



Blue Ridge Middle School

Reaching, Teaching, Inspiring!

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Planning Your Education

Your school provides this course curriculum guide as a means of assisting students and parents in understanding and planning their course of study. Students are encouraged to carefully select related arts courses during the registration process. Your school's guidance counselors and teachers stand ready to assist them. Parents are invited and encouraged to actively participate by assisting their student.

Related arts classes are scheduled based upon student requests. However, due to schedule conflicts and changes in course offerings, the staff cannot guarantee that students will be scheduled for all courses they request. In addition, be aware that the school builds a master schedule and employs teachers based on students' requests; therefore, schedule changes will only be considered on a very limited basis.

Online Registration

Online Registration was implemented in 2004. It allows parents and students to request related arts courses for the next school year from home via the Internet. Families who do not have access to the Internet will be given opportunities to use school computers to register online. Parents and students should understand that requesting a related arts course through online registration does not guarantee that the student is placed in the course the next school year. Final placement in a course is dependent upon enrollment, scheduling feasibility, and teacher allocation. Parents without Internet access at home will receive a printed copy of the course curriculum guide by request. The window for students to select related arts courses online is posted by the school on the school's website and in parent newsletters. Schools will provide instructions on accessing the online registration tool.

Promotion Criteria for Grades Six, Seven, and Eight

Criterion 1: Students in grades six through eight are expected to learn, at a minimum, curriculum standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and meet attendance requirements.

Criterion 2: The student earned a minimum average grade of 60% in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies (if language arts is taught as a separate subject in grades 6-8, the English language arts grade will be determined by the mean of the yearly average of reading and language arts.)

End of Year Promotion Status

The following are summary designation and descriptors for end-of-year promotion status of students in grades six-eight.

Promoted – The student met all promotion criteria. The one exception is that students who fail a high school credit bearing course in middle school are promoted but must retake the course. Enrollment in these credit bearing courses will be determined by the district criteria.

Promoted - Summer School Required - The student failed to meet the criteria for one or two core academic areas, but successful performance in summer school for any deficient area was met.



A Welcome Statement from Blue Ridge Middle School Principal--Karen Bullard

Welcome to Blue Ridge Middle School! We are excited to share opportunities for students to grow academically through course offerings at BRMS. Take a look at the course offerings and reach out if you have any questions. We are happy to have your child at our school and look forward to working with them.

Blue Ridge Middle School

2023-2024

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Principal: Mrs. Karen Bullard

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Sandra Taylor

Assistant Principal: Mr. Jay Grady

Administrative Assistant: Mr. William Gillette

Guidance Information

Visit the BRMS Counseling website for more information regarding counseling services at <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/blue-ridge-middle-counselors>

6th Grade	Sara Broome	355-1913	sbroome@greenville.k12.sc.us
7th Grade	Allison Kilgore	355-1961	ankilgore@greenville.k12.sc.us
8th Grade	April Chubb	355-1904	achubb@greenville.k12.sc.us
All Grades - Career Development & 504	Beverly Wilbanks	355-1994	bewilban@greenville.k12.sc.us
Guidance Clerk	Cindy Batson	355-1903	cybatson@greenville.k12.sc.us
Guidance Clerk	Ashley Rastatter	355-1957	arastatter@greenville.k12.sc.us



Related Arts Information

During the two semesters in the year students have the opportunity to take up to four related arts classes. Classes are set up as semester or year long classes. The length of the class will determine how many related arts courses students are able to take during the year.

6th Grade

Students who choose Band, Strings, Chorus or a year-long Intervention will choose this course first. These are all year-long courses and take up two semesters.

Each student must choose either PE or Health. These are both semester classes.

Then choose from the following courses to equal four semesters.

Art

Career Education

Character Education

Exploratory

General Music

GTT Magic of Electrons

GTT Computer Science of Innovators

GTT Design and Model

GTT Science and Technology

Service Learning (by application only - see your school counselor)

Skill Building (students who need extra help in math-teacher recommended)



Student Opportunities

Blue Ridge Middle School is located on Tyger Bridge Road at the foot of Glassy Mountain near North Greenville University and is considered a rural school. The one-story facility has an auditorium, cafeteria, media center, nine science labs, and two Gateway to Technology labs. The building was renovated in 2001 and has over 1,000 students in attendance. Blue Ridge Middle offer high school credit classes on our campus and through virtual delivery interfaces.

Blue Ridge Middle students also have the opportunity to participate in sports programs. Seventh and eighth-grade students may try out for basketball, volleyball, soccer, baseball, and softball here at the school. Students may also try out for high school teams such as wrestling, track, cross country, football, and golf.



Blue Ridge Middle student have the opportunity to explore and excel in Fine Arts instruction as well. We offer the finest instruction in band, strings, chorus, and art. These programs offer students several opportunities throughout the year to perform in different settings including local concerts, State and Theme Park Assessment Performance, and local and regional art shows.

The career program offers career luncheons, women at work, job shadowing and career assessments.

Blue Ridge Middle School also provides after-school activities such as an Extended Day Program, a Drama Program, a Science Club, and Math Counts. BRMS currently participates in VEX Robotics and competitions.



Tips for a successful transition to middle school

- *Make sure you know the school rules and expect your child to follow them**
 - *Support the school and the teachers and administrators**
 - *Attend parent programs and parent-teacher conferences**
 - *Establish a routine for doing homework everyday**
 - *Discuss with your child how to make new friends**
 - *Assist your child with getting organized and having all of their supplies**
 - *Encourage the use of the school agenda to write down daily homework**
- *Recognize your child's growing independence- while they may need guidance they do not need parents who try to solve all of their problems for them**
- *Encourage your child to try new things and to get involved in school activities**
 - *Insist on daily attendance- have them in school and on time daily**
 - *Encourage a healthy lifestyle**
 - *Show an interest in what your child is studying**
- *Make homework your child's responsibility, but help with time management**
 - *Talk about the importance of getting a good education**
 - *Communicate with your child daily that you LOVE THEM**

Course Descriptions

English

Title: English Studies 6

Course Number: 10013100

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

English Studies 6 is designed to prepare students for College and Career readiness as required by the South Carolina State Standards. The curriculum exposes students to a variety of genres, both literary and informational. Placement Recommendation - Successful completion of grade 5.

Title: English GT 6

Course Number: 10013200

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course is designed to meet the needs of academically gifted and talented students who were identified through the standard measures implemented by The School District of Greenville County. The curriculum designed specifically for this course meets the guidelines set forth by the South Carolina State Department of Education as criteria for Gifted and Talented instruction. Students should expect to find the curriculum challenging in a number of ways: text complexity, analytical writing, problem solving, creative endeavors, and accelerated pace. Prerequisite: Identified as GTA (Gifted and Talented Academic)

Title: Reading Assistance 6th

Course Number: 10240000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course offers students remediation and additional assistance in reading skills in support of on grade level instruction in the regular Language Arts and/or Literature classroom. PREREQUISITE: Guidance Placement

Math

Title: Math 6th

Course Number: 11100600

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This standards-based sixth-grade course is designed to help students begin the transition from arithmetic to algebraic thinking. It includes concepts, operations, and problems solving with decimals, fractions, and percents in addition to an introduction to integers and ratios. Students will develop algebraic thinking through the investigation of patterns, the use of simple equations and inequalities to represent relationships, and the use of tables and graphs to solve problems. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections. PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation

Title: Math 6th/7th

Course Number: 11100700

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This standards-based course is designed to help students begin the transition from arithmetic to algebraic thinking. It includes all of the grade 6 standards and half of the grade 7 standards. Topics include operations and problem-solving with decimals, fractions, integers, ratios, proportions, and percents. Students will develop algebraic thinking through the investigation of patterns, the use of one-and two-step equations and inequalities to represent relationships, and the use of tables and graphs to solve problems. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections. PREREQUISITE: Must meet district criteria including Teacher recommendation

Science

Title: Science 6th

Course Number: 12010000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

The focus for science in sixth grade is to provide students with inquiry based experiences that develop science concepts in the following areas: Structures, Processes and Response of Plants-structure and function of plants; Structures, Processes and Responses of Animals-structure and function of animals; Earths Atmosphere and Weather-atmospheric properties and processes; and, Conservation of Energy-properties of energy, work, and conservation of energy. PREREQUISITE: None

Social Studies

Title: Social Studies 6th

Course Number: 13010000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

Sixth grade social studies expands students' understanding of history through the study of people, places, and events to the era of European exploration and settlement. Students focus not only on facts about various cultures but also on the significance of geography in history, their everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of people, and their roles in developing the social, economic, and political structures of major civilizations. Instruction should emphasize the elements of social studies literacy, the tools, strategies, and perspectives necessary for understanding how history, geography, economics and government are interwoven. PREREQUISITE: None

Arts

Title: Art 6

Course Number: 15010000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

The purpose of this course is to enable students to communicate ideas and concepts through a variety of artwork, including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, arts, and crafts. A study of artists and their work will help students understand the techniques, skills, and diverse intentions of artists from many cultures and times. Students will focus on developing creative problem-solving skills, visual literacy, and personal expression. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Band 6

Course Number: 15310000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course provides beginning-level instruction on brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. No previous musical experience is required. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Chorus 6

Course Number: 15410000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental vocal musicianship, technical skills, and aesthetic awareness through the study and performance of varied middle school choral literature. The curriculum for Chorus 6 includes vocal technique, part singing, music fundamentals, and singing music of various historical and world styles through large and small group participation. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of the musical concepts. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Strings 6

Course Number: 15510000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course provides beginning-level instruction on violin, viola, cello, and string bass. No previous musical experience is required. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and string techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Some larger instruments are available at the school, and parents should coordinate with the director for their use. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: General Music 6th

Course Number: 15610000

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This is a course providing students with the opportunity to explore musical concepts and further their understanding of music through listening, singing, playing instruments, and engaging in creative activities. PREREQUISITE: None

Physical Education

Title: Health 6
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 14010000

Enrollment in this course fulfills the state law requiring 9 weeks of health education every year for all students in grades 6 - 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the information and the skills needed to become health literate, maintain and improve personal health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors as outlined in the SC Health and Safety Curriculum Standards. The course also focuses on evaluating, advocating, and coordinating valid resources and services to meet the needs of students, families, and communities. Course content areas include Personal Health and Wellness, Nutritional Choices, Mental Health, Preventing Injuries, Family Living, and Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Phys Education 6
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 14400000

Enrollment in this course fulfills the regulation that all students will complete one quarter of physical education each year in grades 6 - 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the four SC Middle School PE Student Performance criteria as mandated by the SC Department of Education. Students will demonstrate the abilities, concepts, knowledge, and skills required to:1) demonstrate competence in modified versions of activities in three movement forms as identified in the SCPEAP standards;2) demonstrate knowledge of the five components of fitness and the F.I.T.T. principle on a written test;3) participate regularly in health-enhancing physical activity outside the physical education class;4) meet the gender and age group health-related physical fitness standard as described by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education. PREREQUISITE: None

Career and Technology

Title: GTT6 Design & Modeling
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 17800000

This unit uses solid modeling (a very sophisticated mathematical technique for representing solid objects) to introduce students to the design process. Utilizing this design approach, students understand how solid modeling has influenced their lives. Students also learn sketching techniques, and use descriptive geometry as a component of design, measurement, and computer modeling. Using design briefs or abstracts, students create models and documentation to solve problems.

Title: GTT6 Comp Science for Innovators
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 17850000

Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects.

Title: GTT6 Magic of Electrons
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 17870000

In this unit, students examine the behavior and parts of atoms as well as the impact of electricity on the world around them. They learn skills in basic circuitry design and use what they know to propose designs such as a burglar alarm for an art museum.

Title: Career Education 6th
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 18300000

This course introduces the students to the careers that are available to them after their education. Students are given a chance to research and explore various careers as well as learn about the skills that are needed for a particular occupation. During this time, the students are also introduced to the career clusters that are used in the district. PREREQUISITE: None

Miscellaneous

Title: Exploratory 6
Unit Credit: 0
Grade Level: 6

Course Number: 17010100

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and learn information and skills that will enhance their academic and personal lives in middle school. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Skill Building 6th

Course Number: 17990100

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course focuses on skills that students need to make better and more efficient use of study time. Students will actively engage in learning time management skills, study techniques, organizational skills, and test-taking strategies to strengthen their performance in the classroom.

PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Character Ed 6th

Course Number: 17990200

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

Character Education is a related arts class where students participate in activity based on universal virtues such as, integrity, cooperation, respect, and responsibility in order to make healthy and caring decisions and to develop self discipline that leads to a lifetime of success in all areas of life. PREREQUISITE: None

Title: ESOL 6th

Course Number: 17990300

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course is designed for the student who has a primary language other than English, and is not proficient in listening, speaking, reading, writing, or comprehension in the English speaking classroom. Instruction will be provided in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension to assist students in classrooms where English is the language of instruction. Students will receive skills to aid in the transition to all academic areas, as well as help in the preparation for middle school formal tests. Limited English proficiency should be determined by an approved language assessment instrument. PREREQUISITE: Guidance Placement

Title: Study Topics 6th

Course Number: 17990400

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6

This course focuses on skills that students need to make better and more efficient use of study time. Students will actively engage in learning time management skills, study techniques, organizational skills, and test-taking strategies to strengthen their performance in the classroom.

PREREQUISITE: None

Title: Service Learning

Course Number: 27993900

Unit Credit: 0

Grade Level: 6 - 8

Service Learning is designed for participants to learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service experiences that meet community needs through a collaboration between the school and community. It provides students with opportunities to use newly acquired skills and knowledge in real-life situations in their own communities. The course emphasizes essential life skills such as effective communication, problem solving, goal setting, and teamwork. Students will address real-life problems and make meaningful contributions to the school and community. The emphasis will be on planning, serving, and evaluating. PREREQUISITE: None