

# **BREA JUNIOR HIGH**

A California Gold Ribbon School

## *Course Catalog*



**Home of the Bobcats**

**2019-2020**

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# Welcome to Brea Junior High School!

Brea Junior High School is one of the finest junior high schools in Orange County, and we are honored with the 2017 California Gold Ribbon distinction. We are a high-performing school where all students are academically challenged and where they are provided with the curriculum, instruction, support, and time they need to meet rigorous academic standards. The curriculum and extra-curricular programs here at BJH are motivating, engaging, and tap into our students' interests and curiosity. Our students learn to understand important concepts, develop essential skills, and apply what they learn to real-world situations.

Brea Junior High School is founded on its Bobcat P.R.I.D.E! Our Bobcat P.R.I.D.E. establishes a learning community that supports all students' intellectual, social and emotional growth.

**Positive Attitude** - Show kindness and empathy.

**Respect** - Listen and follow directions. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

**Integrity** - Be honest. Do what's right at all times.

**Determination** - Work hard and make the most of every moment.

**Excellence** - Put forth an effort to learn every day. Achieve your personal best!

Here at Brea Junior High School, our students have the opportunity for both independent inquiry and learning in cooperation with others. They have time to be reflective and numerous opportunities to make decisions about their learning. There are high expectations for all students and we are committed to encouraging and supporting every student to produce work of high quality. We see the true value of building independence and a strong work ethic in every one of our students in order to keep their options open well beyond their school years and into their college and career futures.

We would like to wish all of our students success here at Brea Junior High School!

Kelly Kennedy  
Principal

Kristin Risberg (A-L)  
Assistant Principal

Rollie Ham (M-Z)  
Assistant Principal



## 7TH & 8TH GRADE REGISTRATION

This catalog has been prepared to provide students and parents information regarding the required course of study and elective course offerings available here at Brea Junior High School. The information contained in this publication should be reviewed and discussed as plans are formed for your student's 7th and 8th grade academic program.

Our junior high program represents a very important phase in your student's educational experience. The goals of the instructional program are to assist students in making the transition from elementary school to high school curriculum. Skills in reading, writing, literature, mathematics, history/social science, and science are further developed in the required course sequence. Elective courses such as foreign language, art, music, industrial arts, college prep, STEM classes and Career Tech classes (CTE) serve to broaden your student's educational background. Both required and elective course are described for each course in this catalog.

Your student schedule will consist of the following classes:

1. English/Language Arts
2. History
3. Science
4. Math
5. Physical Education
6. Elective
7. Elective

In order to minimize the need for program changes after the beginning of the school year, it is important that you carefully indicate the specific information on the Elective Course Card. A parent signature is required on the form.

### 7TH GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT

Per California Senate Bill 277, all incoming 7th graders must have the following immunizations documented:

- Polio - 4 doses (3 if one was given on or after the 2nd birthday)
- DTap - 5 doses (4 if last dose was on or after 2nd birthday)
- MMR - 2 doses after 1st birthday
- Varicella - 2 doses or documented illness from a Physician

If your student is missing any required vaccines or you have concerns about the required vaccines, please schedule an appointment immediately with your regular healthcare provider or call the Orange County Local Health Department for an appointment at 1-800-914-4887. Please provide your student's school with the most current shot record. If you have already provided the most current shot record to your student's elementary school, including the Tdap booster, you do not need to do so again.

Thank You!

# REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

**ENGLISH LIT 7:** All students will complete a full year of literature-based coursework. Literature selections include short stories, novels, non-fiction, and drama with a focus on reading skills and writing instruction as well as grammar, vocabulary, listening, and speaking. This course is aligned with and incorporates the California Common Core Standards.

**ENGLISH LIT 7 HONORS:** This class is available for students identified as G.A.T.E. by the Brea Olinda Unified School District. All students will complete a full year of literature-based coursework. Literature selections include short stories, novels, non-fiction, and drama with a focus on reading skills and writing instruction as well as grammar, vocabulary, listening, and speaking. This course is aligned with and incorporates the California Common Core Standards. Honors students can expect an accelerated pace and more rigorous literature selection.

**ENGLISH LIT 8:** Literature is used as a basis for integrating the instruction of reading, writing, critical thinking, listening, and speaking. Core texts are paired with short stories, poetry, non-fiction, and internet research to stimulate extended thinking and analysis. Cross-curricular and Character Education activities are also taught as vital components of the learning process throughout the year. This course is aligned with and incorporates the California Common Core State Standards.

**ENGLISH LIT 8 HONORS:** This class is available for students identified as G.A.T.E. by the Brea Olinda Unified School District. All students will complete a full year of literature-based coursework. Literature selections include short stories, novels, non-fiction, and drama with a focus on reading skills and writing instruction as well as grammar, vocabulary, listening, and speaking. This course is aligned with and incorporates the California Common Core Standards. Honors students can expect an accelerated pace and more rigorous literature selection.

# REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE

**WORLD HISTORY 7:** This is a full year course that cover World history from the Fall of Rome to the Advent of the modern world through the Renaissance. The class will also cover World Cultures, and geography's effects on creating the modern world.

**WORLD HISTORY 7 HONORS:** This class is available for students who identified as G.A.T.E. by the Brea Olinda Unified School District. In the Honors Medieval World History Program, students are challenged with rigorous content enrichment that emphasizes the evolution and connections of human societies and how the past has shaped our world today.

**U.S. HISTORY 8:** This is a full year course that covers U.S. history from the American Revolution to the emergence of modern America (1920). Special emphasis is given to the creation of the Constitution, Western Expansion, and the Civil War.

**U.S. HISTORY 8 HONORS:** This class is available for students identified as G.A.T.E. by the Brea Olinda Unified School District. The Honors program will challenge students with rigorous content and will engage students to think about different themes in American History. Higher levels of thinking will be achieved through individual and group based projects.

## STEM SCIENCE

### (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH EDUCATION)

**SCIENCE 7:** This is a full year program based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students will study cell structure and function, genetics, natural selection, ecosystems, and Human Body systems They will journal as a scientist by using Science Notebooks. Students will use balances, microscopes, and technologies as they perform a variety of activities that allow them to formulate predictions, collect data, and write conclusions based on scientific evidence.

**SCIENCE 8:** This is a full year program based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students will study forces, motion, energy and waves, structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, and the Periodic Table. They will journal as a scientist by using Science Notebooks. Students will collect data, interpret results, use technologies and learn to use various laboratory equipment. Math skills will be enhanced through the extensive use of problem-solving.

# REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## MATHEMATICS

**MATH 7 CORE:** This course is aligned to the Grade 7 California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered in this course include rational numbers, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, proportional reasoning, percents, geometry, statistics, and probability. This is the grade level course for 7th graders.

**ACCELERATED MATH 7/8:** This course is aligned to the Grade 7 and Grade 8 California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered in this course include rational numbers, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, proportional reasoning, percents, geometry, statistics, probability, exponents and scientific notation, linear relationships and equations. This is an accelerated course for 7th graders who want to take Algebra in 8th grade.

- Requires teacher recommendation, grades, and Standard Met or Exceeded Achievement Level on the math portion of the CAASPP Assessment.

**ALGEBRA 1:** This course is aligned to the Algebra I California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered include numbers and expressions, equations and inequalities, functions, linear functions, systems of equations, polynomials, quadratic functions, statistics and data. This course is two years above grade level. Students enrolled in this course should have mastered both the 7th and 8th Grade California Common Core Standards for Mathematics.

- Requires teacher recommendation, grades, Standard Exceeded Achievement Level on the math portion of the CAASPP Assessment (score of 2610 or above in 6th grade).

**MATH 8 CORE:** This course is aligned to the Grade 8 California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered in this course include irrational numbers, exponents, radicals, linear functions, systems of equations, geometry, and statistics. This is the grade level course for 8th grade students.

**ALGEBRA 1:** This course is aligned to the Algebra I California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered include equations and inequalities, linear functions, systems of equations, quadratic functions, exponential functions, polynomials, and rational expressions. This is an above grade-level course for 8th graders, and because this is an advanced course, students will be required to maintain an A or B grade. Students whose semester grade is below a B will be moved to Math 8 Core.

**GEOMETRY:** This course is aligned to the Geometry California Common Core Standards for Mathematics. The topics covered include congruence, similarity, geometric properties and measurement, trigonometry, and circles. This is an above grade-level course designed for students who successfully completed Algebra 1 in 7th grade with an A. Because this is an advanced course, students will be required to maintain an A or B grade. Students whose semester grade is below a B will be moved to Algebra 1.

# REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**COED PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** This course provides students the opportunity to learn through a developmentally appropriate, comprehensive sequentially planned physical education program aligned with the Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools. Content standards emphasize meeting challenges and making decisions as well as working as a team to solve challenges. The application of self-responsibility, positive social interaction in group dynamics is highly stressed during this course. Physical education classes are separated into seventh and eighth grade classes.

**PE - 7TH GRADE:** Seventh grade curriculum includes the execution of mature movement patterns and knowledge of individual and dual physical activities. Students are required to track their physical fitness and performance by maintaining a fitness log. All students are expected to contribute to a positive environment by striving to fulfill their potential and encouraging others to do the same.

**PE - 8TH GRADE:** Eighth grade curriculum builds upon seventh grade curriculum and includes applying locomotor, non-locomotor and manipulative skills to team-based activities. Students are required to track their physical fitness and performance by maintaining a fitness log. All students are expected to model a positive attitude toward individuals of all ability levels and encourage others.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## COLLEGE PREP

**AVID-ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION:** (Year-Long Class) The AVID Elective students have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but may be falling short of their potential. Students will learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and questioning techniques, get academic help from their peers and college tutors and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college seem attainable. Students in this class will take trips to local college campuses. Students must fill out an application to be part of this class.

Student requirements:

- GPA of 2.0 to 3.5
- Application required
- Meets or exceeds State tests for Math and ELA
- May be the first generation in their family to attend college
- Is a hard worker, has a positive attitude, and is collaborative in nature

**BOBCAT ACADEMY:** (One Semester Class) Bobcat Academy is an elective intervention class available to all students and will be taught by a credentialed BJH teacher. The elective course will focus primarily on academic support, monitoring Grade Portal, teaching organizational skills, homework completion, time management, and test taking strategies. In addition, students will have fun and gain self confidence in their newfound abilities as a student.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

**BEGINNING BAND:** (Year-Long Class) No musical experience is required for this class! This class is designed for students who have either very little or no experience playing a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Students will learn the basics of reading music and playing a band instrument, and will perform at a variety of concerts and events throughout the school year. Beginning Band will prepare students for future participation in Intermediate or Concert Band, as well as high school band. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

**BEGINNING GUITAR:** (Year-Long Class) No musical experience is required for this class! This class is designed for students who have either very little or no experience playing guitar, or who may play using guitar tablature or chord symbols but do not know how to read standard music notation. Students will learn to read and play music and chords. Finger picking, chord strumming, and some rock techniques will be taught in a wide variety of music. Students **do not** participate in concerts for this class.

**INTERMEDIATE BAND:** (Year-Long Class) This class is designed for students who have at least one year of experience playing a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. This is the recommended class for students who have played an instrument throughout elementary school or who have completed Beginning Band at BJH or at another school. Students should already have some basic skills in reading music. Students will continue to develop music-reading skills and more advanced playing techniques, and will perform at a variety of concerts, competitions, and events throughout the school year. Intermediate Band will prepare students for future participation in Concert Band, as well as high school band. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

**CONCERT BAND:** (Year-Long Class) Concert Band is the most advanced band at Brea Junior High, and students are placed in this class either after successful completion of Intermediate Band, successful audition, or recommendation of the teacher. Students will learn advanced music reading skills and playing techniques on a band instrument, and will perform extensively throughout the school year. The Concert Band regularly represents Brea Junior High at concert festivals and competitions across Southern California, including an annual performance at Disneyland or Knott's Berry Farm. Auditions take place in June of the previous school year. Concert Band will prepare students for participation in high school band. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

**JAZZ BAND:** (Year-Long Class) Jazz Band is an advanced level band at Brea Junior High for students who are competent on saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or a rhythm instrument (piano, guitar, string bass, drumset). Students are placed in this class either after successful audition or recommendation of the teacher. Students will learn advanced musical skills and playing techniques in the jazz style as well as improvisation. Jazz Band will perform extensively throughout the school year. Jazz Band will prepare students for participation in the award winning BOHS Swingin' Wildcat Jazz Band. **Jazz Band must be taken concurrently with Concert Band or Intermediate Band.**

**BEGINNING ORCHESTRA:** (Year-Long Class) No musical experience is required for this class! This class is designed for students who have either very little or no experience playing a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, string bass). Students will learn the basics of reading music and playing a string instrument, and will perform at a variety of concerts and events throughout the school year. Beginning Orchestra will prepare students for future participation in either the BJH Advanced Orchestra or high school orchestra. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**ADVANCED ORCHESTRA:** (Year-Long Class) Advanced Orchestra is the most advanced string orchestra class at Brea Junior High, and students are placed in this class either after successful completion of Beginning Orchestra or recommendation of the teacher. Students will learn advanced music reading skills and playing techniques on a string instrument, and will perform at concert festivals and competitions across southern California. Advanced Orchestra will prepare students for participation in high school orchestra. Brea Junior High may provide a limited number of instruments and supplies for students' use. Join the BJH instrumental music family!

**SHOW CHOIR EXPRESS:** (Year-Long Class) This class is designed to teach students to sing and dance as part of a competing show choir. Teacher approval is required before any student may be enrolled in this award-winning ensemble. In the Fall Semester, Show Choir Express will perform a Broadway Night Concert at Choir Competitions throughout Southern California and host a Show Choir Competition for Middle Schools at BOHS. All students will also be given the opportunity to participate in the Spring Musical at BOHS as part of the chorus. This course is open to all students by AUDITION ONLY.

**DRAMA: Acting, Improv, and Theatre** (One Semester Class) If you've ever wanted to take a dive into the world of acting, this is the perfect place to start. In our class, we will actively participate in and learn the basics of theatre arts including: improvisation, voice projection, monologue/ensemble acting, and script analysis. We will view scenes from movies and television, dissect and critique the performances, and finally recreate the scenes ourselves. We will have guest speakers from "the business" visit the class and discuss their craft. Be ready to get up in front of the group and show us what you can do!

**PLAY PRODUCTION:** (One Semester Class) This class is offered during 2nd Semester. This course is designed for advanced student actors. Students will represent BJH in an evening and weekend production near the end of the school year. Students must be prepared to try out for roles in the play and be willing to work as part of the "stage team." Classroom instruction includes the study of acting styles, classical and contemporary theatrical works and directing. Students are required to participate in after school or evening rehearsals. (Prerequisite : Drama Class)

**ART 1:** (One Semester Class) If you don't know how to draw, this is the class for you. You will learn how to draw, shade, sketch and how to make objects look real (3-D). You will also learn how to mix colors using many varieties of paints. You will learn beginning sculpture. Your grade is based on effort. If you already know how to draw, this class will help you become a better artist. No previous drawing ability is required to join Art 1. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Visual Arts Program offered at Brea Olinda High School.

**ART II:** (One Semester Class) An intermediate level drawing, painting and graphic design course where students apply artistic processes and skills, using a variety of media, to communicate meaning and intent in original works of art. In addition, students analyze the role and development of visual arts in past and present cultures throughout the world, as it relates to the visual arts and artists. Concepts and techniques learned in Art I are used to create finished works of art. Also, a Visual Arts Pathway to BOHS. (Prerequisite: Art I)

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## S.T.E.M. - SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH

**MARINE BIOLOGY:** (One Semester Class) Marine Biology is an introductory class which leads into Oceanography. Marine biology is the science of saltwater and everything that lives, moves, and filters through it. The word “marine” in this sense refers specifically to saltwater that you find in oceans, not freshwater, which is found in lakes. When you look at a globe, you can see that nearly three quarters of the Earth’s surface is covered with water. In this course, you will learn about life in the ocean depths, at the Polar Extremes, in coral reefs, estuaries, and in the open sea. You will learn about plants large and small, marine birds, reptiles, invertebrates and fish. You will learn how all these organisms connect with each other in the marine biome, and what threats are facing these ecosystems.

**FORENSICS:** (One Semester Class) This course enables students to see STEM through the eyes of a crime scene investigator. Investigators are trained individuals who collect various types of physical evidence at a crime scene. The basic principle of forensic science is that every contact leaves a trace. The goal of this course is to isolate microscopic trace materials to identify their chemical makeup and origin. Students will have an opportunity to solve a mystery, supplemented with vivid details, a motive, a crime scene and evidence, all set up for their class to solve. Students will learn investigative skills and explore uses of technology through the use of labs, case studies, and online activities. This may include things like: DNA, fingerprinting, hair and fiber analysis, soil comparison and digital forensics.

**PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW) DESIGN & MODELING:** (One Semester Class) Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

**ENGINEERING THROUGH THE AGES:** (One Semester Class) This class is designed as an extension to PLTW Design and Modeling class. Students will continue to use the design process and the SketchUp software to solve engineering challenges that humans have faced over time. Students will work collaboratively to design and build projects such as pyramids, bridges, catapults, cars, and rockets. (Prerequisite: PLTW Design & Modeling)

**PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW) AUTOMATION & ROBOTICS:** (One Semester Class) Project Lead the Way prepares students to be the most innovative and productive leaders in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and to make meaningful, pioneering contributions to our world. In this course students will learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, coding in RobotC and computer control systems. The students will work collaboratively using the VEX Robotics platform to design, build and program real-world objects, such as traffic lights, toll booths, robot dragsters, and automated delivery vehicles.

**ADVANCED ROBOTICS:** (One Semester Class) This class is designed for students who have taken PLTW Automation & Robotics and want to participate in more advanced robotics challenges and participate in robotics competitions. Advanced robotics students will also mentor and assist the students in PLTW Automation & Robotics. Students must fill out an application to be a part of this class. (Prerequisite: PLTW Automation & Robotics)

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD:** (One Semester Class) **This class is offered 1st semester only.** Students explore, experiment, hypothesize, conduct studies and then compete in “events” pertaining to various scientific disciplines, including earth science, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. They will gain knowledge of science facts, concepts, processes, skills and science applications throughout this course with an emphasis placed on teamwork and on active, hands-on group participation. Students participate in premiere science competitions throughout the country. This is a rigorous, honors level course due to the high school/college level science content.

**EXPLORING MEDICAL CAREERS:** (One Semester Class) Exploring Medical Careers includes personal, consumer, and community health; safety; nutrition; individual growth and development; communicable and chronic diseases; medical terminology and abbreviations; body systems; legal and ethic topics; and socioeconomic issues. Students are introduced to the diversity of career choices in the medical/dental/health field. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Health Science Pathway offered at Brea Olinda High School.

## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

**EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE:** (Year-Long Class) Computer Science introduces students to the foundation of computer science using an inquiry-based, hands-on approach to understanding and solving real world computing problems. Instruction includes the areas of human-computer interaction, problem solving, web design, programming, data analysis, and robotics. Emphasis is placed on the creative, collaborative, interdisciplinary and problem-solving nature of computing. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Global Information Technology Pathway (GITA) offered at Brea Olinda High School.

### **ADVANCED COMPUTER SCIENCE:** (Year-Long Class) **8TH GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**

This advanced class fosters an environment that both empowers and challenges students to utilize their computer science knowledge in real world applications. Instruction includes web design, JavaScript programming, video game coding, and an introduction to the Python language. Emphasis will be placed on having students work collaboratively, apply their critical thinking, and utilize their communication and problem solving skills. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Global Information Technology Pathway (GITA) offered at Brea Olinda High School.

**DIGITAL PHOTO:** (One Semester Class) Discover the endless possibilities of digital photography and learn to edit and enhance photos like the pros using Photoshop. From photography basics to creating life-like fake photos, students will learn not only how to take better pictures, they will learn about the enhancement tricks that are making Internet headlines every week. After this class, students will never look at photographs the same way!

**ADVANCED DIGITAL PHOTO:** (One Semester Class) Adventures and mysteries await as students spend an entire semester delving deeper into the exciting world of Photoshop. Students will discover advanced techniques used by professionals as they continue advanced photo editing and creating custom graphic design projects. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Arts, Media & Entertainment Pathway offered at Brea Olinda High School. Prerequisite: “A” in Digital Photo.

### **YEARBOOK:** (One Semester Class) **This class is offered 1st semester only.**

Help capture all the excitement of the school year as part of the BJH yearbook staff. Outgoing students will be called upon to photograph events, classes, activities, sports and more. Yearbook staff members work in teams to create an unforgettable yearbook that will be cherished by students and staff for years to come. Students must fill out an application to be a part of this class.

**VIDEO BROADCASTING:** (Year-Long Class) Bobcat Television (BCTV) is looking for energetic, outgoing students to join our broadcasting team. Students will film and edit news and feature segments for our weekly video broadcast. We need reporters, camera operators, editors, news anchors and more. If you want an exciting class where you can be a member of a creative team and produce an amazing broadcast every week, then we want you! Students must fill out an application to be a part of this class. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Arts, Media & Entertainment Pathway offered at Brea Olinda High School.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## COMMUNICATION /HISTORY

**GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY:** (One Semester Class) Greek and Roman Myths are filled with adventure stories of monsters, gods, and beasts. This elective course looks at a collection of the major myths of Greek and Roman antiquity that encompass the Greek and Roman perspective of the world, wars like Troy and Thebes, heroic acts of Hercules and childish pranks by Hermes. In this course, students will study these myths in the form of art and literature and will connect mythology to our modern times.

**PEERS:** (One Semester Class) Friendships during Jr. High can be challenging and sometimes the way we go about making new friends don't always work. In PEERS (Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills) students will learn a variety of relational skills such as tattling vs. telling, choosing appropriate friends, starting and joining conversations, appropriate use of humor, good sportsmanship, handling arguments, handling bullying, and minimizing rumors/gossip. During each session students are taught important social skills through role-play exercises, concrete rules, and steps of social behavior. Additionally, they are given the opportunity to practice these skills during socialization activities inside and outside of the classroom.

**SPEECH & DEBATE:** (One Semester Class) Come learn the basics of Public Speaking & Debate! This challenging and competitive academic discipline will teach you how to get your voice heard. In this class we will learn rhetoric, practice delivery skills, and even prepare to compete. Some of the events we will cover in this course are Extemporaneous speaking, Impromptu speaking, Expository speaking, and Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Students will develop and enhance their communication skills, critical thinking skills, as well as increase their self-confidence.

“If you can speak, you can influence. If you can influence, you can change lives.”

- Rob Brown 2013

## WORLD LANGUAGE (8TH GRADE STUDENTS ONLY)

Successful completion of a language course during eighth grade allows students to complete college prerequisite for language requirements at an accelerated rate in high school. Students must have earned an A or B throughout the year in their seventh grade language arts classes to be eligible for the following world language course.

**SPANISH 1:** (Year-Long Class) Beginning course in oral and written Spanish. Based on a specific theme, new vocabulary and grammar are presented and reinforced through a series of carefully calculated listening, reading, writing, and speaking exercises. Through various activities, will become familiar with the culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Assessment is based on homework, participation, projects and oral and written tests and quizzes. Spanish 1 is the equivalent of high school Spanish 1. Successful completion of Spanish 1, with an A or B grade, prepares students to enter Spanish 2 in 9th grade.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## INDUSTRIAL ARTS

**BASIC INDUSTRIAL ARTS:** (One Semester Class) Students build projects that introduce them to fundamental wood working skills. Emphasis is placed on hand tools, basic power tools, shop safety rules, and craftsmanship. The metalworking industry is also emphasized by the construction of projects in sheet metal and bar stock.

**ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL ARTS:** (One Semester Class) Students continue to develop wood and metal working skills through the construction of advanced level projects. Students receive instruction and experience in the use of all power machines and tools in the shops. Safety, craftsmanship, and good design are emphasized. This class is intended as a beginning pathway to the Building Industry Technology Academy (BITA) offered at Brea Olinda High School. (Prerequisite: Basic Industrial Arts with a “B” average or higher and no “N’s” or “U’s” in citizenship marks).

### **FOUNDATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION (BITA1): (Year-Long Class) 8TH GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**

The Residential and Commercial Construction course is designed to teach basic skills for the construction trades through a course rich in connections to construction projects that generate interest in math and increase student’ likelihood of success. The course covers basic construction math; measurement and scale, blueprint reading, safety, procedural use of hand and power tools. Students acquire these skills through the use of technology and real world problem solving. Integrated throughout the course are foundation standards, which include communication, ethics, interpersonal/team skills, critical thinking and other employment skills needed for the 21st Century.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT/ASB:** (Year-Long Class) This class plans, organizes, and conducts school activities. Each student is assigned a homeroom for which they will act as a representative. Students will also participate in parliamentary procedure, speeches, debates, and a mock trial. Additionally, students are required to take part in activities outside of the regular class period such as P.R.I.D.E. lunchtime challenges, spirit dress-up days, and ten hours of community service each semester as part of their grade. **Students are chosen for this class from an application/interview process. ASB officers are elected from this class in Spring.**

**LEADERSHIP 101:** (One Semester Class) Leadership 101 is a course where students will be exposed to a variety of leadership styles and strategies. This class will emphasize the importance of goal setting, organization, time management, customer service, character education, and team building. Throughout the semester students will build relationships with leaders on campus and in the community. Students will discover their inner leader through discussions, presentations, and activities. This semester class is available to all students, but is especially recommended for those looking to be part of ASB, NJHS, PAL or AVID.

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## SCHOOL/STUDENT SERVICES

### 7TH GRADE (Second Semester Only) AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

**LIBRARY/MEDIA AIDE:** (One Semester Class) The library/media class is a group of students who wish to aid in the library. They receive instruction in the area of library skills, and use of a variety of equipment. They must be able to follow directions, get along well with others, and be very responsible. (Prerequisite: Students for this class are interviewed by the librarian. Students should be above-average academically and have good citizenship and attendance.)

**OFFICE PRACTICE AIDE:** (One Semester Class) The purpose of office practice is to teach students to meet the public, deliver messages to teachers, file, and aid in general office work. (Prerequisite: Students for this class are selected through an application process. Students should be above-average academically and have good citizenship and attendance.)

**STUDENT MENTOR:** (One Semester Class) This course will enable students to work as a peer mentor with students with special needs one period a day. Student mentors work hand-in-hand in assisting students with functional life skills such as calendar, money skills, functional math and reading skills, safety and much more. Student Mentors provide a valuable social aspect to the classroom and serve as positive role models. It is a highly rewarding elective and often leads students to a career in teaching.

**TEACHER AIDE:** (One Semester Class) This course is open to those students who are interested in helping teachers by performing various duties, running errands, aiding the teacher with the class, or tutoring other students. Students interested in Teacher Aide must be able to get along with others, follow directions, and be very responsible. (Prerequisite: Students for this class are interviewed and chosen by classroom teachers).

### **UNIFIED PE: (One Semester Class) 8TH GRADE STUDENTS ONLY**

Students in this course will participate as a Mentor Coach in the Adapted PE class. This course focuses on building leadership skills, improving fitness levels and fostering a more inclusive environment on campus. Students will work together to increase competence and confidence in a variety of physical activities. Through ongoing leadership opportunities, members of this course will be empowered to help create a more inclusive and accepting school environment for all students.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**

There are a variety of opportunities for your students to get involved here at BJH. Information through daily morning homeroom announcements, posted on our BJH website, and through our weekly BJH email newsletter will be provided throughout the school year. Please encourage your student to actively participate in these opportunities.

### **ACADEMIC PENTATHLON TEAM**

Our BJH students compete as individuals and team members in a series of five academic tests, including: mathematics, literature, social science, science and essay. This five-event competition encourages and rewards academic excellence among students of all ability levels. The Orange County competition is held in March.

### **AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES**

During the school year, after school enrichment classes are available. These classes run 10 weeks and topics include: Planetary Science, Math Logic Puzzles, Creative Writing, Music & Literature, and The Science of Food.

### **BOBCAT ATHLETICS**

Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of after school sports including: flag football, cross country, basketball, volleyball, soccer, and track & field. All students are encouraged to come out and join the team! Please know that all student athletes must have a physical before they can participate and must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. throughout the year.

### **MATHCOUNTS TEAM**

The MATHCOUNTS Competition series is the only competition program of its kind and is ideal for students who have a talent and passion for math, who need to be challenged. Students engage in exciting “bee-style” contests in which they will compete against and alongside other bright, motivated students.

### **NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY (NJHS)**

The National Junior Honor Society is a national organization that recognizes outstanding middle grade students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor our students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. Here at BJH, 7th graders are invited to participate in NJHS based on the following criteria: a 3.75 G.P.A. at the end of the 1st Semester of their 7th grade year and have no N's or U's in citizenship and no suspensions. Good citizenship and a G.P.A. of 3.75 or higher must be maintained during 8th grade.

### **PEER ASSISTANCE LEADERSHIP (PALS)**

This youth development program is built upon the philosophy of students helping students. PAL leaders help build a positive school climate through youth leadership, mentoring conflict resolution, cross-age teaching, peer helping, service learning, and prevention activities.

### **SPELLING BEE**

BJH students participate in a school-based competition, with the top two finalists participating moving on to the county level competition. At the county level, our two finalist participate in a preliminary written round and then, “a spell-off” where students spell words orally to determine the top speller in Orange County.

# **EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**

## **SCIENCE OLYMPIAD TEAM**

Our students compete in “events” pertaining to various scientific disciplines, including earth science, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. Emphasis is placed on teamwork and on active, hands-on group participation. This has become one of the premiere science competitions in the nation, providing rigorous, standards-based challenges to nearly 7,000 teams in 50 states and BJH is always proud of the success of their team.

## **CHEMISTRY CHALLENGE**

The “You Be The Chemist Challenge” (YBTC) is an exciting academic contest that uses the drama of competition to encourage our students to explore important chemistry concepts and their real-world applications.

The Challenge:

- Introduces students to the central role of chemistry in all of the sciences and in their everyday lives.
- Promotes science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education.
- Provides educators with a fun, interactive way to educate their students and assess their learning.
- Encourages parents to participate in their child’s education.
- Allows industry members to connect with their community and actively show support for science education.

## **COLOR GUARD**

Our after school group meets twice a week to interpret the music that the marching band is playing via the synchronized spinning of flags, sabers, rifles, the air blade, and through dance. This group partners and competes with the BOHS ColorGuard.

## **CHEERLEADING**

Our after school group is committed to celebrating the Bobcat P.R.I.D.E. on our campus, throughout the school day and at our after school athletic events. This group partners with the BOHS Cheerleading Squad.

## **NOTE:**

California law does not allow school districts to charge fees to students for curricular, co-curricular, or extracurricular activities. The law does allow school districts to charge fees in specific situations. Those permissible fees are outlined in a FAQ from the Orange County Department of Education’s Schools Legal Services division. This FAQ is posted on our school’s website for your information. Due to constraints resulting from reductions in State funding for schools over the past several years, BOUSD has looked to maintain the high level of programs expected by our community through the solicitation of donations from participants and their families. This long standing practice is still legal and acceptable. The law is also very clear that all students must be allowed to participate in curricular, co-curricular, or extracurricular activities, without sanctions or limitations, regardless of whether a student or hi/her family makes a donation. We are working carefully with staff and all groups on campus to ensure that donations are requested only to help defer, or offset, the additional costs of running and maintaining our exceptional programs and activities at their current high level. Without your support of these programs through your donations, we will be required to redesign these programs and activities at their current high level. Without your support of these programs through your donations, we will be required to redesign these programs to match the very limited funding provided by the State. While we will continue to offer as many programs as possible at no cost to students and their parents, please be aware that your voluntary donations help to make the experiences students have at our schools more enriched and extensive.