



**George Caleb Bingham Middle School**  
1716 South Speck Rd.  
Independence, Missouri 64057  
Phone: 816.521.5490  
Fax: 816.521.5631  
[sites.isdschools.org/bingham](http://sites.isdschools.org/bingham)  
Brett Playter, Principal

Dear Parents,

It is an exciting time of year as the process of enrolling your student for the 2019-2020 school year begins! **Information about courses can be found on our website, including course descriptions, a copy of the paper enrollment form, and important enrollment dates.** This is a great time for you and your student to review the elective course options your child might be considering. This letter is to inform you about the enrollment process and important dates for you and your student to be aware of in the coming month.

- **March 4th/5th:** Students will watch PE/Elective video to learn about the various elective options for the 2019-2020 school year.
- **March 6th-8th:** Students will be given a paper enrollment form and select his/her PE/Health and elective options for the 2019-2020 school year.
- **March 8th:** Students will bring home a paper copy of the enrollment form to share with parents. **These forms need to be signed by the student's parent/guardian and returned Monday, March 11th to their social studies teacher.**
- **March 11th - March 15th:** Students will complete online enrollment during his/her social studies class.

During the 2017-2018 school year the middle schools adopted a credit system for 7th and 8th grade students. This requires students to earn 4.5 out of 6 credits to successfully pass. To assist with monitoring academic progress, students will have a dedicated homeroom class, which provides an opportunity for students to develop a positive, ongoing relationship with their homeroom teacher. During homeroom, teachers will check-in daily with students about their grades and homework as well as provide lessons on appropriate social interactions, time management, organization, career exploration, etc.. This time also allows for discussion and reflection on student academic growth data and attendance, which is vital to the educational success of our students. Through homeroom, 7th and 8th grade students will also have a weekly dedicated intervention/enrichment time. This time will be used to address individual student academic needs and promote academic success and exploration.

Implementation of AVID will expand to the 7th and 8th grade across the Independence School District. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, and helps students to be college/career prepared focusing on organization, reading, writing, inquiry, and collaboration.

**Students will have the option to complete their PE/Health requirement during summer school.** Students who wish to complete their PE/Health requirement before the school year begins can enroll in the PE/Health course during the month of June. This requires students to attend PE/Health for four hours per day during the summer school session. **Students successfully completing the PE/Health summer course will be allowed to take a second elective during the 2019-2020 school year.** More information about this option will be forthcoming in March.

Thanks,  
Brett Playter  
Principal