Beginning Art Syllabus

Teacher: Andy Mork
Email: andrew.mork@spps.org
Room 2227
Phone: 651-744-7328

Course Description
In beginning art, students explore Visual Arts. Through the elements and principles of design as well as movements in history and different styles of art, students explore different visual art mediums. The units are designed to build off prior knowledge, and lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all students. Generally laboratory in nature, beginning art explores and gives experience in a two dimensional format, i.e. drawing, painting, & collage. Three-dimensional exploration and work, such as sculpture, clay, Lego building, and textiles is also integrated.

Students also build skills for general academic success like planning, troubleshooting, reflecting, collaborating, resolving conflicts, expressing opinions, sharing ideas, cleaning up workspaces, and dialoguing with others about their work. The Art folder will include planning. Most reflections will be in schoology which document growth and learning development. Aspects of the SEL (socio-emotional learning) learner profile are incorporated into this course. This course meets state and national Arts standards.

Grading and Reporting
Students receive midterm and final grades that assess their achievement toward learning objectives in the following:
Knowledge and Understanding: Vocabulary, theory, themes, issues, historical and cultural aspects.
Application: Planning, organizing, developing, and techniques used in the final project.
Reflection and Evaluation: Reflection on themes and issues presented in the assignments. Evaluation of student development and work.
Artistic Awareness and Personal Engagement: Development of aesthetic, cultural, and critical awareness, and to engage themselves with the arts.
Gradebook Breakdown: (updated weekly)
80% Summative Assessment- completed projects, written assignments, tests, artist statements
20% Formative Assessment- daily journals/sketches
Grades, assignments and communication will be posted in Schoology. Only progress marks and semester grades will be posted in Campus.

Contact the office at 651-325-2500 if you do not have Campus or Schoology access.

This is Dr. Mork’s 5th year in Saint Paul Public Schools. It is his 25th year teaching. He graduated from Irondale High School (New Brighton, MN) in 1990, Luther College (Decorah, IA) in 1994 with a BA in Elementary Education and Art, Saint Mary’s University in 2000 with a MA in Education, and Hamline University in 2011 with an EdD in Educational Leadership.