

DAVID BREARLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL



PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2023-2024

Updated: July 31, 2023
Board Approval: August 28, 2023

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Table of Contents

Course Selection Process

[Course Differentiation](#)

[Course Failures](#)

[Course Load](#)

[Course Placement](#)

Grade Level Determination

Grade Point Average

[GPA](#)

[Weighted Grade Equivalent Scale](#)

[GPA Calculation](#)

Graduation Requirements

[District and State](#)

[Middle School](#)

Prerequisites and Sequential Courses

Scholars Academy

[Standards of Excellence](#)

[Scholars Academy Selection Criteria](#)

[Scholars Academy Program of Study 2023-2024](#)

David Brearley Middle School Course Offerings

Cycles and Electives

[Cycles and Electives Course Descriptions](#)

English Language Arts

[English Language Arts Pathways Flowchart](#)

[English Language Arts Course Descriptions](#)

English Language Learners

[English Language Learners Course Descriptions](#)

Health and Physical Education

[Health and Physical Education Course Descriptions](#)

Mathematics

[Mathematics Pathways Flowchart](#)

[Mathematics Course Descriptions](#)

Science

[Science Pathways Flowchart](#)

[Science Course Descriptions](#)

Social Studies

[Social Studies Pathways Flowchart](#)

[Social Studies Course Descriptions](#)

World Language

[World Language Pathways Flowchart](#)

[World Language Course Descriptions](#)

Course Selection Process

Course Differentiation

- Academic courses –
 - meet(s) the general expectations for a specific grade level or course.
- Honors/Academy courses -
 - are taught at an advanced level;
 - students are expected to complete more independent work in greater depth than in the regular curriculum;
 - students are expected to complete special projects and summer assignments;

Course Failures

Students in grades 7 and 8 who fail a required sequential course may not “double up” by taking the next level with the failed course in the following school year, i.e., a student who fails English 7 may not take two levels (English 7 and English 8) in the following school year. Attending an approved summer school and passing the failed course will allow a student to progress in the normal sequence of courses. If a student does not attend summer school for English, Mathematics, Science and/or Social Studies, he/she may be retained or required to enroll in supplemental courses in the follow school year.

Course Load

Students must be scheduled for eight classes and a lunch period in each school year. Students must be scheduled for one class in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education/Health class for every year they are enrolled in middle school.

Course Placement

Students are placed into Honors courses based on the following rubric which outlines specific criteria needed for placement.

For students entering Middle School courses in the upcoming year:

Currently Enrolled In	Course You'd Like to Enroll In	Grade Needed in Previous Year's Course
Honors	Honors	85
Academic	Honors	95

In addition to the chart above, teacher recommendation and NJSLA scores are taken into consideration.

For students entering High School courses in the upcoming year:

Currently Enrolled In	Course You'd Like to Enroll In	Grade Needed in Previous Year's Course
Honors	Honors	85
Academic	AP	90
Academic	Honors	90

Grade Level Determination

A student's grade level will be determined by the cumulative amount of credits they have earned. Whether a student is in grade seven or eight will depend on the number of credits earned not on the number of years in middle school.

Grade Point Average

GPA

- The system of calculating grade point average (GPA) used by David Brearley Middle School is consistent with the procedure most often recommended by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and most frequently used by local high schools. The procedure includes all courses and weights for Academy and Honors courses.

Weighted Grade Equivalent Scale

Numerical Grade	General Course	Honors/Academy
100-98	4.0	4.5
97-94	3.75	4.25
93-90	3.5	4.0
89-86	3.25	3.75
85-83	3.0	3.5
82-80	2.75	3.25
79-76	2.5	3.0
75-73	2.25	2.75
72-70	2.0	2.5
69-67	1.75	2.25
66-65	1.5	2.0
64-0	0	0

GPA Calculation

To calculate the Weighted Core Grade Point Average (GPA), the weighted grade equivalent is multiplied by the number of credits for the course to obtain the total calculated quality points for each course. The total calculated quality points are then added together and divided by the total credits **attempted** to obtain the Weighted Core GPA.

The following is an example of a sample schedule and the calculation of the Weighted GPA.

Period	Course	Final Grade	Weighted Grade	Course Credit	Total Calculated Quality Points
1	Pre-Algebra H	85	3.5	5	17.50
2	Language Arts 7	83	3.0	5	15.00
3	Science 7	94	3.75	5	18.75
4	World History	87	3.25	5	16.25
5	Health/PE	98	4.0	5	20.00
6	Cycles	92	3.5	5	17.50
Totals				31.25	105.00
Weighted GPA					3.50

*Total Calculated Quality Points divided by Total Attempted Credits equals the GPA: $105/30=3.5$

Graduation Requirements

District and State

Every graduate of David Brearley Middle School must successfully complete all state and local Board of Education requirements to earn a State endorsed David Brearley Middle School diploma.

Middle School

Eighth graders must pass all courses prior to graduation. **All eighth grade students must pass language arts, mathematics, and science for the year in order to graduate and be promoted into ninth grade.** Any student who does not pass these three subjects will be required to attend summer school and pass the course or courses they failed in order to be promoted in August.

Prerequisites and Sequential Courses

Prerequisites are requirements that must be completed satisfactorily before certain courses are taken. For example, Pre-Algebra is a prerequisite of Algebra I. A minimum grade may also be a prerequisite. Students must pass the prerequisite course before they move to the next sequential course.

Scholars Academy

Scholars Academy students take a course of study that is extremely rigorous to accommodate their intellectual needs. The majority of the classes are completed prior to the senior year to make room for more career-focused learning experiences. Advanced Placement courses lead Scholars Academy students to graduate with a potential 21 AP credits. Service learning experiences (referred to as ISE) are centered around three areas: *Ingenuity* (developing new ideas that benefit the community), *Stewardship* (making the lives of others better), and *Enterprise* (creating and participating in activities that serve others). Students' logs of such activities are monitored throughout the year. Senior year provides a rigorous college-prep program with a focus on potential career choices. Students concentrate coursework and service learning experiences in one of three broad areas: Humanities, STEM, or Business/International Studies. Applications for acceptance into the Scholars Academy are typically accepted between Nov. and Dec. of the previous school year. An Open House for interested parents and students with further information on the program and the application process is typically held in the fall prior to the application period.

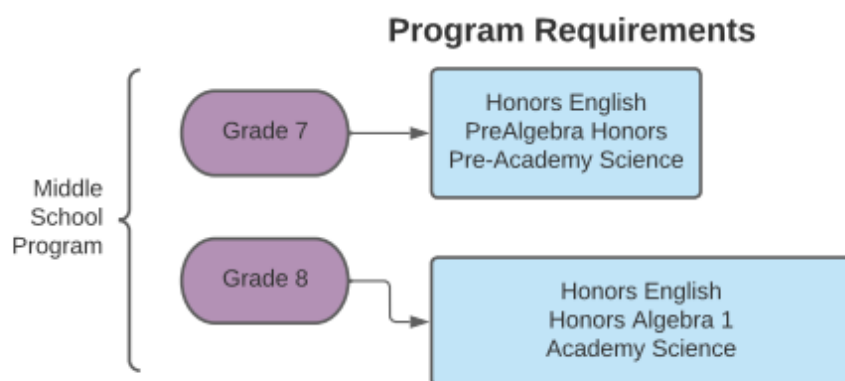
Standards of Excellence

- Any student who attains a final grade below 85% will be placed on academic probation.
- Academic probation remains for the next year and includes close monitoring. The student may be asked to remain in school during Academy trips and participate in after-school tutoring sessions for additional assistance.
- A student who fails to attain a minimum final grade of 85% or better in all classes for an additional year will forfeit their spot in the Academy

Scholars Academy Selection Criteria

Criteria	Description	Weight
Last Year's Transcript	Minimum Cumulative Average Subjects Included: Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies	20% of score
First Marking Period Grades	Minimum Cumulative Average Subjects included: Mathematics, Science, language Arts, Social Studies	
Scholars' Academy Entrance Exam	Highly Proficient Students	30% of score
Writing Sample	Open-ended essay	20% of score
NJ Standardized Test Scores	NJSLA Math and NJSLA ELA from the previous School Year	Math: 15% of score ELA: 15% of score

Scholars' Academy Program of Study 2023-2024



David Brearley Middle School Course Offerings



Cycles and Electives



Seventh Grade Cycle and Eighth Grade elective classes are designed to provide middle school students the opportunity to experience an assortment of classes which may lead them into the selection once they reach high school.

Cycles and Electives Course Descriptions

Art Cycle

Credits: 1.25

Grade: 7

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic elements of art and design, along with various artists and art movements significant to the history of art. Each cycle will also create artwork for the year's NJ State Council on the Arts Grant Project (when applicable), or another project being worked on by the Advanced Art Beyond the Classroom students. In this way, the students will be introduced to the practical application of visual art and will be able to work with our professional visiting critics.

Dance Cycle

Credits: 1.25

Grade: 7

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

The content of this course is grounded in the four cornerstones of dance education: creating, performing, connecting, and responding. Students will learn to process the world around them, through the instrument of their body.

Financial Literacy Cycle

Credits: 1.25

Grade: 7

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

This course is designed for students to understand how to relate career choices, education choices, skills, entrepreneurship, and economic conditions that will affect income, differentiate among ways that workers can improve earning power through the acquisition of new knowledge and skills, and explain how income affects spending decisions.

STEM Cycle

Credits: 1.25

Grade: 7

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

This course offers students the opportunity to continue to explore applied science, mathematics, and technology through project based learning. Students will engage in engineering and design challenges. These experiences actively involve students in manufacturing, transportation, construction, and robotics technologies. Developing students' understanding of science, mathematics, and technology with its application and impact on society is the focus of this course.

Musical Theater Cycle

Credits: 1.25

Grade: 7

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

This course is structured to provide a basis in theater skills and to offer a creative outlet for expression. Students will be exploring both verbal and non-verbal communication, pantomime, voice, and movement.

Band

Grade: 7, 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year, pull out lessons

Summer Activities: No

This course is equivalent to a high school Band course. This course provides an opportunity to study instrumental music. Sound practice and rehearsal techniques and procedures are an ongoing process that leads to the individual development of each student's performance and general musical knowledge. The repertoire is varied and standard literature is studied and performed. The emphasis will be good tone production, balance, technical facility and musicianship. The student in this class is a member of the Concert and Marching/Pep Bands and requirements include participation in holiday and spring concerts, and events.

Chorus Elective

Credits: 2.5

Grade: 8

Length of Course: Semester

Summer Activities: No

Students will build their choral experience to expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study.

Computer Design and 3D Printing Elective

Grade: 8

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Summer Activities: No

This course offers students the opportunity to learn the skills required to design and be productive with 3D printing.

Dance Elective

Grade: 8

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Summer Activities: No

The content of this course is grounded in the four cornerstones of dance education: creating, performing, connecting, and responding. Students will learn to process the world around them, through the instrument of their body.

Drawing Elective

Grade: 8

Credits: 2.5

Length of Course: Semester

Summer Activities: No

This course is equivalent to a high school Drawing course. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a solid basis of drawing skill, without which no artistic medium can be fully mastered. The method used is based on the text: Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain by Betty Edwards. In this 150 day year course, students are taught to see with the eyes of an artist. Once this is accomplished, they can draw the objects, people, and surroundings in their daily lives convincingly. They will utilize various mediums in their exploration of balance, contour and proportion.

Robotics Elective

Credits: 2.5

Grade: 8

Length of Course: Semester

Summer Activities: No

Robotics is a lab-based course that uses a hands-on approach to introduce the basic concepts of robotics, focusing on the construction and programming of robots.

Seminar

Grade: 7, 8

Credits: 5

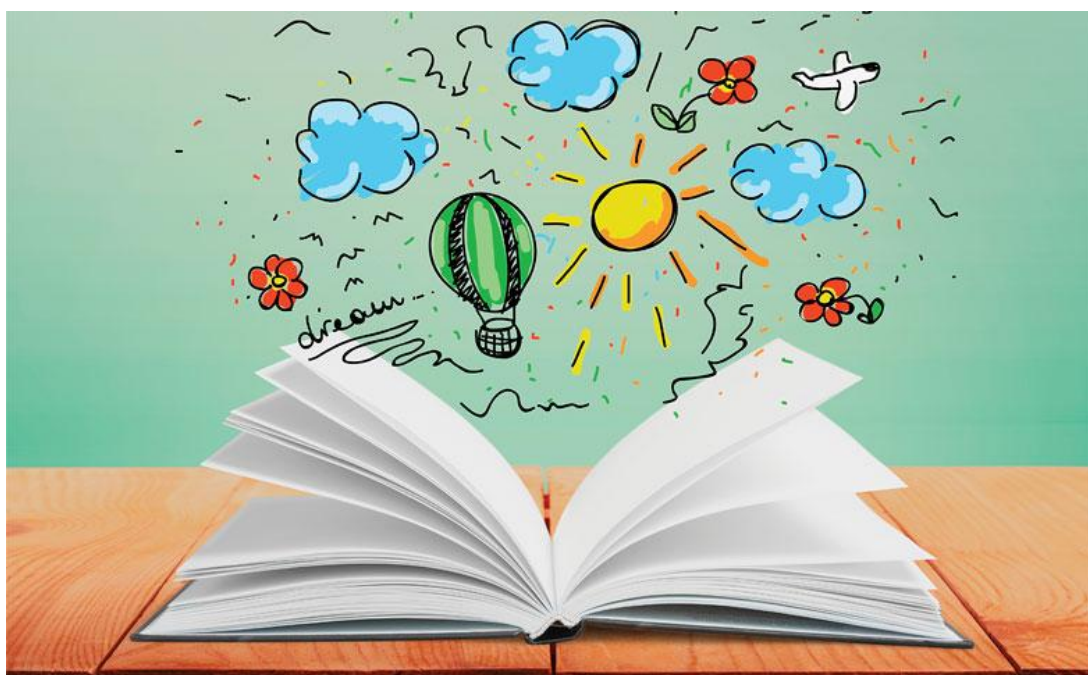
Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation required

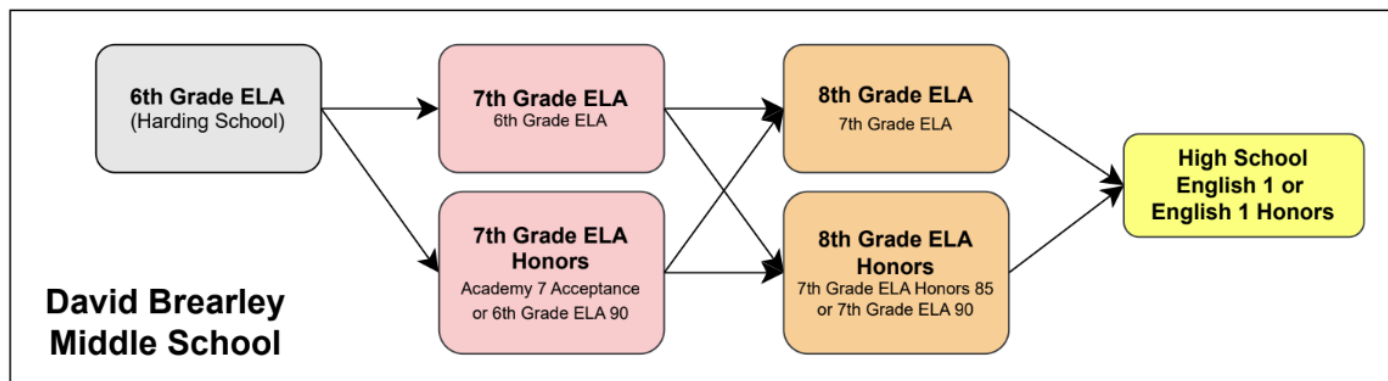
This course offers students with IEP's the opportunity to develop skills of time management, reading, writing, and test-taking strategies. Students will learn various study skills to assist them in becoming active, independent learners. Students will be introduced to self-advocacy skills.

English Language Arts



The formal study of language and literature derives from and enhances our understanding of human communication in all of its expressions. The Language curriculum of David Brearley Middle School seeks to develop students' facility with language arts through reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing experiences that incorporate critical thinking, problem solving, the writing process, personal and creative expression, cooperative learning and research and technology skills. The department emphasizes learning as a dynamic process so that the skills practiced in middle school continue to empower students as life-long learners and as thinking, compassionate citizens of the global community. In addition, language skills are taught within the context of authentic reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing experiences in order to emphasize the value of verbal and written communication in an increasingly technological world. All students must complete the core program of two (2) years of required Language Arts courses for graduation.

English Language Arts Pathways Flowchart



English Language Arts Course Descriptions

English Language Arts 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Language Arts 6

This course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of Language Arts. This program is logically organized and sequenced so that students build reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking and literary skills. Our textbook is the primary tool used for building knowledge and understanding of these skills. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. The program also focuses on developing a lifelong interest in reading and writing.

English Language Arts 7 Honors

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Language Arts 6

This course is designed for advanced, highly motivated students who have shown both interest and ability in Language Arts. The workload and expectations of this course are geared toward preparing the advanced student for the stringent requirements of honors English in high school. This program is logically organized and sequenced so that students build reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking and listening skills. The program also focuses on developing a lifelong interest in reading and writing. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. The goal of the program is to prepare students for the 8th grade Language Arts Honors course.

English Language Arts 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Grade: 8

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Language Arts 7

This course is designed to further student's understanding of Language Arts literacy. The collections are organized to cover the grade level skills in literary response and analysis, reading comprehension, vocabulary and writing. This course also provides step by step instruction to guide students through the reading and writing process in areas such as narration, persuasion and description. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. Finally, the program will prepare the students for the challenges of high school English.

English Language Arts 8 Honors

Grade: 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Language Arts 7

This course is designed for advanced, highly motivated students who have shown both interest and ability in Language Arts. The workload and expectations of this course are geared toward preparing the advanced student for the stringent requirements of honors English in high school. This program is logically organized and sequenced so that students build reading, writing, vocabulary, speaking and listening skills. The program also focuses on developing a lifelong interest in reading and writing. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. Finally, the program will prepare the students for the challenges of high school English.

English Language Learners



This state-mandated program provides support and instruction for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students. Placement in ESL courses and exit from the ESL program are both based on multiple criteria which include results on the Maculaitis Assessment of Competencies (MAC II), ACCESS for ELLs standardized tests, reading level, teacher recommendation and classroom performance. There are three levels of ESL instruction: Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced. All instruction is conducted by a certified ESL teacher. The curriculum is designed for students who have not mastered the basics of English vocabulary and grammar. Students work to develop proficiency in English in order to succeed in other academic areas. Our goals include using English in social settings, using English to achieve academically in all content areas, and using English in socially and culturally accepted ways. ESL instruction includes language used in other content areas, including science, social studies, and math.

English Language Learners Course Descriptions

ELL Content

Grade 7, 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Placement determined by multiple criteria stated above

ELL Language

Grade 7, 8

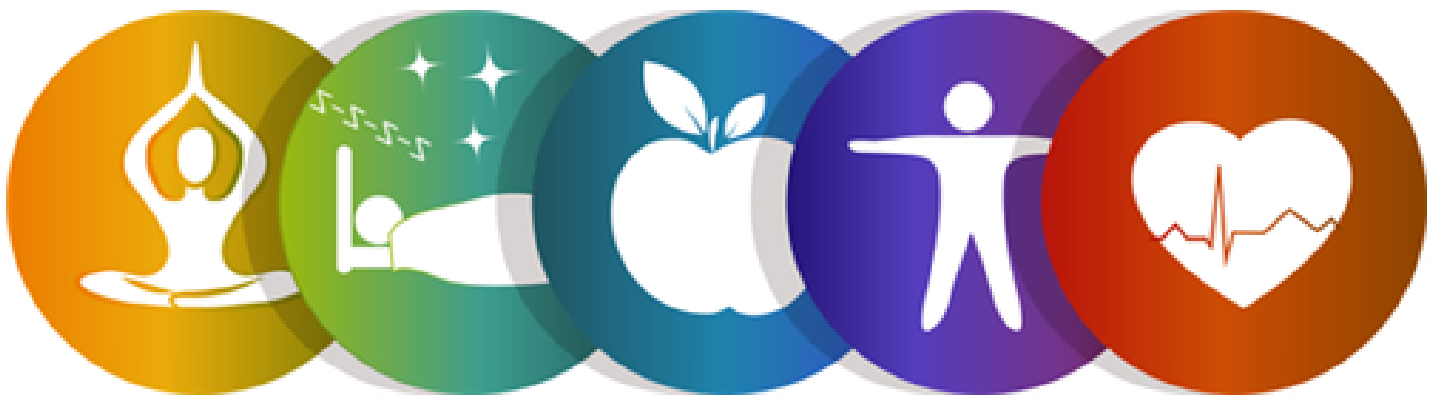
Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Placement determined by multiple criteria stated above

Health and Physical Education



Students in the seventh and eighth grades health program will be provided an opportunity to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the complexity of life and the responsibility for maintaining good basic health practices. One (1) year of Health is required for each year of enrollment in order to graduate. Students will automatically be scheduled for Health class.

The goal of Physical Education is to develop an active, healthy student capable of using traditional motor skills that offer opportunities for individual and group success. Students engage in activities that are mentally stimulating, physically satisfying and socially sound. This interdisciplinary approach in Physical Education focuses on team building and inclusion of group and individual challenges that develop effective decision making for the enhancement of physical skills and self-esteem. The Physical Education course of study (7, 8) builds on the foundation of skills developed in the elementary physical education programs. Principles and elements of fitness, individual and team motor skills and cooperative team challenges are emphasized. Health and skill related concepts of fitness are taught, and career and vocational options related to Physical Education are explored. All students must complete the core program of two (2) years of required Physical Education courses for graduation.

Health and Physical Education Course Descriptions

Health 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 1.25

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

The course is an investigation into the harm that is caused by the use of tobacco products, alcohol, and drugs. The concepts of addiction and withdrawal are closely examined, as well as the impact of these substances on human body systems after sustained use. The topics of peer pressure, social impact, legal problems, and monetary implications are discussed in detail. Strategies for quitting are included in the curriculum

Physical Education 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 3.75

Length of Course: Four Cycles

Summer Activities: No

Health 8

Grade: 8

Credits: 1.25

Length of Course: One Cycle

Summer Activities: No

This course addresses the concept that students represent a diverse cultural, ethnic, and socio-economic society. In this course, students will thoroughly examine the development of a person's self-concept and how the physical, intellectual, emotional and social domains affect the development of one's self. The issues of individuality, values, peer pressure, anger management, constructive communication, stress management and substance abuse are covered.

Physical Education 8

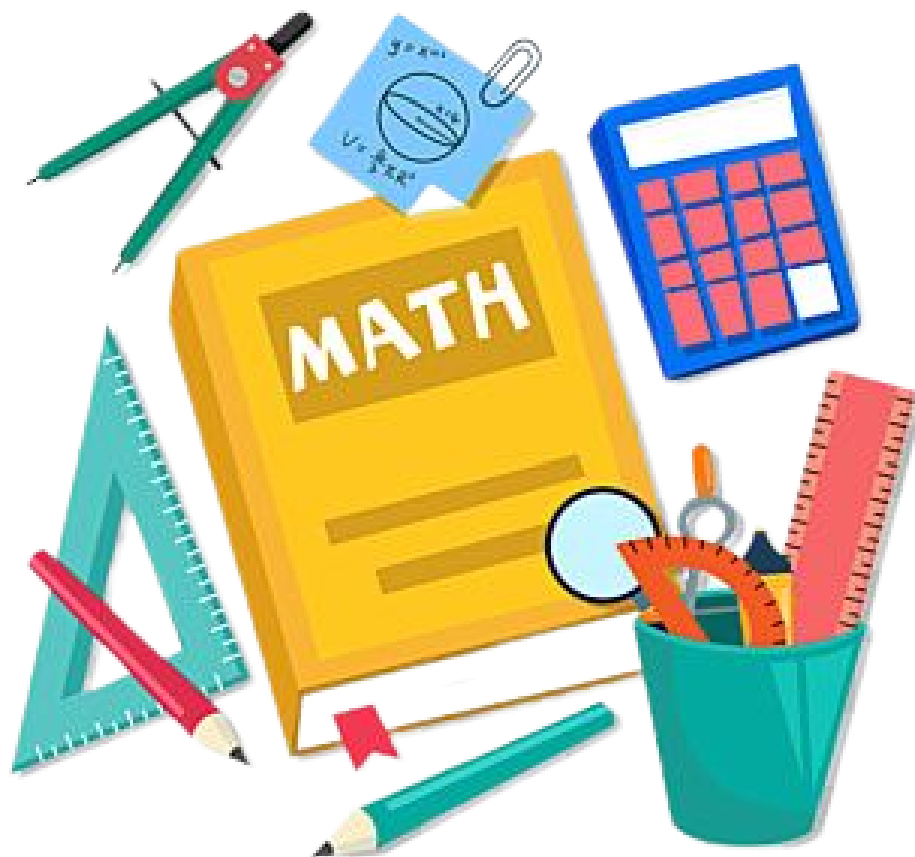
Grade: 7

Credits: 3.75

Length of Course: Four Cycles

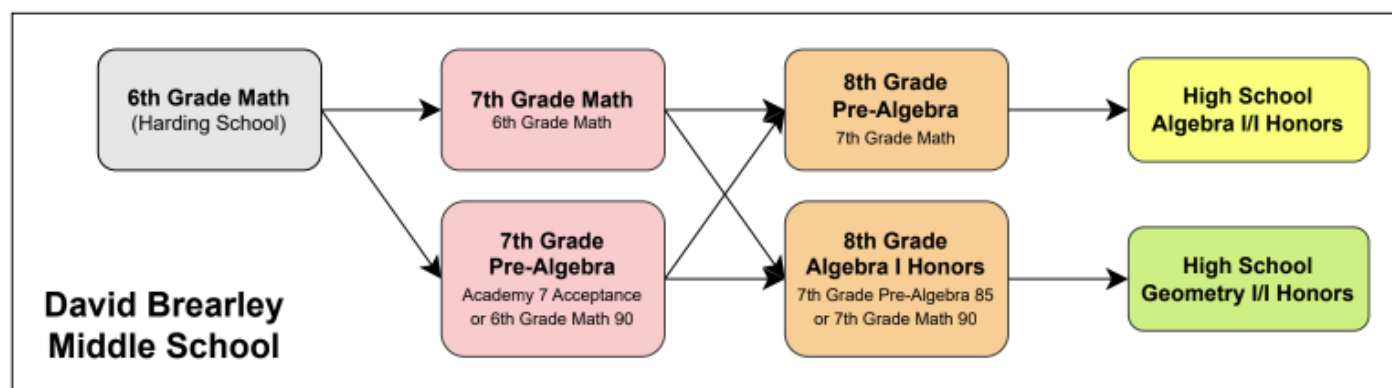
Summer Activities: No

Mathematics



The math curriculum affords students the opportunity to construct and understand fundamental mathematical concepts and processes, use technology as a tool and a resource, and develop the analytical and critical thinking skills that will aid them in future academic and personal endeavors. Our instructional framework is based on current research in mathematics education and pedagogy, with the goal of producing mathematically literate students who can demonstrate their ability to solve problems and apply their knowledge in both theoretical and real-world situations. All students must complete the core program of two (2) years of required Math courses for graduation.

Mathematics Pathways Flowchart



Mathematics Course Descriptions

Mathematics 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Mathematics 6

This course is designed to teach students how to read, understand, and engage in the critical thinking process across the spectrum of general mathematics topics. The Grade 7 course helps students to organize their approach to new concepts with note taking and study strategies, as well as working out examples. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test.

Pre-Algebra 7 Honors

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Mathematics 6

This course is designed to prepare the honors students for Algebra. The course focuses on Pre-Algebra topics. Additionally, students develop their problem solving skills with challenging open ended questions. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. Additionally, the program prepares students for the 8th grade Algebra Honors course.

Pre-Algebra 8

Grade: 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Mathematics 7

This course is designed to expand the topics and strategies gained in the Grade 7 course to prepare students for Algebra. The course focuses on Pre-Algebra topics and relates the knowledge of general mathematics topics to foster an understanding and application of such topics in everyday life. Students are encouraged to develop their problem solving skills in Math with challenging open ended questioning. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. Additionally, the goal of the program is to prepare the students for the challenges of high school math.

Algebra I Honors

Grade: 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass with a grade of 70

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Mathematics 7 (transfer students may be required to take a placement examination)

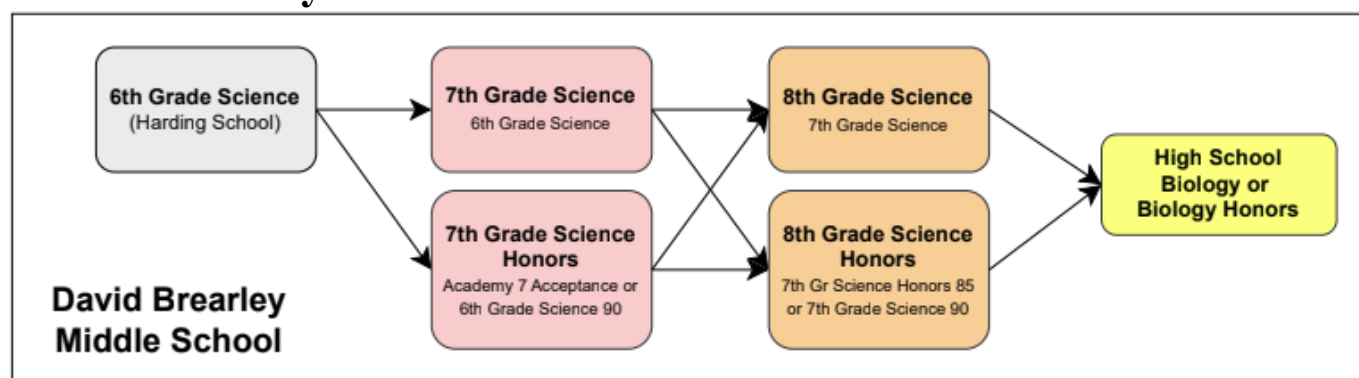
This course is equivalent to a high school Algebra I course. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the NJSLA Test. Students are expected to master algebraic mechanics, understand the underlying theory and apply the concepts to real world situations.

Science



The science program seeks to develop an appreciation of nature's complexity, an understanding of scientific principles, enthusiasm for inquiry and experimentation, and recognition of the role of science in contemporary civilization. To accomplish these goals, students are encouraged to enroll in at least one science course each year. Many students will elect to take two sciences concurrently for one or more of their high school years. All students must complete the core program of two (2) years of required Science courses for graduation.

Science Pathways Flowchart



Science Course Descriptions

Science 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Science 6

This course is designed as an integrated approach with an emphasis on the scientific method. Students are introduced to a variety of lab experiences that help to develop skills in problem-solving and decision-making necessary to be applied to a future understanding in the Life, Earth and Physical Sciences. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the Grade 8 Science Competency Test.

Science 7 Academy

Grade: 7

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Kenilworth Scholars Academy.

This course is designed as an integrated approach with an emphasis to rigorously challenge and develop students' abilities in the scientific processes, problem-solving and critical thinking areas. The course involves a comprehensive lab curriculum in the areas of Life, Earth and Physical Sciences. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the Grade 8 Science Competency Test.

Science 8

Grade: 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Science 7

This course is designed to teach students how to develop a strong starting point for knowledge in the areas of Chemistry, Physics, Life Science, and Earth Science. This course provides students with the basis for future, in depth, scientific understanding in the areas of Chemistry, Physics, Life Science (Biology), and Earth Science. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the Grade 8 Science Competency Test.

Science 8 Academy

Grade: 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Please review the course placement chart located on page 6

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to complete the required grade 8 Science Standards and to introduce these students to the

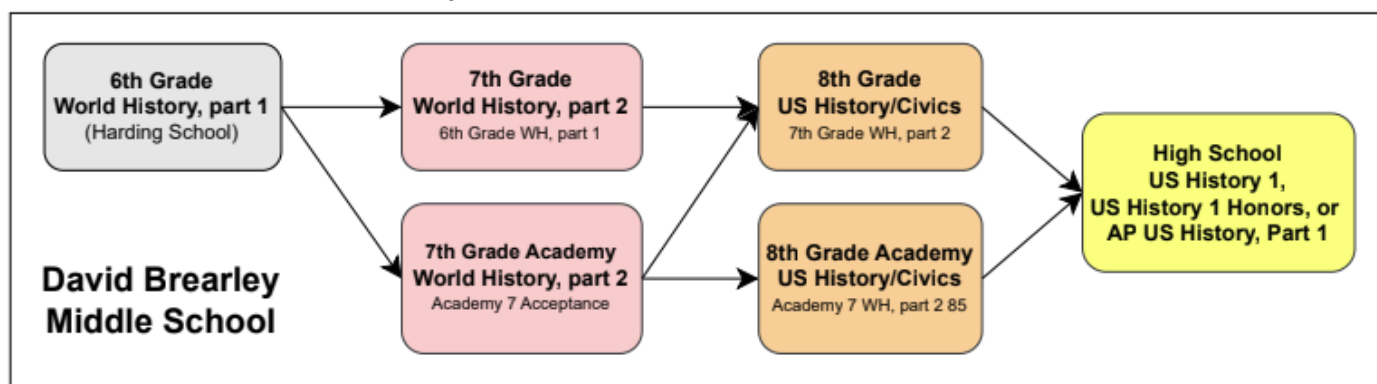
academic rigor required to be advanced proficient in the grade 9 Science Standards' topics of concentration. Academy Science grade 8 topics will include: Earth Science/Earthquakes, Ecosystems, Biodiversity, Atmosphere, Climate Change, Renewable and Non-renewable Resources, Basic Genetics, Matter, Atoms, Electrons, Periodic Table of the Elements, Chemical Bonding, Chemical Reactions, Acids, Bases, and PH. Students will develop a working level knowledge of these topics through the use of technology and other methodologies including a strong hands-on experimental laboratory experience. State standards are also focused on guiding students toward success with the Grade 8 Science Competency Test.

Social Studies



The Social Studies Program provides students with opportunities to acquire knowledge about human societies and relationships. The Social Studies program aims to help students become active citizens who think critically and make informed choices about global, national, local and personal issues in an increasingly diverse and interdependent world. All students must complete the core program of two (2) years of required Social Studies courses for graduation.

Social Studies Pathways Flowchart



Social Studies Course Descriptions

World History

Grade: 7

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of Social Studies 6

This course is designed to provide students with a survey of World history from 500 AD – 1750 AD. Topics will include Muslim civilizations and innovations, African civilizations and their prosperous trading routes, Chinese and Japanese empires and influences, early American civilizations (North, Central, and South), European middle ages and renaissance, and European exploration and colonization.

World History Academy

Grade: 7

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Kenilworth Scholars Academy

This course is designed to provide students with a survey of World history from 500 AD – 1750 AD. Topics will include Muslim civilizations and innovations, African civilizations and their prosperous trading routes, Chinese and Japanese empires and influences, early American civilizations (North, Central, and South), European middle ages and renaissance, and European exploration and colonization.

Civics/American History

Grade: 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of World History

This course is designed to teach students American history from colonization in 1607 through the mid-19th century (Antebellum America). Topics will include colonial life, the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, the Constitution, the War of 1812, the Louisiana Purchase, Jacksonian democracy, westward expansion and the spread/containment of slavery, sectionalism, and the American Civil War and Reconstruction. This course also includes an introduction of government and economics, what it means to be a citizen and the rights of citizens, the purpose of laws, how laws are created, and the differences between criminal and civil law. In addition, the course covers the origins of political parties, the contemporary landscape of political parties, the election process, and the role citizens play as well as foreign policy, how it is made, and how it affects our interactions with other nations today.

Civics/American History Academy

Grade: 8

Credits: 5; Must Pass

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: Yes

Prerequisite: Please review the course placement chart located on page 6

This course is designed to teach students American history from colonization in 1607 through the mid-19th century (Antebellum America). Topics

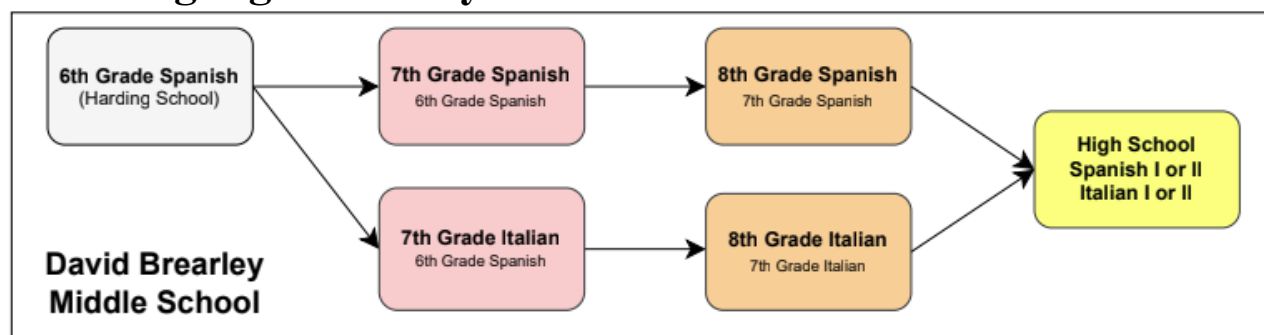
will include colonial life, the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, the Constitution, the War of 1812, the Louisiana Purchase, Jacksonian democracy, westward expansion and the spread/containment of slavery, sectionalism, and the American Civil War and Reconstruction. This course also includes an introduction of government and economics, what it means to be a citizen and the rights of citizens, the purpose of laws, how laws are created, and the differences between criminal and civil law. In addition, the course covers the origins of political parties, the contemporary landscape of political parties, the election process, and the role citizens play as well as foreign policy, how it is made, and how it affects our interactions with other nations today.

World Language



The Department of World Languages offers sequential study in Italian and Spanish as they prepare students to explore and discover rich vibrant cultures. Proficiency in these languages enables students to appreciate another culture, either modern or ancient. Moreover, the study of a world language prepares students for careers in a variety of fields. Since our world is increasingly connected economically, politically and culturally, the ability to communicate in a world language and to understand people from other cultures is crucial. The study of a world language provides students with the essential skills and knowledge for verbal expression and for understanding the cultural and literary achievements of another culture. In the modern language classroom, oral communication is continually emphasized beginning in the first level. Reading is introduced at the first level and level appropriate readings are incorporated throughout. Students who are successful in either Italian I or Spanish I will be provided the opportunity to take Italian II or Spanish II during their freshman year of high school.

World Language Pathways Flowchart



World Language Course Descriptions

Italian 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

This course is designed to focus on the essentials of conversation and grammar. The concentration is on elementary current vocabulary and on the formation of simple sentences. The aim is to provide a foundation of pronunciation and develop the ability to understand, speak, read and write the language. Meaningful communication in the language will be stressed together with personal involvement and understanding. Culture will be taught as an integral part of the course. Combined with the Italian class in Grade 8, the courses are the equivalent of high school Italian 1.

Spanish 7

Grade: 7

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

This course is designed to focus on the essentials of conversation and grammar. The concentration is on elementary current vocabulary and on the formation of simple sentences. The aim is to provide a foundation of pronunciation and develop the ability to understand, speak, read and write the language. Meaningful communication in the language will be stressed together with personal involvement and understanding. Culture will be taught as an integral part of the course. Combined with the Spanish class in Grade 8, the courses are the equivalent of high school Spanish 1.

Italian 8

Grade: 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

This course is equivalent to a high school Italian I course. The Italian curriculum focuses on the essentials of conversation and grammar. The concentration is on elementary current vocabulary and on the formation of simple sentences. The aim is to provide a foundation of pronunciation and develop the ability to understand, speak, read and write the language. Meaningful communication in the language will be stressed together with personal involvement and understanding. Culture will be taught as an integral part of the course.

Spanish 8

Grade: 8

Credits: 5

Length of Course: Full Year

Summer Activities: No

Prerequisite: none

This course is equivalent to a high school Spanish I course. The Spanish curriculum focuses on the essentials of conversation and grammar. The concentration is on elementary current vocabulary and on the formation of simple sentences. The aim is to provide a foundation of pronunciation and develop the ability to understand, speak, read and write the language. Meaningful communication in the language will be stressed together with personal involvement and understanding. Culture will be taught as an integral part of the course.