



Welcome to Brier Terrace Middle School

24-25



Here is the list of our electives for 8th graders. Please review them with your parent/guardian and select your top five choices below.

★ **Percussion Ensemble**

This yearlong class includes 7th and 8th grade students who already know how to play percussion instruments, but also is open to beginners who have never played and want to join the band. Students learn how to read music and learn to play all our percussion instruments (snare drum, bass drum, timpani, mallets, and accessories). Students from this class join the concert bands as the percussion section. This class is fun because we play our instruments every day, we play exciting music, and we get good quickly. We have evening performances and go on field trips. This class has required materials that cost approximately \$100. We do have a Lending Program in place to assist families in need. **(Year-Long)**

★ **Symphonic Band**

(Pre-req 7th grade Concert Band). We continue to have fun playing even more fun music that gets more exciting and advanced. This class performs at school-wide assemblies, evening concerts, and has many field trip opportunities throughout the year. You know why you're here!! Of course you want to keep going! **(Year-Long)**

★ **Art**

Experience new ways to express yourself in art. Open to 7th/8th graders who are interested in hands-on learning and would like to create high quality, exhibition-worthy projects in drawing, painting, and 3-D art. Whatever your skill level, you will enjoy how your talent develops. **(Semester-Long)**

★ **Coding**

Our Coding class is designed to introduce middle school students to the exciting world of coding and computer programming. Through a hands-on approach, students will learn fundamental concepts of coding, develop problem-solving skills, and gain confidence in their ability to create technology. Students will learn the basics of writing code, understanding algorithms, and debugging errors. No prior coding experience is required. **(Semester-Long)**

★ **Symphonic Orchestra**

(Pre-req 7th grade Orch.) This class is available to 8th grade orchestra students. Students have the opportunity to perform exciting music while improving on their instruments. This class includes field trips, school-wide assembly and evening performances. Students develop skills that allow them to prepare and excel in future music opportunities-including high school music groups of all kinds! **(Year-Long)**

★ **Journalism/Yearbook**

Journalism captures moments both in the classroom and in our greater community. They strive to represent the diverse students and interests that make up BTMS. Students who join should be interested in photography, writing, graphic design, video production, yearbook creation, and/or website management. Students should be highly motivated to learn skills in project management, collaboration, and meeting deadlines. **(Year-Long)**

★ **ASB/Student Leadership**

Want to help make BTMS awesome? Want to learn to be a leader and help plan some awesome school activities? If so, this is the class for you! This class will help you develop leadership skills to plan and lead fun activities and events that promote spirit in our school and pride in our community. We will focus on teaching the important qualities needed to be a good leader as well as improve group interaction, discussion skills and problem solving. **(Year-Long)**

★ **Foods**

The Foods class promotes practical learning and life-long skills in areas of nutrition, basic cooking skills, meal planning and preparation. Students will prepare a meal for their families as their final project. Working in teams, students prepare a variety of foods. This class will bring out the chef in anyone. **(Semester-Long)**

★ **STEM Foundations**

This year-long class is designed for students who are excited about Engineering and Technology and interested in working at a higher level. Designed for 8th graders only, students will have the opportunity to learn and apply STEM concepts as they design and build the strongest balsa beam structure, fastest and most aerodynamic CO2 car, the most powerful electric vehicle and most efficient mousetrap vehicle. In addition, students will study Material Science through glass fusing and finish off the year with the popular cardboard boat project. (Year-Long)

★ **Sci-Ma-Tech**

This semester-long Sci-Ma-Tech class is designed for both 7th and 8th grade students. In this class you will become certified to use the lab tooling, measure and create 3 view drawings as a resource while you build a solid fuel rocket and a tower that will hold over 100 pounds, weigh less than 25 grams and eject "bubba" the ping pong ball as it crashes to the ground. You will work with computer controlled lasers and 3D printers to create 5 projects including the popular LED sign project. Finally use your skills to design and build an Egg Crash Car that will provide safety for an egg as it experiences the three crashes of a head on collision. If you enjoy learning through hands-on projects, you are going to love Sci-Ma-Tech! (Semester-Long)

★ **Jazz Band**

Jazz Band is an 8th grade course that students must audition for. This is a super fun and rewarding class where you play and learn about many genres within the jazz tradition. Jazz Band is an advanced course that supplements the core music curriculum. It is intended to reward students who are committed to learning music and seeking new challenges. Jazz students must also be enrolled in one of the core music classes: Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble, or 8th grade Orchestra. **We are working on a system to allow space in your schedule for both classes. Stay tuned!** If you have questions about auditions, please see Ms. Zumbo. (Year-Long)

★ **Spanish 1**

In first year Spanish you will learn the foundations of the language that include understanding, speaking, questioning, reading, and writing in a culturally and language rich environment. This course encourages grammatical correctness by modeling correct grammar through listening and conversation. Topics covered are greetings, everyday activities, places, common items (e.g., school supplies, clothes), and present and progressive tenses. The course will be assessed through a variety of methods such as dialogues, skits, short presentations, tests and quizzes, daily assignments, and projects.

(First year language may not be the most appropriate placement for Native and Heritage speakers. For appropriate placement, please see the instructor before registering). (Year-Long)



After reviewing our electives for 24-25, rank order your top 5 choices:

1.) _____

2.) _____

3.) _____

4.) _____

5.) _____

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date