

# Program

With a focus on creating healthy habits and active lifestyles, the middle school athletics program seeks to prepare students for their future athletic opportunities through skill development and competitive play, while also building character and promoting self-confidence through its team-oriented approach.

# Schedule

Athletics takes place Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. and is a required component of the school's curriculum. Students are expected to participate to the best of their ability on a daily basis, and all out-of-school commitments should be made in accordance with the athletics schedule.

## **Game Days**

With few exceptions, all interscholastic games are scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday afternoons and result in later dismissal times from school: 4:45 p.m. for home games and 5:15 p.m. for away games. Dismissal times are dependent on traffic, weather, and game conditions.

### **Practice Apparel**

Students are required to wear school-approved apparel (t-shirts and shorts) during all practices and are expected to be prepared with sneakers, warm clothes, and a water bottle on a daily basis. Practice apparel is available for purchase through the online athletics store, \$12/shirts and \$10/shorts.

## **Equipment and Uniforms**

Students are welcomed and encouraged to use their own sport-specific equipment. When needed, Belmont Day can provide any piece of equipment on a daily or seasonal basis. In addition, students are responsible for their school-issued game uniforms, which need to be returned at the end of each season.

### **Locker Rooms**

Students are assigned a locker for the duration of the school year and are responsible for their belongings and their actions while sharing this common space. When there is a question about acceptable locker room behavior, the school's core values will provide the answer.

### **Tryouts**

Tryouts are required when the number of students signed up for a sport necessitates more than one team. The director of athletics will be in contact with the families involved, and it is recommended that families sit down together to discuss the possible outcomes of the experience prior to tryouts.

### Waivers

While athletics are a required component of the middle school curriculum, students are eligible to apply for an athletic waiver one season per academic year if they exhibit exemplary skill in a sport that Belmont Day does not offer and are scheduled to participate in that sport for at least 5 non-weekend hours per week during the season.