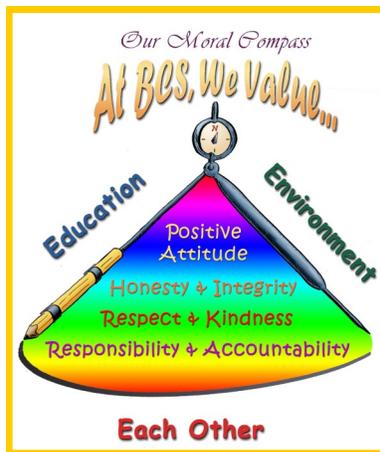


# Birmingham Covington School

## 7/8 Elective Information 2017-2018

**Birmingham Public Schools  
Birmingham, Michigan**



[www.bcsonline.info](http://www.bcsonline.info)

# Introduction to the 7/8 Elective Options 2017-2018

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

This elective packet gives you and your child an opportunity to discuss and choose between the options we are offering your child to learn, create, and lead. The directions and deadlines along with the course options are outlined for you. Your child will receive one year-long elective.

Please complete the course selection by using the instructions provided on page five by March 31st, 2017.

If you are unable to complete the selection electronically, hard copy forms will be available in the BCS office. If the form is not completed by March 31st your child will be assigned to an elective.

Please help your child to make these year-long commitments for next year. We most likely are unable to make changes in the fall due to limited availability. As always, we look forward to working with you to ensure a successful 2017-2018 school year!

Sincerely,

Mark Morawski  
Principal

Jason Hill  
Assistant Principal

## Sample 7/8 Grade Co-curricular Schedule

**Please check the next pages to see the Rotation classes and Elective classes.**

**There are no Co-Curricular classes on Mondays for 7/8.**

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
C-0 8th Rotation 7th Electives	C-0 7th Rotation 8th Electives	C-0 8th Rotation 7th Electives	C-0 7th Rotation 8th Electives

# Rotation Classes

**Students will rotate through these required classes. Each class is ten weeks long.**

## Careers

This course will allow students to learn more about various career options. They will assess how their skills, interests and values match up with possible careers and begin developing a plan that will provide them with a solid foundation for achieving their career aspirations. Students will utilize the Career Cruising program to assess and to explore career options, and to create their personal Educational Development Plan (EDP).

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Learning Styles; Values; Employability Skills; Michigan Career Pathways; Matchmaker Interest Inventory; Educational Development Plan-(EDP); Research and Compare Careers; Communication Skills; Personality Characteristics; Kaleidoscope Profile

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Self-Assessment; Job Shadow; School Subject and Careers; Research and Compare Colleges; Job Application; Interview Skills; Update EDP; Green Career Exploration; Personality Characteristics; Employability Skills

## Engineering Technology

Design and Engineering Technology class projects and activities are real-world applications that extend and reinforce the understanding of Science and Math and also help prepare students for transitioning into the High School Engineering Technology program. Units and topics include: Forces and Motion; Vacuum and Pressure; Instrumentation; Renewable Energy Sources and Conversion and Computer Simulations.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: ***Aerodynamics and Flight.*** Students learn how planes are able to fly and how the design of shapes and surfaces can be used to generate a force. Small groups design, build, test and analyze an airfoil in a laboratory wind tunnel.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: ***Hydrogen Fuel Cells.*** Students actively learn how a Hydrogen Fuel Cell works. Small groups assemble, test, and analyze a working model of a hydrogen fuel cell powered car. This allows students explore how the chemistry of basic elements can be

modified to convert forms of energy. This electro-chemical energy converting device can provide an alternative and renewable source of energy for transportation and electricity generation.

## Health

The “health” that will be studied in this class means much more than being physically fit. It involves physical, mental/emotional, and social well-being – the three sides of the “health” triangle. The program implements a knowledge- and skills-based approach to studying health. It helps provide the information and skills young people need to make healthy choices. Upon completion of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade health program, students will learn how their well-being can be impacted by their decision-making, refusal skills and abstinence (from high-risk behaviors).

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Understanding Your Health, Health Skills: The Foundation, Mental and Emotional Health, Relationships: The Teen Years, Medicines and Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Promoting Social Health; Your Body System; Growth and Development-(Note: Lesson 1 discusses Reproduction); Communicable Diseases-(Note: Lesson 4 discusses STI's and Lesson 5 discusses HIV/AIDS and will be covered in the Human Sexuality Unit during Crossroads curriculum presentations); Human Sexuality-(Note: This unit will be covered during the Crossroads curriculum presentations.)

## PE

This course presents a wide array of topics related to physical fitness and establishing a healthy lifestyle. Topics will include: fitness training-(cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, agility, and flexibility), conditioning, and individual and team sports.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Basketball, Soccer, Water Safety, and Rocket Football

to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Units: Volleyball, Speedball, Floor Hockey, and Raquet Sports

# 7/8 Elective Classes

**Students will have one choice: Meets twice per week all year.**

## **Art Studio**

Students will have experiences with drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, ceramics, sculpture and digital design. Projects are both a collaboration of group work and an individual portfolio.

## **Band**

### Pre-requisites:

Successful participation in both a 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade band class or by audition. Ability to perform the testing standards set at the end of the previous year's band classes at BCS. The BCS seventh and eighth grade bands will play literature that prepares students for the performance standards set for all high schools throughout Michigan. Home practice is an essential component for success. Private lessons are encouraged. Participation in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association sponsored Solo & Ensemble Festival is highly recommended. The seventh and eighth grade bands play an evening mid-winter concert and an evening concert in the spring. Along with the other Co-Curricular classes at BCS it is the intent of the seventh and eighth grade band programs to deliver an inspiring curriculum where students will not only achieve measurable performance goals, but will also develop an artistic sense of accomplishment.

## **iFilm U**

Hands on, minds on course in which students will learn to use digital video equipment to effectively communicate an idea and tell a story. The activities include: pre-production planning, writing and script editing, on-camera appearance, technical work, critical analysis, post-production editing of projects, and presentation of these projects. Students will create and produce original video projects which examine specific genres (i.e) short documentaries, interviews, sports, school activities, and entertainment. Students will use standard pre-production techniques such as: story boards, shot list, script writing, identification of target audience, project proposals, and creation of schedules. Students will also learn to distinguish between poor and quality projects, practice producing quality programming, and take responsibility for programs that are produced.

## **Orchestra**

### Pre-Requisites:

Minimum of 2 or 3 years of experience on a string instrument of his/her choice. Student has had beginning and intermediate orchestra experience. Student has mastered the skills needed in intermediate orchestra. Advanced orchestra gives each student the opportunity to expand their knowledge of music and leadership, problem-solving, cooperation, time management and organization. Students will continue the curriculum based upon National Standards for Music Education. Each student has the opportunity to perform in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Teacher's Association (MSBOA) solo and ensemble festival once during the year. Students travel to play in the community, as well as perform in two concerts during the school year. Students will be required to turn in regular practice records signed by their parents. Private study is encouraged, and summer camps enhance each student's musical experience while participating in the orchestra.

## **T<sub>h</sub>inking Studio: Design, Make, Remix, Hack, Create, Build, Program, Craft, Etc.**

T<sub>h</sub>inking Studio is a collaborative space/class/studio for students to:

- explore questions, challenges, topics or technologies of interest, at their own pace, and in directions of their choosing
- collaborate informally and formally, in person and electronically, synchronously and asynchronously
- plan and reflect on their creations, processes, successes, difficulties, and learning through a multimodal journal and portfolio
- create footsteps, examples, resources, or other artifacts for themselves & others who might follow
- integrate technology as appropriate

(think 3M, Bell Labs, Google's 20% time, Apple's Blue Sky program, etc.) Learn more here:  
<http://tinyurl.com/thinkingstudio>

# 2017-2018

## 7/8 Co-curricular Selection

Please make your class selection at the following link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/aY6c6Fqx53t5Dwyl2>

You will receive one class for the entire year.

You will be asked to rank your first, second and third choice for the following classes:

**Art Studio**

**Band**

**Ifilm U**

**Orchestra**

**Thinkering Studio**

If you would like to continue with band or orchestra, please mark that as your first choice and only choice.

Please complete the form by **March 31st, 2017** or an elective class will be chosen for you.

If you are unable to complete the Google doc, a paper copy is available in the main office at BCS.