

Bucyrus Middle School

Curriculum Guide 2024-2025



Go RED!

PLANNING YOUR SCHEDULE

1. Students may not have more than 1 study hall per semester.
2. No student may have more than two teacher-aide periods per year.
3. There must be enough students enrolled to justify holding a class. This decision is at the discretion of the administration.

MIDDLE SCHEDULING PLANNER

6th Grade

6th Grade Math (Accelerated or On-Level)
6th Grade English (Accelerated or On-Level)
6th Grade Science (Accelerated or On-Level)
6th Grade Social Studies
Transitions
Electives (write-in below)

_____	_____
_____	_____

Suggested electives: Physical Education, Art, Band, Choir, or Innovation and Design.

7th Grade

7th Grade Math (Accelerated or On-Level)
7th Grade English (Accelerated or On-Level)
7th Grade Science (Accelerated or On-Level)
7th Grade Social Studies
Electives (write-in below)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Suggested electives: Art, Band, Choir, Physical Education, Business, Marketing, Computer Applications, Innovation and Design, or World Geography

8th

8th Grade Math (Accelerated or On-Level)
8th Grade English (Accelerated or On-Level)
8th Grade Science (Accelerated or On-Level)
8th Grade Social Studies
Electives (write-in below)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Suggested electives: Art, Band, Choir, Physical Education, Business, Marketing, Computer Applications, Innovation and Design, or World Geography.

Spanish I and Art I can be taken for high school credit.

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE

1. Unless otherwise announced, the deadline for all course changes is five school days into the semester.
2. Students may not change their schedules or add/drop courses without completing the Schedule Change Request Form.
3. The counselor and/or principal must approve changes after the first week of the school year.

The penalty for dropping a class five school days into the semester is zero Credit for the year and an "F" figured into your cumulative grade point average if the school counselor and the principal feel that dropping a course is necessary and in the student's best interest, the penalty may be waived.

COURSE FEES

Some course fees may be required for Bucyrus Secondary courses. Fees can be assessed for class fees, lost books, materials, and/or damaged equipment.

OHIO ASSESSMENTS

All students will take Ohio State Assessments in the following grades and subjects.

6th Grade: English Language Arts & Math

7th Grade: English Language Arts & Math

8th Grade: English Language Arts, Math, & Science

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

High School Credit

Middle School students can earn high school credit in 8th Grade. Students must meet the qualifications to take these classes. When taking these classes, students must remember that these are for high school credit. A low or failing grade will affect the student's high school GPA.

Anticipated Classes for High School Credit at BMS (Subject to change)

Art 1- Course Number 710S: ½ Credit

* Will give students their ½ Credit of fine Art required for graduation.

Spanish 1-Course Number: 052: 1 Credit

* Will provide students with an elective credit required for graduation.

Algebra 1-Course Number: 319A: 1 Credit

* Students will be provided with 1 math credit required for graduation.

Biology - Course Number: 222R: 1 Credit

* We will provide students with 1 science credit required for graduation.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

During the preceding grading period, each high school student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent, each of which counts toward graduation. Middle School students must pass four (4) classes in the preceding grading period. The Bucyrus Board of Education prohibits students from participating in interscholastic extra-curricular activities if they have less than a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale ***in the previous grading period***. Failure to comply with the grading period eligibility results in ineligibility for the following period ***UNLESS*** each student has a GPA. 1.0 - 1.99 in the previous grading period and ***less than a 2.0 at the midterm of the current grading period*** attends the academic intervention described below:

Any High School or Middle School student/athlete with a 1.0 – 1.99 GPA shall participate in an academic intervention program. The academic intervention program will consist of at least one hour/week study table for each subject wherein the student received a grade lower than a C. The athletic director will check grades at the mid-term of each quarter to determine whether a student will come off academic intervention, be required to continue or be added to the academic intervention. Intervention will be assigned and monitored on the recommendation of the administration.

COURSE CURRICULUM

ART DEPARTMENT

Students who intend to take any of the art courses must be aware that Art is a subject that requires a certain amount of skill and talent. The higher the course level, the greater the talent and skill required. Those students who have demonstrated ability in Art in previous courses and who have an interest in Art are strongly encouraged to take the appropriate level of art course.

Basic Art - 6th Grade

Prerequisite: None

The regular art course for 6th-grade students, this class will use a wide range of art materials. Students can try their hand at several different types of Art.

Basic Art - 7th Grade

Prerequisite: None

The regular art course for 7th-grade students, this class will use a wide range of art materials. Students can try their hand at several different types of Art.

ART I - 8th Grade

Prerequisite: None

ART I is designed to provide a foundation for advanced courses. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as a basis for composition. Students will explore a variety of artists, art processes, and materials such as drawing, painting, printmaking, two & three-dimensional design, and digital Art. Student artwork will reflect aesthetics & cultural and historical contexts. Willingness to get involved in the creative process is a more important requirement than the student's talent or previous experience.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English Language Arts- 6th Grade

Prerequisite: None

Students will embark on a journey of self-discovery through reading, writing, and language (i.e., grammar, vocabulary, and word study). The course is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards and prepares students for the Grade 6 Ohio State Tests in English Language Arts. The course stresses the independent use of reading strategies to comprehend and respond to various literary and informational texts. In addition, this course emphasizes to students that writing is a process. Students will also acquire vocabulary through both reading practice and explicit instruction. Students are given time for modeled, shared, assisted, and independent reading and writing practice.

English Language Arts Accelerated- 6th Grade

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Students will embark on a journey of self-discovery through reading, writing and language (i.e., grammar, vocabulary and word study). The course is aligned to Ohio's Academic Content Standards and prepares students for the Grade 6 Ohio's State Tests in English Language Arts. The course stresses the independent use of reading strategies to comprehend and respond to a variety of literary and informational texts. In addition, this course emphasizes to students that writing is a process. Students will also acquire vocabulary through both reading

practice and explicit instruction. Due to this class being a single period, students will be expected to complete reading and writing assignments outside of class.

English Language Arts- 7th Grade

Prerequisite: ELA 6th Grade

Fundamentals of grammar are continued, including parts of speech, sentence structure, and introductions to informative/research and argumentative essays. Reading includes several novels, short stories, and informational articles, and develops skills in supporting ideas with textual evidence and building comprehension through an understanding of literary elements such as theme, characterization, and figurative language. Vocabulary skills are incorporated throughout the course. Most reading and assignments are done during the extended class time.

English Language Arts Accelerated- 7th Grade

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Is a class that is designed for students who read above grade level and excel at language skills and writing. Fundamentals of grammar and the writing process are reviewed, but the focus is on building skills for purpose, craft, and structure. Novels, short stories, and informational articles are used to develop deeper comprehension and critical thinking skills. Most reading assignments are independent and outside of class time. Projects involve more self-directed activities and will require learning to budget time. Students taking honors courses should be self-driven, able to manage time, and interested in and accountable for their learning.

English Language Arts- 8th Grade

Prerequisite: ELA 7th Grade

This course strengthens reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar skills. There is an emphasis on informative/explanatory and argumentative essay writing and close reading skills. The course is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards and prepares students for Ohio's State Tests in English Language Arts, grade 8. A

English Language Arts Accelerated- 8th Grade

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

The course is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards and prepares students for Ohio's State Tests in English Language Arts, grade 8. The course addresses reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar skills for academically accelerated students. There is a focus placed on informative/explanatory and argumentative essay writing. Students taking Accelerated ELA should be self-driven, able to manage time, and accountable for their learning. There is also an expectation that students will work outside of the classroom and need to be responsible and ready to handle this.

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Spanish I NCAA

Prerequisite: Pass English with not less than a "C" or recommendation

Credit: 1

Course Number: 051

Grade: 8-12

Students learn the basic communication skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing to understand and respond simply with conversational Spanish. Topics include introductions, descriptions, life at school, family, weekend activities, and community life.

HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Basic Physical Education- 6th-8th

Prerequisite: None

This class includes Fitness Wednesday, the PACER Test, a 12-minute run, and other fitness activities. This will include an introduction to team and individual sports, an introduction to the weight room, safety, and lifts with a beginning weight training unit that is 4-5 weeks long.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Math 6th

Prerequisite: None

Math 6 is the natural progression for students who have completed 5th-grade Math. All instructional units are aligned to Ohio's Math Learning Standards for 6th Grade and include Number Fluency; Operations with Rational Numbers; Rates, Ratios, and percents; Integers and the Coordinate Plane; Expressions; Equations and inequalities; Area, Perimeter & Volume; and Statistics. Students in Math 6 will proceed to Math 7 or Accelerated Math 7.

Prerequisite: 5th grade Math

Math 6th Accelerated

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

The Honors Math 6 curriculum is aligned with Ohio's Math Learning Standards for 6th Grade. Students will build upon their mastery of 5th-grade math standards as they deeply explore the units, emphasizing mathematical modeling and reasoning. Students must be self-motivated and able to work independently with some help. Homework is to be expected, which will include use of a computer. The instructional units for this course include Number Fluency; Operations with Rational Numbers; Rates, Ratios, and percents; Integers and the Coordinate Plane; Expressions; Equations and inequalities; Area, Perimeter & Volume; and Statistics; and various extension topics.

Math 7th

Prerequisite: 6th grade Math

Math 7 is the natural progression for students who have completed 6th-grade Math. All instructional units are aligned to Ohio's Math Learning Standards for 7th Grade. Instructional time will focus on four critical areas: Developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; Developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; Solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; Drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Math 7th Accelerated

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement.

The Accelerated Math 7 curriculum is aligned with Ohio's Math Learning Standards for 7th Grade. Students will build upon their mastery of 6th-grade math standards as they deeply explore the units, emphasizing modeling and reasoning. Students must be self-motivated and able to work independently with some help. Homework is to be expected most nights. Instructional time will focus on four critical areas: Developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; Developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; Solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; Drawing inferences about populations based on samples; and various extension topics.

Math 8th

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Math

This course is designed to lay the foundation of a solid mathematical background. Concepts examined in this course will underlay basic algebra, problem-solving, geometry, number system, and statistical concepts. Under these concepts, students will learn how to solve systems of equations, laws of exponents, functions, number systems, translations, similar figures, angle theory, the Pythagorean Theorem, and the application of volume, to name a few. This course is needed to move onto more complex ideologies and concepts in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Statistics.

Math 8th-Accelerated

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Students will build upon their mastery of 7th-grade math standards. Concepts examined in this course will underlay basic algebra, problem-solving, geometry, number system, and statistical concepts. Under these concepts, students will learn how to solve systems of equations, laws of exponents, functions, number systems, translations, similar figures, angle theory, the Pythagorean Theorem, and the application of volume, to name a few. This course is needed to move onto more complex ideologies and concepts in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Statistics. Students must be self-motivated and able to work independently with some help. Homework is to be expected most nights.

Honors Algebra I NCAA 8th Grade

Course Number: 314

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation, Advanced or Accelerated on state test, WEP

This course is designed to advance the study of algebraic concepts developed in Pre-Algebra. It will explore the development of symbol manipulation and advanced solution techniques involving real numbers, polynomials, factoring, solving equations and inequalities, and graphing. This course is intended for students who wish to pursue a four-year degree at a college or university.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The basic program at Bucyrus Middle School includes students with skills in various areas of music. Both the band and choir provide interesting and rewarding experiences, demanding dedication and time, especially during performance seasons.

6th Grade Band

Prerequisite: None

6th Grade Band is a second-year band class. Course content will consist of Method Book Studies and grade-level concert literature. Rehearsal emphasis will be on basic musicianship, tone production, and note-reading. 6th Grade Band meets daily and performs in concerts in the winter and spring.

7th Grade Band

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Band preferred

7th Grade Band is for third-year band students. Emphasis on fundamental musicianship is combined with additional performance opportunities, which include concerts and civic events. Performance literature includes grade-level selections as well as music that is appropriate for particular performance venues.

Note: Students may enter the band program at any grade level. Directors must first be provided parental permission for a student to participate in the program. Arrangements will be made with parents to assess which instrument is most suitable for the student and the resources needed to acquire an instrument.

8th Grade Band

Prerequisite: 6th and 7th Grade Band Preferred

8th Grade Band is for fourth-year band students. Emphasis on fundamental musicianship is combined with additional performance opportunities, which include concerts and civic events. Performance literature includes grade-level selections as well as music that is appropriate for particular performance venues.

Note: Students may enter the band program at any grade level. Directors must first be provided parental permission for a student to participate in the program. Arrangements will be made with parents to assess which instrument is most suitable for the student and the resources needed to acquire an instrument.

6th Grade Choir

Prerequisite: None

Students will work on vocal production and music reading skills, including but not limited to sight-singing, music theory, beginning vocal technique, etc. Mandatory performances outside the school day will include concerts and community appearances.

7th & 8th Grade Choir

Prerequisite: 6th and 7th Grade Choir Preferred

Students will work on vocal production and music reading skills, including but not limited to sight-singing, music theory, beginning vocal technique, etc. Mandatory performances outside the school day will include concerts and community appearances.

Intro to Guitar: 7th and 8th grade

Prerequisite: None

This class is intended for students with little to no experience playing the guitar. Students will be given the broad foundation they need to perform various styles of music, and note reading, tablature reading, chord playing, patterns, and improvisation will be emphasized in a step-by-step approach. Students who enroll in this class must have their own full-size acoustic or electric guitar (electric guitar owners must also have an amplifier) that they bring daily.

Intro to Keyboard: 7th and 8th grade

Prerequisite: None

This class is intended for students with little to no experience playing the keyboard. Students will be given the broad foundation they need to perform various styles of music, and note reading, tablature reading, chord playing, and patterns will be emphasized in a step-by-step approach. Students who enroll in this class do not need a keyboard.

Music Appreciation: 7th and 8th grade

Prerequisite: None

Music appreciation studies elements of music, music history, and world music traditions in a classroom setting as an alternative to performance-based band and choir courses. Students will learn and apply musical analysis skills to engage with various musical genres and traditions, constructing an understanding of musical styles and tastes throughout history.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

6th Grade Science

Prerequisite: None

6th Grade Science engages students in scientific inquiry as they explore Earth, Physical, and Life Sciences topics. In this course, students will learn to describe rocks, minerals, and soil that make up Earth's lithosphere, applying the content by inferring Earth's past, present, and future environments. They will study the basics of modern cell theory, recognizing that all living organisms are made of cells that carry out functions to sustain life. Students also investigate the foundational concepts of the nature of matter, such as that the atom makes up all objects with mass. They will explore introductory concepts of motion and energy, specifically learning about potential and kinetic energy and ways to describe and graph the motion of objects.

6th Grade Accelerated Science

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Students taking 6th Grade Accelerated Science cover the same standards of Science 8 but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. There will be an emphasis on applying knowledge, graphical and numerical data analysis, and problem-solving.

7th Grade Science

Prerequisite: None

7th Grade Science engages students in scientific inquiry focusing on Earth's systems. The curriculum covers Earth, Physical, and Life science concepts. Students will gain an understanding of the Periodic Table of Elements and the Law of Conservation as they explore the cycling of matter through Earth's spheres. They will develop an understanding of heat energy transfer between the atmosphere and hydrosphere in their study of the water cycle and atmospheric and ocean currents. Energy transfers through electric circuits, ecosystems, and waves will also be investigated. Students will develop an awareness of the factors affecting climate and biomes. Additionally, students will gain perspective of the predictable patterns of motion experienced by the Earth and Moon, contributing to tides and other cyclical events.

7th Grade Accelerated Science

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Students taking 7th Grade Accelerated Science cover the same standards of Science 8 but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. There will be an emphasis on applying knowledge, graphical and numerical data analysis, and problem-solving.

8th Grade Science

Prerequisite: None

8th Grade Science engages students in scientific inquiry focusing on the content of Earth, Physical, and Life Science. Throughout this course, students will explore the Earth's continually changing surface. They will describe Earth's interior, the patterns of change to Earth's surface, and the theory of plate tectonics, focusing on the evidence to support all three. Students will use physical science concepts to support their understanding of Earth by investigating forces, motion, and energy, building on the foundational knowledge gained in 6th and 7th-grade science courses. Students will also investigate how changes to Earth's surface impact the organisms that live on Earth. They will explore the diversity of species on Earth and gather evidence of changes to life forms as they examine the fossil record. They will focus on the importance of reproduction and environmental factors to ensure the continuation of all species. The course is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards and prepares students to excel on Ohio's State Assessment in Science, which is given in the spring of the 8th-grade year.

8th Grade Accelerated Science

Prerequisite: Meet the Criteria for Placement

Students taking 8th Grade Accelerated Science cover the same standards of Science 8 but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. There will be an emphasis on applying knowledge, graphical and numerical data analysis, and problem-solving.

Innovation & Design 6th-8th

Prerequisite: None

Students will be introduced to the engineering design process through hands-on learning. They will focus on developing their creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills while trying to solve real-world problems.

Biology-8th Grade

Course Number: 222R Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation, Advanced or Accelerated on state test, WEP

Concepts covered will include heredity, diversity of organisms, and ecology. Students must complete several projects, homework, and labs and keep a scientific notebook.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

6th Grade Social Studies

Prerequisite: None

6th Grade Social Studies focuses on studying the people and regions of the Eastern Hemisphere. Students become aware of the regions' geographic features, early history, cultural development, and economic change. Students learn about the development of the early river civilizations in Africa and Asia. The geographic focus of the course includes the study of contemporary regional characteristics, the movement of people, products, ideas,

and cultural diversity. Students develop an understanding of the role of consumers and the interaction of markets, resources, and competition.

7th Grade Social Studies

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Social Studies

7th Grade Social Studies is an integrated study of world history, beginning with Ancient Greece and continuing through global exploration (750 BC to 1600 AD). Students understand how historical events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic, and political factors. Students develop their understanding of how ideas and events from the past have shaped the world today. Topics related to financial literacy will be incorporated into the course to develop the knowledge and skills needed for economic success in the future.

8th Grade Social Studies

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Social Studies

8th Grade Social Studies continues the historical focus with the study of European exploration and the early years of the United States (1492 to 1877). All four social studies strands are incorporated into a chronological view of the development of the United States. Students will examine how historical events are shaped by geographic, social, cultural, economic, and political factors. Topics related to financial literacy will be incorporated into the course to develop the knowledge and skills needed for economic success in the future.

United States Geography: 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Social Studies

In this elective, students plan a detailed trip from Bucyrus to various destinations throughout the United States. Following the budget, timeframe, and site theme guidelines, students plan various visits to locations throughout the country. Students will research destinations, transportation, places to stay, sights to see, and how to get the most out of a trip. Students can also learn about current issues in various places along their trip and how to be a conscientious traveler. They will present their trips to classmates and must meet certain requirements for budget and timeframe for their trips.

World Geography 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Social Studies

World geography is an elective that studies physical and human geography. World Geography curriculum is organized by region and allows students to explore global cultures as they analyze populations, settlement patterns, and how these affect the physical environment. World Geography class will also allow students to analyze and compare various factors such as development, systems of government, and standards of living in different parts of the world, including the U.S., Asia, Africa, and Latin America, just to name a few.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

Business Foundations I & II: 7th grade

Prerequisite: Course taken back to back: Business I 1st semester and Business II 2nd semester.

Is an introductory course designed to give students an overview of Business Essentials. Students will develop a basic understanding of business in our economy. For an abbreviated period, we will briefly cover various business topics throughout the semester.

This course will emphasize skills such as goal setting, decision-making, communication, and time management, along with the other skills it takes to be a good leader in school and the community. This course is a valuable resource for those who aspire to become leaders in any organization, such as business, government, military, and non-profit organizations. Responsibility, integrity, and work ethic. You will demonstrate your understanding of Business Essentials through class presentations, notes, worksheets, group and individual projects, group and individual presentations, research, videos, activities, and assessments.

Marketing I & II: 8th grade

Prerequisite: Course taken back to back: Marketing I 1st semester and Marketing II 2nd semester.

This class is focused on providing students with a foundation in basic marketing principles.

Students develop an understanding and skills in distribution, marketing-information management, market planning, pricing, product/service management, promotion, and selling. Students develop an understanding of marketing functions applications and their impact on business operations.

Career Exploration 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester course will be a mix of online and teacher-led lessons covering career and life essentials such as developing and practicing a strong work ethic, time management, communication, teamwork, and the fundamentals of workplace organizations. Career Explorations also allow students to investigate different career paths and the needed skills to become college and/or career-ready after high school.

Intro to Media Communications 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: None

Teaches students the fundamentals of various media skills and arts, careers, business, and communication. We will examine how society is surrounded and impacted by different media outlets and the skills needed for each.

Computer Applications - 7th/8th:

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to Google applications through a project-based learning curriculum. Each lesson asks students to actively apply their learning of digital skills to help them solve real-world problems while developing computer and typing skills.

Intro to Public Speaking 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: None

The public speaking and communication class will help students develop and improve speaking and critical thinking skills while communicating with individuals and groups. Students will prepare and deliver speeches while being taught the fundamentals of physical and vocal delivery skills, controlling speech anxiety, and structuring and organizing information to present to various audiences.

Current Events-7th and 8th

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on current events and what we can learn from them. Students will use various news sources to engage in discussions and guide their learning about various topics. Students will use/improve skills from all content areas, including but not limited to reading and writing skills, geography skills, and how to find and verify reputable news sources.

Transitions- 6th Grade

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to help students transition from elementary to middle school. Topics covered and assessed in this course include behavior expectations, organizational strategies, technology, social-emotional learning, grade check-ins, and career exploration.

History Through Film 7th and 8th

Prerequisite: None

In this class, we will study important ideas, issues, and events that have been captured on film. We will study the history and accompanying themes for the period of each film. We will focus on imperialism, Holocaust, and Apartheid. We will write poetry, draw artwork in many forms (comic books, posters), give presentations, and do various other projects. A permission slip will be sent home for movies that are rated PG-13.

Study Hall

Prerequisite: None

This one-semester class period provides students with a class period to complete assignments and enrichment activities.