

BENZIE CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL



COURSE CATALOG 2023-2024

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 PRIDE, and to this end:

- P** Positivity (look for the good)
- R** Respect (use good manners and model safety)
- I** Integrity (act with honor)
- D** Dependability (be someone others count on)
- E** Excellence (result of your doing your best)

Middle School Plan

Requirements	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Math	Math Expressions 6 Resource Math 6	Hon. Math 7 Math 7 Resource Math 7	*Algebra Math 8 Resource Math 8
English	English 6 Resource Eng. 6	Hons English 7 English 7 Resource Eng. 7	Hon. English 8 English 8 Resource Eng.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
Enrichment	Art Basic Theater Arts Careers/Technology S.T.E.M.	Culinary Arts/Nutrition Health Industrial Arts Robotics	N/A
Literacy	Reading/Vocabulary 6 (rotates each 9 weeks	Reading/Vocabulary 7 (rotates each 8 weeks	*Digital Technology (TBD - rotation)
Seminar/S.E.L.	Guided study/Powerschool academic review and Social Emotional Curriculum is introduced		
	* These are high school courses and students will earn a Credit toward graduation		

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ENGLISH

Resource English 6

Full Year (Tier III- IEP 7 placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

Resource English 7

Full Year (Tier III - IEP placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

Resource English 8

Full Year (Tier III - IEP placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

English 6

Full Year

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

Full Year

A major focus of this class is on writing effectively for different audiences. Students will develop their independent reading skills by participating in student-centered book clubs. They will explore different genres of literature, including informational text, and participate in multiple whole-class novel studies. Students will develop their oral and auditory communication skills and deepen their understanding of grammar and parts of speech.

Honors English 7

Full Year

This is an advanced English 7 course. In this class students will be expected to complete several independent novel studies in addition to their standard English 7 course work. Students will also complete a performance driven unit on formal academic writing. The prerequisites for this class include teacher recommendation.

English 8

Full Year

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

Full Year

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

Resource Math 6

Full Year(Tier III-IEP placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

Resource Math 7

Full Year(Tier III-IEP placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

Resource Math 8

Full Year(Tier III-IEP placement GL specific)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students' goals as determined by their individualized education program and will integrate with the common core standards of grade level programs. Work will be done with a special education teacher in a room with fewer students to give as much individual attention as possible while striving to align to each grade level's curriculum and essential elements.

Math 6

Full Year

This course follows the Common Core State Standards at the sixth-grade level. It extends student knowledge of the number system with fractions, decimals, and percentages, delves into ratios and proportional relationships, explores real-world problems involving surface area, and introduces algebraic concepts as they learn about expressions, equations, and properties of operations.

Math 7

Full Year

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 that include Number Systems, Expressions, Equations, Ratios; Proportional Relationships, Geometry, Statistics; Probability.

Honors Math 7

Full Year

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, and have a written recommendation from their teacher. Excellent attendance and work ethic are a must.

Math 8

Full Year

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

Full Year

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 arithmetic and geometric sequences. The class also looks at systems of all types of these equations.

SCIENCE

Science 6

Full Year

This course is the study of Earth science. Students will be engaged in the analysis of data and examples of how the spheres (Biosphere, Geosphere, Hydrosphere, Atmosphere) interact. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through observations, projects, writing, and labs.

Science 7

Full Year

This course is focused on Life Sciences; Ecology, Heredity, and Biology. Students will engage in NGSS cross-cutting concepts like patterns, cause and effect, systems, energy, and stability and change.

Students will show their understanding by keeping a Science Notebook and participating in labs, assigned readings, raising Salmon in the Classroom, canoeing the Platte River, and other projects.

Science 8

Full Year

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

Full Year

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

Full Year

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

Full Year

Eighth grade Social Studies is a full-year course. The student through reading, lectures, 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 Reconstruction.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Art

Recommended for Grades: 7-8

Full Year

Art is a yearlong course giving students a basic understanding of art history, the elements and principles of art, as well as giving students many opportunities to create many advanced Art projects using a variety of mediums and techniques such as clay, sculpture, painting, drawing, paper mache, oil pastels and more.

Choir

Recommended for Grades: 6-8

Full Year

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 I

This course provides the opportunity for students to select and learn to play a brass (trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba), woodwind (flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, bassoon), or percussion instrument. Students will develop rehearsal skills, technical/rhythmic skills, proper tone/intonation, and learn to play together as a balanced ensemble. All students enrolled in the course are encouraged to rent or own an instrument (with the exception of large wind instruments). Students will be required to perform at three concerts throughout the school year.

Band II

This course provides continuing instrumental musicians with additional opportunities, such as Solo and Ensemble Festival, and Middle School Honors Band. Students will participate in MSBOA Band Festival; while continuing to develop rehearsal skills, technical/rhythmic skills, proper tone/intonation, and musical interpretation throughout the year. **Required performances include three school concerts throughout the year, in addition to Band Festival.**

Basic Theater Arts

Recommended for Grades: 7-8

Full Year

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.

Middle Schools (MS) Body Mechanics

Required Grade: 7-8

Full Year

This course is designed to give its participants the opportunity to learn fundamental training concepts and techniques used for obtaining and maintaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from anaerobic-based activities and an introduction to performance-based training.

Industrial Arts 8

Grades 8

Full Year

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

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.

ENRICHMENT COURSES | 9 weeks

Sixth and Seventh Grades

Art

Grades: 6

9 weeks

Intro to Basic Theater Arts

Grades: 6

9 weeks

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 & Technology

Grade 6

Enrichment

This course allows students to explore various careers through the use of self-assessments and technology which help match student interest to potential opportunities after high school, including but not limited to trades programs, internships, and college. After exploring a multitude of options, students choose one career to research and create a presentation of their findings to share with the class. Students also work on their keyboarding skills each day.

Intro to Stem

Grade 6

Enrichment

This nine-week class provides students with an introduction to computer science, computing, and programming. This will allow students to immediately begin programming using the MIT-developed Scratch program, through the introduction of key code blocks used to program events and responses in Scratch. With projects focused on motion-based computing concepts, students will become familiar with Scratch and computing fundamentals, as well as the wide reach computer science has in the world today.

Intro to Industrial Arts 7

Grades 7

Enrichment

Introduction to construction trades enrichment class for 7th grade.

Health/MI Model

Grade 7

9 weeks

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.

Music Appreciation

Grades: 6

9 weeks

This course is a non-performing music class that teaches students about the “ingredients” of music such as melody, harmony, notation, texture, style, rhythm, and form. Students will explore music from around the world including operas, musicals, and popular music styles.

Robotics**Grades 7****9 weeks**

Introduction to robotics through the VEX platform enrichment class for 7th grade. Students will build and program their own robots in small groups to participate in a variety of challenges while learning about the engineering design process and history of robotics.

Intensive Student Support Network

Seminar/SEL**Grades: 6-8****Full Year**

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: 6-7****Full Year**

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 a year; science, math, English, science. Each class will focus on literacy content for the subject matter.

Digital Literacy**Grade: 8****Full Year**

This course meets the State graduation requirements for technology and students will be given high school credit upon completion. This class is an 8th grade required class. **(It could rotate each 9 weeks with each teacher specializing in one specific technology area)*