

BCPS Secondary (6th – 12th Grade) Course Catalog

*****Note: The courses described below may not be offered every year. This Document is subject to change as courses are approved.***

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Basic Design – 1 Credit (9th - 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce high school students to the basic elements and principles of design and to apply these principles to their own artwork. Students will use art materials and tools with skill to communicate ideas and incorporate elements of design in the creative process. Students will be introduced to shading techniques, positive and negative space, balance, color, paper mache, watercolor, opaque tempera, acrylics, pottery, glazes, and sculpture.

Advanced Art - 1 Credit (10th - 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: Basic Design or permission of instructor

This course is designed to expand on concepts introduced in Basic Design. Students will gain practice in using the principles of design, repetition, balance, emphasis and contrast. Students will use their creative, expressive, and problem solving skills in a variety of two dimensional media, including pencil, color pencil, watercolor and tempera paints, and pen and ink. Printmaking projects will provide students with the opportunity to experience the effects of color, repetition, and balance in a work of art.

2D and 3D Art- 0.5 Credit (7th - 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This class will teach unique arts and crafts that can be used for a lifetime. They will learn to do some really unique and fun craft projects that they can continue to do throughout their life. For example, papermaking, beading, card making, scrapbooking are just some of the crafts we will be learning.

Middle School Art - 0.5 Credit (6th-8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This class covers introductory concepts to art. Students learn about a variety of art techniques and tools regardless of their artistic background. Students get to explore their own personal style while completing projects that have to do with careers in art, self-expression, identity, and personal interests.

Elementary Art (K-4th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

This class teaches students the basics of design and art. Students get to explore new mediums and create unique projects. Examples include, making pinwheels, learning to use pastels, clay, watercolor, and wax resist art. This class encourages a life-long love for art in all forms.

High School Drama - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

In this course students will experience several different aspects of drama - both on and off stage. They will be working on performance techniques, set, costume, and make up designing, script writing, and will be a part of a class production. Drama is designed to increase students' knowledge of what goes into a theater production and to give firsthand opportunities to perform, design, tech, and create drama. Emphasis will be mainly on developing creative skills in drama; however, students will also be enhancing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, as well as their abilities to work with partners and in larger groups.

Middle School Drama/Debate/Forensics/Speech Elective -0.5 Credit (6th-8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students focus on various forms of communication that might include doing a play, poetry readings, debates, or a forensics team.

High School Concert/ Marching Band - 1 Credit (9th - 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: Middle School Band or permission of instructor

The centerpiece of the Beal City Band Program, this ensemble performs high quality ability-level appropriate literature appealing to students and audiences alike, while maintaining focus on National and State Arts Standards. Fundamentals of music (rhythm, pitch, tone, meter) are explored in addition to higher levels of music history, music theory and music of other cultures. MSBOA and other festival performances, in addition to special interdisciplinary presentations, are highlights of the school year in addition to performances at concert and athletic

events. All performances are considered a natural outgrowth of the school day activity.

Jazz Band - 1 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: Concert Band or permission of instructor

Jazz Band is available to all interested band members of 9th grade and beyond who play an instrument traditionally found in the Big Band orchestration: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, piano, bass and drums. Fundamentals of music (rhythm, pitch, tone, meter) are addressed as well as aspects of music history, music theory and music of other cultures as they apply to the jazz medium. Performances include concerts, athletic events and other community events. All performances are considered a natural outgrowth of the school day activity.

Occasional waivers can be made for participation by students younger than grade 9. However, middle school students' credits will not count towards high school credit.

Music Exploration: World Music & Music Appreciation -0.5 Credit (9th-12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

The Music Appreciation class will introduce students to a higher level of comprehension and understanding of Western music as well as music from different cultures around the world. Not a performance class, the curriculum will approach the building blocks of traditional Western music, the history and development thereof as well as music of other cultures and their influences on Western music. Topics will include critical listening, rhythm, pitch, harmony, analysis, history, style, music literacy, world music, musical theater, film music, and musical genres. Enrollment is open for any student attending Beal City High School with interest in a more complete understanding of music.

Instrumental General Music - Elementary - (5th Grade) Elective

The 5th grade instrumental music class will allow students to explore and expand their knowledge of musical instruments through the National and State Music Standards. Students will apply previous knowledge from their music classes while expanding on their ability to read and understand rhythm, pitch, tone, and meter. The curriculum will include learning to read music, composition, learning to play recorders, xylophone, drums, and beginning band instruments.

Beginning Band – 1 Credit (6th Grade) Elective

The goal of beginning band is to build a musical foundation for students to utilize throughout their time in the Beal City Band Program and throughout their lives. Students will play an instrument of traditional symphonic band orchestration such as flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, and percussion. This ensemble performs high quality ability-level appropriate literature appealing to students and audiences alike, while maintaining focus on National and State Music Standards. Fundamentals of music (rhythm, pitch, tone, meter) are introduced and explored in addition to music history, music theory, composition, and music of other cultures.

Middle School Concert Band – 1 Credit (7th - 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students learn the fundamentals of operating as a concert band. Individual playing is still a focal point as students learn how their portions of the score connect with other instruments.

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

English Language Arts 9 - 1 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The goal for English Language Arts Grade 9 is to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language Arts Grade 9, students will be introduced to the various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Ninth graders will connect with and respond to texts by analyzing relationships within and across families, communities, societies, governments, and economies. Through the lens of Inter-Relationships and Self-Reliance, they will consider how they build relationships, how their relationships impact others, and their responsibility to society.

English Language Arts 10 - 1 Credit (10th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 9

The goal for English Language Arts 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language Arts 10, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Tenth graders will connect with and respond to texts through critical

response and stance, focusing on World Literature. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

English Language Arts 11 - 1 Credit (11th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 10

The goal for English Language Arts 11 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language Arts 11, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school with a special focus on American literature and ACT success. Eleventh graders will connect with and respond to texts. They will learn to use forward thinking to help make better decisions, to generate new ideas for solving problems, and to find wisdom. They will build a context for change in their lives and develop realistic plans for the future.

English Language Arts 12 - 1 Credit (12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: English Language Arts 11

The goal for English Language Arts 12 is to refine, apply, and extend the solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies developed in English Language Arts 9 through 11. Using the lens of leadership skills, English Language Arts 12 students will develop a world perspective by analyzing classic and contemporary texts in a variety of genres, focusing on British Literature. Emphasis will be placed on historical background, cultural context, and literary analysis. Twelfth graders will synthesize information, ideas, and themes to understand the past, the present, and to think innovatively about the future. Writing well about literature is a key component of the class. A research paper incorporating both primary and secondary sources is required.

Communications - 0.5 Credit (11th or 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to enhance your communication skills in several areas: intrapersonal, interpersonal, small group and public. You will spend time getting to know yourself better, learning how to communicate one on one, in small groups, and in front of a larger audience. Much focus will be put on building, maintaining, and improving relationships and on conflict management.

English Enrichment - 1 Credit (10th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

In English Enrichment, students explore a variety of creative writing styles and use technology to publish their work. Other course requirements include reporting, interviewing, checking facts, taking photos, deciding on photos/design, analyzing data, validating good sources, determining source to use, representing different sides of the story, and advertising. The students practice continual revision and analyze and review their work during the creative process. One of the final products is a published yearbook.

The Novel - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

The Novel is a study of various novels published during the 19th and 20th Century, as well as an analysis of these works in their historical, cultural, and social contexts. The majority of the selected books were chosen from Petersons Reading List for College-Bound Students, which contains the reading lists of approximately 120 colleges and universities. The main objectives of the course are to increase: 1) Knowledge and appreciation of literature; 2) Understanding of how society can affect the literature of the time 3) The ability to discuss literature in a group setting

Research Writing - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Research writing is a study of various researching techniques. Several writing styles will be discussed, but the emphasis will be placed on the Modern Language Association (MLA) format. Goals of the course will be to: increase your ability to write an effective research paper, increase your understanding of the writing process, increase your analytical writing skills, expand upon your research skills, and enhance your knowledge of different writing formats for research.

SAT Prep - 0.5 Credit (11th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

The SAT Prep course concentrates on SAT reading, vocabulary and writing skills along with math practice. The course includes practice in taking the SAT test, as well as strategies for the question types (sentence completion, vocabulary, critical reading, and writing – finding errors /revision).

Middle School English Language Arts - 1 Credit (6th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

ELA 6 focuses on strengthening each student's ability to effectively read, write, and communicate. This course will expose students to a variety of literature such as

novels, short stories, poems, plays, articles, essays, and much more. In regards to writing, students will compose (but not limited to) narratives, poetry, argumentative essays, expository essays, and analytical essays.

Middle School English Language Arts - 1 Credit (7th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

ELA 7 focuses on strengthening each student's ability to effectively read, write, and communicate. This course will expose students to a variety of literature such as novels, short stories, poems, plays, articles, essays, and much more. In regards to writing, students will compose (but not limited to) narratives, poetry, argumentative essays, expository essays, and analytical essays.

Middle School English Language Arts - 1 Credit (8th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

ELA 8 focuses on strengthening each student's ability to effectively read, write, and communicate. This course will expose students to a variety of literature such as novels, short stories, poems, plays, articles, essays, and much more. In regards to writing, students will compose (but not limited to) narratives, poetry, argumentative essays, expository essays, and analytical essays.

BUSINESS / INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

High School BST - 1 Credit (10th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

In HS BST, or Business Services and Technology, students will learn advanced word processing skills with Microsoft Word, as well as other computer skills and applications such as Excel, PowerPoint, and internet applications and safety. This course will also involve the Career Forward program which allows students to explore various career paths through self-inventories and the formation of an Individualized Development Plan. HS BST fulfills the online experience graduation requirement set forth by the Michigan Department of Education.

Middle School BST – 0.5 Credit (6th – 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

In MS BST the focus is on keyboarding skills, internet safety, and a rudimentary understanding of how to use Google Tools. Some work on the student's IDP is accomplished through this class.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish I - 1 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course is designed to empower students with the tools of language learning. They will learn basic vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and culture throughout the year using a variety of techniques. Students will begin to develop their second language by working on interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication skills through writing, reading, listening and speaking. Throughout this course, a focus on the cultural diversity of the Spanish speaking world will be explored in order to engage cultural comparisons and appreciation.

Spanish II - 1 Credit (10th – 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Spanish I

This course is designed to expand upon the foundation created in Spanish I in order to increase students' ability to communicate effectively. Students will be able to use these skills to facilitate the descriptions of present, past, and future events. Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate proficiency by communicating in predictable situations about themselves, their families, communities, school, home, and country. The acquisition of a second language will empower students with the linguistic and cultural tools to effectively compare and contrast the traditions, languages, and perspectives of themselves and others.

Middle School Spanish I - 1 Credit (8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course is designed to empower students with the tools of language learning. They will learn basic vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and culture throughout the year using a variety of techniques. Students will begin to develop their second language by working on interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication skills through writing, reading, listening and speaking. Throughout this course, a focus on the cultural diversity of the Spanish speaking world will be explored in order to engage cultural comparisons and appreciation.

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I - 1 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The goal of Algebra I is to build upon the concepts taught in the middle grades and develop them even further. Students will review and extend topics on linear, quadratic, and exponential equations and functions. They will learn to relate graphic, numeric, symbolic, and verbal representations of these patterns. Students will also be introduced to polynomial and power patterns.

Geometry - 1 Credit (10th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The main objective of this course is to develop logical reasoning skills through the study of formal logic and proof. Extensive study of theorems and postulates will develop relationships between the building blocks of geometry: points, lines, and planes. These properties will then allow students to study relationships among other geometric figures such as parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Students will develop spatial reasoning through the study of 2 and 3-dimensional figures, including area and volume. Students will also be introduced to trigonometry.

Algebra II - 1 Credit (11th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Geometry

The goal of Algebra II is to build upon the concepts taught in Algebra I and Geometry and develop them even further. Students will review and extend topics on functions taught in Algebra I such as linear, quadratic, polynomial, and exponential. Algebra II will introduce new functions such as logarithmic, rational, and trigonometric. In addition to the study of functions, students will learn about sequences, iteration, conic sections, statistics, and probability. Upon completion of this course, students will have the knowledge base to be successful on the SAT and MME math tests.

Algebra II A and Algebra II B - 2 Credits (11th and 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Geometry and teacher/parent recommendation

These two classes together will cover all of the material in the Algebra II course. The material will be learned over the course of two years, instead of one. This will allow the class to move at a slower pace. Each course will be assigned one credit. Algebra II A will cover the Algebra II Pre-MME content expectations as

determined by the state to provide adequate preparation for the SAT and MME math tests.

Precalculus - 1 Credit (12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Precalculus is the preparation for calculus. The study of the topics and concepts in precalculus will deepen students' understanding of algebra and extend their ability to apply algebra at higher conceptual levels. Functions and trigonometry will be covered in depth, as well as an introduction to vectors, matrices, and polar coordinates.

High School Math Support - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Preview/review topics directly related to students' required math curriculum.

Math in the Trades - 0.5 Credit (9th – 10th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Potential topics related to GI-Tec offerings.

Middle School Mathematics – 1 Credit (6th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The goal of Mathematics 6 is to build upon the concepts taught in the elementary grades and develop them even further. Some of the topics students will investigate in this course include: integers on the number line, fraction and decimal operations, ratios, rates, and percents, algebraic expressions and equations, area, perimeter and volume, the coordinate plane, and statistics.

Middle School Mathematics – 1 Credit (7th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The goal of Mathematics 7 is to build upon the concepts taught in the sixth grade and develop them further. Some of the topics students will investigate in this course include: real numbers, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, integer operations, proportions, angle properties, volume and surface area of solid figures, statistics, and probability.

Middle School Mathematics – 1 Credit (8th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The goal of Mathematics 8 is to build upon the concepts taught in the sixth and seventh grades and develop them further. Some of the topics students will investigate in this course include: rational and irrational numbers, radicals and

integer exponents, proportional relationships, linear equations, functions, systems of equations, congruence and similarities, Pythagorean Theorem, volume of solid figures, and statistics.

Middle School Math Support - 0.5 Credit (6th-8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Preview/review topics directly related to students' required math curriculum.

Middle School Math in the Trades - 0.5 Credit (6th – 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Potential topics related to GI-Tec offerings.

HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION

High School Health - 0.5 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to provide information needed to make important decisions about health, wellness, and individual lifestyle. Topics related to health such as personal health, wellness, social and emotional health, safety, nutrition, physical activity, alcohol/tobacco/other drugs, HIV/STI Prevention, and sexuality education will be discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the student's acquiring knowledge and assuming responsibility for one's own health.

Middle School Health 1 Credit (6th – 8th Grade) Required

This course is designed to provide information needed to make important decisions about health, wellness, and individual lifestyle. Topics related to health such as personal health, wellness, social and emotional health, safety, nutrition, physical activity, alcohol/tobacco/other drugs, HIV/STI Prevention, and sexuality education will be discussed. Emphasis will be placed on the student's acquiring knowledge and assuming responsibility for one's own health.

High School Physical Education - 0.5 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for all 9th grade students. In addition to a daily fitness program, students will be involved in a variety of activities. Activities will range from participation in individual and team sports to a number of different strength and conditioning workouts.

Middle School Physical Education- 0.5 credit (6th - 8th Grade) Required

This course is designed to provide students the skills necessary to promote a healthy lifestyle. Students will learn about the benefits of being physically active throughout one's lifetime and will gain a knowledge base for a variety of physical education and recreational activities, including rules, strategies and a history of such activities. Teamwork, cooperation and sportsmanship are emphasized. Students must give their best efforts at all times, exhibit positive attitudes and demonstrate respect to everyone and everything, including themselves and equipment

Advanced High School Physical Education - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to enhance students' knowledge and abilities in the physical, mental and social outcomes derived from participation in team sports and individual sports. A daily fitness program is also part of this class.

High School Weightlifting/Fitness - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students learn how to use the equipment in the weight room safely. Students also create a personal fitness plan that meets the goals outlined by the student and instructor. Students learn how to track their progress in their fitness goals.

Team Sports - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students in the Team Sports Course will participate in different team sports while enhancing personal and social behaviors. The course is also designed to inspire opportunities to advance individual skill levels in different team sports. Students will be using sport to improve their personal fitness level, hand eye coordination, foot eye coordination, and improve their body awareness. Team sports will teach the life lessons tied to competitive sports including but not limited to sportsmanship, respect, dealing with winning and losing, teamwork, and encouraging a competitive spirit.

Lifelong Fitness - 0.5 Credit (8th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students in the Lifetime Fitness Course will be exploring fitness topics such as safe exercise and injury prevention, nutrition and weight management, consumer product evaluation, and stress management, this course equips students with the skills they need to achieve lifetime fitness. Throughout this course, students assess

individual fitness levels according to the five components of physical fitness: cardiovascular health, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Students will participate in low impact activities that elicit participation throughout all phases of life.

Middle School Weightlifting/Fitness - 0.5 Credit (6th – 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students learn how to use the equipment in the weight room safely. Students also create a personal fitness plan that meets the goals outlined by the student and instructor. Students learn how to track their progress in their fitness goals.

Middle School Survival - 0.5 Credit (6th - 8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

A course specially designed to help a 6th grade make the leap from 1-2 classrooms per day, to having 7 different teachers. Students learn how to budget time, organize themselves, use Google Classroom and PowerSchool. They learn about the credit system and why grades will quickly become so important.

Middle School Grade Safety 0.5 Credit (6th -8th Grade) Elective

This course gives students information on how to stay safe while participating in a number of different popular recreational activities. Safety involving hunting, snowmobiling, boating, and off-road vehicles will be discussed within this class. Students will have an option to independently sign-up for and take the online versions of hunter safety, snowmobile safety, boating safety and ORV safety offered through the Michigan.gov/DNR website.

SCIENCE

Earth Science - 1 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to teach introductory Earth Science emphasizing broad and detailed coverage of basic topics in geology, oceanography, meteorology and astronomy.

Physics - 1 Credit (10th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

Introductory Physics course which will introduce students to the basic principles, laws and concepts in Physics. This course will cover the fundamentals of nature such as motion, forces, energy, matter, heat, sound, light, electricity, magnetism

and the composition of atoms.

Biology - 1 Credit (11th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This hands-on course will cover a wide range of biology topics including the chemistry of life, the biosphere, ecosystems and communities, populations, cell structure and function, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, cell growth and division, genetics, DNA, RNA, the human genome, the history of life, and classification. Students will explore the everyday uses of biology as well as the scientific and agricultural importance of Biology. Additionally, students will learn about the career opportunities available in the biological industry. Students will be working in both outside and inside labs.

Chemistry - 1 Credit (12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: Earth Science and Physics

This course is designed to enhance students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills. It is a rigorous, comprehensive study of matter, its properties, and relationships. Problem solving and laboratory activities are emphasized. The basic theories of Chemistry, use of laboratory equipment and metric measurement are stressed. The major topics are atomic structure, periodic law, chemical bonding & nomenclature, states of matter, the mole, Stoichiometry, chemical equilibrium, kinetics, and acid-base chemistry.

Astronomy 1 – 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Introductory Astronomy course which will cover the history of Astronomy and the universe, spectroscopy, telescopes, the solar system.

Astronomy 2 – 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Brief overview of Introductory Astronomy, formation of stars, meteorites, asteroids, comets, Milky Way Galaxy, Astrobiology and Modern Cosmology.

Anatomy and Physiology - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: none

Anatomy and physiology is a course that will enable students to develop an understanding of the relationships between the structures and functions of the human body. This course will involve laboratory activities, projects, dissections, textbook material, models, diagrams and journal writings.

High School Environmental Science - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: none

Environmental science is the study of patterns and processes in the natural world and their modification by human activity. To understand current environmental problems, we need to consider physical, biological and chemical processes that are often the basis of those problems. This course will give you the skills necessary to address the environmental issues we are facing today by examining scientific principles and the application of those principles to natural systems. This course will survey some of the many environmental science topics at an introductory level, ultimately considering the sustainability of human activities on the planet.

Zoology - 0.5 Credit (9th – 12th Grade) *Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the industry of agriculture and its scope and importance to each of us. Included will be an introduction to the FFA as a component of the Agriscience program. In this class students will learn about the animal industry through genetics, breeding, reproduction, nutrition and record keeping. Along with an in-depth study of animals such as beef, swine, sheep, goats, dairy, poultry, fish, horses and rabbits. *Students must complete a full year of both Zoology and Botany with a C or above to be considered a completer of Beal City Schools Agriscience CTE program

Natural Resources - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Students will begin with a general discussion of natural resources and its relationship and importance to man. In addition, students will explore career opportunities available to them in natural resources. Labs will be conducted inside and outside of the classroom. Students will also be learning about the FFA.

Botany - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) *Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the industry of agriculture and its scope and importance to each of us. Included will be an introduction to the FFA as a component of the Agriscience program. In this class students will learn about plants, including the horticulture industry and its importance to our economy. Students will explore horticulture, plant propagation, greenhouse management, integrated pest management, landscaping, lawn and turf grass, vegetables, fruits, crops, plant ID and floral design. The greenhouse will be used for projects in germination, nutrition, and light experiments. Students will also be learning about

the FFA. *Students must complete a full year of both Zoology and Botany with a C or above to be considered a completer of Beal City Schools Agriscience CTE program

Agribusiness - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the agribusiness aspects of agriculture and natural resources. Agribusiness will cover size and importance of agribusiness, types of agribusiness, personal financial management, agribusiness record keeping and accounting, public agribusiness services, private agribusiness services, the agribusiness input sector, the agribusiness output marketing sector, commodity (futures) marketing, agri-marketing channels, and the American economy, economic activity and analysis, international agriculture marketing, emerging agribusiness and technologies, and planning and organizing an agribusiness.

Middle School Ag. Topics - 0.5 Credit (6th -8th Grade) Elective

In this hands-on course, students will be exploring a revolving series of important agricultural topics including, but not limited to alternative energy, salmon (and other animals) in the classroom, recycling, and new and exciting agricultural technologies.

Middle School Ag. Leadership - 0.5 Credit (6th – 8th Grade) Elective

This course will teach students about the FFA and what it has to offer them. Additionally, students will learn how to become better communicators, leaders, and how to positively contribute to their local community.

Forensic Science – 0.5 Credit (9th-12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

This hands-on course will introduce students to the field of forensics. Students will investigate basic crime scene analysis skills used in the field and in the lab. Additionally, this course will help expose students to the career opportunities available in the field of forensics.

Middle School Science - 1 Credit (6th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of science. The courses are Integrated science courses focusing on topics such as the nature of science, Earth systems science, life science, and physical science.

Middle School Science - 1 Credit (7th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of science. The courses are Integrated science courses focusing on topics such as the nature of science, Earth systems science, life science, and physical science.

Middle School Science - 1 Credit (8th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of science. The courses are Integrated science courses focusing on topics such as the nature of science, Earth systems science, life science, and physical science.

Fundamental Science - 1 Credit (6th -8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Science elective class designed to engage students in hands-on activities regarding science, technology, engineering and math principles.

Middle School Astronomy - 0.5 Credit (6th -8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

First semester: Introductory astronomy course which will cover the history of astronomy and the universe, spectroscopy, telescopes, the solar system. Second Semester: Brief overview of introductory astronomy, formation of stars, meteorites, asteroids, comets, Milky Way Galaxy, Astrobiology and Modern Cosmology.

Middle School Environmental Science - 1 Credit (6th -8th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Environmental science is the study of patterns and processes in the natural world and their modification by human activity. To understand current environmental problems, we need to consider physical, biological, and chemical processes that are often the basis of those problems. This course will give you the skills necessary to address the environmental issues we are facing today by examining scientific principles and the application of those principals to natural

SOCIAL STUDIES

World History and Geography - 1 Credit (9th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course will take a global and comparative approach to studying the world and its past to develop a greater understanding of today's worldwide events, processes, and interactions among people, cultures, societies, and environment. This class begins with ancient times and chronologically covers World history ending with the Cold War and its aftermath.

US History - 1 Credit (10th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce relevant concepts of American History. Content will focus on the evolution of American History and the economic, social and political impact this has had on our country and internationally. The American History class will begin with the growth of industrial urbanization and follow historical chronology through the twentieth century until the present. Upon thorough examination students will have a better understanding of themselves and their society and help them make decisions about their future.

Government - 0.5 Credit (11th - 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

Government is a half-credit Social Studies class. This course is designed to introduce the origins of American Constitutional Government and the foundations and principles of American Government. The Government class will examine the structure of our Federal and State Government, foreign policy and the United States' role in international institutions and affairs. Students will understand the rights and responsibilities of citizenship including leadership, authority, self-interest and the greater good.

Economics - 0.5 Credit (11th - 12th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

Economics is a half-credit Social Studies class. This course is designed to introduce basic concepts of Economics of the market economy including individual and household choices, personal finance, business and entrepreneurial decision, and public policy. The Economics class will also study macroeconomics including inflation, unemployment and the role of money nationally and internationally.

Current Events - 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of this course is to comprehensively study selected international, national and local problems. Researching the problem by examining the facts and evaluating the alternatives will lead the student to objectively consider possible solutions. Weekly resource materials used are Newsweek magazine and the local or state newspaper.

Michigan History – 0.5 Credit (9th -12th Grade) Elective

Prerequisite: None

Michigan History is a semester long course that explores the history of the 26th state starting with pre-statehood settlement and trade. Major topics would include the timber industry, the growth of manufacturing, navigation of the Great Lakes, and issues the State faces in the future.

Middle School Social Studies - 1 Credit (6th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

The sixth grade social studies curriculum is a geography-based course which introduces students to the physical and human geography of the world. Beginning with a spatial perspective, students explore different ways in which the earth has been represented, how geographers use specific tools and technologies in geographic inquiry, and some of the limitations of these tools. They investigate patterns of natural and human characteristics and use case studies to examine how the physical environment has provided both benefits and obstacles to human societies.

Middle School Social Studies - 1 Credit (7th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

Students in seventh grade will review the tools and mental constructs used by historians and geographers. They will develop an understanding of Ancient World History, Eras 1 – 3, of the Eastern Hemisphere and will study contemporary geography of the Eastern Hemisphere. Contemporary civics/government and economics content is integrated throughout the year. As a capstone, the students will conduct investigations about past and present global issues. Using significant content knowledge, research, and inquiry, they will analyze the issue and propose a plan for the future.

Middle Social Studies - 1 Credit (8th Grade) Required

Prerequisite: None

Eighth grade students continue their study of United States History from the writing of the Constitution through Reconstruction. Geographic, civics/government, and economics content is integrated within the historical context. Where appropriate, they make comparisons to relevant contemporary issues.

HIGH SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

Individualized instruction is given in all academic areas. Students must qualify for Special Education as defined in the state guidelines and be on an Individualized Education Plan.

Special Education - Varies (9th-12th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

Individualized instruction and credit is given in academic areas of Math, English, Social Studies, and Science. Students must qualify for Special Education as defined in the state guidelines.

Academic Support Elective - 1 Credit (9th-12th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of Academic Support Elective is to help students prepare for all academic classes, as well as to help them to be successful in and out of the classroom. The course is designed to assist students in establishing routines and to gain and improve study and work habits that will transfer to other aspects of students' lives. Students will be introduced to a variety of academic skills including test preparation, study skills, note taking skills, test taking skills, organization, work completion opportunities, disability awareness activities, and IEP awareness activities.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION

Individualized instruction is given in academic areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics within resource classes for English, Mathematics and Support. Students must qualify for Special Education as defined in the state guidelines and be on an Individualized Education Plan.

English (6th -8th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

English courses will include the study of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will focus on reading and writing in multiple genres, including science-fiction, historical-fiction, realistic-fiction, biographies, and research. Students will read a variety of novels with a focus on comprehension. Student IEP's will also guide instruction and expectations within this course.

Mathematics (6th -8th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

Instruction involves learning in the areas of mental arithmetic, estimation, computation, problem-solving, and calculator usage. Important concepts covered are measurement, percentage, geometry, algebra, statistics, and probability. These concepts are taught by focusing on both mathematical and real-world applications. Instruction will mirror general education concepts and expectations, as well as a student's IEP.

Academic Support Elective (6th -8th Grade)

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of Academic Support Elective is to help students prepare for all academic classes, as well as to help them to be successful in and out of the classroom. The course is designed to assist students in establishing routines and to gain and improve study and work habits that will transfer to other aspects of students' lives. Students will be introduced to a variety of academic skills including test preparation, study skills, note taking skills, test taking skills, organization, and work completion opportunities,

CTE / VOCATIONAL CENTER

Vocational Courses - 1 Credit per semester (11th, 12th Grade, or permission of counselor)

Prerequisite: None

Course descriptions for classes offered at the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center are available from the counselor.

ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Contact H.S. Counselors for a catalog of Michigan Virtual University (MVU) courses that are available.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Contact H.S. Counselors for AP course offerings.

DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Beal City Public Schools strongly encourages eligible students to take advantage of several “early college opportunities” that are available across the district. Each of these opportunities comes at a significantly reduced cost to students and families and each serves as an excellent “bridge” to postsecondary education. DUAL ENROLLMENT Students who score at or above minimum scores on various standardized test such as the PLAN (administered to all 10th grade students), the ACT (administered to all 11th grade students) or the SAT are eligible to "dual enroll" at any public college or university in the state of Michigan. Dual enrollment enables a student to simultaneously earn high school and college credit. These college credits may be transferred depending on the college/university the student will be attending. Students can take classes either on campus, or, becoming more popular each year, in an “on-line" format. Perhaps most significantly, in Dual enrollment cases, A portion of the tuition costs are paid by Beal City Public Schools.! Please see your counselor to learn how you can become involved in these exciting programs.