



BPMS
COURSE CATALOG
2026-2027

7th & 8th Grade Scheduling

Required-

Math

Science

Communication Arts

History

PE/Health

***Two hours of your day will be electives. Some electives are all year (1 Credit), some are half a year (½ Credit). Pay close attention to this when picking electives.**

***Read through the elective descriptions carefully. Schedule changes will be done on a limited basis at the beginning of each semester. Sign up for what YOU are most interested in.**

***Some electives can not be repeated if you already had them. Some electives can be repeated. This is listed in the course catalog.**

***Please make sure to provide alternate choices. Some classes fill up or do not work with a student's schedule.**

For Scheduling Questions Contact:

Melissa Dill, 7th/8th Counselor

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417-345-2335 Ext. 2024

Required 7th Grade

J0170 - 7th English Language Arts

1 credit

Seventh grade Language Arts is centered around the processes of reading literature and informational texts, writing, speaking, listening, learning and using language and vocabulary. We do this by reading three novels: Tuck Everlasting, Mockingbird and A Long Walk to Water, as well as lots of short stories, poems, and articles. We'll also write essays, research, opinions, and more.

J0370 - 7th Science

1 credit

This science course aims to educate 7th grade students about core life science topics and improve their understanding of the concepts that apply to all scientific disciplines. Middle school life science standards are organized into four main concentrations, which students will continue to learn about until they graduate from high school. These areas of concentration include: From Molecules to Organisms, Interactions, Energy and Dynamics Relationships in Ecosystems, Heredity, and Biological Unity and Diversity. Additionally, instruction in the area of Engineering, Technology and Application of Science allows for hands-on experience with the engineering design process. This includes defining an engineering problem and developing possible solutions.

J0470 - 7th Social Studies

1 credit

Students will study what affects our Earth from the inside of the planet as well as from the outside. We will learn about the USA and then go to other places around the globe. There will be several hands-on experiences as well as projects that will be experienced.

J0270 - 7th Math

1 credit

Students will be exposed to mathematical concepts in five domains: Number System, Expressions and Equations, Ratio and Proportional Relationships, Geometry, Statistics and Probability. Through these practices, the students will acquire the knowledge and skills to gather, analyze, and apply information highlighted in real-world situations.

J7704 - 7th PE/Health and Family Education

1 credit

Physical education classes are designed to practice and develop skills and activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Students will be tested on fitness levels assessed in the following areas, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance.

OR

J7706-Girl's Weights/Health and Family Education

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8)

A strength and conditioning class that emphasizes constantly-varied, high-intensity functional movement. Work cardiovascular endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, speed, coordination, agility, balance, and accuracy, maximizing your performance and fitness for any physical challenge or activity.

J7707-Boy's Weights/Health and Family Education

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8)

A strength and conditioning class that emphasizes constantly-varied, high-intensity functional movement. Work cardiovascular endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, speed, coordination, agility, balance, and accuracy, maximizing your performance and fitness for any physical challenge or activity.

Required 8th Grade

J0180 - 8th English Language Arts

1 credit

This course will focus on reading fiction and nonfiction literary texts, articles, short stories, poetry, drama, novels, completing literary analysis, practice speaking and listening skills, and developing research and technology skills. Students will write essays such as argumentative, informative/explanatory, and narratives while correctly incorporating the use of the English language including grammar, and conventions.

J0380 - 8th Science

1 credit

Science presents the fundamentals of physics and chemistry. Students explore the amazing universe we live in, including motion, energy, the nature of matter and atoms, how chemicals mix and react, and the forces that hold the universe together.

J0480 - 8th Social Studies

1 credit

This class will analyze the cause and effects of major events in American History beginning with the founding of America and ending with the Civil War. This comprehensive study will include such units as Colonization, Revolutionary/Civil War, Government, US Constitution and Western Expansion.

J0280 - 8th Math

1 credit

8th grade math will utilize mathematical practices that encourage problem-solving, reasoning, and communication of mathematical ideas. While developing students' abilities to think critically and make connections between different areas of mathematics. We will explore the 4 big areas of Pre-Algebra: Expressions and Equations: Students will learn to work with radicals, integer exponents, and understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations. Functions: Introduction to the concept of functions as a way to describe relationships between quantities will be explored. Students will learn to define, evaluate, and compare functions. Geometry: Students will gain knowledge in understanding congruence, similarity, and the Pythagorean Theorem. They will apply these concepts to solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones, and spheres. Statistics and Probability: Analyzing and interpreting data will be a significant focus. Students will learn about patterns of association in bivariate data.

J8804 - 8th PE/Health and Family Education

1 credit

Physical education classes are designed to practice and develop skills and activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Students will be tested on fitness levels assessed in the following areas, cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance.

OR

J7706-Girl's Weights/Health and Family Education

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8)

A strength and conditioning class that emphasizes constantly-varied, high-intensity functional movement. Work cardiovascular endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, speed, coordination, agility, balance, and accuracy, maximizing your performance and fitness for any physical challenge or activity.

J7707-Boy's Weights/Health and Family Education

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8)

A strength and conditioning class that emphasizes constantly-varied, high-intensity functional movement. Work cardiovascular endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, speed, coordination, agility, balance, and accuracy, maximizing your performance and fitness for any physical challenge or activity.

1 Credit Electives (Full Year)

J0777 - 7th Band

1 credit

Students will increase their musical knowledge and skills on their instrument. Students will participate in approximately four concerts a year. Students must have participated in band the previous year or have teacher permission.

J0788 - 8th Band

1 credit

Students will increase their musical knowledge and skills on their instrument. Students will participate in approximately four concerts a year. Students will be participating in the Buffalo Christmas parade. Students must have participated in band the previous year or have teacher permission.

J1290 - Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

1 credit **(Grade 8 ONLY)**

Students will explore careers and delve into business principles with real-world activities, including: Job shadow projects Community service activities Leadership development programs. Students will sharpen their communication, leadership, and teamwork skills, preparing them for high school and the workplace before many of their peers. Students can also attend online and in-person events and conferences to compete against other students or hone their leadership skills through interactive workshops and seminars. This class will have a FEE of \$50 for State FBLA dues, this also includes a shirt. This money is due the first week we are back in session. There will also be field trips that could have a cost in addition to the State Convention fee.

J1071 - 7/8 Mixed Choir

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8)

This class is for any 7th or 8th grade student who loves to sing! No prior experience is needed to join this class. In choir, we will learn how to read music, better our voices, and perform concerts together throughout the year.

J8000 - Yearbook/Publications

1 credit **(Grade 8 *Application process will apply)**

Students will produce the Buffalo Prairie Middle School Yearbook. This course is designed to develop students' skills in yearbook production by providing experiences in selected aspects of yearbook production. Students learn basic principles of yearbook production and develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines; digital photography; desktop publishing and using appropriate technology tools for media production. Yearbook Production supports students' development as writers, photographers, editors, independent users of technology and as responsible contributing members of the Buffalo Prairie Middle School community. Please note that yearbook staffers may be asked to spend extra time during lunch, before and after school.

J9801-Library Helper

1 credit (Grade 7 & 8*Application process will apply) May NOT be repeated

Library Helpers will aid in the day to day functions of the library, including checking books in and out, reshelving, creating displays, processing books, caring for Chromebooks, making copies, laminating, etc. Interested students should be able to work independently after receiving instructions, have a positive attitude when interacting with patrons, and a willingness to learn and complete any task given.

½ Credit Electives (One Semester)

J1288 - Computer Skills/Applications

½ credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

Students are introduced to the principles of computer use, internet safety, Google Suite applications, and ongoing keyboarding skills. This course will also help students to use computers effectively in their lives, thus providing a connection of computer science and business careers. The goal of this course is to focus on basic computer skills and responsible computer use. Students will develop a basic understanding of Internet safety, ethical computer use, keyboarding, opening, editing, and saving software files, copying and pasting files or text, copyright laws, and searching the Internet. Personal, professional, and ethical standards of behavior for the school will be reinforced in the classroom.

J1377 - Agriculture I (Ag I)

½ credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This class is designed to give students an introduction of the agricultural industry. Topics of discussion include a history of American agriculture, an introduction of the National FFA Organization, and introduction to beef, dairy, swine, equine, and poultry production. If time permits we will also go over sheep and goat production.

J1387 - Agriculture II (Ag II)

½ credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This class is designed to give students a basic understanding of the agricultural industry. Topics of discussion include history and organization of the National FFA Organization, history of agriculture, basic plant science, and soil science. If time permits we will also go over entomology.

J0999 - FCS I (Family and Consumer Science I)

1/2 credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This course will focus on food and nutrition. In this class we will learn about the different food groups and how they affect our body. We will have a focus on making healthier choices and look at how bad choices will affect our bodies later on. We will also learn about kitchen safety to prepare us for cooking labs. There will also be a small hand sewing project we will create at the end of class.

J1001 - FCS II (Family and Consumer Science II)

1/2 credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated (*Prerequisite - FACS I*)

This course will focus on sewing. We will learn the basics of a sewing machine. We will be creating a couple different projects on the sewing machine. We will also do a hand sewing project. Some of the other topics we will discuss will include laundry and dishwashing basics, leadership skills, goal setting skills, and many other topics. There will be a couple of cooking labs throughout the class as well.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

1/2 credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated (*Prerequisite-FACS I*)

In Foods & Nutrition, students learn how to cook safely, make healthy food choices, and work successfully in the kitchen. Students practice reading recipes, measuring ingredients, and preparing simple meals and snacks through hands-on labs. The course includes lessons on nutrition, food safety, budgeting, meal planning, and foods from different cultures. Teamwork, responsibility, and kitchen safety are emphasized throughout the semester. This class helps students build confidence and skills they can use at home and in future careers.

J0009-Lifetime Sports

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This course provides experiences to the student that will encourage them to stay physically active throughout their entire lives. This course offers a variety of lifetime sports, games, and activities such as (but not limited to): archery, bowling, fishing, basketball, pickleball, badminton, horseshoes, golf, frisbee golf, ultimate frisbee, orienteering, cornhole, hillbilly/ladder golf, strategy games, & Bocce ball.

J4920-MO Conservation of Natural Resources

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

*8th graders DO NOT take this if you did lifetime sports as a 7th grader!

This class is designed to give students a basic understanding of natural resources. Topics of discussion include introduction to natural resources, fish and wildlife, water quality, forestry, the basics of fishing, the basics of hunting, and gun safety. If time permits we will go over trapping and fur bearers. Part of this course will also require students to participate and earn their Hunter Education Safety Certification from the Missouri Department of Conservation.

J9095-Mythology

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This is a semester class that will explore world mythology with a focus on Greek Mythology. Students will learn about the historical aspects and how it still applies to the world today. Students will read plays, create projects, and do research about different mythological beings and events.

J9096-Holocaust Study

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This is a semester class that focuses on the historical events leading to the Holocaust, the events of WWII and the Holocaust, and the devastating impact it had on the world. Students will face important historical context. Maturity is important, as racism and anti-semitism are not allowed at school, especially in this course.

J0857 - Art I

1/2 credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This course will focus on the basic skills needed to continue in the art program. Skills include basic techniques using a variety of mediums, elements and principles of design, and interpretation of other artworks. The goal of art education is the development of these areas:

By making art (art production)

By responding to and making judgements about the properties and qualities that exist in visual forms. (Art Criticism)

By acquiring knowledge about the contributions artists make to culture and society. (Art History)

By understanding the nature, meaning, and value of art. (Aesthetics)

J0858 - Art II

1/2 credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated (Prerequisite - Art I)

Students will explore more sophisticated drawing, sculpture, and painting techniques, using a variety of media and methods. This is an advanced class for highly motivated students. Students will engage in long term assignments that will further strengthen their advanced skills and techniques. Our visual arts curriculum includes recognizing art as a form of communication and expression, identifying and using the elements and principles of art and design, and exploring the role of artists in society throughout history, all while having fun in a nurturing and safe environment. Students are encouraged to take risks, think critically, and solve problems visually. Students will master new art vocabulary, art methods and techniques, and will form a deeper connection to the fine arts.

J0782 - Crafts I

½ credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

In this introductory level course, students develop skills and cultivate conceptual concerns related to the fibers medium, specifically pertaining to structural forms and embellished or manipulated surfaces.

Traditional and experimental materials will be used to explore such techniques as sewing, looping, felting, off-loom weaving, and embroidery, piecing and applique. Critiques and discussions will be informed by lectures, articles and independent research. Topics will include the historical relevance of fibers, such as decoration, and functionality, and what textiles have to offer within the expanded field of contemporary art. Students will also broaden their understanding of site specificity, performance, interaction, display and installation.

Crafts II

½ credit (Grades 7-8) May NOT be repeated (Prerequisite- Crafts I)

Crafts II is for students who enjoyed Crafts I and are ready to level up! Projects may involve mixed media, fiber arts, 3D construction, and functional crafts. Students will experiment with new tools and materials while learning how to plan, troubleshoot, and refine their work. Students are encouraged to take creative risks, develop patience, and put pride into their finished work.

J9091 - Careers I

½ credit **(Grade 8 ONLY)** May NOT be repeated

This careers exploration course will introduce students to a variety of career pathways and help them develop skills for the workplace. This course will introduce students to the following programs at DCTC: teacher education prep, criminal justice, health science, and information technology/cybersecurity. Students will participate in career research and learn about career education and planning.

J9092- Careers II

½ credit **(Grade 8 ONLY)** May NOT be repeated

This careers exploration course will introduce students to a variety of career pathways and help them develop skills for the workplace. This course will introduce students to the following programs at DCTC: automotive technology, collision repair, construction, and welding. Students will participate in career research and learn about career education and planning.

Possible NEW courses:

Lit Circle Society

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

Dive into the best new young adult literature as we explore the current Truman Readers Award nominees! In this student-led course, you'll join literature circles to discuss gripping stories, analyze diverse characters, and debate your favorite titles. Beyond reading, you will collaborate on creative media projects to advocate for the books you love. The semester culminates in an official vote to help decide which author takes home the MASL state award.

The Library Files

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This course explores the thin line between reality and myth by investigating famous crimes, internet hoaxes, and spooky urban legends. Using research tools, students will pull back the curtain on "viral" stories to see what is actually true. We will examine the ethics of true crime and learn practical techniques for debunking misinformation in the digital age. Through hands-on investigation, you will discover how to track sources and verify evidence like a professional researcher.

Computer Science Fundamentals I

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated

This course would introduce students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. This one semester course is an introductory coding course at the middle school level.

Computer Science Fundamentals II

½ Credit (Grade 7-8) May NOT be repeated *Pre-requisite of Computer Science Fundamentals I

This course provides a deeper focus on concepts such as how the internet works and societal impacts of computer science. In this course students would get to learn more about coding for games and animations.