

BENZIE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL



COURSE CATALOG

2019-2020

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR BENZIE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Vision: All learners achieving individual potential.

District Mission Statement: The mission of the Benzie County Central Schools Community is to provide a safe learning environment that motivates all students to reach their highest potential by providing the necessary skills to become lifelong learners and leaders in a changing society.

BCHS Mission Statement: In partnership with our community, We believe the Responsibility of Benzie Central Middle School is to provide a Well-Rounded Curriculum in a Safe, Positive Learning Environment so that All Students can become Productive, Functioning Members of Society.

Guiding Principles

We believe Benzie Central Middle School is a learning organization, built upon integrity, and to this end:

We are committed to the principle of **Caring**.

We believe in:

- maintaining a family atmosphere
- supporting each other
- being warm, sincere, and genuine
- accepting and including everyone
- confronting the tough issues
- keeping each other safe and secure

We are committed to the principle of **Collaboration**.

We believe in:

- solving problems together
- working toward win/win
- building partnerships
- sharing best practices
- volunteering
- being generous
- engaging parents as full partners

We are committed to the principle of **Open Communication**.

We believe in:

- listening
- sharing
- promoting trust
- building community through dialogue
- encouraging participation from all

We are committed to the principle of **Diversity and Inclusiveness**.

We believe in:

- helping students value their unique talents and gifts
- knowing, understanding, and appreciating each other
- valuing individual differences
- celebrating our heritage
- healing racism
- embracing differences to enrich, strengthen, and connect our community
- striving for equity
- considering all viewpoints to arrive at better decisions

We are committed to the principle of **High Expectations**.

We believe in:

- expecting all children to learn
- requiring all to give their best
- providing opportunities for all to contribute
- assuming parents want what's best for their child
- maintaining high academic standards
- offering challenging opportunities
- helping students make healthy choices
- contributing to the development of good character

We are committed to the principle of **Learning**.

We believe in:

- learning for its own sake
- offering a range of educational opportunities
- providing diverse experiences
- individualizing learning programs
- accommodating multiple intelligences and learning styles
- preparing students for lifelong learning
- providing quality resources
- accessing the world beyond our classrooms

We are committed to the principle of **Respect**

We believe in:

- fostering a high regard for self and others
- modeling civility
- appreciating differences
- adhering to our code of conduct
- having zero tolerance for inappropriate behaviors

We are committed to the principle of **Trust**.

We believe in:

- being honest
- being consistent
- being loyal
- assuming others' intentions are good
- keeping promises
- demonstrating good stewardship

Middle School Plan

Requirements	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Math	Math Expressions 6	Hon. Math 7 Math 7 Essential Elements	*Algebra Math 8 Essential Elements
English	English 6	Hons English 7 English 7	Hon. English 8 English 8
Science	Science 6	Science 7	Science 8
Social Studies	Social Studies 6	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 8
Electives (6-7th Grade choose one) (8th Grade choose two)	Band Choir Physical Education	Art Basic Theater Arts Band Choir Physical Education Body Mechanics	Art Basic Theater Arts Band Choir Physical Education Body Mechanics Industrial Arts *Spanish
Enrichment	Art Basic Theater Arts Careers Music Appreciation	Spanish Health Industrial Arts Robotics	N/A
* These are high school courses and count toward high school GPA.			

ENGLISH	7
English 6	7
English 7	7
Honors English 7	7
English 8	7
Honors English 8	7
MATHEMATICS	7
Math 6	7
Math 7	8
Honors Math 7	8
Math 8	8
Algebra I	8
SCIENCE	8
Science 6	8
Science 7	8
Science 8	8
SOCIAL STUDIES	9
Social Studies 6	9
Social Studies 7	9
Social Studies 8	9
FINE ARTS	9
Art	9
Choir	9
Band	9
Basic Theater Arts	10
ENRICHMENTS	10
Basic Theater Arts	10
Careers	10
Art	10
Music Appreciation	10

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION	10
Health	10
Physical Education	10
Body Mechanics	11
INDUSTRIAL ARTS	11
Careers	11
Construction Trades	11
Robotics	11
Construction Trades	11
WORLD LANGUAGES	11
Spanish I	11
Spanish	12
Intensive Student Support Network	12
Advisory	12
Literacy	12

ENGLISH

English 6

Year Long

This course develops three main skill areas of language arts: reading, writing, and grammar. The class examines a variety of genres including short story, novel, drama, and poetry. Students learn higher level reading skills focused on the understanding theme, interpreting meaning, and identifying the author's craft. Writing skills focus on organizing ideas and crafting language purposefully. Grammar usage and mechanics are studied throughout the year and are reinforced in subsequent writing assignments. In all areas of study, active and independent learning, and logical and critical thinking are promoted.

English 7

Year Long

The focus of this class is on writing effectively for different audiences using 6 traits writing. Students will also focus on different genres of literature, novel study, oral and auditory communication skills and informational text and technical writing. Students will also develop an understanding of grammar and parts of speech.

Honors English 7

Year Long

The concepts of English 7 are already useful and understood for these students. Students will focus on historical fiction, Shakespeare, and effective writing for different genres and purposes. Students are expected to read a difficult text, as well as write and revise independently. Prerequisites for this class include teacher recommendation.

English 8

Year Long

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

Year Long

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 7th-grade performance (all four marking periods).

MATHEMATICS

Math 6

Year Long

This course provides continuation of elementary principals and works with decimals, fractions and equations as well the introduction to new algebraic concepts

Math 7

Year Long

Math 7 - This course follows the Common Core State Standards for 7th grade which focus on the 8 math practices (taught K-12) and topics which include Number Systems, Expressions & Equations, Ratios & Proportional Relationships, Geometry, & Statistics & Probability.

Honors Math 7

Year Long

Honors Math 7 - This is an accelerated class to prepare students for High School. Algebra I in the 8th grade. Content will include all of the 7th-grade math expectations along with much of the 8th-grade math expectations. This class is very fast-paced, so students must have a strong understanding of 6th-grade math concepts, maintained a B+ or better average, performed well on tests, be an independent learner, & have a written recommendation by their teacher. Excellent attendance & work ethic is a must.

Math 8

Year Long

This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra I in 9th grade. It covers the Common Core State Standards for 8th-grade math. Topics include, but are not limited to linear equations and inequalities, systems of equations, functions, statistics, and geometry.

Algebra I

Recommended for Grade 8

Year Long

1 Credit

Algebra I is the study of linear, absolute value, quadratic and exponential functions and inequalities. For each family of functions, there will be a study of graphs and equations as well as a connection between the different representations and their connection to real-world situations. The study of linear and exponential functions will also be connected to the arithmetic and geometric sequences. The class also looks at systems of all types of these equations.

SCIENCE

Science 6

Year Long

This course is the study of physical earth, life forms, cells, volume mass and some beginning concepts of physics

Science 7

Year Long

An integrated curriculum consisting of the study of Biology, Ecology, and Earth Science. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through labs, observations, projects, and writing.

Science 8

Year Long

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.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6

Year Long

The course is the study of the world with an emphasis on geography and cultures of various regions and humanity. Identifying regions and mapping skills are also taught.

Social Studies 7

Year Long

The student will study ancient civilizations through close reading, lecture, note-taking, and activities. Elements of the course include geography, government, history, and economics.

Social Studies 8

Year Long

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.

FINE ARTS

Art

Recommended for Grades: 7-8

Full Year

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.

Choir

Recommended for Grades: 6-8

Full Year

The Benzie Choir is under the direction of Mrs. Kirstin Cline. 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 the performance of the music (learn by doing).

Band

Recommended for Grades: 6-8

Full Year

Band;

Introduction of instrumental music with recorders and then wind instruments for performance during the school year and participation in band festival. Attendance at performances is mandatory. The Benzie Band is under the direction of Mr. Brian Parent. The band has received Superior and Excellent ratings at Band and Orchestra Concert Festival under his direction. The Band is comprised of 6th, 7th and 8th-grade students. The 6th-grade band is the beginning with an introduction to using instruments while 7th grade and 8th grade are intermediate and more advanced.

Basic Theater Arts

Recommended for Grades: 7-8

Full Year

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.

ENRICHMENTS

Basic Theater Arts

Grades: 6

Enrichment

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.

Careers

Grades: 6

Enrichment

Art

Grades: 6

Enrichment

Music Appreciation

Grades: 6

Enrichment

Introduction to music enrichment class for 7th grade.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health

Grade 7

Quarter

This course explores the development of the individual from a physical, psychological, and emotional perspective. The content will include an overview of types of pathogens, how they spread, and preventive methods used to control the spread of communicable diseases. The discussion will center on the consequences of the use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs. Furthermore, a focus on effective, proven prevention strategies will be looked at with the developing adolescent in mind. Finally, an introduction to the study of mental health will examine what it is, how to effectively manage stress and identify certain common disorders and their effects on self, family, and society.

Physical Education

Required Grade: 6-8

Full Year

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

Required Grade: 7-8

Full Year

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, cardiorespiratory 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.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Careers

Grade 6

Enrichment

Introduction to career exploration enrichment class for 6th grade.

Construction Trades

Grades 7

Enrichment

Introduction to construction trades enrichment class for 7th grade.

Robotics

Grades 7

Enrichment

Introduction to robotics and VEX platform enrichment class for 7th grade.

Construction Trades

Grades 8

Year Long

Introduction to woodshop with an emphasis on the understanding of construction trades in the mathematical and real-world applications.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Spanish I

Recommended for grades 8

Year Long

1 Credit

Students will be introduced to the Spanish language and culture. In a variety of classroom activities, students will acquire vocabulary and grammar in order to speak Spanish. While the focus of the course will be on speaking, students will also learn to listen to, read, and write Spanish. Student success in Spanish is dependent upon the completion of daily homework, weekly vocabulary quizzes, tests, and projects. A strong understanding of English grammar is also stressed.

Spanish

Grades 7

Enrichment

Introduction to Spanish enrichment class offering

Intensive Student Support Network

Advisory

Grades: 6-8

Year Long

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.

Literacy

Grades: 6-8

Year Long

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.