

Blue Ridge Middle School Annual Report 2019 – 2020

Blue Ridge's Mission



Blue Ridge Middle School is committed to academic excellence for all students in order to encourage them to be successful, responsible, and productive citizens. We recognize the importance of providing a climate where students' academic, social and emotional needs are met. We are dedicated to providing a climate of high expectations and caring human relationships.

Blue Ridge Middle School is a School to Watch

Blue Ridge Middle School stands firmly behind the values espoused in its mission statement. Students at Blue Ridge Middle School are valued members of our school community. You can truly see our mission statement in practice if you walk the halls of our middle school.

Teachers work diligently to promote student achievement. They develop dynamic, engaging lessons during their CLT meetings and create common assessments to gauge student learning. Our staff embraces PBL opportunities to link content to our community and world. Our English staff believes strongly in student agency. Students are given choices in their writing then students work through a student-led writer's conference with their teacher. Visit a science classroom to see students stretching their critical thinking skills in an inquiry-based science lab. These are just two of the many examples of our mission statement at work.

Teachers, administrators, and all staff members value the importance of relationship building for the middle level learner. From the Name Game to our unique Club Schedule to our PBIS activities, our staff and students all thrive on the meaningful and successful relationships we have developed.

This is why Blue Ridge Middle School was re-designated during the 2019-2020 school year by the *Schools to Watch* organization as a high-performing middle school. With a concerted effort to meet the unique developmental needs of the middle level learner, Blue Ridge Middle School promotes academic excellence, social equity and ensures that our organizational structure and instruction are developmentally responsive to the needs of our students. These categories are the core criteria used to earn a school this designation.



STW Re-designation Ceremony

In our Annual Report, we will highlight the various ways Blue Ridge Middle School excels in the aforementioned categories. Selected Schools to Watch criteria can be found throughout this document.

Blue Ridge: Past and Present—Culture of Excellence

Blue Ridge Middle School opened on former farm land on the south side of Purcellville in 1971. This new middle school, serving grades six through eight, was the feeder school to Loudoun Valley High School. As the end of the 20th century saw an increase in the need for more classrooms in Western Loudoun, several expansions and a major renovation in 2005 aligned the architectural design with the new middle schools being built in other areas of Loudoun County. Blue Ridge currently has a student population of 950 students.

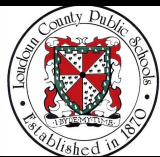


Virginia Naturally School

Blue Ridge Middle School continues to be a Virginia Naturally School. The 2019-2020 school year represented our 13th consecutive designation. The goal of the school program is to recognize efforts undertaken by Virginia schools to increase environmental awareness and stewardship of its students.

Foothills to the future...

Blue Ridge Middle School
Loudoun County Public Schools
551 East A Street
Purcellville, VA 20132
<https://www.lcps.org/brms>



Blue Ridge Middle School: Selected Schools to Watch

- All students meet high academic standards.
- Curriculum, instruction, assessment, and appropriate academic interventions are aligned with high standards.
- The curriculum emphasizes deep understanding of important concepts and the development of essential skills.
- Instructional strategies include a variety of challenging and engaging activities that are clearly related to the grade-level standards, concepts, and skills being taught.
- Teachers use a variety of methods to assess and monitor the progress of student learning.
- The faculty and master schedules provide students time to meet rigorous academic standards.
- Teachers know what each student has learned and still needs to learn.
- The adults in the school are provided time and frequent opportunities to enhance student achievement by working with



Sources of Strength Activity

Academic Growth and Excellence by Grade Level

House A

The eighth grade experienced many accomplishments during their final year at BRMS. The eighth grade teams are comprised of 290 enthusiastic students! With an emphasis on academic rigor and helping each student achieve his or her personal best, the eighth grade staff planned many hands-on lessons. In civics, students learned about how our government functions and how each person plays a role as citizens in society. English teachers challenged students to grow as readers and writers using workshop and portfolios. Science teachers promoted critical thinking as students analyzed and wrote formal conclusions for lab activities. Students were challenged to solve difficult equations in Math 8, Algebra, and Geometry. Many eighth graders explored world cultures while learning world languages. Our annual trip to the Newseum allowed students to reflect on global events and its impact on their lives. Due to COVID-19, eighth grade students completed their final quarter at BRMS with engaging virtual learning.



Mock Congressional Hearing

House B

Sixth grade students had a seamless transition to Blue Ridge Middle School. Starting on the first day of school, students embraced middle school by outstanding character and work-ethic. It was common to see students sitting with new people in the cafeteria to make everyone feel welcome and enjoy a culture of success. At Blue Ridge Middle School, we believe in developing the whole-child and knowing each child by name. This starts with the administration and counselor working collaboratively by learning the names of all students through the Name Game. Our goal is for every child to feel welcome and enjoy learning. Students also participated in a variety of activities this year including: Cornerstone awards, Character Counts, Walking Purcellville field trip, The National Gallery of Arts field trip, Veterans Day. The sixth grade also promoted community awareness with the Tree of Life assembly and the donation of 300 soup jars. When the school building was closed due to Covid-19 students adapted to learning via asynchronous and synchronous course work. The sixth grade students also participated in a culminating final lesson designed by the sixth grade teachers to finish out the year. Science 6 created models of the solar system and hypothetical habitats for other planets. BRMS was a pilot school for the integration of Computer Science into Science 6 curriculum; students applied computational thinking for solving real world problems. Computer Applications class created marketing for the Smore's for Support Campaign that raised funds for local Veteran's for Veteran's day. History 6 students created and presented personalized projects about our rich local history and the importance of preservation. Math classes measured and made ribbons to support breast cancer awareness month. Art 6 created monochromatic portraits that were displayed all over the school. The English and Art departments worked collaboratively to have students create illustrated visual poetry pieces. Students attended "A Place To Be" assembly where they learned about kindness and empathy. The *Go Viral!* assembly helped reinforce the importance of appropriate internet behavior. Digital citizenship and PBIS character-building lessons were taught throughout the year.



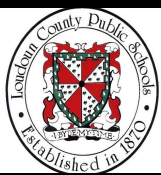
Tree of Life Soup Jars

House C

Seventh grade students had a tremendous year that started with a grade-wide field-trip to the National Zoo. In English, students honed their writing in poetry, short story, argumentative essay, and personal writing goals. Writing met with authentic audiences in community poetry readings, as well as several students earning publication and contest honors for various genres. Students grew in their reading through independent reading goals, book clubs with student chosen texts and groups, and research exploration that culminated in a virtual peer gallery walk. In History, students learned about numerous historical events dating from 1865 to present. We kicked the year off with US Geography, students then headed to Westward Expansion. Seventh graders were fortunate to have educators from the Center for Civic Impact at Morven Park teach an interactive lesson on the Industrial Revolution and labor unions. In groups, students had the opportunity to represent a side in an argument and use research to support their position. All students attempted to qualify for the school Geography Bee with a very challenging test and we had two seventh graders qualify. We missed our annual Decades Day project and celebration, but were able to create activities that highlighted important (and fun) events through the decades. In Science students learned how to collect and organize data while writing data analysis in the form of a lab report. In the classroom students investigated the different types of cells by preparing slides and using microscopes to view them. We also extracted DNA from strawberries, grew bacteria in petri dishes, observed osmosis as it occurs in eggs, and explored the different stimuli that affect a live worm's response. Escape rooms were a new interactive and exciting way we reviewed different units. The students embraced the challenges of online learning by participating in a variety of different activities. They enjoyed review games through Google meets, virtual labs, creating viral postcards, and researching their favorite biome. In Math, students have been working on problem solving, mathematical communication, mathematical reasoning, connections, and representations. Students also participated in Growth Mindset lessons which is an approach to teaching students that their mindset is more important than initial ability in determining progress in math. Students also experienced mathematical discourse in the classroom through Open Middle problems which allowed students to use words, symbols, diagrams, physical models and technology to present and defend their ideas. ALEKS and hyperdocs were used to personalize learning for the students.



Seventh Grade CAMS



Recognizing and Promoting Excellence

Student Award Winners

- **STEM SUMMIT Foxcroft:** BRMS All-Girls Stem Team: The 8th grade team placed 3rd in coding and the team members were Hannah Maison, Sara Mansfield, Madison Burget, and Annie Geng-Gao.
- **Continental Math League winners:** Our Continental Math League first place winners were: 6th grade– Norah McCormick and Gavin Kearney, 7th grade– Max Riley, 8th grade– Kaden Bui. The CML provides students with the opportunity to participate and improve their problem solving capabilities. These students share in the experience with schools from all over the United States.
- **Odyssey of the Mind:** BRMS contestants that finished 3rd place were: Nathan Saunders, Kyle Galletta, Sara Paracha, Dylan Ceppi, Jaedon Reich, Morgan Lundberg, Zainab Akberzie
- **BRMS spelling bee winners:** 6th Grader Norah McCormick while 8th Grader Mia Wolf was the Runner-Up.
- **Geography bee winner:** 8th Grader Nathaniel Hertzberg was the Blue Ridge Champion.
- **Malone Foundation Award:** Katelyn Miller (Art), Caroline Bell (Math), Perry Zhang (Science), Addison Miller (Music)
- **Debbie Mueller Award:** Katelyn Miller
- **Bulldog Award:** Josephine Wade and Jack McClelland
- **Academies of Loudoun Attendees:** Kaden Bui, Dominic Egender, Tyler Hansen, Nathaniel Hetzberg, Leah Johnson, Edwin Kyle, and Samuel Nixon



Geo Bee– Nathaniel Hertzberg



Spelling Bee– Norah McCormick and Mom

Cornerstone Awards

Blue Ridge Middle School is committed to recognizing student achievement and effort through our Cornerstone Awards program. Each quarter, grade level teams selected one male and one female student from his or her team to be recognized during the Cornerstone ceremony. Students were awarded a Cornerstone pin, BRMS bumper sticker, and a BRMS bulldog pennant. The Cornerstone categories include: citizenship, effort, scholarship, leadership, as well as academic achievement in math, reading, and writing.

Character Counts!

At Blue Ridge Middle School, we recognize and promote good character through our Character Counts program. This is a national program that highlights six key pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, caring, fairness, and citizenship. When students display any of these traits, staff members nominate them to receive a Character Counts award. Students who receive this award enjoy a celebration with their family members and earn a Character Counts bracelet. Nominees are recognized quarterly and their actions are read aloud for all to hear. It is wonderful to see all the proud parents and positive impact these students have on our school.



Quarter 1 Awards

Department Awards

Continuing rich academic traditions at Blue Ridge, staff members recognized 2019-2020 8th grade department winners in ten categories. These categories included: math, science, social science, English, word languages and cultures, physical education, fine arts, technology education, family and consumer science, and spectrum. These students represent an elite group of our most dedicated learners at Blue Ridge Middle School. Students were honored by having their names engraved on a plaque that will be displayed in the halls of BRMS.



Bulldogs Excel at Distance Learning

During the Pandemic of Spring 2020, BRMS teachers and students expanded their learning and embraced the new world of distance and synchronous learning. Our teachers provided in-depth and engaging learning opportunities for our students and they continued to excel during this challenging portion of the school year. Several students took the opportunity to go above and beyond and they were honored for their hard work.

- Kaden Bui competed in the online German Nutty Tilez competition and finished in 7th place while competing against over 10,000 students across the globe
- Jessica Woerner and Julianna Helm were winners in the Clean Air Partners Contest.

In addition to these accomplishments, twenty-nine BRMS students were accepted for publication in the Poetic Power Spring competition along with students creating "This I Believe" essays providing them with opportunities to be published. These are just a few examples of how BRMS was able to continue creating knowledgeable, critical thinkers that are able to collaborate, communicate, and create valuable products that are a contribution to their school, community, and beyond.



The 600 Club

At Blue Ridge, we encourage students to reach their potential and excel in a rigorous curriculum. Our students consistently show high levels of mastery on SOL exams. To recognize this academic achievement, we created a wall of fame for our 600 Club students. Blue Ridge Middle School students are a part of the 600 Club. Keep up the great work!

Writing Awards

Scholastic Writing Awards Regional Winners

- Eryn Lackey, Science Fiction, Gold Key
- Jonathen Keller, Short Story, Silver Key
- Lauren Macdonnell, Humor, Silver Key
- Logan Buckley, Critical Essay, Silver Key
- Perry Zhang, Poetry, Silver Key
- Sofia Shelmerdine, Short Story, Silver Key
- Honorable Mention- Anna Gang-Gao, Annika Quanbeck, Christopher Thornton, Edwin Kyle, Katelyn Miller, Sarah Baty



Scholastic Storyworks Create a Character Contest

- Pierce Engle, Winner
- Stetson Kittinger, Runner-Up
- Allison Hodges, Runner-Up
- Norah McCormick, Runner-Up
- Gavin Kearney, Runner-Up
- Sarah Ney, Runner-Up

2020 Clean Air Partners Contest

- 7th graders Jessica Woerner and Julianna Helm were contest winners

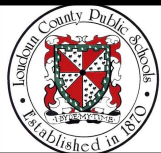


Jessica Woerner's Entry



Julianna Helm

Social Equity at BRMS



Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Social Equity

- Teachers continually adapt curriculum, instruction, assessment, and scheduling to meet their students' diverse and changing needs.
- Students have ongoing opportunities to learn about and appreciate their own and others' cultures.
- The school community knows every student well.
- The faculty welcomes and encourages the active participation of all its families and makes sure that all its families are an integral part of the school.
- The school's reward system is designed to value diversity, civility, service, and democratic citizenship.
- Staff members understand and support the family backgrounds and values of its students.

Bulldogs Give Back!!

SCA is proud to note that approximately 3,000 pounds of food was collected and donated to Tree of Life in the 2019-2020 school year.



SCA sending food to Tree of Life

Our FACS and TechEd students teamed together for a PBL lesson to called SMORES for Support to raise money for Hero Homes by selling smores at a LVHS



PAWSitivity



The Unified Mental Health Team continued to provide a variety of services and resources to students and families throughout distance learning. Weekly social-emotional lessons were developed and sent out to all students and parents in the form of PAWSitivity lessons. A variety of topics relevant to success during distance learning were covered, including time management, how to establish a routine, the importance of spending time with family, and a review of Sources of Strength.

Celebrating All Bulldogs

Under the leadership of Dr. Eric Williams, Loudoun County Public Schools has solidified its ongoing commitment to an inclusive, safe, caring, and challenging learning environment. LCPS actively denounces hateful language and actions based on race, religion, country of origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, and/or ability because such language and action encourage discrimination, hatred, oppression, and violence.

Every individual is valued in Loudoun County Pubic Schools and LCPS encourages us to celebrate the diversity that helps define us as a school division. One way Blue Ridge celebrates diversity is by our annual recognition of the National Black History Month. This year the national theme, as determined by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), was African Americans and the Vote. 2020 marked the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. In addition, 2020 marked the sesquicentennial of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) and the right of black men to the ballot after the Civil War. The theme highlighted the ongoing struggle on the part of both black men and women for the right to vote. Our Social Science teachers explored this struggle and delivered lessons via History classes.

Veterans Day

Our Veterans Day celebration was outstanding! The activities allowed our students to learn about our country, its history, and participate directly with our campus flag planting. Students viewed a video about staff members who have served in the armed forces and then planted his/her own flag on our campus. Finally, all students and staff signed banners for local veterans.

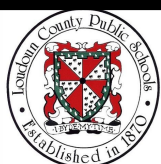


Planting flags for Veterans

Safe School Ambassadors and Peer Helpers

The school counselors continued our Safe School Ambassador and Peer Helper programs. These programs support our school's positive climate. Students learn how to intercede in challenging situations, and they model appropriate interactions. Students also learn strategies to encourage positive behavior and kindness.

Developmental Responsiveness at BRMS



Club Name	Sponsor
6th Grade Slide Show Club	Farrey
7th Grade Soccer Squad	Willingham
8th Grade Soccer Club	Stutzman
Anime Club	Pearson-Weese
Basketball Club	Mosley
Beauty Club	Walker/White
Blue Ridge Hive	Costello/Hinkle
Blue Ridge Improv	Anderson
Board Games	Klimek
Books Make Great Movies	Lightner / Gillis
BRYTE Club	Young/Hawk
Bulldog Adventure Team	Morris/Barb/Boucher
Bulldog DANCE & CHEER Club	Griffith-Cochran/Cassidy
Chess Club	Martz
Comic Book and Graphic Novel Club	Stoneback
Computer Games	Hubbuck/Khan
Crafty Nintendo Club	Pritz
Dance	Racino
Dungeons and Dragons	Benalayay
Event Planning Club	Kushner
Flag Football Club	Myers
Flight Club	McClellan
Four Square Club	Sharp/Midolo
Four Square Club	L.Lee, Val Terrazas
Four Square Club	Hornbaker
Friendship Bracelet Club	Bolen
G3 Club	Jenna Stickman
Gaming Club	Sohellian/Bauer/Lipscomb
Homework Club	Rowley, Boyer, Costello,
Homework Club	Boyer
Homework Club	Costello/Hinkle
Homework Club	Spears/Jarvis
Homework Club	Smith
Horse' N Around	Mitchell
Just Dance	McDole
LEGO Club	Fiolek
Let's Dance Club	Gargiulo
Liberty Kids	Martin
MakerSpace Club	Everhart
Mathletes	Miske/Bell
Minecraft Club	Savastano
Music Practice Club	Newman/Galang/Guiney
Pokemon Club	Wells
Puzzle Club	Fraser/Connolly
RC Car club	Kawalek
Read to Me Club	Gallagher
Reading Club	Kursman
Rubiks Cube Club	Nicholson
Running Club	Balio/Korn
SCA	Bowen/Scherer
School Store	Taylor
Slime Club	O'Neill/McFarland
SOS Save Our Snakes	Dave Snyder
Sources of Strength	Kohl/Riley/Hannah/Pomponio
Sports Club	Baird / Bolen
Tacky T-Shirts	Kuntz
The Miners	Allen
Walking Club	D Thompson
Writing Club	Kelly
Yearbook	Hite/C Thompson/Helble

Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Developmental Responsiveness

- Bulldogs: What you do matters!
- Interdisciplinary teams meet each week to talk about students and to meet their needs
- Name Game: All students are known!
- Teachers and staff members facilitate activity period clubs that connect to student interests
- The Blue Ridge Technology Center offers professional development to train teachers to in high quality project based learning to support Loudoun County Public Schools' One to the World initiative
- The Safe Schools Ambassadors program supports PBIS and a safe and positive school climate
- Content enrichment clubs and teams (Mathletes, Odyssey of the Mind, Continental Math League 6, 7, & 8, Academic Decathlon) challenge students academically
- Common Sense Media recognized BRMS as a digitally responsible school

Activity Periods



Blue Ridge Middle School prides itself on being socially equitable and developmentally responsive to the needs of its middle school students. BRMS does this not only through teaming and different grade level Houses, but through Wednesday Activity Periods. Every staff member at Blue Ridge Middle School helps by sponsoring a student club.

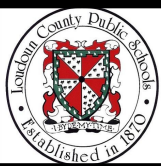
With over fifty clubs to choose from, students are sure to find some-

thing that sparks their interests. Each Wednesday, clubs meet the last half hour of the day.

This is an opportunity for students not only to have a fun and unique learning experience, but also to develop and sustain meaningful relationships with adults at BRMS through their middle school journey.

The Name Game

The *Name Game* was played during the month of December. A team of administrators and counselors from each grade level **successfully named every student** at BRMS. Knowing all our students is an important part of the family atmosphere at Blue Ridge Middle School. This activity strengthened our school climate and gave each student a sense of belonging.



Recognizing and Promoting Excellence

Drama Award Winners

BRMS Receives Four National Youth Art Awards, Seven Nominations for *The Wizard of Oz*.

This year's local recipients took the stage on Sunday, August 18, 2019 at Belmont Ridge Middle School in Leesburg to receive their awards. The winners were as follows:

Awards:

Supporting Performance (Junior Division): AJ Ruhnke as Hunk/Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Supporting Performance (Junior Division): Jackie Zisk as Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*

Ensemble (Junior Division): *The Wizard of Oz*
 Choreography: Cait Kelley for *The Wizard of Oz*

Nominations:

Lead Performance (Junior Division): Juliet Marsh as Dorothy Gale in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Supporting Performance (Junior Division): Logan Buckley as Hickory/Tinman in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Supporting Performance (Junior Division): Owen D'Amelio as Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Supporting Performance (Junior Division): Meshari Greenly as Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Supporting Performance (Junior Division): Josie Wade as Aunt Em/Glinda in *The Wizard of Oz*
 Costume Design: Stacey Marsh for *The Wizard of Oz*
 Direction: Dolly Stevens for *The Wizard of Oz*

2019 Drama Production– *Guys and Dolls Jr.*



Cast and Crew for *Guys and Dolls Jr.*



Selected Schools to Watch Criteria: Organizational Support

- The master schedule includes for common planning time for both interdisciplinary teams and content learning teams
- The administrative team offers grants to promote enhanced instruction
- The Blue Ridge PTO offers grants to deepen activities and academics
- Content Learning Teams create SMART goals and Focus File Database to provide a structure for student improvement and achievement
- Master Schedule incorporates Math Lab and Structured Resource in response to student needs for modeling of concepts, structure, and organization
- Administration manages Teacher Walk-Through Database to inform more focused professional development

Blue Ridge Middle School's Improvement Plan at Work

Just as we encourage our students to grow and achieve, we consistently grow as professional educators. Below are goals from our School's 2019- 2020 School Improvement Plan.

Blue Ridge Middle School SIP 2019-2020

1. The school leadership team will facilitate differentiated professional development.
2. Teachers will support student growth and goal setting across all subject areas.
3. All students will feel valued and have access for multiple tiers of support for their highest level of achievement.

Climate Activities

Same Sky Productions visited BRMS on October 9 to perform their production of "A Place to Be" to our 6th grade class. This years production focused on young people with physical, emotional, developmental, social, medical, and life challenges.

The BRMS PTO, with the support of parent volunteers, sponsored the 6th Grade Ida Lee Night for students to enjoy each others company outside of the educational setting.

In September, the 6th graders enjoyed a social event where they enjoyed popsicles while they completed a scavenger hunt where they got to know their classmates better and also formed new friendships.

In October, the 7th grade Art classes went on a field trip to Franklin Park to tour the Bob Ross Art Exhibit.

Camful Productions visited our 7th and 8th grade classes in November to engage the students in social and emotional learning and to equip students with the tools to overcome the challenges of adolescent years.

A Donut Social was held in January to celebrate the completion of a successful first semester for the 7th grade class.

In November, several students competed in the Annual Tough Turkey 3k event just before Thanksgiving Break. The winners, pictured to the right, were: (LtoR) Derek Peters, Andrew Palmer, Rylan Wells, Bella Vega, Madysen Blizard, and Morgan Greene.

There were several additional climate activities, such as the 8th grade pool party, Decades Day, and Field Day that were canceled due to the school closure for the Covid Pandemic.



Tough Turkey 3k Winners

Community Support



Mr. Payne from Chick-Fil-A

Once again, the BRMS PTO proved to be an invaluable support system to our students and staff. The PTO raised money and allocated funds through PTO grants that serves our students on a daily basis. Chick-Fil-A sponsored a Cornerstone Awards Breakfast where owner, Mr. Scott Payne, spoke to our students about having a growth mindset and to work on being your best self. Additionally, Hero Homes was nominated for the Loudoun County Business Partnership award for 2019-2020. Thank you to all our sponsors and the PTO!!!

OTTW/PBL

BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL PBL 2019-2020

MATH 8

Balance a budget, plan a healthy meal that can be purchased on a field trip then share ideas with parents and classmates

ALGEBRA

Connect Algebraic equations with real-world application through communication with business partnerships

GEOMETRY

Write a company of an ad of their choice and give them suggestions on how to make the ad logically sound or make a specific compliment

GERMAN

Students will select clothing to donate to a local charity and explain the donation in German

SPANISH

Use Spanish to communicate a donation of clothing to various community outreach programs

BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL PBL 2019-2020

ENGLISH 6

Use visual deconstruction to purposefully retain text to demonstrate that words can inspire visual imagery

ENGLISH 7

Create a personal poem that invokes emotion and present it at a public poetry reading

ENGLISH 8

Create and prepare a writing sample for a Scholastic Writing Competition using the requirements for publication and directions on how to take it public

MATH 6/7

Students will calculate recipes and prepare soup jars to donate to the Tree of Life

MATH 7

Students will research Global Warming and choose a call to action that can be implemented in support of Earth Day

BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL PBL 2019-2020

Project Based Learning

2019-2020 SEMESTER 1

CREATED BY BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS



551 E A ST, PURCELLVILLE, VA 20132
540-751-2520

HISTORY 6

Explore local historical sites and discuss the importance of historical preservation

HISTORY 7

Create a possible solution to a problem that is facing our nation today

CIVICS

Create a campaign advertisement that addresses a political issue that both student and candidate care about

TECH ED 7

Create, build and share a problem-solving activity using wood and marbles

FRENCH 1&2

Establish a pen pal relationship to students in France who are learning English

ART 6

Illustrate and share a cohesive visual image that demonstrates the interpretation of created poem

ART 7&8

Promote social issues that are important to them through visual propaganda.

CTE

Students from various departments will work together to advertise, make and sell S'mores to raise money to donate to local Veterans

MUSIC

Prepare for a public musical performance by working together as a team to practice, listen and synchronize to create a more polished product

SPECTRUM

Create and share a way that our generation make a positive impact on the health of our global environment

COMPUTER APPLICATION

Create and share an animated short story about the relevance of computer science

SCIENCE 6

Create and share a detailed profile of an object that can be found in outer space

LIFE SCIENCE 7

Create and share an explanation of how the traits of the student have been passed down from previous generations

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

Create and share a safety profile of chemicals that are regularly in the lives of our community members

HEALTH AND PE

Design and demonstrate a physical fitness workout that is relevant and interesting to peers

Music

- **All-County Guitar:** Bridget McNally, Aedan Graber, Connor Cronin
- **All-District Band:** Clarice Hartman, Jacki Frank, William Atherton
- **All-County Orchestra:** Lima Naimi, Perry Zhang, Lauren MacDonnell, Isabelle Hinkle, Addison Miller, Samuel Nixon

Choir

- **All-State Honor Choir:** Sophia Arbab, Avery Ramsey
- **All-District Choir:** Caroline Bell, Avery Ramsey, Josie Wade, Sophia Arbab, Eleanor Waldschuetz
- **All-County Chorus:** Derrick Peters, Norah McCormick, Shelby Reese, Luke Weller, Liudmila Boyarskaya, Rachel Black, Josie McHenry, Ella Cormicle, Charlotte Abbe, Madison Slade



Orchestra Performance



Staff Accolades and Accomplishments

- Ms. Mosley, Ms. Bolen, Ms. Willingham, and Mr. Fiolek were certified as PLYOGA instructors
- Ms. Hawk and Ms. Baird presented at the 2019 Virginia Society for Technology in Education Conference
- Ms. Fraser was asked to present at the Codesters Webinar to share best practices, tools, and strategies for Distance Learning and Synchronous Learning
- Ms. White and Ms. Walker were chosen to present at the annual National Council of Teachers of English to share the power of "Read Aloud" in the Middle School classrooms
- Ms. Racino and Ms. Savastano presented for the Virginia Middle School Association held at James Madison University
- Ms. Benalay was awarded the C-SPAN Summer Fellowship



Ms. Baird and Ms. Hawk at VSTE 2019

School Grants

Throughout the year, our teachers wrote for grants from both the PTO and Administration. Throughout the use of these grants, teachers were able to enhance their instruction as well as provide new opportunities for growth in our students.

Grant	Staff /Sponsor
Northern Virginia Audobon Society	Doug Everhart
Loudoun County Wildlife Conservancy Award	Doug Everhart
Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District Award	Doug Everhart
Telescopes and mobile technology grant	Doug Everhart
Loudoun Education Foundation	Angela Fraser
Blue Ridge PTO– Edison Robots	Angela Fraser
Special Education online additional program	Will Herndon
PTO SCA Grant	Ildi Scherer
Blue Ridge PTO	Andrew McClellan
Snyder Snake Books	Dave Snyder
Excellent Distance Learning Achievement PTO Grant	Sixth Grade Team
Blue Ridge PTO– FACS steel tables	Holly Myers