**Proficient Visual Art Syllabus Wolf 2015/16**

Intermediate Art coursework requires a **SKETCHBOOK** that will be used regularly throughout the year to develop drawing abilities and observation skills. Sketchbooks must be:

* **SPIRAL BOUND ONLY** – any orientation is fine
	+ *The only exception to this requirement is if students make their own sketchbook using a Coptic stitch binding that is approved by Ms. Wolf. There will be a book binding workshop during Open Studio time for the first several weeks of school.*
* Between 6” x 9” and 9” x 12” (or something comparable – not giant, not tiny)
* At least **50lb** paper (this will be noted on the front cover)

Students will receive **SKETCHBOOK GRADE** every other week based on evaluation of assignments completed within that timeframe. This grade will supplement but not replace weekly work ethic grades.

Tuesdays from 4pm to 5pm (after school), there will be **OPEN STUDIO TIME** in the Art Room. This time is open to high school students and SCS staff that desire space for working on serious projects. In addition, there will be occasional workshops provided during this time based on student/staff interest and need. The first of these workshops will be a bookbinding workshop that students may use to learn the Coptic stitch binding technique for creating their own sketchbooks.

A variety of projects and media will prompt students to further their knowledge and skill in…

 … drawing, printmaking, linear perspective, sculpture, symbolism, and other areas

 … critique, sustainability of resources, commercial design, and interpreting U.S. History

Students will be encouraged to develop their artistic focus and themes through guided artist statement activities. **ARTIST STATEMENTS** will be developed to address the following prompt ideas:

* Focus:
	+ What is the focus of your artwork this year? (And how has it developed?)
* Purpose:
	+ Why are you making the art you make? What impact do you hope your artwork will have?
* Interests:
	+ What are your artistic interests – specific subjects, techniques, skills, & media? How do you want to pursue these interests? (And how does this affect the subject(s) you can focus on?)
* Future Directions:
	+ Based on the work you’ve done so far - and the focus, purpose, and interests described above – how do you want to move forward with your artwork?

In conjunction, students will explore and expand their understanding of the historical context surrounding their projects throughout the year. Art History and Contemporary Art research will investigate the following questions:

* **How** did people make art? – Why did people use the media chosen for popular artwork?
* What did people make art **about**? – How did art reflect resources, mindset, & ideas of the times?
* **Why** did people make art? – And how can this help us interpret US history?
* How was this art **regarded** at the time? Why?
* What **impact** did this art have on others? – Specifically, in terms of ethics, design, and historical development.