

# Central Middle School

## 7th Grade Instructional Programs

### **BCSC Mission**

*BCSC demonstrates a community commitment to deeper learning for one... and all.*

### **CMS Contact Information**

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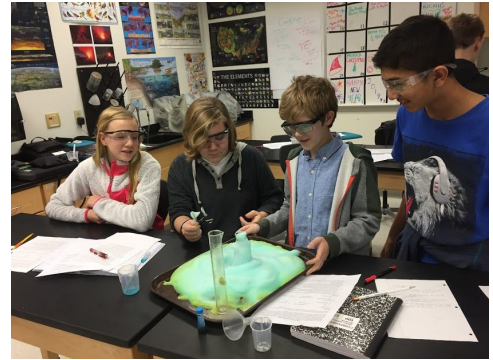
### **School Vision**

*Central Middle School ensures the success of EVERY student in an environment that maintains high expectations for students and staff, enhances learning, provides developmentally responsive student-centered programs, utilizes state-of-the-art technology, and fosters a partnership with all school stakeholders.*

This course catalog provides an overview of the academic programs and courses offered at Central Middle School. We look forward to having you join the Central Middle School family!

### **Teaming at CMS**

Each student at Central Middle School is a member of an interdisciplinary team. Four academic teachers collaborate to provide academic, social, and behavioral support to a team or “family” of approximately 130 students. The four 7th Grade teams at CMS are Adventure (High Ability), CSA (Project-Based), Phoenix, and Bolt. Students stay on their team for the entire 7th Grade year, giving students the opportunity to work with the same math, language arts, science, and social studies teacher throughout the year .



### **Daily Schedule**

Classes at CMS are divided into 8 or 9 periods in a day, depending on the team. Students on Team Adventure and CSA have an exploratory or an elective and 2 team classes before lunch and 2 exploratories or electives and 2 team classes after lunch. Phoenix and Bolt students have two and a half classes before lunch and three and a half classes after lunch. All students start the day with a 25-minute “CAPS Time” and nearly all students will have a 45-minute resource time.

### **High School Credits**

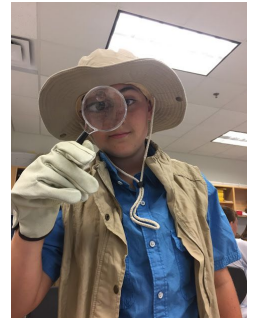
Students on all teams can earn 4-10 high school credit while in middle school:

- Seventh graders can take the following high school courses: Algebra (Adventure Only), Spanish 1, and/or French 1
- Eighth graders can take the following high school courses: Biology (Adventure Only), Algebra, Geometry (Adventure Only), Spanish 1 or 2, and/or French 1 or 2.

# Seventh Grade at CMS

## Mathematics

- **Math 7:** This course of study is designed to give students the fundamental skills necessary for success in a high school mathematics program. Students will progress through the curriculum of Indiana academic seventh grade standards. Upon completion of Math 7 the students will understand operations with integers and rational numbers; ratios and proportions; and graphing. Students who successfully complete Math 7 in grade 7 are eligible to take Pre-Algebra in grade 8 to develop a strong foundation of basic skills needed to be successful in Algebra 1 and any required exams in high school.
- **Pre-Algebra:** This course of study is designed to give students a strong foundation of fundamental skills to help them be successful in their high school math classes. Students will progress through a curriculum that is designed to meet Indiana academic standards in both 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics and begins to explore concepts from Algebra I. By enrolling in this course, a student will be introduced to the rigor and pace of a high school class without having the grade that he or she earns from it impact his or her high school GPA. Upon completion of Pre-Algebra, a student will have a strong understanding of operations with integers and rational numbers, setting up and solving ratios and proportions, as well as solving linear equations and inequalities. After successful completion of Pre-Algebra, a student will be enrolled in Algebra as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader.
- **Algebra 1 Honors (Team Adventure Only):** For those students entering 7<sup>th</sup> grade who already exhibit a strong foundation of Pre-Algebra skills, Central Middle School offers the opportunity for students to earn high school credit right away by taking Algebra I as 7<sup>th</sup> graders. This class has all the same structure and requirements of Algebra I Honors class taken by 8<sup>th</sup> graders, but will consist only of 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be enrolled in the Geometry Honors class as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader.



## Language Arts 7

The seventh grade Language Arts teachers invite all students to become confident, motivated readers and writers. Seventh graders read award-winning fiction and non-fiction literature selections by popular authors. Students also focus on skills such as making inferences, understanding story structure, literal meaning, textual clues, and literary conventions. Students engage in meaningful discussions of the literature themes. Personal responses and connections are celebrated in writing activities and individualized study. Grammar, usage, and mechanics are reviewed in the context of improving communication. Our writing program includes an intensive approach to research projects through the use of databases, the Internet, and other technology resources.

## Social Studies 7

Seventh grade students study world cultures of Asia, Africa, Australia, and the Southwest Pacific. Students discover the impact the physical environment, religion, and technology on these cultures today. In addition, students explore map reading, geography, and climates. In studying these areas, the social studies branches of history, sociology, political science, geography, and anthropology are examined from varying local, national, and international perspectives. Growth in knowledge of world cultures and critical thinking skills are demonstrated through an appreciation of, respect for, and tolerance of, all forms of cultural differences. Social Studies also includes a study of current events impacting the United States as well as the world.

## Science

- **Science 7:** Study Earth and its inhabitants during your time in 7th grade science. Students will begin the year with a review unit of basic science concepts such as measurement and the scientific method. They will also learn how to use basic science equipment. Students will then spend a semester learning about planet Earth and what it is made of (rocks and minerals), as well as how our planet's surface changes (earthquakes and volcanoes). Second semester students will learn the differences between living and non-living things, study different types of cells and cell structure, and understand the concepts of genes and heredity. The year ends with an ecology unit focusing on world areas and their biomes, interactions among organisms, and conservation. Hands-on activities include inquiry and problem solving, model building, cooperative learning, technology use, group discussion, demonstrations, and writing opportunities for research and self expression. Interdisciplinary subject areas are incorporated whenever possible. This design allows us to meet the individual needs of students while aligning the curriculum with Indiana's Academic Standards for science grade 7.
- **Honors Science (Adventure Only):** High Ability Science Curriculum will be compacted and accelerated, covering all the power standards of both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade except Biology. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> power standards included in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade are: The Scientific Method and Skills, Chemistry, Electricity & Magnetism, Waves Sound and Light, Forces and Motion, Earth and Space Science. Then in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Adventure students will be engaged in a High School Biology Lab Course. The advantage of this approach is to provide needed Science Challenge in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades and to allow students to take more advanced level Science Courses in High School.

## **Elective and Exploratory Courses**

Elective courses are year-long courses that students choose to take and include music and foreign language courses. Exploratory classes are 9-weeks long, and students rotate between these classes throughout the school year.

### ***Electives (year-long courses)***

#### **Band**

Band classes are designed to teach intermediate level musicians comprehensive musicianship through performance. Band students have an opportunity to perform at Indiana's annual solo and ensemble festival. Attendance at all scheduled band concerts is a course requirement. All band students are encouraged to enroll in summer band. Visit [www.bcscbands.org](http://www.bcscbands.org) to learn more.

#### **Choir**

Central's choir class is designed to expose students to singing in the choral tradition. Emphasis is placed on performance through learning sight-reading, musical style and interpretation, and vocal and choral techniques. Increasing students' enjoyment of music is an important goal of the course. Competitions and concerts will give choir members the chance to show off their skills. Whether you have sung in choir before or not, CMS choirs will be the start of a great musical experience.

#### **Strings**

Strings at Central Middle School is an exciting program. Students enjoy playing a wide variety of concerts, competitions and festivals. Strings students develop strong skills on violin, viola, cello or string base. These instruments can be rented and do not need to be purchased. Whether you have played before, or want to learn how, there is a place for you in Strings!

#### **Spanish and French**

Spanish and French are offered to both 7th and 8th grade students at CMS. Students can earn up to two years of high school foreign language credit while in middle school. Both of these courses involve reading, writing, and speaking while learning a foreign language, as well as activities related to cultural heritage. These are high school credit courses and students must have a recommendation from 6th grade teachers to be assigned to the course.

### ***Exploratories (9-week courses)***

#### **Computer Science**

Computer Science is all about solving problems with the help of computers. Students develop problem solving skills and logical thinking and at the same time learn to code with one of the most popular programming languages - JavaScript. Students also try their hand at physical computing by programming Circuit Playground chipsets. These chipsets have sound, light, and temperature sensors, and multiple switches and buttons - all ready to get programmed according to the plan the students come up with.

Getting familiar with Computer Science foundations can help students get a head start in many different C4 programs as well as develop their number sense, coordinate grid understanding, and raise their general computer literacy.

## Physical Education

In Physical Education class (PE) students develop knowledge and skills related to cardio-respiratory endurance, flexibility, and muscular strength and endurance. Students participate in various recreational activities and sports such as flag football, table tennis, yoga, badminton, ultimate frisbee, basketball, volleyball, soccer and floor hockey. Students improve their own fitness level through daily stretches, runs and flexibility activities. **FitSmart** and **Active Life** are more focused PE courses. In FitSmart, students take a closer look at the role of fitness in improving physical and social health. In Active Life, students learn about how fitness activities affect different parts of the human body.

## Health

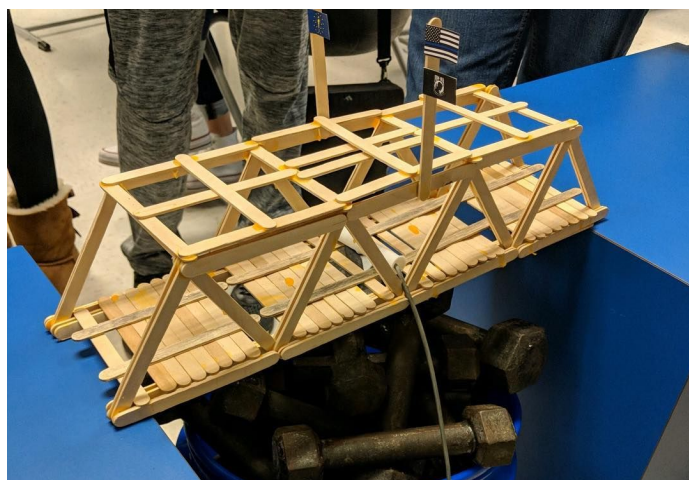
In Health, students will learn about the difference between healthful behaviors and risky behaviors. Seventh grade health topics include self-image, goal setting, substance abuse (alcohol and tobacco), personal health, body systems, abuse and violence and first aid.

## Family and Consumer Sciences

In Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS), students use kitchen modules to learn how to prepare and create a variety of meals that can easily be recreated at home or when living independently in the future. In addition to the food prep, students learn about food sourcing, measuring, among many other skills. FACS is a great introduction course for exploring many career pathways available through the C4 program and beyond.

## Technology Education

Tech Ed is an introductory, hands-on learning class dedicated to exploring the career pathways available through the C4 program and beyond. This course is the combination of a STEM lab, a makerspace, and life skill development. Students will learn the design process, complete build projects, and become more confident with technology and life.



## Art

Art explores several two dimensional and three dimensional art forms including painting, drawing, paper mache, computer art and ceramics. Students are introduced to various types in history, as well as within the community. Students examine art and learn an appreciation for and an understanding of the ideas, symbols, meaning, and cultural diversity represented in artwork.

## Digital Communications

Digital Communications focuses on the fundamental skills that all learners need in a growing digital age. Students learn about things from the fundamentals of Google Drive to going deeper into topics like Digital Citizenship and being safe online. Learners will create and showcase their growing skill set throughout the course.

## Special Opportunities at CMS

There are lots of great opportunities for students to get involved in extracurricular activities at Central Middle School. Here you will find some specific information about some of our school's most popular clubs and activities.

**Athletics:** Students at CMS can join athletic teams during the fall, winter, and spring at Central Middle School. Some teams have a try-out but many teams allow any student with good academic standing to join. If you are interested in learning more about sports at CMS please visit [www.cmschargers.com](http://www.cmschargers.com).

### Athletics at Central Middle School

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Football	Basketball	Track
Volleyball	Wrestling	Golf
Cross Country	Cheerleading	
Dance	Dance	
Cheerleading		
Tennis		

**FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics:** CMS currently has the only FTC robotics team in the county. Students on the team meet at a local workshop during evenings and weekends to work with mentors from Cummins to build, program and promote a robot they will use to compete in competitions around the state. Students must apply to join the team because space is limited. For more information, contact Ms. Slabosky.

**Junior Solar Sprint Car Competition:** Students who join the Junior Solar Sprint Car Club will work with mentors from Cummins in small groups to design and build a small solar powered car. The club meets after school during the spring and competes in the annual Columbus Junior Solar Sprint competition in May. Last year, CMS students finished in the top 3. For more information contact Ms. Slabosky.

**Musicals and Plays:** Students at Central can audition for musicals and plays throughout the school year in addition to participating in music classes during the school day.

**Spell Bowl, Academic Super Bowl, and Math Counts:** Throughout the year, Adventure students can participate in three different academic clubs that meet after school and participate in local and state competitions. The teams typically perform well and place in state competitions.

**Yearbook and “The Charge” Video Announcements:** Students interested in journalism, video editing or graphic design can join the yearbook staff or “The Charge” staff for the video announcements. These clubs meet during the school day and occasionally after school.

**Library Teen Advisory Group (TAG):** TAG is a club that meets during lunch. In this club students participate in book discussion, create crafts using recycled books and help Mrs. Fee develop programs for the library. For more information, contact Mrs. Fee at [feem@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:feem@bcsc.k12.in.us).

**Animanga Club:** Students in the Animanga Club meet in the library once a week during lunch to read Manga, watch Anime, learn about Japanese culture, and make crafts. For more information, contact Mrs. Fee at [feem@bcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:feem@bcsc.k12.in.us).



*CMS Indiana Academic Spell Bowl State Champions 2018. Runner-up in 2019.*

***Thank you for reading. Please contact us if you have any questions!***