



# BRENTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

## “Speak”

We always say our kids speak a different language at times. Sometimes, even our own middle school administration does! So as you prepare to be a well-informed middle school parent, please take a moment to familiarize yourself with some of the commonly used terms around Brentwood Middle.

### **Agendas**

Agendas are given out to students the first day of school and serve as student planners. Students are expected to record daily assignments in their agendas. Parents should be sure to check this document for the Code of Conduct, demerit system, school attendance policies, and the dress code. Agendas are to be with students at all times throughout the school day.

### **A.I. D. (Academic Intervention Detention)**

A.I.D., or Academic Intervention Detention, is a program that we have implemented at BMS to serve as a tool to help students remain accountable for their work while also providing them an opportunity for a second chance at completing work that may otherwise go missing. A.I.D. happens one day a week after school, and a student may be assigned to A.I.D. if they match one of two criterion, either missing two or more assignments in one class, or failing a class due to missing work. The student will be notified by their teacher and the parents of that student will be notified by the school.

### **BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology)**

Students will have opportunity to bring their own digital devices to school in order to facilitate their ability to communicate, collaborate, research, create, and problem-solve in new and exciting ways. Approved devices include smartphones, tablets, iPads, iPods, e-readers, and laptops. Use of the devices will be at the discretion of teachers and school administrators.

### **Focus**

Focus is a dedicated study time set aside in the school day when students can work on their homework and receive help from their teachers. That is offered in sixth, seventh, and to most eighth grade students who are not taking a fifth academic class. During this time, teachers will meet with students to provide extra help to students who need an extra boost according in reading comprehension or mathematics according to STAR math and reading assessment screenings.

### **OER (Online Educational Resources)**

These are multifaceted teacher resources that support our new TN science standards such as: direct instruction information on content, instructional videos such as KHAN Academy, interactive formative assessments with immediate feedback, simulations and science and engineering investigation suggestions.

### **PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)**

PBIS is a school-wide model for common expectations of respect, responsibility and diligence. Teachers will reinforce these expectations when students demonstrate them by giving students “BMS Cash”. This school-wide behavioral intervention model provides support for student who may be struggling behaviorally or academically.

### **Pod**

Pod is the term used to designate a location of a group of classrooms. Related Arts classes are located in the E Pod; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade is located in Pods A and B; 6<sup>th</sup> Grade is located in Pods C and D. Subject to change due to classes in the STEM building.

### **PS STARS**

Parents Supporting Students Taking A Right Stand is the official name of the parent advocate group for STARS. They initiate and facilitate parent book club meetings and other parenting seminars on the topics of supporting students in anti-bullying, drug and alcohol prevention, social media, and digital citizenship. They also provide a great sense of community.

### **Related Arts**

Related Arts classes are enrichment classes that are offered to all grade levels at Brentwood Middle. Students typically rotate through classes on a nine week basis. Courses included, but not limited, in enrichment are: Drama, Physical Education, Spanish, Media, Art, Chorus, or Music.

### **RTI<sup>2</sup>**

RTI stands for Response to Intervention and is a multi-tiered approach to help struggling students in reading and math. Williamson County uses STAR as its screening tool. All students are screened three times per year. These STAR scores plus previous TN Ready scores are used to determine if RTI is needed. RTI interventions are based on two tiers: Tier II and Tier III. Classes for both tiers are scheduled during a student's Related Arts period. Students who qualify for Tier II intervention work with a math or reading interventionist in small groups two-three days per week, focusing on areas of skill weakness in addition to general education standards. RTI Tier III is the most intensive intervention. Students who qualify for Tier III work with a math or reading interventionist five days per week. As with Tier II, interventionists focus on areas of skill weakness in addition to general education standards; however, the group size is smaller for Tier III so the student receives more one-on-one help from the interventionist.

### **SRO**

The School Resource Officer at Brentwood Middle provides a comforting level of security throughout the BMS campus.

### **STARS**

STARS is the acronym for Students Taking a Right Stand. This school-based assistance program helps schools tackle tough issues that threaten the emotional, psychological, and academic well-being of each student. Through assemblies, classroom presentations and group/individual counseling sessions, STARS assists schools in preventing and confronting these very difficult challenges.

### **Teams**

Sixth and seventh grades are divided into segments called teams. The team teaching concept allows for our teachers to better organize and monitor students. It also gives students an opportunity to have more individualized attention and interaction with teachers and students.

### **Thrive**

THRIVE is a forty-five minute class designed to empower students to take ownership of their learning. Teachers review weekly student performance data to design Open and Closed sessions to support and enrich student learning. Students receive a THRIVE schedule each Monday, and are encouraged to choose the THRIVE sessions that will have the greatest impact on their learning.

### **VAC**

VAC stands for Viking Athletic Club. The purpose of VAC is to support fundraising for all sports. The VAC promotes student participation, school spirit and commitment to Brentwood Middle School athletics.

### **Vikings of the Month**

Each month BMS recognizes two students from each team who stand up for their beliefs, act responsibly, use self-control, and treat others with respect and kindness.

### **VNN**

Viking News Network is the name given to a program that students see three times a year. The segments showcase student created videos on a variety of topics. The pieces are recorded and edited by a team of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader Video Production students.