

We Educate for Excellence



Lee Burneson Middle School 7th Grade Parent Information Night February 28th, 2024



Goals For Tonight's Meeting:

2024/2025 Schedule

Curriculum Options

2024/2025 Scheduling Procedure

Advanced Course Placement

Course Acceleration Process

Transition to 7th grade





WESTLAKE CITY SCHOOLS

Portrait of a Lifelong Learner

INTEGRITY

- Develops empathy and social awareness to understand how behaviors and actions impact others.
- Exhibits character development and demonstrates the ability to take action for the greater good.
- Listens to understand others' perspectives and contemplates problems through a variety of lenses, locally and globally.

GLOBALLY-MINDED

- Explores differences and diversity in the world with sensitivity.
- Collaborates and works with others to reach a united goal.
- Contemplates how our actions impact the world and the people around us.

RESILIENT

- Perseveres and adapts during times of adversity or stress such as family or relationship problems, health problems and uncertainty.
- Exhibits courage and strength in the face of fear.
- Shows tenacity in the pursuit of goals despite obstacles and challenges that they may face.

EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT

- Posseses self-awareness and is able to manage thoughts and feelings with maturity.
- Applies social skills and remains in tune with the feelings of others around them.
- Practices empathy for an understanding of others' perspectives.



INNOVATIVE

- Engages in problem solving and remains resourceful while thinking critically.
- Promotes intellectual curiosity.
- Uncovers new ideas and forms solutions to contribute meaningful and impactful changes for themselves and others.

BALANCED

- Expresses a connection between physical well-being and conscious decisions that lead to a healthy lifestyle.
- Establishes and maintains positive relationships by being mindful of others.
- Retains the ability to organize and self-regulate the demands of daily life.

COMMUNICATOR

Listens actively and responds to show understanding.
Utilizes a variety of methods to effectively convey ideas.
Formulates a well-crafted response that is rooted in well-researched ideas.

PURPOSE

- Commits to future goals and pursues them vigorously.
- Displays determination in all aspects of life.
- Makes decisions that help to achieve self-fulfillment.

2024-25 Bell Schedule Highlights

LBMS school day is 7:45 am to 2:35 pm

Three teams per grade: (Earth, Sea, Sky)

All three teams are heterogeneous, a mix of general education, collaborative classes, small group classes, and advanced courses with a mix of student abilities within core and exploratory classes.

Core classes: English Language Arts, Math, Science, World Studies

Exploratory/Health/PE classes: 2 periods per day

Team Advisory and Lunches are 30 minutes each

Exploratory Periods:

Every student will have two exploratory periods per day:

- One semester of World Language continued from grade 6
- One quarter each of Physical Education 7 & Total Wellness 7

AND

• Rotation of: Art 7, Career Connections 7, and Study Hall





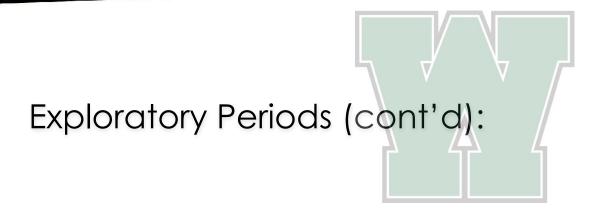
Exploratory Periods (cont'd):

Optional Music Courses:

Choice of Choir, Orchestra, or Band (Choice impacts 2nd exploratory period)

- <u>If student takes one music class</u>: they will have 3 days of music per week for the entire year, and 2 days per week of their quarterly exploratory class rotation (Art/Career Connections/Study Hall), all during the same period.
- <u>*If student takes two music classes</u>: they will have a 3 day/2 day split between their two music classes, but will not take any exploratory classes or study hall during that period.





A Google form will be emailed through School Messenger this Friday afternoon for you to indicate your child's music class choice for next year - <u>Due by Friday, March 15</u>

It is <u>imperative</u> that ALL families complete this form regardless of whether or not your child wants to take a music. Failure to submit this form will result in your child automatically being enrolled in their previous (6th grade) music option.



1st Exploratory period

<u>World Language:</u> One semester of French or Spanish Same language studied in grade 6

One quarter each of Physical Education & Total Wellness

> <u>Music Options:</u> Band, Choir, String Orchestra May choose up to 2

One Music:

- 3 days/week of music
- 2 days/week quarterly rotation through Art, Career Connections, & Study Hall

Two Musics:

- 3 day/2 day split between the 2 music classes
- Student will not have Art, Career Connections, or Study Hall

• 1 quarter Art

- 1 quarter Career Connections
- 1 semester Study Hall

2nd Exploratory period

www.wlake.org

No Music Option

7th Grade Advanced Courses

Advanced English Language Arts Advanced Science Advanced World Studies Math 7B/8 (Pre-Algebra)

Algebra I** Honors Geometry**

**Algebra I and Honors Geometry are high school-level classes that will count toward the student's high school GPA.



Placement into Advanced Courses

- Holistic student data will be used to recommend students for these courses, including:
 - Norm-referenced tests IAAT, ITBS, MAP, Ohio State Tests
 - Work/study habits
 - Progress through the standards
 - Social/emotional readiness
- Data letters were e-mailed on Wednesday, February 21st, explaining the placement process for advanced courses and information about how to apply for Algebra I.

Placement into Algebra I

- All 6th grade students took the IAAT (Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test)
- <u>If you want your child considered for Algebra I, you must submit an</u> <u>application</u>. The Algebra I application can be found in the Google Form Mr. Shaw will send out this Friday afternoon March 1
- **Deadline** to submit the Algebra I application is **Friday**, **March 15**. (same as the deadline for submitting music preference)
- Algebra I is a course acceleration. This means students are skipping Math 8. <u>There will be a required summer work packet</u>
- Please keep in mind that Algebra I is a high school credit class and grades will remain on a student's high school transcript and count toward their GPA.

Placement into Advanced Courses (cont'd)

- <u>March 15</u>: Deadline for ALL STUDENTS submitting music preferences and Algebra I application for those parents who want their child to be considered for it.
- April 12: Course Placement letters (all core classes) mailed
- May 10: Due date for parent appeals on math course placement decisions to Mr. Shaw via email. There are NO appeals for other subject areas.
- June 21: Final placement letters mailed. No appeals permitted.

New to district students will be tested throughout the summer and placed prior to the first day of school. Academic Services or Counselors will assist.

Questions to Ask Yourself When Considering Advanced Courses

Is my child developmentally and academically ready?

Does my child plan to follow the Honors track in HS?

Can my child commit to the time needed for success?

Will these courses cause undue stress?

Can my child become well-rounded and enjoy all aspects of LBMS

(academics, activities, co-curriculars)?



Transition to Middle School

- New teachers, new building, new procedures, opportunities to make new friends
 - Video introduction from Ms. Pellerite for 7th graders next week and in-person presentation and building tour led by LBMS students on May 24.
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 - Transition meetings among school counselors, intervention specialists, and ESL teachers to ensure smooth and supported transitions; early outreach from intervention specialists to address questions and concerns; special attention paid to scheduling.
 - Open House in August with opportunities before school starts for picking up schedule, setting up lockers, and getting familiar with the building.
 - Team building activities early on! New teams can bring some sadness and worry about not being with old friends; 7th grade is an opportunity to make new friends and expand and diversify social circles.

Transition to Middle School, (cont'd)

- Raised expectations with more homework and responsibilities
 - Scaffolded instruction from teachers early in the year
 - Support from school counselor as needed in small groups and/or individually.
- Trying out new activities and getting involved in sports and/or clubs provides opportunities to make new friends, feel a sense of belonging, and learn new things

Transition to Middle School

Academic and Social-Emotional Support

- Study Tables once a week after school for teacher-supported homework assistance; assigned by teachers or at parent request
- Daily 30 minute Team Advisory when students may ask for and/or receive targeted support from their core academic teachers
- Large group, small group, and individual instruction and support for academic, career, and social-emotional skill and knowledge building and support of needs.
- Weekly team-based meetings to discuss any academic or social-emotional concerns and develop plans for interventions and outreach as needed.

Special Education and English Language Learners

- Intervention Specialists at both grade levels
- School Psychologist
- Two ESL teachers

Clubs and Extracurricular Opportunities:

LBMS Clubs

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LBMS Athletics

Boys/Girls Basketball Boys/Girls Cross Country Boys/Girls Track Cheer Football Softball Volleyball Wrestling

Questions?

LBMS Web page

Ms. Pellerite, grade 7 School Counselor pelleritem@wlake.org

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