

Broadcasting Classes for Middle School Students

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Imagine going to school and you never have any idea what is going on; you would miss dances, big news about the school, and would simply feel left out.

At Glen Edwards Middle School (GEMS), that is not much of a problem. The school offers a broadcasting class and Mr. Noonan is the teacher. In the class, students are taught how to film and edit daily news productions. Every class watches these productions in first period, so students know what is going on for the day. The videos mainly consist of upcoming events, sports and fun “Would You Rather” video segments featuring GEMS students.

In addition, to help students toward the end of the school year, GEMS TV adds highlights of next year’s elective choices. This helps students learn about the electives and what they have to offer. For example, GEMS TV students will film some of the band members playing instruments, so other students can hear the music and experience what it might be like to be in band.

GEMS TV also covers past events and will show the highlights the following week. For example, if there had been a big school event recently, like a dance, it would most likely end up in GEMS TV. Some broadcasting students will go to the dance just to

record what happened, so they can put it on GEMS TV. They take the cameras used only in broadcasting to record it.

The cameras students use for recording are high quality cameras. They are not a small hand-held camera. They are cameras meant for broadcasting and produce high quality videos. The students take their time recording and get all the necessary footage in order to broadcast GEMS TV.

If you want to be a photographer, actor/actress, singer, or even a YouTuber (someone who creates YouTube videos), you need to have some experience with cameras. At GEMS, any student can sign up for the broadcasting classes. Students fill out an application form, and if you are accepted, you are taught how to handle cameras, microphones, and you learn how to edit the video and audio.

YouTube has become a popular platform for watching videos and music. People now create their own videos, tutorials and more. To be a good YouTuber, you need experience with cameras and you need to know how to edit your own videos. It is very difficult to learn these things on your own. Learning key elements from the GEMS TV broadcasting class can help with future career goals and even with getting into college.

Currently in our school's advanced broadcasting class, Katelyn Lauderdale gave us some feedback about her experience in the class. She said, "I enjoy being in broadcasting because it is an elective that not many schools have, and it is an opportunity to grow in different fields." This is true, because not a lot of middle schools have the option to prepare you for this specific career. She also explained how Mr. Noonan tries to make GEMS TV more appealing to our specific age group. "A couple days ago, we Mr. Noonan had us participate in a 'watching for the whoa factor' for one of our broadcasts. Many people were talking about a particular part of the video throughout the day. This feedback lets us know if what we are doing is enjoyable." By incorporating trending ideas in their videos, students are more likely to enjoy watching and are more likely to pay attention.