








BERLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2023

QUICK LINKS

-  [BMS Website](#)
-  [Calendar](#)
-  [Lunch Menu](#)
-  [BMS Athletics](#)
-  [BMS Champion Times](#)
-  [Facebook](#)
-  [Twitter](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

August 16 & 17 - 3-6 pm
Districtwide Welcome Back & Picture Night

August 28
Football Practice Starts

August 29
BMS Open House 2 - 5 pm
Pictures 3:30-6 pm @ Clay Lamberton cafeteria

August 30 2:30 pm
Concussion Testing HS Lab Room

August 31
First Day of School
Cross Country & Volleyball Start

September 5
Fall Athletic Pictures

September 6
Football Concussion Testing

September 13
BMS Pictures

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Greetings BMS Families!

Summer has flown by and here we are on the brink of another wonderful school year! Teachers have been enjoying time off while engaging in professional development, and will be here soon preparing for the school year. We are also excited for the many new members joining our team bringing a wealth of expertise and passion for middle level learners.

Middle school students go through incredible changes. As a middle school parent/guardian, you know that this includes tremendous physical, emotional, and mental capacity changes. In addition, students begin to develop strong beliefs in how they view the world.

As a result, we are committed to following motto at BMS to ensure a school for all learners:

Be Respectful

- Use active listening and clear communication when expressing thoughts
- Express needs and emotions in an appropriate manner

Be Responsible

- Use organizational skills and strategies to focus attention
- Come to class on time and prepared with materials

Be Safe

- Work cooperatively and productively with others
- See something, say something

We are looking forward to providing students more opportunities to learn about their own interests, strengths and potential career pathways through courses and extracurricular opportunities.

Enjoy the remainder of summer and we look forward to seeing you soon! We are eager to see our families during Welcome Back Nights August 16-17 from 3:00-6:00 in the Commons. Additionally, we are excited to welcome families into our building for Open House August 29 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

Kind regards,

Colleen Pariso

Colleen Pariso
BMS Principal





ATHLETIC UPDATES



Football

- Start Date is August 28th equipment pick up @ 3 pm at the middle school, drop your child off by Door J. Practice will start at 3:30 on the practice field and go until 5 pm.
- All following practices will be from 3:30-5 pm.
- Concussion testing will take place August 30th at 2:30 in BHS Lab Room.



Volleyball

- First day of practice will be August 31st and all practices will be from 3:30-5 pm.



Cross Country

- First day of practice August 31st and all practices will be from 3:30-5 pm.

Families please be respectful of the coaches' time and pick-up your students promptly at 5 pm on practice days and shortly after school arrival on game/meet days. Thanks!!



JOSH RAY


Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

BE PART OF BMS ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS MEET & GREET

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

- BMS 2023-24 PowerSchool Student Registration*
- WIAA Physical*
- Alternate Year Card*
- Concussion Testing (to be completed at practice)*

 [BMS Fall Sports Meet and Greet Questionnaire](#)

TUESDAY

August 22, 2023



MEETING TIME

4:30-5:30 PM




LOCATION

MS/HS Commons



BMS FALL SPORTS PICTURES

 Sept. 5

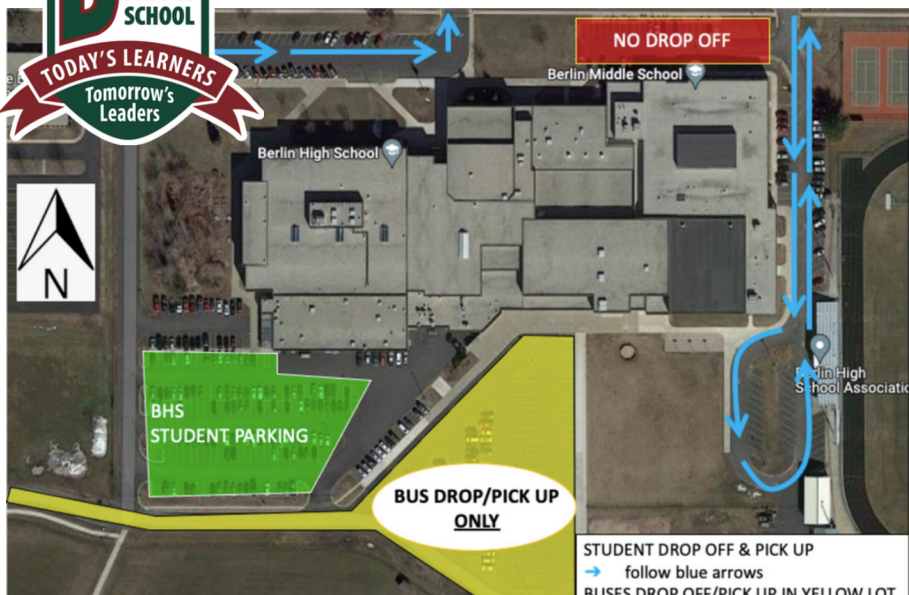
 3:30 PM
(during practice times)

- Cross Country
- Football
- Volleyball



INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM PICTURE ORDERING

<https://rb.gy/asno0>



PARENT PICKUP & DROP OFF REMINDERS

For your child's safety, we ask that students are only dropped off using the east side of the BMS building entrance or the north side circle drive in front of BHS (please see the blue arrows in the illustration above). Families should not use the Oak Street Bus entrance during regular school hours for drop off or pick up as this creates an unsafe situation for our students.

Additionally, students should not be dropped off by the main office of BMS as this creates traffic flow issues with the cars exiting the east side drop off. All students should enter BMS through the south side gym doors in the morning. Thank you for your help in keeping our students safe and traffic flowing smoothly!

TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

As a summary of some of the information on the webpage, the following students will be eligible for district transportation this coming school year:

- Students in grades 4K through 12th who live two miles or more from the district schools
- Students who have transportation listed in their IEPs, 504 Plans, or health plans
- Students in 4K who need transportation in the middle of the school day
- Students who receive before or after school care at the Boys and Girls Club

Please go to the following link and review the webpage carefully:

[Transportation Website](#)

We will continue to update this webpage with additional information as needed.



Northern Express Bus Service

(920) 361-2877

Learn More!
TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Have transportation needs?
Learn more at:
<https://bit.ly/444rubQ>

One area among many where we are making budget reductions this fall is in the area of district busing. Effective at the beginning of this school year, most students who live within two miles of the district schools will no longer be eligible for district provided bus transportation. The BASD School Board and district administration recognize this places the responsibility and challenge of transporting students who live within two miles of school on the parents, families, friends, and childcare organizations. We encourage everyone to work together to help get all of our students to school safely.



NEW CELL PHONE POLICY

BMS has a new cell phone policy starting this school year that is restricting down the time and access to these devices. We believe in having our students focus on their learning, without the distraction of their device to give their learning the best possible effort. Additionally, we are committed to treating each other with respect and be engaged citizens with one another.

Cell phones will be expected to stay in students lockers for the entirety of the school day. They will not be allowed in the hallways, passing times or classroom or educational settings.

Cell phones at school are expected to remain in the student's locker throughout the day. Earbuds and headphones are to be kept out of sight in the student's lockers across the school day as well.

The exception to this is that students will be allowed to utilize cell phones in an appropriate manner during their lunch time

Cell phones, electronic devices, earbuds, or headphones that are turned on or being used without prior permission will be confiscated by school personnel. Students who have multiple offenses will result in the loss of privilege of using their phones at lunch and may have to turn cell phones into the office at the start of day for a specific length of time.

If parents/guardians need to get a hold of their student, we ask that you call the main office so we can relay the message on. Furthermore, any students needing to contact parents will be able to do so in the main office.

We appreciate your support in creating the most conducive environment for high levels of learning for our middle school students!

ATTENDANCE

School attendance and parent/guardian involvement are central to making sure that each of our students is able to reach their fullest academic potential. Should you find that it's necessary for your child to be absent from school for any reason, please call the school attendance line listed below. If the absence is due to a medical appointment, we ask that you provide the office with a medical note upon your child's return to school.

920-361-2441, option 1

Did you know?

- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your student graduate and keep a job.
- Missing 10%, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of 3 signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- The academic impact of missing that much school is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused.
- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year.

Berlin Middle School

Be Respectful

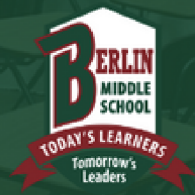
- Use active listening and clear communication when expressing thoughts
- Express needs and emotions in an appropriate manner

Be Responsible

- Use organizational skills and strategies to focus attention
- Come to class on time and prepared with materials

Be Safe

- Work cooperatively and productively with others
- See something, Say something





NEW GRADING AT BMS

Starting new for the 2023-2024 school year, we are changing our grading system. We listened to the feedback from our parents and understand that this change was something the community wanted in order to provide more clarity around their middle level learners progress in grading.

We will now be utilizing letter grades, in conjunction with rubrics to showcase proficiency towards standards. Below are the metrics that will be used for points to translate to letter grades.

A	B	C	D	F
90-100	80-89	70-79	60-69	50-59
Demonstrates above grade level standard	Demonstrates mastery level understanding of grade level standard	Demonstrates partial understanding of grade level standard	Demonstrates minimal understanding of the standard	No evidence to support mastery of the grade level standard

All assessments will have rubrics using these metrics and detailed descriptors to help students understand their level of proficiency.

Students grades will be more heavily weighted on summative assessments over formative assessments. Summative will account for 80% of a students grade, and formative assessments will account for 20% of the grade.

Summative assessments include the end-of unit-assessments to show proficiency of standards.

Formative assessments show progress leading up to a summative assessment. These progress checks inform students and teachers what skills need to be practiced before a summative assessment. Formative assessments can include quizzes, short answer responses in class, and more.

We believe that these changes will help our students and parents understand their academic progress and help support high achievement of all.

Performance Time

Each day students are given assignments to provide practice and learning opportunities. When students do not participate, or fall behind in these assignments, they will be assigned to an after-school opportunity known as, "Performance Time".

Performance Time will begin right after school and run until 4:30 pm when parents/guardians will pick up their child. Staff will contact parents if their student has been assigned to Performance Time. Please note, students assigned to Performance Time will report late to, or miss, any other after-school activities they may be involved with. (Not sure how this could work with away games, may need to speak with coaches.

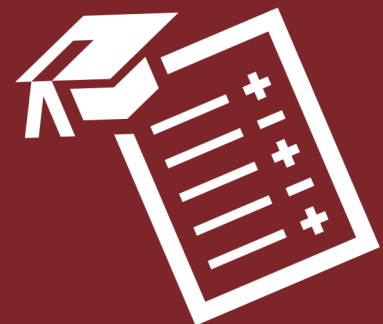
Summer School

To continue to support academic success, students earning an "F" on their semester report card will now be scheduled to attend summer school in the summer of the 2023-2024 school year.

Professionalism Skills

We will continue to provide feedback through grades on our Professionalism Skills. We believe these skills are an integral part of the overall development of students, and providing feedback on these skills will help our learners today, be leaders tomorrow

- Express needs and emotions in an appropriate and respectful manner.
- Use active listening and clear communication when expressing thoughts and ideas.
- Come to class on time and prepared with materials
- Use organizational skills and strategies to focus attention.
- Work cooperatively and productively in a group





BASD PICTURE DAY

Aug. 8: Freshman Orientation, 5-6 pm
Aug. 16 & 17: All Grades & Staff, 3-6 pm
Aug. 29: Clay/BMS Orientation & Staff, 3:30-6 pm
Sept. 12: Clay Picture Day, 7:30-10:30 am
Sept. 13: BMS/BHS Picture Day, 7:30-10:30 am



Order and pre-pay for pictures online at rvdphoto.com



Rachel Van Den Hout Photography will be once again taking school pictures for our students. Rachel will be taking pictures during the following dates listed above.

We encourage all families to pre-pay online for pictures at rvdphoto.com in order to expedite the picture process

LUNCH INFORMATION

Lunch prices have not changed for this school year. You can check your child's balance information on both the PowerSchool app and desktop versions.

Students wishing to purchase just a milk alone for cold lunches will cost \$.50 (including those that receive free and reduced lunch prices).

We encourage all of our families to apply for Free and Reduced Lunch as part of our district funding is based on the number of students who qualify.

FOOD SERVICES FEES

Breakfast = \$1.40/day Lunch = \$2.85/day

More information about food services can be found on our [website](#) or Berlin Area School District App.

BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST



COMPLETE ONLINE REGISTRATION



SIGN UP FOR TEXT MESSAGES. TEXT "Y" TO 87569



DOWNLOAD THE BERLIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT APP



PURCHASE SCHOOL SUPPLIES



SPORTS PHYSICALS



PRE-PAY ONLINE FOR SCHOOL PICS



ATTEND PACKET PICKUP



ATTEND OPEN HOUSE

Berlin Area School District | 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

JULY 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						18
29	3	4	5	6	7	15
16	10	11	12	13	14	22
23	17	18	19	20	21	29
30	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	9	3	4	12	13
7	8	16	10	11	19	20
14	15	23	17	18	26	27
21	22	30	24	25		
28	29		31			

1 - 2 No School - Winter Break
 12 End of First Semester
 15 No School - Teacher Work Day

AUGUST 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
6	7	8	2	3	11	12
13	14	15	9	10	18	19
20	21	22	16	17	25	26
27	28	29	23	24		
	30	31				

15-18 New Teacher Days
 22-24 No School - Staff Development
 28-29 No School - Staff Development
 31 First Day of School

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
4	5	6	7	1	9	10
11	12	13	14	8	16	17
18	19	20	21	15	23	24
25	26	27	28	22		
				29		

2 No School - Staff Development
 22 No School - Staff Development
 23 No School

SEPTEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

4 No School - Labor Day
 29 Homecoming

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

21 No School - Parent Teacher Conferences
 22 No School
 25-29 No School - Spring Break

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
8	2	10	4	5	13	14
15	9	17	11	12	20	21
22	16	24	18	19	27	28
29	23	31	25	26		
	30					

2 No School - Staff Development
 26 No School - Parent Teacher Conferences
 27 No School

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
7	1	9	3	4	12	13
14	8	16	10	11	19	20
21	15	23	17	18	26	27
28	22	30	24	25		
	29					

15 No School - Staff Development

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
5	6	7	1	2	10	11
12	13	14	8	9	17	18
19	20	21	15	16	24	25
26	27	28	22	23		
			29	30		

10 No School - Staff Development
 22-24 No School - Thanksgiving

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
5	6	7	1	2	10	11
12	13	14	8	9	17	18
19	20	21	15	16	24	25
26	27	28	22	23	31	
			29	30		

10 No School - Staff Development
 24 Graduation
 27 No School - Memorial Day
 31 Last Day of School

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

11 No School - Staff Development
 25-29 No School - Winter Break

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Today's Learners.
 Tomorrow's Leaders.



OPEN HOUSE 2023

Berlin Middle School

- Meet your teachers
- Drop off school supplies
- Visit with friends
- Get school pictures

TUESDAY, AUG. 29
2-5 PM



SLEEP!

Sleep is one of the largest factors that contributes to a healthy teen.

When adolescents get 9 or more hours of sleep per night, they academics improve with their ability to concentrate and complete work.

Additionally, it helps with their emotions by providing the rest they need to handle daily stressors and face challenges. Lastly, it helps with students overall physical health and immune support. As parents/guardians now is the ideal time to start working on a sleep routine prior to the new school year starting. Consider the following to try starting now:



START TO ESTABLISH A SLEEP ROUTINE OF GOING TO BED & WAKING UP



HAVE YOUR CHILD'S PHONE EITHER SHUT OFF OR IN ANOTHER ROOM PRIOR TO GOING TO BED



PROVIDE A COOL, DARK ROOM FREE FROM AS MUCH NOISE AS POSSIBLE FOR A CALM ENVIROMENT

First Day of School

**Thursday, August 31
Door J opens at 7:30
am to welcome all
BMS Students!**