



# **COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**

## **2027 – 2028**

Bayless School District  
*Learning And Growing Together Since 1868*

---

*Course descriptions in this guide are aligned to the Missouri Learning Standards.*

## Grading & GPA Information

*Your GPA is calculated on a 4.0 scale. Weighted GPA applies to AP, Dual Credit (DC), and PLTW courses.*

| Grade | Percent | GPA Points |
|-------|---------|------------|
| A     | 90–100  | 4.0        |
| B     | 80–89   | 3.0        |
| C     | 70–79   | 2.0        |
| D     | 60–69   | 1.0        |
| F     | 0–59    | 0.0        |

### Grading System

Coursework: 80%

Final Exam: 20%

## Graduation Requirements

| Subject              | General Diploma | College Prep Diploma        |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| English              | 4.0 credits     | 4.0 credits                 |
| Math                 | 3.0 credits     | 4.0 credits                 |
| Science              | 3.0 credits     | 4.0 credits                 |
| Social Studies       | 3.0 credits     | 3.0 credits                 |
| Physical Education   | 1.0 credit      | 1.0 credit                  |
| Health               | 0.5 credit      | 0.5 credit                  |
| Fine Arts            | 1.0 credit      | 1.0 credit                  |
| Practical Arts       | 1.0 credit      | 1.0 credit                  |
| Personal Finance     | 0.5 credit      | 0.5 credit                  |
| World Language       | 0.0 credits     | 2.0 credits (same language) |
| Electives            | 7.0 credits     | 4.0 credits                 |
| <b>Total Credits</b> | <b>24</b>       | <b>24</b>                   |

### You must also complete the following before graduation:

- ✓ Algebra I End-of-Course (EOC) exam
- ✓ English II End-of-Course (EOC) exam
- ✓ Biology End-of-Course (EOC) exam
- ✓ Government End-of-Course (EOC) exam
- ✓ ACT, ASVAB, or WorkKeys
- ✓ Missouri & U.S. Constitution Tests
- ✓ Civics Test
- ✓ CPR Certification

## English Language Arts

*Courses build the Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking & Listening strands of the Missouri Learning Standards for English Language Arts, with rigor increasing at each grade level. Students must pass the English II End-of-Course exam.*

| Course                                  | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite                            | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English I                               | 9     | 1.0    | —                                       | Grade-level course addressing the ELA Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking & Listening strands through literary and informational texts; builds close-reading and structured-writing skills expected in the Missouri Learning Standards for grade 9. |
| English I Advanced / Advanced English I | 9     | 1.0    | Teacher recommendation                  | Covers the same grade 9 ELA strands at an accelerated pace with more complex texts and extended analytical writing.                                                                                                                                      |
| English II                              | 10    | 1.0    | English I                               | Deepens argumentative and informational writing and close reading of increasingly complex texts per the ELA standards; prepares students for the required Missouri English II End-of-Course exam.                                                        |
| Advanced English II                     | 10    | 1.0    | Teacher recommendation                  | Honors-paced study of the grade 10 Reading, Writing, and Language strands with additional literary analysis and research writing.                                                                                                                        |
| English III                             | 11    | 1.0    | English II                              | Focuses on American literature and nonfiction while extending the Writing and Language strands, including argument and research-based writing.                                                                                                           |
| AP Language and Composition             | 11    | 1.0    | Teacher recommendation                  | College Board AP course in rhetorical analysis, argument, and synthesis writing that extends the ELA Reading and Writing strands to a college level; qualifying AP exam scores may earn college credit.                                                  |
| English IV                              | 12    | 1.0    | English III                             | Capstone course addressing all four ELA strands through world literature, culminating research, and college- and career-readiness writing tasks.                                                                                                         |
| AP Literature and Composition           | 12    | 1.0    | Teacher recommendation                  | College Board AP course emphasizing literary interpretation and analytical writing, building on the grade 12 Reading and Writing strands at college level.                                                                                               |
| DC Composition I/II                     | 12    | 1.0    | Recommend at least a “B” in English III | Dual-credit composition sequence delivered with a partner college; satisfies the English IV requirement while extending the Writing strand and earning transcribed college credit.                                                                       |

## Mathematics

*Courses progress through the Number & Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Geometry, and Statistics & Probability domains of the Missouri Learning Standards for Mathematics. Students must pass the Algebra I End-of-Course exam.*

| Course                                  | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite           | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Algebra I</b>                        | 9     | 1.0    | —                      | Establishes the Algebra and Functions domains — linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships — required for the Missouri Algebra I End-of-Course exam.             |
| <b>Honors Algebra I</b>                 | 9     | 1.0    | Teacher recommendation | Accelerated treatment of the Algebra I domains with extended problem solving in preparation for advanced coursework.                                                   |
| <b>Geometry / Advanced Geometry</b>     | 9–10  | 1.0    | Algebra I              | Covers the Geometry domain, including congruence, similarity, right-triangle trigonometry, circles, and measurement; the Advanced section adds proof-based extensions. |
| <b>Algebra II / Advanced Algebra II</b> | 10–11 | 1.0    | Geometry               | Extends the Algebra and Functions domains to polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; the Advanced section increases pacing and depth.   |
| <b>DC College Algebra</b>               | 11–12 | 1.0    | Advanced Algebra II    | Dual-credit course extending the Functions domain to college-level algebra topics through a partner college, earning transcribed college credit.                       |
| <b>AP Pre-Calculus</b>                  | 11–12 | 1.0    | Advanced Algebra II    | College Board AP course deepening the Functions domain — polynomial, rational, trigonometric, and exponential functions — to prepare for calculus.                     |
| <b>AP / DC Calculus</b>                 | 12    | 1.0    | AP Pre-Calculus        | College-level study of limits, derivatives, and integrals that builds on the Functions domain; offered for AP credit and/or dual college credit.                       |
| <b>AP Statistics</b>                    | 11–12 | 1.0    | Teacher approval       | College Board AP course in the Statistics & Probability domain covering data collection, distributions, and statistical inference. Teacher approval required.          |

## Science

*Courses follow the Missouri Learning Standards for Science, integrating the Physical Science, Life Science, and Earth & Space Science strands with science and engineering practices. Students must pass the Biology End-of-Course exam.*

| Course                  | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite     | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                             |
|-------------------------|-------|--------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Physical Science</b> | 9     | 1.0    | —                | Introduces the Physical Science strand — matter, motion, forces, energy, and waves — through investigation and data analysis.                |
| <b>Chemistry</b>        | 10    | 1.0    | Physical Science | Advances the Physical Science strand with atomic structure, chemical bonding, reactions, and stoichiometry through laboratory investigation. |
| <b>Biology</b>          | 11    | 1.0    | Chemistry        | Covers the Life Science strand — cell structure, heredity, evolution, and ecosystems — required for the Missouri Biology End-of-Course exam. |
| <b>Zoology</b>          | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                | Semester elective within the Life Science strand focused on animal classification, physiology, and behavior.                                 |
| <b>Ecology</b>          | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                | Semester elective within the Life Science strand examining ecosystems, energy flow, and human environmental impact.                          |

## Social Studies

*Courses draw on the History, Government, Economics, Geography, and Historical Thinking/Inquiry strands of the Missouri Learning Standards for Social Studies. Students must pass the Government End-of-Course exam, the Missouri and U.S. Constitution tests, and the Civics test.*

| Course                                              | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite                        | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>World History / Advanced World History</b>       | 9     | 1.0    | —                                   | Examines major civilizations, conflicts, and global developments through the History and Geography strands; the Advanced section adds primary-source analysis and research.                                                |
| <b>American Government / AP American Government</b> | 10    | 1.0    | —                                   | Covers the Government strand — constitutional principles, federalism, and civic participation — required for the Government End-of-Course exam; the AP section is a college-level Board course culminating in the AP exam. |
| <b>American History / DC American History</b>       | 11    | 1.0    | Recommend at least a “B” in English | Traces U.S. history through the History and Historical Thinking Skills strands; the DC section is a dual-credit course delivered with a partner college.                                                                   |
| <b>Psychology</b>                                   | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                   | Elective introducing behavioral and social science inquiry that complements the Historical Thinking Skills strand.                                                                                                         |
| <b>Sociology</b>                                    | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                   | Elective examining social structures and group behavior, extending the Social Studies inquiry strand.                                                                                                                      |
| <b>African American Studies</b>                     | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                   | Elective exploring African American history and culture within the History strand.                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Bosnian American Studies</b>                     | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                   | College-level elective examining Bosnian American history and community within the History and Geography strands.                                                                                                          |
| <b>The American Civil War</b>                       | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                   | Elective providing an in-depth study of the causes, events, and consequences of the Civil War within the History strand.                                                                                                   |
| <b>DC Psychology</b>                                | 11–12 | 0.5    | Recommend at least a “B” in English | Dual-credit course delivered with a partner college, extending the behavioral-science elective to the college level.                                                                                                       |
| <b>DC Sociology</b>                                 | 11–12 | 0.5    | Recommend at least a “B” in English | Dual-credit course delivered with a partner college, extending the sociology elective to the college level.                                                                                                                |

## STEM (Project Lead The Way)

*STEM pathways apply the Science & Engineering Practices of the Missouri Learning Standards for Science alongside Missouri's Career Education standards through hands-on, project-based learning.*

| Course                                    | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite                      | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Principles of Biomedical Sciences</b>  | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                                 | First course in the PLTW Biomedical Science pathway; investigates human health topics using the Life Science strand and engineering/science practices. |
| <b>Human Body Systems</b>                 | 9–12  | 1.0    | Principles of Biomedical Sciences | Explores the interactions of human body systems, extending the Life Science strand through data collection and analysis.                               |
| <b>Medical Interventions</b>              | 9–12  | 1.0    | Human Body Systems                | Applies Life Science and engineering-design practices to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.                                          |
| <b>Introduction to Engineering Design</b> | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                                 | First course in the PLTW Engineering pathway; applies the engineering-design process and science/engineering practices to solve real-world problems.   |

## Health & Physical Education

*Courses are aligned to the Missouri Learning Standards for Health/Physical Education, addressing movement competency, fitness, and health literacy. All students must complete 1.0 credit of Physical Education and 0.5 credit of Health.*

| Course                          | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                           |
|---------------------------------|-------|--------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Health & Family Education       | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Addresses personal, family, and community health literacy, disease prevention, and decision-making skills. |
| Physical Education              | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Develops movement competency, fitness knowledge, and lifelong physical-activity habits.                    |
| Fitness for Life                | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Focuses on personal fitness planning and lifetime wellness activities.                                     |
| Basic Strength and Conditioning | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Introduces safe strength-training and conditioning principles for lifelong fitness.                        |

## Personal Finance

*Aligned to Missouri's Personal Finance standards; 0.5 credit is required for graduation under both diploma tracks.*

| Course              | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                                 |
|---------------------|-------|--------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Personal Finance    | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Covers budgeting, credit, banking, insurance, and investing needed to meet the Missouri Personal Finance graduation requirement. |
| DC Personal Finance | 11–12 | 0.5    | —            | Dual-credit section covering the same personal-finance competencies through a partner college for transcribed college credit.    |

## Practical Arts: Business

*Courses follow Missouri's Business, Marketing, and Career Education standards, building career-ready technical and professional skills.*

| Course                             | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite                            | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                               |
|------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Introduction to Business</b>    | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                       | Introduces core business functions, communication, and workplace-readiness skills.                             |
| <b>Sports Management</b>           | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                       | Examines the business of athletics, including marketing, event operations, and finance in sport organizations. |
| <b>Computer Applications</b>       | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                                       | Builds proficiency with productivity and business software applications used in professional settings.         |
| <b>Business Law</b>                | 9–12  | 0.5    | Introduction to Business                | Introduces legal principles governing contracts, commerce, and business ethics.                                |
| <b>Business Enterprise</b>         | 9–12  | 1.0    | Introduction to Business                | Full-year, project-based course in which students plan and operate a simulated or student-run enterprise.      |
| <b>DC Business Administration</b>  | 11–12 | 0.5    | —                                       | Dual-credit introduction to management and administration delivered with a partner college.                    |
| <b>Design and Entrepreneurship</b> | 9–12  | 0.5    | Introduction to Business or Marketing I | Applies design-thinking and entrepreneurial principles to develop and pitch original business concepts.        |

## Practical Arts: Marketing

*Courses follow Missouri's Marketing Education standards, developing applied marketing and communication skills.*

| Course                      | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite     | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                               |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sports Management</b>    | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                | Examines the business of athletics, including marketing, event operations, and finance in sport organizations. |
| <b>Marketing I</b>          | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                | Introduces the marketing mix, market research, and promotional strategy.                                       |
| <b>Marketing II</b>         | 9–12  | 1.0    | Marketing I      | Builds on Marketing I with applied projects in branding, sales, and digital marketing.                         |
| <b>Marketing Internship</b> | 11–12 | 1.0    | Marketing I & II | Work-based learning experience applying marketing skills in a professional setting.                            |
| <b>Yearbook</b>             | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                | Applies publication design, photography, writing, and marketing/sales skills to produce the school yearbook.   |

## Practical Arts: Family & Consumer Sciences

*Courses follow Missouri's Family & Consumer Sciences standards, including nationally recognized ProStart culinary standards.*

| Course                            | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite           | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Culinary I</b>                 | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                      | Introduces food safety, sanitation, and foundational culinary techniques.                                      |
| <b>Culinary II – ProStart II</b>  | 9–12  | 2.0    | Culinary I             | Advances culinary technique and kitchen management using the National ProStart culinary curriculum.            |
| <b>Culinary III – ProStart II</b> | 9–12  | 2.0    | Culinary II            | Continues the ProStart sequence with advanced culinary production and restaurant-management skills.            |
| <b>DC Child Development I</b>     | 9–12  | 0.5    | Health                 | Dual-credit course covering early childhood growth and development through a partner college.                  |
| <b>DC Child Development II</b>    | 9–12  | 0.5    | DC Child Development I | Continues the dual-credit child-development sequence with a focus on caregiving and early education practices. |

## Fine Arts: Visual Arts

*Courses are aligned to the Visual Art strand of the Missouri Learning Standards for Fine Arts, developing artistic literacy through creating, presenting, responding, and connecting.*

| Course                      | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite   | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                  |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Art I</b>                | 9–12  | 0.5    | —              | Introduces the elements and principles of art through a range of media, per the Visual Art strand.                |
| <b>Art II</b>               | 9–12  | 0.5    | Art I          | Builds on Art I with more independent, technique-focused studio work.                                             |
| <b>Multicultural Art</b>    | 9–12  | 0.5    | —              | Explores art traditions from diverse cultures within the Visual Art strand's connecting and responding standards. |
| <b>Drawing &amp; Design</b> | 9–12  | 0.5    | Art I & Art II | Focused studio course developing observational drawing and design skills.                                         |
| <b>Painting</b>             | 9–12  | 0.5    | Art I & Art II | Focused studio course developing painting technique and composition.                                              |
| <b>Ceramics I</b>           | 9–12  | 0.5    | Art I & Art II | Introduces hand-building and wheel-throwing ceramic techniques.                                                   |
| <b>Ceramics II</b>          | 9–12  | 0.5    | Ceramics I     | Advances ceramic technique with independent, portfolio-level work.                                                |

## Fine Arts: Instrumental Music

*Courses are aligned to the Music strand of the Missouri Learning Standards for Fine Arts, developing performance, notation, and theory skills.*

| Course                 | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite              | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                             |
|------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Band</b>            | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                         | Full-year performance ensemble developing instrumental technique, ensemble musicianship, and music literacy. |
| <b>Piano I</b>         | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                         | Introduces keyboard technique, notation reading, and foundational music theory.                              |
| <b>Piano II</b>        | 9–12  | 0.5    | Piano I                   | Builds on Piano I with more advanced repertoire and technique.                                               |
| <b>Guitar</b>          | 9–12  | 0.5    | —                         | Introduces guitar technique, notation/tablature reading, and ensemble playing.                               |
| <b>AP Music Theory</b> | 10–12 | 1.0    | One year of music classes | College Board AP course in music theory, covering notation, harmony, and aural skills at a college level.    |

## Fine Arts: Vocal Music

*Courses are aligned to the Music strand of the Missouri Learning Standards for Fine Arts, developing vocal technique and choral musicianship.*

| Course        | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                    |
|---------------|-------|--------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Concert Choir | 9–12  | 1.0    | —            | Full-year choral ensemble building vocal technique, sight-singing, and ensemble performance skills. |
| Chorale       | 9–12  | 1.0    | Audition     | Advanced auditioned choral ensemble performing more complex repertoire.                             |

## World Language: Spanish

*Courses are aligned to the Missouri Learning Standards for World Languages (based on ACTFL proficiency guidelines), building communication across interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes. 2.0 credits in the same language are required for the College Prep Diploma.*

| Course      | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite           | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                          |
|-------------|-------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Spanish I   | 9–12  | 1.0    | —                      | Introduces novice-level communication in Spanish across listening, speaking, reading, and writing.        |
| Spanish II  | 9–12  | 1.0    | Spanish I              | Builds toward intermediate proficiency with expanded vocabulary and grammatical structures.               |
| Spanish III | 9–12  | 1.0    | Spanish I & Spanish II | Continues toward intermediate-high proficiency through extended conversation, reading, and writing tasks. |

## Other Electives

*Additional electives support career readiness and academic achievement.*

| Course                                    | Grade | Credit | Prerequisite | Course Description (Missouri Learning Standards)                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates)</b> | 9–12  | 1.0    | —            | Career-readiness elective providing employability-skills instruction, mentoring, and post-graduation planning support. |
| <b>ACT Prep</b>                           | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Reviews test-taking strategies and content across English, math, reading, and science in preparation for the ACT.      |
| <b>A+ Tutoring</b>                        | 9–12  | 0.5    | —            | Structured peer-tutoring elective that also supports A+ Schools Program requirements.                                  |