

# *Saint Brendan Catholic School*

## *Eighth Grade Curriculum Guide*

### *English*

**Language Arts curriculum in Grade 8 will encourage and foster the following:**

- ❖ An understanding and an ability to critically respond to all aspects of language
- ❖ Use of technology for research and essay writing
- ❖ Vocabulary study applied to writing
- ❖ Grammar leading to improved writing
- ❖ Opportunity to improve sentence variety
- ❖ Techniques to improve coherence in writing
- ❖ Emphasis on essay writing with several opportunities for research papers.
- ❖ MLA style of documentation and citation will be presented.

### *Literature*

Through reading great books such as *A Separate Peace*, as well as other forms of literature, students will increase their comprehension skills. Students will write about themes of several works

### *Math – Pre-Algebra*

- ❖ Order of operations
- ❖ Problem solving strategies
- ❖ Functions and graphing
- ❖ Ratios, proportion and percent
- ❖ Statistics and probability
- ❖ Algebra and Geometry
- ❖ Area and volume
- ❖ Algebra and right triangles – trigonometry
- ❖ Irrational numbers
- ❖ Polynomials

### *Math 8 – Pre-Algebra*

- ❖ Expressions, equations and functions
- ❖ Rational numbers, expressions, equations
- ❖ Solving linear equations
- ❖ Proportional reasoning
- ❖ Graphing – relations and functions
- ❖ Linear inequalities
- ❖ Probability and statistics
- ❖ Systems of equations and inequalities
- ❖ Exploring polynomials
- ❖ Factoring
- ❖ Quadratic and exponential functions
- ❖ Radical expressions and equations

# *Saint Brendan Catholic School*

## *Eighth Grade Curriculum Guide*

### *Social Studies* - *American History Students will study:*

- ❖ The first Americans and the contributions made by these native peoples.
- ❖ The impact made by the first Europeans who explored the Americas.
- ❖ The establishment of the colonies and life in the colonies.
- ❖ The American Revolution.
- ❖ The U.S. Constitution
- ❖ The beginnings of government
- ❖ The war of 1812
- ❖ Westward Expansion
- ❖ The Civil War
- ❖ Reconstruction Era

#### **Skills learned and practiced:**

- ❖ Map, chart and graph analysis
- ❖ Memorization of the preamble to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution
- ❖ Research skills using library and computer lab
- ❖ Current events
- ❖ Debate
- ❖ Knowledge of U.S. geography- locating all states and capitals
- ❖ Analyzing primary sources
- ❖ Journal writing

#### **Students participate in:**

- ❖ Social Studies Fair – County and State
- ❖ Daughters of the American Revolution essay contest
- ❖ Women in History presentations
- ❖ Simulation activities – e.g. Walk Across America
- ❖ Mock debates
- ❖ Newspapers in Education
- ❖ Academic teams
- ❖ The National Geographic Geography Bee

### *Physical Science*

- ❖ Scientific method
- ❖ Advanced graphing skills
- ❖ Dimensional analysis
- ❖ Solids, liquids, gases
- ❖ Classification of matter
- ❖ Atomic structure
- ❖ Periodic Table
- ❖ Elements and their problems
- ❖ Chemical bonds
- ❖ Chemical reactions
- ❖ Acids, bases, and salts
- ❖ Famous chemists and physicists
- ❖ Physical science lab skills

# *Saint Brendan Catholic School*

## *Eighth Grade Curriculum Guide*

### *Physical Science (continued)*

- ❖ Laws of motion
- ❖ Laboratory safety and equipment usage
- ❖ Physics and sports technology

#### **Students participate in:**

- ❖ Volusia County Science and Engineering Fair
- ❖ Florida State Science and Engineering Fair

### *Religion*

#### **Focus on Church history including:**

- ❖ The roles of Mary and the Holy Spirit in the Church
- ❖ Our Hebrew ancestors
- ❖ Acts of the Apostles
- ❖ Early martyrs and the first years of the Church
- ❖ The Church in North America, the Modern Church, and the Church Year

#### **Students participate in:**

- ❖ Service projects in school and the community
- ❖ Student prepared weekly Masses
- ❖ Living Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Altar Serving
- ❖ Mass Lectors
- ❖ Sacrament of Confirmation
- ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation
- ❖ Religious art contests

### *Latin/Humanities*

#### **Skills learned and practiced include:**

- ❖ Nominative/Accusative/Ablative cases – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> declensions
- ❖ Adjectives – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> declensions
- ❖ Identification of subject, verbs, direct object, prepositional phrases
- ❖ Adjective agreement within and across declensions
- ❖ The Roman house
- ❖ AENEID
- ❖ The Minotaur
- ❖ Translation of paragraph Latin to English
- ❖ Identification of English derivatives from Latin vocabulary
- ❖ Study of epic literature
- ❖ Creative writing based on literature study

# *Saint Brendan Catholic School*

## *Eighth Grade Curriculum Guide*

### *Art*

The art program will encompass all five standards building on each with different grade level expectations (using age appropriate vocabulary).

- ❖ Skills and Techniques – The student understands and applies media, techniques and processes.
- ❖ Creation and Communications – The students creates and communicates using elements of art and the principles of design.
- ❖ Cultural and Historical Connections – The student understands the visual arts in relation to history and culture.
- ❖ Aesthetic and Critical Analysis – The student evaluates various works of art
- ❖ Application to Life – The student makes connections between art and the real world

### *Physical Education*

- ❖ Combine skills competently to participate in a modified version of team and individual sports, demonstrating motor patterns of manipulative skills (proper catching, throwing, and striking techniques)
- ❖ Demonstrate basic knowledge of circulatory, skeletal and muscular systems
- ❖ Achieve and maintain appropriate cardiovascular fitness, flexibility muscular strength, endurance, and body composition.

### *Spanish*

- ❖ Daily conversation
- ❖ Introduction to Hispanic culture
- ❖ Benefits of knowing Spanish
- ❖ Pronunciations, writing and grammar
- ❖ Spanish songs
- ❖ Vocabulary and expressions per monthly theme