



BEVERIDGE

Middle School



COURSE CATALOG

2024-2025

1616 South 120th Street | Omaha, Nebraska 68144
(531) 299-2280

<https://www.ops.org/beveridge>

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OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS VISION

Every student. Every day. Prepared for success.

BEVERIDGE MIDDLE VISION

The vision of Beveridge Middle is to be a student-centered learning community where staff members work cooperatively to assure the success of every student. Students have the opportunity to explore and expand their interests in the visual and performing arts and to increase their awareness and knowledge of the world around them. The strong tradition of high expectations for all students is strengthened at Beveridge Middle by ensuring students' achievement of both district content standards and of extra value standards unique to the theme areas of our magnet school.

OUR SCHOOL

Beveridge Middle School was named in honor of John H. Beveridge, who was the superintendent of the Omaha Public Schools from 1917 until his death in 1932. These were important years for the Omaha Public Schools. Much of our school district's strong academic tradition can be attributed to Superintendent Beveridge.

John H. Beveridge Junior-Senior High School opened its doors in the fall of 1963 with 946 students in grades 7 through 12. As the first junior-senior high school in the Omaha Public Schools, Beveridge was built to accommodate students in a rapidly growing West Omaha community. Beveridge was built on a "pay-as-we-go" plan totaling \$2.1 million with no bond money used in the construction.

Beveridge is located on a 17-acre site midway between Pacific and Center Streets and continues to be utilized today in much the same way as originally built 50 years ago. Beveridge Middle School was renamed as Beveridge Magnet Middle School of the Arts and Global Studies beginning in the school year 2001-2002. This magnet status has allowed us to offer educational opportunities that are unique to Beveridge. We are proud of our program, and we are excited about the possibilities for our students.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mrs. Tiffany Molina

Principal

Mr. Tony Aliano

Dean of Students

Mrs. Kristin Tipler

Assistant Principal, DP

Ms. Jillian Johnson

Dean of Students

Mr. Chad Wachholtz

Assistant Principal, AD

Mrs. Laura Quist

Instructional Facilitator

COUNSELORS

Mr. Dustin Rothe

6th Grade Counselor

Mr. Matthew Aguilar

7th Grade Counselor

Ms. Kacey Francis

8th Grade Counselor

NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531 299-9822). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming St, Omaha, NE 68131 (531 299-0307).

BEVERIDGE MIDDLE INFORMATION

SCHOOL HOURS

Beveridge Middle School will run on the OPS middle school time schedule. All students, grades sixth through eighth will start at 7:40 a.m. and end at 3:05 p.m.

Before school starts, students interested in breakfast will be served in the cafeteria from 7:15 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Students are not permitted in the building prior to 7:15 a.m.

After school clubs, intramurals and activities will run from 3:15 p.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. Beveridge Middle School offers various after school clubs and intramural activities (see last section of this Course Catalog). For seventh and eighth graders, after school athletic practices will conclude by 5:00 (unless there is an away game). Late buses will depart at 5:15 p.m. Any eligible transportation student may sign up for the late bus. Students are not allowed in the building after 3:15 unless they are part of a supervised school activity or athletic event.

BLOCK SCHEDULING

All students follow a basic alternating day block schedule. Rather than all classes meeting daily, classes meet every other day for extended “blocks” of time. This alternate day schedule is also referred to as “A/B”. There are four blocks or periods each day. Because of the alternate day schedule students may take eight classes at a time. Four classes are on A days and the other four classes are on B days.

Some advantages of this block schedule include reduction in the number of classes students must attend and prepare for each day, and extended amounts of time for learning to apply knowledge through hands on activities, group discussions, projects, and performance assessments. Block scheduling provides time for students who need more or less time to engage in learning; greater opportunities for some students to be accelerated; an increase of uninterrupted time for learning activities, extensive practice, and laboratory work; and blocks of time to allow and encourage teachers to use active teaching strategies and promote greater student involvement.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION & OPEN HOUSE

All new students to Beveridge Middle will participate in an all-day orientation program the first day of school. Student orientations will be held in August to provide students with knowledge about the school and programming. Also, students and parents will be invited to Back-to-School Open House to provide school tours, answer questions, review course schedules, and to enhance familiarity with new processes (e.g., location of lockers and practice with their combination lock). During the summer, we host a Bulldog Welcome Camp filled with fun hands-on preparation activities for middle school. Bulldog Welcome Camp is for incoming sixth graders and new-to-Beveridge 7th graders.

TEAM CONCEPT

Beveridge Middle School's program is designed to promote success. Each sixth, seventh and eighth grade student is assigned to an academic team (for example Team 6B, 7B, 8A) composed of five teachers. Each academic team is comprised of approximately 125-150 students. The team serves several purposes. Team teachers are responsible for teaching language arts, social studies, mathematics, and science. Team teachers can develop interdisciplinary thematic units of study. The team affords flexibility in scheduling. Most importantly, teaming provides a smaller community of students within the school to allow for more personalized instruction and interaction between teachers and students as well as students and teammates.

The interdisciplinary team teachers, because of their common planning time, can work closely to plan appropriate behavioral and instructional strategies for students on their team. Planning time also provides a time to conference with parents and/or resource personnel regarding special learning and behavior needs of individual students. During our daily team meetings, team teachers review and discuss curriculum, develop student support, pursue professional development, and score student writing.

Through a total team effort, the Beveridge Middle School staff will work to provide each student with opportunities to grow in knowledge of the academic subjects, performance of life skills, and ability to follow-through with responsibilities. Our teamwork is focused on helping each student develop his/her sense of personal responsibility and reach his/her highest academic potential.

ADVISORY

Advisory is the time set aside in the schedule for students to be engaged with a single staff member in building relationships, setting and tracking academic goals, and developing social emotional skills. This is time well spent in supporting student success and building connectedness. Bulldog Block Advisory activities give students a chance to focus attention on character development, decision making, and life skills.

CONTENT STANDARDS

All courses are based upon content standards that align with the state of Nebraska academic content standards and for those of the Omaha school district. Content standards are the backbone of curriculum. Content standards are what a student should know and be able to do in each course. Teachers will also know how to inform and improve instruction using criterion-referenced tests. Mastery of content standards is also measured through diagnostic assessments using an information management computer system called MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) measures student proficiency. Student grades will be based in large part on the mastery of each course's content standards. Most courses have six to nine content standards that will be clearly posted in each room. Students will have multiple opportunities to master the content standards during the course through reteaching activities. In addition, students who master the content standards quickly will have opportunities for extension activities that expand learning.

COOPERATIVE ARTS

While the core classes are important, students will also receive valuable experience in other subjects. Students will gain knowledge from classes in art, drama, technology, world language (8th grade), physical education, human growth & development, and music.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special education programs and services are provided to students as outlined in Individual Education Programs (IEPs). A range of programs and services are available at Beveridge Middle School and include small group intervention/remediation, co-taught regular education classes, vision and hearing resource services, speech and language therapy, and occupational and physical therapy. In addition, a self-contained alternate curriculum program is available. The special education teacher assigned as a student's IEP manager works with the school staff and parent to coordinate all services.

HIGH ABILITY / G.A.T.E. PROGRAM

The program for gifted and talented education (G.A.T.E.) recognizes that students with academic proficiency have educational needs that differ from those of their same age peers. While these students require the basic knowledge taught in a regular school program and need the chance to develop socially by interacting with other students, they also require differentiated learning experiences that challenge them and are appropriate to their needs. Therefore, we provide differentiated options that are integrated with the regular school program. Differentiation is a part of all courses.

Initially, students entering Beveridge Middle School are identified by standardized test scores in reading or math, by a 5th grade teacher nomination, and by classroom performance. As the year progresses, additional students may be nominated for specific programs based on proficiency demonstrated in the regular classroom. The High Ability Program works to provide academically challenging opportunities for our high ability learners every day in the classroom.

Occasionally non-graded pullouts are scheduled that are weekly or biweekly mini courses to prepare students for various academic competitions (History Day, Academic Pentathlon.). Students are pulled from different classes, so no class is missed more than once or twice a month. Membership on academic teams is based on proficiency.

Beveridge Middle School's High Ability program also sponsors various all-school enrichment activities that are offered to anyone who wishes to participate. All High Ability activities are curriculum-related, offer opportunities that go beyond the regular classroom, promote creativity, and build on problem solving and divergent thinking skills.

DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM

In the Omaha Public Schools' Dual Language program, students in kindergarten through 12th grade learn in English and Spanish. Students take the same courses as other students, but they will learn half of their coursework in Spanish and half in English. Dual Language students will be able to speak, read, write, and understand both English and Spanish. Research shows that students who are bilingual do better in school and graduate with an immediately marketable skill.

Students who have participated in Dual Language in elementary are strongly encouraged to continue their bilingual studies in middle school. At minimum, students in Dual Language must complete 3 years of Spanish Language Arts in addition to English Language Arts. Dual Language students are encouraged to take additional DL classes in Math and Science.

COUNSELING PROGRAM

The Pre-K through 12th grade Omaha Public Schools Guidance and Counseling Program is both proactive and responsive to the unique needs of your individual child. There are four components of the guidance program. The main component is our Guidance Curriculum that is delivered to ALL students and emphasizes personal, social, occupational, and academic skills. At Beveridge, students are taught guidance lessons during their advisory classes as part of an interdisciplinary unit of instruction. In addition to the guidance curriculum, counselors support the school community through: Individual and Small Group Student Planning, and Response Services System Support.

The mission of the Omaha Public Schools Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program is to ensure student success through the combined efforts of students, staff, families, and community. We believe *"it takes a village."*

COURSE CHANGE GUIDELINES

Requests to drop a course will be initiated to the school counselor by the student or parent/guardian.

Procedures for requesting a course change:

1. Conversation with the parent/guardian
2. Counselor conferencing with teacher, student, and parent/guardian
3. Problem solving with all effected parties

*The first step is to navigate through the schedule change. If it is determined that other faculty need to be included, please use the "Schedule Change/Request to Drop a Course" form. Please see School Counseling for a copy of the OPS Schedule Change/Request to Drop a Course form.

COURSE PLACEMENT APPEALS

All secondary Omaha Public Schools offer procedures for appealing course placement (i.e., AP, Honors, IB, etc.). Each building may have specific forms and deadlines; however, the following general procedures shall apply:

Level One: Counselor, Assistant Principal-Data Processor, or Principal

A student or parent with a course placement appeal may first discuss the matter with the counselor or building administrator involved, with the object of resolving the matter informally.

Level Two: Chief Academic Officer (Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment)

If the course placement appeal is not resolved at Level One and the individual still wishes to pursue the appeal, he/she may formalize the appeal in writing addressed to the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment at 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131.

Level Three: Superintendent

If the appeal is not resolved at Level Two and the individual still wishes to pursue the appeal, he/she may formalize the appeal to the superintendent of schools after receiving a written response from the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

These steps shall be taken in a timely manner to accommodate the registration of courses for the school year in question.

6TH GRADE

The sixth-grade curriculum at Beveridge Middle School provides continued development of fundamental skills as well as exploratory experiences. The curricular offerings are designed to promote understanding, develop interests and encourage the expression of talent in special area courses. All sixth-grade students are enrolled in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, physical education, and music. For a year-long music course, students may select band, strings, or chorus.

SIXTH GRADE SAMPLE SCHEDULE

The schedule below is an example. Actual schedules may vary slightly dependent upon course enrollment and teacher availability.

Block	A Day	Block	B Day
ADV	Bulldog Block	ADV	Bulldog Block
1/2	Music: Band, Strings, or Vocal Music	1/2	Physical Education 6 Intro to College & Careers 6
3/4	Math 6	3/4	Science 6
5/6	Social Studies 6	5/6	Language Arts 6
7/8	Semester Elective 1 <i>*1 semester of Comp Apps required</i>	7/8	Semester Elective 2

SIXTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS 6

This course supports student mastery of sixth grade language arts standards and focuses on development and application of skills in grade level reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacies. Students will read a variety of literary and informational texts and write in a variety of modes using numerous tools and organizational frameworks. Students will also learn appropriate and safe use of digital tools related to research.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

MATH 6

This course covers the 6th grade mathematics content standards. Students will work with integers, fractions, decimals, and percents, study metric and standard systems of measurement, apply properties of geometry, use data analysis, and solve problems involving multiple-step equations. This is the first semester of a year-long course.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ADVANCED MATH 6

Advanced Math 6 takes a deeper dive into the content standards from Grade 6 with a focus on critical and creative thinking. Students are encouraged to participate in extended math activities such as math contests and clubs.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 credit per semester

SCIENCE 6

This course continues the standards of scientific inquiry as well as the integration of unifying concepts and processes in science experiences. In this course the emphasis will be placed on Earth structures and processes, Earth's history, energy, structure and function of living systems, flow of matter and energy in ecosystems, and biodiversity.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

SOCIAL STUDIES 6

This course examines the ancient world by studying Western Europe, Egypt, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America. Special attention is given to geography, history, economics, culture and the government in these regions.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

REQUIRED SPECIALIZED COURSES

INTRO TO COLLEGE AND CAREERS 6

Students learn how to effectively explore careers while using the Nebraska Career Education Model and related resources. Student will learn the vocabulary and expectations of effective academic and career planning. A focus will be to discover the relationship between personal-social qualities, interests, and skills to a wide variety of careers and post-secondary options to choose from. The Nebraska Career Readiness Standards will be introduced and connected to expectations in today's workplace.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6

This course is designed to include a wide variety of sporting activities and teach the qualities of sportsmanship, competition, and fitness. It includes learning the rules and regulations for the major sports of volleyball, wrestling, basketball, soccer, and track and field events. Students also participate in a variety of leisure and lifetime activities including badminton, aerobics and more. Students must wear appropriate attire for physical education courses (tennis shoes, T-shirts, sweats or shorts, etc.). Although the physical education locker rooms have showers available for students use; students are not required to shower for class.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

COMPUTER APPS 1

This course is designed to emphasize digital life, use business productivity applications, and explore career opportunities in the Business, Marketing, and Management and Communication and Information Systems Career Fields. Students will continue to develop efficient keyboarding skills and production skills. Students will learn to create, compose, edit, and format word processing documents; organize data in a spreadsheet; and prepare digital presentations. An introduction to basic principles in digital media and computer science will be included.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

COOPERATIVE ARTS & MAGNET ELECTIVE COURSES

**Offerings will be based on student interest and teacher availability.*

ART 6

This course examines artists' world views. Enduring understandings and ideas include: Art reveals aesthetic theories; Artists create art from multiple perspectives of time, place and culture revealing aesthetic theories; Artistic forms follow function throughout time; Critical processes identify aesthetic theories; and Art reflects the values and beliefs of a civilization/society. Students will play the role of artist, philosopher, historian, and archeologist to explore world art throughout time

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

BAND 6

This course is a band ensemble for sixth grade students who are continuing instruction on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Basic music concepts will be advanced as the student learns to read music and develop skill in playing their instrument of choice. A method book is used as the lesson guide. Performances will be required.

Prerequisite: Band in grade five.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

CHORUS 6

In this course sixth grade students will continue to develop their skill for reading and singing two and three-part octavo music. This emphasis is on vocal ensemble performance. There will be required performances.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

DANCE 1

This is an introductory course that educates students in a range of dance techniques. Students will begin to develop and improve on technical strengths through basic skills of ballet, tap, jazz, ethnic-folk, and modern dance. Students will gain knowledge of movement in all cardinal directions and with varied tempos of music. Elements of dance history, genre, terminology, critical analysis and performance will be covered.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

DRAMA 6

This elective for 6th grade introduces the fundamentals of dramatic performance and production for middle school students. Students will participate in a variety of experiences including, but not limited to, effective mime techniques, voice and diction improvement, acting techniques, theatre criticism, playwriting, improvisation, stage terminology, set design, and the use of technology in theatre.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

EXP ROBOTICS 6

Exploring Robotics 6 is an introduction to robotics, engineering, programming, problem solving, and team dynamics.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HONORS SPECIAL PROJECTS 6

This course offers a wide variety of experiences that align with gifted and talented programming standards. Learning opportunities meet grade level objectives in problem-solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, inquiry, cultural proficiency, metacognition, and affective skills.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

MS LIFETIME FITNESS 6

This course is designed to help the student understand and apply the concepts and skills of fitness activities while understanding the importance of conditioning and exercise. This course will concentrate on improving the strength, endurance, and knowledge of fitness concepts.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

READING SKILLS 6

Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, direct instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be taught as needed. Placement is based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendation.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

STRINGS 6

This course is the string ensemble for sixth grade students who are continuing instruction on violin, viola, cello or string bass. Basic music concepts will be advanced as the student learns to read music and develop skill in playing their instrument of choice. A method book is used as the lesson guide. Performances will be required.

Prerequisite: Strings in grades four and five.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

7TH GRADE COURSES

The seventh-grade curriculum at Beveridge Middle School provides continued development of fundamental skills and exploratory experiences. The curricular offerings are also designed to promote understanding, develop interest, and encourage the expression of talent in special area courses. All seventh-grade students are enrolled in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, physical education, and human growth and development. All classes meet on alternate days.

SEVENTH GRADE SAMPLE SCHEDULE

The schedule below is an example. Actual schedules may vary slightly dependent upon course enrollment and teacher availability.

Block	A Day	Block	B Day
ADV	Bulldog Block	ADV	Bulldog Block
1/2	Elective 1	1/2	Physical Education 7 Intro to College & Careers 7
3/4	Math 7	3/4	Science 7
5/6	Social Studies 7	5/6	Language Arts 7
7/8	Elective 2	7/8	Elective 3

SEVENTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

This course supports student mastery of seventh grade standards and focuses on developing and applying students' knowledge in language, literature, and composition and on developing students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacy as appropriate for this grade level. Students will write descriptive, narrative, literary, expository, persuasive, and technical pieces for various purposes and audiences using a variety of tools and strategies.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HON LANGUAGE ARTS 7

This course is the same as Language Arts 7, with even greater emphasis placed on the in-depth study of selected topics and works, additional composition alternatives, and critical and creative thinking development opportunities.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

MATH 7

This course covers the content standards for Seventh Grade Math. Students will perform operations with whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers, solve proportions and percent problems, convert measurements within systems, use plane geometry, and solve equations and real-life problems.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ADVANCED MATH 7

This course combines the major and most important work of the content standards from Grade 7 and Grade 8 in an accelerated manner so that students can be prepared for the option of taking Algebra the following year. This is the first semester course of advanced mathematics for seventh graders.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 credit per semester

SCIENCE 7

Science 7 engages students in the three dimensions (science practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts) of learning as identified by the Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Science. The topics include structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, interdependent relationships in ecosystems, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, Earth's systems, and history of Earth.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HON SCIENCE 7

Honors Science 7 engages students in the three dimensions (science practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts) of learning as identified by the Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Science. The topics include structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, interdependent relationships in ecosystems, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, Earth's systems, history of Earth, heredity, and natural selection and adaptations. This course provides a foundation for other science courses. Students enrolled in honors courses have additional experiences that require a more rigorous program of study.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

This course examines the world we live in by studying Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe. Special attention is given to the geography, history, economics, culture, and elements of citizenship within the regions studied. Along with their texts, students use technology, novels, current events, and interdisciplinary activities to expand their understanding of the Eastern Hemisphere.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

REQUIRED SPECIALIZED COURSES

INTRO TO COLLEGE AND CAREERS 7

Students will continue to explore careers using the Nebraska Career Education Model. A focus will be to make connections between personal aptitudes and interests to specific Career Fields and Clusters. Students will have opportunities to practice and develop skills in the Nebraska Career Readiness Standards of Practice. Students will draw from class learning, skill development and activities to begin a Personal Learning Plan to transition into high school with a broad career cluster focus.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

PHYSICAL ED AND HGD 7

This course is designed to include a wide variety of sporting activities and teach the qualities of sportsmanship, competition, and fitness. It includes learning the rules and regulations for the major sports of volleyball, wrestling, basketball, soccer, and track and field events. Students also participate in a variety of leisure and lifetime activities including badminton, aerobics and more. Students must wear appropriate attire for physical education courses (tennis shoes, T-shirts, sweats, or shorts, etc.). This course will use current Physical Education standards and Human Growth and Development pacing.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

COOPERATIVE ARTS & MAGNET ELECTIVE COURSES

**Offerings will be based on student interest and teacher availability.*

ART 7

Throughout this course, students will experience a wide variety of artistic materials and examine the artistic communication and expression of identity by several artists, past and present. Aesthetic theories of Expressionism and Imitationalism will also be studied. As they do so, they will be creating their own artwork about personal identity.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

CHORUS 7

Chorus 7 is available to seventh grade students who have special interests and abilities in choral singing. Vocal skills are introduced through appropriate unison, two and three-part singing. Musical independence is encouraged through increasing emphasis on musical notation. Performance opportunities are an extension of the classroom experience.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

COMPUTER APPS II

This course will expand on previous concepts of digital life, productivity applications and career opportunities. Students will go beyond fundamental creating and editing skills in word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software to more advanced features applicable to workplace skills. Students will be introduced to the role of technology in society and specific career opportunities.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

DRAMA 7

This elective for 7th grade introduces the fundamentals of dramatic performance and production for middle school students. Students will participate in a variety of experiences including, but not limited to, effective mime techniques, voice and diction improvement, acting techniques, theatre criticism, playwriting, improvisation, stage terminology, set design, and the use of technology in theatre.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HONORS SPECIAL PROJECTS 7

This course offers a wide variety of experiences that align with gifted and talented programming standards. Learning opportunities meet grade level objectives in problem-solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, inquiry, cultural proficiency, metacognition, and affective skills.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INDUSTRIAL TECH 7

This course provides problem solving and exploratory experiences in several Industrial Technology areas such as: flight, research and design, construction, graphic arts, and CAD.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INTERMEDIATE BAND

This course is offered to seventh grade students who began instrumental instruction in their respective elementary schools or for eighth grade students who began instrumental music in seventh grade beginning band. Instrumental technique and musical understanding focus on the second volume of standard instrumental method studies and appropriate band arrangements. Performance is included as an extension of the classroom activities.

Prerequisite: Band in grade six

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INTERMEDIATE STRINGS

This course is offered to seventh and eighth grade students who have successfully completed several years study. Instrumental technique and musical understandings focus on standard string method studies and appropriate string orchestra selections. The instrumentation includes violin, viola, cello and string bass. Students with previous instrumental experience may begin changeover instruction on the low string instruments. Performance may be included as an extension of classroom activities.

Prerequisite: Strings in grades six.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE 7

This seventh-grade course will explore the basics of computer science and how computing powers the world. Concepts will include career opportunities in Computer Science as well as computer science terminology and concepts. Students will develop skills in creative and collaborative problem-solving while being introduced to various programming languages.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

JAZZ BAND

This course is a middle school instrumental ensemble comprised of advanced instrumental students. Various jazz rudiments and improvisation techniques are introduced through a variety of jazz and popular styles of music.

Prerequisite: Audition

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

JOURNALISM 7

This course focuses on introducing students to the print aspect of journalism. Students will take part in developing, writing, revising, editing, and publishing print materials ranging from brochures to a school newspaper and yearbook. Based in the belief that the more one writes, the better one writes, this is first and foremost a lab for writing. Distinguishing between and among the different purposes one has for writing will be the primary basis for this class.

Prerequisite: Placement based on application and Journalism Advisory permission.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ML INTL STUDIES 1

Global Studies is open to students interested in examining countries, people, and issues that are shaping our contemporary world.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

MS LIFETIME FITNESS 7

This course is designed to help the student understand and apply the concepts and skills of fitness activities while understanding the importance of conditioning and exercise. This course will concentrate on improving the strength, endurance, and knowledge of fitness concepts.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

READING SKILLS 7

Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, direct instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be taught as needed. Placement is based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendation.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

8TH GRADE COURSES

The eighth-grade curriculum at Beveridge Middle School provides continued development of basic skills and exploratory experiences. The curricular offerings are also designed to promote understanding, develop interest, and encourage the expression of talent in special area courses. All eighth-grade students are enrolled in language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, reading or international language, physical education, and human growth and development. All classes meet on an alternate basis.

EIGHTH GRADE SAMPLE SCHEDULE

The sample schedule below is a model. Actual schedules may vary slightly dependent upon course enrollment and teacher availability.

Block	A Day	Block	B Day
ADV	Bulldog Block	ADV	Bulldog Block
1/2	World Language: Spanish, French, or Chinese	1/2	Physical Education 8 Intro to College & Careers 8
3/4	Math 8	3/4	Science 8
5/6	Social Studies 8	5/6	Language Arts 8
7/8	Elective 2	7/8	Elective 3

EIGHTH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course supports student mastery of eighth grade standards and focuses on developing and applying students' knowledge in language, literature, and composition and on developing students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and multiple literacy as appropriate for this grade level. Students will write descriptive, narrative, literary, expository, persuasive, and technical pieces for various purposes and audiences using a variety of tools and strategies.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HON LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course is the same as Language Arts 8, with even greater emphasis placed on the in-depth study of selected topics and works, additional composition alternatives, and critical and creative thinking development opportunities.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

MATH 8

This course provides experiences that include practice in numeration, computation, estimation, problem solving, geometry/special concepts and measurement. It introduces algebraic and statistical concepts and provides opportunities for students to develop understanding of the structure of mathematics as outlined in the Nebraska State Standards for 8th grade.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

H ALGEBRA 1-2

This course is the honors section of Algebra 1-2. It covers traditional algebra topics including operations with signed numbers and polynomials, solving first-and second-degree equations, verbal problems, systems of linear equations, graphing and writing linear equations and inequalities, and simplifying exponential expressions. As an honors class, these topics will be covered in greater depth and with enrichment.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 credit per semester

H GEOMETRY 1-2

This course is the honors section of Geometry 1-2. Topics include congruence and similarity of figures, parallelism and perpendicularity, right triangle relationships, formal and informal proof, coordinate geometry, properties of polygons and circles, and perimeter, area, and volume of two- and three-dimensional figures. As an honors class, each topic will be covered in greater depth and with enrichment. This course is the first semester of Honors Geometry 1-2. Students enrolling in this course should have proficient or advanced grades in both semesters of Honors Algebra 1-2, or advanced grades both semesters of Algebra 1-2 and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credit: 1 credit per semester

SCIENCE 8

Science 8 engages students in the three dimensions (science practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts) of learning as identified by the Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Science. The topics include forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, energy, heredity: inheritance and variation of traits, biological evolution, space systems, and history of Earth. This course provides the foundations for other science coursework.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

H PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

Honors Physical Science Grade 8 engages students in the three dimensions (science practices, disciplinary core ideas, and crosscutting concepts) of learning as identified by the Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Science. The topics include forces and interactions, waves and electromagnetic radiation, structure and properties of matter, energy, chemical reactions, space systems, weather and climate, and Earth's systems. This course provides a foundation for other science courses and meets the district requirement for Physical Science. Students enrolled in honor courses have additional experiences that require a more rigorous program of study.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

This course explores the ideas, issues, and events from the adoption of the United States Constitution to the Gilded Age. Instruction is organized around the themes of geography, history, economics, and civics. Students investigate key people, events, ideas, and cultures of our country using historical thinking and primary and secondary sources.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

REQUIRED SPECIALIZED COURSES

INTRO TO COLLEGE AND CAREERS 8

Students will continue to explore careers using the Nebraska Career Education Model. A focus will be to make connections between personal aptitudes and interests to specific Career Fields and Clusters. Students will have opportunities to practice and develop skills in the Nebraska Career Readiness Standards of Practice. Students will draw from class learning, skill development and activities to begin a Personal Learning Plan to transition into high school with a broad career cluster focus.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

PHYSICAL ED AND HGD 8

This course is designed to include a wide variety of sporting activities and teach the qualities of sportsmanship, competition, and fitness. It includes learning the rules and regulations for the major sports of volleyball, wrestling, basketball, soccer, and track and field events. Students also participate in a variety of leisure and lifetime activities including badminton, aerobics and more. Students must wear appropriate attire for physical education courses (tennis shoes, T-shirts, sweats or shorts, etc.). This course will use current Physical Education standards and Human Growth and Development pacing.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 0.5 credit per semester

COOPERATIVE ARTS & MAGNET ELECTIVE COURSES

**Offerings will be based on student interest and teacher availability.*

ADVANCED BAND

This course is offered to seventh and eighth grade students with advanced abilities secured through several years of instrumental music participation. Music introduced includes technique studies and selected concert music with full instrumentation appropriate to the classes and ability. Performance is included as an extension of the classroom activities.

Prerequisite: Membership is achieved by the recommendation of the instructor.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ADVANCED STRING ORCHESTRA

This course is offered to eighth grade students who have demonstrated advanced ability in playing a string instrument. Technique studies and selected concert music advance both technical and musical understandings. The instrumentation includes violin, viola, cello and string bass. Performance is included as an extension of the classroom activities outside of the school day.

Prerequisite: Instructor recommendation or successful completion of Intermediate Strings.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ART 8

This course allows students to be innovative and reflect on their own experiences as many American artists have and do today. American artists were and are on the forefront of shaping America's identity through recording the human experience in innovative ways. Throughout this course, students will continue to develop their artistic voice and style and explore how they do and will play a part in society. Students will examine art and artists throughout American history focusing on America's diversity and influence. Aesthetic theories of Instrumentalism, Expressionism and Formalism will be studied as well.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

CHORUS 8

Chorus 8 is available to eighth grade students who have special interests and abilities in choral singing. Choral music is introduced in two and three parts that include bass clef participation. Vocal emphasis is placed on the introduction of the male changing voice and greater extension of all voice ranges. Performance opportunities including the All-City Music Festival are an extension of the classroom experience.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

COMPUTER APPS III

This course is designed for students to apply digital skills to real-life opportunities. Independent and collaborative projects will incorporate knowledge of digital citizenship, digital literacy, application software (word processing, spreadsheet, presentation), and workplace skills. Students will be able to explore and research career or technology areas of interest to design and create products for a specific purpose and audience.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

DRAMA 8

This elective for 8th grade introduces the fundamentals of dramatic performance and production for middle school students. Students will participate in a variety of experiences including, but not limited to, effective mime techniques, voice and diction improvement, acting techniques, theatre criticism, playwriting, improvisation, stage terminology, set design, and the use of technology in theatre.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

HONORS SPECIAL PROJECTS 8

This course offers a wide variety of experiences that align with gifted and talented programming standards. Learning opportunities meet grade level objectives in problem-solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, inquiry, cultural proficiency, metacognition, and affective skills.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INDUSTRIAL TECH 8

This course provides problem solving and exploratory experiences in several Industrial Technology areas such as: flight, research and design, construction, graphic arts, and CAD.

Duration: 1 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE 8

This seventh-grade course will explore the basics of computer science and how computing powers the world. Concepts will include career opportunities in Computer Science as well as computer science terminology and concepts. Students will develop skills in creative and collaborative problem-solving while being introduced to various programming languages.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

JAZZ BAND

This course is a middle school instrumental ensemble comprised of advanced instrumental students. Various jazz rudiments and improvisation techniques are introduced through a variety of jazz and popular styles of music.

Prerequisite: Audition

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

JOURNALISM 8

This course focuses on introducing students to the print aspect of journalism. Students will take part in developing, writing, revising, editing, and publishing print materials ranging from brochures to a school newspaper and yearbook. Based in the belief that the more one writes, the better one writes, this is first and foremost a lab for writing. Distinguishing between and among the different purposes one has for writing will be the primary basis for this class.

Prerequisite: Placement based on application and Journalism Advisory permission.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ML INTL STUDIES 2

Global Studies is open to students interested in examining countries, people, and issues that are shaping our contemporary world.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

READING SKILLS 8

Students in this course will improve reading proficiency with explicit, direct instruction in fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Strategies for phonemic awareness and phonics will be taught as needed. Placement is based on standardized test scores and teacher recommendation.

Duration: 2 semester

Credits: 1 credit per semester

WORLD LANGUAGES

**Offerings will be based on student interest and teacher availability.*

SPANISH 1-2

This course in World Languages at the first-year level stresses interpretive, presentational, and interpersonal communication abilities to develop survival skills in the target language. Students become aware of the personal and economic opportunities that knowing a second language will bring them and how that knowledge will enable them to function better both in the United States and globally. They also begin to develop awareness and appreciation of the various cultures associated with that language as well as the impact these cultures have made on their own community, country, and world. This course, exclusive to Beveridge, covers the first and second half of the Spanish 1 and 2 curricula.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

FRENCH 1-2

This course in World Languages at the first-year level stresses interpretive, presentational, and interpersonal communication abilities to develop survival skills in the target language. Students become aware of the personal and economic opportunities that knowing a second language will bring them and how that knowledge will enable them to function better both in the United States and globally. They also begin to develop awareness and appreciation of the various cultures associated with that language as well as the impact these cultures have made on their own community, country, and world. This course, exclusive to Beveridge, covers the first and second half of the French 1 and 2 curricula.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

CHINESE 1-2

This course in World Languages at the first-year level stresses interpretive, presentational, and interpersonal communication abilities to develop survival skills in the target language. Students become aware of the personal and economic opportunities that knowing a second language will bring them and how that knowledge will enable them to function better both in the United States and globally. They also begin to develop an awareness and appreciation of the various cultures associated with that language as well as the impact these cultures have made on their own community, country, and world.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

CHINESE 3-4

This course in World Languages at the second-year level is a continuation and expansion of the principles and concepts of the first year. During this time, students continue to work extensively with interpretive, presentational, and interpersonal communication skills while also delving more extensively into language structure, reading for information and general composition. Students continue to develop an awareness and appreciation of the various cultures associated with that language as well as the impact these cultures have made on their own community, country, and world.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

ESL A

This course is the core of the beginning level of English as a Second Language course. The focus of this course is on building vocabulary and expression in English.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 2 credits per semester

ESL B

This course is designed for the intermediate ESL student. The focus of this course will be to continue the development of basic communication skills, English language vocabulary, and more advanced grammatical structures. This course is typically for a second-year English language learner.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 2 credits per semester

ESL READING A

This course offers students learning English as a second language beginning reading instruction in English.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ESL READING B

This course is designed for intermediate ESL students who need additional help to improve their reading skills. Emphasis is on developing fluency, summarizing, and sequencing events in a reading passage, recognizing cause and effect and using systematic strategies to locate information from textbooks, charts, graphs, and tables which may be used in mainstream classes.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ESL TRANSITIONS

This course is designed for advanced ESL students with a focus on developing increased fluency and comprehension in reading more advanced materials and use a wide range of strategies to construct oral and written claims and support them with reasoning and evidence. Successful completion of learning goals from ESL B or demonstration of equivalent skills is required for registration in this course.

Prerequisite: Placement based upon OPS Placement Guidelines.

Duration: 2 semesters

Credits: 1 credit per semester

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS

All seventh and eighth grade students are eligible to try out for the competitive athletic teams. Students in sixth grade may participate in after school intramurals, but the number of intramural offerings will vary from year to year based on staff availability. Beveridge Middle School students are encouraged to participate in athletics and other co-curricular activities. Students have a primary obligation to complete their schoolwork to the best of their abilities and to behave appropriately while in school before considering athletics and co-curricular activities.

To be eligible to compete in inter-school athletic activities, a student-athlete must be passing all courses. Students who are not meeting academic expectations will be given one (1) week to improve their academic standing. If improvement is not made, the student-athlete may be required to miss practice time, competitions, and may even be removed from the team. Interested students may try out for inter-school athletic activities (a physical examination for athletics, proof of insurance, parent consent, and purchase of a Beveridge Middle School Student Activity Card are required).

After school athletic practices will conclude by 5:00 p.m. Late buses are provided for students that receive transportation through the school district and they will depart at 5:15 p.m. The ending time for athletic contests will vary based on the sport and the location of the contest.

SPORTS OFFERINGS

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross Country	Basketball	Soccer
Football	Swimming	Track & Field
Volleyball	Wrestling	

ACTIVITIES

Students at Beveridge Middle School have many opportunities to become involved with co-curricular clubs and activities. Student involvement fosters self-confidence for learning and a sense of belonging. Participation in clubs and activities also offers opportunities for developing social skills while interacting with students who hold similar interests. Clubs and activities may vary slightly from year to year depending upon student interest and sponsor availability. The activity and athletic bus will depart at 5:15 p.m. The lists of clubs/organizations vary year to year and during the year based on sponsor availability.

CLUBS

Art Club	Pep Club
Board Game Club	Quiz Bowl
Drama Club	Robotics Club
Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Club	Sign Language Club
National Junior Honor Society	Student Council

SPECIAL EVENTS

African American History Challenge	Science Fair
Book Blasters	Science Olympiad
History Day Contest	Spelling Bee (February)
Math Contests	Think Tank
Instrumental and Vocal Music Concerts (Winter and Spring)	Theater Productions
Nebraska Visual Arts Competition	Yearbook