Astronomy

Grade: 3/4
Tuition: \$170
Teacher: Alex Davenport
Email: alexcorwindavenport@yahoo.com

“The heavens are singing about how great God is; and the skies are shouting it out, ‘See what God has made!’ Day after day...Night after night...they are speaking to us (Psalm 19, Jesus Storybook Bible)

Astronomy is an amazing opportunity to study the glory of God. And because mankind has studied the heavens for millennia, the study of astronomy connects a great deal to the Humanities as well. In this class we will learn about the major stars, constellations, moon and planets. With each of these we will study their motion, basic navigation and time-keeping, their use in scripture and culture. Along the way, the kids will get a taste of Greek history and mythology, biblical poetry, celestial navigation, and more.

We will use *The Book of Astronomy* from Memoria Press as our textbook (provided on first day), and there will be a couple of optional evening “meet-ups” to view seasonal constellations throughout the year as a group. Hope to see you in class!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Pencil
2. Notebook
3. Colored pencils
4. Folder

Elementary Astronomy: Adventures in Space

Grades: 5/6
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Nathan Johnson
Email: nathanjm42@protonmail.com

Adventures in Space

Join me as we journey through the solar system and God’s universe at lightning speed! Travel with us as we visit each of the planets, explore stars and galaxies, and examine many of the celestial jewels of the universe and show how each of them declare God’s glory. We will also study motions of the stars in the night sky, and explore how to view and study the night sky with the unaided eye, binoculars, and a small telescope.

As we study about NASA and Space Travel, we will build and blast off rockets and learn some of the physics behind how rockets work. The class will receive private telescope observing sessions during the evening using one of my telescopes, in which they will view and learn to find some of the beautiful objects in the night sky.

We will also be discussing the different worldview that scientists apply when they study Astronomy, and lay out the strengths and weaknesses that come with each viewpoint. The curriculum I will be using is from a young earth perspective.

“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.” Psalm 19:1

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Apologia’s *Exploring Creation with Astronomy* 2nd Edition textbook by Jeannie Fulbright
2. Notebook
3. Pencil

Elementary Art

Grades: 1/2 & 3/4
Tuition: \$150 (\$155 for 3/4)
Teacher: Liz Wertz
Email: eliz.wertz@gmail.com

In art class, we'll be learning about and applying the elements and principles of art and design, with projects varying in media, duration and format. The year will be divided into media-based units (Basics, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture), and students will be encouraged to keep their best work in a "portfolio," to be evaluated at the end of the year and from which they'll choose their best pieces to be submitted to the Showcase art show. We will build on basic skills and strive towards each student doing their personal very best, according to their gifts! There will be a variety of fun projects, often with connections to art history or Biblical principles, with God getting the credit for our creations! This approach gives students the time necessary to do their best work and helps students gain an understanding of the process behind art-making.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Paint shirt to be kept in backpack, especially during painting and sculpture units!

Elementary Art: Focused Art Experience

Grade: 5/6
Tuition: \$165
Teacher: Liz Wertz
Email: eliz.wertz@gmail.com

This course is similar to the format and style of the younger classes, with one major difference: this course strives to be more cumulative and focused, with students taking more responsibility for their projects, choosing artists to research and basing artwork off of them. One of the goals of this class is to instill the importance and impact of art in our world and to give students the opportunity to grow in different creative directions, with purposeful guidance and direction. It is for this reason that students will be asked to keep sketchbooks, in which entries will be made, either as class work or homework. This class is just as fun and engaging as the younger classes, but with more advanced materials, techniques, and results!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 8 x 10 (or larger) Sketchbook
2. Paint shirt to be kept in backpack, especially during painting and sculpture units!

Elementary Geography: Galloping the Globe

Grade: 1/2
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Lisa Buckle
Email: lisawwg@outlook.com

Throw on that cowboy hat, and hop on your saddle! This class is *Galloping the Globe* (authors Loree Pettit & Dari Mullins)! Register for this class and you'll find yourself trottin' your way through a captivating introduction to world geography – unit study style. Take a gander at the 7 continents and their major countries, investigate the oceans, and "journey" to the poles in this 2-year hands-on adventure course. Investigate maps, flags, recipes, literature, famous people, science, and more. You'll be spurred on to creativity as you record your learning in a lapbook. And, most importantly, grasp the foundational truth that this earth has a purpose: not only is its origin in our amazing Creator, but its ends and purposes are all for His glory. Note: This class covers different material over the course of 2 years. If your child was enrolled in it last year, it is still fitting to enroll again in order to complete his/her gallop around the globe!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Colored pencils
2. Pen or pencil
3. Scissor
4. Glue stick
5. 1" three-ring binder for notebooking

Elementary Geography: Canterng the Country

Grade: 3/4
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Lisa Buckle
Email: lisawwg@outlook.com

Saddle up for a cross-country adventure through the good old USA! Over the course of 2 years (if you so choose), take an in-depth look at all 50 states, the capital cities, and major landforms of this great country we call “home.” Lasso some facts and brand them into your notebook for long-term keeping: state birds, flowers, trees, travel, tourism, climate, animals, and more. Consider some famous heroes (possibly an outlaw or two as well!) and where they lived, studied, and worked. Open your eyes and hearts to see how our great Creator has blessed us with an amazing and beautiful land ~ for our joy and for His glory. Based on Loree Pettit & Dari Mullin’s resource *Cantering the Country*. Note: This class covers different material over the course of 2 years. If your child was enrolled in it last year, it is still fitting to enroll again in order to complete his/her canter around the country!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Colored pencils
2. Pen or pencil
3. Scissor
4. Glue stick
5. 1” three-ring binder for notebooking

Elementary Geography: Mapping the World by Heart

Grade: 5/6
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Lisa Buckle
Email: lisawwg@outlook.com

Are you ready for a real challenge? Did you ever stop to think that you might be able to draw a map of the WORLD – over 190 countries – from MEMORY? David Smith’s *Mapping the World by Heart* is described as an “innovative approach” where students do intensive study of the world – its continents, countries, mountain ranges, rivers, and major cities – inspiring in them a love for geography and God’s creation, the ability to think globally, and the satisfaction of imprinting a map of the entire world into long-term memory. The use of clever mnemonics aid students in their learning -- Some already written and shared by the teacher (Did you know that “Ecuador is on the equator?”), and others to be created by the students themselves and shared in class! So, bring your grapefruit, a determination to tackle a challenge, and go for the globe! You’ll impress even yourself with what you’ll be able to accomplish. Why a grapefruit, you ask? To skin it in such a way as to demonstrate the challenge and distortion of a flat map of the world, of course! The content of this class is extensive and rich and will take 2 years to accomplish fully. Plan for weekly homework.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Colored pencils
2. Pen or pencil
3. Loose leaf paper for note taking
4. 1” three-ring binder for notebooking
5. Set of 25 maps online at Mapping the World by Heart, FableVision Learning or Rainbow Resources

Elementary Writing: Words Matter

Grade: 1/2
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Alyssa Kruschke
Email: alyssakruschke@gmail.com

God has placed something unique and valuable in each and every one of us. These unique interests, passions, gifts, and voices are what this class is all about. We want to hear YOUR voice!

Using favorite literature as inspiration, students will investigate what authors do well. We will then practice and develop those literary skills into students' own writing. We will work as a group to write drafts of all different types of writing

to persuade, inform, and entertain readers. There will be lots of freedom and choice as we aim to honor each unique voice and celebrate our passions and interests.

Because God has placed something valuable and unique in each of us, students will be asked to create writing projects that they can share in a variety of ways - at the comfort level and choice of each student.

This is going to be FUN! Being together is a chance for us to develop friendships and learn how to work with partners and as a group, which will be another focus of this class. Students will write with partners and as groups and practice encouraging and building up their classmates through positive feedback.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Pocket folder
2. Sharpened Pencils
3. Notebook - Elementary Lined with space for pictures
4. Large Eraser
5. Crayons or Colored Pencils (no markers please)
6. Pencil sharpener

Elementary Writing: Words Matter

Grade: 3/4 & 5/6

Tuition: \$150

Teacher: Alyssa Kruschke

Email: alyssakruschke@gmail.com

God has placed something unique and valuable in each and every one of us. These unique interests, passions, gifts, and voices are what this class is all about. We want to hear YOUR voice!

Using favorite literature as inspiration, students will investigate what authors do well. We will then practice and develop those literary skills into students' own writing. We will work as a group to write drafts of all different types of writing to persuade, inform, and entertain readers. There will be lots of freedom and choice as we aim to honor each unique voice and celebrate our passions and interests.

Because God has placed something valuable and unique in each of us, students will be asked to create writing projects that they can share in a variety of ways - at the comfort level and choice of each student.

This is going to be FUN! Being together is a chance for us to develop friendships and learn how to work with partners and as a group, which will be another focus of this class. Students will write with partners and as groups and practice encouraging and building up their classmates through positive feedback.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Folder
2. Sharpened Pencils
3. Notebook
4. Large Eraser
5. Crayons or Colored Pencils (no markers please)
6. Pencil sharpener
7. Highlighter

Elementary Music

Grade: 1/2

Tuition: \$150

Teacher: Marra Dietsche

Email: marradietsche@gmail.com

First and Second Grade Music Class:

Course Overview

Welcome to our First and Second Grade Music Class! This engaging and lively course is designed to introduce young students to the transformative power of music. Through a variety of interactive activities, children will explore how music can bring joy and expressiveness into their lives, while also celebrating and singing praises to their Savior.

Course Objectives

Singing Praises: A key component of our class will be to sing praises, helping students connect musically with their faith and express their devotion through song.

Joy of Music: Students will explore the joyous nature of music through interactive listening, singing, and playing. They will experience firsthand how music can enhance emotions and bring people together.

Vocal Technique and Expression: Children will learn basic vocal techniques to help them sing with clarity and confidence. They will practice singing with proper pitch, rhythm, and expressive dynamics.

Beat Coordination: Students will engage in rhythmic exercises to help them maintain beat coordination. Through rhymes, songs, classroom musical instruments and examples of recorded music, they will practice keeping a steady beat and learn to feel music in beat groups of two and three.

Understanding Musical Structure and Form: Through expressive actions and creative movement students will learn to recognize the various structures and forms music can take.

Expressive Movement: The class will encourage students to move to music expressively. They will learn to interpret and reflect the many expressive elements of recorded music through movement, enhancing their physical response to musical stimuli.

Expectations for Students

Attendance: Consistent attendance is key to the students' musical growth as skills and activities will build upon what is learned and experienced each week

Class Participation: Students will be encouraged to participate in the various activities of the class as they feel comfortable. Many times, this comfort level grows exponentially throughout the course.

Performance Opportunities: Students are required to participate in a December and Spring Showcase for family and friends.

Course Benefits: By the end of the course, students will not only have developed a deeper appreciation for music but also acquired basic skills in vocal performance, rhythmic coordination, and expressive movement. Our ultimate goal is for students to leave the class with a lasting sense of music's joy and a deeper connection to their musical expressions of faith. This class promises to be a fun, educational, and spiritually enriching experience for all students, fostering a lifelong love for music and its expressive power.

Elementary Music- Beginning Orchestra

Grades: 3-6

Tuition: \$150

Teacher: Kari Slominski

Email: me@karislominski.com

Grades 3-6 gets the opportunity to learn to play either the violin, viola or cello in a group class setting. NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. Homework includes weekly practice on your instrument: 3-4 times a week for 15 minutes per practice time. Students will learn to read music notation, and will perform at the Spring Showcase in May. We will also learn about important composers and hymns.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 1-inch 3-ring binder
2. Pencil
3. *Essential Elements Book 1* for your instrument
4. Violin, viola, or cello your size (instrument, bow, case, rosin, cleaning cloth)- available to rent or purchase through All Strings Attached in Stillwater or Brickhouse Music in River Falls
5. Shoulder rest or sponge for violin or viola or rock stop for cello
6. Music stand

Elementary Music- Violin 2

Grades: 4-6

Tuition: \$150

Teacher: Kari Slominski

Email: me@karislominski.com

This is a class for students in Grades 4-6 to continue their musical studies on violin. PREREQUISITE: took Violin Class last year or has at least 1 year previous experience with private lessons. We will continue our work in the same book from last year. Homework includes weekly practice on violin: 3-4 times a week for 15 minutes per practice time. Students will learn to read more advanced music and rhythm notation, and will perform at the Spring Showcase in May. We will also learn about important composers and hymns.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 1-inch 3-ring binder

2. Pencil
3. *String Basics Violin Book 1* and *String Basics Violin Book 2*
4. Violin your size (violin, bow, case, rosin, cleaning cloth)- available to rent or purchase through All Strings Attached in Stillwater or Brickhouse Music in River Falls
5. Shoulder rest or sponge
6. Music stand

Physical Education

Grade: 1/2
Tuition: \$160
Teacher: Jeana Andrighetti
Email: jeana.andrighetti@outlook.com

This class will be teaching healthy and fun movement! During this class, I will be providing students with opportunities to learn team aspects such as leadership, teamwork and losing/winning gracefully, listening skills and how to healthily expel our extra energy! Some of the games we will be playing are Four Corners, Dodgeball, Relay Races, Whiffle Ball and so much more!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Sneakers or comfortable shoes to be active in
2. Clothing appropriate for playing games (Should be weather appropriate as we will be play outside, weather permitting.)

Introduction to French

Grades: 3-6
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Brooke Ahlert
Email: brookeahlert@gmail.com

Bonjour! This year's theme for Introduction to French is "A Day in The Life." Students will learn about life for French children in their age group. They will learn about French schools, home-schooling in France, living in different settings (city, country, beach), activities enjoyed by French children (e.g. going to the zoo), and more! Students will learn French vocabulary associated with each week's topic. In class we will learn French songs, eat French food, play games, do arts and crafts, and discuss French culture. There will be small assignments occasionally for the older kids. There will be no homework required for third graders. No previous French instruction required.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Folder
2. Pencil

Culinary Arts: Farm to Table

Grades: 3-6
Tuition: \$185
Teacher: Jenny Johnson
Email: lynn2sadaf@protonmail.com

What do we do three times a day? Eat! As families, we gather around the table for nourishment, both physically, emotionally, and spiritually. This class will give your child a jumpstart into something we use everyday. The range of foods God has created is immense. Your child will learn to become more creative and confident in the kitchen. They will learn the basic food prep skills and best practices for safety in the kitchen.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 1/2" or 1" three ring binder or folder
2. Apron (optional)

* I do my best to accommodate gluten-free students, however, an extra fee will be required for classes that require a gluten-free option.

Please Note: This class will have the same lesson plans as what was taught last year.

Middle School Classes: Grade 7/8

Note: The middle school courses are designed with a preparatory purpose. Students will be challenged with a higher level of academic expectation and independence in order to prepare them for the rigor of high school level classes where their grades count toward a GPA. Students at this level and higher are encouraged to communicate with teachers on their own and manage homework assignments independently. Students are given in-class tests and quizzes and will receive feedback from teachers in the form of a quarterly grade report. Many teachers at this level also incorporate study skills into their classes. The students have 30 class periods instead of the 24, at the elementary level. The workload is a little heavier, and the expectation a little higher, yet it's all done within the fold of gracious teachers who lead, guide, inspire, and celebrate as your student grows! With the exception of Christmas break and spring break, both middle school and senior high students will be given homework even on the weeks when classes do not meet.

Handicrafts

Grade: 7/8, will accept Grades 6-9
Tuition: \$270
Teacher: Brooke Ahlert
Email: brookeahlert@gmail.com

Handicrafts class will focus on using various techniques to create quality crafts. There will be an emphasis on quality over quantity to aid in the growth of patience and diligence in our students. Projects will be varied, including cardmaking, bookbinding/journal making, crocheting, embroidery, making a potted winter arrangement, and a woodworking project. One project will be donated to a nursing home, and another will be a gift to someone of the student's choosing to encourage an attitude of giving. The goal will be for all work to be completed during class. However, if a student should want to work on some of the crafts at home, it may be permitted with the parents' okay. The cost of materials will be included in the class fee. No experience is necessary with any of these crafts. Also, crafts will be on rotation, so students may take this class more than once if desired. Come join the fun!

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. None

Violin 2

Grade: 7/8
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Marra Dietsche
Email: marradietsche@gmail.com

Course Overview:

Welcome to year two of your violin journey! Having laid a solid foundation in left hand technique, bowing skills, and note reading during your first year, it is now time to elevate your abilities and deepen your musical expression.

Course Objectives :

Advanced Technique Development: Continue refining and developing your left hand and bowing technique, ensuring more precise and fluid playing.

Expanding Repertoire: We will explore new repertoire in the keys of D major, A major, G major, C major, and E minor, and learn to play the accompanying scales, enhancing your versatility and command of the violin.

Deepening Musical Literacy: Further your understanding of the language of written music, improving your ability to read and interpret scores independently.

Bowing Styles and Articulations: Learn various bowing styles and articulations to add nuance and expression to your playing.

Focus on Hymns and Orchestral Music: Explore great hymns by renowned composers and highlight famous orchestral compositions that showcase the violin.

Performance: Perform for family and friends during our December and Spring Showcases.

Expectations for Students

Weekly Practice: Consistent practice is crucial for progress. Students are expected to engage in regular, weekly practice sessions outside of class and turn in a weekly practice record.

Active Class Participation: Participation goes beyond playing; it includes learning in a group setting and occasionally leading the group, which fosters leadership skills and musical collaboration.

Course Benefits:

This class is not just about advancing your violin skills; it is about growing as a musician and an artist. You will leave this class with a greater ability to express yourself through the violin, a deeper understanding of musical compositions,

and enhanced performance confidence. Get ready to explore the rich world of violin music and discover new horizons in your musical journey as you “fan into flame the gift (of music) that God has given you!” 2 Timothy 1:6

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Students are expected to rent their own violin for the duration of the course if they do not already own one. Instruments are available to rent or purchase through All Strings Attached in Stillwater or Brickhouse Music in River Falls
2. Portable music stand.
3. Shoulder rest (violin and viola) Kun or Everest brand preferred.

Civics

Grade: 7/8
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Alex Davenport
Email: alexcorwindavenport@yahoo.com

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” -Jeremiah 29:7

As a Christian, this country is not our true home. And yet, we are called to be engaged and work for the good of the place where we live. How should a middle-schooler be thinking about these things? A good start is by understanding the structure of our government and how we interact with it.

Civics class will introduce students to the United States’ founding documents, structure and branches of government, and the rights and responsibilities of its citizens. Throughout the class we will use different classroom simulations to model the function of government. This will give students a fun and engaging way learn the intention behind the government’s structure and how it functions in real life. We will practice modeling things like the Constitutional Convention, creating and passing laws through Congress, mock trial, and more.

Our textbook will be *We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution, Level 2* from the Center for Civic Education. This will be provided to students on the first day of class.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Pencil
2. Notebook
3. Colored pencils
4. Folder

World History & Geography

Grade: 7/8
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Ingrid Cook
Email: ingccook@gmail.com

The study of History and Geography through a biblical lens help to lay a solid foundation of knowledge that is extremely useful to orient us throughout our lives. During the middle school years, students are ready to engage in their learning at a new level, so it is a good time to solidify key events, people and dates on a timeline that can provide a solid framework for future reference and study of history, while also giving them new insights into events they may already have learned about at the elementary stage. In this class, students will also be asked to discuss and report on what they are learning, so it gives them practice in shaping and expressing their own views along with practicing public speaking skills in a setting of peers. Our studies will take us back over the last 800 plus years of European history, including kingdoms, cultures and events involving Africa and Asia as well. To aid us in this study, we will also review basic world geography, focusing on the Eastern Hemisphere, which will reinforce what students have learned in their elementary years. To this end, we will revisit the major countries and important cities of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific Rim, and the major geographic features that shape these areas.

The homework for this class will include weekly reading assignments, short answer responses to discussion questions, geography exercises and maps; all of which will require about 30-45 minutes, 3-4 days a week. There will be occasional short quizzes in class on the reading assignments and a take at home test after each Unit. As part of our studies, we will

read 1-2 middle school level books that are about a specific person or time period. The students will also be asked to share several short reports in class over the course of the school year (including a poster and/or a PowerPoint).

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Text: *World Studies (Grade 7 Student Text)*, 5th Edition (2023), by BJU Press. (about \$75)
2. *World Atlas & Geography Studies of the Eastern Hemisphere*, by A Beka Book, 5th Edition. (about \$16)
3. A small binder (1" should be fine) with pockets on the inside for handouts and 5 tabs for organization
4. Loose-leaf paper
5. Pen or pencil
6. Colored pencils for maps.

If your student is an audio learner, I also recommend the following CD set (especially if you have younger siblings at home that will also be covering this material at some point). I will have this CD available for students to check out one week at a time, but depending on how many end up taking the class, you may have to wait several weeks for your turn with the CD.

It's called: *History Revealed, Volume 3 - World Empires, World Missions, World Wars*, by Diana Waring. (about \$22)

Middle School Composition

Grade: 7/8
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Kendal Bauermeister
Email: bauermeisterkendal@gmail.com

Written Communications

Middle school writing will give students a variety of experiences in writing methods and themes that will enable them to meet the needs of high school writing expectations. In this class, students will explore writing with purpose and order, the themes and structures of fictional writing, short fiction and literary analysis, research-based strategies, structured essay responses, and mastering the five-paragraph essay to name a few. We will close each unit with an opportunity to use the concepts and skills learned applied to their own writing as they learn to develop their skills and find their own writing voice.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 3 ring binder
2. Pencils
3. Loose leaf paper
4. Possible at home access to computer

Allegro Choir

Grade: 7/8 (First Semester only)
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Eva Opseth
Email: eva.opseth@gmail.com

Students will focus on singing as an ensemble as we prepare music for concerts. We will focus on learning to read music, singing expressively, and utilizing good vocal techniques. Students will have the chance to learn 2-3 part harmonies and pieces of various genres and styles. Homework will be practice time (preferably 20-30 minutes a day, 4 to 5 times a week) and practice tracks will be provided. We will be working towards a concert at the end of the semester. No prior experience is needed.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Black binder with loose leaf paper
2. Pencil and pencil sharpener
3. Water bottle

Christian Living

Grade: 7/8
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Daniel Radke
Email: dradke@ambassadorcollege.education

This class is designed for middle school students to encourage them to believe the good news of Jesus and live it out. It presents the tools needed to build spiritual maturity by discussing and applying key biblical teaching on such topics as God's love and forgiveness, faith and repentance, sins of the heart and the power to change, justification by faith, living as God's child, Bible reading and seeing the Bible's big story, prayer and worship, loving our family and friends, and sharing Jesus with others.

Each weekly class includes discussion in which students are invited and expected to share honestly what they are personally learning, as well as teacher instruction and interactive activities. The assignments for this class will include Bible and workbook reading, memory verses, written reflections, and quizzes. The goal for this class is to help students understand why the gospel really is good news, and to learn how to lean wholly and happily on Jesus during their formative teen years. As they do so by the power of the Holy Spirit, their lives are changed from the inside out.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Bible (preferred translation: ESV, NASB, or NIV)
2. Harrell, Deborah and Jack Klumpenhouwer. *What's Up?: Discovering the Gospel, Jesus, and Who You Really Are* (Student Guide). Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2015
3. Thornton, Champ. *Radically Different: A Student's Guide to Community* (Student Guide). Greensboro, NC: New Growth Press, 2019.

Earth Science

Grades: 7-9
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Cara Skarsten
Email: cara.skarsten@gmail.com

This course is challenging and designed to be counted as high school credit, however mature and striving middle school students are welcome to take this opportunity and will do well! We start by studying the earth's crust, exploring plate tectonics and learning about rock composition along with fossil and rock records. Students learn about the hydrosphere, exploring the ocean and climate. Then we explore the atmosphere, weather and then move outward to explore the solar system. We finish the year by discussing a bit of what is known about the universe.

For the exams middle school students can take the test open notes but high school students will not. Both the old earth and young earth theories, which include creationism and intelligent design, will be presented in a fair manner. The author Jay Wile is a Christ follower and I, your teacher, am as well. Family discussion through this material is encouraged. For a more complete description, please follow the link below:

<https://bereanbuilders.com/mkt/res/scope/9780996278430ss.pdf>

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. *Discovering Design with Earth Science* by Dr. Jay L. Wile, publisher: Berean Builders
2. One three-ring binder, 1 inch
3. One notebook, wide or college ruled, or one packet of loose leaf paper, three-hole-punched

Intro to Public Speaking

Grade: 7/8 (First semester only)
Tuition: \$100
Teacher: Esther Death
Email: estherdeath@gmail.com

The number one fear in the United States is the fear of public speaking. Most of the people that we meet in our lives would rather do... pretty much anything other than speak in front of others. While I can't promise that your student will leave my class loving the stage, I can promise that they will have far more confidence in the moments that they are required to speak in public. I firmly believe that much of the fear of public speaking stems from the fear that we will

mess up while on the stage. My goal in this class is to bring practical tips, plenty of practice, and lots of fun to help my students leave this year with a greater confidence.

Students will have the opportunity (requirement) to participate in a showcase at the end of the semester. Date TBD.

Quarter 1: Writing Speeches – We will take the time to dive into what makes a persuasive speech and use this knowledge to put our ideas on paper.

Quarter 2: Memorizing Speeches – Now, we memorize those speeches. Along the way, we learn how to integrate vocal intonation, hand gestures, responding to our audience, and more to make our presentation as close to perfect as possible!

We will be using resources from NCFCA (National Christian Forensics & Communication Association) for the majority of our curriculum.

Because of how intimidating public speaking is, there is a lot of nuance that can go into grading. Because of this, I will be grading this class on a Pass/Fail scale per assignment based on whether or not they completed the assignment and followed the instructions. A pass is 100% and a Fail is 0% so the average for the year is easily found. I will also be giving as much feedback as possible to each assignment. This will allow each student to grow at their own pace.

CLASSROOM GOALS:

In class we will be focusing on learning general persuasive and speaking concepts and participating in fun practices and drills. We will also take the time to analyze speeches from other speakers and pull ideas out of what they have already done!

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:

Most of the homework will consist of writing and practicing original speeches as well as analyzing speeches.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Access to a computer for homework.
2. Access to Google Classroom. (This is a free program through Google that keeps all of the homework in one place!)
3. Access to YouTube.
4. A notepad/notebook, folder, and pencil/pen for class.

Combined Middle School and Senior High Classes: Grades 7-12

Middle School/ Senior High Art: Creating Wonder

Grades: 7-12

Tuition: \$270

Teacher: Liz Wertz

Email: eliz.wertz@gmail.com

Though we live in a time where the prevalence of artificial intelligence seems to threaten to crowd out human originality, our upper-level art students will be able to participate with confidence, equipped with the skills and training to keep their God-given creativity sharp, through drawing exercises and sustained projects, individual and team driven. This year, our students will experience a variety of art materials and be inspired by a large range of artists from around the globe, from folk artists to modern designers, using media that ranges from the basic to the extraordinary to the unexpected. We'll create projects that will prepare students to go out into their world and make meaningful, useful, and wonderful things to bless those around them and make the world a more beautiful place because of their work.

Homework: The bulk of our projects will be completed in class, but on occasion students may be asked to research an artist, do preliminary sketches, or complete unfinished artwork at home. This will be communicated in class as well as via my weekly email updates.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. 8 x 10 (or larger) Sketchbook

French 1

Grades: 7-12
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Brooke Ahlert
Email: brookeahlert@gmail.com

French 1 is a course designed to acquaint students with the French language and culture. Students will also explore French culture through reading, class discussion, and French food. First year language will be acquired through grammar instruction, listening, speaking, and writing. Learning activities include, but are not limited to reading short stories, games, group activities, journal writing, and Bible verses. Students will continue their learning at home by watching and practicing with videos, reading, and completing written exercises.

As a one-credit class, students can expect to have 2-3 hours of at-home work each week. Student will be expected to complete assignments, write short compositions, and participate in class activities. Students will also take four short quarterly exams. Parental involvement will be minimal. I may just ask that parents help their students to pace their at-home work. Foreign language is better learned when practiced a little each day.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Folder
2. Mme Ahlert's companion notebook. This notebook will include all grammar concepts, power point slides (with sections for note taking), reading material, and glossary for class. Contact Mme Ahlert for more information.
3. Pencil or pen
4. French Dictionary comparable to Oxford French Dictionary (recommended)
5. Notecards (recommended)

Advanced Culinary Arts

Grades: 7-12
Tuition: \$300
Teacher: Jenny Johnson
Email: lynn2sadaf@protonmail.com

This class is aimed to advance a student's current cooking skills to independence and broadening their culinary experience to international cuisine. The students must be comfortable in the kitchen and have an eagerness to learn/broaden their skills. They will work independently and in small groups through hands on learning and demonstration and are then expected to cook a weekly related food item at home for their family to practice and refine their skills. During the first semester, students will make typical American meals such as pie crust, pizza dough, yeast breads, omelets and cookies. The second semester, we will explore flavors from around the world including Asian (ramen bowls, spring rolls), Italian (homemade pasta), German (apple pancakes) and Mexican (homemade flour tortillas). The student will also deepen their knowledge and skill in nutrition, fresh ingredients, and developing a complete meal for a family. At the end of the year, the students will be given a "mystery challenge" of a set of ingredients to create a recipe for the others in class to judge/enjoy.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: (can be stored at the co-op during the year)

1. Paring knife
2. Cutting board
3. Rolling pin
4. 1/2" or 1" three ring binder or folder
5. Apron

* Note: Occasionally ingredients will need to be supplied by the student. I do my best to accommodate gluten-free students, however, and extra fee will be required for classes that require a gluten-free option.

Orchestra 1

Grades: 7-12
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Marra Dietsche
Email: marradietsche@gmail.com

Beginning String Class (Violin, Viola, and Cello) for Grades 7-12

Course Overview

Welcome to the beginning string class designed for students in grades 7 through 12! This course introduces the fundamental skills needed to play the violin, viola, and cello. With a focus on building a strong foundational knowledge, students will learn essential techniques and explore the joy of making music individually and as part of an ensemble.

Course Objectives

Left Hand Technique: Learn the basic positions and movements of the left hand essential for playing notes correctly on the fingerboard.

Bowing Technique: Develop proper bow hold and control to produce clear and consistent sounds. Understanding the relationship between bow movement and sound production will be emphasized.

Music Note Reading: Gain the ability to read and interpret musical notation, which is crucial for personal practice and ensemble playing.

Scales and Basic Theory: Focus on mastering the D and G major scales, which are fundamental for beginning repertoire and understanding basic music theory.

Beginning Repertoire: Learn and perform simple pieces that reinforce the techniques being studied, providing a rewarding and motivating learning experience.

Focus on Hymns and Orchestral Music: Explore great hymns by renowned composers and highlight famous orchestral compositions that showcase the string family.

Performance: Perform for family and friends during our December and Spring Showcases.

Expectations for Students: .

Regular Practice: Consistent practice is essential for skill development. Students should engage in regular practice sessions at home to reinforce class learning.

Active Participation: Active participation in class is required. This includes not only playing but also engaging in discussions, group activities, and performances.

Course Benefits

This course is designed to not only teach the fundamentals of string playing but also to foster a love of music and ensemble playing. Students will:

Develop a solid foundation in playing technique that prepares them for more advanced study.

Gain confidence in reading music, which will aid in all their musical endeavors.

Experience the satisfaction of playing music both solo and in groups, enhancing teamwork and communication skills.

Through this comprehensive introduction to strings, students will leave the class with a clear understanding of basic techniques, the ability to play simple songs, and a foundation for lifelong musical enjoyment and learning that will allow them to “fan into flame the gift (of music) that God has given them!” 2 Timothy 1:6

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Instrument Rental: Students are expected to rent or provide their own instrument (violin, viola, or cello). Instruments are available to rent or purchase through All Strings Attached in Stillwater or Brickhouse Music in River Falls
2. Please purchase *Essential Elements for Strings Book 1* for your specific instrument.
3. Portable music stand
4. Shoulder rest (violin and viola) Kun or Everest brand preferred.

Senior High Classes: Grades 9-12

Bel Canto Choir

Grades: 9-12 (First semester only)
Tuition: \$150
Teacher: Eva Opseth
Email: eva.opseth@gmail.com

Students will learn to sing as an ensemble and work collaboratively to bring a piece of music to life. In this class, we will cultivate singing skills such as reading and interpreting music, singing expressively and knowledgeably, and using more

advanced vocal techniques. Students will learn 4 part harmonies and pieces of various genres and styles, including pieces in other languages. Homework will be practice time (preferably 20-30 minutes a day, 4 to 5 times a week) and practice tracks will be provided. We will be working towards a concert at the end of the semester. No prior experience is needed.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Black binder with loose leaf paper
2. Pencil and pencil sharpener
3. Water bottle

Government

Grades: 9-12 (First Semester only)
Tuition: \$125
Teacher: Dan Schneider
Email: danschneider007@hotmail.com

This class fulfills high school graduation requirements for a class in government. For scope and sequence please see the textbook table of contents. We will follow closely the contents of the Notgrass curriculum, *Exploring Government* (2023 edition), which includes the textbook and a book of readings entitled, *We Hold These Truths*. Our goal is to cover the material in the textbook through weekly assignments of reading with study questions while focusing on selected topics in more detail at our class meetings. There will be a few essays and/or written report assignments in addition to the regular textbook assignments. A major goal of the class will be give students a good understanding of the Biblical principles that are the foundation of good government.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE USING THE 2023 EDITION OF THIS TEXT BOOK: *Exploring Government* by Ray Notgrass (Copyright 2023) which includes the textbook and a volume of readings entitled *We Hold These Truths* (Copyright 2016). Parents will not need test booklets.

Economics

Grades: 9-12 (Second Semester only)
Tuition: \$125
Teacher: Dan Schneider
Email: danschneider007@hotmail.com

This class fulfills high school graduation requirements for a class in economics. For scope and sequence please see the textbook table of contents. We will follow closely the contents of the Notgrass curriculum, *Exploring Economics*, which includes the textbook and a book of readings entitled, *Making Choices*. Our goal is to cover the material in the textbook through weekly assignments of reading with study questions while focusing on selected topics in more detail at our class meetings. There will be a few essays and/or written report assignments in addition to the regular textbook assignments. A major goal of the class will be give students a good understanding of the Biblical principles that are the foundation of good economics.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Textbooks: *Exploring Economics* by Ray Notgrass (2016 edition) which includes the volume of readings entitled *Making Choices*. (Parents will not need test booklets)

World History

Grades: 9-12
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Dan Schneider
Email: danschneider007@hotmail.com

This is a high school level survey of World History. For scope and sequence please see the textbook table of contents. We will follow closely the contents of the Notgrass curriculum, *Exploring World History* (2014 edition), which includes the two-volume textbook and a book of primary source readings entitled, *In Their Words*. Our goal is to cover the material in the textbooks through weekly assignments of reading with study questions while focusing on selected topics

in more detail at our class meetings. There will be a few essays and/or written report assignments in addition to the regular textbook assignments. A major goal of the class will be to correct some of the misinformation of current, politically-correct, revised versions of world history and to impart an appreciation of the positive influence of Christianity on the history of the world. A main emphasis will be the study of the origin, rise, and fall of the dominant worldviews throughout the history of the world.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Textbooks: *Exploring World History* by Ray Notgrass (2014 edition) which includes two textbook volumes and a volume of primary source readings entitled *In Their Words*. Parents will not need test booklets. Estimated cost of curriculum: Currently \$125.00 if purchased new online at www.notgrass.com.

Apologetics

Grades: 10-12
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Dan Schneider
Email: danschneider007@hotmail.com

Never before in America's history has the mainstream culture been so hostile toward Christianity. To be a Christian in modern America is to have your faith under constant attack. Statistically we are seeing a high percentage of young people abandoning their Christian upbringing. 1 Peter 3:15 says "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you". Apologetics is the study of the truth of Christianity in order to understand it better and be able to explain it to non-believers. In the first semester we will be using *Understanding the Faith* as our main text to study the fundamental truth claims of Christianity and how to present this truth to unbelievers. We will use *Understanding the Times* in the second semester to study and compare non-Christian worldviews in order to understand them better and be able to present the Christian worldview as the best option. Besides the two main textbooks we will read articles from sources of Christian apologetics like Answers in Genesis and discuss them in class. There will be weekly reading assignments with study questions and a few written essay assignments.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Textbooks: *Understanding the Faith* by Jeff Meyers (copyright 2016) and *Understanding the Times* by Jeff Meyers and David A. Noebel (copyright 2016).

NOTE: There are several editions of this book that are all different. You will need the latest (2016) edition of this book. These books are currently available for \$29.95 each if purchased new at www.summit.org.

German 1

Grades: 9-12
Tuition: \$250
Teacher: Ingrid Cook
Email: ingccook@gmail.com

This is an introductory German language class, teaching students basic skills in German conversation, reading and writing through situational dialogues, relevant vocabulary and grammar. By the end of German 1, students will be able to exchange basic information about themselves and their surroundings in German, ask questions to get information, and be able to read and write at an elementary level. We will also learn about German culture, basic geography and some holiday traditions from current German-speaking countries.

In addition to learning to communicate in German, this class will also aid students in mastering grammar concepts that are useful in any study of language, including review of basic grammar such as verb conjugation and tenses, different uses of nouns (subject, direct object, etc.), pronouns, possessive adjectives, word order in sentences, etc. There will be regular vocabulary quizzes (either written or oral) that go along with each chapter, chapter tests, a comprehensive final, and weekly written and listening/speaking homework activities. Students will practice speaking in partner and group activities during class time. Homework will include writing, reading and speaking exercises that will take about 30-45 minutes a day, 3-4 days a week.

Learning a foreign language is challenging and fun! German is an important world language, especially in the areas of business, philosophy, and theology. Many colleges and universities require two years of foreign language study as an entrance requirement. Therefore, taking German could be a good way to prepare for additional education after high school.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Folder or binder
2. 30-40 pages of loose leaf paper
3. Pencils
4. Textbook: TBD

Intermediate Logic

Grade: 11/12
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Tim Porter
Email: worldviewteacher@gmail.com

Logic is the science and art of reasoning well. Reasoning takes place as we draw conclusions from information through logical arguments. Building on the skills developed in *Introductory Logic*, we will learn the translation and analysis of propositional arguments, with the primary concern of determining the validity of those arguments, the writing of formal proofs of validity and related topics, truth trees, and analyzing the arguments contained in real-life writings: philosophy, theology, and the Bible itself.

Students can expect 3-4 hours of homework per week.

Completion of the textbook is approximately one high school credit.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. James B Nance, *Intermediate Logic: Mastering Propositional Arguments 3rd Edition*.

Bible Doctrine

Grades: 9-12
Tuition: \$240
Teacher: Daniel Radke
Email: dradke@ambassadorcollege.education

This class provides high school students with an overview of essential Christian theology, helping them understand what they believe and why they believe it. All major Bible doctrines are examined such as Scripture, God's nature, God's plan, Christ, the Holy Spirit, man, sin, salvation, the church, angels, and end of days. Students are taught to identify and explain the crucial doctrines set forth in Scripture and to distinguish between what is primary and what is secondary, while understanding and being respectful to other viewpoints.

The assignments for this class will include Bible and textbook reading, memory verses, written reflections, and quizzes. The goal for this class is to further equip students for a life-long journey of learning to know and treasure God through studying and applying His Word to their everyday lives.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Bible (preferred translation: ESV, NASB, or NIV)
2. *Bible Doctrines* Student Text Greenville, SC: BJU Press, 2022.

Old Testament Survey

Grade: 11/12
Tuition: \$240/non-college credit class OR \$490 if seeking college credit
Teacher: Daniel Radke
Email: dradke@ambassadorcollege.education

This college-level, two-semester course provides an overview of every book of the Old Testament and gives attention to special issues such as creation, the covenants, and the prophecies that lead to Christ's first and second comings. Students are taught how to apply biblical principles to practical Christian living and ministry. Assignments for this course include reading each of the 39 books of the Old Testament in its entirety, keeping a reading notebook of observations and questions regarding what is read, and taking three exams. Goals for this course include the student being able to summarize the context, major themes, and message for each Old Testament book, while also developing a greater understanding and appreciation of the holiness and grace of the LORD.

Students who pay the higher tuition rate (\$490) and successfully complete this course will earn 3 college credits from Ambassador College of Bible and Ministry, Hudson, WI. These credits are transferable to a number of other Christian colleges including Northwestern, Crown, Moody, Emmaus, and Oak Hills.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Bible (preferred translation: ESV, NASB, or NIV)
2. House, Paul R. and Eric A. Mitchell. *Old Testament Survey* 3rd ed. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2023

Chemistry

Grades: 9-12
Tuition: \$330
Teacher: Zach McCabe
Email: drzach@mccabechiropractic.com

Discovering Design with Chemistry is an independent-study, college-preparatory course covering fundamental aspects of chemistry. Throughout the course, the student is shown how chemistry reveals the amazing design that exists all around us. From the details of atomic structure to the makeup of the very air that we breathe, chemistry shows us the marvelous handiwork of God.

CLASSROOM GOALS:

My time with your child each week is limited and therefore spent in a laboratory setting. We will focus on completing experiments in an effective and efficient manner, and also documenting experiments in such a way that others can understand and interpret the data and reproduce the experiment. During classroom time we will also briefly review the material assigned for home study.

SCIENCE HOMEWORK:

Your child will be required to read the assigned text each week and record main points in their Student Notebook. Study guides and practice problems are extremely helpful and should be completed as prep for module tests and/or quarterly exams. Module tests are required to be completed at home, turned in, and graded upon completion of each module. Quarterly Exams will be held in the classroom. I do encourage you to email me with any questions throughout the year.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Textbook: *Discovering Design with Chemistry* by Dr. Jay Wile
Optional: Discovering Design with Chemistry Audio CD, good for auditory learners.
2. Answer Key and Tests for Discovering Design with Chemistry
3. Optional, but encouraged is Dr. McCabe's Companion Notebook for D.D. w/ Chemistry (\$35, to be purchased from Dr. McCabe directly)
(This spiral bound notebook includes all of Dr. McCabe's PowerPoint slides for each chapter with an area to take notes, the unit study guides, and a laboratory section for experiments.)

Advanced Biology

Grades: 10-12 (Prerequisite Biology)
Tuition: \$320
Teacher: Zach McCabe
Email: drzach@mccabechiropractic.com

Apologia's advanced biology course is a detailed investigation of the anatomy and physiology of the human body and each of our 11 organ systems. High school biology and chemistry are recommended prerequisites. Please note that the reproductive system is covered in detail, including accurate yet respectful illustrations and descriptions. We will also be dissecting a cow's eye, cow's heart, and fetal pig.

If a student completes the entire course, it could be counted as an honors course. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement (AP) or College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests.

CLASSROOM GOALS:

My time with your child each week is limited and therefore we will spend most of each class in a laboratory setting. We will focus on both completing experiments in an effective and efficient manner, and also documenting experiments in such a way that others can understand and interpret the data and reproduce the experiment. During classroom time we will also briefly review the material assigned for home study. At home, your child will be expected to read from the text

daily and complete any written assignments, tests, and experiments not scheduled for class. I do encourage you to email me with any questions throughout the year.

SCIENCE HOMEWORK:

Your child will be required to read the assigned text each week and record main points in their notebook. Study guides and practice problems are extremely helpful and should be completed as prep for module tests and/or quarterly exams. Module tests are required to be completed at home, turned in, and graded upon completion of each module. Quarterly Exams will be held in the classroom. I do encourage you to email me with any questions throughout the year.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Textbook: *Exploring Creation with Advanced Biology, 2nd Edition* by authors Marilyn M. Shannon & Rachael L. Yunis
2. Optional: Advanced Biology 2nd Edition Audio CD, great for auditory learners.
3. Test Manual: *Advanced Biology 2nd Edition Solutions and Test Manual*
4. Student Notebook: *Advanced Biology 2nd Edition Student Notebook*

Intro to Public Speaking

Grades: 9-12 (First Semester only)

Tuition: \$175

Teacher: Esther Deuth

Email: estherdeuth@gmail.com

The number one fear in the United States is the fear of public speaking. Most of the people that we meet in our lives would rather do... pretty much anything other than speak in front of others. While I can't promise that your student will leave my class loving the stage, I can promise that they will have far more confidence in the moments that they are required to speak in public. I firmly believe that much of the fear of public speaking stems from the fear that we will mess up while on the stage. My goal in this class is to bring practical tips, plenty of practice, and lots of fun to help my students leave this year with a greater confidence.

Students will have the opportunity (requirement) to participate in a showcase at the end of the semester. Date TBD.

Quarter 1: Writing Speeches – We will take the time to dive into what makes a persuasive speech and use this knowledge to put our ideas on paper.

Quarter 2: Memorizing Speeches – Now, we memorize those speeches. Along the way, we learn how to integrate vocal intonation, hand gestures, responding to our audience, and more to make our presentation as close to perfect as possible!

We will be using resources from NCFCA (National Christian Forensics & Communication Association) for the majority of our curriculum.

Because of how intimidating public speaking is, there is a lot of nuance that can go into grading. Because of this, I will be grading this class on a Pass/Fail scale per assignment based on whether or not they completed the assignment and followed the instructions. A pass is 100% and a Fail is 0% so the average for the year is easily found. I will also be giving as much feedback as possible to each assignment. This will allow each student to grow at their own pace.

CLASSROOM GOALS:

In class we will be focusing on learning general persuasive and speaking concepts and participating in fun practices and drills. We will also take the time to analyze speeches from other speakers and pull ideas out of what they have already done!

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS:

Most of the homework will consist of writing and practicing original speeches as well as analyzing speeches.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Access to a computer for homework
2. Book: *TED Talks* by Chris Anderson
3. Access to Google Classroom. (This is a free program through Google that keeps all of the homework in one place!)
4. Access to YouTube
5. A notepad/notebook, folder, and pencil/pen for class

High School Writing: Communications

Grade: 9/10
Tuition: \$290
Teacher: Kendal Bauermeister
Email: bauermeisterkendal@gmail.com

Written Communications

High School grade 9/10 will have an in-depth experience with learning a variety of different writing methods and techniques to prepare them for advanced writing in their personal, professional and educational environments. We will study research essays, editing, APA citations, expository essays, persuasive writing, comparison essays, descriptive and narrative works, as well as literary analysis. Each unit will close with the opportunity to explore the outlining and structure process, writing techniques we've studied, peer editing to gain a greater understanding of the editing process and a unit submission of their own writing piece to begin to build their writing portfolio.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 3 ring binder
2. Pencils
3. Loose leaf paper
4. Possible at home access to computer

High School Writing: Communications

Grade: 11/12
Tuition: \$290
Teacher: Kendal Bauermeister
Email: bauermeisterkendal@gmail.com

Written Communications

High School students in grade 11/12 will fine tune their writing capabilities in Written Communications. It is the aim to prepare students for the next steps of their lives where they will be entering continued education, exam preps, college admissions, career readiness and personal writing development. Students will be studying in-depth the types of essays they will encounter in years beyond high school including short answer questions, a working knowledge of outline generation and APA citations in many different sources, persuasive and expository essays, comprehensive knowledge of research and comparative essays and a mastery of editing as well as many more writing techniques. They will fine tune the artistry of their own writing voice with the closing of each unit, producing the final products of their writing portfolio for their High School career while understanding the structure of each individual writing classification.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. 3 ring binder
2. Pencil
3. Loose leaf paper
4. Possible at home access to computer

French 2

Grades: 9-12
Tuition: \$260
Teacher: Brooke Ahlert
Email: brookeahlert@gmail.com

In French 2, students will reinforce and build upon fundamental French skills learned in French 1. Students will further their reading comprehension skills by reading short stories, Bible passages, and poetry. Students will boost their listening and speaking skills through game play, partner exercises, acting out scripts, listening exercises, and class discussion of reading materials. And to encourage their enjoyment of the French culture, students will get to eat different French foods throughout the school year.

Students will be expected to write compositions, complete written exercises, take mid-term and final exams, and participate in class activities. This is a one credit course in which students can expect 2-3 hours of at-home work each week. Finally, students will build a portfolio to show that they have successfully completed two years of French study.

Prerequisite: Completion of French 1 with a grade of B or higher

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Folder
2. Mme Ahlert's companion notebook. This notebook will include all grammar concepts, power point slides (with sections for note taking), reading material, and glossary for class. Contact Mme Ahlert for more information.
3. Pencil or pen
4. French Dictionary comparable to Oxford French Dictionary (recommended)
5. Notecards (recommended)