

Junior High

**COURSE
CATALOG**

2025-2026



BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS

WHERE EXCELLENCE LIVES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT..... 3

PROFILE OF A GRADUATE..... 4

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION..... 5

ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS..... 6

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION..... 7

BELL SCHEDULE..... 7

GENERAL INFORMATION..... 8

[High School Credit Courses for 8th Grade Students](#)..... 8

[Graduation Requirements and Information](#)..... 10

[Graduation Requirement Citations](#)..... 12

[Honor Graduates](#)..... 13

[Student Transfers](#)..... 15

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

 Grade 7 Courses

[English](#)..... 16

[Mathematics](#)..... 16

[Science](#)..... 16

[Social Studies](#)..... 17

[Physical Education / Health & Safety](#)..... 17

[Electives](#)..... 18

[JR High Career Technical Education Pathways](#)..... 19

 Grade 8 Courses

[English](#)..... 21

[Mathematics](#)..... 21

[Science](#)..... 22

[Social Studies](#)..... 22

[Physical Education](#)..... 23

[Electives](#)..... 23

[JR High Career Technical Education Pathways](#)..... 26

[LOOKING AHEAD TO HIGH SCHOOL](#)..... 29



Dear Students and Parents,

What an exciting time as we begin planning for the next year of your child's life. The process of course selection is an important part of your student's education. As we finish the first half of the school year, this is a great time to have post-secondary discussions with your child. I know you may be thinking it is too early to discuss college and career, but it is precisely the time to explore college and career opportunities. ACT, Inc. released a college readiness report titled, "The Forgotten Middle," that reported the level of academic achievement students attain by eighth grade has a bigger impact on their college and career readiness than any academic experience in high school.

College and Career Readiness is dependent on a number of behaviors and choices in the junior high environment both academic and psychosocial. Students who display academic discipline by developing good study habits, consistently completing work, maintaining orderly conduct and positive relationships with school personnel are more likely to perform well in school. I hope this time presents an opportunity for you to work closely with your child and the school to talk about your student's interests and future possibilities available to your child. Bentonville Schools boasts endless opportunities for students, and I encourage you to take advantage of the academically rigorous opportunities available, as well as extracurricular activities.

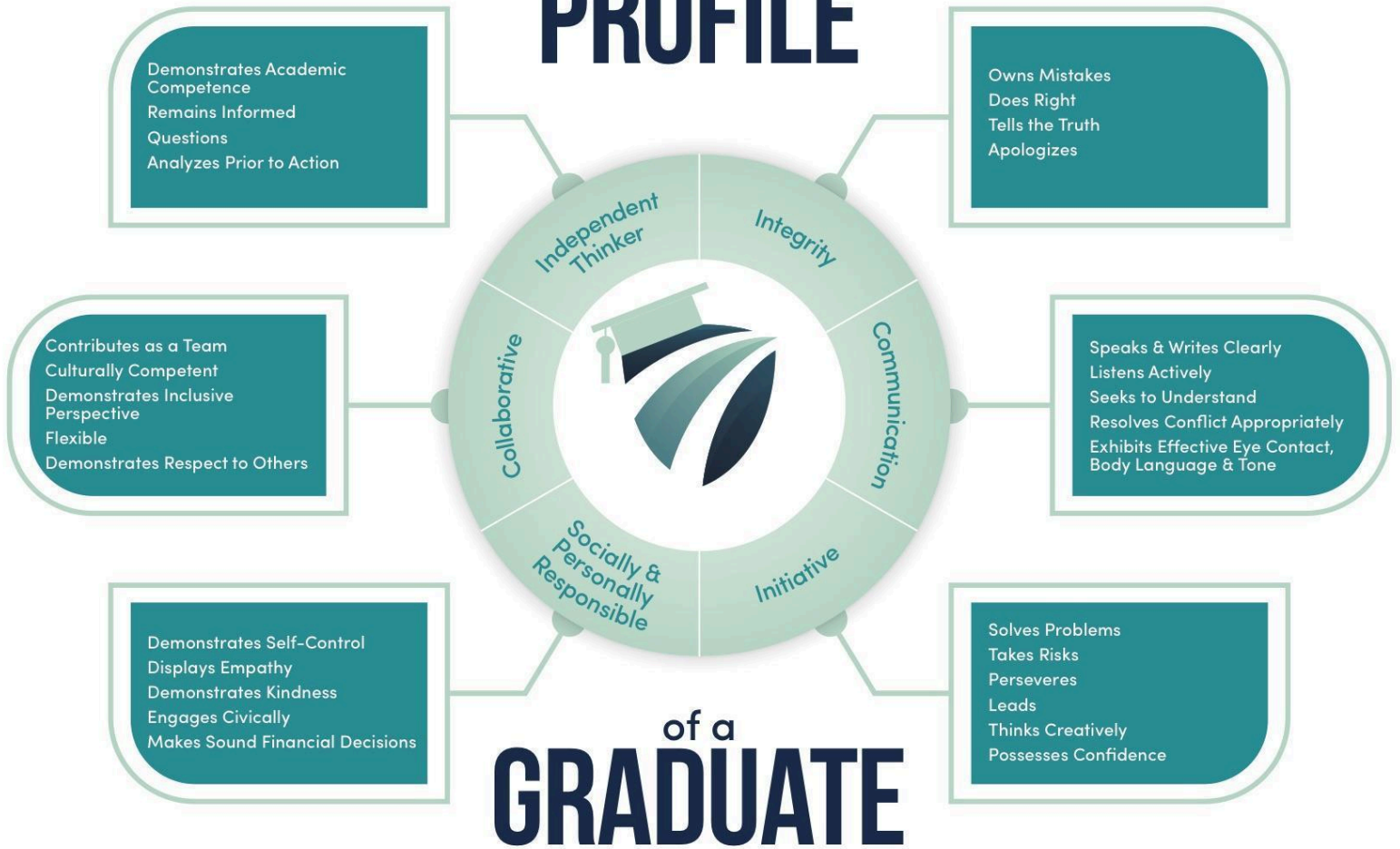
I know you will find the counselors and academic staff helpful during this time of exploration. Please take advantage by asking questions and having conversations with our talented teachers. We are fortunate to have a comprehensive academic program and outstanding professional staff. We are appreciative of our families who make this school community the top district in the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Jones".

Debbie Jones, Ed.D.
djones@bentonvillek12.org / (479) 254-5000
500 Tiger Boulevard Bentonville, AR 72712
bentonvillek12.org

Bentonville Schools PROFILE



of a GRADUATE

School Contact Information

Fulbright Junior High School

5303 SW Bright Road
Bentonville, AR 72713
Phone: (479) 802-7000
Fax: (479) 271-1110

Callie Sanchez, Principal - csanchez@bentonvillek12.org
Joseph Herrington, Assistant Principal - jherrington@bentonvillek12.org
Danielle Renfroe, Assistant Principal - drenfroe@bentonvillek12.org
Jenny Brown, Counselor - jbrown@bentonvillek12.org
Lara Melchiori, Counselor - lmelchiori@bentonvillek12.org

Grimsley Junior High School

850 North Vaughn Road
Centerton, AR 72719
Phone: (479) 360-7500
Fax: (479) 367-8092

Dr. Skyler Brown, Principal - skbrown@bentonvillek12.org
Joshua Turpin, Assistant Principal - jturpin@bentonvillek12.org
Jeff Strickler, Assistant Principal - jstrickler@bentonvillek12.org
Lindsey Davis, Counselor - lidavis@bentonvillek12.org
Samantha Valdes, Counselor - svaldes@bentonvillek12.org

Lincoln Junior High School

1206 NW Leopard Lane
Bentonville, AR 72712
Phone: (479) 254-5250
Fax: (479) 271-1128

Josh Thompson, Principal - jothompson@bentonvillek12.org
Kim Fernandez, Assistant Principal - kfernandez@bentonvillek12.org
Alex McKnight, Assistant Principal - amcknight@bentonvillek12.org
April Cartee, Counselor - acartee@bentonvillek12.org
Cynthia Cochran, Counselor - ccochran@bentonvillek12.org

Washington Junior High School

1501 NE Wildcat Way
Bentonville, AR 72712
Phone: (479) 254-5345
Fax: (479) 271-1191

Timothy Sparacino, Principal - tsparacino@bentonvillek12.org
Nathan Little, Assistant Principal - nlittle@bentonvillek12.org
Blake Cook, Assistant Principal - bcook@bentonvillek12.org
Julie Kramer, Counselor - jkramer@bentonvillek12.org
Marla York, Counselor - mayork@bentonvillek12.org

Kelly Boortz, Executive Director of Middle Level Education 479.254.5181

Shannon Clark, Middle Level Administrative Assistant 479.254.5020

About Our Schools

Established in 1841, Bentonville Schools is the premier public school system in Arkansas serving more than 20,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Twenty-four schools, spanning more than 140 miles across Northwest Arkansas, call the district home. Bentonville Schools is critically acclaimed for its academics, arts and athletics and is committed to excellence through innovative, inspiring learning experiences. For more information, visit <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/>

Fulbright Junior High School - <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/fjhs>

Fulbright Junior High serves as a leading school in the state for academics, athletics and the arts by focusing on three core beliefs:

- We are successful when we learn in a relationship (student to student, student to teacher, teacher to teacher and school to community).
- We are successful when we learn with rigor and relevance.
- We are successful when we learn beyond intellect.

Our commitment to these values emboldens students to collaborate, take risks and build real-world skill sets. Whether it is programming a next generation robot, refining a choral performance, putting in an extra hour of practice on the field or picking up a good book, there is an opportunity waiting for each student here in the Fulbright Community.

Grimsley Junior High School – <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/gjhs>

Grimsley Junior High is named in honor of the late Rex Grimsley, a rancher and businessman in Benton County.

- Grimsley Junior High inspires students to engage in innovative learning to develop global perspective, resilience and high expectations as they grow to serve the Bentonville community.
- Students and staff are committed to our campus motto: We inspire. We empower. We succeed.
- As a staff we are committed to creating a strong academic culture for students in preparation for success at Bentonville West High School.

Lincoln Junior High School - <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/ljhs>

Lincoln Junior High is a vibrant school committed to creating proactive citizen leaders.

- It is our mission and vision to empower our student body to DREAM, LEAD, ACHIEVE and SERVE. Our service minded school culture has fostered student voice, passion and motivation.
- Our pillars of success lie rooted in Response to Intervention and serving students based on their individual needs, enrichment, interests, character development and high quality teaching and learning.
- We see ourselves as a team, committed to nurturing a passion for learning. Our purpose is to be agents of change, both inside and outside of school, using our passion and PRIDE.

Washington Junior High School - <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/wjhs>

Washington Jr. High School (WJHS) strives to be a school where:

- A positive, inspirational culture supports and challenges students to excel beyond what is measured on standardized tests.
- Faculty and staff members work collaboratively and take collective responsibility to ensure high levels of student learning.
- Students are inspired to engage in authentic, rigorous challenges that they know to be important and acquire the skills to enable them to succeed in an increasingly innovative world. Inspiring and achieving excellence in all we do, that's The Wildcat Way.

Additional Information

Academic Services provides links to curriculum, calendars, student handbook, bell schedule and the junior high course catalog.

BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Departments > Academic Services > Middle Level

Grades and Attendance can be accessed by parents anytime in Home Access Center (HAC).

BentonvilleK12.org > Schools > *Choose a school* > Menu > Parents > Grades - Check Grades > Check Student Grades (7-12) Home Access Center

Service to You Photos and contact information for your campus leaders are available on our website.

BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Departments > Academic Services > Middle Level

Social Media Follow your campus social media accounts for up to date information about changes in the daily bell schedule, news and opportunities. When you follow a schools' Facebook account, you can also select see first so you see that page's newest posts at the top of your newsfeed. Also, follow the social media accounts for Bentonville Schools for district news.

My Payments Plus My Payments Plus is the district's new forum for payments of fees and dues. Courses with fees in our course catalog will be assigned in MPP. BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Parents > Fees-Online Fees

Send Money to School Send Money to School is the district's portal for depositing lunch money only.

BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Parents > Lunch Accounts

Etrieve - Etrieve is the district portal for parents to complete forms electronically. Parents use this in the summer for registration updates and residency verification forms but you may see it used more frequently.

BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Parents > Forms-Online Forms (Etrieve)

Bell Schedules - Changes in our bell schedule (day schedule) will be posted on FB and Twitter.

BentonvilleK12.org > Schools > *Choose a school* > Menu > Students > Bell Schedule

Student Handbooks include policies and procedures on attendance, discipline and more.

BentonvilleK12.org > Menu > Departments > Student Services > [Handbooks](#)

Should you have other inquiries, call your child's campus or admin at 479.254.5020 or 479.254.5131.

Junior High School Bell Schedule

subject to change for the 2025-2026 school year

Time	A Day	B Day
8:35-9:55 a.m.	1st Hour	5th Hour
10:00-11:20 a.m.	2nd Hour	6th Hour
11:20 a.m.-1:20 p.m.	3rd Hour *Lunch*	7th Hour *Lunch*
1:25-2:10 p.m.	Seminar	Seminar
2:15-3:35 p.m.	4th Hour	8th Hour

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A Day	B Day	A Day	B Day	A Day or B Day

Friday will alternate between A Day and B Day schedules.

Course Information Guide for Grades 7 & 8

A. General Information

The information provided in this guide has been prepared to help students develop a long-term academic and course selection plan for the 2025-26 school year.

Master Schedule

The master schedule of student courses is developed following course registration conferences where students choose courses they would like to take. Every effort is made to spread out the courses so students have a wide variety of choices. Unfortunately, some courses will appeal to a smaller enrollment population, resulting in only one or two sections of the course. Students will need to prioritize the courses they want to take and have alternate selections for those courses that may be closed or present scheduling conflicts.

7th and 8th Grade Required Courses

Course	7th Grade	8th Grade
.5 = semester course, 1 = year long course, 2 = course is double blocked		
ELA	2	1
Math	2	1
Science	1	1
Social Studies	1	1
PE	.5	.5
Fine Arts	.5	.5
Career Development		.5
Electives	7th graders have 7 required classes (see above) out of 8 total classes. Students select electives from Fine Arts, Career and Technical courses and/or, additional PE/Athletics to complete an 8 period schedule.	8th graders have 5.5 required classes (see above) out of 8 total classes. Students select electives from Fine Arts, Career and Technical courses and/or, additional PE/Athletics to complete an 8 period schedule.
Total	8 Periods	8 Periods

B. Advanced Courses

The Bentonville Schools administration encourages each student to encounter rigorous curriculum in as many ways as possible. Seventh grade students have four advanced course options and eighth graders have many options including courses that are taken for high school credit. Advanced courses are noted in the course description section.

Students who previously qualified for Gifted & Talented services in Arkansas must be enrolled in an advanced course to be coded with ADE DESE as receiving advanced services. ADE DESE (Arkansas Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education) honors our Accelerated/Advanced/Pre-AP as advanced.

Our junior high schools offer several high school credit level courses which are listed in the chart below. The grade for high school credit level courses will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript. See page 10 for graduation requirements.

Course	Grade	Credit
Pre-AP Algebra I	8th	1
Physical Science Integrated	8th	1
Leadership & Service Learning	8th	.5
Media Communications	8th	1
Robotics I (FJHS ONLY)	8th	1
Spanish I	8th	1
Survey of Business	8th	1

C. Graduation Requirements and Information

Graduation Requirements

Subject	Bentonville Recommended Honors Diploma	Arkansas Minimum Diploma
English	4 Total Credits	4 Total Credits
Math	4 Total Credits Must include Algebra I, Geometry, & Algebra II	4 Total Credits Must include Algebra I, Geometry, & Algebra II or Quantitative Reasoning
Science	3 Total Credits Must include a Physical Science & Biology	3 Total Credits Must include a Physical Science & Biology
Social Studies	3 Total Credits Must include WHistory, US History, Civics & Economics	3 Total Credits Must include WHistory, US History, Civics & Economics
Physical Education	.5 Credit	.5 Credit
Health	.5 Credit	.5 Credit
Communications	.5 Credit	.5 Credit
Visual & Performing Arts	.5 Credit	.5 Credit
Other Electives Career Studies Computer Science World Language	10 Credits 1.0 Credit from this category required 1.0 Credit required for Class of 2026 and beyond 2.0 Credits of the same language required	6 Credits Must include 1.0 Credit 1.0 Credit required for Class of 2026 and beyond Not required at this time.
Total Credits	26 Credits	22 Credits

This chart is an overview. For more detail see:

- [Competitive College Enrollment Planning p. 11](#)
- [Graduation Requirement Citations p. 12](#)
- [Honor Graduation Requirements p. 13](#)
- [Arkansas Success Ready Graduate p. 14](#)
- See the last pages of the course catalog for a variety of sample [Student Success Plans p. 32](#)

Competitive College Enrollment Planning

Subject	Recommendation for Competitive College Enrollments
English	4.5 Credits Pre-AP English I with Personal Communication AP Language & Composition or IB AP Literature or IB AP Seminar & AP Research
Math	4.0 Credits Pre-AP Alg I Pre-AP Geom Advanced Alg II AP PreCal AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC or other AP or IB Math Option
Science	4.0 Credits Pre-AP Biology Pre-AP Chemistry Physics AP Science option or IB
Social Studies	5.0 Credits AP Human Geography AP World History AP US History AP Government & AP Economics or IB
Physical Education	.5 Credit - Required, but embedded below in the athletics recommendation
Health	.5 Credit - Required
Communications	.5 Credit - Required, but embedded above in English
Visual & Performing Arts	.5 Credit - Required, but 4 years of the same VPA pathway is recommended
Other Electives Career Studies Computer Science World Language Athletics	7 Credits Must include 1.0 Credit - Recommended 4 years of the same pathway 1.0 Credit - Recommended of AP Computer Science Principles or higher 4.0 Credit - Recommended of the same language 4 years of the same athletic pathway
Total Credits	26+ Credits

This chart is an overview of general preferences by universities and programs with competitive admissions. Research potential universities, programs, or scholarship requirements to inform your best decisions.

D. Graduation Requirement Citations

Arkansas graduates must earn a minimum of 22 credits. Credits are earned at the rate of .5 credits per class per semester. Advisory/Flex classes are non-credit periods. Twenty-two credits must be academic classes (cannot include "non academic credits" or NAC courses).

Arkansas Smart Core

Algebra II can be excluded from the requirements by completing a Smart Core Waiver Form (see Appendix).

Math

Third and fourth math choices: Transitional Math Ready, Algebra II, College Prep Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra III, AP PreCalculus, Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, IB Math: Apps and Interpret I SL, IB Math: Apps and Interpret II SL and NWACC College Algebra. Comparable advanced and college courses may be substituted where applicable. Some Career Studies courses may also apply for math or science credits. See course descriptions.

Math and Science Flex Credits

Arkansas allows some computer science credits to be used as math or science credits. See the at-a-glance table for Career Studies courses where these are designated.

Social Studies

AP US Government and Politics I (both semesters) may be substituted for the .5 credit of Civics. NWACC Government also qualifies. AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics (both semesters) must be completed to substitute for the .5 credit of Economics.

Professional Communications

Courses that satisfy the Communications requirement include: Personal or Professional Communication, Pre-AP English I (taken on our campuses), Debate I, Forensics and NWACC Public Speaking.

Non Academic Credits

Non Academic credits (NAC) are for courses in athletics (when a course is repeated), physical education (beyond one credit) and the PSAT/ACT/SAT prep course. These are recognized as local credits instead of state credits. In addition to course requirements for graduation the Arkansas Legislature periodically adds requirements that are embedded in courses or otherwise required beyond coursework. Current requirements are listed below.

Civics Exam - Act 478 of 2017, (A.C.A. § 6-16-149) requires students to pass a portion of the US Naturalization Test used by US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Students are required to get 60 of the 100 questions correct. If a student does not answer 60 questions correctly, the online test will revert to tutorial lessons until the student can pass the test. Examples of the test can be accessed at uscis.gov > Citizenship > Learners > Naturalization Test and Study Resources > Study for the Test > Test Yourself! 2008 Civics Practice Test > [Start Practice Test](#)

CPR - Act 1016 of 2013, (A.C.A. § 6-16-143) requires students to complete CPR Training. Certification is not required. This is embedded in the health course that is a required credit for graduation.

Community Service - The class of 2027 and beyond are required by Act 237 of 2023 to complete 75 hours of service for graduation. The service is divided into 15 hours for the freshman year and 20 hours for each of the other years in high school. See Bentonvillek12.org > Menu > Departments > Academic Services > Secondary > [Community Service Requirement](#). This program is still optional for students in earlier graduating classes.

Computer Science - The class of 2026 and beyond are required by Act 654 of 2023, (A.C.A. § 6-16-146) to earn one credit in an ADE-approved high school computer science course in grades 8-12. These are course codes starting with 465 or 565.

Digital Literacy - Act 1280 of 2013, (A.C.A. § 6-16-1406) requires that students complete a course with online learning features. English I, II, III and IV (all levels; all iterations of the course) in Bentonville Schools satisfy the digital learning requirements.

Personal Finance - AR Act 480 of 2017, (A.C.A. § 6-16-135) requires students to complete a course with personal finance standards. We embed that into economics courses. Other courses meeting the requirement include the Personal Finance career studies (CTE) course, Financial Planning & Wealth Management (prerequisite Survey of Business), and the College Prep Quantitative Reasoning math course. NWACC Economics does not qualify for this requirement

E. Honor Graduates

Students may graduate from Bentonville Schools with Honors or High Honors if they meet the specified criteria for their particular graduating class. Any student transferring from a private school or who has been previously homeschooled is eligible to be recognized as graduating with Honors or High Honors if he/she meets the established criteria listed below. Students meeting graduation requirements in less than eight semesters may qualify for honors listed below omitting only the eight semester requirement. The valedictorian, salutatorian and top ten graduates are selected from the High Honors graduates.

Honor Graduates - Honors

In addition to meeting graduation requirements for Bentonville Schools and AR Smart Core*, a student must:

- Have a 3.5000 cumulative GPA at the end of eight semesters. GPA is not rounded up from four places.
- Complete eight credits from advanced courses. ADE DESE honors our Accelerated/Advanced/Pre-AP, AP/IB, college enrollments, internships/labs or apprenticeships in Ignite Professional Studies or Career Studies and college courses as advanced.
- Earn a minimum of two credits from AP or IB or college courses.
- Successfully complete 26 credits by the end of eight semesters, and
- Earn at least two credits of the same world language.

Honor Graduates - High Honors

In addition to meeting graduation requirements for Bentonville Schools and AR Smart Core*, a student must:

- Earn a 3.7500 cumulative GPA at the end of eight semesters. GPA is not rounded up from four places.
- Complete 12 credits from advanced courses. ADE DESE honors our Accelerated/Advanced/Pre-AP, AP/IB, college enrollments, internships/labs or apprenticeships in Ignite Professional Studies or Career Studies, and college courses as advanced.
- Earn a minimum of two credits from AP, or IB or college courses.
- Successfully complete 26 credits by the end of eight semesters, and
- Earn at least two credits of the same world language.

*Students who fully complete the IB Diploma are eligible for Honors and High Honors even if they do not have AR Smart Core requirements. All other honors requirements must be met.

Honor Graduates - Valedictorian

The valedictorian is the senior student who meets all of the following criteria:

- Meets the criteria to graduate with High Honors.
- Has the highest GPA among the students who have met the criteria to graduate with High Honors.
- Has been continuously enrolled at Bentonville Schools for four consecutive semesters as a full-time student, to include the spring semester of the senior year.
- Has no home school credit on the high school transcript.

In the event of a tie in GPA, co-Valedictorian will be named in lieu of Salutatorian.

Honor Graduates - Salutatorian

The salutatorian is the senior student who meets all of the following criteria:

- Meets the criteria to graduate with High Honors.
- Has the second highest GPA among the students who have met the criteria for High Honors.
- Has been continuously enrolled at Bentonville Schools for four consecutive semesters as a full-time student, to include the spring semester of the senior year.
- Has no home school credit on the high school transcript.

In the event of a tie in GPA, a co-Salutatorian will be named.

Honor Graduates - Top Ten Graduates

The top 10 graduates of the senior class are those who meet all of the following criteria:

- Meet the criteria to graduate with High Honors.

- Have the 10 highest GPA among students who have met the criteria to graduate with High Honors.
- Have been continuously enrolled at a Bentonville Schools HS for four consecutive semesters as a full-time student, to include the spring semester of the senior year. For students graduating in December, continuous enrollment for four consecutive semesters would conclude the fall semester of December graduation.

Arkansas Success Ready Graduate



Student Success Plans

Student Success Plans are established by 8th grade and updated annually to inform selection throughout the high school years.



Academic Core Courses

Academic preparation is required for all students with flexibility to pursue personal interests and future goals.



Purposeful Courses in a Success Ready Pathway

Career focused credits, fine arts, career and technical education, and advanced academic courses purposefully selected to build a pathway to a student's unique postsecondary and career aspirations.



Diploma with Merit

Students who have exceeded standard graduation requirements to earn a diploma with merit:

- Credential of Value in High Wage, High Demand career field (certification)
- Certificate of Proficiency (approx. 9 college credit hours)
- Postsecondary credits in AP, IB, Concurrent Enrollment, etc.
- AP Scholar (3 or higher on 3 AP exams)
- AP Scholar with Honor (3 or higher and 3.25 ave. on 4 AP exams)
- Seal of Biliteracy



Diploma with Distinction

Students who have earned merit and have completed an:

- Community College Technical Certificate (approx. 30 college credit hours)
- Associates Degree (approx. 60 college credit hours)
- Cambridge AICE Diploma (not offered in Bentonville School District)
- IB Diploma
- AP Scholar with Distinction (3 or higher and 3.25 ave. on 5 AP exams)
- AP Capstone Diploma (Seminar, Research, and 3 or higher on 4 more)
- Youth Apprenticeship leading to a Registered Apprenticeship

DRAFT
PENDING FINAL ADE DESE RELEASE

E. Student Transfers

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to a school in this District shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Any student transferring from a school that is not accredited by the DESE to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from homeschool will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6 - HOME SCHOOLING.

Additional details may be found in the senior high schools' course catalog and in Board of Education policy (both are available online at <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/>).

Course Descriptions 2025-26 - Grade 7

The information provided in this guide has been prepared to assist each student in developing a long-term program of academic preparation and in selecting courses for the 2025-26 school year. Students and their parents should carefully consider the curriculum offerings prior to determining course selection. Counselors and faculty advisors will assist students and parents in pre-enrollment and in planning for the future.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English 7 #37711R

English 7 is a full-year daily course. Seventh graders will examine literary and informational texts through in-depth analysis and frequent writing. They will also develop written pieces across a variety of modes and will demonstrate an understanding of standard English, including usage, mechanics and sentence structure. Students will develop vocabulary skills to help their reading and writing processes, and they will practice independent reading.

English 7 Advanced #37711P

Advanced English 7 is a daily, full-year course designed to provide a challenging curriculum that is aligned to the Arkansas ELA standards. At the advanced level, students move at an accelerated pace and grapple with literary analysis of more complex texts. Students also complete collaborative and independent writing tasks and project assignments that allow for critical thinking and foster the communication skills needed for higher-level courses.

MATHEMATICS

Math 7 #37731R

Math 7 is a daily, full-year course. The focus of Math 7 instruction will include: developing understanding and applying proportional relationships; developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings; and working with two and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area and volume; and drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Math 7 Advanced #37731P

Math 7 Advanced is a daily, full-year course designed to prepare students for Pre-AP Algebra I in the 8th-grade and high school Advanced and AP math courses. All of the 7th-grade Arkansas Math Standards and more than half of the 8th-grade Arkansas Math Standards are included in this course. The focus of Advanced Math 7 instruction will include developing an understanding and applying proportional relationships; formulating and reasoning about expressions, equations, and inequalities; exploring linear relationships and equations; solving problems involving scale drawings; working with two and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area and volume; drawing inferences about populations based on samples; and analyzing two-dimensional figures using angle, similarity and congruence.

SCIENCE

Science 7 #37721R

Science 7 is a full-year course based on Arkansas Science standards. The course utilizes a variety of hands-on, minds-on activities that require students to continually build on and revise their knowledge of the structure and properties of matter, interdependent relationships in ecosystems, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, chemical reactions, earth's systems, the history of earth and human impact. Students will apply the engineering design process in different contexts throughout the year and utilize science and engineering practices. Students will also make connections with crosscutting concepts to work and think like a scientist.

Science 7 Advanced #37721P

Advanced Science 7 is a full-year course designed to increase the critical thinking, analytical reading and targeted communication skills necessary for higher-level courses. In addition to mastering the regular Science 7 curriculum, students participating in this course will engage in rigorous activities, while meeting the content standards expressed in the content framework.

Students enrolled in 7th Grade Advanced Science will be expected to approach science with skills that support increased depth and rigor. Students will work within flexible groupings, experience an accelerated pace in areas of strength and be provided learning experiences that lead to advanced level products and/or performances.

SOCIAL STUDIES

US History 7, Beginnings - 1850 #37771R

7th Grade US History builds on the foundational knowledge of civics, economics, geography and history, gained in Grades K-6. Social studies skills move from basic to more sophisticated and are used in combination to access and comprehend social studies content. Students develop foundational knowledge regarding patterns of change over time and the ways people view, construct and interpret history. 7th Grade US History focuses on US History from the pre-1492 beginnings through the pre-Civil War era. The course is chronological with the civics, economics and geography strands correlating to the historical eras.

US History 7 Advanced, Beginnings - 1850 #37771P

Advanced 7th Grade US History builds on the foundational knowledge of civics, economics, geography and history, gained in Grades K-6. Social studies skills move from basic to more sophisticated and are used in combination to access and comprehend social studies content. Students develop foundational knowledge regarding patterns of change over time and the ways people view, construct and interpret history. Seventh grade US History focuses on US History from the pre-1492 beginnings through the pre-Civil War era. The course is chronological with the civics, economics and geography strands correlating to the historical eras.

Advanced courses are designed to increase the critical thinking, analytical reading and targeted writing skills necessary for higher-level courses. In addition to mastering the regular 7th Grade US History curriculum, students participating in this course will engage in rigorous activities while meeting the content standards expressed in the content framework. Students enrolled in Advanced 7th Grade US History read challenging primary and secondary texts and analyze and synthesize their conclusions through writing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH AND SAFETY

Physical Education / Health and Safety 7 #377812 (Full) / #377811 (Semester)

This one-semester or full-year required course exposes students to a wide variety of activities with an emphasis on physical fitness and lifetime skills and learning about basic health behaviors to determine the importance of assuming responsibility for personal health. Topics include personality, human body systems, growth and development, nutrition, fitness, alcohol and tobacco, illegal drugs, communicable and noncommunicable diseases, conflict resolution and basic first-aid and safety. Students will participate in drills, games and other activities of the sport or skill being taught. Students are expected to participate every day. Written work will also be requested. Periodically, students will take part in a physical fitness test.

Grade 7 Electives

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

These courses fulfill the 7th and 8th grade visual and performing arts requirement.

Theatre Fundamentals #37870B

Theatre Fundamentals can be taken as a one-semester or year-long course that engages students in the study and application of theatrical performance and production. Students will learn and develop skills in the areas of acting, writing, dramaturgy, design and production. Students will also contribute to the realization of a school theatre production. Students may repeat this course to further their mastery of these skills and processes.

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Forensics #37870F

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Forensics is a one-semester acting and public speaking course that helps develop skills for a future in competitive speech. Through active performance activities and textual analysis, students will develop the abilities needed for future academic and career work with a strong focus on soft skills (speaking, listening, empathy, interpersonal, organizational and textual literacy skills).

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Debate #37870D

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Debate is a one-semester course focused on research, analytical thinking and listening. Through active performance activities and analysis, students will gain an understanding of the basics of competitive argumentation and oral advocacy.

Visual Art 7 #377510

Visual Art 7 is a one-semester course designed to introduce students to secondary-level concepts in studio art. Students will view artists and artworks from different periods in history. Through lectures, demonstration, and hands-on projects, students will focus on both the concrete and abstract nature of art. The curriculum will be centered on the elements of art and principles of design. There is a \$10 art fee for materials due the first week of class. Students will also be required to provide a sketchbook for the class.

Band 7 #37754+

Prerequisites: Students must have completed two full semesters of band the previous year and have director approval. Transfer students need to meet with the band director on an individual basis.

Band is a full-year course that provides students the opportunity to study in similar instrument groups and in large concert band. Students will continue to learn the basics of instrument fundamentals, reading music/rhythmic notation and independent musical performance. Rehearsals and performances outside of the school day are required. Students will participate in regional competitions. This program may have additional fees associated with participation.

Orchestra 7 #37754+

Prerequisites: Students must have completed two full semesters of orchestra the previous year and have director approval. Transfer students need to meet with the orchestra director on an individual basis.

Orchestra is a full-year course, in which students who already play an orchestral stringed instrument will continue the study of the performance fundamentals, re-emphasizing technique, note reading, and rhythms. Students will participate in regional competitions. Students will need to have their own instrument, or parents should be prepared to rent an instrument. Please see the orchestra teacher if you have questions about instrument rentals. This program may have additional fees associated with participation.

Choir #377531 (Girls/Semester) #377533 (Girls/Concert) #377532 (Boys/Semester) #377534 (Boys/Concert)

Open-enrollment choirs are full-year or semester courses exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the beginning voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation.

Auditioned Advanced Women's Chorus #377535

Auditioned Women's Chorus is a full-year course exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the female voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation.

Auditioned Advanced Men's Chorus #377536

Auditioned Men's Chorus is a full-year course exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the male voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture #377410

In Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture, a one-semester course, students will learn benefits to learning a second language and studying various cultures. Students will have the opportunity to explore different Spanish-speaking countries and learn about various cultural practices from the Spanish-speaking world. Students will also learn basic Spanish pronunciation and conversational skills and will have opportunities to practice these skills in class with their peers and teacher. Completion of this course will help to prepare students for more structured exploration and mastery of the Spanish language in Spanish I at the junior high or high school level. There is a \$2 fee for materials associated with this course.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Early career pathways provide students with an initial opportunity to experience a variety of career and technical elective courses within their assigned junior high school. If a specific program is unavailable at their designated junior high school, students are not at a disadvantage, as foundational courses are also offered in the ninth grade. The elective courses in junior high are crafted for exploration. Students are not committed to a particular pathway simply by opting for an elective course.

			
FULBRIGHT timber wolves	GRIMSLEY grizzlies	LINCOLN leopards	WASHINGTON wildcats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Robotics I -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Leadership & Service Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Intro to Culinary -Leadership & Service Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Aviation -Leadership & Service Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Intro to Culinary -Leadership & Service Learning

Junior High Intro Career Pathways → Find Your Passion!



Business Innovation #378010

Business Innovation is a one-semester course that dives into the world of entrepreneurship and explores the American business enterprise system. In this course, students discover what it takes to own and manage a small business, while gaining essential knowledge in areas like risk management, the power of technology, and the legal, ethical, and social responsibilities of business. Students will participate in district, regional, and state pitch competitions.

Gateway to Technology

Gateway to Technology courses are one-semester courses open to 7th and 8th graders. These are semester courses. Through hands-on projects, students explore how science has affected technology throughout history by applying concepts to STEM activities and projects. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation.

- **Design & Modeling #399120**

Students will learn the uses of solid modeling. They will be introduced to the design process and shown how this technology has influenced their lives. Using design briefs or abstracts, students create models and documentation to solve problems. Students use tools such as the design process, a dynamic mathematics software, a computer-aided design program, computer simulations, an engineering notebook, and possibly a 3D printer to design, model, and build objects.

- **Automation & Robotics #399110**

Automation and Robotics Technology gives students a hands-on opportunity to explore computer science and robotics. Students will dive into the design, programming, and analysis of various robotic systems, applying computational thinking to solve real-world challenges. From understanding robotics architecture to coding intelligent systems, this course offers a deep dive into the intersection of robotics and automation technology.

Family & Consumer Science Investigation #399080

Family and Consumer Science Investigation is a one semester course that emphasizes introductory competencies related to personal development, communication, relationships, home environment, nutrition and wellness, food safety and preparation, resource management, child development and clothing. Upon completion of this course, students will gain skills that will enable them to function more effectively as a family member, community leader and productive citizen. Students will have an opportunity to participate in the activities of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America.

Introduction Culinary Careers #399081 (GJHS and WJHS)

Introduction to Culinary Careers is a one semester course that provides a hands-on environment where students are encouraged to have an adventurous tasting experience. Students engage in numerous cooking labs, practice knife-cuts, learn baking measurements and work collaboratively within groups of fellow student-chefs. Students also explore careers in the culinary field.

ATHLETICS

Athletics requires students to maintain the current athletic requirements set by the Bentonville School District. Students must have coaches' approval before enrolling. Athletics requires dedication and hard work every day, including practices before and/or after school. Students must be sure they have the available time. Students who enroll in athletics must remain in that class and participate the entire time the athletic course is scheduled unless the coach or a building administrator removes them for discipline or grades.

The following sports are a part of the athletic program for 7th grade students:

Football #99981K
Basketball #99981+

Volleyball #99982Z
Track #99982U

Cross Country #99982Y
Spirit Squad #99985+

Course Descriptions 2025-26 - Grade 8

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English 8 #38811R

In English 8, students articulate ideas, analyze literary and informational texts, synthesize information, study vocabulary and write argumentative, expository and narrative pieces. Students further develop reading fluency and comprehension with a continued emphasis on reading strategies and literary studies. In this all-inclusive full-year language arts class that is aligned to the Arkansas ELA standards, students examine connections among reading, writing, grammar study and research as they hone comprehension and communication skills.

English 8 Advanced #38811P

Advanced English 8 is a full-year course designed to provide a challenging curriculum that is aligned to the Arkansas ELA standards. At the advanced level, students move at an accelerated pace and grapple with literary analysis of more complex texts. Students also complete collaborative and independent writing tasks and project assignments that allow for critical thinking and foster the communication skills needed for higher-level courses.

Reading Lab 8 #388130

Students who are identified through Response to Intervention as needing additional support in literacy will be scheduled into this course to provide additional instruction in reading comprehension and composition skills while completing the 8th grade English curriculum.

MATHEMATICS

Math 8 #38831R

Math 8 is a full-year course designed to prepare students for Algebra I. The focus of Math 8 instruction will include: formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; analyzing two-dimensional and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence; and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

Math Lab 8 #388320

Math Lab supports the 8th grade math curriculum while also filling foundation gaps in student understanding. Smaller class sizes allow students more teacher contact time and allows teachers to incorporate a variety of teaching strategies. Students who are minimally proficient or below proficient on the MAP assessment and/or identified through Response to Intervention may be placed in this course.

Pre-AP Algebra I (1.0 High School Credit) #430301

Pre-AP Algebra I is a full-year, rigorous course designed to prepare students for high school Advanced and AP math courses. "Pre-AP Algebra 1 course is designed to deepen students' understanding of linear relationships by emphasizing patterns of change, multiple representations of functions and equations, modeling real-world scenarios with functions and methods for finding and representing solutions of equations and inequalities" (College Board).

Pre-AP Algebra I is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and included in the student's transcript. Students who successfully complete this advanced course are on the path to taking accelerated high school coursework in mathematics, such as AP Calculus and/or AP Statistics.

Recommendation: Due to the advanced nature of this course, it is recommended students complete the Math 7 Advanced course with a grade of "A" or "B" both semesters and have a 250 on the math portion of the MAP assessment.

SCIENCE

Science 8 #38821R

Science 8 is a full-year course based on Arkansas science standards and will help students conceptually understand science in the world around them. The course will utilize a variety of hands-on, minds-on activities that will require students to continually build on and revise their knowledge of energy, forces and interactions, space systems, the history of Earth, natural selection, adaptations, growth, development, and reproduction of organisms, and waves and electromagnetic radiation. Students will apply the engineering design process in different contexts throughout the year and utilize science and engineering practices. Students will also make connections with crosscutting concepts to work and think like a scientist.

Physical Science- Integrated (1.0 High School Credit) #423003

Physical Science- Integrated (8th Grade) is a full-year, intense high school credit course* designed to prepare students to take Advanced Placement science courses in high school. Students in Physical Science-Integrated continue to develop their understanding of the core ideas in the physical, life, earth and space sciences learned in junior high school. These ideas include the most fundamental concepts from chemistry, physics, biology and earth and space science but are intended to leave room for expanded study in upper-level high school courses. There are eight topics in Physical Science-Integrated: (1) Periodic Trends, Bonding and Chemical Reactions; (2) Conservation of mass and energy in ecosystems; (3) Environments and Populations; (4) Electricity and Magnetism; (5) Forces and Motion; (6) Momentum and Impulse; (7) Energy; (8) Waves.

*8th Grade Physical Science Integrated is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript. Students who successfully complete this advanced accelerated course are on the path to take advanced high school science courses (such as AP Biology and AP Environmental Science).

Recommendation: It is recommended students take Pre-AP Algebra 1 concurrently and have earned a Level 3 or 4 on the math and science portions of the ATLAS from Spring 2024.

SOCIAL STUDIES

US History 8, 1850 - 1930 & Arkansas History 8 #38871R and #37872R

8th Grade US History, 1850-1930 focuses on the development of the United States from the pre-Civil War era of 1850 to the beginnings of the Great Depression in 1930. Arkansas History requires students to examine the civic, economic, geographic and historical aspects of the state from its origins to the present day. Students develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationships between events, recognize patterns of interactions and understand the impact of events in Arkansas and the United States within an interconnected world. The course is chronological with the civics, economics and geography strands correlating to the historical eras.

US History 8 Advanced, 1850 - 1930 & Arkansas History 8 Advanced #38871P and #37872P

Advanced 8th Grade US History, 1850-1930 focuses on the development of the United States from the pre-Civil War era of 1850 to the beginnings of the Great Depression in 1930. Arkansas History requires students to examine the civic, economic, geographic and historical aspects of the state from its origins to the present day. Students develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationships between events, recognize patterns of interactions and understand the impact of events in Arkansas and the United States within an interconnected world. The course is chronological with the civics, economics, and geography strands correlating to the historical eras.

Advanced courses are designed to increase the critical thinking, analytical reading and targeted writing skills necessary for higher-level courses. In addition to mastering the regular 8th Grade US History and Arkansas History curriculum, students participating in this course will engage in rigorous activities while meeting the content standards expressed in the content framework. Students enrolled in Advanced 8th Grade US History and Arkansas History read challenging primary and secondary texts and they analyze and synthesize their conclusions through writing.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education/Health 8 #388811 / 388850-Health & Safety

In this one-semester or full year required course, students will be exposed to a wide variety of activities with an emphasis on physical fitness and lifetime skills. Topics include personality, human body systems, growth and development, nutrition, fitness, alcohol and tobacco, illegal drugs, communicable and noncommunicable diseases, conflict resolution and basic first-aid and safety. Students will participate in drills, games and other activities of the sport or skills taught. Students will be expected to participate every day. Written work may also be required. Physical fitness tests will also be included.

GRADE 8 ELECTIVES

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

These courses fulfill the 7th and 8th grade visual and performing arts requirement.

Theatre Fundamentals #37870B

Theatre Fundamentals can be taken as a one-semester or year-long course that engages students in the study and application of theatrical performance and production. Students will learn and develop skills in the areas of acting, writing, dramaturgy, design and production. Students will also contribute to the realization of a school theatre production. Students may repeat this course to further their mastery of these skills and processes.

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Forensics #37870F

Introduction Competitive Speech: Forensics is a one-semester acting and public speaking course that helps develop skills for a future in competitive speech. Through active performance activities and textual analysis, students will develop the ability needed for future academic and career work with a strong focus on soft skills (speaking, listening, empathy, interpersonal, organizational, and textual literacy skills).

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Debate #37870D

Introduction to Competitive Speech: Debate is a one-semester course focused on research, analytical thinking and listening. Through active performance activities and analysis, students will gain an understanding of the basics of competitive argumentation and oral advocacy.

Fundamentals of Competitive Speech (Forensics & Debate) #37870A

Prerequisite: Introduction to Forensics, Introduction to Debate, Teacher Recommendation, or Audition

Fundamentals of Competitive Speech (Forensics & Debate) is a two-semester course where students will develop skills in speaking, acting and debate for tournament competitions. Students are required to attend a minimum of one local tournament per semester. This is a full-year course designed to prepare students for high school Competitive Speech and Debate.

Band 8 #38854+

Prerequisites: Students must have completed four full semesters of band the previous years and have director approval. Transfer students need to meet with the band director on an individual basis.

Band is a full-year course that provides students with a balanced comprehensive study of music through concert band. Skills in the psychomotor, cognitive and affective domains are impacted. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship such as tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading skills, listening skills, music analysis, and the study of historical important literature. Rehearsals and performances

outside of the school day are required. This program may have additional fees associated with participation. Please contact a teacher or building administrator for additional information.

Orchestra 8 #38854+

Prerequisite: Students must have completed four full semesters of orchestra in the previous two years and have director approval. Transfer students need to meet with the orchestra director on an individual basis.

Orchestra is a full-year course, students who already play an orchestral stringed instrument will continue the study of performance fundamentals, re-emphasizing technique, note reading and rhythms. Students will participate in regional competitions. Students will need to have their own instrument, or parents should be prepared to rent an instrument. Please see the orchestra teacher if you have questions about instrument rentals. This program may have additional fees associated with participation. Please contact a teacher or building administrator for additional information.

Visual Art 8 #388510

Visual Art 8 is a one-semester course designed to continue students' growth in the area of studio art. Students will view artists and works from different points in history. Students will be able to create and critique artworks of many styles. With a variety of lectures, demonstration and hands-on projects, students will be exposed to a wide-array of art mediums and subject matter. The curriculum will be centered on the elements of art and principles of design. There is a \$10 art fee for materials due the first week of class. Students will also be required to provide a sketchbook for the class.

Visual Art 8 Advanced #388515

Advanced Visual Art 8 is a full-year course designed for advanced artists to further pursue their developing style. Students will expand their previous knowledge of art history and technique, while building a portfolio of diverse works created with multiple mediums. There is a \$15 art fee for materials due the first week of class. Students will also be required to provide a sketchbook for the class.

Choir #388531 (Girls/Semester) #388533 (Girls/Concert) #388532 (Boys/Semester) #388534 (Boys/Concert)

Open-enrollment choirs are full-year or semester courses exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the beginning voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation. Please contact a teacher or building administrator for additional information.

Auditioned Advanced Women's Chorus #388535

Auditioned Women's Chorus is a full-year course exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the female voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation. Please contact a teacher or building administrator for additional information.

Auditioned Advanced Men's Chorus #388536

Auditioned Men's Chorus is a full-year course exploring a wide variety of music arranged for the male voice. Students will present concerts, which are open to the public. Literature is selected from reading clinics, regional and national conventions, and professional choral recordings. This program may have additional fees associated with participation. Please contact a teacher or building administrator for additional information.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I (1.0 High School Credit) #440001

Spanish I is a full-year course where students will study topics used in basic communication, beginning vocabulary and grammar tenses that facilitate conversation, skills needed for accurate pronunciation and intonation of the Spanish language, and various Hispanic cultural events to enhance their understanding of a diverse society. Students will be expected to engage in listening, speaking, reading and writing activities as well as creative activities that demonstrate knowledge of their learning.

Spanish I is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript. Upon successful completion of 8th grade Spanish I, the student may take Spanish II in the 9th grade. There is a \$2 fee for materials associated with this course.

Spanish I For Heritage and Native Speakers (1.0 High School Credit) #540100

Heritage and Native Speakers I is intended for native speakers (students who were raised in an area where the target language is spoken) and heritage speakers (students raised in an English-speaking area, but in a family in which the target language was regularly spoken). The course provides a thorough review of the target language. Students improve literacy through extensive, varied writing activities and exposure to a variety of literature, newspapers, magazines, films, music, and current issues. Language skills are improved through oral presentations, debates, and class discussions in both formal and informal settings. Culture and traditions are presented to deepen students' appreciation of them. Heritage and Native Speakers I should include applications, problem solving, higher-order thinking skills, and performance-based and project-based open-ended assessments with rubrics. There is a \$2 fee for materials associated with this course.

Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture #388410

In Introduction to Spanish Language and Culture, a one-semester course, students will learn benefits to learning a second language and studying various cultures. Students will have the opportunity to explore different Spanish-speaking countries and learn about various cultural practices from the Spanish-speaking world. Students will also learn basic Spanish pronunciation and conversational skills and will have opportunities to practice these skills in class with their peers and teacher. Completion of this course will help to prepare students for more structured exploration and mastery of the Spanish language in Spanish I at the Jr. High or High School level. There is a \$2 fee for materials associated with this course.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Early career pathways provide students with an initial opportunity to experience a variety of career and technical elective courses within their assigned junior high school. If a specific program is unavailable at their designated junior high school, students are not at a disadvantage, as foundational courses are also offered in the ninth grade. The elective courses in junior high are crafted for exploration. Students are not committed to a particular pathway simply by opting for an elective course.

			
FULBRIGHT timber wolves	GRIMSLEY grizzlies	LINCOLN leopards	WASHINGTON wildcats
-Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Robotics I -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Leadership & Service Learning	-Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Intro to Culinary -Leadership & Service Learning	-Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Aviation -Leadership & Service Learning	-Career Development -Survey of Business -Business Innovation -Automation & Robotics -Design & Modeling -Medical Detectives -Media Communications -Family & Consumer Science -Intro to Culinary -Leadership & Service Learning

Junior High Intro Career Pathways → Find Your Passion!



Gateway to Technology

Gateway to Technology courses are one-semester courses open to 7th and 8th graders. Through hands-on projects, students explore how science has affected technology throughout history by applying concepts to STEM activities and projects. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation.

- **Design & Modeling #399120**

Students will learn the uses of solid modeling. They will be introduced to the design process and shown how this technology has influenced their lives. Using design briefs or abstracts, students create models and documentation to solve problems.

- **Automation & Robotics #399110**

This introduction to Automation and Robotics Technology enables students to identify and investigate different types of robotics systems. Students engage in designing and analyzing robotics systems.

Introduction to Aviation #38890A (LJHS Only)

Introduction to Aviation is a one semester course. The purpose of this course is to develop an awareness of aviation careers while increasing curiosity and interest in aviation by engaging in active learning involving guest speakers, industry tours and research that may include people, tools, machines, information, materials, energy, capital and time. Students will be expected to design, plan and create processes. Additionally, students will develop skills to seek out and utilize resources, apply critical thinking and solve problems through problem-based learning.

Business Innovation #378010

Business Innovation is a one-semester course that dives into the world of entrepreneurship and explores the dynamic American business enterprise system. In this course, you'll discover what it takes to own and manage a small business, while gaining essential knowledge in areas like risk management, the power of technology, and the legal, ethical, and social responsibilities of business. Students will participate in district, regional, and state pitch competitions.

Career Development #399280 - REQUIRED 8th Grade Course

Career Development is an activity-based career exploration course designed to broaden students' knowledge about careers within the 16 Career Clusters. Instruction will include units relating to self-awareness, career awareness, career planning, education and training and introduction of employability skills. Experiences will include opportunities for guest speakers, field trips, job shadows, lectures and applied activities. Upon completion of the course, students will have developed a tentative six year education and training plan.

Introduction to Culinary Careers #399081 (GJHS and WJHS)

Introduction to Culinary Careers is a one semester course that provides a hands-on environment where students are encouraged to have an adventurous tasting experience. Students engage in numerous cooking labs, practice knife-cuts, learn baking measurements and work collaboratively within groups of fellow student-chefs. Students also explore careers in the culinary field.

Leadership and Service Learning (0.5 High School Credit) #493160

Leadership and Service Learning is a one-semester course which emphasizes the importance of leadership skills, volunteerism and professionalism in the development of personal qualities. It focuses on the benefits of community service, leadership roles and civic responsibilities. Current technology is used to enhance communication skills and promote professionalism. Students will have an opportunity to participate in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

Leadership and Service Learning is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript.

Family & Consumer Science Investigation #399080

Family & Consumer Science Investigation is a one semester course that emphasizes introductory competencies related to personal development, communication, relationships, home environment, nutrition and wellness, food safety and preparation, resource management, child development and clothing. Students will have an opportunity to participate in the activities of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America. Upon completion of this course, students will gain skills to enable them to function more effectively as a family member, community leader and productive citizen.

Media Communications (1.0 High School Credit) #493680

Media Communications is a foundation course for the audio/video tech and film, advertising and graphic design high school programs of study. Students will explore topics that span audio video production, advertising graphic design, commercial photography, digital cinema production and radio broadcasting.

Media Communications is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript.

Medical Detectives #399180

Medical Detectives is a one semester course, Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function and investigate disease outbreaks.

Robotics I (1.0 High School Credit) #465570 (FJHS Only)

Robotics I is a one year course where students will leverage problem-solving strategies, analyze and utilize multiple representations of problem-solving logic, interpret relational and logical expressions, analyze and make connections between math and computer science concepts. Students will be able to identify the five pillars of cybersecurity and evaluate the relevance of each to computer science concepts.

Note: Course satisfies the graduation requirement to complete one credit of computer science (for all entering freshmen, beginning with the 2022-23 school year from Act 654 of 2023). According to the Arkansas Department of Career and Technical Education (DCTE), for the current Robotics pathway, the Year 1 course should be Robotics 1 **OR** AP CS Principles (offered in the high school) and the next course in the sequence should be Robotics II. **By AR DCTE rule, students that take Robotics I as an 8th grader are not eligible to take AP Computer Science Principles at the high school.** This course also qualifies as a flex-credit and may be substituted for either a 3rd science or a 4th math for state graduation requirements.

Robotics I is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript.

Survey of Business (1.00 High School Credit) #492120

Survey of Business course provides students with a foundational understanding of the business world, emphasizing key concepts, skills, and career pathways. Students will explore the value of professionalism, career opportunities, and the application of digital tools in business settings. The course covers a broad range of topics, from leadership activities to hands-on use of essential business software including Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, and other industry-standard tools. Through engaging projects and discussions, students will develop employability skills, explore diverse business sectors, and learn to apply critical business functions in real-world scenarios.

Survey of Business is a high school credit course. The grade will be calculated into the student's high school GPA and will be included on the student's high school transcript.

Yearbook (Annual) and Student Media #999130

Students will be responsible for facilitating the production of the yearbook. Other forms of media will also be explored (websites, social media, video production, etc.) for the purpose of writing, editing, publishing and/or broadcasting school publications. Students in this course may be expected to work outside of class and/or the regular school day. Please see your school's yearbook teacher to complete an application for this course.

ATHLETICS

Athletics requires students to maintain the current athletic requirements set by the Bentonville School District. Students must have coaches' approval before enrolling. Athletics requires dedication and hard work every day, including practices before and/or after school. Students must be sure that they have the available time athletics requires. Students who enroll in athletics must remain in that class and participate the entire length of time the course is scheduled, unless the coach or a building administrator removes them for discipline or grades.

The following sports are a part of the athletic program for 8th grade students:

Cross Country #99982X - a fall semester course

Football #99981F - a full year course with a competition schedule of 9-10 games

Basketball #99981+ - a full year course with a competition schedule of 15-18 games

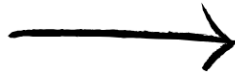
Spirit Squad #99985+ (Cheerleading / Dance Teams) - a full year course

Volleyball #99982V - a full year course with a schedule of 15 to 18 games

Track #99982T - a spring semester course

LOOKING AHEAD TO HIGH SCHOOL

Scan the QR Code to view
the 2025-2026 High School
Course Catalog



RESOURCES

The following resources for early planning are available but not mandatory for junior high students. Bentonville Schools will assist students and parents in planning for high school. Eighth graders and parents will meet with a high school counselor to create a Student Success Plan.

- Helpful Vocabulary
- Career Pathways
- Student Success Plan
- Sample Student Success Plans
- Planning Ahead Worksheet

Helpful Vocabulary

- **Advanced Placement (AP)** AP® enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. Each course culminates in a rigorous exam. AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced placement.
- **Career Pathways** are a defined sequence of related courses that build in complexity and culminate in certifications and distinctions.
- **Completer** -Students earn a focus area completer cord for graduation by completing three credits in a given area. A cord for "completer" status will be awarded once no matter how many programs of study are completed. We offer least 44 high school pathways with nine in the advanced studies and the classics, four in visual and performing arts and 26 in our premier Career Studies and Ignite Professional Studies programs. These pathways allow students to earn a "completer" cord (academic regalia for commencement ceremonies).[See the High School Course Catalog for a complete list of completer focus areas, p. xi and xii.](#)
- **Concurrent Enrollment** provides high school students the opportunity to take college credit-bearing courses taught by college-approved high school teachers or online through Northwest Arkansas Community College. Tuition fees apply. Concurrent courses are **highlighted in gray** on the sample plans on page 32.
- **Ignite** Bentonville Schools developed the Ignite Professional Studies program to provide students with real, relevant learning experiences in collaboration with regional businesses, non-profits and industry professionals. Students in Ignite experience meaningful relationships with mentors in business, industry and higher education, to gain valuable professional skills and entrepreneurial habits of mind necessary for careers in an innovation-based economy. Courses are designed for juniors and seniors from both high schools. [Visit bentonvillek12.org/o/ignite](http://bentonvillek12.org/o/ignite)
- **International Baccalaureate (IB)** IB is an internationally recognized educational program with a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum. Successful completion of the IB Diploma Program is highly regarded by colleges and universities worldwide and can provide students with a well-rounded and challenging education. Offered at BHS only.
- **Internship** An internship is a professional learning experience that offers meaningful, practical work related to a student's field of study or career interest. An internship gives a student the opportunity for career exploration and development and to learn new skills.
- **On-Grade Level Placement** On grade level means a student is performing at a level typical or expected for his/her grade or age and taking courses intended for his/her grade.
- **Smart Core** Smart Core refers to a set of academic course requirements that high school students must complete to earn a diploma. It is designed to ensure that students receive a well-rounded education in core subjects such as English, math, science and social studies. Smart Core also includes additional coursework options, including in foreign languages, fine arts and career and technical education. By successfully completing Smart Core requirements, students demonstrate readiness for higher education and the workforce.
- **Student Success Plan** Act 930 of 2017 defines a Student Success Plan as "a personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college, career and community engagement." Student Success Plans are developed by school personnel, in collaboration with parents and the student, and updated annually. The Student Success Plan is a working plan revisited periodically by the student and an advisor or mentor to support the overall success of the student.

Career Pathways



Career pathways are a defined sequence of related courses that build in complexity and culminate in certifications and distinctions. Completing a series of courses in a pathway allows a student to show persistence to a goal, academic perseverance, and endurance. Students who are engaged in career pathways are more likely to focus on subjects that are relevant to their lifetime hobbies and career interests. Increased interest in courses leads to increased academic success.

We are proud to offer at least 44 pathways with nine in the advanced studies and the classics, four in visual and performing arts and 26 in our premier Career Studies and Ignite Professional Studies programs. These pathways allow students to earn a “completer” cord (academic regalia for commencement ceremonies).

The Arkansas Department of Career and Technical Education designates some pathways as H2 because they correspond with High Demand fields and Higher Wage industries in our Arkansas economy. Earning a credential of value (certification) in an H2 pathway will qualify for a Diploma with Merit in the new Arkansas Success Ready Pathway to a Diploma program.

[RESOURCE: High School Pathway Planning Guide](#)

Student Success Plan

Arkansas Act 237 of 2023 requires school districts to develop student success plans for students by the end of 8th grade and update them annually. *Eight grade students will complete activities throughout the school year in preparation for their Student Success Plan. Students/Parents will meet with their zoned high school counselor during the spring semester of their 8th grade year to create their Student Success Plan.* This plan is a personalized education plan intended to assist students with achieving readiness for college, career and community engagement. The student success plan shall (1) guide the student along the pathway to graduation, (2) address accelerated learning opportunities, (3) address academic deficits and interventions and (4) include college and career planning components.

Include: Accelerated Courses to support my strengths; Courses to support my deficits; College courses; Career experiences.

Name _____ ID Number _____ Class of _____ Career Focus Area _____

My Plan (Option 1):

Prior: Grade 9-Freshman Yr.	Summer: Grade 10 – Sophomore Yr.	Summer: Grade 11 – Junior Yr.	Summer: Grade 12 – Senior Yr.
English-	English-	English-	English-
Math-	Math-	Math-	Math-
Science-	Science-	Science-	Science-
Social Studies-	Social Studies-	Social Studies-	Social Studies-

My Plan (Option 2):

Prior: Grade 9-Freshman Yr.	Summer: Grade 10 – Sophomore Yr.	Summer: Grade 11 – Junior Yr.	Summer: Grade 12 – Senior Yr.
English-	English-	English-	English-
Math-	Math-	Math-	Math-
Science-	Science-	Science-	Science-
Social Studies-	Social Studies-	Social Studies-	Social Studies-

Credits Earned: _____	Credits Earned: _____	Credits Earned: _____	Credits Earned: _____
GPA: _____	GPA: _____	GPA: _____	GPA: _____

Completer Pathways: _____, _____, and _____
 Honors Credits Completed: _____
 Career Focus Completer: Y or N Diploma Type: High Honors Honors Merit Distinction

*Arkansas minimum diploma requirement - 22 academic credits. See Graduation Requirements on pages 8 and 9.
 Bentonville Schools recommended diploma - 26 credits for High Honors (12 honors credits, two of which must be AP/IB, two of the same world language) and a minimum 3.75 GPA or Honors (eight honors credits, two of the same world language) and a minimum 3.5 GPA.*

• **Sample Plan Required Courses w/Smart Core and On-Grade-Level Placement w/ Internship**

Grade 8 High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR	Summer: Sophomore YR	Summer: Junior YR	Summer: Senior YR
None	English I Algebra I Physical Science Integrated Health Prof. Comm PE Psychology Survey of Agri Athletics/VPA/ Elective	English II Geometry Pre-AP Biology World Hist. Pre-AP Geo. Chinese I CASE Animal Science Athletics/VPA/ Elective	English III Algebra II Anatomy & Physiology US History Chinese II Veterinary Science Athletics/VPA/ Elective	English IV Algebra III Explorations of Coding Economics Civics Veterinary Apprenticeship Veterinary Apprenticeship Athletics/VPA/ Elective

Sample Plan Required Courses w/Smart Core and On-Grade-Level Placement w/ Internship

High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR:	Summer: Sophomore YR:	Summer: Junior YR:	Summer: Senior YR:
None	English I Algebra I Physical Science Integrated Health Prof Comm Food Safety & Nutrition Explorations of Coding Athletics/ VPA / Elective	English II Geometry Pre-AP Biology World Hist. Geo. Pre-AP Culinary Arts I Music Lab I: Guitar Athletics/ VPA / Elective	English III Algebra II Chemistry Integrated US History Culinary Arts II Advanced Nutrition & Dietetics Athletics/ VPA / Elective	English IV College Prep Quant Reasoning Environmental Science Economics Civics YA – Hospitality & Tourism Economics / Civics Athletics/ VPA / Elective

Sample Plan Advanced Studies w/Smart Core w/a Computer Science Internship

Grade 8 High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR:	Summer: Sophomore YR	Summer: Junior YR	Summer: Senior YR
Pre-AP Algebra I Acc Phy Sci. Int. Spanish I	Pre-AP Eng. I w/Comm Pre-AP Geometry Pre-AP Biology AP Human Geography AP Comp Sci Principles Spanish II Health PE	Pre-AP English II Advanced Algebra II Pre-AP Chemistry AP World History Mobile App & Game Dvp Advanced Spanish III AP Art History	AP English Lang & Comp AP Precalculus AP Physics I or II AP US History Adv. Program. & Game Des Advanced Spanish IV AP Government & Politics	AP English Lit & Comp AP Calculus AB AP Physics C AP Micro/Macro Econ AP Spanish Lang Computer Sci Internship

				Computer Sci Internship
--	--	--	--	----------------------------

Sample Plan Advanced Studies w/Smart Core and Ignite

Grade 8 High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR:	Summer: PE Sophomore YR:	Summer: Junior YR	Summer: Senior YR
Pre-AP Algebra I Acc Phy Sci. Int. Spanish I	Pre-AP Eng. I w/Comm Pre-AP Geometry Pre-AP Biology AP Human Geography Health Vis. Art App Online Spanish II Medical Terminology	Pre-AP English II Advanced Algebra II Pre-AP Chemistry AP World History Foundations of Healthcare Spanish III Advanced AP CompSc. Principles	AP Eng Lang & Comp AP Precalculus AP Biology AP US History Ignite NWACC HIM 1403 Ignite NWACC AHSC 1213 Ignite Health Sci. internship	AP English Lit & Comp AP Statistics AP Chemistry Economics Civics Ignite NWACC Choice Ignite NWACC EMTA 1021 Ignite Health Sci Internship

Sample Plan AP Diploma Completion w/Smart Core

Grade 8 High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR:	Summer: Sophomore YR:	Summer: Junior YR	Summer: Senior YR
None	Pre-AP Eng I w/Comm Algebra I Physical Science Integrated LifeSpan Development French I AP Comp Sci Principles Health PE	Pre-AP English II Geometry Pre-AP Biology World Hist. & Pre-AP Geo. French II Visual or Performing Arts Foundations of Teaching	AP English Lang &Comp Algebra II Chemistry Integrated US History French III Advanced AP Seminar Methods of Teacher Instruction	NWACC ENGL 1013/1023 Alg.III w/ CollAlg MATH 1203 AP Psychology Econ Civics AP French AP Research Educational Internship

Sample Plan NWACC Associate’s Degree for STEM (60 college credit hours; 2 yrs of a bachelor’s).

Grade 8 High School Credit Courses	Freshman YR:	Summer: PE Sophomore YR:	Summer: Junior YR	Summer: Senior YR
Pre-AP Algebra I Acc Phy Sci. Int. Leadership & Sv Learning Spanish I	Pre-AP English I w/Comm Pre-AP Geometry Pre-AP Biology AP Human Geography* NWACC HLSC 1002/ARHS 1003 Theatre or other elective Spanish I	Pre-AP English II Advanced Algebra II Pre-AP Chemistry NWACC HIST 1043/HIST 2013 NWACC GEOL 1114/PSYC2003 AP Comp Sci Principles* Spanish II	AP Eng Lang & Comp* AP Precalculus NWACC BIOL 1544/CHEM 1104 NWACC HIST 2013/HUMN1003 NWACC COMM 1301/ ELEC* Theatre or other elective Spanish III or Internship	NWACC ENGL 1013/1023 NWACC MATH1203/ SCI ELEC AP Physics NWACC PLSC 2003/ ELEC* NWACC ECON2013/ECON20 23 Theatre or other elective Spanish IV or Internship

Planning Worksheet

Bentonville High School Course Catalog *(will be linked upon completion)*

[Refer to Graduation Requirements](#)

[High School Credit Courses Available for 8th Grade Students](#)

Grade	English	Math	Science	Social Studies	Elective 1	Elective 2	Elective 3	Elective 4
7th								
8th								
9th								
10th								
11th								
12th								

