



January 26, 2024

Dear Seventh Grade Parent,

With half the year completed at Buffalo Community Middle School, it's time to begin scheduling for the 2024-2025 school year. On the reverse side of this letter, you will find brief descriptions of the elective courses we intend to offer eighth grade students next year.

The core subjects for 8th grade include Math, English, Geography, and Science. In addition to the core classes listed above, students will rotate through *Health 8*, *Technology Education 8*, and *College and Career Prep 8*. Students will either be in the music performance track or the elective track.

Eighth grade students may choose to be in a music performance group (band, choir or orchestra). On days opposite of their music performance class, students will have physical education. Students will have one additional elective of their choice.

We encourage students to continue in music, but we offer elective course options for eighth grade students who do not wish to continue in band, orchestra or choir. Students in this track will have physical education every other day with a Study Hall opposite for a half year and Health 8 the other half of the year. Students will also have two additional electives of their choice.

This year, students will receive the registration materials and register online with their Primetime teacher the week of January 29th. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Kim Young, Scheduling Assistant, at 763-682-8207 or Principal Matt Lubben at 763-682-8203.

Sincerely,

Matt Lubben, Principal

GRADE 8 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Art 2-D:

Artists will explore the process of creating two-dimensional artworks. Artistic media may include drawing, painting, collage, and digital artwork. Art students will be given the opportunity to make independent choices while finding their own hands-on learning path in creating individual and collaborative artwork.

Art 3-D:

Artists will explore the process of creating three-dimensional artworks. Artistic media may include clay on pottery wheels, hand-building clay, and metals. Art students will be given the opportunity to make independent choices while finding their own hands-on learning path in creating individual and collaborative artwork.

Foods101:

This course will focus on each of the five food groups and the planning process of choosing and making a meal. With each food group, students will be able to identify a variety of foods that fall into each category, describe the nutrients found in those foods and research and make a variety of recipes. At the end of the quarter, students will plan and make a meal that incorporates all the food groups.

Unified PE:

Student mentors will participate alongside of students with special needs who have DAPE services in recreation, leisure, and fitness while increasing their understanding of inclusion, social justice, and advocacy. Student mentors and their peers will have opportunities to participate in community based education outings. Student mentors will also be given opportunities to teach their peers activities to increase their leadership skills.

Intro to World Language:

Students will have the opportunity to explore language and learn some German, French, and Spanish before deciding which one to study in high school. High school students will assist with the instruction and provide a preview of what BHS offers.

Special Education Mentorship:

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to be a peer mentor to students with disabilities. Students will work alongside a student or several students with disabilities to model social skills and develop academic skills. Students will work closely with the special education teacher to communicate student progress and problem solve. Students have the opportunity to be a role model, develop leadership skills, but most importantly, have fun!

Transportation Technology:

This technology elective will provide an overview of transportation systems. Students will design and manufacture a CO₂ dragster and a model rocket. Principles of design will be utilized to plan and draw the project.

Textile Discovery:

This course will give students the opportunity to work with a variety of textiles through learning multiple sewing techniques. Students will learn the basic skills of crochet, hand embroidery and the use of the sewing machine. Students will also be able to research and make multiple projects throughout the quarter.

Woods:

Students will learn about drafting and scaling, calculating board feet, and producing a bill of materials for a woods project. Safety is taught before students can begin working with the machinery. Students will design and build a woods project from options the instructor develops.