

# Belleville Mennonite School

## 2010-2011 Middle School

*“Seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness and all of these things shall be added to you.” Matthew 6:33-34*

### Letter to Parents and Middle School Students

This program guide provides information about the Middle School program at Belleville Mennonite School. It reflects Belleville Mennonite School's commitment to a strong, integrated academic program with an emphasis on mastery of skills.

After reviewing the Middle School program details, please complete and return the enclosed 2010-2011 registration form to the Superintendent's office. The deadline for early registration (\$10 per student) is April 5, 2010, so please return your registration in a timely manner. After April 5<sup>th</sup>, the registration fee will increase to \$30 per student.

The aim of Belleville Mennonite School's Middle School curriculum, and total school program, is that students may study subject matters in the framework of a Biblical worldview.

**Thank you for entrusting your child's education to Belleville Mennonite School.**

### What is a Biblical Worldview?

Integrating Biblical worldview “is **viewing all of life and learning from God's perspective** and not from the perspective of ‘under the sun’ --the meaningless (vanity) discovered by the teacher and described in the book Ecclesiastes. Pursuit of academics (study and exploration), pleasure, work (career), achievement, and riches are all meaningless, in the final analysis, when viewed apart from God.”

*How to Develop a Teaching Model for World View Integration, Martha MacCullough, EdD*

The Christian school helps cultivate a worldview that **gives God His rightful place**, and it **looks to the Bible for guidance** in answering life's big questions.

*The Distinctives of Christian Schooling, Derek Kennan, EdD*

**Belleville Mennonite School**

**Developing Minds. Building Faith. Making Disciples.**

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM (Grades 6-8)

## Daily Schedule

Belleville Mennonite Middle School hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 3:03 p.m. The day begins with a short homeroom time, then assembly with scripture reading, prayer, and announcements by both staff and students.

**Curricular and co-curricular activities are the focus of faith development.** The middle school provides a daily chapel, including a weekly student-led worship with the high school. Bible is taught using “FIRM FOUNDATIONS-CREATION TO CHRIST” curriculum. Service learning is incorporated into the educational program to provide opportunities for students to serve others.

## Curriculum

Math	Reading	Bible	PE
Science	Social Studies	Choir	Technology Education
English	Art	Music	

## Middle School Math

The middle school math program provides opportunity for Grade 7 students to take Pre-Algebra or Seventh Grade Math, depending on test scores and the student's Grade 6 Math scores. Grade 8 students then take either Algebra 1 or Pre-Algebra.

## Computer Technology Instruction Services

Computer technology instruction is vitally important to the 21st century student. All students take computer two times a week. There is additional computer integration in the language arts two times a week. Additionally, Grade 7 & 8 students are able to register for an advanced elective computer class that meets once a week. Advanced computer topics in middle school include clay animation, video, and GPS.

## Athletics

Seventh and eighth grade students at BMS are provided with the opportunity to participate in soccer, basketball, and field hockey at the middle school level.

## Spelling Bee

There is opportunity for students to participate in the ACSI Spelling Bee held annually. Competition among the middle school grades helps to select BMS representatives.

## Middle School Leadership Conference

Middle school students can participate in the Association for Christian Schools International (ACSI) Middle School Leadership Conference with students from other Pennsylvania schools. This is a one-day conference where students are challenged to grow in leadership and introduce and implement a school-wide project to benefit others.

## Speech Meet

Grade 6 students are invited to participate in a Middle School Speech Meet with competition at both the local school and ACSI district level. Categories included in the Speech Meet are: Poetry, Bible Memorization, Fable and Folklore, Patriotic Oration, Dramatic Bible Prose, and Original Speech.

## Chess Club

Middle school students have the opportunity to participate in a Chess club and ACSI Chess Tournament. Objectives of this activity include:

- To increase student involvement in chess
- To provide opportunity for chess players to meet and compete
- To promote logical thinking
- To teach that each decision has a resulting consequence

### **Music and Choral Program**

Each student in middle school participates in choir. There are two groups of students that comprise the choirs in middle school-sixth and seventh grade, and eighth and ninth grade. These choirs each meet twice in a five day schedule and give two performances throughout the school year. Interested students may take individual instrument lessons and participate in a middle school worship team.

### **Drama**

Middle school students may participate in a spring drama at BMS with a student director from the high school graduating class.

### **Student Support Services**

Project HOPE provides a systematic, team approach to solving student academic, behavior, and social-emotional problems that provides hope to students who learn differently and to their families.

The Support Team provides information on assessment, adaptations, classroom management, and modifications to staff members to help meet the needs of students.

### **Valley View Intergenerational Program**

Two middle school students travel to Valley View on Tuesday and Thursday mornings (9:00-11:00 a.m.) throughout the school year. They help transport residents to have their hair done, physical therapy, coffee hour, play games or just sit and talk with them. This program is strictly voluntary and the students are required to make up any work they missed.

### **Enrichment Program**

Whole class enrichment is offered through the Act 89 program in various parts of the curriculum including the language arts.

### **Assessment**

Assessments and evaluations for middle school students at Belleville Mennonite School come from a variety of sources including:

- PSSA (Pennsylvania State Student Assessment)
- Standardized tests
- School classroom (Informal and formal checks for understanding)