



# BALDWIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

## WEEKLY UPDATE October 2, 2023



### MIDDLE SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> the Middle School kicked off its annual Cookie Dough Fundraiser with Mr. Toth, introducing and outlining the steps for the students to follow to participate in the middle school fundraiser.

The student's sale of the cookie dough helps to support the school, for the money raised goes towards the middle school's student activity fund, which helps to supplement the cost of the various 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities.

#### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. REGISTER today at [ShopFund.com](https://shopfund.com).
2. SHARE with 5 or more supporters with the online tools. \*\*\*
3. WIN from over \$100,000 in prize giveaways.
4. Make checks payable to: Harrison Middle School

[Click for More Information](#)



800+ items available online PLUS take your order form to work, practice & other places to raise

[Click for Cookie Dough Catalog](#)

[Click for Holiday Catalog](#)

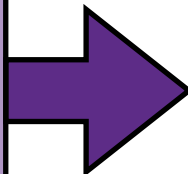
Once registered, students can have customers use their "Student Code" to complete and pay for their orders online, or they can use their order sheet from their packet (Handed out during Homeroom) to record individual orders. When collecting money, please have checks payable to Harrison Middle School. Students may pick up additional order forms in the office.

Participating students have the opportunity to earn a variety of prizes, including lunch and gaming at Dave & Busters. [Click to download the Prize Chart.](#)

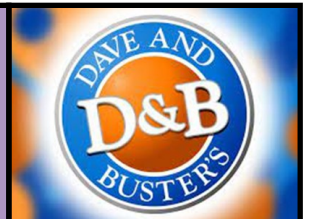
#### When submitting paper orders:

- Please place all orders and payments (preferably checks or money orders) in a sealed envelope
  - Mark the envelope with the: student's full name, grade & homeroom number
- 6<sup>th</sup> Graders, please turn in your orders to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Office
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders, please turn in your orders to the Middle School Office – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- The Middle School Fundraiser will run through October 5<sup>th</sup>. The cookie dough is scheduled to be delivered to the BHS on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. More details will follow.

**Sell 18  
ITEMS**



**Dave & Busters Party**  
(Includes Lunch, \$20 Power Play card  
and Unlimited Video Play)





## UPCOMING EVENTS



Baldwin-Whitehall School District  
Parents as Allies Team invites you to:

# Discovering Family Connections

# UNITE & IGNITE

All Baldwin-Whitehall School District parents and guardians...  
join us in a relaxing evening by the fire pit to connect, engage in  
conversation, and enjoy each other's company.

Monday  
October  
**2**

J.E. Harrison  
Education Center  
Parking Lot  
6:00pm-8:00pm

Live Music  
Bonfires  
Refreshments  
Raffle Prizes  
Conversations

*Childcare will  
be available*

*Bring lawn chairs  
to enjoy the event*

*Promoting  
positive  
connections  
between our  
schools and  
families!*

[Click the link to share  
your conversation  
starters in advance...](#)





## UPCOMING EVENTS



**2023 Annual Autumn Bowl:** The Annual Autumn Bowl is Scheduled for Monday, November 6th. Over the years, this school-wide event has drawn quite a bit of excitement for Baldwin Middle School students. In addition to the Flag-Football game between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th-grade girls, there will be food and carnival games. This has become an activity that our students look forward to and truly enjoy.

Any 7th or 8th-grade girl interested in participating in the 2023 Annual Autumn Bowl Powder-Puff Football game on **Monday, November 6th**, must download and follow the directions on the attached Flyer.

[Click to Download 2023 Annual Autumn Bowl Flier](#)

The required form must be turned in by **Thursday, October 5th. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

### Yearbook Photos Needed!

The yearbook is looking for candid photos of the following; 1st day of school photos, boy's and girl's soccer, swimming, & cross country. Please email Ms. Bianchi with the photos! [hbianchi@bwschools.net](mailto:hbianchi@bwschools.net)



**7th & 8th Grade Student Council Workshop** Attention all 7th & 8th -grade students interested in joining the Student Council this year: there will be a Student Council workshop meeting on Thursday, October 5th, from 7:15 am until the end of 2nd period in the BMS Library on the third floor.

To attend the meeting, students must have the linked permission slip signed by a parent/guardian, 1st-period teacher, and 2nd-period teacher, as well as a write-up explaining why you want to be a part of the Baldwin Middle School Student Council and how you plan to be a leader in our school community. The permission slip is due to Mrs. Fisher or Mrs. Kluczkowski by Monday, October 2nd. [Click to Download Permission Slip](#)



## HIGHLIGHTS



**Speaker Brings Lesson of Compassion:** On Wednesday, former white supremacist and holocaust denier Tony McAleer visited with middle and high school students to bring his story of falling into hate groups as a teenager and his journey back out. Mr. McAleer credits the birth of his daughters and the forgiveness of a therapist for helping him to see his way to a better life. Speaking to a crowd of over one hundred students, Mr. McAleer and Peter Hutchison, with whom he created the movie "The Cure for Hate, spoke with children about the Holocaust, redemption, and the 'radical compassion' that allows us all to see the best in others and in ourselves.





## HIGHLIGHTS

**Traveling the World in Language Class:** This month, BMS Level 1 World Language students "traveled" the world with the Passport Project. Students learned about the geography and culture of the countries of their target language. They created maps, colored flags, and researched facts to present to their classmates. Some students also brought in food/drink from their country for their classmates to sample. As they visited each other's countries, they also filled out passports with the facts that they learned from their travels.



## ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

**10/2/23 -Athletic Schedule:** (Dates and Times are subject to change)

### Monday – 10/2/23:

- Girls Soccer- 3:30 PM vs. Canonsburg Middle School @ Baldwin HS Stadium
- Coed Cross Country - 4:00 PM - Harrison Invitational @ Mingo Park

### Tuesday - 10/3/23:

- Coed Swimming - 5:00 PM vs. Trinity Middle School @ Trinity High School
- Boys Soccer- 3:30 PM vs West Mifflin Area Middle School @ Baldwin Stadium Field
- Coed Volleyball - 4:00 PM vs. Trinity Middle School @ Baldwin HS Gym #2

### Wednesday - 10/4/23

- Girls Soccer - 4:00 PM vs. Chartiers Valley MS @ Chartiers Valley Intermediate
- 8th Grade Football - 5:15 PM vs. Moon MS @ Harrison MS Field

### Thursday - 10/5/23:

- Boys Soccer - 4:00 PM vs. Independence MS @ Bethel Park HS
- 7th Grade Football - 5:15 PM vs. Fort Couch MS @ Harrison MS Field
- Coed Cross Country - 4:00 PM vs. Independence Middle School @ Bethel Park High School
- Coed Swimming - 5:00 PM vs. Fort Couch Middle School @ Baldwin High School
- Girls Volleyball - 3:45 PM vs. Fort Couch Middle School @ Fort Couch Middle School

### Friday - 10/6/23:

### Saturday - 10/7/23:

- Girls Volleyball - 3:45 PM vs. Bethel Park High School @ Bethel Park High School



## UPCOMING EVENTS

★ **BALDWIN MS BOYS BASKETBALL** ★

# BASKETBALL



**PLEASE BRING A  
BALL AND WATER!**

## **OPEN GYM AND TRYOUTS**

**OPEN GYMS:  
BHS SMALL GYM  
6-8 PM  
EVERY TUESDAY AND  
THURSDAY STARTING  
OCTOBER 3RD**

**TRYOUTS:  
MONDAY OCT. 23RD AND  
TUESDAY OCT. 24TH  
3:00-5:00 PM**

**ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT  
PHYSICAL DATED AFTER JUNE 1ST IN ORDER  
TO PARTICIPATE IN TRYOUTS!!**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT COACH BARBANO  
ROOM 315  [ABARBANO@BWSCHOOLS.NET](mailto:ABARBANO@BWSCHOOLS.NET)**





## Meet the BMS Counselors

### School Counseling Department Update

Dear Middle School Parents and Guardians, The Baldwin-Whitehall Middle School Counseling Department wants to welcome our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students back to school! We look forward to assisting our students and families during the upcoming school year.

As our school community is aware, the 6th grade is located at Harrison Educational Center, and the 7th and 8th grades are at Baldwin High School. 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 facility needs 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 or issues and can address the situation within the appropriate setting in a timely and efficient manner.

Ms. Rachel Johnson, School Counselor A - L - [rjohnson@bwschools.net](mailto:rjohnson@bwschools.net)

Ms. Jessica Thomas, School Counselor M - Z - [jthomas@bwschools.net](mailto:jthomas@bwschools.net)

Ms. Jean Williams, School Social Worker A - Z - [jwilliams@bwschools.net](mailto:jwilliams@bwschools.net)



## BMS Nurse Update

Please remember a Pennsylvania school requirement, to enter 7th grade, is the submission of updated Tdap and Meningococcal vaccinations. We still have not received these for several students. If you are among those still needing to complete this requirement for school attendance, please see that you take care of this as soon as possible. Your prompt attention to this is greatly appreciated.

Volunteer nurses from JRMC-AHN will be helping the BWSD nurses with annual vision screenings for our 7th and 8th graders on September 26 and 27th. These will be done during the physical education classes. The high school students will also be screened on these dates.

Current COVID Guidelines for Students were shared with families recently. Please follow this guidance as you note symptoms and positive testing for Covid in your families. Five days of isolation, from the start of symptoms (day zero), followed by 5 days of mask wearing (days 6-10) when returning to school and public life, should be the plan if positive test results are noted. The student's PCP should always be the first point of contact, but also feel free to call or email the school nurses with your questions or concerns.



## 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](#)



## 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.



## 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.





## 6th Grade Information

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**Champions Program:** For any families who are interested in the Champions After School Program, please see the contact below: Gus: 412-580-2322 [gus.goedel@discoverychampions.com](mailto:gus.goedel@discoverychampions.com)



## 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](mailto: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.





## 7th & 8th Grade Information

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](mailto: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](mailto:gbonidie@bwschools.net)). [Please click to access the District Technology webpage.](#)

### **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

([jbonidie@bwschools.net](mailto:jbonidie@bwschools.net)) or Ms. Firek ([rfirek@bwschools.net](mailto: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.



## TECH CORNER

### Student Tech Tips (continued):

- 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 BWSD. Remember, you are borrowing the device while you are here.
- Remember to keep your password private. Anything done on your chromebook is your responsibility.



**Baldwin Middle School**

*Habits of Success* 