



# **BRENTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Catalog (2019-2020)

### LANGUAGE ARTS

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

Students in 7th grade language arts engage in rigorous application and reinforcement of grammar skills and a variety of writing strategies and techniques. Students compose essays in which they support their ideas with evidence from various genres or informational texts. Reading includes novels, short stories, poetry, nonfiction, and informational text. Vocabulary study incorporates both grade-level words and academic vocabulary; strategies include using context clues and building understanding of multiple meaning words through analogies.

### SOCIAL STUDIES

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade World History

Seventh grade students will explore the social, cultural, geographical, political and technological changes that occurred after the fall of the Roman Empire. Students will also study the Middle Ages, including the Middle East, Africa, China, Japan and Europe. There is a heavy emphasis on western civilization in Europe during the Renaissance and Reformation. Students will compare and contrast the history and geography of civilizations that were developing concurrently throughout these continents during medieval times. Students will examine the growth in economic interactions among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Seventh grade students will end the year by examining the Mesoamerican and Andean civilizations, and the age of European explorations and colonizations. Appropriate informational texts and primary sources will be used in order to deepen the understanding of how these civilizations influence the modern world.

### SCIENCE

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Seventh grade science is a broad introduction to the study of the life and chemical sciences. Topics include: the structure, composition, and behavior of matter, atmospheric concentration and processes, cells, bodily organization, human body systems, cellular processes including photosynthesis and cellular respiration, genetics and heredity, and adaptations. The processes of data analysis, providing evidential support of scientific claims, and communicating their findings to a specific audience are strengthened through numerous cooperative peer group interactions and hands-on laboratory activities throughout the school year. Students will end seventh grade science with a better understanding of how scientists complete scientific processes, including cross-curricular techniques beneficial in Language Arts, Mathematics, History, and the Arts.

# MATHEMATICS

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

**Prerequisite: Students must successfully complete 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (Level 1).**

In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, students will use problem solving strategies and technology to master Tennessee state standards for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. These skills include working with rational numbers and percentages, solving equations, working with proportions, understanding geometric figures, and using techniques of statistics and probability. Students will also begin to look at linear and nonlinear functions and how those apply to real world scenarios. Students will be expected to persevere in problem solving, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others as outlined by the state standards in preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade TNReady test.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Algebra

**Prerequisites: Students must complete 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (Level 2) with a yearly average of 85% or above; 6<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher recommendation.**

7<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra is a student's first introduction of a high school level math course that uses problem solving situations, physical models and appropriate technology to extend algebraic thinking and engage student reasoning. This course will focus on 8<sup>th</sup> grade state of Tennessee math standards and begin with a study of the real number system as well as solving multi-step equations. Word problems are deeply embedded within the course, and students use algebraic concepts in order to solve them. In addition to solving equations, students will explore functions, writing equations, graphing linear equations, solving and graphing systems of equations, geometry and statistics. Students will be expected to persevere in problem solving, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others as outlined by the state standards in preparation of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade TNReady test.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Algebra 1

**Prerequisites: Students must complete 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math (Level 3) with a yearly average of 85% or above; 85% or above on the Algebra 1 Placement Test; 6<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher recommendation.**

Algebra 1 is an honors level, high school math course that uses problem solving situations, physical models and appropriate technology to extend algebraic thinking and engage student reasoning. Word problems are deeply embedded within the course and students use algebraic concepts in order to solve them. Problem solving and making mathematical connections to real world problems are critical to a student's success in this course. Concepts emphasized in the course: solving linear equations and inequalities, writing equations and graphing linear equations, systems of equations and inequalities, graphing non-linear functions, analyzing transformations of a parent function, factoring, quadratic equations, radical and exponential equations and rational expressions. Students will be expected to persevere in problem solving, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others as outlined by state standards. Students enrolled in Algebra I must take the Algebra I TNReady test. This assessment will count up to 25% of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester average.

**Academic Classes Note: INDIVIDUAL TEACHER REQUESTS WILL NOT BE GRANTED.**

# 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE RELATED ARTS COURSE CATALOG (2019-2020)

## **Pencil to Painting**

You'll learn drawing and painting techniques to help you create still life, landscape and surrealistic paintings, all using water-based painting media. (9 weeks)

## **Creative Pages**

Use sculptural techniques to create accordion, pamphlet-stitched, Japanese stab-bound, flag and Coptic-bound books. (9 weeks)

## **Design Universe**

Learn some of the building blocks of architectural, fashion and graphic design. (9 weeks)

## **Looking through the Lens**

Learn how to manipulate our iPad cameras and their apps to create more focused photography. (9 weeks)

## **The Art of Acting (Drama)**

Seventh grade drama is a course exploring theatre from the perspective of an actor. Throughout the class, students will focus on crafting a character, play analysis, the rehearsal process, scriptwriting, and improvisation. Students will also study theatre as a historical and cultural influence throughout the world. (9 Weeks)

## **The Art of Scriptwriting (Scriptwriting)**

In this class, students will explore acting, theatre history, and technical theatre through the lens of the playwright. Students will learn how to properly write a script through character study, classroom exercises, and the study of published works. The final project will be a completed one act script from each student. This class is designed for students wanting to pursue 8th Grade Advanced Theatre (The Actor's Studio). (Semester)

## **Chorus**

Students will learn proper vocal production techniques, music literacy, and methods of expression that will further their individual musicianship. While students are developing their own vocal abilities, they will be practicing the art of unified music-making in creating balance and blend. We will explore choral literature from varied time periods, styles, and cultures. Performance opportunities include mass chorus concerts, honors choir, and festivals. (Semester)

## **Band**

Open to all seventh grade students with at least one year prior instrumental experience on the instrument chosen to play in band. (Special permission must be granted by the director if a student wishes to join the ensemble with no previous experience on the chosen band instrument.) This class will concentrate on developing tone production, rhythmic proficiency, individual and ensemble intonation and technical accuracy, as well as preparation and performance of intermediate band literature. This ensemble will perform at least four performances: one in December, two in April, and one at the annual M.T.S.B.O.A.\* Adjudicated Concert Festival held in March. During our annual band trip, this ensemble will also perform at the Festival site for adjudication. There will be a minimum of four extracurricular afternoon rehearsals in preparation for festival performances. (Year)

## **Orchestra**

This class is only open to students with prior experience on an orchestral string instrument. Second year students will continue to refine fundamental skills and begin to develop more advanced knowledge of music theory and playing techniques. This class concentrates on rhythmic and technical accuracy as well as preparation and performance of Grade 2 string orchestra literature. Students have the opportunity to participate in the Williamson County Honor Orchestra Clinic, MTSBOA Concert Performance Assessment, and are eligible for the MTSBOA Mid-State Orchestra. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra has at least four large concerts each year and may participate in a variety of other festivals and performances, including a Spring Trip. (Year)

### **Introduction to Songwriting and Guitar (Songwriting)**

This class is an introduction to the art of arranging and composition. Students with an interest in creating music must take this class as a prerequisite to Advanced Songwriting and Guitar. Students will listen to and analyze music to influence existing creativity, collaborate to create original works, and perform. We will learn the fundamentals of guitar to use as a tool to support songwriting. (Semester)

### **Computer Coding 2 (Coding2)**

#### **Pre-requisite: 6th Grade computer coding or working knowledge of HTML and CSS**

The class will begin with a review of HTML and CSS. Students will then learn the basic components associated with Javascript including variables, input, output, If statements, loops, and other key concepts. The concepts will be presented through a variety of methods. Students enrolled in this class should be detail-oriented and enjoy problem-solving. (9 weeks)

### **Media Creations and Desktop Publishing (Media)**

In Media, students begin by exploring the importance of intellectual property including copyrights, trademarks, and patents. Students will research and report on topics such as plagiarism, copyright infringement, netiquette, online safety, hacking, and fair use. Students will have weekly opportunities to improve their keyboarding techniques and to increase their keyboarding speed and accuracy. Cooperative learning groups will study the history of media advertising, develop marketing plans, and create product promotions. Desktop publishing activities, the creation of graphics, and basic web design concepts will be the focus of print mediums. Students will modify and create audio clips and use video cameras and video editing software to create the broadcast mediums. (9 weeks)

### **Introduction to Video Production (Intro to Video)**

Students taking this class will learn about the various careers associated with the movie and television industry. Basic video terminology will be explored, and students will learn how to plan, create, record and edit video projects. Throughout this semester class, students will complete 6-8 video projects. This class is a pre-requisite for students wanting to take Advanced Video Design and Production in the 8th Grade. Class enrollment is limited to two classes of 35 students each. (Semester)

### **Robotics**

This course introduces students to Robotics. Students work in pairs to program Vex IQ robots using RobotC software. This course uses the Engineering Design Process to develop students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as develop their ability to communicate and work with other students. Throughout the course, students program their robots to complete a variety of tasks, using simple commands and input from the robot's sensors. No Robotics experience is necessary (9 weeks)

### **Life-Long Wellness and Physical Education (PE)**

The nine-week class will include participation in games such as volleyball, basketball, kickball, ping pong, team handball, soccer, flag football, spike ball, ultimate Frisbee, and Frisbee golf. Students will also take the fitness test. Health and wellness, mental and emotional problems and conflict resolution will also be studied. The benefit of physical activity and the abuse of alcohol and/or tobacco will also be studied as part of the Health curriculum and D.A.R.E. program. (9 weeks)

### **Life-Long Wellness and Physical Education II (Semester PE)**

This semester course will include participation in games such as volleyball, basketball, kickball, ping pong, team handball, soccer, flag football, spike ball, ultimate Frisbee, and Frisbee golf. Fitness testing and re-testing will be completed to evaluate student progress. Health and wellness, mental and emotional problems and conflict resolution will also be studied. The benefit of physical activity and the abuse of alcohol and/or tobacco will also be studied as part of the Health curriculum and D.A.R.E. program. (Semester)

### **Study & Life Skills**

The study skills course focuses on improving and empowering students in many areas. Students will learn organizational techniques, study skills, various life skills, problem-solving, and business and personal finance and budgeting. The text that is provided for this course is The Seven Habits of Highly Successful Teens. (9 weeks)

### **Spanish I (7A) Honors**

By the end of the two-year course students will understand and express himself/herself and participate in simple conversations on a number of familiar topics using short sentences. Students will be able to handle brief social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering simple questions. Students begin to communicate about self, others, and everyday life in familiar situations. Students can recognize the main idea from texts and understand the main topic of what is read or said. Students write and present information on most familiar topics using a series of simple sentences. Students study the similarities and differences between American culture and the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Students participate in regular performance assessments and may take ACTFL's Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL). One world language high school credit is earned by completing both the Spanish I (7A) and Spanish I (8B) courses and will appear as a pass/fail on the high school transcript.

### **Math and/or Reading RTI (Response to Intervention)**

RTI is a state mandated, tiered intervention program available to all students that qualify. All students are screened in both Math and Reading three times a year to aid in monitoring student progress through the curriculum. Screening results are used to help students reach their greatest potential in both Math and Reading, by providing needed intervention. Tier I provides interventions to all students within their core classes. Tier II provides 3 days of intervention to students scoring between the 15th and 30th percentiles on the universal screener. Tier III provides 5 days of intervention to students scoring at or below the 15th percentile on the universal screener. At BMS, Tier II and Tier III are provided during the Related Arts block and students are placed in the classes based on their screening results.