



A Birmingham Public School

Snapshot of Enrichment Activities

BETA AUTONOMOUS DESIGN

Contact: Jordy Whitmer

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 6-8

The BCS robotics team includes a variety of team members: designers, makers, coders, artists, crafters, photographers, leaders, problem-finders, problem-solvers, mathematicians, etc. ALL are needed for a successful team. The team is selected to encompass a diverse group in terms of abilities/interests, ages, gender, experience, etc. The team meets twice a week during choice hour with optional extra meetings off and on throughout the year. In April, interested members go to Lawrence Tech for their Robofest <http://www.robofest.net/index.php/about>. Students develop their skills in design, problem-solving, teamwork, leadership, and interpersonal communication while also building their knowledge in science, engineering and technology.

BCS THEATRE PRODUCTION

Contact Person: Courtney Bassett

Participation Times: October through February

Grades: 6-8

Students may participate in the production of a musical as a member of the cast or crew. Cast participants receive singing and acting direction. Crew members learn basics of set design, building, running the backstage operations of a show, and costume design and production. All students work together as a team to put on a show for their peers, relatives, and members of the community. In recent years, students have performed *Disney's Jungle Book*, *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, *Guys and Dolls, Jr.*, *Seussical, Jr.*, and *Once Upon A Mattress*. Performances take place in late January and early February.

BCS BEE KEEPERS

Contact People: Tammy Brown and David Cryberg

Meeting Times: Choice Hour, fall and spring

Grades: 5-8

Students learn about beekeeping and help maintain and monitor our BCS hives. Students will have the opportunity to observe and care for honeybees in their hives at the Environmental Center behind Bingham Farms Elementary.

SPIRIT COMMITTEE

Contact Person: Nicole Toth

Meeting Times: All year, Choice Hour

Grades: 7-8

Developing creative ideas to enhance our BCS spirit is the responsibility of the Spirit Committee. Possible activities include dances, pep rallies, activity nights, sports contests and community service fund-raisers. In the process of planning, students enhance their leadership, teamwork, decision-making, and marketing skills.

BCS YEARBOOK

Contact People: Michelle D'Orazio

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

Students plan, design, and create the BCS student yearbook. This includes taking digital photos, writing captions, and designing the layout for the Yearbook. Students are also responsible for marketing and sale of the yearbooks.

BCS SPELLING BEE

Contact Person: Cindy Balicki

Meeting Times: School competition in January

Grades: 5-8

Classroom winners are invited to compete in the schoolwide BCS spelling bee. The winner competes at the county level.

BCS GEOGRAPHY BEE

Contact Person: Leon Braisted

Meeting Times: School competition in January

Grades: 4-8

BCS students in grades 4-8 are eligible to compete in a school-wide Geography Bee. The winner may be eligible to participate in the Michigan National Geographic State Bee.

MATH PENTATHLON

Contact Person: Courtney Bassett and Amy Alwari

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 4-5

Students learn and play five math games with complex and sometimes extensive rules. Students spend the first half of the year learning the games and the second half of the year using tournament rules. This year long class culminates in a full day tournament in early May.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Contact People: Tammy Brown, Chris Emmi and Anne Warner

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 4-8

Students participate in interschool tournaments in March. Individual and team events follow the format of popular board games, TV shows and athletic events. Events are a balance among biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, computers and technology.

FORENSICS & DEBATE

Contact Person: Courtney Bassett

Participation Times: All Year

Grades: 5-8

Students learn the basics of forensics, public speaking, and public forum debate. Special attention is paid to understanding the different events in forensics as well as learning the art of performance critique. Students also learn how to argue both sides of a given resolution in debate with special attention given to the art of cross examination. Students compete in statewide forensic and debate tournaments. Students must audition to be in the class.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Contact Person: Linda Hatfield, Birmingham Bloomfield Credit Union

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 6-8

Students learn all about managing their money. This kid friendly class will address financial planning, work and earning money, budgeting, saving and investing, and understanding credit.

DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Contact Person: Pauline Roberts

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

Destination Imagination is where creativity meets STEM! Students work as a team to have fun, take risks, solve interesting challenges, build friendships, and unleash their imaginations. Students will compete at a tournament in March and possibly more if they qualify.

M.S.B.O.A. SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL FOR BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Contact People: Jeff Krum, band / Lynne Gillespie, orchestra

Participation Time: Registration takes place in January

Grades: 7-8

Instrumental music students participate in a solo or ensemble performance that is adjudicated by a professional musician. With direction from private teachers or specially arranged help from the classroom teacher, students prepare music on a challenging level that increases technical skills and sharpens their awareness of performance fundamentals. This festival participation is also open to those band and orchestra members who study piano.

BLUE LAKE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR BAND AND ORCHESTRA STUDENTS

Contact People: Jeff Krum, band / Lynne Gillespie, orchestra

Participation Time: January

Grades: 5-8

BCS hosts regional scholarship auditions for Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Students interested in instrumental music, art, theater and dance are eligible to participate.

BAND AND ORCHESTRA CHOICE HOUR ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Contact People: Rick Jackson and Lynne Gillespie

Participation Times: September through June

Grades: 5-8

5th grade beginning band and orchestra students can advance their new skills with additional practice sessions offered in various choice hours throughout the week.

COBRA INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Contact Person: Rick Joseph

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

Do you know someone whose culture, language or religion is different from your own? Have you always wanted to learn more about it? CIC is for you. Participants will take turns each week sharing their ancestral language, clothing, religion and food through presentations, artifacts and a student-brought snack to share. Presenting is not mandatory, but unsure students might change their minds after watching others share their family culture and traditions. BCS contains a rich collection of families from all over the world. Come and celebrate who we are!

BCS ATHLETICS

Contact Person: Jason Hill

Meeting Time: Varies by sport

Grades: 6-8

There are four sports seasons at BCS. Each season lasts the better part of a marking period. The seasons are referred to as Fall, Winter 1, Winter 2 and Spring.

Fall sports include 7/8 boys' soccer, 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball and 6/7/8 boys' and girls' cross country.

Winter 1 sports include 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball and 6/7/8 girls' swimming.

Winter 2 sports include 6/7/8 boys' swimming and 7th and 8th grade girls' volleyball.

Spring sports include 6/7/8 boys' track and field, 6/7/8 girls' track and field, 7/8 girls' soccer and 6/7/8 boys' tennis.

EAT AND RUN

Contact Person: BCS PROUD DADS

Meeting Times: Lunch Recess, occasionally during the school year.

Grades: 3-8

Moms' or Dads' Eat and Run is a designated day(s) when moms and dads are invited to come to their child's lunch hour to have lunch in the cafeteria and to play outside. This popular activity enables parents to enjoy their student and his or her friends in a relaxed manner during the school day.

SPORTS CLASSES

Contact Person: Courtney Bassett

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

A variety of sports activities are offered including: recreational swimming, competitive swim conditioning, flag football, soccer, softball, basketball, team fitness and floor hockey.

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Contact People: Joe Leibson

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 7-8

This group will be involved with leadership training to further infuse character education throughout BCS using the "Be the Change" program. Immediate student responsibilities would include formulating a plan on how to deliver and implement the message behind "Be the Change" to the rest of BCS.

BUILDING A GREENPOWER USA ELECTRIC VEHICLE

Contact Person: Mat Brown

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 5-6

Students construct and test an all-electric vehicle. It is a single passenger “go-kart”. Teams of students are involved in constructing, wiring, driving and testing the vehicle to get the best performance out of it in terms of distance it will travel.

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENING

Contact Person: Audrey Lajeunesse

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

The Junior Master Gardening class offers horticulture and environmental science education through fun-filled, creative activities. Students will get their hands dirty while learning how soil and water are important to plants and all living things.

THINKING GREEN

Contact Person: Pauline Roberts

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 5-8

BCS is trying to come up with new ways to “think green.” Students will continue to work on two current projects: recycling and a natural habitat. This class has evolved from an education focus to a solutions focus.

MINECRAFT FOR EDUCATION

Contact Person: Jessica Heckman

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-6

Students utilize a familiar game for education objectives. In Minecraft for Education students craft away with their friends by completing missions and learning to build with sustainability and survival in mind!

INNOVATED INVENTORS

Contact Person: Victoria Barbieri and Courtney Bassett

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

Students focus on various artifacts that are considered some of the most innovative inventions in history. In conjunction with current programs offered by The Henry Ford Museum, students will study Innovative Artifacts, challenge themselves to consider what they might invent or innovate, and possibly recreate some of these inventions.

ART CLASSES

Contact Person: Courtney Bassett

Meeting Times: Choice Hour

Grades: 3-8

A variety of art enrichment classes are offered including: acrylic painting, polymer clay, scrapbooking, jewelry making, multicultural art, zentangle, and more!