

OFFICE USE ONLY:**Date received:** _____**Time received:** _____**Student Name:** _____

St. Mark 2025-2026 Grade 8/9 Option Choices

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide our students with choice in their Junior High School program, we would like to gather information on option courses. **Please complete this form and return it to us promptly.** Options will be granted on space availability and order received once completed and signed by a parent/guardian.

If your child is registered in the Recreation Academy, your child will have one other option class. If you would like your child to be registered in Recreation, please see our website to fill out an [application and agreement](https://stmark.ecsd.net/recreation-academy) for the 2025-2026 school year: <https://stmark.ecsd.net/recreation-academy>. The application link can be found near the bottom of this webpage. *Please note that recreation academy is a user-pay program costing \$1500 per year.*

If your child is NOT participating in Recreation Academy, your child will have three (3) options per semester. Note that some of the options are a full year. **Please number your choices from 1-13: one (1) being your favorite and 13 being your least favorite.** *Note: Course availability based on student request, teacher availability and classroom space. Not all option classes are a guarantee from one year to the next.*

CHOICE	OPTION
	Art (semester): Students will be introduced to the world of art through the exploration of line, shape, value, colour and composition in both two and three-dimensional work.
	Construction (semester or full year): Students will develop skills in the use of tools and materials used in construction processes, and safely transform common wood materials into useful products; learn the various skills of the respective trades. During this course students will explore the units of topics of ceramics, metals, and woodworking.
	Design (semester): Students will develop skills in construction processes, transforming wood into useful products while learning valuable trade skills. They will explore electro-technologies, create custom projects using heat presses and Adobe Illustrator. Students will learn to design stickers and buttons as well as learn basic photography to document their projects. This course blends practical skills with creative design, preparing students for various trades and enhancing their technological proficiency.
	Drama (semester): The overall goal of drama is to foster a positive self-concept in students by encouraging them to explore life by the assumption of roles and by the acquisition of dramatic skills. The imaginative exploration involves setting up a dramatic situation, "acting out" that situation, communicating within that situation and reflecting on the consequences. It is this reflection that provides the knowledge for self-development.
	Driver's Education (Grade 9 ONLY) (semester): Students will prepare to write the class 7 learner's exam offered by the government of Alberta. ! Students will also learn basic care maintenance, financing a vehicle and car insurance protocols in Alberta.
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CHOICE	OPTION
	Computer Science (semester): Students will be introduced to computational thinking, through problem solving and iterative design. Also, students will learn the basics of programming and be using programs such as Scratch, HTML and Sonic Pi as tools that scaffold the programming experience to learners.
	Environmental and Outdoor Education (semester): Students will examine the management and conservation of the environment and propose actions that foster the sustainable development and use of resources.
	Film Studies (semester): Students will examine the cultural influence and value of film in our society. Students will develop the ability to think critically about films in terms of content, filming techniques and theme through analysis and evaluation. They will acquire the terminology associated with film analysis and criticism and develop an understanding of the techniques of filmmaking. Any students requesting Film Studies should note that this course requires a strong work ethic and is an academic option which extends your ELA studies.
	Fit For Life (semester): Students will develop competencies to be confident and motivated to lead healthy, physically active lifestyles. They will challenge themselves physically and socially as they pursue a broad range of cooperative games and athletic pursuits.
	Foods (semester or full year): Students will examine the role of food, looking beyond consumption to production, visual appreciation, nutrition, meal planning, economics, and preparation; learn the various skills in the cook trade.
	French 8/9 (full year): Prerequisite: Grade 7 French. Students will increase their knowledge of both grammar and oral French, as well as study the French culture.
	Music 8/9 (full year): Students will further explore playing their instrument and learn how to strive for excellence individually and as a member of a group. Students will also develop an understanding of musical interpretation and style through phrasing, tempo changes and balance within the band. Students may do camps/travel at some point in the year.
	TEAM Leadership 8/9 (full year): Students will practice leadership within the context of social justice and service. They will learn about personal leadership gifts and develop their own leadership skills. Students will be involved in planning and facilitating St. Mark school activities and themed events, social justice fund-raising and peer mentoring.
Please fill out an application for Recreation Academy	Recreation Academy (full year): This is a program of choice and as such is accompanied by a monthly fee which covers the cost of instruction, activities, and transportation (\$150/month). This program focuses on providing students with unique opportunities in alternative environments that will enhance their development in sport performance, health and nutrition, physical education, sports injuries, safety and life skills, teamwork and more!

Student Signature: _____ **Parent Name:** _____
(Please Print)

Parent Signature: _____ **Date Signed:** _____