

School District of Beloit

Middle School Course Descriptions

Summer 2025

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), Math is Cool (Math), or Creative Writing (ELA) as one of the course requirements.

Book Quest/Book Club

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.

Creative Writing

Students will explore the art of storytelling and develop essential writing skills needed for success in creative expression. They will engage in exciting activities, including experimenting with various genres such as mystery, fantasy, and realistic fiction. Through fun writing prompts and collaborative projects, students will learn to create memorable characters and vivid settings, enhancing their ability to convey ideas effectively and creatively. This course provides a supportive environment for students to dive into their imagination and share their unique voices.

**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

Summer Band allows students to continue their development of musical skills, including tone quality, reading and confidence in a fun and different context! Students will be divided into different band periods based on skill, age, etc. on the first day of school. This class is for students who already play a woodwind, brass or percussion 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)***

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*

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- 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.

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!

Orchestra

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

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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.

Life-Long Fitness (Double Period Class)

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of physical activities that promote health, wellness, and enjoyment throughout life. Emphasizing skill development, personal fitness, and recreational enjoyment, students will participate in activities such as swimming, biking, pickleball, and golf. 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. The goal is to encourage students to discover physical activities they can enjoy beyond the school setting, helping them build habits that support a healthy, active lifestyle. Students will also learn the importance of goal setting, safety, and personal responsibility in fitness.

Cooking with Curiosity

Cooking with Curiosity 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!