

# BROWNSBURG WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL RELATED ARTS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The following information will help provide you with insight to the experiences you will receive while a student at BWMS with our Related Arts Classes. Students will be scheduled into each semester course and will take at least one year of music during their time here. All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to enroll in one of the year-long music courses. Once this requirement is complete, students will choose to continue with music or not take one at all for grades 7 and 8. Our Related Arts classes operate on a Purple/White Calendar where courses will alternate each day.

## 1 Semester Courses

### Gateway to Technology (GTT)

In this introductory Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course, Gateway to Technology, students will focus on problem-based learning. All of the GTT classes will include some aspect of Engineering, Biomedical Sciences, and Computer Science to expose students to the different programs of the PLTW program. Students will learn the design process and how it impacts change in our world. Students will also learn a CAD program to design items and use tools to create their products. Students in this program will have access to a 3-D printer.

### Health (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only)

Health class is taken in either the seventh or eighth grade. The goal of health education is to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to lead healthy lifestyles. Units include wellness, physical fitness, nutrition, infectious- and non-infectious disease prevention, mental/emotional health, information literacy, and reproductive/relationship health.

### Physical Education (PE)

Students will take one semester of physical education each school year. Our goal is to help our students develop healthy habits that lead to a lifetime of physical activity. Instruction includes physical fitness concepts and practice including cardiorespiratory endurance, stretching, and muscular strength. Students work to improve or maintain physical fitness throughout the semester through in-class practice. In addition, students participate in a selection of team sports and just-for-fun games to increase the heart rate, learn to work cooperatively as a team, and develop/practice basic sport skills that can be used for lifetime activity. Registration costs for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students include a PE uniform. Should students need a new one for 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup>, one can be purchased through the BWMS bookstore.

### Visual Art

The visual arts program is designed to provide students with experiences in both 2D (drawings, paintings, mixed media) and 3D (clay) artworks. Students will also study components of art history, famous artists, and learning about the elements and principles of Art. This course can be taken multiple times as there will be different projects each year.

## Year-Long Courses

### Band

Band is one of two instrumental music classes offered at BWMS. In band, students learn to play one of 11 instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium (baritone), tuba or percussion. Band offers students much more than learning to play an instrument; it offers the opportunity to experience self-expression and creativity, all in an environment that fosters a combination of teamwork and leadership. Students perform 2-3 public concerts. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band students have the option to participate in jazz band, pep band, additional contests, and trips to Kings Island and St. Louis. Students enrolled in band will be required to rent or purchase an instrument.

### Orchestra

Orchestra is one of two instrumental music classes offered at BWMS. In orchestra, students learn to play one of four instruments: violin, viola, cello or bass. Orchestra offers students much more than learning to play an instrument; it offers the opportunity to experience self-expression and creativity, all in an environment that fosters a combination of teamwork and leadership. Students perform 2-3 public concerts. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have the option to participate in chamber orchestra, additional contests, and trips to Kings Island and St. Louis. Students enrolled in orchestra will be required to rent or purchase an instrument.

### Choir

Choir is a yearlong class where students study the ongoing process of proper singing techniques, as well as notating and sight reading music. Students enjoy learning about the different styles of music as well as various group dance moves. Students will perform in multiple concerts each year and have the opportunity to participate in Solo and Ensemble Contest. Seventh grade choirs perform in multiple concerts each year with the chance to attend King's Island in the Spring. The eighth grade choirs perform multiple concerts plus the annual musical and have the opportunity to travel to Chicago for a reward trip. Rehearsals may be required outside of the school day for students enrolled in this program.

