



[BMS](#) | [Parent Portal](#) | [Calendar](#) | [BMS PTO](#) | [mySchoolBucks](#)



Principal's Message



Summer Greetings BMS Families,

In about a week, we will welcome students back to begin the 2017-18 school year. The faculty at BMS is working diligently to ensure a smooth start to the school year and we eagerly look forward to the return of students on August 9!

Back-to-School Night is Monday, Aug. 7 from 4-7 p.m. Students and parents can come anytime during these hours to pay fees, visit teachers, and walk through student schedules. Please consult the checklist for Back-to-School Orientation that was mailed home earlier this summer.

Remember, you may pay all school fees online without any additional charge though mySchoolBucks, the same portal used to pay your child's lunch account. To take advantage of this feature, log in to your [mySchoolBucks account](#) online and click the tab at the top of the



screen for the School Store. The School Store accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and debit cards. If you choose to pay your fees online, please print your receipt and bring it to Back-to-School Night. Parents who wish to pay cash or check may do so at Back-to-School Night.

I want to thank our PTO for their work and efforts to support our school programs. The electronic newsletter is a great example of their efforts to communicate with parents and make important information accessible. Look for the PTO newsletter multiple times throughout the school year.

As we begin the school year, please keep in mind some important dates and upcoming events. All sixth grade parents and parents of new students are invited to attend an e-Learning information session on Wednesday, Aug. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the BMS auditorium. Montgomery County Public Schools has a 1-to-1 Initiative that provides all middle school students with a Dell Chromebook. The Chromebooks are intended to support instruction and will be utilized to increase student engagement, individualize instruction, and provide instructional data to teachers. The Aug. 16 meeting will provide parents with an Initiative overview, including information regarding parent and student responsibilities, computer and Internet safety, and parent/student contracts.

Additionally, please be aware that we have scheduled our Open House Curriculum Night on Tuesday, Aug. 29 from 6–7:30 p.m. This event is an opportunity for you to visit your child's classes and receive information from teachers about your child's courses. There will also be a club information session in the cafeteria from 5:30-6 that evening in which parents can obtain information about the various clubs available to students at BMS.

I look forward to building a partnership with our parents to ensure the success of our students. At Blacksburg Middle School, we are committed to helping all students reveal their potential and realize their dreams. Thank you for all that you do for your children and our community. Please feel free to contact me at any time!

Best regards,

Amanda C. Weidner
Principal

From the Parent Teacher Organization

Dear Parents,

The BMS PTO would like to wish each and every student and their families an engaging and successful school year. Please note the PTO is a donation and volunteer driven organization dedicated to supporting our school.

All parents and teachers are members. The suggested donation is \$5-20; however, your donation of any amount is greatly appreciated.

Please check out upcoming events and communicate through our [website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Great easy ways to support the BMS PTO:

1. Registering your [Kroger Plus Card](#) to support BMS.
2. Using our [AmazonSmile](#) link to do all of your Amazon.com shopping (a percentage is donated to BMS).
3. Clipping [Box Tops](#) from items you purchase and send those to school with your child.

Below are a few important links as well as a quick overview of our calendar of events for August and September.

- [Sign-up](#) to assist in providing our teachers a nice welcome back breakfast.
- Save time and avoid lines by paying your child's **school fees online using [mySchoolBucks](#)**.
- [Sign-up](#) to volunteer at Back-to-School night.

Sincerely,
Viki Neurauter
President



Mark Your Calendar

Below are a few important links as well as a quick overview of PTO events for August and September.

The [school calendar](#) and [sports calendars](#) are available on the school website.



<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
August 4, 8 a.m.	Welcome Back Teacher Breakfast hosted by the PTO
August 7, 4-7 p.m.	Meet-the-Teacher Night
August 9	First day of school
August 16, 6:30 p.m.	Chromebook informational meeting for parents of sixth graders and all students new to BMS
August 21, 6 p.m.	PTO meeting, library Guest Presentation: Principal Weidner/Topic: Expectations of rising students
August 23, 5-8 p.m.	Wendy's Restaurant Fundraiser
August 29, 5:30-8 p.m.	Open House/Curriculum Night (5:30-6 p.m. club information; 6-8 p.m. open house)
August 31	Last day to turn in Box Tops for Summer Box Tops Challenge
September 18	PTO Meeting, library
September 20, 5-9 p.m.	PK's Restaurant Fundraiser (Printed copies of the flyer will be sent home with students in advance and must be taken to the event)

BMS Back-to-School Orientation

Monday, August 7

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

To do Checklist:

Items may be done in any order

- **Pay Locker fees, Agenda fee, and purchase advance sale Yearbook**
 - \$6 Locker fee (all students)
NOTE: A locker receipt is needed to get a locker from your child's Titan teacher.
 - \$4 Gym locker fee (if taking PE)
 - \$7 Agenda fee (required for 6th grade students; optional for 7th and 8th grade students)
NOTE: 7th and 8th grade students may choose to purchase their own agenda planner outside of school or elect to use Google calendar as their planner. A limited number of BMS planners are available for purchase for 7th and 8th grade students.
 - \$12 Yearbook (Yearbooks will be \$15 after advance sale)

*Save time and avoid lines by paying your child's school fees online, without any additional charges, using mySchoolBucks, the same portal used to pay your child's lunch account. Log in to your mySchoolBucks account online (<https://www.myschoolbucks.com>) and click the tab at the top of the screen for the School Store. The School Store accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and debit cards.

**Remember to keep a copy of your receipt for fees
and bring it to Back-to-School Orientation!**

Parents who wish to pay cash or check may do so at Back-to-School Orientation in the Cafeteria.

Certain classes may have additional associated supply costs not included in the above fees.

- **Deposit money on your child's lunch account, if needed.**

*Pay online through mySchoolBucks account (there is an additional charge for using this service for lunch accounts) or pay in the Cafeteria during Back-to-School Orientation.

*Continued on back

BMS PTO - a great way to stay active in your child's school!

Stop by the PTO table to check out PTO sponsored events, funding goals for the 2017-2018 school year, sign up as volunteer, and learn ways to get involved.
Location: Cafeteria

Cost: The PTO is a donation and volunteer driven organization supporting our school. All parents and teachers are members. Your donation of \$5-20 is greatly appreciated. Mail enclosed form to BMS PTO, 3109 Price's Fork Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24060 OR stop by the PTO table on August 7th.

You can also check out PTO upcoming events and communicate through:

Website: <http://www.blacksburgmiddlepto.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/585772044905311/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/blacksburgmspto>

Great Easy Ways to support BMS PTO:

1. Register your Kroger card to Blacksburg Middle School
2. Sign on to Amazon through Amazon smiles and assign Blacksburg Middle School to receive awards
3. Send in Boxtops - first collection due in by August 31

Purchase gym uniform (if needed)

Cost: \$18 or \$9/Shirt and \$9/Shorts

*Pay online through mySchoolBucks account (bring your paid locker receipt) or purchase in the Gym during Back-to-School Orientation

Visit Titan Teacher listed on your child's schedule to get class information and a locker assignment (Bring your paid locker receipt)

Walk through your child's schedule (Don't forget to bring a copy of the schedule)

Our Open House Curriculum Night will be Tuesday, August 29 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Parents can visit their child's classes and receive curricular information from teachers about each class. Parents may also stop by the cafeteria from 5:30 - 6:00 that evening to receive information about student clubs at BMS.

STAY IN THE KNOW

BMS

BMS PTO

[Twitter-@BMSTitans](#)

[Facebook-bburgmstitans](#)

[Twitter-@blacksburgmspto](#)

[Facebook-BlacksburgMiddlePTO](#)



Shop Amazon [using this link](#) and The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price from your eligible purchase directly to BMS.



You can help BMS earn cash by clipping "Box Tops" from the packages of hundreds of items you're already purchasing and sending them to school before the expiration date.



Support BMS by registering your Kroger Rewards card to make sure a percentage of your purchases are donated back to BMS. [Learn more.](#)



[Sixth Grade Teams](#) | [Seventh Grade Teams](#) | [Eighth Grade Teams](#) | [Admin and Office Staff](#)

Principal: Amanda Weidner
PTO President: Viki Neurauter
Vice President: Kela Rosario
Treasurer: Kristi Blake
Secretary: Erin Vogt
Newsletter Editor: Laura Neff-Henderson

Mailing address: 3109 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, VA 24060, USA

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