



WELCOME BOBCATS!



Benjamin Banneker Middle School
BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SUMMER
NEWSLETTER
August 2023

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bannekerms

Principal's Message...

Happy New School Year! I hope this letter finds you safe, healthy, and well. It is with great pleasure that we welcome you all back to school for an exciting year of teaching and learning. I am looking forward to working together to create a positive educational impact on our students and in our school community. Staff are working hard to ensure that upon entering Benjamin Banneker Middle School, the environment will be warm and welcoming in preparation for the first day of school.

As we embark on this journey we want to encourage every one of you to take an active role in shaping our school's future. Whether you are a student, parent, or community member, your contributions and ideas are valuable and necessary to make our school the best it can be.

Our teachers are dedicated to providing a high-quality education that will empower our students to become lifelong learners and leaders. We believe that a strong foundation in education is the key to success and we are committed to providing our students with the tools they need to achieve their goals. We are excited to see our students grow and flourish.

A continued goal for this year is to cultivate a partnership with parents and the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). We want to encourage you to become actively engaged in our school through the PTSA, but, more importantly, to stay involved in your child's academics and social development during these critical middle years. We have several opportunities for parents and guardians to be engaged and informed.

The BBMS newsletter will be sent home every Sunday evening through email and posted in the principal corner on our webpage, www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bannekerms/. I will be tweeting about our school accomplishments so please follow me by searching Twitter for [@BBMS_MrAdelekan](https://twitter.com/BBMS_MrAdelekan).

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 240-740-6250 or email me at Ahmed_Adelekan@mcpsmd.org.

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Important Dates:

6th Grade Orientations

Tuesday, July 11
5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 24
8:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Parent Orientation 8:30 am-9:45 am

Welcome Back Picnic

Thursday, August 24
6:00 p.m.

First Day of School

Monday, August 28
8:15-3:00 p.m.

Labor Day—Holiday

Monday, September 4

Back to "Health" Night

Thursday, September 14
5:15 pm.

Back to School Night

Thursday, September 14
6:00 p.m.

Early Release for Students

Friday, September 22

No School for Students & Teachers

Monday, September 25

**Principal's Message...continued****Key Staff at BBMS:**

We know there will be times when you will need to reach out to your student's teacher, content specialist, or administrator. Please see the charts below:

Department	Content Specialist	Supervising Administrator
Math	Ms. Jessica Coates	Mr. Charles Chandler
Literacy(English, EML, and Reading Classes)	Ms. Tiah Lormejuste Ms. April Hayden (EML TL)	Ms. Rochelle Hawes
World Studies	Ms. Colleen Kent	Ms. Rochelle Hawes
Science and Technology	Ms. Kathryn Spivey	Mr. Charles Chandler
World Languages and Alternative Education	Dr. Jennifer Raikes	Ms. Rochelle Hawes
Physical Education, Health, and Electives	Ms. Danielle Prietz	Mr. Charles Chandler
Special Education	Ms. Emily Carpenter	Mr. Ahmed Adelekan
Counseling	Ms. Taryn Richards	Mr. Ahmed Adelekan

Grade	Administrator	Counselor	Team Leaders
6	Ms. Rochelle Hawes	Ms. Mitra Ghandeharizadeh	Ms. Allison Baisey
7	Ms. Rochelle Hawes and Mr. Charles Chandler	Ms. Wilma Benjamin Drakes	Ms. LaCreacia Porchia
8	Mr. Charles Chandler	Ms. Cheryl Taylor	Mr. Damien Scott
Resource Counselor		Ms. Taryn Richards	

First Day of School:

The first day of school is Monday, August 28th, starting at 8:15 AM to 3:00 PM. When students arrive at school, they will report to their homerooms where they will receive their schedules and move to their first-period class.



Principal's Message...continued

Key Dates:

August 24th: New Student Orientation 8:15 AM

August 24th: Back to School Night Picnic at 6:00 PM

August 28th: First Day of School

I am looking forward to an amazing year. Please enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Kind regards,

Mr. Ahmed Adelekan

Acting Principal

Benjamin Banneker Middle School

Arrival Procedure

Students will enter the building at 8:00am. Students will go directly to their 1st period class. Students will be served breakfast from 8:00-8:15. Breakfast will stop at 8:15am and students will remain in 1st period for instruction. Therefore, it is very important that your child arrive at school promptly at or before 8:00am.

September 14 @ 6:00—Back to School Night



SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

There is a school nurse and health technician assigned to Benjamin Banneker Middle School. The health room hours are 7:45am-3:15pm. The priorities for school health personnel are: emergency care for students who are seriously ill or injured, communicable diseases and control; health appraisal and follow-up with the establishment of health care plans and crisis intervention.

It is important to note that prescriptions and over-the-counter medications are subject to strict guidelines. Students are not allowed to bring to school, carry or self-administer medication without written authorization from a physician, parent and/or the school nurse. Prescriptions and over-the-counter medications must be ordered by the physician utilizing one of the MCPS Forms. The forms to use are *MCPS Form 525-13* for administration of medication, *MCPS Form 525-14* for Epipen administration, and *MCPS Form 525-12* for administration of treatment. The forms can be obtained in the health room, school office, school website, or MCPS website. Carefully follow the instructions when completing the forms and for the proper labeling of the medications. Contact the health room at 240-740-6252 if you have any questions or other health care concerns.

7th and 8th grade immunization requirements Maryland immunization requirements for students entering 7th and 8th grade this August (SY21-22). Students entering the 7th and 8th grade must provide documentation of Tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (Tdap) and Meningococcal meningitis (MCV) immunizations. Students not in compliance with the new requirements will be excluded from attending school until they are in compliance with the State law. MCPS DOES NOT want to exclude students due to a lack of these immunizations. Students may receive these immunizations through their health care provider **or** through Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services Clinics (schedule of clinics will be posted on our website www.montgomery.org). There will be other clinics once schools are open, but scheduling for those clinics are still in the planning stages. Please watch our website and phone calls home with more information.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Ahmed Adelekan, Acting Principal
 Mr. Charles Chandler, Assistant Principal
 Ms. Rochelle Hawes, Assistant Principal

CONTENT SPECIALISTS:

Ms. Emily Carpenter—Resource Teacher, Special Education
 Ms. Jessica Coates—Mathematics
 Ms. Colleen Kent—Social Studies
 Ms. Tiah Lormejuste—English/Literacy/Reading/ESOL
 Ms. Danielle Prietz —Arts & Technology Electives, PE/Health
 Ms. Jennifer Raikes—Alternative, & World Languages
 Ms. Taryn Richards—Resource Counselor
 Ms. Kathryn Spivey—Science

TEAM LEADERS

In addition to contacting counselors and/or administrators for information regarding your child, it is recommended that you contact the team leader. These individuals have overall responsibility for working with students assigned to their teams. For 2023-2024, the team leaders are:

6th Grade Team Leader—Ms. Allison Baisey
 7th Grade Team Leader—Ms. LaCreacia Porchia
 8th Grade Team Leader—Mr. Damien Scott
 EML Team Leader—Ms. April Hayden
 Student Support Team Leader—Mr. Nicholas Conine
 Student Engagement Team Leader—Ms. Marian Bromell

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Please contact the counselors below at 240-740-6260 if you have questions, need information or have concerns regarding your child:

Ms. Mitra Ghandharizadeh	Grade 6
Ms. Wilma Benjamin Drakes	Grade 7
Ms. Cheryl Taylor	Grade 8
Ms. Taryn Richards	Resource Counselor
Ms. Patricia Reidy	Registrar/Secretary

If you moved during the summer, or if you move during the school year, you will be required to bring a new proof of residency to Ms. Reidy in order for your child to continue attending Banneker Middle School.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Main Office/Attendance	240-740-6250
FAX#	301-879-1032
Guidance Office	240-740-6260
Health Room	240-740-6252
Media Center	240-740-6266
MCPS Transportation	240-740-1852

WEB SITES AND E-MAIL

A wealth of information is available on the Web site listed below. Many links are available via Banneker's Web page, including the main MCPS home page.

BANNEKER'S WEB SITE ADDRESS:

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bannekerms

TEACHER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS:

In most instances, the teacher's e-mail address is the teacher's first name, middle initial and last name followed by @mcpsmd.org

SAMPLE: John_A_Doe@mcpsmd.org

BANNEKER'S LISTSERV:

Parents are invited to join the PTSA listserv to get daily school announcements. Information about activities, test schedules, fundraisers, etc. is also communicated through the PTSA listserv. Go to Banneker's website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bannekerms to join. Once your e-mail address has been added, you should start receiving daily announcements within a week. Please remember to keep your e-mail address updated.

BANNEKER'S STUDENT DIRECTORY

The Annual Notice for Directory Information and Student Privacy form (MCPS Form 281-13) is attached. If you do not want Banneker to release your directory information you should complete the "[Annual Notice for Directory Information and Student Privacy](#)" form (attached to this newsletter) and return it to the school main office no later than **September 11, 2023**. Banneker will assume you agree to the release of the directory information, unless this form is returned by September 11, 2023.

All students will bring home a [Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment](#) during the first week of school. Parents must understand that if they withhold directory information, the decision affects all lists of or references to students distributed or used outside MCPS, whether prepared by the school, PTSA, central services, or other school organizations.

Return this form to your school **ONLY** if you do not want directory information released.





SIXTH GRADE ORIENTATION DAYS

We were excited to see so many of our incoming 6th grade students on June 15th and July 11th during our summer orientations.

The MCPS countywide orientation for incoming sixth graders will be held **Thursday, August 24, 2023**. Buses will run their regular routes (refer to attached MCPS bus schedule) and will pick students up at the regular pick-up times. Students will report to the cafeteria where they will sit at tables according to their last name. Orientation will begin at 8:15 a.m. and will conclude at 11:45 a.m., at which time buses will return students to their regularly scheduled drop-off points. We strongly encourage all incoming 6th graders to attend this orientation. We will also be hosting an orientation for parents at BBMS on this same day from 8:30am-9:45am. We look forward to meeting you and your students!



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Parents, Guardians, and Students! Please join the Benjamin Banneker Middle School Staff on Thursday, August 24 at 6:00pm at Banneker MS for the annual Welcome Back Picnic. This is a perfect opportunity for you and your students to meet the principal, assistant principals, the staff, and get acquainted with other students. We will provide Hot Dogs (Beef and Vegetarian), chips, and water. Come out and Join the fun!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school for students will be **Monday, August 28, 2023**. Buses will run their regular schedules that day (refer to attached MCPS bus schedule). Please remember that it takes a few days to stabilize the pick-up times. Therefore, it is wise to be at the bus stops at least ten minutes early for the first several days of school.

When students arrive at school on August 28, they should check the lists posted in the front hall to locate their homeroom. Students are assigned to administrative homerooms alphabetically by grade level. The list will show the last name of the first and last student in each group. As an example, Grade 7 HR 1 Abel-Brown. Each student must be able to determine if their last name falls between the two names shown. Teachers will be available to assist students but it will go much faster if parents will work with their children to make sure they understand how to read this list and identify their homeroom. Sixth grade students who attend the half day orientation August 24 will go to the homeroom assigned to them on that day. **Schedules are distributed in homeroom classes.**

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Banneker's Back to School Night will be **Thursday, September 14, 2023, 6:00 p.m.** Please reserve this date on your calendar so you can come to meet your child's teachers and join the PTSA. Parents will follow their child's schedule to meet his/her teachers. (Please contact the main office as soon as possible if you need any special accommodations or interpreting services for Back to School Night.)



**Benjamin Banneker Middle School
Bell Schedules 2023-2024**



DAILY CLASS SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE A (8th)

Period 1: 8:15-9:00
Advisory: 9:04-9:29
Period 2: 9:33-10:18
Period 3: 10:22-11:07
LUNCH: 11:11-11:41
Period 4: 11:45-12:30
Period 5: 12:34-1:20
Period 6: 1:24-2:10
Period 7: 2:14-3:00

SCHEDULE B (7th)

Period 1: 8:15-9:00
Advisory: 9:04-9:29
Period 2: 9:33-10:18
Period 3: 10:22-11:07
Period 4: 11:11-11:56
LUNCH: 12:00-12:30
Period 5: 12:34-1:20
Period 6: 1:24-2:10
Period 7: 2:14-3:00

SCHEDULE C (6th)

Period 1: 8:15-9:00
Advisory: 9:04-9:29
Period 2: 9:33-10:18
Period 3: 10:22-11:07
Period 4: 11:11-11:56
Period 5: 12:00-12:45
LUNCH: 12:49-1:19
Period 6: 1:24-2:10
Period 7: 2:14-3:00

EARLY RELEASE CLASS SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE A (8th)

Period 1: 8:15-8:42
Period 2: 8:46-9:13
Period 3: 9:17-9:44
LUNCH 9:48-10:18
Period 4: 10:22-10:52
Period 5: 10:56-11:26
Period 6: 11:30-11:57
Period 7: 12:01-12:30

SCHEDULE B (7th)

Period 1: 8:15-8:42
Period 2: 8:46-9:13
Period 3: 9:17-9:44
Period 4: 9:48-10:18
LUNCH 10:22-10:52
Period 5: 10:56-11:26
Period 6: 11:30-11:57
Period 7: 12:01-12:30

SCHEDULE C (6th)

Period 1: 8:15-8:42
Period 2: 8:46-9:13
Period 3: 9:17-9:44
Period 4: 9:48-10:18
Period 5: 10:22-10:52
LUNCH 10:56-11:26
Period 6: 11:30-11:57
Period 7: 12:01-12:30

TWO-HOUR DELAY CLASS SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE A (8th)

Period 1: 10:15-10:45
Period 2: 10:49-11:19
Period 3: 11:23-11:53
LUNCH: 11:57-12:27
Period 4: 12:31-1:01
Period 5: 1:05-1:35
Period 6: 1:39-2:09
Period 7: 2:13-3:00

SCHEDULE B (7th)

Period 1: 10:15-10:45
Period 2: 10:49-11:19
Period 3: 11:23-11:53
Period 4: 11:57-12:27
Lunch: 12:31-1:01
Period 5: 1:05-1:35
Period 6: 1:39-2:09
Period 7: 2:13-3:00

SCHEDULE C (6th)

Period 1: 10:15-10:45
Period 2: 10:49-11:19
Period 3: 11:23-11:53
Period 4: 11:57-12:27
Period 5: 12:31-1:01
Lunch: 1:05-1:35
Period 6: 1:39-2:09
Period 7: 2:13-3:00



Benjamin Banneker Middle School

Bell Schedules 2023-2024

After School Activities	
3:15	All students participating in activities report to the cafeteria
3:20	Beginning of afternoon activities
4:25	Dismissal bell to buses



ATTENDANCE

Banneker's instructional day begins at 8:15 a.m. and concludes at 3:00 p.m. All students have a responsibility to attend their scheduled classes and required activities throughout the school day.

- **Full-day Absence**—Student is present less than two hours during the day.
- **Half-day Absence** -
Student *arrives* more than two hours late = a.m. absent
or
Student *leaves* more than two hours before the end of the day = p.m. absent
or
Student leaves school for more than two hours during the day = a.m. or p.m. absent
- **Tardy**—Student *arrives* within the first two hours of the day.
- **Early dismissal**—Student *leaves* within the last two hours of the day.

All absences must be explained in a written note signed by the parent/guardian. This note must be turned in to the main office, within three school days following the absence. If an absence note is not received, the absence will be considered illegal under Maryland law. **Family vacations are not considered legal absences.**

Parents/guardians are encouraged to call the school office 240-740-6250, between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. to report student absence. It is the student's responsibility to make up the work missed. For the safety of our students, we will not release students during the school day to anyone without prior approval of the parent.

The school is not permitted to release students to anyone not indicated on the emergency form.

Cell Phone/Portable Communication Policy

- Allowed before school with headphones (before 8:15 am)
- Allowed during lunch time with headphones
- No Speakers/No Recordings/No Pictures
- In the classroom - cell phones and headphones away when you walk in the classroom.
- If policy is not followed teachers will refer to the Behavior Management Process.

Student Code of Conduct

A detailed description of the Student Code of Conduct MCPS discipline policy can be found on the MCPS website at <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/rights/>.



StudentVUE

The StudentVUE is a central location for students and their parents, guardians, or other authorized adults to access MCPS student information such as grades, assignments, attendance and class schedule. Contact information can also be reviewed and updated in the ParentVUE account. Please contact the Banneker counseling office with any questions or concerns regarding StudentVUE or ParentVUE.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Banneker will be offering a large number of extracurricular (afterschool) activities. Activities will begin sometime in late September. A list of the offerings will be distributed to students to take home sometime in mid or late September. Activity buses will be available, leaving Banneker at approximately 4:35. Students not taking the activity bus home after extracurricular activities are to be picked up promptly by 4:30 p.m.

All RecXtra activities are free to students.

INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

The middle school interscholastic sports program will continue a modified sports program. . More information will be shared about this in the upcoming weeks. It consists of softball and cross-country in the fall, basketball in the winter and soccer in the spring. Only seventh and eighth grade students can participate. There will be both a boys and girls mixed grade level team for each sport.

“STUDENTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL ON FILE IN THE HEALTH ROOM PRIOR TO TRYING OUT for a sports team.”

You can't try out without a current physical!!



LOCKERS

Hall lockers:

All students will be assigned a locker during the first week of school. Students will visit lockers before school, before and after lunch, and after school.

Backpacks and coats should be kept in the lockers during the school day.

LOST AND FOUND ALERT!

Each year Banneker donates boxes and boxes of clothes, eyeglasses, shoes, purses, wallets and other belongings to charity. You are asked to label all of your child's personal belongings. Most lost items are stored in the hall near the cafeteria. Lost books/notebooks are kept in the media center and smaller items (glasses, keys, wallets) in the main office. If your child does not find the missing article, you might want to come in and check yourself. **Students are not to bring valuable items to school.**



PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORMS

We would like to inform you, in advance, of the materials your child will need in September for participation in their daily Physical Education class. Students are not required to change clothes for Physical Education, however are required to wear safe attire to allow for physical activity.

Below are suggestions of what students can wear:

- T-shirt (black or royal blue with absolutely no writing or design)
- Shorts (royal blue or black mesh with no writing or design)
- On colder days, students may wear sweatshirts and sweatpants (ash/gray with absolutely no writing or design).
- White or grey colors can be accepted.
- Socks and a pair of tennis shoes with either laces or Velcro fasteners

Online Store

We will open an online store in September which will offer Banneker PE attire. This store allows us to raise money for new PE equipment.

Towels and personal hygiene items

Towels and personal hygiene items will not be provided by the school. Students will need to bring these items from home. These items should be stored in their assigned gym locker, along with their physical education clothes.

Students are responsible for making sure their clothing, uniform and other belongings are securely locked in their assigned P.E. locker. Theft can occur if students do not properly secure their belongings. The school is not responsible for stolen belongings.

PROGRESS REPORTS

All Banneker students will receive a school wide progress report midway through each quarter.

Each teacher will complete the progress report with the current grade in each class. Progress reports must be accessed through Synergy StudentVUE.

SAFE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF STUDENTS

Parents are reminded that the circular driveway in front of the school is a bus loop only and the lower lot is for staff parking only. If you drive your child to school or pick him/her up after school, you must use the student drop off area closest to the tennis courts. This area has been designed to simplify this process. Signs are posted showing where students can be dropped off and picked up.

A number of Banneker students walk to school on the sidewalks along Old Columbia Pike. Walkers are required to use the designated cross walks located at the traffic circle. Students should also use caution when crossing the teacher entrance driveway.

SAFE BUS PROCEDURES

Riding the bus is a privilege, not a right. Bus route numbers are written on a blackboard as the buses arrive each afternoon. Students are encouraged to check this board to help locate their bus.

Parents are requested to discuss appropriate behavior for riding the school bus. Reinforce the importance of students remaining in their seats, keeping their arms inside the bus, refraining from throwing objects from the bus, etc. Bus privileges can be denied to students not following bus rules. Food and drinks are not permitted on the buses.

Parents should be aware that while students are closely supervised throughout the school day and on the bus, there is usually no adult supervision once students leave the bus. We strongly recommend that each community consider having parents present at each bus stop. Adult presence at the bus stops will go a long way toward curbing inappropriate behavior.

Students **MUST** ride their assigned bus to and from school. Students who wish to ride home on a friend's bus or get off of their own bus at a friend's stop must bring a note from their parent. Once approved and signed by the principal or designee, the student should give this note to the operator of the bus they will be riding. This practice will normally be approved where space permits. Students who ride a bus other than their assigned one without prior approval can lose bus riding privileges. This applies even if two buses serve the same community.

BACK TO HEALTH NIGHT

All parents are invited to attend **BACK TO HEALTH NIGHT** on Thursday, September 14, 2023, 5:15p.m., in the Room 236. An overview of the Health Program will be presented.



SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

In order to provide a safe school environment, we will be conducting practice fire drills throughout the school year and six (6) Shelter and Lockdown drills. Please retain the paragraph below “In Case of Emergency” and post it on your refrigerator or other similar location in the event of a real situation requiring evacuation to another site.

Banneker employs security assistants. They serve to monitor student behavior as well as assist administration in conducting school investigations. Security is highly visible and they are available to assist students with all school safety concerns.

CLIP AND SAVE..CLIP AND SAVE...CLIP AND SAVE ...



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY!!!!

In the event of a situation that would require moving Banneker students from the school campus, students would be walked to Paint Branch High School. Announcements would be made on radio and television. Should this occur, only emergency personnel would be able to access the Banneker and Paint Branch sites. To obtain the most up-to-date information, parents should contact Liberty Grove Methodist Church, 15225 Old Columbia Pike, at (301) 421-9166. The church site is for parents or family members only. The media will be directed to Fairland Library or Resurrection Church.

CLIP AND SAVE...CLIP AND SAVE...CLIP AND SAVE...

VENDING MACHINES IN SCHOOLS

Vending machines are available for student use during lunch only. These vending machines are located in the cafeteria.



STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING

All MCPS students are required to earn a total of 75 Student Service Learning (SSL) hours before graduating from high school. SSL is an unpaid activity within the curriculum, school or outside community that provides service to an individual or group to address a school or community need. Students may begin earning SSL credit the summer after finishing 5th grade.

- All community service does not qualify for Student Service Learning. Check the SSL Web site www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl to see if the organization/event has been approved, or see the Student Service Learning Coordinator. If the activity is not pre-approved, then a special activity approval form must be filled out in advance.
- Service must be performed with a non profit organization, under the supervision of an adult who is not a relative. Activities must be secular (non-religious) in nature.
- SSL verification forms must be completed and submitted to Student Service Learning Coordinator by specific dates. The verification forms are available on the SSL Web site, main office and counseling office. The specific deadline dates are noted on the school calendar.

SYSTEMWIDE STUDENT DOCUMENTATION TIMELINE

Time Frame of Service	Documentation Due Date
Service completed during the summer	9/29/23
Service completed during the summer and 1st semester	1/5/24
Service completed during the summer, 1st semester, and 2nd semester	5/31/24

****All SSL Forms for service completed after June 1, 2023, through the end of the 2023-2024 school year, are REQUIRED to be submitted to the school SSL Coordinator no later than the first Friday in June.**



Naviance Student

Naviance by Hobsons is a comprehensive K-12 college and career readiness platform that enables self-discovery, career exploration, academic planning, and college preparation for millions of students across all ages and around the globe. Secondary students in MCPS are engaging with the platform through direct classroom instruction facilitated by the school counselors. At the middle school level, lessons in Naviance Student are delivered twice a year. Students complete surveys and interest inventories, as well as learn about a vast array of career options via Road Trip Nation videos.

For additional information, please visit the Banneker website or contact your child’s grade-level counselor via email or phone (240) 740-6260. The direct web address: <http://connection.naviance.com/benjaminmiddle>.

Signs of Suicide (SOS)

MCPS is enhancing its suicide prevention curriculum using the Signs of Suicide® (SOS®) Prevention Program. The SOS® Program is a youth suicide prevention program that has demonstrated an improvement in students’ knowledge and adaptive attitudes towards suicide risk and depression, as well as a reduction in actual suicide attempts. Listed on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices, the SOS® Program showed a reduction in self-reported suicide attempts by 40 to 64 percent in randomized control studies (*Aseltine, et al., 2007; Schilling, et al., 2016*).

Our goals for participating in this program are straightforward:

- To help students understand that depression is a treatable illness,
- To explain that suicide is a preventable tragedy that often occurs as a result of untreated depression,
- To provide students with the education and skills to recognize the signs of serious depression and potential suicidality in a friend, and
- To impress upon teens that they can help themselves or a friend by taking the simple step of talking to a responsible adult about their concerns.

We encourage you to visit www.sosignsof suicide.org/parent for information on warning signs for youth suicide, useful resources, and some of the key messages students will learn. More information will come before the delivery of these lessons.

Personal Body Safety Lessons (PBSL)

Montgomery County Public Schools is taking an active role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect through early prevention and intervention education.

School Counselors and Health Education teachers will be presenting lessons on the topic of child abuse and neglect. The lessons are known as *Personal Body Safety Lessons* (PBSL) and their purpose is to help students to:

- Develop knowledge, decision making skills, and behaviors which promote safe living in the home, school, and community;
- Learn skills for self-protection and identifying child abuse and neglect;
- Learn skills for asking for help for self and others and practice reporting to a trusted adult; and
- Engage in positive and appropriate interactions with peers and adults.

Restorative Justice at Benjamin Banneker Middle School

At Benjamin Banneker Middle School, **Restorative Justice** is a mindset and philosophy toward school climate and relationship building in a system. It is a social justice platform that will allow our students to:

- actively engage and problem-solve physical, psychological, social and disciplinary issues that affect their lives and the community at large.
- take responsibility for their actions and work with those affected to restore the community and members who were harmed as a result of those actions.

We look forward to welcoming our students back in the next few weeks and opening our doors with **Equity** and **Restorative Justice** in mind.



Suggested School Supply List 2023-2024

Required:

- MCPS will provide a Chromebook, charger, and case for each student.
- Regular headphones will be given by the school but if your student would want earbuds please send them in with them daily.
- One agenda book will be provided for each student at the beginning of the year.
- All items must be brought to school daily.



Recommended School Supplies:

- 2" or 3" Binder
- Pocket Folder
- Lined Paper
- Pencil Pouch
- #2 Pencils with Erasers
- Large Eraser
- Highlighter
- Colored Pencils
- Blue/Black Pens

Please Note: Teachers may advise students of any additional supplies needed during the first week of school.



School Colors: BLUE & ORANGE
School Mascot: BOBCAT



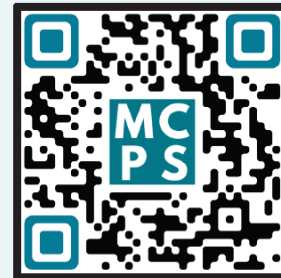
MCPS
Back-to-School Fair



SAVE THE DATE!!!

All MCPS students and families are invited to kick off the 2023-2024 school year!

- Learn about the school system, and county programs and services.
- Enjoy free music, entertainment, giveaways and youth activities!
- Free immunization clinic and more.



Visit and bookmark <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/fair2023/> to check for additional updates and details as they become available.

Mark your calendars. We hope to see you there!

Saturday, August 26, 2023
10 a.m.–1 p.m. @Westfield Wheaton
1160 Viers Mill Road, Wheaton, MD 20902



CALENDAR 2023-2024

July

11 Sixth Grade Orientation - 5:30-7:30pm

AUGUST

24 MCPS - New Student Orientation 8:15-11:45am
24 Back to School Picnic- 6:00pm
28 First day of school for students

SEPTEMBER (Hispanic Heritage Month)

4 Holiday – Labor Day
14 Back to School Night @ 6:00pm
22 Early Release for students @ 12:30 p.m
25 No school for students and teachers
29 SSL Verification forms due (for service done over the summer)

OCTOBER

9 Professional Day - No school for students
31 End of 1st marking period

NOVEMBER (Native American Heritage Month)

1 Professional Day - No school for students
9 Report Cards distributed
20 Early Release for students @ 12:30 p.m
21 Early Release for students @ 12:30 p.m
22 Systemwide Closure-Schools and Offices Closed
23&24 Holiday – Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

25 Holiday- Schools and Offices Closed
26-29 Winter Break

Some calendar dates are subject to change

JANUARY 2024

1 Holiday-Schools and Offices Closed
2 No school for students and teachers
3 Students return from Winter Break
5 SSL Verification forms due (for service done 1st semester)
15 Holiday–Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
26 End of 2nd marking period
29 Professional Day – No school for students

FEBRUARY (African American Heritage Month)

5 Report Cards distributed
19 Holiday - Presidents' Day

MARCH (Women's History Month)

1 Early Release for students @ 12:30 p.m.
25-28 Spring Break
29 Holiday

APRIL (Arab American Heritage Month)

1 Holiday
2 Students return from Spring Break
9 End of 3rd marking period
10 Professional Day - No school for students
18 Report Cards distributed
22 Professional Day - No school for students
25 Take Your Child to Work Day

MAY (Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month)

14 Election Day-Schools and Offices Closed
27 Holiday - Memorial Day
31 SSL Verification forms due (for service done 2nd semester)

JUNE

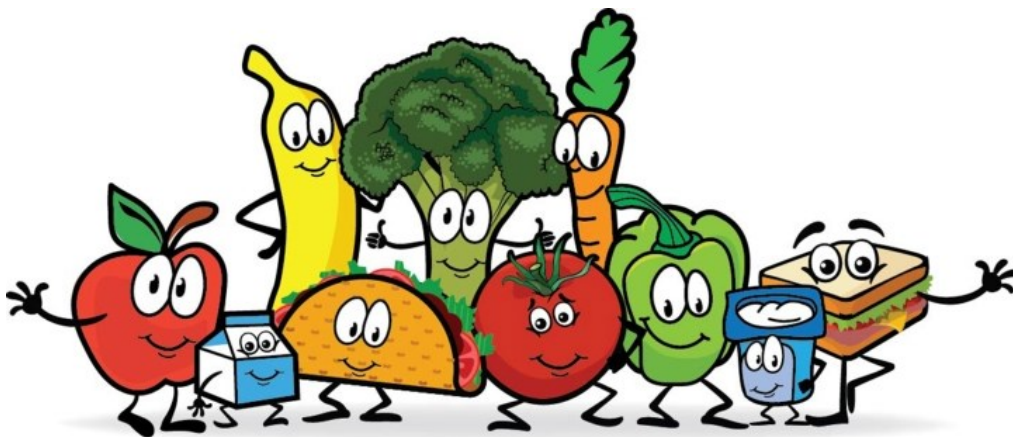
13 End of 4th marking period
13 Last Day of School – Dismissal @ 12:30
14 Professional Day for teachers
19 Systemwide Closure-Schools and Offices Closed
24 Report Cards Mailed Home



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2023– 2024 CAFETERIA NEWS & MEALS INFORMATION
For Schools Participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**

Free Breakfast and Lunch for the 2023-24 school year: Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will be providing free breakfast and lunch at Benjamin Banneker Middle School in the 2023–2024 school year. Households do NOT need to complete Free And Reduced-price Meal (FARMS) applications in order to receive free meal benefits at our school*. We encourage students to enjoy breakfast and lunch at school.

***Households with students at other MCPS schools should check directly with those schools to determine if a FARM application is needed.**





Maryland's Largest School District

MCPS Form 281-13
July 2023
Page 1 of 2

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Annual Notice for Directory Information and Student Privacy



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland 20850
MCPS Regulation JOA-RA, *Student Records*

See Reverse Side for Annual Notification of Your Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), (20 U.S.C. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99)

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Schools provide *directory information* for public listings such as honor roll, awards, and other notices in the newspaper or on the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) website. A student's name, address, and telephone number may also be released to organizations of any combination of parents/guardians, teachers, and students of a school. **Unless you tell them not to**, schools can release the information without your prior consent.

Teachers may also record virtual lessons for future viewing by students in the same class. If you do not want your student's image and voice captured in such recordings, please indicate below.

Directory Information includes the following items: student's and/or parent's/guardian's name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number; student's date of birth; major field of study; grade level; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; degrees and awards received (including honor roll); most recent school attended; dates of attendance; photograph, or other likeness; the weight and height of members of athletic teams; and other similar information.

If you do not want your school to release your directory information, complete the information below and return this notice to your school **by September 11, 2023**.

Additional copies of this notice can be found on the MCPS website, and are available in Spanish, French, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Amharic, and Portuguese.

This form must be completed every year.

Your school **will assume you agree** to the release of the directory information, unless this form is returned by Friday, **September 11, 2023**.

If you need to change your decision at a later date, just contact your school directly.

If you enroll after September 11, 2023, you can complete this form at the time of enrollment.

Montgomery County Public Schools

Request to Withhold Directory Information for the 2023–2024 School Year

Choose ONE of the following categories:

- Please **do not** release any directory information. (See definition above)
- Please **do not** release the following **part or parts** of directory information. (check all that apply)
 - Name Phone number(s) Photograph Address Date of Birth
 - E-mail address(es) Parent/Guardian names Grade Level

EXCEPTIONS TO WITHHOLD REQUEST MARKED ABOVE:

- Release to organizations of any combination of parents/guardians, teachers, and students of a school
 - Release for Honor Roll publication Release photo for yearbook
- Do not include my student's image and voice in the recording of virtual lessons for future viewing by students in the same class

Student's Name _____ Grade _____ ID# _____

School -- Choose One -- _____

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

If you do not restrict the release of certain information about your child, you are giving the school system and local schools the ability to perform daily operations and routine tasks without obtaining parental permission to release each piece of directory information every time it is released.



Department of Transportation

West Farm Upper Depot

11920 Bournefield Way
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904
Phone: 240-740-7360 Fax: 240-740-1860



August 1, 2023

Dear Middle School Parent:

Enclosed are route schedules for buses serving your child's school. Please note the appropriate time, location, and route number for your child. Many routes are designed so that students do not need to cross a major roadway to use the bus. This is indicated on route descriptions by "RSO" (right side only) next to the bus stop notation. Parents should not allow their children to circumvent this safety measure by crossing the road to use a different bus stop if there is one on their side of the street. Parents should contact their depot manager if no bus stops on their side of the street. Students should be ready and waiting to board the bus five minutes prior to its scheduled arrival time. Route numbers are displayed on the side window of the bus.

Students who live within 1.5 miles of the school are not eligible for transportation services if age-appropriate walking routes are available. Questions should be referred to the transportation cluster manager who is responsible for your school. Your school or the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) website can provide you with contact information for your transportation cluster manager. Bus stops previously scheduled may have been eliminated or relocated to provide economies in operation. Every effort is made to minimize inconvenience to students and parents; and provide a reasonable level of service. Saving support budget dollars provides more resources for classrooms.

When bus stops are scheduled at intersections, students should stand safely away from traffic, within 150 feet of the stop. *Parents are responsible for maintaining discipline and safety at bus stops.* Students waiting for buses may choose to stand in carports and garages for protection from the elements. This is acceptable only if: (1) it does not alter the route; (2) it does not increase the number of stops; (3) it is acceptable to all parties involved; and (4) it is reasonably close to the regular stop (so that a substitute bus operator, not familiar with special arrangements, may easily locate the students). Please note: bus operators are only authorized to stop at designated stops; do not request unauthorized stops. MCPS realizes substantial fuel and other operational savings by limiting the number of bus stops.

Students who wish to ride home on a friend's bus, or get off their own bus at a friend's stop must bring a note from their parent. Once approved and signed by the principal, the student should give this note to the operator of the bus they will be riding. This practice will normally be approved where space permits.



Middle School Parent

2

August 1, 2023

Inclement weather creates many hardships for all. It is not possible to provide additional transportation during winter months or on rainy days, and for this reason, students should dress accordingly. In case buses are not able to reach designated stops due to snow and ice accumulation, parents are encouraged to make advance arrangements with bus operators so that students who live in these areas can board at alternate locations when necessary.

Appropriate student behavior is important to the safety and comfort of everyone. Parents are encouraged to discuss behavior with their children regularly to reinforce this message. It is important that all students follow the rules stated in “*Ride by the Rules.*” campaign. For more information on this, please visit: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/transportation/rules/>. Please note: students should not bring animals, alcohol, tobacco, weapons (including toy or “look-alike” weapons), glass containers, or explosives on the bus.

Student transportation can only operate effectively if we all do our part to make things work. Parental assistance and cooperation are needed to provide a safe transportation system for student riders.

Sincerely,

Shantae M. Birton

Shantae M. Birton
Depot Manager

SMB:grc

Enclosures

Please Note: Bus routes are subject to change



08/03/2023 09:03 AM

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2023-2024

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Arrival Routes Report

Route: 7101 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:40 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	BALLINGER DR AND VAN HORN WAY
2	BALLINGER DR AND WEXHALL DR
3	WEXHALL DR AND CHILDRESS TER
4	WEXHALL DR AND WEXHALL TER
	7:54 A.M. BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866
	333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7106 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:53 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	BLACKBURN RD AND BALLET WAY
	8:00 A.M. BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866
	333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7107 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:28 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	OLD BRIGGS CHANEY RD FROM OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
2	APPLE TREE LA AND VALLEY VISTA LA
3	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND CLAUDE LA - WEST - RSO
4	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND MAYFLOWER DR - RSO
5	1624 BRIGGS CHANEY RD 20905 - RSO
6	GOOD HOPE RD AND MURPHY LA
7	FIRESIDE DR AND BRIGGS CHANEY RD
8	FIRESIDE DR AND KIVA RD
9	HAROLD RD AND KIVA RD
10	HAROLD RD AND BRIGGS CHANEY RD
11	BRIGGS CHANEY RD WEST FROM PEACH ORCHARD TO GOOD HOPE RD - RSO
12	STURTEVANT RD AND SEATTLE AVE - NORTH
13	STURTEVANT RD AND CANTRELL RD
14	STEUBEN WAY AND CREST HILL LA
15	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND NEES LA - RSO
16	WILDWOOD DR AND BRIGGS CHANEY RD
17	WILDWOOD DR AND COUNTRYSIDE DR
	8:00 A.M. BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866
	333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7108 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:52 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	GATESHEAD MANOR WAY AND ASTON MANOR DR
2	ASTON MANOR DR AND HAMPTON HOLLOW DR
	8:00 A.M. BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866
	333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7111 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:21 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	OLD COLUMBIA PIKE AND DUVALL RD
2	BRADSHAW DR AND FAIRDALE RD
3	BRADSHAW CT AND BRADSHAW DR
4	BRADSHAW DR AND FAIRDALE RD
5	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND FAIRDALE RD - RSO
6	2725 BRIGGS CHANEY RD 20905 RSO
7	OLD COLUMBIA PIKE AND MARTELLO DR
8	OLD COLUMBIA PIKE AND SHERVIEW LN



08/03/2023 09:03 AM

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2023-2024

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Arrival Routes Report

9 2310 FAIRLAND RD 20904
 10 TURNAROUND ON CEDAR CREEK LA AND STOP AFTER CIRCLE
 11 COLEFAIR DR AND BADIAN DR
 12 CREEKSIDE DR AND BRIDGEWATER DR
 13 FAIRRIDGE DR AND PARALLEL LA
 14 STARCREST DR AND PARALLEL LA
 15 13991 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE 20904
 7:49 A.M. **BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866**
333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7113 - BANNEKER MS

First Stop Time: 7:22 A.M.

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	ROBEY RD AND ROBEY TER - RSO
2	SANDY SPRING RD AND DINO DR
3	SANDY SPRING RD AND WOOTTENS DR
4	4343 SANDY SPRING RD 20866
5	SANDY SPRING RD AND BIRMINGHAM DR
6	RIDING STABLE RD AND HUCKBURN CT
7	RIDING STABLE RD AND RIDING RIDGE CT
8	RIDING STABLE RD AND JERALD RD
9	RIDING STABLE RD AND AITCHESON LA
10	SANDY SPRING RD FROM RIDING STABLE RD TO RT 29 RSO - 4408 SANDY SPRING RD

7:45 A.M. **BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866**
333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7114 - BANNEKER MS

First Stop Time: 7:48 A.M.

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND GENTRY RIDGE CT - RSO
2	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND LEGEND OAKS RD
3	BRIGGS CHANEY RD AND ALPENHORN WAY - RSO
4	MEDALLION DR AND ENGLISH TURN DR
5	3200 BRIGGS CHANEY RD 20904 - ONE WORLD LEARNING CENTER (301-890-1412) DO NOT PULL INTO DRIVEWAY
6	ROBEY RD @ KNIGHTS BRIDGE APTS - GATE ENTRANCE BY FIRE HYDRANT

8:00 A.M. **BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866**
333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7117 - BANNEKER MS

First Stop Time: 7:20 A.M.

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	SPENCERVILLE RD FROM OLD COLUMBIA PIKE TO OURSLER RD - RSO
2	SPENCERVILLE RD FROM OURSLER RD TO LIONS DEN RD - RSO
3	DUSTIN RD AND AMINA DR
4	DUSTIN RD AND DUSTIN CT
5	OLD COLUMBIA PIKE AND BELL RD
6	CEDAR TREE DR AND MCKNEW RD
7	CEDAR TREE DR AND CEDAR TREE LA
8	MC KNEW RD AND SUGAR PINE CT

8:00 A.M. **BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866**
333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7119 - BANNEKER MS

First Stop Time: 7:42 A.M.

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	CEDAR TREE DR AND DUNWOOD TER



08/03/2023 09:03 AM

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2023-2024

Page: 3

Arrival Routes Report

2 CEDAR TREE DR AND BENTLEY PARK DR
 3 BENTLEY PARK DR AND ARBOR WOOD CT
 8:00 A.M. **BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866**
333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7120 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:53 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	CASTLE BLV AT WOODVALE APTS - CLOSEST TO SHOPPING CENTER
8:00 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7122 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:40 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	14001 CASTLE BLVD - ON CASTLE BLVD
7:40 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7124 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:45 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	CEDAR TREE DR AND MCKNEW RD
8:00 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7126 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:48 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	GREENCASTLE RD AND LANSDALE CT
2	GREENCASTLE RD AND WILDLIFE LA
3	GREENCASTLE RD AND BRYANT PARK CIRCLE
4	GREENCASTLE RD AND GREENCASTLE RIDGE DR
	(KNIGHTSBRIDGE II APTS) - GO INTO COMPLEX
5	GREENCASTLE RD AND STEPPING STONE LA
8:00 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7127 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:47 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	WEXHALL DR AND SILVER SPRUCE DR
2	BLACKBURN LN AND BLACKBURN RD
8:00 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL

Route: 7130 - BANNEKER MS**First Stop Time: 7:49 A.M.**

<u>Seq</u>	<u>Stop Description</u>
1	WEXHALL DR AND WEXHALL TER
2	TURBRIDGE DR AND GREENCASTLE RD
3	GREENCASTLE RD AND SWAN HOUSE CT
4	GREENCASTLE RD AND ANGELTON CT
8:00 A.M.	BANNEKER MS 14800 PERRYWOOD DR, BURTONSVILLE, MD 20866 333 - REGULAR SCHOOL