

Blackmon Road Middle School
7251 Blackmon Road
Columbus, GA 31909



8th Grade
Course Selection Guide



*Course selections will occur through Infinite Campus Student Portal

All students will have the following options for classes:

- ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
- SOCIAL STUDIES
- MATHEMATICS
- SCIENCE
- CONNECTIONS (2)

ACADEMIC CORE CONTENT COURSES:

The level of each of the four academic core content courses is chosen based on the previous course level the student completed as well as test scores/teacher recommendation. Students are then placed into gifted, advanced, or regular levels of academic core content courses. Gifted students are only required by law to be served in one academic area. If a student is behind in ELA and/or math, he/she may be placed in an, Enrichment course instead of choosing two connections courses.

FINE ARTS

The following courses are **year-long courses.*

53.0351086 BEGINNING/INTERMEDIATE BAND

Beginning/Intermediate Band is an ensemble that provides students with learning and performance opportunities on wind and percussion instruments. Beginners in eighth grade band must choose from one of the following beginning instruments: flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone. Intermediate band students will continue the development and expansion of basic skills begun the previous year that are necessary for effective instrumental music performance.



53.0352086 ADVANCED BAND 8

Advanced Band students are selected by teacher recommendation. Students will learn more complex rhythms as they continue to perfect their instrumental playing and music reading skills. Through rehearsal and performance, students learn improvisational techniques, and play a variety of musical styles.

53.0830086 GUITAR TECHNIQUES GRADE 8

Guitar Techniques expands the students’ understanding of a varied repertoire of music. Students will learn to read, perform, and improvise melodies and variations on the guitar. Students will also be given the opportunity to compose and arrange music within specified guidelines. A guitar must be provided by the student.

53.0551086 BEGINNING ORCHESTRA

Beginning Orchestra students learn how to play a stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double bass). This course focuses on building fundamental techniques necessary to play

music together as an orchestra. The course teaches skills in reading, rhythm, listening, theory, and music history. All first year students are loaned a school instrument free of charge.

53.0551086 INTERMEDIATE ORCHESTRA

Intermediate Orchestra allows intermediate players to focus on further development of fundamental techniques. Students learn skills for solo and ensemble playing and perform music from a variety of styles and genres. In addition to studies in tone production, rhythm, and reading, this course covers theory, music history, and listening skills. If available, intermediate players are loaned a school instrument free of charge.

53.0552086 ADVANCED ORCHESTRA

Advanced Orchestra is for advanced-level students. Student focus on solo, ensemble, and small group performance styles. Students in Advanced Orchestra learn and develop advanced music techniques. If available, advanced players are loaned a school instrument free of charge. Students must audition in order to be selected for this course.

50.0130086 VISUAL ARTS 8

Visual Arts is designed to give a sampling of art projects that emphasize the elements and principles of art. Students develop an understanding and appreciation of self and others through art history, culture, and heritage. A variety of media and techniques create an active learning experience.

52.0130086 THEATRE ARTS 8

Theatre Arts students in the eighth grade continue to apply ensemble skills through pantomime, improvisation, and acting. Students design and create simple scenery, costumes, props, lighting, sound, music, and makeup for dramatic presentations. Students begin to create original scripts and adapt appropriate literature into scripted material for presentation.

54.0150086 BEGINNING CHORUS

Beginning Chorus provides opportunities to develop performance skills and knowledge in ensemble singing. The course may include any style period music. This class covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, historical and cultural influences, creative aspects of music and appreciation of music. Stresses balance of individual progress and group success.



54.0151086 INTERMEDIATE CHORUS

Intermediate Chorus provides opportunities for intermediate performers to increase performance skills and knowledge in large group choral singing. This class covers performance and production, analysis and theoretical studies, historical and cultural influences, creative aspects of music and appreciation of music. Stresses balance of individual progress and group success. Pre-requisite: Beginning Chorus.

54.0152086 ADVANCED CHORUS

Advanced Chorus provides opportunities for advanced performers to increase performance skills and knowledge in large group choral singing. Includes madrigal, notes, quartet, and solo literature of all style periods. Stresses individual progress and group experiences. Students must audition in order to be selected for this course.

CONNECTIONS COURSES

The following courses are **one semester in length.*

07.0850083 FOUNDATIONS OF INVESTMENT/FINANCE GRADE 8:

Foundations of Investment/Finance uses project based instruction to introduce students to the principles of business in the 21st century. Students build a knowledge base of computer applications, information systems, and internet safety. Careers in this area are also explored. Students will have exposure to networking and programming.

11.0120086 FOUNDATIONS OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMING GRADE 8:

Foundations of Computer Programming provides an exploratory foundation in computer programming. Students will have the opportunity to research possible career options in the information technology area. Students will also complete activities to build a strong foundation in computer coding.

25.0350086 HEALTHCARE SCIENCE THERAPEUTIC SERVICES/APPLICATION ANATOMY GRADE 8:

Healthcare Science Therapeutic Services/Application Anatomy provides students with an introduction to healthcare careers, the safety procedures and skills required to succeed in this field. The course will enable students to receive exposure to healthcare science skills, wellness, and preventative care, and the responsibilities of today’s healthcare provider.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

The following course is a **year-long course.*

36.0090086 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ HEALTH GRADE 8:

Physical Education/Health students perform complex combinations of movement specific to game, sport, rhythms, and/or physical activity settings. Specialized skills are adapted to meet the requirements of increasingly complex strategies. Students will examine the interrelationships of emotional, physical, social, and intellectual health, and how each aspect of health can be impacted by their surroundings.



FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

The following course is a **year-long course. Students must have an A/B in prior ELA courses and/or teacher recommendation.*

60.0710086 PRE-AP SPANISH I GRADE 8:

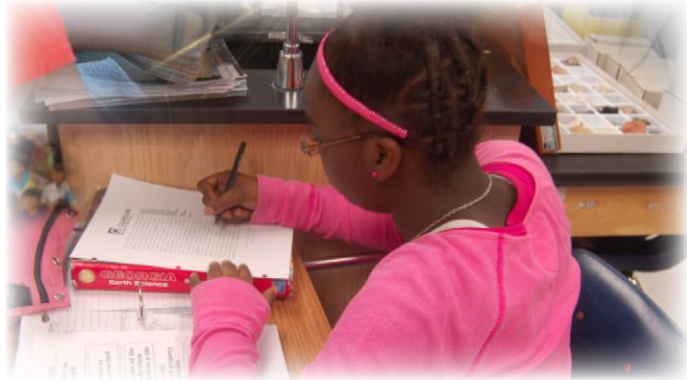
Pre-AP Spanish emphasizes the following skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing of the Spanish language. Students will develop an understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures. This course is a year-long course and offers a high school Spanish credit upon successful completion of the course. A strong ELA background is required.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT COURSES

The following courses are **year-long courses, and administrative placement can occur based on the academic needs of students who have experience failing grades in ELA and/or math as well as low Lexile scores.*

23.0137086 LANGUAGE ARTS ENRICHMENT /GRADE 8:

Language Art Enrichment focuses on extending the reading experience through a more complete study and analysis of literature. The student will refine his or her skills in writing quality essays and narratives. Writing will focus on styles, the use of strong diction, refining, editing, and proofreading.



27.0237083 MATH ENRICHMENT /GRADE 8:

Math Enrichment will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning with equations, solving linear equations and systems of linear equations, (2) grasping the concept of a function, (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

A course selection date for students and instruction sheet will be emailed to all parents in upcoming days. Look for this email on completing your child’s course selection for the upcoming school year.