



# BRANDENBURG MIDDLE SCHOOL

THE CLASSICAL MAGNET



# 'A' Rating with All Seven Distinctions



## Distinction Designations:

- Academic Achievement in English Language Arts/Reading
- Academic Achievement in Mathematics
- Academic Achievement in Science
- Academic Achievement in Social Studies
- Postsecondary Readiness
- Top 25 Percent: Comparative Academic Growth
- Top 25 Percent: Comparative Closing the Gaps

Brandenburg is excited and honored to be one of an elite group of schools in our district and state! We are one of only two secondary schools in GISD to achieve an 'A' rating along with all seven distinctions.

Lots of hard work and love goes into each and every day with our students. We are so proud of our staff and students! They truly come to work each day ready to learn and grow. This award is just proof of what we witness on our campus every day...excellence in education for each and every student. We hope you will consider joining us!



# Brandenburg is YOUR Classical Magnet!

We are GISD's Classical Magnet, bringing you unique educational opportunities in gymnastics, Latin, and the Arts. In addition to these, we offer rigorous course pathways for students looking for opportunities for enrichment and acceleration. Please reach out to us with questions as you explore options for your middle school home.

## Magnet Qualifications

### Requirements:

- 50th percentile on reading and math achievement tests
- Passing STAAR Scores
- Passing report card grades
- No serious discipline issues

Qualifying students are entered into a lottery, and openings are filled in the order in which they are drawn. Qualifying incoming sixth grade students from the Classical Center at Vial are automatically accepted. Students in good standing from the Classical Center at Brandenburg are automatically accepted in the Classical strand of the College and Career magnet program at Lakeview Centennial High School.



# Classical Magnet Programs

Brandenburg offers enriched curriculum with an emphasis on gymnastics, Latin, and the Arts. The Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School offers the traditional and honors/Pre-AP curriculum with an emphasis on Latin and literature. In addition to the piano, dance and gymnastics courses, the school offers a full range of fine arts courses including band, choir, art, and theatre arts. In addition to our classical programs, we offer advanced tracks in mathematics. Students on these paths are able to complete Algebra I Pre-AP and Geometry Pre-AP their 7th and 8th grade years, respectively.



# Gymnastics

Brandenburg is fortunate to have the only gymnastics facility in our district. Students come to Brandenburg excited to learn new skills or to incorporate their love for the sport into the academic day and take their passion to the next level.

In 6th grade, developmental gymnastics provides students with opportunities to improve agility, balance, and coordination. In grades 7 and 8, the focus is on fully developing skills necessary for competition level gymnastics.

Advanced 7th and 8th grade boys and girls have the opportunity to compete on our gymnastics team. Our teams compete against other area middle schools and many go on to compete at the high school level.





# Dance

The Brandenburg Dance Department aims to provide a high quality and well-rounded dance education for all students.

Dancers learn proper dance technique, choreography, history, self-discipline, and performance skills. Specifically, we teach ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary hip-hop, and beginning choreography.

Our Dance Department has cultivated a fun-loving, safe space where all students are able to train and progress regardless of previous level of training. The Brandenburg Dance Company competes at regional dance competitions, community events, pep rallies and athletic events.

JUST  
DANCE!



# Art

In our various art classes, students experience art instruction through individual creativity. Students study great works and artists while developing their own artistic flair. We offer classical art, 2D and 3D classes.

Our 6th graders and beginning students experiment with various media. Students then have the opportunity to go more in-depth in the areas that interest them with intermediate and advanced options. They are also exposed to the language of the art world as they learn to appreciate and respect a variety of artistic styles.

We offer accelerated art with high school credit for those wishing to explore their creativity with more rigor. The accelerated art class also participates in a variety of field trips to art competitions and museums like the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas Museum of Art, and Crow Asian Art Museum.





# Piano

Our piano lab and classes are designed for students of all levels. They receive individual and group instruction so they develop at their own pace based on ability level.

Students have opportunities to perform at our recitals and community events. Students are also able to compete at a UIL piano contest.

We are also able to offer zero-hour piano to students who have a full schedule and don't have room for it in their standard academic day. This is a very popular option for those involved students who are interested in learning to play or who would just like to spend a little time during the week on a piano.





# Theatre Arts

Classical theatre arts stresses the whole art of the theatre including acting, set design, writing, and directing. Areas studied range from Shakespeare to television and video.

Our theatre students have multiple opportunities for performing including our school-wide musical production, video announcements and talent show. Our advanced theatre students also participate in a district-wide theatre festival.

LIFE'S  
A  
STAGE!



# Latin

In Latin class at Brandenburg, the students embark upon a journey to the ancient world of the Roman Empire. In a stimulating and engaging environment, the students learn to read, hear, and comprehend the Latin language.

In addition to the language aspect, the students strive to understand the social, political, and cultural history of the ancient Romans and their influence on modern society. Most importantly, our Latin students learn that it is not a dead language, but in fact, alive and well!

Students can take Latin I and II in 7th and 8th grades and therefore, fulfill the two year foreign language requirement for high school graduation.



# Spanish

Students also have the opportunity to fulfill their high school foreign language requirement with Spanish I and Spanish II.

For those wanting to really delve into an intense study of the language with an already an in-depth Spanish knowledge, we offer Pre-AP Spanish III and AP Spanish IV. Students complete this course by taking the AP Spanish exam for college credit.

Students with a strong background in the Spanish language can fulfill their high school foreign language requirement by taking the Spanish credit by exam.





# Award Winning Band & Choir



The Brandenburg Bands have consistently earned top ratings at UIL and regional competitions. The Concert Band has won their division at the Sandy Lake Funfest three out of the last four years. The Symphonic Band is a recent Commended Winner in the Foundation for Music Education National Mark of Excellence competition, and the Honors Band is a previous National Winner in the same competition in addition to placing in past area and state honor band competitions.

The Brandenburg Band had the largest number of students performing with the All-District Band this past year and includes an award winning Jazz Ensemble that meets outside of the school day.

Our spectacular choirs perform at concerts and shows throughout the year. Our advanced show choir, Encore, performs at Holiday in the Park at Six Flags. Our choir gets very excited for this visit.

This year we had over 80 choir students earn a Superior rating at Solo & Ensemble contest. Of course, our choir pop show in the spring is NOT to be missed!



# Athletics

We think we are the best in football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, and track, but now we have the Superintendent's Cup to prove it. The cup is awarded to the middle school with the most winning record in sports! We are the current reigning district champions in 7th grade football, 8th grade boys basketball, 8th grade boys track, and 7th and 8th grade girls soccer.





# AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness system that helps students succeed in academically rigorous courses. AVID focuses on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading. All students on our campus benefit from using AVID strategies for success, including AVID binders. Seventh and eighth grade students can apply to participate in the AVID Elective for even more intensive instruction, acceleration, and AVID tutorials. We are grateful that ALL students benefit through our school-wide implementation of these strategies!





# Robotics

For those who like to problem solve, build things, and play with technology, Robotics might be for you! We offer a robotics class for select 7th and 8th grade students and an after school robotics club for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Robotics club is good for 6th graders and older students who can't quite fit the class into their schedule, but would still like to compete. The class provides 7th and 8th grade students with high school credit.

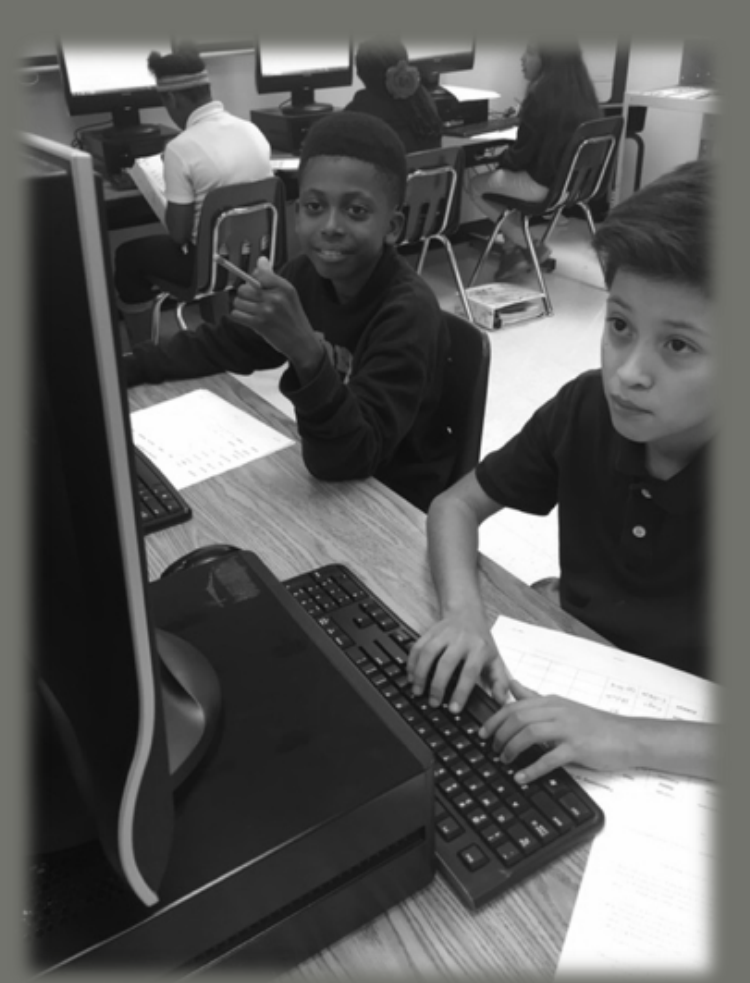


# Coding

We have a Coding class for our 8th graders for high school credit. This has been a very popular class!

We also have clubs that code! We have partnered in the past with area colleges to work on coding after school.

This year we have embarked on coding with our girls in Girls Who Code. This group seeks to empower females and encourage development of computer science skills.



girls who  
CODE

# Clubs

- Academic Pentathlon
- Anime Club
- Academic UIL
- Boys 2 Men
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Girls Who Code
- Journaling
- Lunch Bunch
- Makers Spaces
- Robotics
- Sew Much Love
- Student Council
- Tennis Club

The above is based on our current or past offerings.  
We are also always open to new ideas and suggestions!





# **More Information!**

**The slides that follow are informational and for your reference. Hopefully, in our new reality and in the absence of face-to-face meetings with families, they are able to answer some of the questions you might have regarding specific course offerings and sequences.**

## **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

**Do not hesitate to reach out to us at the campus with your questions and concerns. We want to help you make the best and most informed decision you can as you explore your options for a school-home for the next year, or two, or THREE! We are excited that you are considering CCBMS!**



# Academics

On-level and honors courses are offered in each grade level for the core areas of:

- Math
- Science
- English
- Social Studies

Mathematics also has an additional accelerated option for students who qualify. This track allows students to complete Algebra I and Geometry for high school credit while at Brandenburg.

All GISD sixth graders take a Reading course, on-level and honors are available. Reading in 7th and 8th grade is developmental in nature. Many students will have the opportunity in those grades to earn foreign language credit, Spanish or Latin, or participate in an additional elective block.

These placements are made on a student-by-student basis considering assessment, grades, and attendance.

# Electives

After the content areas are scheduled, students choose electives based on need and interest.

6th Grade: Sixth graders take 4 semester electives or 1 yearlong and 2 semester electives.

All 6th graders are required to take 1 semester of Health and 1 semester of Physical Education credit. Choir and Band are yearlong electives. Computer Exploration, Art, Dance, Gymnastics, P.E., Piano, and Theatre Arts are offered as semester electives.

7th and 8th Grade: Students will choose electives based on need and interest. There are many semester and yearlong electives available in a variety of areas.



# Art

6th Grade: Semester elective with 2D and 3D exploration

7th Grade: Semester classes offered with a 2D or 3D focus

- Beginner course for those who did not have Art as a 6th grader
- Intermediate course for those with the experience from 6th grade
- Students may take a full year of Art

8th Grade: Yearlong and semester class options

- Yearlong options are for high school credit
- Advanced Art is offered based on ability level and teacher recommendation
- Semester non-credit course is a mix of 2D and 3D art with a classical emphasis

## Career and Technical Electives

6th Grade: Semester elective: Computer Exploration

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Semester and yearlong classes offered.  
Many for high school credit



# Band and Choir

6th Grade: Yearlong elective

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Yearlong placement in one of our 3 bands or choirs is by audition. All students may participate by auditioning for our directors. Our bands and choirs are yearlong commitments.

# Dance

6th Grade: Semester elective

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Semester, yearlong, and advanced classes offered. Placement in yearlong and advanced classes is by audition and teacher recommendation.

# Gymnastics

6th Grade: Semester elective

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Semester, yearlong, and team classes offered. Placement in yearlong and on the team is by tryout and recommendation by one of the coaches.



# Latin and Spanish

Latin:

- Level I is available for 7th graders not requiring a Reading class
- Level II is taken in 8th grade

Spanish:

- Spanish credit by exam is offered for native speakers. Levels I and II can be awarded to our 6th graders.
- Level I is available for 7th graders not requiring a Reading class
- Level II is taken in 8th grade
- Spanish III Pre-AP and Spanish IV AP are also offered at Brandenburg. Placement in these courses is based on CBE results and grades.

# Piano

6th Grade: Semester elective

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Semester, yearlong, and advanced classes offered. Placement in yearlong and advanced classes is by audition and teacher recommendation.

Zero-hour Piano is offered for those students who would like to take piano and do not have room in their schedule.





# Physical Education

6th Grade: All 6th graders will take Health and one Physical Education elective: Brandenburg is the only GISD middle school that allows Physical Education (P.E.), Gymnastics, or Dance to count for Physical Education credit.

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Four semesters of physical education are required for every student by the end of 8th grade. Semester, yearlong, and participation in Athletics are offered at Brandenburg. Placement in yearlong is available to any 7th and 8th grader.

# Theatre Arts

6th Grade: Semester elective

7th Grade and 8th Grade: Semester, yearlong, and advanced classes offered. Placement in yearlong and advanced classes is by audition and teacher recommendation.

