

School District of Beloit
Middle School Course Descriptions
Summer 2024

6th - 8th Grade Core “A-Path” Classes

The “A” Path focuses on academics in literacy and math. Students will engage in standards-aligned learning that is both fun and academically focused.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Students must register for Book Club/Book Quest (ELA) or Math is Cool (Math) as one of the course requirements.

Book Quest/Book Club - DLI (Resources are in Spanish/English)

Students will explore the literacy domains of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language to explore grade-level topics of various genres. Blended learning opportunities through CommonLit will help gain comprehension and fluency skills and build on academic vocabulary with grade-level text on a quest for learning through novels. Students will develop their literacy approach by engaging with anchor texts while having multiple opportunities to select and explore high-interest reading materials.

Math is Cool

Students will practice foundational math skills needed for success in middle school math and algebra. Students will be engaged in gameplay, real-life problems, and solving math mysteries to practice doing math operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and positive/negative numbers.

**Course offerings for the “WE” Path may change due to student enrollment*

6th - 8th Grade “WE” Path Electives

The “WE” Path focuses on wellness and enrichment. Students will engage in opportunities to explore hands-on, project-based learning with embedded arts educational experiences along with activities that promote physical movement and games.

A Creative Space in Art

Join us this summer to explore different media in art class! Students will create projects with various materials, such as clay, mixed media, and art in motion, and learn about print-making. Design, draw, and paint projects that express imagination. Students will be taught different techniques and have creative freedom within each of these materials to express themselves and their ideas.

Band - Large Group lessons (6th Grade or 7/8th Grade) - SESSION 1 ONLY

Summer band allows students to grasp the basics, vocabulary, and skills of music via instructional sessions. It is for students who want to play in a full group setting and are already playing a band instrument.

Band - Small group lessons (6th Grade or 7/8th Grade) - SESSION 1 ONLY

Summer band allows students to grasp the basics, vocabulary, and skills of music via instructional sessions. Small group band lessons will help reinforce skills. This is for students who want instruction in a small group setting, such as working on technique or duets/trios, and students who already play a band instrument.

Beautology

*Enjoy the latest hair, nail, and make-up trends during our summer school "Boutique." Learn the foundations of cosmetology, including hair styling, skincare, nail care, and make-up. Practice with hands-on experiences and lots of fun. Create nail art, learn to braid, treat your skin with care, and more. Students will have a learning party every day while demonstrating their creativity. **(30 slots total)***

Career Exploration: Firefighters, EMTs & Police (Double Period Class)

*Learn about local fire, rescue, emergency medical response, and public safety careers. This is an exciting way to meet our public service workers and gain valuable life skills such as teamwork, leadership, responsibility, and commitment. Partnering with the City of Beloit Fire & Police Departments, this class will allow interaction with equipment, vehicles, and uniforms, as well as visits to the stations. Each day will be filled with engaging activities. **(15 slots total)***

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ESports Games

The Esports world is growing exponentially. Esports allows gamers to increase multiple skills simultaneously. These skills can include hand-eye coordination, teamwork, and critical thinking. Students will also get the chance to become better players by:

- *Learning to self-reflect and manage emotions*
- *Developing leadership skills through competitive experiences*
- *Identifying their gaming strengths.*

Gamer Math

Practice middle school math by understanding how the games you love use math. Students will see how game designers and e-sport stars use math to optimize performance or win games. Students will take apart the math embedded in programs like FIFA, Rocket League, Mario Kart, Minecraft, and more using the Gamer Math platform and practice using math to increase their gaming skills.

Games, Games & More Games

Did you know that Board & Card Games can build logic, compare and contrast, planning, and stamina? Students will use these strategies while playing some all-time favorite board games, such as Connect 4, Chess, Checkers, Jenga, Uno, Guess Who?, Battleship, Monopoly, and more. Students will have the opportunity to create their own games. Strategic thinking is critical in games, school work, and future employment. Come, relax, have fun, and be challenged.

Interior Design

Do you have a flair for designing and decorating? If so, let's learn how to turn your interests and skills into a career. Students will explore color, texture, trends, and styles over time. Interior designers do it all—from planning the color scheme to choosing furniture and light fixtures—to create a space where people can live or work comfortably, safely, and happily. It is all about using your creativity to explore design. Create the room of your dreams!

It's All About Business

Through engaging activities partnering with Junior Achievement, It's My Business, and Program Pop Up, students can experience the initial steps necessary to start a business. New program content provides an authentic entrepreneurial experience for students, with each session building up to a product-pitch competition. Students learn to plan, launch, and operate their business venture within a structured, guided experience. Throughout the start-up process, students collaborate, make crucial business decisions, practice communication skills, and develop entrepreneurial knowledge and skills.

Lego Creativity

Come and engage your brain in exploring Legos and physical science within a sports context. Students will understand the science concepts of forces, motion, and interactions by viewing various sports videos, such as gymnastics, ski slopes, boats, free kicks, strike the ball, and cars with propellers. Afterwards, you will build the concept with Legos.

Let's Cheer & Dance (Double Period Class)

Do you have school spirit and want to learn basic cheerleading techniques? Students will learn cheer chants, jumps, and dance routines to get their hearts pumping. The sky's the limit in creating masterpieces to show school spirit. Students will visit the YMCA Gymnastics Center to increase strength, coordination, flexibility, and confidence. During this summer course, we will work on all 4 gymnastics events: Vault, Floor, Beam & Bars. Try climbing the rope, balancing on the high beam, test your strength on the bars, work on handstands, cartwheels, rolls, and leaps. Learn the foundations and skills of the sport while having fun with your peers!

Maker Space

Explore your creative side! Design, test, and create. In this course, students will learn about the design process and then make their designs come to life. Starting with building or drawing prototypes and ending with finished products using various tools, including a Glowforge, Cricut, and/or 3D printer.

Orchestra - Small Group lessons (6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade)

Come join us for a summer of music. Orchestra allows students to explore the basics, vocabulary, and skills of music in small group sessions. Small group orchestra lessons will help to reinforce skills. This course is for students already enrolled in Orchestra.

Physical Fit & Fun

If you want to have fun and be active during summer school, this course is for you. Summer is all about being active. Students will engage in activities that will get them up and moving, such as basketball, soccer, stretches, jump roping, running, team competitions, minute-to-win-it challenges, and much more.

Sign Language

American Sign Language (ASL) is an effective way to communicate. Students will learn "everyday" sign language—the alphabet, greetings, family members, colors, foods, numbers, etc. Students will create a folder with sign language materials to encourage them to continue practicing and extending their sign language learning.

Splash, Cycle & Roll Into Fitness (Double Period Class)

Summer isn't summer with swimming, bicycling, and roller skating. The YMCA Aquatics Department will help students build confidence, increase physical fitness, and teach water safety skills, creating lifetime fun benefits in the pool. (All students will be tested to determine their skill

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level, and certified lifeguards will teach the course.) Stateline Spinners will have students study bike safety procedures, learn how to maintain bicycles, and even get the chance to exercise their newly acquired abilities by going on group rides. Roller skating will allow students to learn and practice safety rules and procedures while improving their skating skills to promote life-long fitness and family fun. Students will practice the basics such as braking, skating forward, standing, and sitting with skates while maintaining balance and coordination.

Teen Cuisine

Teen Cuisine is designed to teach youth from grades 6 to 8 essential life skills to promote optimal health in the present and future. The curriculum addresses key concepts about nutrition, food preparation and cooking, food safety, and physical activity using approaches and strategies that enhance learning and behavior change among teens. Each lesson provides hands-on activities as well as recipe preparation. UW-Extension and the School District of Beloit will offer this course. (30 slots total)

Yard Games and Cooperative Games

Prepare for the summer by learning new games you can play with your family and friends! You will learn and play cooperative games that build teamwork and yard games that you can play all summer long. Sign up if you are looking for an interactive and fun time to spend with your friends conquering challenges!

Weather Lab (Double Period Class)

Come discover the science behind weather phenomena. Students will take on the role of forensic meteorologists and investigate why a fictional town has such severe rainstorms. They will also investigate water vapor, temperature, energy transfer, and wind and how all of these impact weather patterns. The Welty Environmental Center will help us discover and share additional hands-on experiences.