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**Middle School  
Gifted and Talented  
Program  
Honors Classes**

Middle School is an exciting time for both you and your student.

In the Bay City Public Schools, each Middle School offers a section of core content classes within the Gifted and Talented Program.

Honors English

Honors Math

Honors Science

Honors Social Studies



**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
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**BAY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WEBSITE**

[www.bcschools.net](http://www.bcschools.net)

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**BAY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GIFTED & TALENTED PROGRAM**

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**HONORS CLASSES IN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
2008-2009  
EIGHTH GRADE**



Handy Middle School



Western Middle School

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## Eighth Grade Honors Class Offerings...

Students taking Eighth Grade Honors classes have the opportunity to earn High School credit in:

Algebra 1  
Earth Science  
English Language Arts

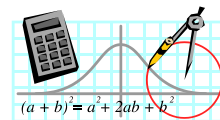
*\*Currently American History is not offered for High School Credit.*

### Earning High School Credit...

To earn High School credit in each of the identified classes students must:

- maintain a Grade Point Average of at a C- or 70 % for all 6 marking periods.
- Earn a minimum of 70% on both semester exams.

### Algebra 1



The class is a one-year accelerated course for the self motivated learner.

The Michigan Merit Curriculum for Algebra 1 will reinforce the basic language rules of Algebra including:

- Write and understand basic algebraic expressions
- Solve and Graph:
  - Linear equations and inequalities
  - Quadratic equations and inequalities
  - Logarithmic and exponential equations
- Explore polynomials
- Examine the relationship between logarithmic and exponential functions
- Examine various representations of functions including tables, graphs, and equations
- Use real and complex numbers
- Examine relationships between multiple sets of data

### Earth Science

Successful completion of Earth Science will fulfill one of the required Science elective credits for High School graduation. Earth Science includes the study of:

#### **Fluid Earth**

- Ocean water
- Fresh water
- Glaciers

#### **Space and Time**

- The Universe
- The Geological Time Period

#### **Earth Systems**

- The idea of the Earth as a closed system
- How change in one system affects another

#### **Solid Earth**

- Geological Features moving and changing

Focus will be put on inquiry, reflection, and social implications which require critical thinking skills and communication through the written process. Emphasis will also be given to creation and reading of graphs and charts.



### English Language Arts

The class is a one-year accelerated course for the self motivated learner. Students will be introduced to the various genre of classical and contemporary narrative and informational text that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks.

Students will focus on written and verbal communication skills, language usage, vocabulary usage, and listening. Students will connect with and respond to texts by analyzing relationships within and across families, communities, societies, economics, and governments. Through the lens of inter-relationships and self-reliance, they will consider how they build relationships, how their relationships impact others, and their responsibility to society.



### American History

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is based on events in American History from the Revolutionary War through the 1900's. Students will focus on the following:

- Causes of the Revolutionary War
- The Constitution
- Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase
- Western Expansion
- Causes of the Civil War
- Reconstruction
- Industrial Revolution
- Into the 20<sup>th</sup> century



Student will be asked to think and learn beyond the cognitive level. They will apply their knowledge to gain a deeper appreciation of American democracy and a realization of what skills are needed to maintain the rights established by those who came before us.