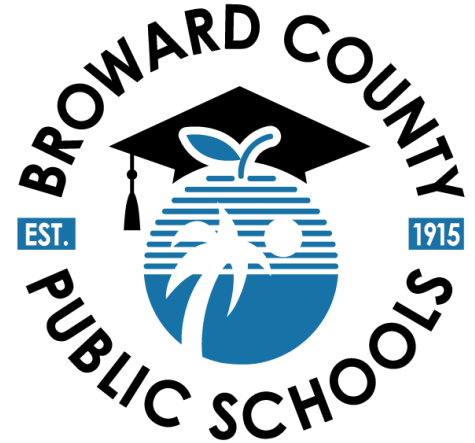


Indian Ridge Middle Elective Course Guide

2025-2026



Media Careers

6th Grade Technology Elective



“Have you ever been curious about how the internet works?”

Course curriculum includes research skills, digital literacy, computer hardware, game design, and film studies.



Media Careers Road Map



Mrs. Beasley

Quarter 1

- Study & Research Skills
- Digital Citizenship

Quarter 2

- Technology History
- Career Studies
 - Resume Writing
 - Mock Job Interviews

Quarter 3

- Computer Hardware
- Computer Programming/Coding
 - Micro:bits and Makecode
- Video Game Design

Quarter 4

- Digital Storytelling - HTML
- eSports & Media Management
- Film Studies: Cinematography & Editing

SPEECH & DEBATE

6th Grade- Introduction to Speech & Debate- Mrs. Pilgrim

A Bit About Intro. to Speech & Debate

- The objective of this course is to introduce sixth graders to a foundation of public speaking and presentation skills, including nonverbal communication, organization, basic argumentation techniques, and research.
- No previous exposure to Speech and Debate is necessary.
- Students will have the opportunity to practice delivering speeches in various formats, as well as debate styles. Both giving and receiving critical feedback will be an integral aspect of the learning process, too.



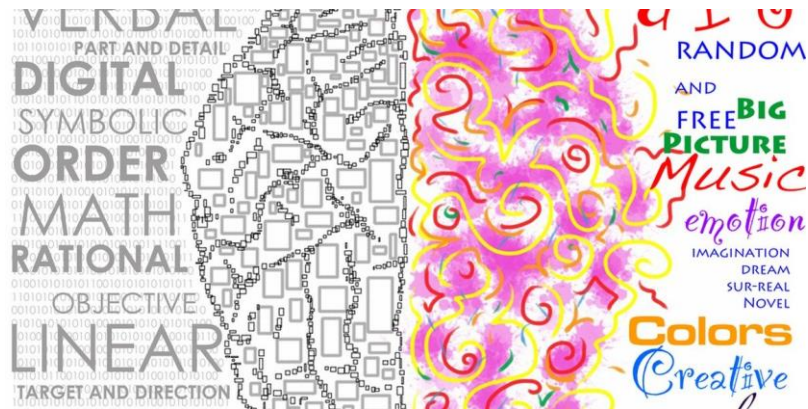


Creative Arts (6th Grade Elective)



- Creative Arts is all about **storytelling**. We do this through a variety of mediums including:
 - Creative Arts
 - Art
 - Music
 - Technology
 - Speeches/Presentations
 - Drama
 - Photography
 - Videography

We use both left and right brain to express ourselves creatively in a judgement free, try everything, inclusive environment.





Fundamentals of Finance 1

(6th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**
 - Prepare students to be financially educated
 - Provide information regarding careers in Finance
- **Daily Activities**
 - Learn the basics of banking, checking and budgeting
 - Learn about stocks, bonds and investment strategies
 - Learn about the economy
 - Use math to solve finance-based questions



Beginning Band (All Grades)



- **Class Goals**
 - The objective of this course is to introduce students with limited or non-musical backgrounds to the fundamentals of band.
 - Students will develop a basic understanding of music notation and perform 12 major scales.
 - Students are expected to practice 30 minutes per day.



Concert Band

(7th & 8th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**
 - The objective of this course is to continue the development of skills gained from the beginning band level.
 - Students will perform 12 memorized major scales
 - Students are expected to practice 30 minutes per day.
 - Selected students must attend all rehearsals, concerts and perfect music



Symphonic Band

(7th & 8th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**
 - The objective of this course will be to perfect musical skills accomplished in prior classes. Students will perform 12 memorized major scales
 - Students will perform 12 memorized major scales
 - Students are expected to practice 40 minutes per day.
 - Selected students must attend all rehearsals, concerts and perfect music



Honors Band

(7th & 8th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**
 - Students with considerable band experience strengthen their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of advanced, high-quality band literature.
 - Instrumentalists refine their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies
 - Students may be required to attend and/ or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.



Chess

(6th Grade Elective)



- **Daily Activities**

- Students learn the basic rules of chess and more advanced strategies
- Students play against each other in rated games, tournaments, and recreational play
- Students practice their skills through lessons and games



Art I (All Grades)

- Introductory Art, or Art I, provides students with a foundational understanding of key art elements like color, line, value, form, space, shape, and texture.
- The course allows for creative experimentation across various mediums, enhancing technical skills and fostering a deeper appreciation for art. By the end, students will gain insights into the potential of art, laying a strong foundation for future artistic endeavors.





Yoga (All Grades)



- Class Goals
 - Introduce yoga poses
 - Alleviate stress
 - Gain flexibility & strength
- Daily Activities
 - Teacher-led yoga
 - Class discussions
 - Group activities
- 6th and 7th grades half year elective (Combined with a half year of Culinary)
- 8th grade full year elective





Culinary Arts (All Grades)



- **Class Goals**

- Exploration of careers in culinary
- Development of leadership, communication and employability skills
- Understand food science principles related to cooking and baking

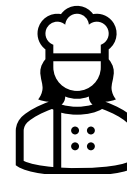
- **Daily Activities**

- Prepare quality food products
- Develop Menus

- **6th and 7th grades half year elective**

- (Combined with a half year of Yoga)

- **8th grade full year elective**





Physical Education (All Grades)

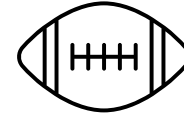


- **Class Goals**

- Get exercise
- Play exciting games
- Have fun while staying shape

- **Daily Activities**

- Muscle Mondays
- Team Sports
- Dual Sports





Fundamentals of Finance 2 (7th Grade Elective) Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Finance 1



- **Class Goals**
 - Prepare students to be financially educated
 - Build a strong financial foundation for the future
- **Daily Activities**
 - Learn personal finance management strategies
 - Learn about different types of insurance
 - Learn about different investment strategies

SPEECH & DEBATE

7th Grade- Speech I Honors- Mrs. Kannal

A Bit About Speech



- The objective of this course is to introduce students to the competitive speech events by learning the basics of speech and debate competition, tournament etiquette, and performance strategies.
- Students will earn high school elective credits for this course while participating in Broward County Speech and Debate tournaments.



Journalism 1

(7th Grade Elective)
(Highschool Credit)



- Journalism 1 is a **high school credit elective** offered to 7th grade students that excel in language arts, digital design, and or speech.

- **Dailey Activities**

- Paw Prints School Newspaper
- Photography Contests
- FSPA membership
- Disney's Imagination Campus
- Canon Cameras
- Teamwork
- Digital Design (Encore)
- Canva



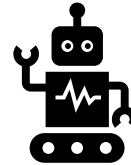
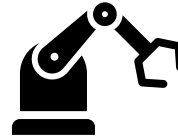


Digital Tools (Orientation to Careers & Technology) (7th & 8th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**

- Develop your knowledge of technology
- Learn about Minecraft and HTML
- Microsoft WORD training unit
- Microsoft EXCEL training unit
- Creating a Career Plan
- Occupations in a diverse range of careers.
- Basic employability skills needed to locate, secure, and maintain employment.

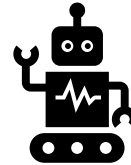
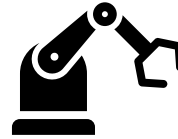




Student's Leadership Development Corps(SLDC) (7th & 8th Grade Elective)



- **Class Goals**
 - Motivate young people to become better citizens and scholars
 - Educate students in leadership, character, citizenship, and life enhancing skills
 - Build self-confidence and self-esteem
- **Daily Activities**
 - Life Skills
 - Leadership lessons
 - Drill and ceremonies
 - Citizenship education
 - Physical fitness



TV Production

7th/8th Grade Elective



Students in this hands-on course create the school's morning announcements. Audition and application required.



“Good Morning, Jaguars!”



Peer Counseling

(7th & 8th Grade Elective)



Class Goals:

- Peer Counseling is a leadership and mentorship program designed to promote kindness, inclusivity, and social-emotional learning
- Students develop communication, conflict resolution, and problem-solving skills to support their peers
- Create a positive school culture where students help each other thrive

Daily Activities:

- Participate in discussions on topics such as friendship, bullying prevention, and mental well-being
- Lead school-wide initiatives to encourage a supportive and inclusive environment
- Develop leadership and teamwork skills through group projects and peer presentations
- Serve as role models, assisting peers with social and emotional challenges

Art II (7th & 8th Grade Elective)

- Students are required to complete Art I or Intro to Art prior to enrolling in Art II.
- The course curriculum is designed to help students experiment with various media, techniques, and methods.
- Projects will concentrate on enhancing the elements of art (line, form, color, value, texture) and principles of design (balance, variety, harmony, emphasis).
- There is a strong emphasis on understanding and appreciating oneself and others through the lens of art history, culture, and heritage. Students will create a mix of two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects.





3-D ART

(8th Grade Elective)

- Students are required to complete Art I or Intro to Art prior to enrolling in 3-D Art.
- This course highlights artists and art history as sources of inspiration for various art projects.
- Students will craft both two-dimensional and three-dimensional works that enhance their understanding of the elements of art and principles of design.
- A key focus of the class is fostering an appreciation of oneself and others through art. Students will have the chance to make personal decisions regarding their artistic creations.
- An array of media and techniques will contribute to an engaging learning experience.



Law Studies (8th Grade Elective) Become a Legal Expert!



- Are you ready to step into the world of law and order? In this exciting elective, you'll dive into real-world legal issues and learn about your rights, responsibilities, and what really happens in a courtroom. You'll get to:
 - Discuss critical topics and argue your side like a lawyer.
 - Work with classmates on mock trials and uncover the facts.
 - Explore what happens when laws are broken and why they exist in the first place.
 - Taught to you by Dr. Gianna Hillis, an Attorney herself
- This class isn't just about learning—it's about doing! From acting as a judge, mediator, lawyer or witness to understanding how laws affect your everyday life, you'll gain skills that are useful now and in the future. Plus, you'll explore how our Constitution and legal system protect fairness and justice.



SPEECH & DEBATE

8th Grade- Debate I Honors- Ms. Munoz

A Bit About Debate



- The objective of this course is to increase students' understanding of argument, critical thinking, and public speaking through a myriad of current event-related debate, speech, and interpretive activities.
- This course is a high school honors elective credit.
- Students will participate in Broward County Tournaments, toward their high school credit.



Journalism 2 (8th Grade Elective) (Highschool Credit)



- Journalism 2 is a ***high school credit elective*** offered to students that completed Journalism 1. Students must be motivated, high achieving, and have excellent attendance and time management skills.
- **Dailey Activities**
 - 248-page yearbook
 - Leadership Skills
 - Teamwork
 - Individual Nikon Cameras
 - Individual ThinkCentre Desktops
 - Disney's Imagination Campus
 - FSPA Membership
 - Canva
 - Marketing

Yearbook students are required to attend events outside of school hours. They receive their yearbook and ½ page dedication ad complimentary for their hard work!



Spanish 1 (8th Grade Elective) Highschool Credit



- Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture.
- The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding.
- An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.



Business Leadership Skills (8th Grade Elective)



● Class Goals

- Develop essential leadership and business skills to prepare for success in school, careers, and beyond.
- Introduce students to the concept of entrepreneurship.
- Provide the skills needed to evaluate your potential as a business owner.

Daily Activities

- Interactive projects
- Real-world case studies
- Hands-on activities
- Learn problem solving, public speaking, professional ethics and team building skills