

# **Project Term 2026**

**MS Catalog 6-8**

# PROJECT TERM 2026

Project Term is a four-week term (for grades 4-12) that begins May 12, 2026, and ends June 5, 2026. Project Term is a valuable opportunity for Black River students and faculty, alike. It provides hands on, experiential learning to each student, while adhering to Black River's academic requirements. Before viewing the course selections, please be aware of our project term policy and mark important dates on your calendar.

The priority registration deadline is **Monday, December 1, 2025** by 4:00 p.m. Students who register by this date will have *priority registration* over students who turn in their registration form after this date. The final deadline to register is Friday, December 19, 2025. Any student not registered by December 19 will be assigned to classes with available space.

## TIME SLOTS FOR PROJECT TERM CLASSES

The four time slots are as follows:

**8:00 – 11:00 from May 12 – May 22 (Block A)**  
**11:40 – 2:40 from May 12 – May 22 (Block B)**  
**8:00 – 11:00 from May 26 – June 5 (Block C)**  
**11:40 – 2:40 from May 26 – June 5 (Block D)**

Keep in mind that some classes and trips require more than one block. This is denoted in the first column before each class description.

**PROJECT TERM OPEN HOUSE**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026**  
**6:30 – 8:00 P.M.**

Each year, we have a night to showcase our students' projects and display the fruits of their labor during the four-week term. *Attendance is required for all students registered in a Project Term course.* Please keep this date in mind as students who do not participate at the Project Term open house may lose credit for the course, at the discretion of the Dean of Students and teacher of the course.

## HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL AT PROJECT TERM REGISTRATION

1. During scheduling, course choices will be prioritized first by application date and second by grade seniority. Turn your registration in by **Monday, December 1** to receive priority scheduling.
2. Fill out the **entire** schedule request. Do not repeat any classes.
3. Sign up for a variety of different kinds of courses. Students should not sign up for a course they have already taken unless approved by the teacher.  
*Students may be limited to one physical education class per two week term, depending on course availability.*
4. Treat your teachers and classmates with respect during the year and act responsibly in the classroom. Students who behave responsibly and respectfully will be given first priority in off-campus courses and courses taught by guest teachers. *Students who have been on behavior contracts during the year will not be considered for off-campus trips.*
5. Be flexible. Many faculty members have listed several course possibilities for one time slot in order to provide a variety of choices. Be aware that due to a lack of interest, some courses will not run.
6. Make sure you sign up for a second, third, and fourth choice for each block in case your first choice isn't available. If you don't, please be advised that Mrs. Wise will pick your classes for you after all other students have been scheduled.

## PROJECT TERM POLICIES

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. All students must attend Project Term. Project Term is part of our school year and the attendance policy does not change from the regular school year. Unexcused absences will be regarded as truancy. Students who miss more than two days of a Project Term course may fail the course at the discretion of the teacher.
2. The dates for Project Term are May 12, 2026, to June 5, 2026. The school day for on-campus courses will be from 8:00-2:40 p.m. The elementary and main offices close at 3:30 p.m. during Project Term.
3. Students are expected to participate 100%. Every class has an academic component and students are required to meet all guidelines established by the teacher.
4. Parents are responsible for transportation to and/or from their project during this term. Keep this in mind if registering for an independent study project.

### FEES

While most projects do not have fees, some may include one. Projects that involve incidental personal expenses such as travel, food and accommodations or those where students keep the projects they create may have a fee. Fees are due by **Monday, March 16, 2026**. Keep in mind that off campus trips may have different deadlines and deposit requirements.

There may be some opportunities for students to acquire financial assistance. Students requesting financial aid must fill out a financial aid form by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**. Scholarship request forms are available on the school's website or from Mrs. Wise. Students will receive written notification of scholarship awards by **Monday, March 10, 2026**.

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

**Individuals who would like to sponsor the personal expenses of a Black River student during Project Term are encouraged to contribute to the Project Term Student Support Fund. Faculty members cannot be responsible for raising money.**

### PROJECT TERM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Project Term is an integral part of the BRPS curriculum. Students in grades 9-12 need to pass three years (1.20 credits) of Project Term in order to graduate.

Seniors who have successfully completed three years of Project Term have completed their Project Term requirement for graduation. ***Seniors who have received either a grade of "incomplete" or "F" must make up the credit in order to graduate.*** They must make up this course by taking a project term class during their senior year.

***A failing grade in a project term class for students in grades 6-8, in combination with other failing grades, may result in that student being retained in their current grade level.***

Since many Project Term classes involve hands-on activities and a greater responsibility for the individual student, it is important that for the safety of all the students in the classroom, discipline problems are dealt with swiftly and effectively. Students who have a number of discipline related referrals may be withheld from Project Term classes. The Dean of Students will notify the applicable students in writing and will assign the student alternate projects to complete and submit for review.

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students are encouraged to participate in Black River courses. However, high school students may elect to do an independent study with approval if they seek an opportunity that the school is unable to offer. There is an informational meeting during HS CAP Flex on **Tuesday, November 18, 2025**, where students will receive an **Interest Application**. Students who missed the meeting must see Mr. Wimbush for the application. The interest application is due by **Friday, December 5, 2025** to the office or directly to Mr. Wimbush. Once the project is approved, a more formal proposal will be due on **Monday, March 2, 2026**. Students who are interested in pursuing an independent study during project term should read the course description in the catalog and see Mr. Wimbush with any questions.

## PROJECT TERM DATES AND DEADLINES AT A GLANCE

<b>Priority Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Monday, December 1, 2025</b>
<b>Last Chance to Register</b>	<b>Friday, December 19, 2025</b>
<b>Scholarship Requests Due</b>	<b>Tuesday, March 3, 2026</b>
<b>Project Term Fees Due</b>	<b>Monday, March 16, 2026</b>
<b>Project Term Begins</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 12, 2026</b>
<b>Project Term Open House</b>	<b>Thursday, June 4, 2026</b>
<b>Last Day of School</b>	<b>Friday, June 5, 2026</b>

The entire 2026 Project Term Catalog for grades 4-12 can be found on the website at:

<https://www.blackriverpublicschool.org/academics/project-term>

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT TERM COURSES

*STUDENTS MUST PICK ONE COURSE FOR EACH BLOCK (A, B, C, & D)*

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**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**BASKETBALL 3 V 3 AND OTHER GAMES**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Rowe, Brent & Steve Gray**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Do you like to play basketball games? Do you like contests? Do you want to improve your basketball and overall athletic skills? This class is for beginners to experienced basketball players. Come have some fun and learn new skills!

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**CAD & 3D CARS**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Fisher, Caleb & Todd Schwartz**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Come learn and explore the introduction to CAD design as we build “pinewood” derby cars for race and show. Students will be learning some of the basics of SketchUp as they explore CAD design and theory while ultimately building their masterpiece racer. Not into the speed? Students will also have the opportunity to be creative and artistic while they compete in design competitions as well. So come out and see what CAD design is like and explore the basics of simple engineering skills.

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**COLORED PENCIL TECHNIQUES & PORTRAITS**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Putzke, Sydney**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Creating artwork that leaves viewers wondering whether they’re looking at a photo is no easy task. In Colored Pencil Techniques & Portraits, artists can learn the secrets to drawing lifelike portraits using colored pencils. This class is perfect for artists who are just beginning or want to improve upon their existing skills.

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**CREATIVE CHRONICLES: YOUR SCRAPBOOKING ADVENTURE!**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Bivins-Fink, Eliza**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Do you have pictures of yourself with friends and family that you don’t know what to do with? Do you enjoy being creative? Then this could be the class for you! In this course, you can expect to take pictures and turn them into creative works of art. We will enjoy sharing memories from pictures as we put them together in a scrapbook. Students will be responsible for the costs related to printing photos for their scrapbooks.

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**CROCHET THE DAY AWAY**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Harrity, Noelle**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Do you want to learn how to make a coaster or a cute plushie? In this class students will learn how to do basic stitches such as single crochet, double crochet, increase, and decrease in order to create pieces such as foundation chains, granny squares, and simple plushies. All levels of crocheters welcome!

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**FISH ON!**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Bittrick, Brett & Jeanne Kane**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Give a girl a fish, she'll eat for a day, teach a girl to fish, and she'll eat for a lifetime...come learn the art of fishing with your most excellent guides, Mr. Bittrick and Mrs. Kane. We will fish the greater Macatawa watershed, while learning about the different fish species it inhabits. Come with a growth mindset, a passion for learning, and a yearning to catch a prize-winning fish

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**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**FRIENDSHIP BRACELET MAKING**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Gaffney, Sarah**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Learn to make a variety of macramé Friendship Bracelets that you can trade with friends or wear yourself. Whether you are a beginner artisan or have already been making bracelets on your own, you will learn a handful of knots and cool designs while creating fun and personalized bracelet/string jewelry creations. You will have the opportunity to bring your own projects to work on or start new projects in class and be a part of a service learning project called the Pulsera Project.

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**FUNGUS AMONG US**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Donoghue, Liz**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Did you know that there is a mushroom that you can find in the woods that tastes like chicken? It's true! Learn all about wild mushrooms, how to identify them, how to cook mushrooms, how to create a spore print, and how to create interesting mushroom art with real mushrooms! Join professional mushroom hunter, Andrew Flezar of Michigan Mushroom Hunters, as we venture into the woods to hunt for mushrooms. We will be exploring the woods near Holland so you can learn how to be mushroom hunters and find mushrooms of your own right in your hometown.

**A Block**

Grade: **MS**

**WATERCOLOR METHODS**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Gorris, Tara**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Are you interested in using watercolor or have some experiences in working with it? In this class, you will be learning about watercolor methods that are more in depth and extensive. The techniques that you learn in here will help you expand your horizon of what watercolor can do and how you can control the medium. You will learn a little about color theory, techniques, and we will spend a few times outdoors to try our hand at quick plein-air paintings, painting that is done in the moment and in a short amount of time.

**AB Block**

Grade: **MS**

**NATIONAL PARK ADVENTURE: SMOKY MOUNTAINS**

Fee: **\$450.00**

**Teacher: Schreuder, Joel & Nate Meyer & Haley Masse**

**Special Requirements: *Hiking/camping apparel and a sleeping bag***

Adventurers needed! On this 6-day trip you will travel with your friends to the Great Smoky Mountains! It will be an unforgettable outdoor adventure filled with excitement and exploration. We will kick off the journey with a thrilling climb at a via ferrata—scaling rock faces while safely clipped into a cable system. We will also embark on a whitewater rafting experience, working together to navigate the rapids and build teamwork. Next, our adventure will go underground as we explore winding caves, discovering fascinating rock formations, and learning about the area's unique geology. Throughout the trip we will take scenic hikes through misty mountain trails and lush forests, fully immersing ourselves in the natural beauty of the most visited National Park in America. You will be a naturalist in training; dressing for the weather, sleeping in tents, preparing food, and having fun with friends in a camping setting. You will be physically active each day...No experience necessary, but enthusiasm required. It promises to be a trip full of adventures, bonding, and lasting memories!

**AB Block**

Grade: **MS**

**WASHINGTON D.C.: THE CAPITAL TOUR**

Fee: **\$2750.00**

**Teacher: Benoot, Chelsea & Bridget Pyle**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Did you know that 2026 is the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence? What better way to celebrate than by traveling to our nation's capital: Washington, D.C. You'll connect with our nation's history and culture as you take in museums, monuments, and memorials. And of course, walk along Capitol Hill, the place that's shaped our past, present, and future. The first week of class, we will be at Black River learning about the

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history and legacy of Washington, D.C. In the second week, we will take our class on a 4-day trip to D.C. Please see Miss Benoot or Ms. Pyle if you have any questions about this class or trip.

**AC Block**      **Grade: MS**      *INTEGRATED MATH IV*      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Laarman, Sarah**

**Special Requirements:** *Interested students, currently taking 8th grade math, must get permission from their math teacher and have a quiz/test average of around 95%.*

9th grade math covers many of the same concepts covered in 8th grade, but takes those concepts to a much deeper level. Additionally, there are concepts that are covered in 9th grade math that are not addressed in 8th grade math. Students in this class will cover concepts from the 9th grade class (IM IV) in hopes of advancing from 8th grade math into 10th. In order to advance, students must successfully pass both final exams for IM IV, which will be taken in class. Students who meet the eligibility requirements to move from 8th to 10th, but choosing not to take this course, will still be given the opportunity to review the material independently and take the exams.

**B Block**      **Grade: MS**      *"HOLLAND'S SECRETS OF THE PAST:  
DISCOVER COOL STORIES OF HOLLAND,  
MICHIGAN"*      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Dykhouse, Gregory**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

How have people contributed to the society that has become Holland, Michigan? Discover interesting stories and experiences from our area and how they shape our lives. One topic of interest to the instructor is how Native American groups (Odawa, Ojibwe, Bodwéwadmí) contribute to stories of west Michigan. You may explore topics that interest you: the environment, businesses, tourism, and other subjects. Together our class may design a collection or archive for other people to use.

**B Block**      **Grade: MS**      *ANIME & MANGA - MS*      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Spisak, Elizabeth**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Do you like watching anime? Reading manga? Want to learn more about this unique art form that has gained worldwide popularity? Join this class for an exciting journey into the world of Japanese anime and manga! Together we'll explore the history and culture behind both art forms. We will view multiple examples, from the classics like Sailor Moon and Astro Boy, recent favorites like Naruto and One Piece, and movies like Howl's Moving Castle and Spirited Away. We'll touch on Japanese animation elements and Japanese culture as we discuss the examples we view in class. You'll also learn about character design and the creative process as you create your very own manga to display at the Project Term Open House.

**B Block**      **Grade: MS**      *ARTS AND CRAFTS*      **Fee: \$25.00**

**Teacher: Kane, Jeanne**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Do you like to be creative? Come join us and put your creativity to use. In this project term, you will use your artistic talent to make various crafts. Some of the crafts, which will be presented, include needlepoint, decoupage, clay creations, tie-dying, and quilting. You will end this term with many great gifts, along with presents for yourself!

**B Block**      **Grade: MS**      *CREATIVE CLAY EARRING WORKSHOP*      **Fee: \$20.00**

**Teacher: Putzke, Sydney**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Dive into the vibrant world of polymer clay in this engaging workshop designed for all skill levels. Learn how to shape, mold, and bake polymer clay to create stunning, one-of-a-kind earrings.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT TERM COURSES

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**B Block**

Grade: **MS**

*CROCHET 101*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Dykstra, Natasha**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Ever wanted to learn how to make your own clothes, stuffed animals, and more? In this class we'll be learning the basic crochet stitches so you too can create your own fun items!

**B Block**

Grade: **MS**

*EAT MY WAKE*

Fee: **\$235.00**

**Teacher: Rowe, Brent & Steve Gray**

**Special Requirements:** *Swimsuit and towel. You will get wet everyday!*

Test the waters in this action packed adventure class! You will be learning and expanding your wake boarding skills each day at Action Wake Park. Whether you're a novice or have been wake boarding for years this class is for you! There will be certified instructors providing instruction each day along with cable passes, wake boards, helmets, and life vests. Join us at the first and only full-size cable park in Michigan!

**B Block**

Grade: **MS**

*EVERY GIRL FITNESS*

Fee: **\$20.00**

**Teacher: Gaffney, Sarah**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Taught by girls, for girls, this class offers a variety of fitness, nutrition, and overall healthy living styles. If you're somebody that is wanting to learn how to become more active, healthy, and positive about yourself, this is the class for you! Whether you've never experienced a fitness class or if you are already living an active lifestyle, this class can offer a variety of opportunities for staying healthy and body positive. We will experience cardio through hiking, walking and interval training. We will explore yoga, Pilates, stretching, and other exercises to strengthen the core. We will also make and try nutritious snack options for strong, growing bodies. Each workout is adapted to your body and level of fitness. Join us for comfortable, and judgement free young women's guide to health!

**B Block**

Grade: **MS**

*PAINT LIKE A ROSS*

Fee: **\$30.00**

**Teacher: Donoghue Liz**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Bob Ross is an international phenomenon. As an American painter, he started his own television series, The Joy of Painting. This class, with the same name, will give you the chance to learn how to paint in the style of Bob Ross! Known for his landscape painting and making simple marks that take on the shapes of rocks and trees, Bob Ross' show has dazzled viewers over the decades. This is your chance to follow along his series and try your own hand at creating a painting just like Bob Ross! You will learn a lot of new techniques along the way and, hopefully, find your own joy in creating a painting.

**B Block**

Grade: **MS**

*PICKLEBALL*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Nott, Colton & Tally Martinez**

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Come learn one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. Whether you are 10 or 80 years old, anybody can play pickleball. In this class you will learn the rules, the top strategies and how to work together with a teammate. At the end, all students will participate in an intense March madness style tournament to crown a class champion.

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**B Block**      Grade: **MS**      *PODCAST PRODUCTION*      Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher:** Pommer, Ashley

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Students learn how to plan, record, edit, and publish their own podcasts. They'll explore storytelling, interviewing, audio technology, and collaboration — while creating a real product to share with the school community or online.

**B Block**      Grade: **MS**      *ZUMBA - LATIN DANCE 101*      Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher:** Harrity, Noelle

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Do you love to dance or want to learn how? This class will introduce the fundamentals of Latin dance and explore genres of dance such as flamenco, merengue, salsa, bachata, and tango. Students will learn a choreographed group dance piece together as well as choreograph their own dance pieces in small groups. All levels of dancers are welcome!

**BD Block**      Grade: **MS**      *GIRLS RUNNING CLUB*      Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher:** Mulder, Lindsey

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Join our Girls Running Club, where we focus on building fitness, confidence, and teamwork in a supportive and fun environment. Whether you're new to running or have some experience, this class offers a mix of running drills, games, and challenges designed to keep you motivated and improve your skills. It's a great way to stay active, make new friends, and enjoy the outdoors. Come join us to train for a 5K at the end of the four weeks!

**C Block**      Grade: **MS**      *ANYONE FOR GOLF? FORE!*      Fee: \$50.00

**Teacher:** Stid, Jake & Caleb Fisher

**Special Requirements:** *Students must have their own set of golf clubs and be able to depart BRPS by 7:40a.m. each morning.*

Do you enjoy golf? Would you like to learn? If yes, then this is the course for you! We will spend time learning about this great game and practicing our own shots at the golf course. We will spend time on the driving range, practice greens, and the course itself. Learn how to take the frustration out of your own game by learning fundamentals and essential etiquette. Students will spend every class period at the golf course. Fore!

**C Block**      Grade: **MS**      *BASKETBALL 3 V 3 AND OTHER GAMES*      Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher:** Rowe, Brent

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Do you like to play basketball games? Do you like contests? Do you want to improve your basketball and overall athletic skills? This class is for beginners to experienced basketball players. Come have some fun and learn new skills!

**C Block**      Grade: **MS**      *BOARD GAME GEEK*      Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher:** Schreuder, Joel

**Special Requirements:** *N/A*

Explore a variety of classic and modern board games that challenge critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. The class will focus on resource management, tactical decision-making, and long-term planning. Students will learn the importance of adapting their strategies based on opponents' moves and how to anticipate possible outcomes. Each session will feature friendly competitions, encouraging students to collaborate and discuss their strategies with peers. Through game analysis and reflection, they will understand how strategic decisions impact success and failure in both games and real-life situations. By the end of the course, students will

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have a deeper appreciation for the role of strategy in everyday decision-making and enhanced problem-solving abilities.

**C Block**      **Grade: MS**      ***BR READING BRAINBOW***      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Bivins-Fink, Eliza**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Do you love to read and tell people about your favorite books? If that sounds like fun, this class is for you! Following the format of the classic tv show, Reading Rainbow, students will have time to re-read and share about their favorite books. Students will choose from a pre-approved list of book review formats for their final project in this inspired class. ALL REVIEWS will be presented in class. Students may choose to record videos and submit their book reviews to the official Reading Rainbow tv show.

**C Block**      **Grade: MS**      ***CREATIVE HAT LOOMING***      **Fee: \$25.00**

**Teacher: Putzke, Sydney**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Get ready to loop, stitch, and create your very own hats! In this hands-on class, you'll explore a variety of looming techniques while making cozy hats that show off your creativity. Once finished, you can keep your hats, gift them to friends, or donate them to someone in need. Whether you're a beginner or a budding loom artist, this class is great for building your skills!

**C Block**      **Grade: MS**      ***CROCHET 102***      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Dykstra, Natasha**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Know some of the basic crochet skills such as a single stitch? Join us for Crochet 102 where we'll learn the magic circle and how to create a stuffed animal! This class is beginner friendly!

**C Block**      **Grade: MS**      ***DOUBLE-HANDED SAILING***      **Fee: \$125.00**

**Teacher: Rowe, Karen**

**Special Requirements: *Students need to supply their own life jackets and should come to class prepared to sail every day. Ideally, students should have at least two years of previous sailing experience, but students with less experience who are comfortable on the water or with boating are welcome to sign up!***

This course introduces students to the sport of sailing in a double-handed (two person) sailboat. Students will learn the basic rules of sailing, practice rigging and de-rigging a sailboat, gain confidence in managing both skipper and crew roles, and spend time on the water at Lake Macatawa each day.

**C Block**      **Grade: MS**      ***HA! HA! BUILD SERIOUS SKILL USING  
STAND UP COMEDY***      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Pommer, Ashley**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

"So...why did the chicken cross the road?" (extended pause) "To get to the other side of course!". Everyone likes to laugh and some people want very much to be funny. Channel your inner comedian in this course. You will develop skills to create your own stand up routine that you will present as a part of the Project Term Open House. Come on and make people laugh!

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**C Block**

Grade: **MS**

**HISTORY OF ANIMATION**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Benoot, Chelsea**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Cartoons and animated movies are some of the best parts of media, but have you ever wondered how our favorite movies got to this point? This class will show you exactly how your favorite animated movies came to be. Starting with Snow White, we will cover different animated eras and look at the animation techniques and technology that filmmakers had to use create their visions. For a final project, you and a group will create your own story, using story boards and character sheets.

**C Block**

Grade: **MS**

**OLD SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Kane, Jeanne**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Ever wanted to go to Summer Camp? Did you ever think of becoming a summer camp counselor? During this project term, get ready to unplug, explore, and make new friends at Old School Summer Camp! This project term brings back the classic camp experience with fun, hands-on activities that spark creativity and teamwork—no screens required! Students will spend time learning traditional camp skills and crafts like knot tying, nature journaling, friendship bracelets, lanyards, and campfire storytelling. We will also play outdoor games, create fun skits to perform, practice teamwork through scavenger hunts, and learn songs and chants that have been passed down through generations of campers. Each session blends creativity, cooperation, and adventure—encouraging students to connect with nature, try new things, and build confidence the old-fashioned way.

**C Block**

Grade: **MS**

**THEATRE BEHIND THE SCENES**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Andrews, Rachel**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

This class is for students who are looking to learn or build skills relating to all elements of theater design, or tech elements. We will spend lessons on stage makeup, costume design, theatrical lighting, sound, set design, and prop creation. For the final project, students will create designs for a specific show, using the production element of their choosing. A great opportunity for students looking to learn more about how to create various elements for the theater.

**C Block**

Grade: **MS**

**THROUGH THE STUDIO GHIBLI LENS**

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Harrity, Noelle**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Have you heard of films such as My Neighbor Totoro or Spirited Away? In this class we will watch these films along with others as we learn about Studio Ghibli, the Japanese animation company that created them. We will discuss the themes and morals of these films and reflect what our takeaways from them through various artistic forms such as drawing, poetry, and acting.

**CD Block**

Grade: **MS**

**ALL ABOUT ANIMALS!**

Fee: **\$35.00**

**Teacher: Murphy, Colin & Haley Masse**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! In this course we will learn about animals through a variety of hands-on field trips, classroom activities and volunteer opportunities. Potential topics include wildlife conservation, animal care, birds of prey, farm animals, wetland sampling, invasive species and more. If you love anything to do with animals, visiting the zoo or local farms and nature centers, watching nature documentaries, playing games and making cool projects, this wild class is for you!

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT TERM COURSES

*STUDENTS MUST PICK ONE COURSE FOR EACH BLOCK (A, B, C, & D)*

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**D Block**

Grade: **MS**

*ART FUN*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Kane, Jeanne**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Like art? During this project term, you will be able to explore different types of art utilizing the basics: lines, shapes, contouring, perspectives, colors, etc. Each day will present a new technique and an art project. No previous experience is necessary. Just come to class each day to learn all about art...and have FUN!

**D Block**

Grade: **MS**

*BRANCHING OUT - ALL ABOUT TREES*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Coates, Hannah**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Come explore the wonder of trees all around us! If you love plants, trees, or the great outdoors this class is for you! In this class we will explore local parks around town finding, identifying, and interacting with trees! Make and enjoy White Pine needle tea! Learn how to decipher a white oak from a red oak! In the class we will learn all about these trees, how to correctly identify them by their leaves, bark, and buds, and creatively explore all these unique trees have to offer! Wear comfortable shoes as we will be walking outside everyday weather permitting. Throughout the class we will collect and press leaves, with our final project culminating in a booklet of all of the trees we have explored and identified.

**D Block**

Grade: **MS**

*CULTURAL AND GLOBAL CRAFTS!*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Pommer, Ashley**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Explore and make crafts from around the world! Students will journey around the world through art. Each day will focus on a new region's traditional crafts and the cultural stories behind them. Students will learn about artistic techniques, symbolism, and materials unique to different cultures. Some examples of projects include Japanese Origami, papel picado from Mexico, calligraphy and so much more!

**D Block**

Grade: **MS**

*DETECTIVE ACADEMY: SOLVING THE CASE*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Putzke, Sydney**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Step into the shoes of a real detective and tackle a mystery that will test your observation, reasoning, and teamwork skills! In this hands-on investigation, you will work in teams to examine evidence, analyze clues, and piece together a complex case using Hunt a Killer box sets.

Disclaimer: This class involves fictional crime scenarios, which may include dark or sensitive themes.

**D Block**

Grade: **MS**

*DUNGEONS & DRAGONS - MS*

Fee: **\$0.00**

**Teacher: Spisak, Elizabeth**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Are you interested in fantasy and adventure storytelling, with a side of puzzle solving and combat? Then learn how to play Dungeons & Dragons, the iconic tabletop role-playing game that inspired popular media such as Stranger Things, Onward, and more! First, you will learn what Dungeons & Dragons is, its history, and presence in popular culture today. You will create your own character, take part in a large-scale campaign story, and learn how to lead your own campaign as a Dungeon Master. As a final project, you will create a detailed personal narrative backstory for your character that details the adventures they went on during your classroom campaign.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT TERM COURSES

*STUDENTS MUST PICK ONE COURSE FOR EACH BLOCK (A, B, C, & D)*

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**D Block**                      **Grade: MS**                      ***OUTDOOR ADVENTURES***                      **Fee: \$75.00**

**Teacher: Laarman, Sarah**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Come explore the beautiful outdoors. Students will be hiking, kayaking, paddle boarding, and shooting some archery. No equipment necessary - we will use rented kayaks, lifejackets, paddleboards, and archery equipment.

**D Block**                      **Grade: MS**                      ***PLAYGROUND EXTRAVAGANZA!!!***                      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Rowe, Brent & Steve Gray**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

This middle school course offers students a unique opportunity to explore different playgrounds across Holland while engaging in a variety of games and activities. Each day, students will visit a new playground, participating in games, friendly competitions, and outdoor sports that promote collaboration and physical fitness. The course encourages students to explore the cultural and natural beauty of Holland, with trips to parks, recreation centers, and scenic locations. Along the way, students will bond with their peers, developing social skills, problem-solving abilities, and a sense of adventure. By the end of the course, students will have made lasting memories, discovered new places, and fostered a deeper connection with their classmates and the world around them.

**D Block**                      **Grade: MS**                      ***ROCK CLIMBING - FROM THE GROUND UP***                      **Fee: \$140.00**

**Teacher: Schreuder, Joel**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Experience the freedom and exhilaration of indoor bouldering and rock climbing! You and your friends will travel to Scrapyard Climbing Collective where you can practice and grow your rock climbing skills. Your class fee includes rock climbing during project term AND also a Scrapyard membership for the month of June! Space is limited.

**D Block**                      **Grade: MS**                      ***SCHOOL OF ROCK III!***                      **Fee: \$0.00**

**Teacher: Bittrick, Brett**

**Special Requirements: *You must be able to play a rock-related instrument. This is not a, "learn how to play a rock instrument class". Come skilled and ready to rock! Students must provide their own instruments and amplification.***

After being kicked out of his rock band, and his last school, Mr. Bittrick gets a new job at another uptight public charter school, only to try and turn his class into a rock band again!

**D Block**                      **Grade: MS**                      ***STORYTELLING SILHOUETTES - LYRICAL***                      **Fee: \$0.00**  
***DANCE 101***

**Teacher: Harrity, Noelle**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

Do you love to dance or want to tell a story through movement? This class will introduce and explore the elements of lyrical, a genre of dance that blends elements of ballet and jazz together to tell a story. Students will learn and perform a choreographed group dance piece together as well as choreograph their own dance pieces in small groups. All levels of dancers are welcome!

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT TERM COURSES

*STUDENTS MUST PICK ONE COURSE FOR EACH BLOCK (A, B, C, & D)*

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**D** Block

Grade: **MS**

***THE ART OF BOOKBINDING: CRAFTING  
LITERARY TREASURES***

Fee: \$0.00

**Teacher: Bivins-Fink, Eliza**

**Special Requirements: N/A**

In this hands-on class you will explore the rich history behind the craft as you create your own books. Students will learn the techniques used in binding simple to complex books, and simple book repair for our in-class libraries. By the end of the course, not only will you have created one-of-a-kind treasures to cherish, but you'll also breathe new life into stories waiting to be told again. Join us for a journey where creativity and preservation go hand in hand!