

Central Baldwin Middle School

Home of the
Golden Bears

Go Bears!

Believe Education
Assures Reaching
Success



Central Baldwin Middle School

8th Grade Required Courses



Math 8

English
Language Arts 8

World History 8

Physical
Science 8

Physical
Education 8

Math, English Language Arts, World History, and Physical Science courses are offered in General and Advanced Classes

BCBE Criteria for Recommending 7th Grade Students for Advanced 8th Grade Classes

Meet 2 of 3 Criteria	Accelerated Mathematics 8	Advanced Physical Science 8
Class Grade (7 th Grade, first-semester average. A minimum grade of "75" or higher is required regardless of standardized test scores)	80% or higher in Accelerated Math 7 <i>*Accelerated Math 7 is a state-required prerequisite for Grade 8 Accelerated Math.*</i>	80% or higher in 7 th grade standard or Advanced Life Science
7th Grade Fall STAR Score	Score At or Above Benchmark in mathematics	Score At or Above Benchmark in mathematics
7th Grade Winter STAR Score	Score At or Above Benchmark in mathematics	Score At or Above Benchmark in mathematics

BCBE Criteria for Recommending 7th Grade Students for Advanced 8th Grade Classes

Meet 2 of 3 Criteria	Advanced English Language Arts 8	Advanced World History 8
Class Grade (7 th Grade, first-semester average. A minimum grade of "75" or higher is required regardless of standardized test scores)	80% or higher in 7 th grade regular or Advanced English Language Arts course	80% or higher in 7 th grade regular or Advanced Civics/Geography
7th Grade Fall STAR Score	Score At or Above Benchmark in reading	Score At or Above Benchmark in reading
7th Grade Winter STAR Score	Score At or Above Benchmark in reading	Score At or Above Benchmark in reading

Advanced Recommendation Letters

- Students who meet the criteria for Advanced Classes will receive letters **tomorrow** from their Homeroom/AOT Teacher.
- Students will **automatically be placed** into these courses unless they decide to opt-out.
- Students must **OPT-OUT** of the advanced class before **Friday, April 5th**



Request to Enroll in Advanced Classes



Central Baldwin Middle School Request to Enroll in Advanced Middle School Courses

If any child **does not meet the criteria** established for identification, the parent may request to enroll him/her in the middle school course by completing and turning in this form.

If your child chooses to enroll in an advanced middle school class next year, he/she should anticipate an exploration of course content in greater depth and at a faster, more challenging pace than the typical standard class. The advanced courses are developed to be a preparation for higher-level high school classes (i.e., Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, etc.) and to give students the opportunity to experience a more challenging curriculum before the transition to high school.

Students enrolled in advanced courses must recognize and understand that they will be responsible for extended academic responsibilities and expectations, which may include a more challenging workload as well as additional writing, reading, and problem-solving assignments inside and outside of class.

Though students making the transition to advanced classes sometimes find they earn a lower classroom grade than they have in the past, the content, and strategies they pursue in advanced coursework will better prepare them for success in their high school and college-level studies. A commitment to the course and its depth of content, along with good time management and study skills, is essential to your child's success. **Once your child has committed to the advanced class, schedule changes should not be expected.**

If you have any questions about any of the advanced classes offered in the middle school, please contact your child's middle school counselor, curriculum leader, or the Department of Secondary Curriculum at 251-970-7322.

Please sign below and return to your child's middle school.

Directions: Check to indicate your child's commitment to taking the classes below. Once the commitment is made, students will not be changed out of or into an advanced class during the school year.

Advanced English Language Arts	Advanced Social Studies	Advanced Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I have read the above letter and understand the expectations for advanced middle school courses. I am requesting that my child be enrolled in the classes noted YES above and as a student I agree to the requirements of the advanced course. I understand schedule changes should not be expected during the school year.

Student's Name: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature



Central Baldwin Middle School Request to Enroll in Accelerated Mathematics

If any child **does not meet the criteria** established for identification, the parent may request to enroll him/her in the middle school course by completing and turning in this form.

If your child chooses to enroll in an advanced middle school class next year, he/she should anticipate an exploration of course content in greater depth and at a faster, more challenging pace than the typical standard class. The advanced courses are developed to be a preparation for higher-level high school classes (i.e., Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, etc.) and to give students the opportunity to experience a more challenging curriculum before the transition to high school.

Students enrolled in advanced courses must recognize and understand that they will be responsible for extended academic responsibilities and expectations, which may include a more challenging workload as well as additional writing, reading, and problem-solving assignments inside and outside of class.

Though students making the transition to advanced classes sometimes find they earn a lower classroom grade than they have in the past, the content, and strategies they pursue in advanced coursework will better prepare them for success in their high school and college-level studies. A commitment to the course and its depth of content, along with good time management and study skills, is essential to your child's success. **Once your child has committed to the advanced class, schedule changes should not be expected.**

A student must successfully pass Grade 7 Accelerated Math in order to take Grade 8 Accelerated Math. Students who successfully complete both Grade 7 Accelerated Math and Grade 8 Accelerated Math will be prepared to enter Geometry with Data Analysis in Grade 9 and with adequate progress can then accelerate directly into Algebra II with Statistics in Grade 10, thus providing them with an opportunity to take additional, specialized mathematics coursework in Grades 11 and 12. A student (and his or her parent) who decides to accelerate directly into Algebra II with Statistics (bypassing Algebra I with Probability) will not earn a math credit for Algebra I with Probability and will be required to earn at least four math credits to satisfy the Alabama diploma requirements. A student who has completed Grade 7 Accelerated and Grade 8 Accelerated Math (and his or her parent) may elect to take the Algebra I with Probability at the high school level.

If you have any questions about any of the advanced classes offered in the middle school, please contact your child's middle school counselor, curriculum leader, or the Department of Secondary Curriculum at 251-970-7322.

Please sign below and return to your child's middle school.

I have read the above letter and understand the expectations for Advanced Mathematics. I am requesting that my child be enrolled in this class and as a student I agree to the requirements of the advanced course. I understand schedule changes should not be expected during the school year.

Student's Name: _____

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Students who wish to take advanced classes, but don't receive a letter can pick up
the Request to Enroll form in the Front Office
Must be signed and returned by Friday, April 5th

Central Baldwin Middle School

8th Grade Course Electives

Visual Art

Band

Yearbook

Advanced Visual Art

Guided Reading

Library Aide

Digital Technology

Math Intervention

**Students must apply to be in
Yearbook or a Library Aide**

Computer Science
Discoveries





Visual Arts or Advanced Visual Arts

This course helps students increase independence and responsibility for creating and presenting original artwork and communicating complex interpretations and implications related to that work. Work at this level increasingly relates to global interests and social commentary with a personal voice. A developmentally appropriate curriculum provides the foundation these students need to build confidence in their creative and artistic abilities. The visual arts classroom provides a safe and appropriate learning environment for media exploration and self-expression.

- Visual Arts: Semester Course
- Advanced Visual Arts: Year-long Course

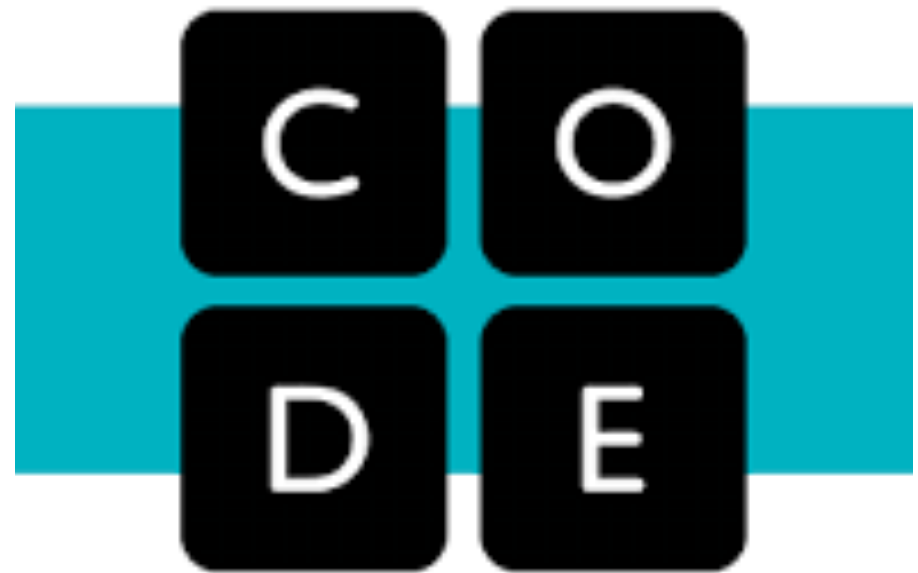


Digital Technology

This semester-long course is designed for students who want to master basic skills in the areas of word processing, database management, spreadsheet applications, multimedia presentations, and Internet research. Reading, mathematics, and communication skills are reinforced throughout this course.

Computer Science Discoveries

In this year-long course, you will learn about computer science by covering topics such as problem-solving, programming, physical computing, user-centered design, and data. You will also be inspired to build your websites, apps, animations, games, and physical computing systems.



Band

This year-long course is performance-based and is the middle school's most advanced performing ensemble for wind and percussion instrumentalists. This class is composed of 8th-graders who are introduced to "comprehensive musicianship" through the performance of challenging and varied literature. Skills and concepts from the previous year are developed and expanded upon. Students will continue to refine their musical skills and knowledge of musical literacy. Performances include district/state assessments and winter/spring concerts.



Guided Reading

Guided Reading is an elective course that is provided in addition to general English Language Arts classes for students who may benefit from additional reading support.

In this elective class, students will learn reading strategies and have practice opportunities for reading and comprehending texts. The purpose of this enrichment class is to help students to get on track to meet reading goals, and better prepare for future endeavors.

Student placement into Guided Reading is based on the student's Reading STAR Scores, English Language Arts ACAP Scores, and English Course Grades.

The Response-to-Intervention (RTI) team will move students in and out of Guided Reading based on student needs.



Math Intervention

Math Intervention is an elective course that is provided in addition to general math classes.

The course is designed to provide focused, supplemental instruction for students who struggle with math.

Student placement into Math Intervention is based on the student's Math STAR Scores, Math ACAP Scores, and Math Course Grades.

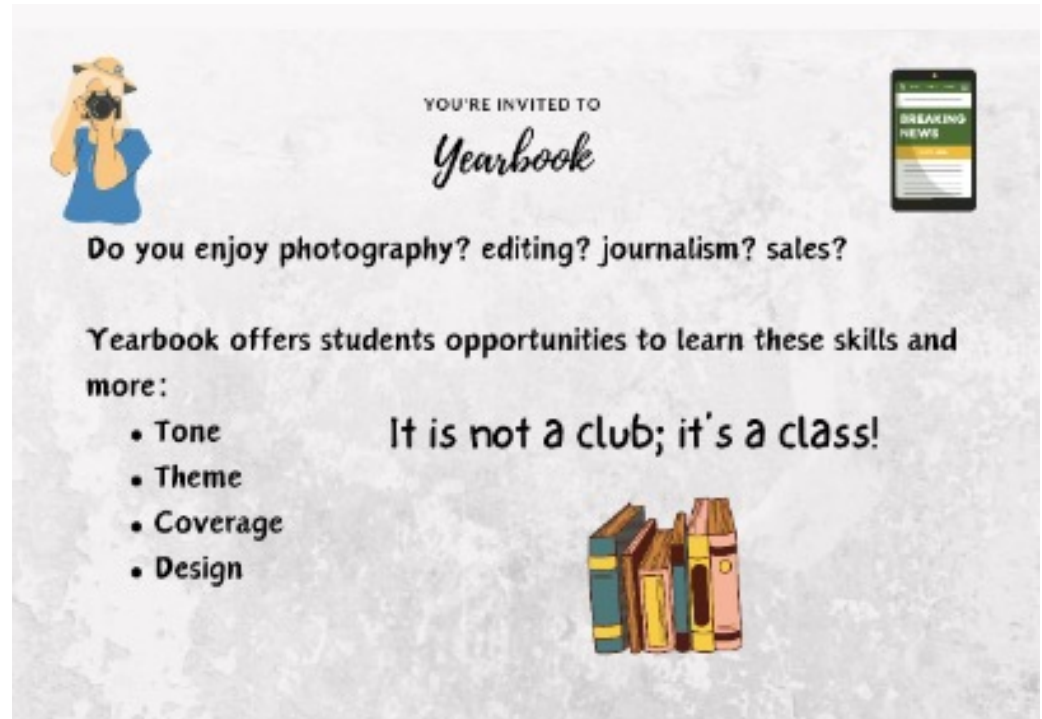
The Response-to-Intervention (RTI) team will move students in and out of Math Intervention based on student needs.



Yearbook

This is a year-round elective. Students will learn basic skills to create our printed yearbook. A special emphasis will be on staying organized, teamwork, critiquing, editing, and meeting authentic deadlines. Assignments will be within the school and may even extend into the community.

Students are required to apply and be accepted to be placed into a Yearbook elective.






YOU'RE INVITED TO
Yearbook

Do you enjoy photography? editing? journalism? sales?

Yearbook offers students opportunities to learn these skills and more:

- Tone
- Theme
- Coverage
- Design

It is not a club; it's a class!





Library Aide

Library Aide is a year-long, 8th-grade-only elective. In this elective, students learn the functions of the library and perform as library clerks throughout the year.

Some of the duties include class book checkout, maintenance of the library shelves, library inventory, and assisting the librarian with classes throughout the year. Library aides also help with projects and errands throughout the school.

Students must have good grades, no behavior issues, and receive positive recommendations from their teachers.

Applications will go out in March, and the library aides for next year will be announced at the beginning of April.



Questions?

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