

Q & A about the Arts Integrated Program at Beaufort Middle School

1. *What is Arts Integration?* Students in the Arts Integrated Program practice the *7Mindsets* in science, math, social studies and ELA and make connections to these core classes through arts integration including band, strings, chorus, guitar, theater, dance, visual arts, media arts, and creative writing. Students have opportunities to showcase their learning in the arts, learn from artists in residence, and use professional quality arts equipment and facilities. BMS is designated as an Arts in the Basic Curriculum school with a Distinguished Arts Program. These two designations provide grant funding to support the arts through artists-in-residence, community and school performances, quality learning experiences in the arts, and professional arts equipment and supplies.
2. *How is Arts Integration different from a traditional middle school program?* Arts Integrated students learn through the arts in their core academic areas and make connections to these core academics in specific arts courses. The arts are integrated into units of study also. Students learn a multitude of creative processes through the arts that are excellent companions to learning in any content area. With a strong understanding and appreciation for the arts, students contribute to their own community through their creative art endeavors. The Arts Integrated Program focuses on developing citizens that engage with the community. Class sizes range from 23 – 25 students, and the focus of all learning experiences is to develop leadership skills, thinking skills, and skills of good citizens.
3. *What are the benefits of being in this program?* Arts Integrated students are enrolled in arts classes each year and study a sequenced curriculum of arts beginning with emerging skills as 6th graders to experts as 8th graders. 6th graders sample a variety of arts experiences; 7th graders select two different areas of focus in the arts; and 8th graders may concentrate their arts focus in one area if they wish.
4. *What are the 7Mindsets?* **7 Mindsets** is a web-based program that teaches students the skills needed to master social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies. The **7 Mindsets** are Everything Is Possible, Passion First, We Are Connected, 100% Accountable, Attitude of Gratitude, Live to Give, and The Time Is Now.
5. *If my child is identified academically or artistically Gifted and Talented, how will his/her needs be met in the Arts Integrated Program?* Students will receive GT services according to their areas of strength in advanced classes taught by highly qualified, gifted endorsed teachers. Artistically gifted and talented students have opportunities for enrichment experiences in their areas of the arts throughout the year. Our arts staff hold GT certifications and endorsements to teach artistically gifted and talented students. Artists in residence will work with our students. Arts Integrated students participate in school-wide arts events like musicals, choral ensembles and dance.

What if my child needs additional support in a class, how will his/her needs be met?

Students have a daily enrichment / intervention period each day. Academic support and enrichment opportunities are provided during this time.

6. *What math classes are offered in the Arts Integrated Program?* Advanced, and grade level math classes are provided. These include Advanced Math 6, 7 & 8, Algebra I for 7th and 8th graders, Geometry, Math 6, Math 7 & Math 8.
7. *What is the process for enrollment in the Arts Integrated Program?*
 - i. **If you live in the Beaufort Middle School attendance zone** you may indicate your request for Arts Integration during February and April at BMS.
 - ii. **If you live out of the Beaufort Middle School attendance zone,** the Choice Applications window is from February 1, 2020 through February 28, 2020 applications can be found online on the Beaufort County School District website.
8. *How do Arts Integrated students have access to technology?* All students are provided one-to-one tablet devices. Teachers and students use technology consistently. Web-based learning and use of the tablet is a primary learning tools for students and they are expected to bring them to school ready to use daily. Families have access to teachers' resources and web pages for continuous learning also.
9. *If my student was in Arts Integration for 6th grade, will he / she remain there for 7th & 8th grades?* We expect that our current sixth grade and current seventh grade students will continue in the Arts Integration Program as seventh and eighth grade students unless families decide to return to their zoned school.
10. *What are the hours of the school day for Arts Integration?* 1st period begins at 8:45 a.m. Students may enter the building at 8:15 a.m. Dismissal is at 3:45 p.m.
11. *Will my out of zone child be able to stay at BMS if we withdraw from the Arts Integrated Program?* If students leave a choice program at a school outside their regular attendance zone, they must enroll at the school that serves their neighborhood. Students may return to the school zoned for their neighborhoods at any time during a school year. Students have the option of requesting a different choice program during the next school year's application cycle.
12. *What opportunities are available for parent involvement in Arts Integration?* There will be field trips and projects that will be excellent opportunities for parents to chaperone, in addition to performances, and presentations that parents may assist and support. Parents are also expected to remain active and supportive of Arts Integration by participating in parent conferences and remaining in contact with teachers about their child's progress. Additionally, we encourage parents to be actively involved in our School Improvement Council and Parent Action Council When parents are our partners, students succeed.
13. *When can families learn more about Arts Integration?*

Choice Fair will be on February 19 at 5:30pm
Families are invited to attend 6th Grade Orientation at Beaufort Middle School on Thursday April 23rd at 5:30pm in the cafeteria.