

8th GRADE RELATED ARTS OFFERINGS (2024-2025)

Class offerings may change based on teacher availability and student interest.

Design-Semester – Teacher, Leah Lindsey

Design is everywhere! We see it in fashion, architecture, products, and home interiors. In this course, we will explore design and gain inspiration from real examples and artists to create our own designs. We will experiment with many different media such as Procreate, 3D modeling, photography and traditional materials to help accomplish our design goals.

Advanced Art- Semester – Teacher, Leah Lindsey

This course is designed for students who want to dedicate time to go more in-depth with art concepts and skills. We will use a variety of materials and methods to create original works of art based on class-generated themes or independent themes.

Art Meets Music-9 Weeks – Teacher, Leah Lindsey

If you like music AND art, this class is for you! In this course, we will discover how both art and music can be used together for artists to express their creativity. We will create visual art based on music we are inspired by and write music compositions that reflect other's art or our own art!

Pottery-9 Weeks- Teacher, Leah Lindsey

Want to eat or drink out of dishes YOU made? This course is designed to teach you the basics of hand-building techniques with clay! We will learn pinch-pot, coil, and slab methods to create different forms. We will also learn about the kiln and the firing process and how we can create pieces that are not only beautiful but functional too!

Theatre 8th Grade-9 Weeks – Teacher, Meredith Daniel

Semester 8th Grade Theatre is designed to build upon the foundational theatre skills established in 6th and 7th grade, which include building confidence through performance, memorization, and collaboration. Through games and activities, we will study character development, published works, and playwriting. We will also study various moments throughout theatre history, including Commedia dell'arte and the Elizabethan Theatre.

Advanced Theatre –Semester – Teacher, Meredith Daniel

The Advanced Theatre class focuses on taking our love of theatre to the next level. Through ensemble activities and individual study, students will learn proper voice, diction, and movement techniques while learning how to produce a show from beginning to end. The semester will conclude with a One Act show performed for friends and family. Students will be responsible for performing, directing, producing, and running all technical aspects of the production.

8th Choir – Year – Teacher, Colby White

In this class, students will learn proper vocal techniques, music literacy, and methods of expression that will further their individual musicianship. While students develop their own vocal abilities, they will practice the art of unified music-making in creating balance and blend. Students will explore choral literature from varied time periods, styles, and cultures. Together, we will transfer musical ideas to other academic areas and daily life outside the choir room. Performance opportunities include in-class, annual winter and spring concerts, honors choir, festivals, and, occasionally, a choir trip.

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Electronic Music and GarageBand-9 Weeks– Teacher, Colby White

This class is a mixture of technology and music. It explores songwriting, musical creativity, and how to use technology in the creation process. Students will see how musical ideas come to life as they discover different sounds, use of instruments, and even their voices to create. They will be hands-on with Digital Audio Workstations and recording equipment, doing anything from modifying the effects of recorded tracks to creating an orchestral arrangement. Very little singing is required in this class.

Band – Year – Teacher, Juliet Lang

The eighth-grade band is open to students who have at least two years of experience on their instrument. Students will continue to expand their playing ability, improve their range, tone, and technique, refine their ensemble skills, apply music history and theory skills, and perform individually and as a group. Students achieving a high level will be encouraged to audition for the MTSBOA Mid State Clinic Bands and the MTSBOA Solo and Ensemble Performance Assessment. Students will attend the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association Concert and Sight-Reading Performance Assessment in the spring. Students will be expected to practice individually in preparation for class and to attend performances including winter and spring concerts, WCS Band Exhibition, 8th Grade Band Night, and several culminating concerts and activities. An overnight trip to an out-of-state concert band competition is usually the culmination of every other year for this group.

Advanced Orchestra-Year – Teacher, Mickey Rybiski

This class is only open to students with prior experience on an orchestral string instrument. 8th grade students will focus on advanced tone production, intonation, tuning, shifting, vibrato, advanced bowing techniques, and more. This class concentrates on more advanced rhythmic and technical accuracy as well as preparation and performance of Grade 3 string orchestra literature. The 8th Grade Orchestra is fundamental preparation for participation in the Brentwood High School Orchestra Program. Students can participate in the Williamson County Honor Orchestra Clinic, MTSBOA Concert Performance Assessment, and are eligible for the MTSBOA Mid-State Orchestra. The 8th 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.

Advanced Video Design and Production – Semester – Teacher, Teri Schoof

This class is available to students who took Introduction to Video Production in 7th grade. They will continue their study of video production techniques. The history of moviemaking will be studied in conjunction with a website design unit. Students will review camera angles, shots, and movements and how to use the cameras to get their desired effect. As the class progresses, students will develop storyboards and are responsible for writing, producing, directing, recording, and editing many projects

including PSA's, news broadcasts, interviews, silent movies, and music videos. This is an accelerated class that focuses heavily on working independently and collaboratively to complete projects at a fast pace. Students taking this class will have many of the skills necessary to continue in the TV and Film program at Brentwood High School.

****Due to a new state law, all students in grades 6-8 are required to have one quarter of a computer science class before leaving middle school.**

Computer Science-Coding (Video Game Design) – Semester – Teacher, Teri Schoof

In this class, students will begin with a study of video game characteristics and the various elements necessary for successful video games. As they progress through the online curriculum, they will learn to think like programmers. They will learn technical skills like programming, graphic design, and animation that will help them in the creation of several games. They will also learn to test and debug the programs they are creating. Students enrolling in video game design need to be adept at reading and following directions, detailed-oriented problem-solvers, and motivated learners ready for higher-level thinking challenges. The course meets the six core concepts as defined by the State of Tennessee. The core concepts are foundational concepts, Data & Analysis, Algorithmic Thinking, Networking & the Internet, Programming Concepts, & Impacts of Computing.

Computer Science-Coding (Python)-9 Weeks-Teachers, To Be Determined & Teri Schoof

Introduction into Computational Thinking and Programming is a 9-week course intended to provide students with exposure to various programming and digital literacy. This course is required to meet the Tennessee computer science requirement for middle school students. It may be taken in any quarter in a student's 6th, 7th, or 8th grade year. The course meets the six core concepts as defined by the State of Tennessee. The core concepts are foundational concepts, Data & Analysis, Algorithmic Thinking, Networking & the Internet, Programming Concepts, & Impacts of Computing.

STEAM Innovations – 9 Weeks-To Be Determined

This class will provide students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the content connections that exist between science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM). Students will learn about the Engineering Design Process and how that is used in today's world. This class will be project based and have a multitude of different projects. This class's projects will focus more on the creativity and technology side of STEAM.

Computer Science-Advanced Robotics – 9 Weeks – Teacher, Matt Brooks

Robotics is an interdisciplinary, lab-based, 9 weeks course. Using the VEX IQ robotics platform, students engage in hand-on, problem-based learning focusing on engineering design, fundamental mechanical engineering principles, project management, and computer programming. Students work in teams to design, build, test, and refine robots of their own creation. As part of this process, they will learn to write and debug programs that include variables, functions, loops, and conditional statements. Students also learn study skills, goal setting, and communication skills. This course is designed to meet the Tennessee computer science requirement for middle school students. The course meets the six core concepts as defined by the State of Tennessee. The core concepts are foundational concepts, Data & Analysis, Algorithmic Thinking, Networking & the Internet, Programming Concepts, & Impacts of Computing

Computer Science-8th Grade Competitive Robotics (VEX Vikings)-Year – Teacher, Matt Brooks

Competitive Robotics is an interdisciplinary, lab-based, yearlong course. Using the VEX IQ robotics platform, students engage in hand-on, problem-based learning focusing on engineering design, fundamental mechanical engineering principles, project management, and computer programming. Students work in teams to design, build, test, and refine robots of their own creation. As part of this process, they will learn to write and debug programs that include variables, functions, loops, and conditional statements. Students also learn study skills, goal setting, and communication skills. Students also learn study skills, goal setting, and communication skills. Students engage in competition with other middle school robotics teams in a few meets between September-February. Teams that qualify will advance to the state championships. Teams that win the state championship will advance to the world championships in Dallas, Texas. This course is designed to meet the Tennessee computer science requirement for middle school students. The course meets the six core concepts as defined by the State of Tennessee. The core concepts are foundational concepts, Data & Analysis, Algorithmic Thinking, Networking & the Internet, Programming Concepts, & Impacts of Computing.

Computer Science-Drone Soccer-Semester-Teacher, Matt Brooks

Drone Soccer is an interdisciplinary, lab-based, semester-long course. Students engage in hand-on, problem-based learning focusing on engineering design, fundamental aerospace engineering principles, project management, and computer programming. Students work in teams to build, test, and fly small drones. As part of this process, they will learn to write and debug programs that include variables, functions, loops, and conditional statements. Students also learn study skills, goal setting, and communication skills. Students also learn study skills, goal setting, and communication skills. Students engage in competition with their classmates, using the drones to participate in drone soccer matches. This course is designed to meet the Tennessee computer science requirement for middle school students. The course meets the six core concepts as defined by the State of Tennessee. The core concepts are foundational concepts, Data & Analysis, Algorithmic Thinking, Networking & the Internet, Programming Concepts, & Impacts of Computing

Wellness (PE)-9 Weeks – Teachers, Ben Hahs, Dennis Harrison, Anne Johnson, Kristen Young

This nine weeks class will include participation in games such as volleyball, tennis, ping pong, flag football, circuit training, ultimate frisbee, frisbee golf, and spike ball. Fitness testing and re-testing will be completed to evaluate student progress. In the health portion of the course, students will study nutrition. Wellness will also incorporate the opportunity for those interested in Sports Media Operations to learn the new scoreboard system and how to produce content on a game night.