



BALDWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

WEEKLY UPDATE January 29, 2024

**2nd Quarter Report Cards
Posted on Skyward on January 31st**



UPCOMING EVENTS



Esports Tryouts: The esports club will have tryouts for 7th & 8th Graders interested in the spring esports season on January 30th for Overwatch 2, and on February 1st for Valorant. These will be held in the esports lab (room 234) directly after school, and will last until around 4.

Anyone interested needs to sign up ahead of time using the form: <https://bit.ly/BWesportsSignup>



6th Grade Student Council Opportunity

Students in the 6th grade who are interested in joining Student Council please download and read the attached form for more information.

[Click to 6th Grade Student Council Form](#)

Join the Annual Luau Dance at HEC!

Get ready for an unforgettable night of tropical vibes, dancing, and summer fun at our Annual Luau Dance. Grab your friends and dress in your best summer gear as we dance the night away to the hottest beats!

Date: February 2nd, 7-9pm Location: Harrison Education Center

Ticket Sales: Tickets cost \$8 each Available from January 29th to February 2nd

**Purchase before school in Room 305 at BMS Lunchtime sales at HEC
No tickets will be sold at the door, so make sure to get yours early!**



What to Expect: Chill with Kona Ice Groove on the dance floor Enjoy delicious concessions.

Extra Fun: Purchase leis and flower accessories during ticket sales and at the dance Don't miss out on the tropical celebration of the year! See you there!



PBIS



PBIS Spirit Week—January 29th to February 2nd

The PBIS team would like to have our first school wide reward! We will be having a PBIS Spirit Week beginning Monday January 29th - Friday February 2nd. We will be awarding prizes daily to students for showing the most SPIRIT each day in Grades 6, 7 & 8. We will also be awarding prizes to teachers each day for showing the most school spirit!

Here are the PBIS theme days:

- **Monday January 29th Accountable Animals** - wear animal print or clothing with animals on them
- **Tuesday January 30th Respectfully Retro** - dress like people from your favorite decade
- **Wednesday January 31st Motivated Musicians** - dress as your favorite musician or wear your favorite band shirt
- **Thursday February 1st Empowering Ewoks** - dress as your favorite Star Wars character or wear a Star Wars shirt
- **Friday February 2nd Safe Surfers** - wear your favorite beach/tropical gear and to ready for the dance



UPCOMING EVENTS

2023-2024 Baldwin Middle School

Updated 1/29/24

6th Grade Daily Schedule

Student Arrival	8:55 – 9:15 AM
Morning Announcements	9:15 – 9:25 AM
Period 1 (48 Minutes)	9:25 – 10:13 AM
Period 2 (45 Minutes)	10:17 – 11:02 AM
Period 3 (45 Minutes)	11:06 – 11:51 AM
Period 4 (45 Minutes)	11:55 AM -12:40 PM
Period 5 (30 Minutes)	12:44-1:14 PM (Lunch)
Period 6 (45 Minutes)	1:18 – 2:03 PM
Period 7 (45 Minutes)	2:07-2:52 PM
Period 8 (45 Minutes)	2:56-3:41 PM
Afternoon Announcements	3:41 PM
Start of Bus Dismissal	3:45 PM

Updated 6th Grade Schedule:

Throughout the month of January, we monitored how the changes to transportation impacted our daily schedule. Based upon the data we collected, we have made a few minor changes to the 6th Grade daily schedule. We will begin to follow the updated schedule starting Monday, January 30th.

Also, we will continue to use the established car rider drop-off and pick-up procedures outlined in the 6th Grade Information section of the Weekly Update. We will continue to monitor our procedures and make adjustments as needed. Due to the number of buses transporting students to Harrison, some of our students' time on the bus might be slightly longer. Please contact the Bus Garage with any questions.



Nothing Bundt Cakes Fundraiser:

8th Grade students participating in either the 8th Grade History and/or Camp Soles can sell a variety of bundt cakes and vouchers to earn individual funds toward their 8th-grade activities. Forms and payments (cash, check, money order) are due to Mrs. Fisher in Room 305 by 1/31/24. Late forms will not be accepted.

Bundlets - \$6 with a profit of \$2.50 - [Click to Download the Bundlet Order Form](#)

Vouchers- price listed on the sales sheet. [Click to Download the Voucher Order Form](#)

Vouchers can ONLY be used at the Upper St. Clair store.

Pick Up - February 15th in the North Cafe - times will be announced after 2/5/24

Contact Mrs. Fisher at mfisher@bwschools.net with questions.



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Don't forget to order your 2024 BMS Yearbook!
Yearbooks on SALE - Book Price \$25**

Purchase ONLINE ONLY at www.yearbookforever.com - Search for Baldwin Middle School

They are selling fast, there are limited numbers still available online to purchase. No extra books will be ordered this year.

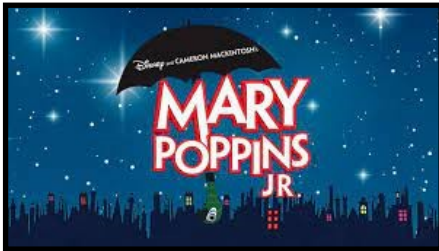
8th Grade History Trip - Important Upcoming Dates:

- **February 28th:** Deadline for cancellation with a refund. If you need to cancel, make sure to inform Mrs. Fisher by this date. Refunds will only be processed for cancellations requested before February 28th.
- **March 1st:** Triangle Hoagie Fundraiser
- **April 1st:** Pepperoni Roll Fundraiser
- **April 19th:** Final deposit due. Ensure you submit it on time, as it will be deposited on April 26th. Monthly payments are also accepted!

Email Mrs. Fisher for any inquiries or to withdraw: mfisher@bwschools.net



MUSICAL THEATER

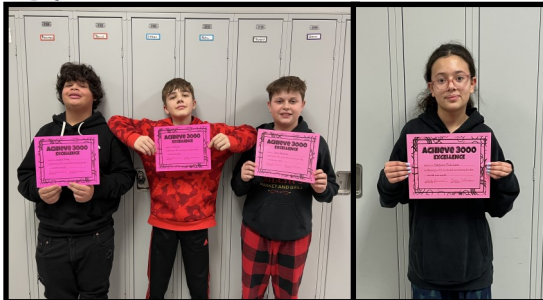


Musical Theater - Parent Meeting

The time is almost here for the BMS spring musical to begin. There will be an informational meeting on Thursday, February 1st at 6:30 p.m. at BHS in the auditorium. Questions about auditions, stage crew, pit orchestra, etc. will be covered at this meeting. All interested students and parents are encouraged to attend.

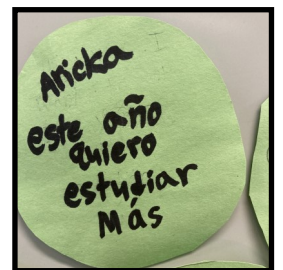
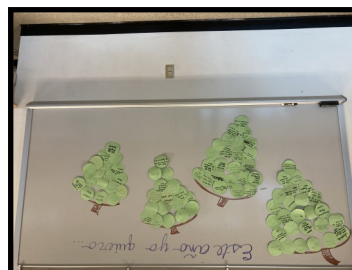
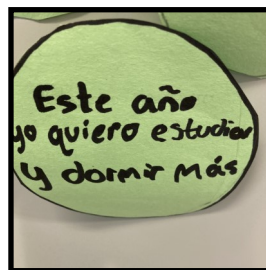


HIGHLIGHTS



High "Achievers": Several students in Mrs. Bowman and Mrs. Johnson's ELA class demonstrated exceptional growth in their independent reading. These students earned a 75% mastery on every Achieve 3000 article for the second nine weeks. Each article helps students improve their independent reading by providing lexile appropriate text and questions on skills such as main idea, author's purpose, text structure, and perspective. Congratulations on your achievement, we are so proud of you!

Ring in the New Year with Grapes: Earlier this month, Mrs. Bianchi and Mrs. Chessman's Spanish classes learned about an interesting Spanish tradition. On New Year's Eve in Spain, people gather in the main plazas to ring in the new year. At midnight, as the clock chimes 12 times, people eat 12 grapes for good luck! BMS Spanish students created paper grapes to represent their New Year's Resolutions.





ATHLETIC INFORMATION



BMS Boys Volleyball Tryouts

Who: Any 7th or 8th Grade Boy

When: March 4th and 5th at 3:00-4:30

Where: Baldwin High School

(Report to LGI after school)

[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD INFORMATION PACKET](#)



ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

1/29/24 -Athletic Schedule:

(All games are subject to change. Please visit baldwin.bigteams.com for the most up to date schedules and information.)

Monday – 1/29/24:

Tuesday - 1/30/24:

- MS Girls Basketball- 3:45 PM vs. South Park MS

Wednesday - 1/31/24:

Thursday - 2/1/24:

- MS Girls Basketball- 3:45 PM @ Elizabeth Forward MS

Friday - 2/2/24:

Saturday - 2/3/24:



REMINDERS

Food Service Department Update: Menus are posted each month on the [Food Services page](#) of the website. Please stay connected with us on Twitter @BWFOODSERVICE for updates to menus. Food Services will provide a variety of meal services to meet the needs of BWSD enrolled students. Expanded vegetarian options will be available at all schools to meet the growing trends of our district students.

Menu Special Features:

- Vegetarian Meals Available Daily
- Taste It Tuesday Program (BHS/BMS -New recipes, Global recipes, new items coming)
- A la carte options for 6th grade at HEC (Middle School Students a la Carte Selections)

Breakfast—FREE!

- **Every student is eligible to receive a free breakfast.** Students can get a Grab & Go Breakfast as they enter the building each morning and eat the breakfast in their classroom.
- New this year for the 6th Grade/BMS program is the **inclusion of a mid-morning snack item of a cereal/nutritional bar**

Versatrans MyStop App: Highlander Families! Don't forget that you can download the Versatrans MyStop app to estimate the arrival of your child's bus. Visit the Apple Store or Google Play Store to download the app and then use your child's student ID number as the user name and your child's date of birth as the password.

BWSD Nurse Canvas Page: The Nurse Canvas course page has been enabled for open enrollment. Here you can find information regarding health exam requirements, immunization requirements, medications at school, Covid-19 information, school nurse contact information, and other resources.



NOTES FROM THE NURSES



Reminder for Parents of 6th Graders:

Please remember that the PA-mandated examination for 6th grade students is a **physical** that includes a back assessment (**scoliosis screening**). If you have not submitted these for your child, please do so as soon as possible. If you prefer to have the school physician perform the exam, you must complete the written permission form previously given. These examinations will take place during the school day in the health office and are free of charge. Additional copies of the parental permission form will be sent home soon or you can print a copy from the district website or the nurses' canvas page.

An Additional Note: The 6th grade physical appointment provides an opportunity for your child to obtain the vaccinations required to enter 7th grade (Tdap and meningococcal). Your child's PCP will attach proof of these immunizations to the physical exam form, thereby ensuring their smooth entry and ongoing attendance on the first day of 7th grade.

Reminder for Parents of 7th Graders:

Please remember that the PA-mandated examinations for 7th grade students are a back assessment (**scoliosis screening**) and a recent **dental exam**. If you have not submitted both of these for your child, please do so as soon as possible. If you prefer to have the school physician and/or dentist perform the exam, you must complete the written permission form previously given. These examinations will take place during the school day in the health offices and are free of charge. Additional copies of the parental permission form will be sent home soon or you can print a copy from the district website, www.bwschool.net or the Health Services canvas page, <https://bwschools.instructure.com/courses/7692>.

An Additional Note: It is long past the deadline (8/28/23) to submit written proof of the 7th grade mandated vaccinations (Tdap and meningococcal) from your child's health care provider. If you have not yet submitted this documentation to the school nurse, please do so immediately, as PA law requires these be maintained in each student's health records in order to attend school.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation as we work toward compliance with these PA school requirements.

Donna Piotrowski dp Piotrowski@bwschools.net

Ann Harmon aharmon@bwschools.net



Meet the BMS Counselors

School Counseling Department Update: Our counseling department is a dedicated group of educators who collectively work as a cohesive team that has seamlessly established a rotation schedule between the two buildings to ensure that the students, families, and concerns are being addressed and met.

Each counselor can be reached via phone; however, due to splitting our time between buildings, we request that parents and guardians communicate through email. Email guarantees that each counselor is aware of any concerns/issues and can address the situation within the appropriate setting in a timely/efficient manner.

Ms. Rachel Johnson, School Counselor A - L - rjohnson@bwschools.net

Ms. Jessica Thomas, School Counselor M - Z - jthomas@bwschools.net

Ms. Jean Williams, School Social Worker A - Z - jwilliams@bwschools.net



6th Grade Information

6th Grade Office - Direct
Phone Number: 412-885-7530

When calling, please let the secretary know your child's Grade and Name



Arrival: **We open our doors at 8:55am for children.** All car riders need to enter in the main entrance (Entrance # 12) and buses enter through the gym lobby entrance.

Breakfast: Breakfast is free this year and kids are encouraged to take a breakfast from the Grab and Go cart before they head to class. Please make remind your child to make sure they know their lunch numbers.

Water bottles: Non-glass water bottles are permitted for students to stay hydrated throughout the day.

Tardies: **Students are considered tardy at 9:15am.** Please bring your child to the front door (entrance #12) and our office staff will let them in, provide a pass, and send them to class.

Early Dismissals: When notifying the school of an early dismissal for your child, please complete one of the following: Provide a note and call the 6th Grade office at 412-885-7530 email hecoffice@bwschools.net. Students with an early dismissal must check-out with a Middle School Secretary in the 6th Grade Office. After checking out, they will wait for their parent or guardian in the 6th grade office. 6th Grade Parents/Guardians must enter the Main Entrance (Entrance 12) , check-in with the secretary and present a valid ID when picking up a student for an early dismissal. **Anyone picking up a student for an early dismissal must be listed in Skyward as a Family member or as an emergency contact.**

As a reminder to parents/guardians, if your child is feeling ill, he/she should notify the teacher and request a pass to visit the nurse. Additionally, students may request to use the phone in the 6th Grade Office to call a parent / guardian. While in the building, students are to not use their cell phone during school hours.

PikMyKid: Please continue to communicate with your child's 8th period teacher and the hecoffice@bwschools.net email to update dismissal schedules. It is required in writing any update or changes to a dismissal plan to ensure the safety of all students. Please send an email to hecoffice@bwschools.net and your child's 8th period teacher for any dismissal updates or changes by 2:45 PM. After communicating with the 8th period teacher and hecoffice@bwschools.net , please update the dismissal schedule in PikMyKid. All walkers will be checked out through PikMyKid when exiting the school.

Vacation Requests: When requesting excused vacation days, please fill-out the vacation request form. Once filled-out, please forward it to the 6th Grade Secretaries - hecoffice@bwschools.net, at least two weeks prior to vacation departure. Once approved, you will be notified by the 6th Grade secretaries.

Forgotten Items: No matter how hard we try, 6th grade students often forget their lunches, Chromebooks, and/or other items. We ask parents/guardian to call the 6th Grade Office at 412-885-7530 to notify our secretaries when they are able to drop off the forgotten items. Our secretaries will then notify your child that they should report to the office to pick up the item that was dropped off.

Lost and Found

Please ask your child to check the "Lost and Found," in the 6th Grade Office for missing items. We have a number of jackets, hoodies, water bottles and jewelry.



7th & 8th Grade Information

Baldwin Middle School Direct Phone Number: 412-885-7505

Early Dismissals

When notifying the school of an early dismissal for your child, please complete one of the following:

****Provide a note and call the BMS main office at 412-885-7505**

OR **Send an email to bms-attendance@bwschools.net

Students with an early dismissal, they are reminded that they must check-out with a Middle School Secretary in the BMS Office on the third floor. After checking out, they will go to the Security Office and meet parent or guardian. Middle School Parents/Guardians must enter the Main Entrance (Door 1 - Front of the Building), check-in with the security guard and present a valid ID when picking up a student for an early dismissal. Anyone picking up a student for an early dismissal must be listed in Skyward as a Family member or as an emergency contact.

As a reminder to parents/guardians, if your child is feeling ill, he/she should notify the teacher and request a pass to visit the nurse. Additionally, students may request to use the phone in the 6th Grade Office to call a parent / guardian. While in the building, students are to not use their cell phone during school hours.

Vacation Requests: When requesting excused vacation days, please fill-out the vacation request form <https://www.bwschools.net/hec/parents/forms> Once filled-out, please forward it to the 7th & 8th Grade Secretaries at bms-attendance@bwschools.net, at least two weeks prior to vacation departure. Once approved, the middle school secretaries will notify the parent/guardian.

Forgotten Items

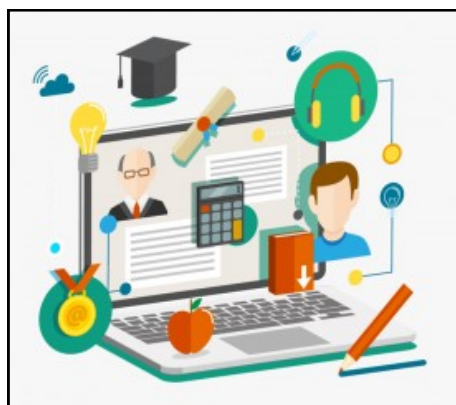
No matter how hard we try, 7th & 8th grade students often forget their lunches, Chromebooks, and/or other items. We ask parents/guardian to call the Middle School Office at 412-885-7505 to notify our secretaries when they are able to drop off the forgotten items. Our secretaries will then notify your child that they should report to the security office to pick up the item that was dropped off. All items are to be dropped off at the security office at Entrance #1.

Lost and Found

Please ask your child to check the "Lost and Found," in the BMS Office (7th & 8th Grade) , on the third floor, for missing items. We have a number of jackets, hoodies, water bottles and jewelry.



TECH CORNER



6th Grade Tech Corner

For 6th grade students, the Tech Office is located at the far end of the hall beyond the cafeteria, Room 118. Mr. Bonidie, the HMS/HEC computer tech, is there to help students with their technology issues. If your child is having a problem with their Chromebook, place a Student Help Desk ticket by clicking "Help" on the left side of Canvas, or stop by the Tech Office as soon as possible. Please remember, do **NOT** attempt to fix your child's Chromebook. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Bonidie (gbonidie@bwschools.net).

[Please click to access the District Technology webpage.](#)



TECH CORNER

7th & 8th Grade Tech Corner

For 7th & 8th grade students, the Tech Office is located on the 3rd floor of the school building. Mr. Bonidie and Ms. Firek, BHS/BMS computer techs, are there to help students with their technology issues. If your child is having a problem with their Chromebook, place a Student Help Desk ticket by clicking "Help" on the left side of Canvas, or stop by the Tech Office on the 3rd floor as soon as possible. Please remember, do **NOT** attempt to fix your child's Chromebook. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Bonidie (jbondie@bwschools.net) or Ms. Firek (rfirek@bwschools.net).
[Please click to access the District Technology webpage.](#)

Student Tech Tips:

- Remember when your Chromebook is in your backpack, do not throw your bag in your locker or on the floor. To prevent a cracked screen, be sure there is nothing between your screen and keyboard when you close it.
- Eating and drinking while using your Chromebook is not a good idea. Even water bottles in your backpack may leak onto your device. If liquid does get on your Chromebook, do not power it on. Keep the lid closed and bring it to the Tech Office as soon as possible.
- The Tech Office does not lend out Chromebook chargers. If you lose yours, they are \$29.95 to purchase from the Tech Office. Insurance **does not** cover lost chargers (or lost Chromebooks). Please do not purchase an off-brand charger. Those chargers will not be accepted when you turn in your device.
- If a student lost their device. They can stop by the Tech Office for a replacement device. A damage report will be written for the cost of the lost device which can range from \$290.00 - \$353.47.
- If a student needs to borrow a device or charger for the day. There is a chromebook cart located in the 6th grade office. Where a device or charger can be signed out and collected at the end of the day, or when the student is done using it. The number of devices and chargers are limited. If a student is repeatedly borrowing a device they will be asked to see the Tech Office.
- If you are moving from the District, please leave your Chromebook AND charger with a staff member. Do not take it with you. It belongs to BWS. Remember, you are borrowing the device while you are here.
- Remember to keep your password private. Anything done on your Chromebook is your responsibility.



PARENT RESOURCES



Internet and social media are here to stay. Good can come from this kind of connectedness online, but the flipside is filled with false information, risky behavior, cyberbullying, sexualized and concerning content. Shape the Sky is dedicated to spreading awareness to help parents and professionals create safe and responsible children online. [Click to Access Shape the Sky Website](#)



The Common Sense Media website provides lessons, suggestions and resources for parents to help their children navigate the challenges of the evolving technology and media that is impacting their children's' world. Parents are encouraged to visit the Common Sense Media website to explore additional resources designed for parents. [Click to access the Common Sense Media Website](#)