

# SEVENTH GRADE REGISTRATION HANDBOOK 2022 - 2023



Brentwood Middle School  
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**BRENTWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
2225 HIGH SCHOOL DRIVE · BRENTWOOD, MO 63144  
(314) 962-8236 · WWW.BRENTWOODMOSCHOOLS.ORG

Dear Students and Parents,

This booklet is intended to help provide you with an overview of the middle school courses offered during the school year. Please take time to read it over with your child and make your course selections together. We are proud of the diversified exploratory courses offered to our students that create opportunities for them to participate in a wide variety of experiences.

I know you will find our course offerings to be engaging and motivational for students. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with our counselor or call the school office. Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

Dr. Andrew Loiterstein  
Principal

Mrs. Anne Bosche  
Counselor

### **Mission Statement**

Our daily mission at Brentwood Middle School is to achieve excellence in both academics and character.

### **Enrichment Opportunities**

Seventh grade students may be selected to participate in Challenge English and Challenge Mathematics. These classes accelerate the regular curricula and focus on cross-curricular projects that enhance and strengthen critical thinking, problem solving, and writing skills. These students will be identified using standardized test scores grades and effort. Parent permission will be required. Notifications will be mailed home in May.

Further, enrichment activities will be offered in all core subjects. Teachers regularly provide for students of varying abilities within each class through enrichment activities. Some teachers and departments may temporarily group students for various activities or projects. With the small class size, it is easy for staff to create individual plans for students to meet their varying needs and learning styles.

### **Remediation Opportunities**

For students who need extra help or skill strengthening, BMS has several options. Special School District Resource classes are offered for identified students. Literacy Workshop and Math Workshop are offered to those seventh grade students to further strengthen their reading and/or math skills. In addition, all grades offer after school help sessions. Check with your child's team teacher for such services.

## **SEVENTH GRADE COURSE OFFERINGS**

### **Required Courses**

- English
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Science
- Social Studies

### **Exploratory Classes**

All seventh grade students will have a combination of exploratory classes.

- Art
- Drama
- FACS
- Health
- Project Lead the Way
- Spanish

### **Elective Courses**

All students will choose two of the following yearlong classes:

- Band
- Computer Applications
- Personal Fitness
- PLTW: Green Architecture/Flight and Space

### **Additional Courses**

*Staff recommendation required.*

- Challenge English
- Challenge Math
- Learning Strategies (Special School District)
- Literacy Workshop
- Math Workshop

## **SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **ENGLISH**

Students will focus on improving their performance in the areas of: reading comprehension, writing, public speaking, grammar/mechanics, and vocabulary. They develop their reading and writing skills through the workshop curricular model. Students will focus on writing development through the areas of narrative, informational, and argumentative structure of a formal piece of writing. This includes short responses to literature, expository essays, and longer research projects which will introduce them to MLA format. During our reading units, students are lead through a course of study that integrates the four skills of reading, comprehension, critical thinking, and written expression with individual choice of material and personal responsibility. The students study reading material centered around characterization and theme, historical fiction, and author's purpose. Through these reading units, they will complete a series of structured responses that train them to see “beneath the surface” of the written word. They will stretch their minds to fully comprehend short stories, fiction and non-fiction novels, non-fiction articles, and poems. They will flex their abilities to express themselves concisely and with support for their thoughts. Students demonstrate public speaking skills through formal speeches and presentations. Grammar and vocabulary are reviewed through short, focused lessons based on areas of weakness in students’ writing.

### **SCIENCE**

This general science course integrates life, earth, and physical sciences in a hands-on, inquiry based approach. Students learn about using the scientific method to approach problems in class and everyday life and develop critical thinking skills. Content area reading is a focus, along with scientific writing skills. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) are emphasized. Units covered in seventh grade include How Energy Travels, Weather and Climate, Force and Motion, and the Universe.

### **MATHEMATICS**

The seventh grade mathematics course continues the development of skills, concepts, and applications taught in the middle school mathematics program. It is designed to provide students with a strong foundation of computation skills and conceptual understanding in real-life problem solving. This course will focus on the following key concepts: writing and solving algebraic equations, operations with rational numbers, proportional relationships, scale factor, geometric constructions, two and three dimensional geometry including area, surface area and volume, and drawing inferences about populations. The Connected Mathematics Program will help students develop a better understanding of the connections between mathematics and its applications in the real world.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

This course is designed to teach the fundamentals and basic principles of our system of government and rights and responsibilities of citizens. During the second semester, students will continue their development of geography skills that were taught in previous grades. Students will also explore the civilizations of the ancient Americas. Basic economic concepts will be incorporated within the units of study during this semester.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education is that phase of education concerned with the teaching of physical and cognitive skills, character building, and development of positive attitudes toward lifetime physical activity. A variety of individual, dual and team activities, as well as physical fitness and wellness are offered throughout the year. Fall activities include volleyball, soccer, speedball, flag football, Frisbee golf

and personal fitness. Winter activities offered are basketball, floor hockey, roller skating, international folk and square dance, badminton, pickleball, fitness center and table tennis. Spring activities include wiffleball, track, softball, ultimate Frisbee, orienteering and pedometer skills. Lead-up sport activities are emphasized, although actual games are offered for those who are proficient in a particular skill. Personal fitness is assessed in the fall and spring and is emphasized throughout the year. Teambuilding activities are integrated into the curriculum throughout the year.

## **ART**

Student artists will learn skills in Drawing, Painting, Mixed Media, and Sculpture. Students will, through the Elements and Principles of Art, discover meaning and significance in the art forms that they are producing.

## **FACS (Family and Consumer Science)**

FACS 7 is an introductory sewing & cooking experience. Students will learn the basics of sewing (equipment, techniques, machine use) and cooking (kitchen safety, equipment and appliance usage, measurement, and terms). Students should be able to apply these principles in a practical setting.

## **DRAMA**

This class focuses on basic theatre skills, with students learning both technique (stage directions, vocal projection, and articulation) and emotions (anger, sadness, and frustration) while performing. In addition, they will learn basic theatre terminology, along with theatre history. Emphasis in drama will be working with others, having fun with improvisation and theatre games, focus and concentration. Students will perform duet acting scenes and present a short monologue at the end of the quarter.

## **HEALTH**

Students will develop an appreciation of how they function physically, mentally, and socially in order to maintain and improve the quality of their lives. Focus will be on improving the ability to make proper decisions. Students will be encouraged to think critically and use knowledge and talents to help others in our society by being an advocate in the areas of **nutrition, eating disorders, tobacco, and false advertising**.

## **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY**

- **Automation & Robotics** – Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.
- **Science of Technology** – Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. Students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to STEM activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nano-materials.

## **SPANISH**

In the seventh grade exploratory Spanish course, students will work to continue building their skills in language and culture learned during previous years. Students will strengthen their communication abilities via written and verbal forms. We will focus our lessons around basic grammar skills and useful phrases, along with making connections between Spanish and the students' communities through fun cultural activities.

## **ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **BAND**

Band at the seventh grade level involves advanced literature and technical development for the middle school instrumentalist. Most players are in their second year of playing. They will have the opportunity to perform at home football and basketball games with the pep band. They will be able to participate in large ensemble and small ensemble festivals as well as other concerts during the school year. While prior experience is typically a prerequisite, students with no previous musical experience are welcomed to join band with director's approval. Instrument choices for 7<sup>th</sup> grade band include:

### **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS**

Students work on increasing accuracy and productivity at the keyboard. While exploring different applications of Microsoft Office/Google Docs, students will create business documents, presentations and spreadsheets. Students will also work with desktop publishing and other software applications.

### **PLTW**

- Green Architecture – Today's students have grown up in an age of "green" choices. Students learn how to apply this concept to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using Autodesk's® 3D architectural design software.
- Flight and Space – The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through flight and Space. Students delve into the history of flight and space, discover the science behind aeronautics, and explore traveling and living in space. Students are then challenged to use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil.

### **PERSONAL FITNESS**

This course is designed to give students an opportunity to explore aspects of physical education not covered in the traditional course. Such topics covered include orienteering, using pedometers, Personal Fitness Lab, activities from *PE for Life* textbook and using technology in PE.

## **ADDITIONAL COURSES**

*Placement based on staff recommendation*

### **CHALLENGE ENGLISH**

This class focuses on cross-curricular topics with an emphasis in communication arts that enhance and strengthen students' critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and reinforce their reading and writing skills. While we cover many of the same concepts highlighted in the standard English classes, the challenge curriculum encourages students to take a deeper, more in-depth look at reading and language skills. The curriculum is accelerated and expanded to cover a wide-variety of information. Students are invited to enroll in this class based upon their MAP scores, NWEA scores, grades, effort, and attitude towards learning. Parent permission and teacher recommendation are required.

### **CHALLENGE MATHEMATICS**

This class provides an enriched and accelerated course for students with exceptional mathematical and analytical skills. It is designed to provide students with a strong foundation of computation skills and conceptual understanding in real-life problem solving. This course will focus on the following key concepts: writing and solving algebraic equations, operations with rational numbers, proportional relationships, scale factor, geometric constructions, two and three dimensional geometry including area, surface area and volume, and drawing inferences about populations. The Connected mathematics Program will help students develop a better understanding of the connections between mathematics and its applications in the real world.

### **LEARNING STRATEGIES**

Learning strategy courses are provided by Special School District. A student must have a current educational diagnosis, an Individual Education Plan (IEP), and demonstrate a need for direct instruction in order to be eligible. These classes include instruction in: reading, written expression, math, organizational skills, social skills, and task-related skills. The curriculum is individualized and driven by each student's individual goals and objectives.

### **LITERACY WORKSHOP**

Students will work to further strengthen their reading comprehension and fluency scores and gain tools for increased success both in and out of class. Students will read short stories, current events, and high interest articles that relate to content area classes and individual interests. Additionally, students will spend a portion of each class period working on *Reading Plus* which is a web-based reading program that helps increase individual reading fluency and comprehension.

### **MATH WORKSHOP**

This course is designed to meet the varying needs of students in math. Math Workshop will provide opportunities for students to strengthen and reinforce math skills in order to help them be more successful academically.

# SEVENTH GRADE REGISTRATION FORM

2022-2023

~ Complete the information below and then return it to the school office ~

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address/City/State/Zip

### Required Courses

English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, Social Studies,

### Exploratory Courses

Art, Drama, FACS, Health, Project Lead the Way, Spanish

### Elective Courses

**Please rank all of the choices below.** Please put a "1" by your top choice, a "2" by your second choice, and so on. You will receive two elective classes on your schedule. Every effort will be made to honor your first choices, but this may not always be possible

\_\_\_\_\_ Band (Instrument Choice \_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_ Computer Applications

\_\_\_\_\_ Personal Fitness

\_\_\_\_\_ PLTW: Green Architecture/Flight and Space

I would like my child to be considered for:  **Reading support** and/or  **Math support**  
(Please check all that apply)

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_