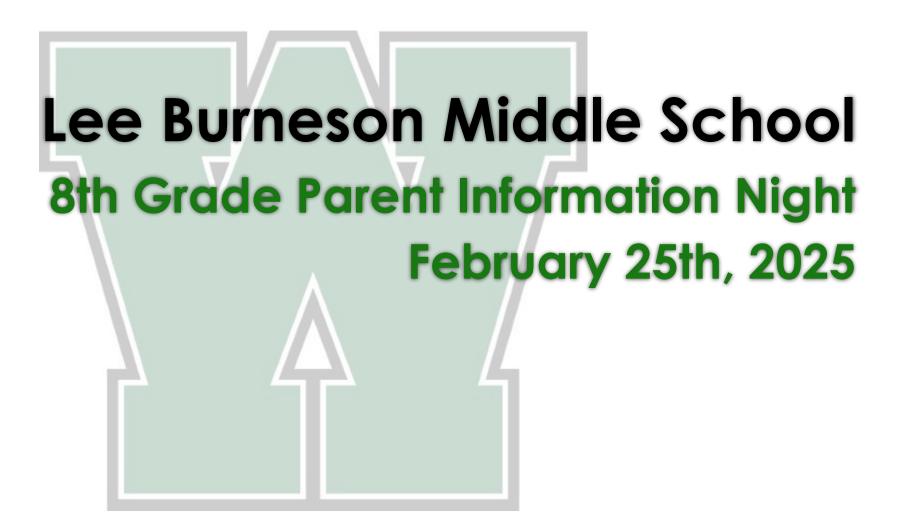


We Educate for Excellence



Goals For Tonight's Meeting



2025/2026 Schedule

Curriculum Options

2025/2026 Scheduling Procedure

Advanced Course Placement

Math Acceleration Process

Transition to 8th grade

2025-26 Bell Schedule Highlights

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

Two teams (Green & White):

All teams and courses are a mix of student abilities

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

Exploratory/Health/PE classes: 2 periods per day

Team Advisory and Lunch are 30 minutes each

Exploratory Periods:

Every student will have two exploratory periods per day:

• All students will take Physical Education & Health.

AND

 Combination of: Art, Career Connections, App Creators, French, Spanish, and/or Study Hall. (Some students will be recommended and placed into Level I Spanish or French.)

The total number of exploratory classes will depend on whether or not a student is going to participate in music next year.

(Band, Choir, String Orchestra)



Optional Music Courses:

Choice of Choir, Orchestra, or Band (Choice impacts number of exploratories)

No music:

Students will be scheduled into the following exploratory classes:

- Art 8
- Career Connections 8
- App Creators
- Study Hall
- EITHER* French 8 or Spanish 8

Music:

Students may choose up to 2 quarters worth of exploratory classes:

- Art 8 (1 quarter)
- Career Connections 8 (1 quarter)
- App Creators (1 quarter)
- French 8 (2 quarters)
- Spanish 8 (2 quarters)

*Students in music AND Level I Spanish or French will <u>not</u> take any additional exploratory classes and will receive their Health instruction through an alternate model to be communicated to families at a later date.

A Google form will be emailed through Parent Square **Friday**, **February 28th** for you to indicate your child's music class choice for next year

Due by Saturday, March 15

It is <u>imperative</u> that ALL families complete this form. Failure to submit this form will result in forfeiting of exploratory course options.

8th Grade Advanced VS. Accelerated Courses*

Advanced English Language Arts

Advanced Science

Advanced U.S. Studies



Algebra I*

Honors Geometry* (must have completed Alg I)

Honors Algebra II* (must have completed Geometry)

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

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Placement into Advanced Courses

- All students currently placed in advanced ELA, SS, Science will remain in that placement for 8th grade.
- Any change in placement will be based on teacher + parent input and holistic data
 - Norm-referenced tests ITBS, MAP, AIR
 - Work/study habits
 - Progress through the standards
 - Social/emotional readiness
- **Data letters** were sent via Parent Square **February 21st** explaining the placement process for advanced courses and information about how to apply for math acceleration.

Accelerated Placement into Algebra I

- All 7th grade students took the IAAT (lowa Algebra Aptitude Test)
- If you want your child considered for Algebra I, you must submit an application. The Algebra I application will be available upon your submission of the Google scheduling form.
- **Deadline** to submit the Algebra I application is **Saturday**, **March 15**. (same as the deadline for submitting the Google scheduling form)
- Algebra I is a course acceleration. This means students are skipping Math 8. There will be a required summer work packet
- Please note 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.

Questions to Ask Yourself Regarding Advanced Course Placement and Course Accelerations

- 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 8th Grade

New teachers, new teams, opportunities to make new friends

- Students remain with their current school counselor through 8th grade, Ms. Pellerite
- Transition meetings between 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 seeing friends after the summer!
- Team building activities early on!
- New teams can bring some sadness and worry about not being with old friends; 8th grade is an
 opportunity to make new friends and expand and diversify social circles. Great preparation for
 high school and the non-teamed environment there

Raised expectations with more homework and responsibilities

- Scaffolded instruction from teachers early in the year; preparation for high school as year progresses
- Support from school counselor as needed in small group 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 8th Grade

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 skills, knowledge building, and support of needs.
- Weekly team-based meetings to discuss 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
- ESL teachers



Clubs and Extracurricular Opportunities:

LBMS Clubs

Art Club Jazz Ensemble

Brigade Math Club

Book Club Science Olympiad

Builders Club Ski & Snowboard Club

Demon Strings Student Council

Drama Club WEB Leaders

Environmental Club Yearbook

LBMS Athletics

Boys/Girls Basketball

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Boys/Girls Track

Cheer

Football

Softball

Volleyball

Wrestling

IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 21: Data letters were sent to all parents
- February 28: Google scheduling form will be sent to all parents
- March 15: Deadline for ALL STUDENTS submitting Google scheduling form and Algebra I application for those parents who want their child to be considered for it
- April 17: Course Placement letters (all core classes) mailed
- May 10: Due date for parent appeals on Algebra decisions to Mr. Shaw via email. There are NO appeals for other subject areas
- June 20: Final placement letters mailed. No appeals permitted

Questions?

LBMS Web page

Ms. Pellerite, Class of 2030's School Counselor

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