

Banning Lewis Ranch Academy

2014-2015 School Year

7th Grade

Welcome parents and students!

The seventh grade team is very excited to have you all with us this year as we journey through the school year together. We began meeting together two weeks before students arrived to plan what we can do to make this a year of growth academically as well as individually. The biggest thing that we want for our classrooms is for them to be a *safe* and *encouraging* environment. Each class will be like a family where we all work together to increase our depth of knowledge and help one another succeed.

Language Arts: Mrs. Montel

7th grade Language Arts will be a blast this year! We'll expand on the reading and writing skills learned in 6th grade by traveling to modern South Africa and to the wildly imaginative future. Along the way we'll use the Colorado State Standards as our goal as we learn about grammar and vocabulary, comprehend literature, and write with clear focus.

Math: Mr. Como

I am so excited about math this year because we will be building cars, catapults, trebuchet's and all around pushing the limits of engineering with our 7th graders. It will be an amazing year of growth and memories.

Science: Mrs. Hill

I am very excited to teach your child about life science. We got brand new microscopes, enough for partners. We will be exploring a little earth and physical science before we leap into life science. Students will be doing experiments/labs and projects throughout the year. We will be dissecting worms and frogs along with learning about the functions throughout the human body.



Paragon (Social Studies): Mr. Larson

This year we will be focusing on using the Common Core State Standards and the National Geography Standards to guide everything we do. This will be a very demanding year for all students but also a very rewarding one. I am excited to see the variety and creativity of all of my students on the many projects that they will be doing.

Middle School Expectations and Procedures adapted from BLRA Student handbook available at blracademy.org.

Teachers have developed common expectations and procedures for behavior and academics for the school year. The following are progressive consequences for behaviors deemed inappropriate to the learning environment.

1. Verbal Warning (Four Questions)
 - What are you doing?
 - What are you supposed to be doing?
 - Are you doing it?
 - What are you going to do about it?
2. Lunch Detention
3. Lunch Detention and Call/Email home (Contact Mr. Parker)
4. Formal Office Referral with After School Detention (Mr. Parker)

MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORMS: Middle School students must adhere to all uniform policies stated within the student handbook. Students will also be checked by school staff during homeroom. We want to respect the expression of our students, but must guarantee that there will be no distraction in the learning environment. The most common violations are: no belt, polo shirts untucked, non-uniform hoodie, and distracting socks or shoes. **We appreciate that our parents are the 1st line of success in adherence to these guidelines.**

Pre-ARRANGED EXTENDED ABSENCES: Classroom instruction is vital to your student's success at BLRA. When students miss school, they are missing out on crucial information on their path to success. If you are planning an extended absence for a period of time, please fill out a pre-arranged absence form at the office. Your student will then be required to distribute that form to all of their teachers for perspective assignments and teacher signatures. Please be aware that since we must be responsive to our classes and their ability to master concepts, the pacing of missing work might differ slightly from what is covered in class. Assignments are due upon return!

Make-Up Work for Illness: Students that are absent due to illness are allowed two days for every day absent to complete work missed. It is the student's responsibility to obtain work from teachers **during study hall, lunch or after school – this information will not be supplied during class time.** We strongly recommend not allowing students to get too far behind on their work. Regardless of the extent of the absence, if an assignment or project has been assigned a week or more in advance, the student is responsible to have the assignment completed upon returning to school on the specified due date.

WEBSITE: www.blramiddleschool.weebly.com This website houses information for all classes your student is enrolled in. It includes links to individual teacher websites and contact information.

POWERSCHOOL: <https://blracademy.powerschool.com/public/> is where parents and students can go to see grades. Log in information is available at the school and handed out on Round-Up day or at the office. **Please take time to check Powerschool and Weebly to stay informed on your child's progress.** *In addition, please update current personal information as this is the school's only resource for contacting you.*

Weekly Email: Grade level representatives will email families weekly to inform parents of classroom happenings. Please take the time to read these and ask your student questions about their school experience.



Please Sign Here!!

My student and I have perused the letter from grade level teachers and reviewed the expectations and procedures page. We understand that BLRA teachers will expect students to follow these on their path to success.

Signed
(Parent or Parents):

Student:

*Please return this sheet to your child's homeroom teacher on or before
Friday, August 8th. Thank you!*