



**2020-2021**  
**COURSE REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Blacksburg Middle School**  
**Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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<b>Student's Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>Gender</b>
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Parent/Guardian's Name	Phone Number	Home Address
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**All students entering 8th grade at Blacksburg Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year should complete this form and have it signed by a parent/guardian. Students will be registered automatically for all required courses. On the back of this form, please indicate the student's preference for elective classes.**

Students receive daily instruction in English/language arts, mathematics, science, and history/social science each year in middle school. All 8th-grade students also have a full year of Health and Physical Education.

These are **REQUIRED COURSES** for 8th Grade:

- English/Language Arts 8 or English/Language Arts 8 Honors\*
- Civics and Economics
- Physical Science
- Mathematics (BMS determines math placement)\*
- Health & Physical Education 8 \*\*

*\* MCPS provides comprehensive English/Language Arts and mathematics programs to promote the achievement of every student. A key component of our program is ensuring that all secondary students are placed in courses that deliver an appropriate level of challenge. All MCPS middle schools collect and analyze multiple pieces of student data in order to make English/Language Arts and mathematics placement decisions, including grades, test scores, and teacher recommendations. Final placements are determined only after spring SOL test scores, final grades for current courses, and other final data points are available.*

*\*\* 8th Graders in High School credit World Language and Year-long Fine Arts may be given permission to "opt out" of HPE 8 in order to take CTE Electives that are aligned with their Academic & Career Plans (Semester HPE 8 may be available as an elective option).*

**Specific information about the the Middle School Program, including course descriptions, are available in the MCPS Middle School Program of Studies. The Program of Studies can be accessed on both the MCPS and BMS websites. Here is a link to that resource:**

[http://www.mcps.org/departments/curriculum\\_pages/m\\_c\\_p\\_s\\_middle\\_school\\_program\\_of\\_studies](http://www.mcps.org/departments/curriculum_pages/m_c_p_s_middle_school_program_of_studies)

## MCPS 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ELECTIVES 2020-21

The 8<sup>th</sup>-grade schedule includes 2 periods for elective courses: All middle school students will have the opportunity to enroll in a variety of elective courses in each year of middle school.

- Students who are identified as needing additional instruction in reading or math may be placed in an intervention course in lieu of an elective course.
- Any 8<sup>th</sup>-grade student who did not take Digital Input Technologies in 6th or 7th-grade will be enrolled in a semester of **Digital Technology Foundations** in 8th grade. **All MCPS students are REQUIRED to take this course before entering 9th grade.**

All 8th-grade students should choose one of the following elective combinations:

- 1) **TWO YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES**
- 2) **ONE YEAR-LONG ELECTIVE AND TWO SEMESTER ELECTIVES**
- 3) **FOUR SEMESTER ELECTIVES**

**Year-Long Electives** (Select 0-2 by checking the box next to the course):

- Advanced Band
- Advanced Chorus
- Bel Canto Choir (audition level chorus)
- Boys Choir
- Theater 8
- Advanced Art
- Spanish I (High School credit course)
- French I (High School credit course)
- Arabic I (Virtual Virginia High School credit course)
- Chinese I (Virtual Virginia High School credit course)
- Latin I (Virtual Virginia High School credit course)

**OR**

**Semester Electives** (Rank the following elective options 1-14 with 1 as your first choice):

- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduction to Coding I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduction to Coding II (*must have Introduction to Coding I*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Make It Your Business
- \_\_\_\_\_ Technology Systems
- \_\_\_\_\_ Inventions & Innovations (*must have Technology Systems*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Robotics I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Robotics II (*must have Robotics I*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Introduction to Floriculture (*must have AgriScience*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ AgriScience
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family & Consumer Science I
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family & Consumer Science II (*must have Family & Consumer Science I*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ World Language Exploration
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2D-3D Art
- \_\_\_\_\_ Creative Writing

**Additional Science Elective**

- Earth Science Honors\* (High School credit course)

*\*Students who take Earth Science Honors in 8th grade will take Physical Science as a 90-minute block course in Semester 1, followed by Earth Science as a 90-minute block course in Semester 2. These students will not have an Intervention/Enrichment Period in 8th grade. This honors-level course expands the Earth Science curriculum in the regular high school course and is designed for students who have displayed excellence in previous science courses and are motivated to put forth the time and effort to meet the demands of a more rigorous and accelerated course.*

**Students who want to be considered for placement in Earth Science Honors should check the box next to this course.**

*There may be limited seats for this Earth Science Honors. Student data, including grades, test scores, and teacher recommendations, will be collected and analyzed in order to make placement decisions. Students will be assigned to this class based on these criteria. Parents will be informed of Earth Science placement decisions for the coming school year before the end of the current school year.*

*All course offerings are dependent upon staff availability and sufficient student interest in the class. Schools often share elective teachers; therefore, it may not be possible to determine the availability of certain courses until master schedules are finalized in June.*

**Parents: Please complete and return this form to your child’s science teacher by Tuesday, February 18, 2020. If you have questions, call the Blacksburg Middle School Counseling Office at 951-5803. Please direct your questions either to Mr. Bo Honeycutt, Assistant Principal, or Mrs. Michele Parker, Counselor.**

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*Student Signature*

*Parent/Guardian Signature*

*Date*