

## **USBE Changes to Middle School Course Requirements**

In the August board meeting, the Utah State School Board approved to make substantial changes to the state's requirements for middle school students. State School Board members approved changes to R277-700-5 with a 9-6 vote to amend the policy, which removes the credit requirements for physical education, health, some art classes, and college and career readiness courses from the required course list in the seventh and eighth grades. These changes will take effect in October of 2017. The removal of the credit requirement allows for local school boards to determine the additional course and credit requirements needed for a student to be prepared to enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The Utah State Board will require **at least two** of the following middle school courses:

- 1- Art course (visual, dance, music, theater, media, etc.)
- 2- Physical Education
- 3- Health Education
- 4- College and Career Readiness
- 5- Digital Literacy (beginning 2018-2019)
- 6- World Languages (at least one)

The State School Board did not make any changes to the following middle school class requirements and still require all of the following courses:

- 1- Grade 7 & 8 Language Arts
- 2- Grade 7 & 8 Mathematics
- 3- Grade 7 & 8 Integrated Science
- 4- United States History and Utah History

As a district we will be reviewing the middle school requirements and make recommendations to the Kane School Board for their consideration of courses and credit requirements for the 2018-2019 school year.

Ben Dalton  
Superintendent  
Kane County School District