



2016-2017 Course Selection GUIDE



BENZIE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Educating Every Corner Of Our Community

Benzie Central Middle School

8th GRADES COURSES

BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS

BCCS Mission Statement:

THE MISSION OF THE BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS TO PROVIDE A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT MOTIVATES ALL STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL BY PROVIDING THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO BECOME LIFE LONG LEARNERS AND LEADERS IN A CHANGING SOCIETY.

Vision Statement

Every Learner will reach his or her potential in an engaging, inspiring, and challenging environment

District Goals

BCCS will become a destination district. Families and organizations will choose to move to Benzie County Area to be part of the Husky Family.

1. Benzie will continue to grow in academics and build extracurricular programming; any time, any place, anyway.
2. BCCS students will have an equal education as the highest per pupil spending districts have in Michigan and the nation as demonstrated by graduating seniors and the diversity of opportunities.
3. All Community members have a genuine and dynamic relationship with BCCS.

BCMS LEARNER OUTCOMES

PROBLEM SOLVING
SELF MOTIVATING
STRONG COMMUNICATION SKILLS
COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR
ADAPTABILITY / INNOVATION
LEARN FROM EXPERIENCES

BCMS Mission Statement

We challenge all students to Excel, Academically, Artistically, Emotionally, Physically, and Socially in a Safe Supportive Environment

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Choose One	English 8	Areas of concentration will be: grammar, ACT/SAT vocabulary, short stories/drama/poetry/myths, at least three novels of fiction, at least one novel of non-fiction, informal essay/formal essay/research-based writing. Added emphasis will be placed on independent reading projects (three total projects that include reading at least four novels) and public speaking.
	Honors English 8	Areas of concentration will be: advanced grammar, extensive ACT/SAT vocabulary, short stories/drama/poetry/myths, at least five novels of fiction, at least two novels of non-fiction, various selections of classical literature, informal essay/formal essay/research based writing. Added emphasis will be placed on independent reading projects (three total projects that include reading at least seven novels), public speaking, and one community service assignment. Prerequisites include: place in the top 28 via one take-home exam, one in-class exam, M-STEP and /or NWEA test results (ELA portions), AIMS test results, and 7 th grade performance (all four marking periods).
Choose One	Math 8	This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra I in 9 th grade. It covers the Common Core State Standards for 8 th grade math. Topics include, but are not limited to: linear equations and inequalities, systems of equations, functions, statistics and geometry.
	Algebra 1	This class is designed for the accelerated math student, who achieved a B+ or better in Honors Math 7 (Pre-Algebra). This class is worth one high school credit towards graduation and will also begin a high school GPA. This course includes, but is not limited to, linear, quadratic, polynomial, and exponential functions. Prerequisites include: Having taken Honors Math 7 (Pre-Algebra) AND teacher recommendation.
3	Science 8	An integrated curriculum consisting of the study of matter, energy, chemistry, motion and forces, while making connections to the physical world. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through labs, observations, projects, and writing. This class is worth one high school credit towards graduation and will also begin a high school GPA
4	Social Studies 8	Eighth grade Social Studies is a full year course. The student through reading, lecture, projects, and activities will explore the history of the United States. The elements of study include geography, government, history, and economics from the American Revolution to 1900.
5	Advisory	This class supports academic success and is intended to provide consistent adult guidance at school. All middle school students will be assigned an Advisor and will meet with them each day. Advisory builds relationships between teachers and students to promote academic achievement and character education.
6	Literacy	This class is designed to transform how students transact with text and lay foundations for students to become active, thoughtful, literate participants in our society. Students will rotate four times in a year; science, math, English, science. Each class will focus on literacy content for the subject matter.
7	Enrichment	A sequence of four, nine-week, courses of study to enhance career exposure in the areas of: Spanish, Ag. Science, Career exploration and Health education.
8	Elective	

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Electives One Required

The following classes are yearlong; please review your options with your child and seek an understanding for their level of interest and commitment. You are required to choose two classes.

Band

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Benzie Band is under the direction of Mr. Mike Eagan. The band has received Superior and Excellent ratings at Band and Orchestra Concert Festival under his direction. The Band is comprised of 8th grade students.

8th Grade Advanced Band: This advanced-level band class emphasizes on the development of full-band performance skills in preparation for concerts and competitions. The elements of more complex music theory and interpretation are addressed and a higher level of technical playing proficiency is developed.

Choir

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Benzie Choir is under the direction of Mrs. Christy Case. Middle school choir is designed to teach beginning singing skills through individual and group practice of vocal warm-ups & techniques, music theory, and performance. These skills are reinforced on a daily basis throughout the school year. In performance classes students learn most of the content and skills by experiencing them directly through performance of the music (learn by doing).

Physical Education

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A co-ed class where health and hygiene are emphasized by earning grades for dressing-out and participating in daily exercises and sports activities to increase physical fitness.

Body Mechanics (100 Level)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to give its participants the opportunity to learn training concepts and techniques used for obtaining and maintaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training, cardio-respiratory endurance activities, and an introduction to performance-based training. Students will learn and apply the basic fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training, fitness training/conditioning, nutrition, and applied functional sciences (i.e., the convergence of physical, biological and behavioral sciences that consist of the principals, strategies, and techniques process for functional assessment, training and conditioning, rehabilitation and injury prevention). Prerequisite: athletics team

Benzie Theater Art

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Beginning: Benzie Theater Arts class is designed to teach students public speaking skills so that they can become more confident individuals. It is also designed to give students a basic idea of all the elements of theater. At the end of the year we will put all the elements together for an end of the year performance project.

Art 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Art 2 is a yearlong course, students will develop their understanding about art history, the elements and principles of art and you will create many advanced projects using a variety of media such as clay, sculpture, painting, drawing, paper mache, oil pastels and more. **Prerequisite Include Art 1**