

Student Name _____

Advisor _____

Locker: # _____

Brunswick Junior High School

2012-2013

Brunswick Junior High

Mission Statement

Brunswick Junior High School recognizes the unique needs of the Middle Level Learner. Our mission is to provide an educational community where students are safe, engaged, challenged, supported, and healthy.

- Safe:** We are a community where students and staff feel socially, physically and emotionally safe while working and interacting in our school and virtual environment.
- Engaged:** We recognize the importance of students having choice, taking ownership, being heard, having fun, and developing positive relationships. Students are engaged in all aspects of the school, across subject areas, and with the community to improve the education for all learners.
- Challenged:** Learning is both purposeful and fluid to adapt to changing needs. Students develop flexible thinking, intrinsic motivation, and the ability to apply learned skills to new situations. We challenge students by offering relevant, real-world curriculum with high expectations for all.
- Supported:** We are a supportive community where students are listened to, understood, cared for, and protected emotionally. We set clear and high expectations and scaffold and model appropriate behavioral choices and learning tasks while acknowledging the real-life demands facing students.
- Healthy:** We are a community that protects, supports, reinforces and advances the total health and wellness of every member. We recognize the link between adolescent health, academic success, and lifelong healthy practices.

If there is a conflict between what is stated in this handbook and what is stated in the Brunswick School Department policies, the policies govern.

ADVISORS

Students will be assigned to an advisor at the beginning of the school year. The advisor will be responsible for morning attendance, absence notes and parent conferences with your parent for this school year. When there are questions about choices at BJHS such as elective selections, sports tryouts, clubs, etc. the advisor will be available to help.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We offer a rich array of after school club and intramural athletic activities.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Art Club | Chess Club | Civil Rights Team |
| EarthKam | Flag Football | Floor Hockey |
| Go Green Team | History Huskies | Homework Club |
| Jazz Band | Math Teams | Musical Theater |
| Science Club | Show Choir | Student Council |
| Wind Ensemble | Writing/Poetry Club | Yearbook Staff |
| | Destination Imagination | |

ATTENDANCE

A student should be in school every day that school is in session unless the need to be absent falls within the criteria for excused absence provided by law. A day lost from school cannot be replaced regardless of a student’s capabilities and no amount of make up work can ever duplicate the original instruction that took place within the classroom. Furthermore, to expect less than excellent attendance may foster an attitude within the student that school is not important. Students who are absent for 17.5 or more days will be considered for retention per Brunswick School Department Policy JEAA.

A note giving the specific reasons for an absence from school, signed by your parent or guardian, must be brought to your advisor on the day you return to school; even if your parent has called in your absence.

Legally acceptable excuses are defined as:

1. personal illness
2. appointments with health professionals that cannot be made outside of the regular school day
3. observance of recognized religious holidays when the observance is required during a regular school day
4. emergency family situations
5. planned absences for education or personal purposes which have been approved

Parents should present a written note along with a request form, obtainable in the main office, for a planned absence if such absence is to be 5 or more school days.

Students absent from school or who are ill and dismissed from school will not participate or be a spectator in activities after school. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JEA for additional information.)

AUTOMATED ATTENDANCE PHONE CALLS

If a student is marked absent in advisor class or another class period a call will automatically be made to the primary phone number listed in the SchoolMaster database unless you have notified the office of their absence. You will be informed which period(s) that the student has been reported absent.

ATTENDANCE-ARRIVAL

Walking students may enter the building only through the main lobby entrance at 7:42 A.M. It is recommended that walking students arrive only five minutes prior to the entrance bells. During inclement weather, time your arrival so you do not have to wait outside prior to the opening of school.

Students who want to enter the building early to meet with a teacher should have a signed pass from that teacher.

ATTENDANCE-DISMISSAL

To be dismissed during the school day a student must have their assignment notebook signed by the office during morning advisor period by bringing a note from home. Students will have their passes signed for the time of dismissal. Students are responsible for showing their pass to the appropriate teacher and leaving class at the time of their dismissal.

At the end of the day, all students riding busses will be dismissed after announcements. Students not riding busses are dismissed at the 2:32 bell and should remain in their advisor rooms until the bell.

ATTENDANCE-TARDINESS

Students will be considered tardy to school or class if they are not in their classroom at the time the tardy bell rings at 7:50 AM. Students who are tardy in the morning are to report to the main office for a late slip. A note signed by the parent or guardian stating the reason for the tardiness should be brought to the office upon arrival. Acceptable excuses for tardiness are defined as numbers 1, 2, and 4 under the Attendance section.

ATTENDANCE-CLASSROOM TARDINESS

Students who are late to a class with an acceptable reason should go to that class with a pass from the person detaining them. Students who are late to class for an unacceptable reason will be held accountable by that classroom teacher.

Habitual tardiness will be dealt with by the office and may result in detention.

BACKPACKS

Students may use backpacks to carry materials to and from school. Students are not to carry full backpacks to individual classes throughout the day, but may use trapper-keepers or string bags to organize their materials.

BEVERAGE MACHINE

Beverages purchased in the cafeteria are to remain in the cafeteria. Water machines and regular water fountains are available in the building and may be used by students during the day. Students may bring drinks from home. These can be consumed in the cafeteria or outside if the student is a walker. Only clear water can be consumed in classrooms.

BJHS INTERSCHOLASTICS

FALL: Boys Soccer (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Girls Soccer (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Girls Field Hockey (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Co-Ed Cross Country (open)

WINTER: Boys Basketball (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Girls Basketball (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Co-Ed Cheerleading (must try out)

SPRING: Boys Baseball (must try out)
Girls Softball (must try out)
Boys Lacrosse (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Girls Lacrosse (must try out) **A/Gr 8-B/Gr 7**
Co-Ed Track (open)

BICYCLES / SKATEBOARDS/ INLINE SKATES

Bicycles are to be parked and locked in the racks located in front of the building. Bicycles are not to be ridden on the bus ramps at Coffin School or on the Brunswick Junior High school grounds. It is recommended that bikes be registered with the Brunswick Police Department.

Skateboards and skates are not to be ridden on school property. They are to be carried and stored in lockers during the school day. Skateboards are not allowed on any school busses.

BOMB THREATS

The Board recognizes that bomb threats are a significant concern to the school department. Whether real and carried out or intended as a prank or for some other purpose, a bomb threat represents a potential danger to the safety and welfare of students and staff and to the integrity of school property. Bomb threats disrupt the instructional program and learning environment and also place significant demands on school financial resources and public safety issues. These effects occur even when such threats prove to be false.

Any bomb threat will be regarded as an extremely serious matter and treated accordingly. The Board directs the Superintendent/principals to react promptly and appropriately to information concerning bomb threats and to initiate or recommend suitable disciplinary action.

Conduct Prohibited

No person shall make, or communicate by any means, whether verbal or non-verbal, a threat that a bomb has been, or will be, placed on school premises.

Because of the potential for evacuation of the schools and other disruption of operations, placement of a bomb or of a "look-alike" bomb on school premises will be considered a threat for the purpose of this policy.

Reporting of Bomb Threats

A student who learns of a bomb threat or the existence of a bomb on school premises must immediately report such information to the building principal, teacher, the school resource officer or other employee in a position of authority.

Student Disciplinary Consequences

Making a bomb threat is a crime under Maine Law. Any student suspected of making a bomb threat shall be reported to law enforcement authorities for investigation and possible prosecution. Apart from any penalty imposed by law, and without regard to the existence or status of criminal charges, a student who makes a bomb threat shall be subject to disciplinary action by the school.

In addition, a student who is found after a hearing by the Board to have brought a bomb to school shall be expelled from school for at least one year in accordance with 20-A M.R.S.A.

Aiding Other Student in Making Bomb Threats

A student, who knowingly encourages, causes, aids or assists another student in making or communicating a bomb threat shall be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Failure to Report a Bomb Threat

A student who fails to report information or knowledge of a bomb threat or the existence of a bomb or other destructive device in a school building or on school property may be subject to disciplinary consequences, which may include suspension and/or expulsion.

BOOKS / OTHER MATERIALS

The School Department provides textbooks for students. Whenever possible, students should supply their own pens, pencils, erasers, colored pencils, atlases, calculators and paper.

Each student is responsible for the textbooks assigned to him/her at the beginning of the year. All textbooks assigned for a full year must be covered.

Lost or damaged bills will be issued for books and other materials that are not returned in an acceptable condition.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Upon arrival at school, students are to report directly to the cafeteria. At the close of school, students are responsible for being on time for their proper busses. Bus students who have to remain after school must arrange for transportation home. Acceptable behavior must be maintained on busses, or the privilege to ride the bus may be restricted.

Bus students will get off at their regular stops unless a written note from the parent is presented to the main office that morning to obtain a bus pass. Due to the large number of students that take busses, bus passes will only be given in the following situations: a change in child care or family emergency. *They will not be given for detentions, social reasons or to work on projects.*

Under normal circumstances, walking students will not be allowed to ride a bus.

CAFETERIA

Students are expected to enter the cafeteria in a quiet, orderly manner. Students must bring their ID card, or know their ID number, with money on the account or cash to purchase lunch. Students may take a seat of their choice after being served, unless asked to sit in a specific seat by a teacher on duty.

The cafeteria should become silent to hear announcements. Students should clean up around their tables. Students are expected to exhibit proper manners at all times.

Failure to conduct oneself in a proper manner may mean office detention or may result in the loss of cafeteria privileges.

CELLULAR TELEPHONE USE/PROCEDURES

Secondary school students may be permitted to be in possession of cellular telephones under the following conditions:

- Students and parents must sign a Cellular Telephone Use Procedure form and submit it to the main office.
- Cell phones will be turned off and in the student's locker during the day.
- Cell phones will be turned off and out of sight on school buses during regular transportation runs except during emergencies.
- Cell phones may be used at the conclusion of school activities.
- No cell phones shall be used during detention or tutoring. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged cell phones, or any financial obligations resulting from cellular phones.
- Any use in violation of the rules will result in confiscation of the phone. (On the first offense the student may pick up the device at the end of the day from the front office. Subsequent offenses will result in the need for the parent to pick up the device between 7 AM & 3:30 PM.)
- Violations of the rules may also result in immediate loss of the privilege to carry a phone.
- Illegal or inappropriate use of cell phones may result in suspension from school.
- Messages and pictures on cell phones may be accessed as part of an investigation.

CHEMICAL ABUSE POLICY

Prohibited Conduct

No student shall manufacture, distribute, dispense, serve, possess, use, transport or be under the influence of any prohibited substance as defined by this policy, the laws of the state of Maine, or federal law.

Prohibited Substances include:

- Alcohol;
- Tobacco products (including smokeless);
- Scheduled drugs as defined in 17-A MRS §1101;

- Controlled substances as defined in the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC §812 (examples include but are not limited to: narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, and anabolic steroids);
- Any performance enhancing substance listed on the Maine Department of Health and Human Services Banned Substances list and any other substance which is illegal in Maine or the use of which is illegal for minors;
- Prescription drugs not prescribed for the student and/or not in compliance with the Board's policy: Administering Medicines To Students (FILE: JLCD);
- Any substance which can affect or change a student's mental state, physical condition, or behavior pattern, including but not limited to volatile materials such as glue, paint or aerosols (when possessed for the purpose of inhalation); over the counter medications (such as pseudoephedrine or dextromethorphan) that when used alone in large quantity or in combination with other drugs may pose serious health risks (including death); or other plants and herbs smoked or ingested with the intent to produce drug-like effects;
- Drug paraphernalia (defined as any implement used to distribute, deliver or consume a prohibited substance); or
- Any counterfeit drug or substance that is described as or is purported to be a prohibited substance as defined above.

These prohibitions apply to any student who is on school property, any student in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored home or away activity, or any student whose conduct at any time or any place directly interferes with the peacefulness and usefulness of the school.

Enforcement

Violations of the terms of this policy will constitute grounds for student discipline, including suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to law enforcement agencies. The School Resource Officer will also be notified of violations of this policy.

Corrective measures, beyond disciplinary actions for a violation, will be considered by the administrator, who may recommend actions that may range from mandatory in-school counseling to a treatment recommendation. If treatment is recommended, parents/guardians will bear the cost.

Administrators may be more restrictive in the applicability of this policy when engaging parents and students in contracts as a precondition to participate in extracurricular or co-curricular activities.

(See *Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JICH for additional information.*)

CIVIL RIGHTS TEAM

The Civil Rights Team is a group of students dedicated to reduce hate, violence, prejudice, harassment and bias. The team hopes to eliminate the incidences of

bias language that too often leads to bias based threats and violence. They work to reduce intolerance and build an understanding of the Maine Civil Rights Act in the entire school community.

The group meets weekly throughout the year to work on projects such as assemblies, announcements, newsletters and bulletin board displays. They also make signs, visit classrooms and sponsor “No Name Calling Week” to educate students on the power of their words.

All students are welcome to join.

CODE OF ETHICS

Respect: I will treat others and myself with respect.

Honesty: I will not lie, cheat or steal and will discourage others from doing so.

Compassion: I will treat others with kindness, understanding and tolerance.

Fairness: I will treat others as I would like to be treated.

Responsibility: I will accept the responsibility for my actions.

Courage: I will strive for the courage to live by this code.

(Policy: File JICDA Brunswick Code of Student Conduct)

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE

Student use of school computers, networks and Internet services is a privilege, not a right. Students are required to comply with this policy and any other acceptable use or similar policies or procedures that may be adopted at the site or district level. Students who violate this policy, its regulation and/or supplemental policies or procedures may have their computer privileges revoked and may also be subject to further disciplinary and /or legal action. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File IJNDB for additional information.)

CORRIDOR SAFETY

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Loud, boisterous behavior, running, pushing, or other unsafe behavior will not be tolerated.

DETENTION-CLASSROOM

Detention period is a time when the student is assigned to stay after school for any infraction of acceptable student behavior. Students should fully understand that adults who work at the school have the authority to correct misconduct at any time. Teachers may also give detentions to complete work.

Transportation home after detention is the student’s responsibility in conjunction with parents. Bus passes will not be provided for students who have been detained for misconduct reasons.

Failure to report for two assigned detentions may result in an office detention.

Serious violations of school regulations (e.g., smoking, sexual harassment, vulgarity directed at others, or repeated

minor violations) will be dealt with immediately with parental conferences and/or suspension.

DETENTION-OFFICE

Students who behave inappropriately outside of the classroom will be issued an office detention to be served during two lunch periods. Students will get their lunch at the beginning of the period and report to the assigned room for the full period.

Students who receive three office detentions in one quarter are subject to an in-school suspension.

DRESS-GUIDELINES

To insure the health and safety of each student, to promote learning, and to prevent any unnecessary disruption within our school program, these guidelines are to be followed:

- Clothing that depicts or in any way refers to, advertises, or promotes illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco products, that has sexual implications, that promotes violence or illegal acts, or that is derogatory toward any group or individual is not allowed.
- Shoes, sneakers, or sandals will be worn by all students while on school grounds.
- All clothing is to fit properly, be of appropriate length, and not be revealing or indecent. Underwear should not be visible and clothing should cover the chest, midriff, back and mid-thigh appropriately.
- Garments, chains, some chain-like necklaces and/or accessories that may be used as a weapon or perceived as gang member symbols will not be allowed.
- Styles of grooming and/or dress that block vision will not be allowed.
- Students attending classes such as, but not limited to, health, physical education and laboratory classes, will comply with dress code regulations as they relate to the health and safety standards of the specific area of study or work. Teachers will notify students of these rules.
- Students will be required to remove hats and hoods upon entering the building at the BJHS.

(See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JICA for additional information.)

ELEVATOR

The elevator is for use only with authorization from the office staff or nurse.

ELIGIBILITY

Each student will be eligible to join and to participate in any or all intramural school activities, which he/she chooses. Interscholastic eligibility is determined by the guidelines for each sport. Conditions affecting his/her continuance in any activity shall be the responsibility of the

teacher in charge and shall be based upon the student's performance, behavior, and attitude while a participant.

ENDANGERMENT

The throwing of any object or any act that endangers another person is prohibited and will be dealt with seriously. Physical contact with another person including "play fighting" is prohibited.

The throwing and/or use of snowballs are prohibited on school grounds at any time. Repeat offenders may be subject to suspension from school.

Students are not allowed to bring laser pointers to school.

EQUITABLE PLACEMENT CRITERIA (Revised, 2007)

The counseling department in consultation with the administration, special education department, and leadership team will make placement decisions based on the following steps and using the following criteria:

1. Working within the class size guidelines established by the Board, it is understood that classes should, to the extent possible, be balanced in terms of race, gender and ethnicity. It is equally important that students from the sending schools be reasonably distributed between teams and throughout the classes.
2. In order to ensure appropriate placement and a reasonable distribution of special education students, the special education department will draft a preliminary placement list of their students and submit it to the counseling department in adequate time to prepare for Step-Up Day.
3. Similar thought should be given to the placement of Title I (tutorial), ATD (Academic Talent Development-gifted) and ESL (English as a Second Language) students.
4. By Step Up Day, the counseling department will complete the preliminary placement process. It is understood that the counseling department will utilize their knowledge of students' social, emotional and academic needs in making their decisions.
5. The Leadership Team will review placement lists prior to the end of the school year. All staff members privileged to view these preliminary lists must maintain confidentiality since changes will continue to be made right up through opening day. Parents and students will be informed of their team assignment by letter in August. The counseling department will bear the primary responsibility for assigning new students registering over the summer.

Note: Brunswick Junior High is no longer able to honor letters of request regarding student placement.

EXTRA HELP

You may always seek extra help from your teachers. Arrange a conference with your teacher before or after

school or at a time convenient for both of you. A teacher will sometimes request a student to stay after school if it is apparent that the student is having difficulty with his work. Students should have a pass signed to meet with a teacher before school.

FIRE AND CRISIS RESPONSE DRILLS

- Fire drill signal: Continuous buzzer
- Crisis Response: Public address system

Directions are posted in each classroom for these drills. Students are expected to be familiar with evacuation routes and are to be silent during a drill.

FUNDRAISING

With assistance from the parent group, the BJHS faculty and staff will support a reasonable amount of fundraising in order to enrich our educational programs, support field trips, and help cover the occasional incidental expense. The following conditions apply:

- By the end of September, the principal, in consultation with the parent group, should present a plan for the year's fundraising to the Leadership Team requesting their review and approval.
- This plan, if approved, should be communicated to the public via the school newsletter in October.
- All school groups or personnel proposing a fundraising activity during the school year must let the principal know of their intent by the end of the second week in September in order to be included in the plan.

While it is not our intent to add fundraising activities to the plan once the school year is rolling, it is possible that on occasion a special circumstance may arise that requires additional fundraising. In such a case, the principal in consultation with the parent group will submit the special request to the Leadership Team for their consideration.

Notes: While we have no control over community fundraising efforts (such as Girl Scout cookies), we will attempt to avoid conflicts between any such activities and our own fundraising. It is also important to note that all groups that represent the school such as Band Boosters, the library support group, and the cheerleaders need to coordinate with this plan.

HEALTH REGULATIONS

Parents of students should be mindful of both their child's health and that of a group. A student who feels ill should stay at home. Many cases of severe illnesses and the spread of epidemics can be prevented in this way. Cooperation on the part of all will keep our health at the highest level possible. If, in the opinion of school officials, the student does not seem physically fit to remain in school, you will be requested to come for your child. Parents are asked to furnish the school with the name, address, and telephone number of a person with whom the child may be left in an emergency in case the parents cannot be reached

If your child has any of the following they should stay at home.

1. Fever of 100 degrees or higher
2. Uncontrollable cough
3. Persistent thick nasal discharge
4. Nausea and/or vomiting
5. Diarrhea

Students will be dismissed for health related concerns at the discretion of the school nurse. Students who present to the Health Office with the above symptoms will be dismissed. Students may return to school after an illness when they have been symptom and fever free for 24 hours without fever reducer medications.

When returning to school after an illness, the student should be well enough to participate in all aspects of the school program unless arrangements have been made before the return to school with the school nurse, school counselor or administration.

HYGIENE- PERSONAL

For the health and well being of all, every student is expected to practice personal hygiene.

Perfumes, lotions, body spray and cosmetics shall not be used in the classrooms or hallways due to allergy concerns among the students and staff.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Maine School Immunization Law (Chapter 661) requires pupils enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 to be immunized with polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, measles, varicella and rubella vaccines. The mumps vaccination is required for pupils in kindergarten through 7th grade.

Immunization Requirements

<u>Doses</u>	<u>Immunization</u>
5	DTaP (4 if 4 th dose given after 4 th birthday)
4	Polio vaccines (3 if 3 rd dose is given after 4 th birthday)
2	MMR (first dose on or after 1 st birthday)
1	Varicella (chickenpox)* (Students under age 13 need only one dose, age 13 and over require two doses given 4-8 weeks apart.)

**Proof of immunity for chickenpox can be shown in one of 3 ways:*

1. *A note or health record from your doctor showing your child has had chickenpox.*
2. *A valid Immunization Record showing your child has had the chickenpox vaccine.*
3. *Results of a blood test that shows your child is immune to chickenpox.*

Any child who does not meet these requirements within 90 days of registration may not attend school. You must bring documentation of immunization dates to the school office by the start of school or present one of the following:

- A physician's written statement that immunization is medically inadvisable.
- OR
- A written statement each year stating an opposition to immunizations because of sincere religious, moral, philosophical or personal reasons.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Once students arrive on school property in the morning, they are not permitted to leave school grounds without permission. Doing so could result in suspension from school.

LOCKERS

Each student is loaned a locker with a built-in combination lock. Memorize the combination and keep it confidential. Lockers may be opened before and after school as well as in between classes. Students who bring lunches should get them just prior to their lunch period. Lockers will be periodically checked. Clothing and food should not be left in a locker overnight.

Lockers are the property of the school. Should there be a reason to suspect that the contents of a locker contain something that, in the judgment of the administration, could be harmful or interfere with the orderly maintenance of discipline in the school, the locker may be opened by an administrator.

LUNCH-STUDENT ID CARDS

Students will be provided a photo ID card that will be scanned by the cafeteria cash registers. Students must make a prepayment in order to use this card. Students need to fill out a payment envelope and deposit it in the collection box in the main office before 9:00 a.m. for use that day. Students cannot put money on their account in the cafeteria at lunchtime. Students who do not wish to use the scan card may purchase lunch with cash or bring their own.

Money can also be added to this account, and balance checked, on-line at mynutrikids.com. An account must be set up by the parent at this site. The student's ID number is required for this which can be obtained from the school.

Students will need to know their ID number if they do not have their cards. Students may not go home for lunch or leave the school grounds during this time.

This card will also be used for library automation and identification at school functions. A lost card can be replaced at the cost of \$1.

LOST AND FOUND

It is the student's responsibility to report any lost article to the teacher in authority at the time. Lost clothing will be put on the lost and found rack in the entrance hall of the school. Personal items, books, jewelry, glasses, etc., will be kept in the main office.

All clothing items, shoes, hats, gloves and lunch boxes not claimed will be donated to Goodwill during the Holiday, Winter and Spring vacations and also at the end of the school year.

MATH PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

At the junior high school, students are grouped into above average, average, and foundations math classes. We feel that this is the best way to provide an appropriate intellectual challenge for each student.

6th Grade Placement

When students come to the junior high as sixth graders they are placed in a math class using the following criteria:

1. Incoming 6th grade students are placed in math groups based on their NWEA scores and their fifth grade teachers' recommendation.

7th and 8th Grade Placement

As students progress into grades 7 and 8, teacher recommendations are used to determine the placement into above average, average and foundation classes. Some 7th grade students may be advanced into a 7th grade Pre-Algebra class (automatically followed by 8th grade Algebra I) and some 8th grade students advance into the Algebra I class. In order to be eligible for this advancement, two of the following criteria must be met:

1. Teacher recommendation in the spring from the 6th grade math teacher (for advancement into 7th grade Pre-Algebra) or from the 7th grade math teacher (for advancement into 8th grade Algebra I).
2. Score in the 90th percentile or above on the student's most recent NWEA math test.
3. Score of 22/30 on a diagnostic placement test for 6th grade students hoping to advance as 7th graders; score of 26/30 on a diagnostic placement test for 7th grade students hoping to advance as 8th graders. The diagnostic placement test is administered in the spring.

In conclusion, parents should be aware that:

- No class, or level of class, is capped by the number of students who qualify for that class.
- At any time during the school year a student, in any grade level, may be moved to another level of math if the teacher feels that a move is appropriate. This usually entails a simple note to the guidance department, and a conversation with the parent and team members. Usually when a student changes to a different math level, the student does not need to change teams.
- Students who are new to the district are given a placement test. The results of this test, along with information from the student's previous school, are used to place the student.

MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center offers a wide variety of print and electronic curriculum support materials for use by students and faculty. The library staff encourages individual, small group, or full class use of the facility and its resources. It is

expected that all students will abide by school rules and treat materials with care. They are also expected to exhibit proper behavior during visits to the center.

MEDIA PLAYER INCLUDING WALKMEN, RADIOS, MP3 PLAYERS and IPODS USE PROCEDURES

- Media players, walkman, radios, MP3 players and/or IPODS will be turned off and in lockers during classes, study halls, in the hallways and in detention or tutoring.
- The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged Media players, walkman, radios, MP3 players and/or IPODS.
- Any use in violation of the rules will result in confiscation of the device (retrieval by appointment only.)
- Violations of the rules may also result in immediate loss of the privilege to carry the device(s) and possible suspension from school.

MEDICATIONS IN SCHOOL

Students will only be permitted to take medication while at school according to the steps outlined below:

- I. Medication During School Year form or a written statement containing the same information must be signed and submitted by the parent or guardian.
- II. Medicines will be maintained by the school personnel as follows:
 - A. Medication is to be kept in a secure location as approved by the principal;
 - B. Medication must be in original prescription containers, with student's name, name of medication and dosage.
 - C. The medication will be taken under supervision of school personnel.
 - D. Exceptions to this policy may be made by the building principal.

Medication During School Year form can be obtained in the nurse's office. (Policy File: JLCD)

MUSIC

There are many musical opportunities available for students at BJHS. Band and chorus concerts are scheduled throughout the school year. A performance calendar is posted on the BJH Band and Chorus Web Sites. In addition, music students are encouraged to audition for one or more of the following ensembles:

Choral Ensembles

Show Choir: Grades 6, 7 & 8; auditions are held in early November; this extra-curricular group meets outside of school hours, NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL.

Instrumental Ensembles

Jazz Band: Grades 6, 7 & 8; auditions are held in early September; this extra-curricular group meets outside of school hours.

Wind Ensemble: Grades 6, 7 & 8; auditions are held in early September; this extra-curricular group meets outside of school hours.

Instrumental & Choral

MMEA District 3 Sixth Grade Honors Festival: Grade 6; auditions are held in early November; rehearsals before and after school *; festival in late March

MMEA District 7th & 8th Grade Honors Festival: Grades 7 & 8; auditions are held in early November; rehearsals before and after school *; festival in April

*Please note: additional rehearsals may be scheduled as needed for music ensembles.

Drop/Add Procedure for 6th Grade Band and Chorus.

Sixth grade students will have the option of adding or dropping band and chorus any time during the first eight classes by using the drop/add slips available through the music teachers. The slips must be signed by the parent and the teacher with the reason noted before the counseling department can make changes to the schedule. After the drop/add period, changes can only be made through a conference with the parent, music teacher, student and counselor.

NO SCHOOL/EARLY DISMISSAL

The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision regarding cancellation of school. The district has implemented an automated calling system to announce school cancellations or a delayed start for school. Local radio stations and WCSH and WGAN in Portland make appropriate announcements between 6:45 and 7:30 A.M. Television stations WGME, WMTW and WCSH air cancellation announcements beginning at 5:30 A.M. and list them on their web sites. All extra curricular activities will be canceled on snow days unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent.

In case of the need to dismiss school early, the senior high school will usually be dismissed first followed by the junior high and elementary schools.

PARENT NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS under NCLBA

The NCLBA requires parental “right to know” about the qualifications of those professionals who are educating their students. The regulations require the following requirements:

- At the beginning of each school year, a local unit receiving Title I funds must notify the parents of each student attending a Title I school that the parents may request, and that the school will provide the parents, information regarding the professional qualifications of the student’s classroom teachers. (This does mean all of the teachers in your school).
- The information provided must include the following:

- Whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher is providing instruction;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status;
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any graduate certification or degree held by the teacher and the field of discipline of the certification and degree;
- Whether the student is being provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, “their qualifications.”

Additionally, schools must also provide each parent “timely” notice whenever a child has been assigned or taught for *four or more consecutive weeks* by a teacher of any “core academic subject” who is not highly qualified. (Core academic subjects include writing, reading, language arts, foreign languages, civics, government, economics, arts, history, and geography, as well as math and science). All of this information must be provided in a “uniform and understandable format,” and in a language that parents can understand.

P.A.S.S. (PARENTAL ACCESS SUPPORT SYSTEM)

Brunswick Junior Nigh has implemented a unique way for you to check on your child’s academic progress. The service is called P.A.S.S. (Parental Access Support System). Using PASS, you can access a “snapshot” of academic progress and other important information via the internet by visiting the Brunswick Junior High Web site (<http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/bjh>) and clicking on either the PASS link along the left hand side of the page or under the Parents & Students tab at the top of the page.

Once you authenticate into the main PASS Web page, you will be able to view the following: Attendance, Current Marks, GPA History, Mark History and messages.

This is a very useful communication tool and can be accessed from any computer that has Internet access. Rest assured that his information is secure AND confidential: your child’s name is NEVER shown on the PASS pages. To access your child’s progress data using PASS, you will use a student I.D. and a PIN number assigned to your child.

PASSES

Any student leaving a room except to go to a scheduled class will have his/her pass signed by the teacher. Passes are contained in this planner.

If a student does not have a daily planner, permission to leave the classroom may be denied except in an emergency situation. Individual passes will be issued by advisors once the spaces in this planner are used up.

PEER TO PEER BEHAVIOR CODE

Students, parents and staff expect that all students at BJH treat each other with respect. Fortunately, the majority of our students do this very well. However, there are times when students mistreat each other. When this occurs, we follow our Peer to Peer Behavior Code, which can be found in the Parent Handbook.

PEST MANAGEMENT NOTIFICATION (ANNUAL)

The Brunswick School Department uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the control of insects, rodents, microorganisms, weeds and other pests found in school buildings and on school grounds. IPM combines a variety of methods of managing pests including monitoring, improved sanitation and food storage practices, pest exclusion and removal, biological control, and pesticides. The objective of the IPM program is to provide effective pest control while minimizing pesticide use.

(See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual: File ECB-E₁ for additional information.)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS

The mission of the Physical Education Program reflects the philosophy of the Brunswick School Department. Physical Education seeks to educate the whole student through the use of physical activities to help the individual develop physically, socially, intellectually and emotionally. Through their positive participation in play, exercise and sports, all students will receive valuable experience in their educational life.

In order to be excused from P.E, a student should bring a note from a parent/guardian stating the injury or illness preventing participation.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) gives parents and students who are 18 or older or emancipated minors (“eligible students”) certain rights regarding the school district’s conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and conduct of certain physical exams. These include the right to:

1. Consent to federally funded surveys concerning “protected information.” If the U.S. Department of Education funds a survey in whole or in part, a student’s parents or an eligible student must consent in writing before the student may provide information relating to the following categories:
 - Political affiliations;
 - Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
 - Sexual behavior or attitudes;
 - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
 - Critical appraisals of student’s family members;
 - Privileged or similar relationships recognized by law, such as with attorneys, doctors, and ministers;
 - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student’s parents; or
 - Income other than that required by law to determine program eligibility.A survey that concerns any of these points is called a “protected information survey.”
2. Opt out of certain surveys and exams. Parents and eligible students will receive notice of any of the

following activities and will have the right to opt out of them:

- Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for purposes of marketing or selling or otherwise distributing the information to others;
 - Any protected information survey, regardless of funding; and
 - Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent and scheduled by the school, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student or of another student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law.
3. Inspect certain material. Parents and eligible students have the right to inspect the following, upon request, before the district administers or uses them
 - Protected information surveys of students (including any instructional materials used in connection with the survey);
 - Documents used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
 - Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.
 4. Receive notification of district policy. The School District has developed a policy, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, and has made arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The School District will directly notify parents and eligible students through each school, of this policy at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes are made.
 5. Report violations. Parents and eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

RECOGNITION AWARD & HONOR ROLL

For a student to be on the Honor Roll they must have all As and Bs for that quarter.

For a student to receive a Year 1 Recognition Award they must have all As and Bs in their final grades for three of four quarters for the year, this must include quarter 4. To receive a Year 2 Recognition Award they must have all As and Bs in their final grades for three of four quarters for two years, this must include quarter 4 year two. Finally to receive a Year 3 Recognition Award they must have all As and Bs in their final grades for three of four quarters for two years, this must include quarter 4 year three.

REPORT CARDS-PROGRESS REPORTS

Students may keep copies of their report cards after they have been signed by their parent/guardian. Progress reports may indicate satisfactory progress or unsatisfactory progress. A student may not necessarily be failing but not performing up to their potential or the teacher's expectations. Report Cards will be issued four times during the school year: November, February, April and June. Progress reports will be issued in September, December, March, and May, or at any time a teacher feels it is necessary. Progress reports can be accessed through the PASS system. Hard copies will be provided to parents who do not have internet access by request.

Grading Scale

A+	98-100	C-	70-72
A	93-97	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	D	63-66
B+	87-89	D-	60-62
B	83-86	F	59 or below
B-	80-82	I	Incomplete
C+	77-79	W	Withdrawn
C	73-76	P	Pass

Effort and Behavior Scale

1 – Exemplary 2 – Good 3 – Satisfactory
4 – Needs Improvement 5 – Unacceptable

SSR Grading Scale

E –Exceeds M—Meets PM—Partially Meets
DNM—Does Not Meet

REQUEST FOR STUDENT TO CHANGE PLACEMENT DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

During the course of a school year, there may be occasion when a student, parent, counselor or teacher requests a placement change for a student. While placement changes are rarely made, there are times when such change is appropriate.

For a change to be considered there needs to be a **compelling reason**. Circumstances must exist that have a serious negative impact on the student's physical, intellectual, or emotional well being. Furthermore, there must be evidence that less drastic attempts have been made to remedy the situation, and that these attempts have failed. Usually, these preliminary attempts have involved the classroom teacher, teaching team, parents, student and counselor. Under such circumstances, it is appropriate for any party to present a petition to the building principal for him/her to consider a change of placement. Such a decision will be made by the principal after having held a meeting involving the parents, counselor, teaching team and, when appropriate, the student.

SCHOOL COUNSELING

School counseling services are available to all Brunswick Junior High School students and their families. A counselor is assigned to each student and can provide help in the areas of academic, personal/ social and career exploration.

Assistance is offered in many areas such as transition and adjustment to school, peer relationships, understanding of self, educational planning and study skills. Counselors will also help with referral to outside agencies and any other personal/social or family issues a student may experience. Counselors are visible and available to students at all times; they meet with students individually, in small groups and participate in classroom discussions.

Students wishing to speak with a counselor may ask a teacher for a pass or visit the counseling office for an appointment.

SCHOOL DANCES

We will try to hold three school dances per year.

Dance guidelines include the following:

- 1) Dances are held in the gymnasium from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Students are to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the dance begins and are to arrange for transportation home immediately following the dance.
- 2) All school rules are in effect. Appropriate dress and behavior are expected. A serious violation of school rules will result in the parents being contacted and the student removed from the dance. The student could be subject to additional consequences, such as suspension from school.
- 3) Only footwear that will not mark the gym floor is to be worn.
- 4) Dances are only for students who are students at B.J. H.S. at the time of the dance. Students must present a valid school I.D. to enter.
- 5) Any student who wishes to leave the dance before 8:30 PM. will be asked to sign out with the phone number of the location to which they are going and may not return.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Brunswick School Department will ensure that a special education referral process be in place. It is the policy of the Brunswick School Department to provide a free and appropriate public education to each student with a disability within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. It is the intent of the Brunswick School Department to ensure that students, who have a disability within the definition of Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, when acceptable to the parent, are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services and provided with an equal opportunity to access public school programs. Students may be disabled under this policy even though they do not require services pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

(See *Brunswick School Department Policy Manual*; Files IHBA, IHBA, JBAA for additional information.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

If a student is to be covered, he/she must take out insurance; otherwise he/she will not be covered. Students do not automatically have school insurance.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council is an organization through which the students express their opinions, assist in the administration of the school and participate in the management of school activities. The formation and continuation of this organization is dependent on student interest and participation.

STUDENT HARASSMENT

The Brunswick School Department recognizes the right of each student to learn in an atmosphere that is free from all forms of improper discrimination, including sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or other physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature when:

- 1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly as a term or condition of an individual's educational benefits; or
- 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for decisions on educational benefits; or
- 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive education environment.

Acts of this nature are not only a violation of this policy but also may constitute illegal discrimination under state and federal law.

Any Brunswick student having a complaint of sexual harassment is advised of the importance of informing the harasser that his/her behavior is unwelcome, offensive, in poor taste, or highly inappropriate. However, if the student is uncomfortable with confronting the harasser, the student is encouraged to speak confidentially with a faculty member.

If the harassment cannot be resolved, the faculty member should advise the student of the options which are available under the Affirmative Action Policy of the Brunswick School Board.

No student shall be subjected to any discipline or adverse treatment because the student made a complaint of sexual harassment. All appropriate confidences shall be maintained.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Our school is fortunate to have qualified and capable people who carry out the appropriate plans whenever the regular teacher is absent. In order for this situation to continue, we must all make the effort to treat substitute teachers as guests in our school. This includes being considerate, polite and helpful at all times.

SUSPENSION-EXPULSION

Every student is expected to attend punctually and regularly, to observe regulations of the school, to comply with directions of the school staff, to observe proper standards of behavior and language, to show respect for property, fellow students and school staff, and to be neat and clean in person and clothing. Violation of these

standards along with possession of illicit drugs, including alcohol, vulgarity to a staff member, smoking in school or on school grounds, may subject the student to administrative counseling, suspension or expulsion. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JKD & JKE for additional information.)

TELEPHONES

All classrooms have phones at this time. If a student needs to contact home for something other than sickness, in which case the student should report to the nurse's office, students should ask the teacher or advisor to use their phone.

While students may have a cell phone stored in their lockers for emergency use, they must comply with the Cellular Telephone Use Procedures.

TOBACCO USE

Tobacco use is prohibited during school, at school activities, or on the school grounds. Possession of tobacco products, lighters or matches will be dealt with by school officials, either through a parental conference and/or suspension and may include referral to the Brunswick Police for possible prosecution. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JICH for additional information.)

TRUANCY

Students who fail to attend school without a legitimate excuse may be considered truant and subject to appropriate legal action. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JHB for additional information.)

VANDALISM

Any student who damages school property will be required to pay for the damage or repair the damage depending on the judgment of the school officials. The incident may be reported to the Brunswick Police for possible prosecution.

VIDEO CAMERAS ON BUSES & IN SCHOOL

In order to maintain and the safety of students and staff, the Brunswick School Department has installed video cameras to record the behavior of our students on busses and at critical sites within the school building. (See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File EEAEC for additional information)

VISITORS

All visitors are required to register in the main office and obtain a visitors badge. Guests of individual students are not permitted to attend classes.

WEAPONS

Possession or use of a weapon in a school building is prohibited. If any person uses or is found to be in possession of a weapon on school premises at any time or at any school-sponsored activity, he/she is subject to administrative action, which may include suspension, expulsion, or legal action*. A weapon is defined as any object or substance used or designed to inflict bodily harm

or to threaten other persons. Examples include, but are not limited to, firearms, artificial knuckles, knives, chains, clubs, throwing stars, air guns, or any object or substance designed for other purpose which is used in a manner to inflict bodily harm or threaten other persons. Examples include, but are not limited to, belts, combs, pencils, files, compasses, scissors, chemicals and sprays.

An object or substance presented in a concealed or open manner as a weapon shall be presumed to be a weapon.

** For school safety reasons, students may be subject to search for weapons on a case by case basis.*

(See Brunswick School Department Policy Manual; File JICI for additional information.)

STAFF

Walter Wallace, Principal

Lisa M. Cushman, Assistant Principal

Secretaries

Mrs. Granholm	Main Office Secretary
Mrs. Gustafson	Special Ed. Secretary
Mrs. Stevens	Administrative Secretary

** Indicates Team Leader*

Diversified Studies (DST)

Ms Anderson	Music/Band
Mrs. Tarleton*	Music/Chorus
Mr. Boomhour	P.E.
Mrs. Iuzzolino	P.E.
Ms. Newcomb	Health & Consumer Science
Mrs. Vaughan	Health & Consumer Science
Mrs. Lera	Spanish
Mrs. Lord	Spanish/French
Mrs. Berry-Palm	Art
Ms Bucknam	Art

Birch Island

Mrs. Lavigne	L. A.	315
Mr. Scala	Math	304
Mrs. Arzate	Social Studies	312
Mrs. Hench*	Science	310

Bailey Island

Ms Bosso*	L.A.	311
Ms Waite	Math	306
Mr. Higgins	Science	308
Mrs. El Ghazouani	Social Studies	313

Jewell Island

Mrs. Acheson	L.A. (Dept. Head)	112
Mrs. York	Math	104
Mrs. Lamdin	Science	108
Mr. Cost*	Social Studies	110

Great Diamond Island

Mr. Hardy	L.A.	107
Mrs. Shaw*	Math	309
Ms Dionne	Science	105
Mrs. Beede	Social Studies	109

Eagle Island

Mrs. Brann*	L.A.	204
Mrs. Weddle	Math (Dept. Head)	202
Ms Salancy*	Science	103
Mr. Pierson	S. Studies (Dept. Head)	206

Chebeague Island

Mrs. Callahan*	L.A.	211
Ms Swan	Math	209
Mrs. Ring	Science (Dept. Head)	102
Mrs. Blake	Social Studies	210

Language Arts RtI

Mrs. Sampietro*	302
Mrs. Tanguay	303
Mrs. Kilpatrick	307
Mrs. T. Smith	403

Math RtI

Mrs. Sharpe*	401
Mrs. Horey	401
Mrs. Kloss	208
Mrs. Slotnick	403

Guidance

Mrs. Andrews	Guidance Counselor
Mrs. Berke-Powers	Guidance Counselor
TBA	Part-time Guidance Counselor

Other Professional Services

Mrs. Mitchell*	Librarian
Mrs. Cullen	Library Assistant
Mrs. Tetu	Nurse
Mr. McNamara	Alternative Ed. Teacher
Detective Andreotti	School Resource Officer

Special Services

Mr. Barron	Non-Categorical Sp. Ed.
Mrs. Chittum	Non-Categorical Sp. Ed.
Mrs. Dekker	Functional Skills
Mrs. Hudson	Speech (Co-Dept. Head)
Mr. Keleher	Behavior Specialist
Ms Rybarczyk	N-C. Sp. Ed. (Co-Dept. Head)
Mrs. Croston	ESL

Education Techs.

Mrs. Bigelow	Mrs. Dubrieul
Mrs. Feehan	Mrs. Gilmour
Mrs. Prophett	Mrs. Quinn-Trexler
Mrs. Shankle	Mrs. Wigandt

Computer Services

Mr. Hathaway Mr. Cross Mr. Dearing

Husky Café

Mr. Smith	Director of Nutrition
Mrs. Conrad	Leadsperson
Mrs. Young	Mrs. Gleason
Mrs. Doyle	Mrs. Aleo

Custodians

Mr. Olsen	Mr. Darling
Ms Puglisi	Mrs. Hanscom
Mr. Kondor	

Curriculum

The Brunswick School Department has made assessments to align the curriculum framework with the Maine State Learning Results. Assessment packets are available to parents upon request in each school's main office.

COURSE OF STUDY GRADE 6

All sixth grade students are assigned to a team of teachers who are responsible for the delivery of the core curriculum (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies). Students are heterogeneously grouped for all classes except math. In addition, students are assigned classes in Diversified Studies and have music options as electives.

Core Curricula (required)

Language Arts (5 periods per week) Staff uses a multi-text approach in the elements of reading, literature, composition, spelling, grammar and oral communication with emphasis on skill development.

Math (5 periods per week) Students are homogeneously grouped into three different levels. Emphasis is on whole numbers, fractions, decimals and problem solving.

Science (5 periods per week) The sixth grade science program is general in nature. Students are exposed to a variety of content areas including life, physical and earth sciences.

Social Studies (5 periods per week) Staff use a multi-media approach in independent study, group work, class presentations and other social studies activities. Informational text skills are taught using social studies

content. Curriculum emphasis consists of a fundamental geography skills, Ancient Civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Maya, Inca and Aztec), modern Canada and Mexico and personal economics.

Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) Student will participate in the SSR program 4-5 times per week. Teachers will expect students to document their reading.

Diversified Studies (required)

Art (2 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) A multi-arts media approach is used through group and individual projects stressing different aspects of design.

Music (1 class in a 4-day rotation) The music program is designed to develop skills in music reading, listening and performance as well as the study of the history of music and music appreciation. Activities include rhythmic body movement, notation, song, instrumental performance and basic dance.

Physical Education (1 class in a 4-day rotation) A variety of topics are covered of which a number are co-educational. The emphasis is on developing sequential skills, modified or lead-up activities and the understanding of basic fitness concepts. A physical fitness test is administered in the fall and spring. Students are expected to change for class.

Foreign Language (2 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) introduction to French and Spanish. This class is exploratory in nature and is required of all 6th graders.

Electives

Band and Chorus (every other day) Band and chorus are electives available for all sixth graders. Students who take both band and chorus have no study halls, students who take one or the other will be scheduled for a study hall every other day and those taking neither will be scheduled for a study hall every day.

COURSE OF STUDY GRADE 7

All seventh grade students are assigned to a team of teachers who are responsible for the delivery of the core curriculum (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies). Students are heterogeneously grouped for all classes except math. In addition, students are assigned classes in Diversified Studies and have several options as electives.

Core Curricula (required)

Language Arts (5 periods per week) Staff uses a multi-text and materials approach with a formal program in reading, literature, composition, oral interpretation and grammar skills using a writer's workshop format.

Math (5 periods per week) Students are homogeneously grouped into four different levels. Emphasis is on fractions, decimals, percents and geometry.

Core Curricula (required)

Science (5 periods per week) The seventh grade science program is general in nature. Students are exposed to a variety of content areas including life, physical and earth sciences, building on the content of the sixth grade.

Social Studies (5 periods per week) Staff use a multi-media approach in independent study, group work, class presentations and other social studies activities. Informational text skills are taught using social studies content. Curriculum emphasis for the first half of the year is Ancient Greece and Rome and Wabanaki Studies. Curriculum emphasis for the second half of the year is on American history from 1754-1900 including the Revolutionary Era, 1754-1783; Nation Building, 1783-1815; and Change and Expansion in 1800s America.

Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) Student will participate in the SSR program 4-5 times per week. Teachers will expect students to document their reading.

Diversified Studies (required)

Art (3 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) Art is a continuation of a design-oriented multi-art media exploration approach through individual and group projects.

Physical Education (1 class in a 4-day rotation for a full year) Skills of a variety of activities are taught sequentially. Physical fitness and skill development receive strong emphasis. Sportsmanship, appropriate attitudes, listening skills and being prepared for class are also stressed. Game concepts and strategies are introduced.

Health and Consumer Science (3 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) This is an introductory course stressing the importance of physical, mental, emotional and social health. The topics of study will include Nutrition, Communications, Sewing and Human Growth and Development.

Electives

Foreign Language (every other day for a full year)

Band and Chorus (every other day) Band and chorus are electives available for all seventh graders. Band students need to have prior band experience.

COURSE OF STUDY GRADE 8

All eighth grade students are assigned to a team of teachers who are responsible for the delivery of the core curriculum (Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies). All classes are heterogeneously grouped except for math. In addition, students are assigned classes in Diversified Studies and have several options as electives.

Language Arts (5 periods per week) Staff uses a multi-text and materials approach with a formal program in literature, grammar, spelling and vocabulary development, reading and composition.

Math (5 periods per week) Students are homogeneously grouped into three different levels. Emphasis is on decimals and pre-algebra work plus geometry. Algebra 1 is available for selected eighth graders.

Science (5 periods per week) The eighth grade science program is general in nature. Students are exposed to a variety of content areas including life, physical and earth sciences, building on the content of the sixth and seventh grade.

Social Studies (5 periods per week) Staff use a multi-media approach in independent study, group work, class presentations and other social studies activities. Informational text skills are taught using social studies content. Curriculum emphasis is on United States history from the Civil War era through the 20th Century, with additional units on contemporary Maine Studies and current events. A unit on researching and reading biographies of American historical figures culminates in the annual Biography Day event.

Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) Student will participate in the SSR program 4-5 times per week. Teachers will expect students to document their reading.

Diversified Studies

Art (3 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) Grade 8 art is approached as a completely individualized multi-arts media project, encouraging freedom of expression through in-depth exploration.

Health and Consumer Science (3 classes in a 4-day rotation for one semester) This semester course is designed to teach students the importance of maintaining healthy lifestyle choices. The topics covered will include Mental and Emotional Health, Personal Health, Healthy Relationships, Substance Use and Abuse, and Nutrition.

Physical Education (1 class in a 4-day rotation for a full year) Students are provided with activity choices during certain seasons of the year. Continued emphasis is placed on the importance and need for physical fitness by the administration of the AAHPERD fitness test. Concepts related to physical fitness and exercise are also covered.

Physical Education is required of all eighth grade students.

Electives

Foreign Language (every other day for a full year) Upon successful completion of grade 7 and 8 foreign language, students may be able to participate in French II or Spanish II as freshmen.

Band and Chorus (every other day) Band and chorus are electives available for all eighth graders. Students who take both band and chorus have no study halls.

