

# Mountain Brook Junior High



## Grade 7 Course Selection Guide 2018-2019

**2018-2019**  
**MOUNTAIN BROOK JUNIOR HIGH**  
**205 OVERBROOK ROAD**  
**MOUNTAIN BROOK, ALABAMA 35213**  
**OFFICE: 871-3516 GUIDANCE OFFICE: 877-8346**

All students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be enrolled in the following courses: English, social studies, math, science, PE, and electives. Since course selection is based on pre-registration, please read the course descriptions carefully and make a firm commitment to the courses marked on the course selection form. A student may request a schedule change through **June 6<sup>th</sup>**. The schedule change form can be found online or picked up in the in the counseling office. A parent signature is required and a \$25 processing fee is charged for all changes after **June 6<sup>th</sup>**. All courses, including alternates, listed on the course selection sheet will be scheduled in priority order. Students will receive a copy of their schedule at summer registration. They will receive a **FINAL** copy on the first day of school.

**Course selection sheets are due back to the homeroom teacher by March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSES**

**ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH 7**

English 7 provides for the study of writing, grammar, vocabulary, and literature. Students study a variety of literary genres such as short stories, novels, plays, myths, poetry, and many examples of nonfiction. The reading serves as a springboard to learn and apply effective reading strategies, new vocabulary, and literary terms. The texts also lead to critical thinking and literary analysis that are explored through writing, including the styles of narration, description, argument, and analysis/explanation. Selected novels are used to enhance the curriculum beyond the textbook provided, and students also read novels of their choosing. The theme throughout the year is “Identity,” with much of the literature relating to this theme.

**ENGLISH 7 ADVANCED**

This is an advanced English course for students entering the Junior High. The following requirements are considered for placement: any available assessment data, class participation and performance, results (which includes grades), work ethic and teacher recommendations. This course is academically rigorous integrates more complex texts than English 7. The curriculum provides for the study of grammar and vocabulary, as well as deeper literary analysis and formal essay writing. Students focus on writing, including styles of narration, description, argumentation, and analysis/explanation, with an emphasis on formal, academic writing. The theme throughout the year is “Identity,” with much of the literature relating to this theme. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced work in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. *Recommendation made by school.*

**MATH**

**PRE-ALGEBRA 7**

Pre-Algebra 7 is the first year of a two-year course in pre-algebra. The curriculum addresses the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Concepts will include, but are not limited to, rational number operations, multi-step equations and inequalities, geometric relationships among two and three dimensional figures, proportional relationships, and data analysis and probability. This course deepens conceptual understanding though the Standards of Mathematical Practice. Students completing this course will take the second year of pre-algebra in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**PRE-ALGEBRA ADVANCED 7**

This course is advanced because both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade common core standards are taught simultaneously and in depth. The course deepens conceptual understanding through the Standards of Mathematical Practice. This class is intended for students who have a strong work ethic and are proficient in math standards prior to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Pre-Algebra 7 Advanced is a two-period course for students who desire the opportunity to take Advanced Algebra I or Algebra I in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. *Recommendations made by school.*

### **PRE-ALGEBRA ADVANCED 7 (Math Team)**

This course is advanced because both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade common core standards are taught simultaneously and in depth. The course deepens conceptual understanding through the Standards of Mathematical Practice. Students are required to complete supplemental “math team” coursework that goes beyond the Advanced Pre-Algebra curriculum. Math Team students are required to attend outside of school competitions. This class is intended for students who enjoy problem solving, have a strong work ethic and are proficient in math standards prior to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Pre-Algebra 7 Advanced Math Team is a two-period course for students who desire the opportunity to take Advanced Algebra I or Advanced Algebra I Math Team in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. *Recommendation made by school.*

## **SCIENCE**

### **SCIENCE 7**

Science 7 focuses on life science. Students are encouraged to develop an appreciation of the importance of diversity of life, while simultaneously understanding the impact of their roles as individuals in the community of life. Some areas of study include the characteristics of living things, functions of organelles, tissues and organs of various systems in the body, function of chromosomes, and Mendel’s laws of genetics. The focus of this course prepares students for biology and other life science courses taken in high school. Students are involved in laboratory experiments for a deeper understanding of the concepts.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **GEOGRAPHY/CIVICS**

This course includes one semester of geography and one semester of civics/citizenship. During the semester of geography, students increase their knowledge of the physical nature of the world and of the relationships between people and their environments. They also study geography in the context of economics, politics, and culture. The curriculum focuses on the cultural geography of the Eastern Hemisphere. During the semester of civics, students explore the role of citizens in the United States. The curriculum addresses representative democracy, law, personal economics, and civil responsibility.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

According to the Code of Alabama, 16-40-1, *daily physical education is required in Grades K-8. No exceptions and no substitutions.*

### **P.E. Boys/P.E. Girls**

Physical Education provides participation in a variety of team and individual sports with an emphasis on developing sports skills. Fitness and health principles are also incorporated into the curriculum to build a foundation for lifetime fitness. Regulation gym suits are required and students are assigned P.E. lockers.

### **P.E. Co-ed**

Physical Education Co-ed course provides participation in a variety of team and individual sports with an emphasis on developing sports skills. Fitness and health principles are also incorporated into the curriculum to build a foundation for lifetime fitness. Regulation gym suits are required and students are assigned P.E. lockers. **This class meets from 7:15 AM to 7:50 AM daily.**

## **WORLD LANGUAGES - (YEAR)**

### **FRENCH IMMERSION**

French Immersion provides real-life contexts and everyday situations in which to communicate in French. It develops cultural understanding that leads to lifelong French learning. Upon successful completion of this course, most students take Advanced French I.

## **LATIN I-A**

Latin I-A is the first half of a traditional first year Latin course. It is designed to teach grammar and vocabulary with an emphasis on Latin root meanings and English derivatives. This course is followed with Latin I-B in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who complete Latin I-A **AND** I-B will have completed one year of a Foreign Language credit. The Latin I-B average will count towards students' high school grade point average (GPA).

## **SPANISH I-A**

Spanish I-A is the first half of a traditional first year Spanish course. It is designed to deepen the foundation in the four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking, with emphasis on the communicative skills. Basic grammar and vocabulary are taught in the context of cultural and practical knowledge content areas. This course is followed with Spanish I-B in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who complete Spanish I-A **AND** I-B will have completed one year of a Foreign Language credit. The Spanish I-B average will count towards students' high school grade point average (GPA).

## **YEARLY ELECTIVES**

### **FINE ARTS ELECTIVES**

#### **PERFORMING**

##### **BAND, BEGINNING (7, 8, 9) (YEAR)**

Beginning band is designed for the beginning instrumental music student. Throughout the four artistic processes, students will work to develop characteristic tone quality on one of the following band instruments: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Bassoon, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion. Students will work to develop the following musical concepts: tone quality, timbre, rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Participation in all performances is required. *This course fulfills 1.0 credits of the Fine Arts diploma requirement for graduation.*

##### **Band, CONCERT (7) (YEAR)**

###### **Prerequisite: Beginning Band or director's approval**

Concert band is an intermediate level band course designed for students with one or more year of experience in band. Students will expand their abilities to create a characteristic tone quality and produce a wider range of musical expression. Throughout the four artistic processes, students will perform, create, read/write, and listen/respond/evaluate while employing the following musical concepts: timbre, rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Concert band performs regularly at concerts, competitive music festivals, selected pep rallies, and a few home football games each year. Participation in all performances is required. *This course fulfills 1.0 credits of the Fine Arts diploma requirement for graduation.*

##### **CHOIR JH (YEAR)**

Choir course is designed for students who are eager to explore choral music instruction. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of singing and the fundamentals of music theory. Students are exposed to various musical styles and cultures. The MJBH Choir is a performing group. Participation in all performances is required.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT ELECTIVES**

##### **ACADEMIC SKILLS 7 (YEAR)**

Academic Skills 7 is designed for students who need assistance in organization, time management skills and addresses the academic needs of the student. Parents, students, and academic support teachers work together as a team. Recommendation is determined by a student's grades and teacher recommendations. Students are re-evaluated at the end of each grading period to determine continued eligibility. *Recommendation made by school.*

##### **MATH LAB 7 (YEAR)**

Math Lab 7 is a math support class designed to close the gap on specific math deficits through research-based strategies and programs. *Recommendation made by school.*

### **MATH SKILLS 7 (YEAR)**

Math skills 7 is a support class designed to meet the needs of Pre-Alg. 7 students. The focus is on re-teaching daily math concepts. *Recommendation made by school.*

### **READING SKILLS (YEAR)**

Reading Skills 7 is a support class designed to develop reading skills, with an emphasis on reading comprehension across all content. The focus of the course is on re-teaching reading concepts. The goal is for students to close the gap on these specific deficits and move out of the intervention. *Recommendation made by school*

### **RESOURCE LAB 7 (YEAR)**

Resource Lab provides remediation of academic material in the student's course content areas. In addition to one-on-one remediation, students are assisted with specific learning strategies, time management, and advocacy skills. Students in this course must have an **Individual Education Plan**. *Recommendation made by school.*

## **SEMESTER ELECTIVES**

### **CAREER TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES**

#### **PLTW AUTOMATION and ROBOTICS I (SEMESTER)**

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

#### **PLTW DESIGN and MODELING (SEMESTER)**

Design and Modeling is an academic elective that *challenges* students to apply the engineering design process to solve real-world problems. Working individually and in teams, students learn the fundamentals of sketching and dimensioning. They also brainstorm to create innovative solutions using 3-D models and computer programs. Students are required to maintain a digital engineering notebook

#### **APP CREATORS (SEMESTER)**

Students will discover the principles of this fast-growing field by focusing on creativity and an iterative design process as they create their own basic apps using MIT App Inventor.

#### **INNOVATORS AND MAKERS (SEMESTER)**

Students continue to explore the fundamentals of the stimulating career path of computer science. They venture into text programming through Python and, in the final problem develop an app to crowd source and analyze data on a topic of their interest.

### **FINE ARTS ELECTIVES**

#### **PERFORMING**

##### **CHOIR JH (SEMESTER)**

JH Choir is a performance based class for beginning music students. Through the four artistic processes of creating, performing, responding and connecting, students work to develop the following musical concepts: proper tone, music theory, note reading, following a choral score, singing in 2-3 parts, and an introduction to sight singing. Participation in all performances is required.

## **INTRO to DRAMA (SEMESTER)**

Intro to Drama semester course is designed for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students who want to perform on stage. Intro to Drama offers a variety of theatre experiences including monologues, improvisation, pantomime, technical theatre, the history of theatre, duo scenes, and a one-act play to study the vocal, kinesthetic, emotional, analytical and intellectual elements of theatrical training.

## **VISUAL**

### **ART FOUNDATIONS (SEMESTER)**

Art Foundations is offered to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade art students who are interested in advancing their knowledge in the visual arts. In this course, students will be introduced to the fundamentals of art by creating original works of art using a variety of media. Students will learn basic art vocabulary, techniques for drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture, as well as basic concepts for building a strong composition. Art history, aesthetics, criticism and career opportunities are explored.

## **OTHER ELECTIVES**

### **CREATIVE WRITING JH (SEMESTER)**

Creative Writing course is designed for 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders who enjoy writing and desire the opportunity to write poetry, short stories, advertisements, personal narratives, and reviews. Students will become authors by publishing a book of autobiographical essays on their life. Students will have the opportunity to work on their own writing projects or to join a web based writing project. Emphasis in the course is on the process and product.

### **INTRODUCTION to SPEECH and DEBATE JH (7, 8, 9) (SEMESTER)**

An exploratory course that exposes students to public speaking and debate events. Students will develop speaking skills by actively participating in classroom speeches and debates of varying types. Students in this course will be exposed to competitive speech and debate events, such as interpretation of literature, public forum debates, Lincoln Douglas debates, and team cross examination debate. Tournament participation and observations are encouraged, but not required.

### **READING (SEMESTER)**

Reading course is designed for reading experiences that incorporate both fiction and non-fiction reading in addition to honing skills for guided inquiry. Students have opportunities to self-select novels to read and share with their classmates through book talks and other forms of presentations.

#### **NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

It is the policy of the Mountain Brook Schools that no person within the district shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subject to discrimination on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability or age in any program, activity, or employment practice. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Dr. Dale Wisely—Director of Student Services (Title VI), Mrs. Sylvia Harper—Personnel Director (Title IX), Dr. Missy Brooks—Director of Instruction (Title II), Mrs. Shannon Mundy—Special Education Director (Section 504) Contact Information: 32 Vine Street, Mountain Brook, AL 35213 (205) 871-4608

## GRADE REPORTS

### **MBHS GRADING**

#### **SCALE**

**A = 90-100**

**B = 80-89**

**C = 70-79**

**D = 65-69**

**F =Below 65**

The MBS school year is divided into quarters.

Progress Reports and a current transcript can be viewed at any time through the INow Parent Home Portal.

### **GRADE AVERAGER FOR SEMESTER COURSES**

1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks – 40%

2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks – 40%

Semester Exam – 20%

**Semester Course Average**

3<sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks – 40%

4<sup>th</sup> Nine Weeks – 40%

Semester Exam – 20%

**Semester Course Average**

## **EXERPT FROM THE MOUNTAIN BROOK CITY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES POLICY**

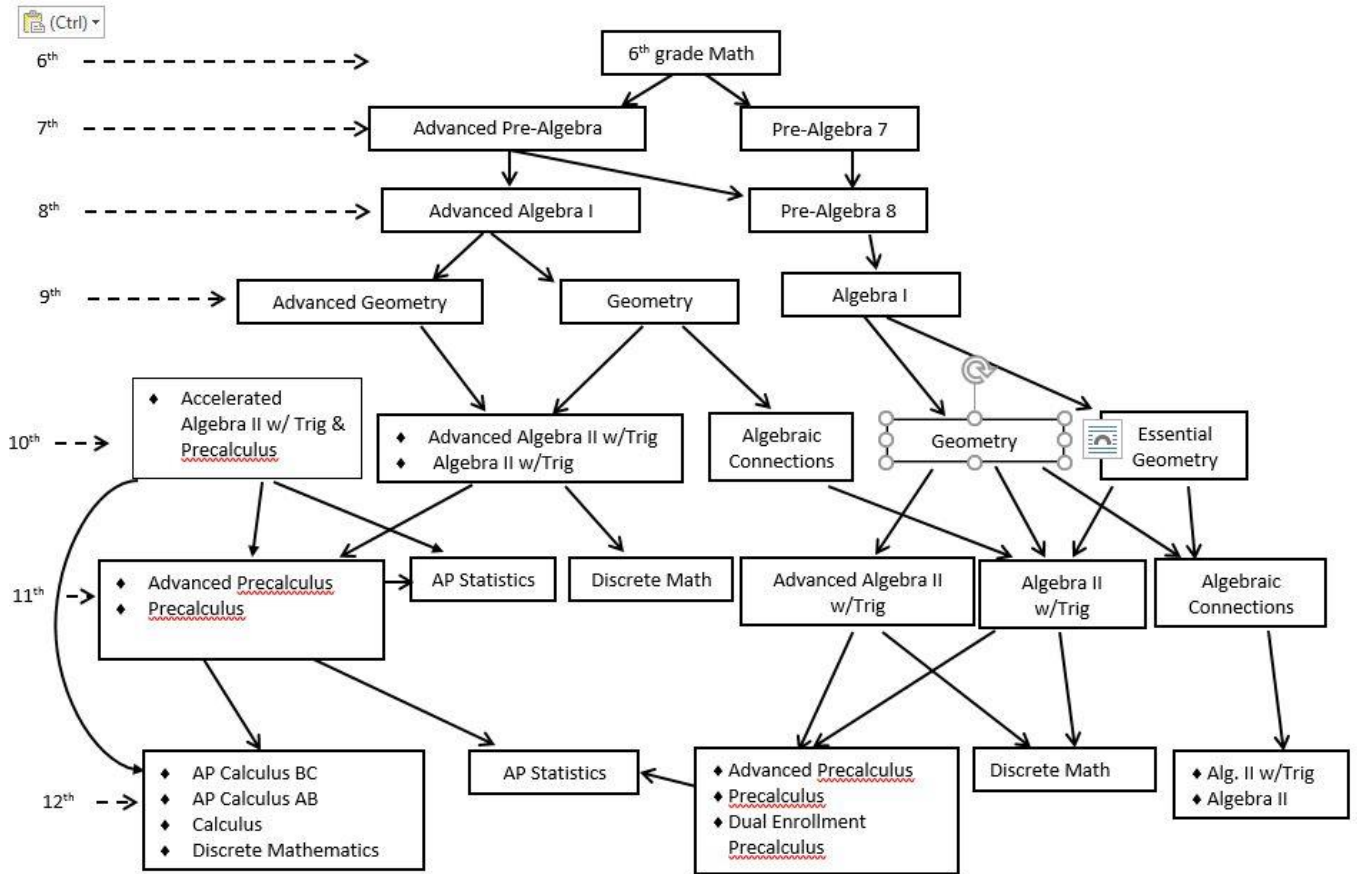
The Mountain Brook Board of Education recognizes the value of athletics and other extracurricular activities as they relate to the total education of students. The Mountain Brook Board of Education also recognizes and supports high academic standards and the necessity of developing a framework to annually assess each athletic and extracurricular student's progress toward graduating from high school on schedule with his/her class.

The Mountain Brook Board of Education prescribes the following regulations for eligibility by students to participate in athletics and/or extracurricular activities:

1. ....Each student entering grades 8 and 9 must have passed during the last two semesters in attendance and summer school, if applicable, at least five (5) new subjects with a composite numerical average of 7- in those five subjects. ....

To see the complete policy please go to page 22 of the student handbook located under Parent Resources on the MBJH Website.

# 2018-2019 Math Flow Chart

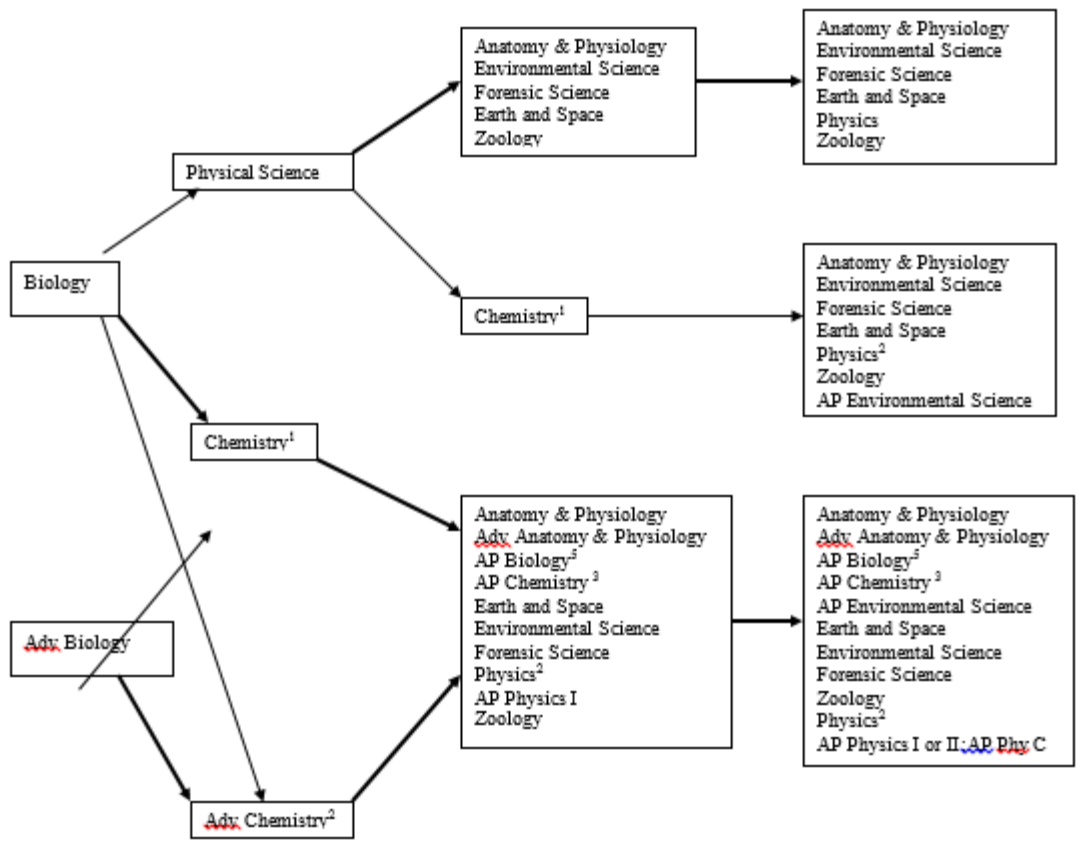




## Science Curriculum Flowchart Grades 9-12 with Math Requirements

(See Course Selection Guide for specific requirements/prerequisites.)

9<sup>th</sup> Grade                      10<sup>th</sup> Grade                      11<sup>th</sup> Grade                      12<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Math Requirements**

- <sup>1</sup> Completed Algebra I
- <sup>2</sup> Completed or concurrently enrolled in Algebra II w/Trig
- <sup>3</sup> Completed or concurrently enrolled in Pre-calculus
- <sup>4</sup> Completed or concurrently enrolled in AP Calculus B/
- <sup>5</sup> Strong math background required

**Group 1**

- Anatomy & Physiology
- All Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- All ADV & AP classes

**Group 2**

- Physical Science
- Environmental Science
- Forensic Science
- Earth and Space
- Zoology

## MB Diploma Options

	<b>Advanced with Honors</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Standard</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>4</b> Alg I, Geo, Alg II with Trig, Precalculus or Discrete Math or beyond	<b>4</b> Alg I, Geo, Alg. II with Trig Plus one additional	<b>4</b> Alg I, Geo, Algebraic Connections, Alg II
<b>Science</b>	<b>4</b> All Group 1- Bio and Chem or Physics Plus two additional	<b>4</b> 3-Group 1 1-Group 1 or 2 Bio and Chem or Physics Plus two additional	<b>4</b> Bio and a Physical Science Plus two additional
<b>English</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Foreign Lang (FL)</b>	<b>3</b> -Same Language	<b>2</b> - Same Language	<b>0*</b>
<b>CTE/FL/Fine Arts (3 total credits required)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Fine Art</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Career Prep A &amp; B</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PE Life</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Electives</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>

**\*Many colleges require at least one year of Foreign Language**

# Parent Placement Form

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade for School Year 2018-2019** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommended Course:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Place Course:** \_\_\_\_\_

The parents of the above named student choose to change the placement recommendation of Mountain Brook Junior High.

We, the parents, understand that our child is not recommended for the course listed above and would like to change the recommended placement. We are also aware that once my child has been parent placed into a different class, no schedule changes will occur until the end of the First Nine Weeks. If a schedule change occurs at the end of the First Nine Weeks, all grades from the parent placed class will transfer with the student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Counselor's/Administrator's / Teacher's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Mountain Brook School system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in any of its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Dr. Dale Wisely—Director of Student Services; Dr. Susan Cole—Personnel Director; Dr. Missy Brooks—Director of Instruction; Mrs. Shannon Mundy—Special Education Director (Section 504) Contact Information: 32 Vine Street, Mountain Brook, AL 35213, 205-871-4608

# Mountain Brook Junior High Summer School 2018

Please return all registration forms, along with payment, to guidance office by **May 31, 2018**. The cost of each course is \$200.00

## Dates of Summer School Term:

Session 1 - June 4-22, 2018

Session 2 – June 25-July 20, 2018

- No summer school 7/2-7/6

## Daily Schedule:

7:30 a.m. – Class Begins

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. First Break

11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. – Second Break

12:30 p.m. – End of School Day

## Traditional Advancement Summer School

### Program Attendance and Completion

- Students should be in attendance each day class is scheduled.
- All rules and regulations listed in the student handbook apply to summer school. Students failing to adhere to behavior guidelines may be dismissed from the summer school program.
- The grading scale applies to traditional summer school.

Sharon Lyerly – 9<sup>th</sup> grade counselor – [lyerlys@mtnbrook.k12.al.us](mailto:lyerlys@mtnbrook.k12.al.us)

Casey Lancaster – 8<sup>th</sup> grade counselor – [lancasterc@mtnbrook.k12.al.us](mailto:lancasterc@mtnbrook.k12.al.us)

Jana Lee – 7<sup>th</sup> grade counselor – [leej@mtnbrook.k12.al.us](mailto:leej@mtnbrook.k12.al.us)

Brook Gibbons – Academic Assistant Principal – [gibbonsb@mtnbrook.k12.al.us](mailto:gibbonsb@mtnbrook.k12.al.us)

## Traditional Advancement for Summer School 2018

### Pre Alg 8 (must attend both sessions) -- Traditional Summer School Advancement

- **Session Dates:** June 4 – June 22, 2018 and June 26 – July 20, 2018 (No class 7/2-7/6)
- The Pre Alg 8 class will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

### Career Prep A -- Traditional Summer School Advancement

A minimum registration of 15 students will be needed for the course to make. Classes will be capped at 25 students.

- **Session Dates:** June 4 – June 22, 2018
  - **Class Dates:**
    - Tuesday 6/5 – Thursday 6/7
    - Tuesday 6/12- Thursday 6/14
    - Tuesday 6/19 – Wednesday 6/20 (Exam Day)
  - Students will need to be in attendance for those 8 days.
- The Career Prep A class will meet from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m

# Mountain Brook Junior High 2018 Summer School Registration Form

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade (2015-2016) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Work Ph.# \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Email contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Information** Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, do you give the school system permission to have your child treated?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Co. \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Name and phone numbers of emergency persons to call:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Student \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Student \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Ph.# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Student \_\_\_\_\_

**Check out information:** List the name of individuals who may pick up your child other than parents:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to student \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to student \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to student \_\_\_\_\_

**We understand and agree to follow the Mountain Brook Junior High Student Handbook rules, regulations, and will follow behavior and attendance policies in summer school sessions. We realize that failure to comply with such rules and regulations could result in dismissal from the summer school program with a forfeiture of tuition paid.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Summer School Course Registration Check Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Session: \_\_\_\_\_

We request the following advancement courses:

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Session</b>
Health	
Career Prep A	
Career Prep B	
Pre Alg 8 (must attend both sessions)	

We request the following traditional credit recovery courses

<b>Courses</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Session</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Session</b>
Algebra I		
Biology		
Spanish		

We request the following credit recovery courses:

<b>Courses</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Session</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Session</b>
Algebra I		
Biology		
Spanish		

\_\_\_\_\_  
Counselor / Principal Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date