



UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Beverly Hills Middle School
Brian Ursone
Principal

August 6, 2018

Dear Beverly Hills Middle School Family,

I hope you are enjoying a relaxing summer, and your child is ready for a learning experience full of rigor and excitement. It was wonderful seeing and engaging in conversations with so many families at Sellers library on July 17th. I ask that you continue communicating with our staff so we can work together to provide the best possible educational experience for your child(ren). The administrative team has been working very hard, and we are extremely excited to get started. Our focus has always been, and will continue to be, promoting student achievement by maintaining a safe and orderly school environment.

The Beverly Hills Middle School administrative team is comprised of the principal, three grade level assistant principals and an additional assistant principal. The BHMS administrative team is as follows:

Principal ~ Dr. Brian Ursone
6th Grade Administrator ~Mr. Dennis Kearney
7th Grade Administrator ~Mr. David Robinson
8th Grade administrator ~Mrs. Melissa Figueroa-Douglas
Assistant Principal- Mrs. Susan Campbell

All contact information can be found on our school webpage. In addition to the grade level administrator, the grade level counselor and the grade level lead teacher are available to assist you. The grade level counselors and lead teachers are as follows:

6th Grade Counselor~ Jane Archibald
7th Grade Counselor~ Shelly McDowell
8th Grade Counselor~ Dan Fisher

6th Grade Lead Teacher~ Jon McGarry
7th Grade Lead Teacher~ TBA
8th Grade Lead Teacher~ Kathy Kitchin

Kids eat FREE!!!

The district is officially approved for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) this year. That means that we will no longer be processing any Free and Reduced Meal applications. All

students in grades 1-12 are automatically eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at NO CHARGE beginning the first day of school. Parents do not have to fill out any paperwork.

Meeting with the Acting Superintendent

Dr. Dan McGarry will be at Beverly Hills Middle School on Thursday, September 13th to meet with our BHMS parents. The event will run from 8:30 AM to 9:00 AM. Dr. McGarry will introduce himself and briefly review the Comprehensive Plan. We hope you can make it.

Writing Contest

We are looking for 20 students to run in the grit run this year. If you are not familiar with our grit run, it is our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) kickoff. Staff and students break off into two teams and compete against each other via running an obstacle course. We bring the entire school to the backfield. Students who are not competing are in the stands cheering. It is a lot of fun!

With that being said, we will be having a writing contest to determine our student participants. Attached you will find the rubric for how the essays will be scored. The writing prompt is “How did I exhibit grit last year?” All essays must be submitted to your child’s homeroom teacher by September 7th. Essays are limited to a maximum of five paragraphs.

Schedule and Your Child(ren)’s Homeroom

Parents will be able to access their child(ren)’s homeroom through Home Access Center (HAC) via the Upper Darby School District website. I will be sending out directions on how to access HAC in my Wednesday message on August 22nd. Parents will be able to access their child(ren)’s homeroom on August 24th. If you do not have your HAC username and password, please contact the main office (610-626-9317), and we will be happy to get that information to you.

First Day/Week of School

Students are to report to homeroom on the first day of school. You will see the homeroom assignment on HAC August 24th. If your son/daughter does not have a designated homeroom he/she should report to the front gym upon entry. Students will receive full schedules in homeroom. Staff will be visible in the hallways to assist students. If there is a mistake with your son or daughter’s schedule, please do not worry. Schedule changes will occur during the first week of school in order to ensure all schedules are correct. Please do not contact school personnel, in reference to schedule changes, until after September 5th.

All students are expected to report to school on Tuesday, August 28, 2018. All students will have full days of school on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, August 28th to the 30th. There is no school for students on Friday August 31st.

Communication~ Wednesday Message

All school-wide communication from me will come via parentlink. The vast majority of the information will be sent via email with attachments. Very few messages will have an accompanying phone message. If you come across another parent who is not receiving my communications please have them contact the main office. They can give the main office a working email address, or they can let the office know that they do not have an email address. We want to work with our families to make sure everyone is getting all of the information they need to help their children.

Entry and Dismissal Policy

All students are to report to school by 7:50 AM. Students must be in homeroom by 8:00 AM. Students who are not in homeroom at 8:00 AM are considered late.

Students will enter and exit the building at the designated location listed below:

6th Grade students will enter the front of the building.

7th Grade students will enter on the west side, closest to the back gym.

8th Grade students will enter on the east side, the parking lot side, closest to the backfield.

Students will exit the closest door at the time of dismissal. Teachers will be assigned to homerooms at each entrance to escort the students into the building and to their designated areas. Students must assemble no later than 7:50 to enter the building at the grade level entrance. After 7:50 AM, all students must enter through the front doors. Students will report to homeroom by 8:00 AM. They will have time before homeroom to go to their lockers in order to get prepared for the day. We strongly encourage students to arrive to school on time to receive the maximum amount of instruction.

PBIS

Our positive behavior framework is a decision-making model rooted in analyzing and selecting behaviors to improve the academic and behavior outcomes of all students. Students learn appropriate behavior through modeling, active and engaged instruction, constant feedback and consistent encouragement. ***Parents will have access to the weekly lessons via my Wednesday message. Please touch on these topics with your children.** The school is committed to monitoring and evaluating results through data based information from the students and faculty. We have multiple incentives and ways for students to earn rewards. More information will be provided at our Back to School Night held on Thursday, September 13th at 6:00 PM. All of the information is available on the website.

Home and School

Home and school meetings will be quarterly. All meetings will take place in the BHMS library starting at 6:00 PM. The quarterly home and school meetings for the 2018-2019 academic school year are as follows:

October 11th

January 10th

March 7th

May 9th

Parent Forums

We are strongly committed to keeping you informed and providing you with the necessary resources to support your child. The parent forums will consist of showing parents the technological tools we have for our students to help them excel academically, a book club, goal setting activities, and much more. Please mark your calendars for the following parent events:

October 3rd at 6 PM

March 25th at 6 PM

May 22nd at 6 PM

Dress Code and Cell Phones

We will be enforcing the policy starting the first day of school. Students violating the policy will be subject to disciplinary actions in accordance to the middle school code of conduct.

Guidelines

All students shall be subject to this dress code. Students must report to school on a daily basis attired in compliance with the provisions of this policy.

Attire:

Acceptable dress must be appropriately sized and must conform to the following requirements:

1. We strongly encourage students to exhibit their school pride by wearing school colors and apparel.
2. Students are not permitted to wear apparel that belittles another, suggests sexual activity, or refers to violence, weapons, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, discrimination, gangs, or any illegal activity. Objectionable language or graphics are also not permitted on apparel or belongings.
3. All shirts and dresses must have sleeves and cover the entire torso, and shoulders. Tank tops, midriffs, tube tops, low cut shirts, strapless, spaghetti straps, see through shirts, halters, or bare back shirts are not permitted.
4. Dresses, skirts, and shorts must reach mid-thigh.
We use the "fingertip" rule, which means when standing straight, fingertips are in line with the hem.
5. Pants must be worn above the hipbone. No undergarments are to be seen at any time.
Tights worn as pants are not permitted.

6. See through clothing, undergarments worn as outer garments, and sleepwear are not permitted.
7. Clothing that are torn or ripped are not permitted.
8. Students are not permitted to wear any spiked collars, spiked bracelets, or wallet chains.
9. Shoes must cover the entire foot and have soles. Steel toe boots are not permitted.
10. Hats, hoods, bandannas, and sunglasses are not to be worn in the building.
11. Administration will make final decisions about the appropriateness and acceptability of specific items of clothing.
12. Violations of the dress code will result in disciplinary consequences.

Students are strongly encouraged to refrain from cell phone use. Cell phones are forbidden during instruction time. Students are subject to disciplinary actions in accordance to the middle school code of conduct for any cell phone violations. The middle school code of conduct and the dress code policy are accessible through the district webpage.

Volunteer Policy (This includes field trips.)

Please refer to the district policy No. 916. Below high lights key points from the policy, but individuals are encouraged to read the policy thoroughly.

Volunteer application sheets should be provided to any prospective volunteer along with the Child Abuse Awareness packet, Administration Regulations for Policy 806 Child Abuse and Policy 916 Volunteers.

Once completed, the principal, athletic director or coach will make a recommendation regarding the application and sign the form.

The principal must send the form to Personnel with all three required clearances (PA Child Abuse History Certification, PA State Police Criminal Record Information and Federal Criminal History Report) and the Arrest/Conviction Report and Certification Form (Act 29 and Act 82) attached.

Once the volunteer is approved, Personnel will send a copy of the completed application sheet to the principal, athletic director or coach.

The principal, athletic director, or coach will notify the volunteer in writing that they have been approved.

The volunteer will remain on the approved volunteer list unless Personnel is notified by a principal, athletic director or coach that they should be removed.

All approved volunteers will be required to submit updated clearances every five (5) years in accordance with Act 153.

All volunteers shall be required to report to the building principal, athletic director or coach within seventy-two (72) hours an arrest or conviction required to be reported by law or notification that the volunteer has been named as a perpetrator in a founded or indicated report pursuant to the Child Protective Services Law. The PDE Form 6004 (Arrest and Conviction Report) shall be used to report these arrest or convictions to the building principal, athletic director or coach. The building principal, athletic director or coach shall immediately advise the Superintendent or his designee of such form.

General Supply List

See attached.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

August	Tues 28 th Fri 31 st	First Day of School-All students report at 7:50 AM No school for students
September	Mon 3 rd Thurs 13 th Mon 10 th Thurs 13 th Fri 28 th	No school for students Back to School Night from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Picture Day Early Dismissal at 1PM Fall Fling (All School Social) 3 PM BHMS Cafeteria

Our students are precious and deserve the best. BHMS promotes academic rigor, school pride, and respect.

I am very excited, and I cannot wait to start the 2018-2019 academic school year. I look forward to working with you and have a wonderful rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian Ursone
Principal