

# BMS Newsletter

AUGUST 2022

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year. The BMS community is so excited to see all of our students return to school. Lots of changes are taking place at BMS. Construction has been happening since summer to ensure a safe and comfortable learning environment for all and new staff along with our current staff are preparing to cultivate the minds of tomorrow's leaders.

The administrative team will consist of all new faces this year. I'll be taking the reins as the head building principal. Mr. Jonathan Lane has done a great job of laying a solid foundation, and I am looking forward to continuing the great work that he started. Rick Sullivan is our new assistant principal. He comes from Ravenna High School where he served as a social studies teacher and led many successful initiatives. Tim Cole, our new dean of students, was previously an English teacher at Springfield High School and also served as a coach for many years. Our combined experiences will be used to serve our school community and bring out the best in both staff and students.

Please encourage your students to share what they are doing in class. I think you will find that they are gaining a top-notch education and are truly enjoying the school year. This school year will be full of fun activities that will engage students in the learning environment and create an atmosphere that encourages critical thinking and promotes 21st century learning.

My team and I are so looking forward to this school year. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email or phone. We are always available to assist.

I look forward to seeing you at our after school events!

*Catrina Burwell*

BMS Principal

Twitter: @RSDBrownMiddle

Twitter: @BMSPrincipalCat

Instagram: bmsprincipalcat

Facebook: Ravenna School District Brown Middle School

## **BMS Visitor Policy**

Given the uncertain and ever changing times we find ourselves in, we have had to update our building visitor policy. For the safety of all families:

- No visitors will be permitted into the building without an appointment. We can be reached at 330-296-3849 to schedule an appointment.
- Students being signed out will be brought to the door by a staff member - please communicate via the intercom at the door or call the office upon arrival.
- Tardy students will come to the office to sign themselves in - parents should not come in with their child.
- Food deliveries to the school via an outside source (Uber Eats, Door Dash, etc) will be refused at the door.

## **Schedule Pick Up**

Due to the ongoing construction in the building, touring the building and finding classes will not be an option at schedule pick up this year. We are sorry for any inconvenience.



**Brown Middle School**  
228 S. Scranton Street  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
Office: 330-296-3849  
Fax: 330-297-4146

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**Principal: Catrina Burwell**  
**Assistant Principal: Rick Sullivan**  
**Dean of Students: Tim Cole**  
**Secretary: Jodi Kornbau**  
**Attendance Secretary: Mandy Caicco**  
**Guidance: Margaret VanFossen**  
**Guidance: Kara Pumper**

## Important Dates

### August

- Aug 10 - 6th Grade Schedule Pick Up 9-11am
- Aug 10 - Back to School Bash at RHS - 5-7pm
- Aug 11 - 7th Grade Schedule Pick Up 9-11am
- Aug 11 - 5th Grade Orientation 5-6:30pm
- Aug 12 - 8th Grade Schedule Pick Up 9-11am
- Aug 17 - 1st Day of School for 5th and 6th Grade
- Aug 17 - BMS Open House 6th-8th Grades 5-6:30pm
- Aug 18 - 1st Day of School for 7th and 8th Grade

### September

- Sept 5 - No School - Labor Day
- Sept 13 - School Picture Day

### October

- Oct 6 - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
3-6:30pm - call the office to schedule
- Oct 14 - No School - NEOEA Day
- Oct 21 - End of 1st Grading Period
- Oct 25 - Picture Re-take Day
- Oct 28 - Report Cards Post to HAC



## Student Handbook

### Need information?

Check out the school website - [Ravennaschools.us](http://Ravennaschools.us). You can find Brown Middle School under the SCHOOLS tab. Here you will find many helpful items:

- Staff Directory - staff email addresses
- Lunch Menus - breakfast and lunch options for Brown Middle School
- Daily Announcements - important dates, announcements, supply list, etc.
- Sports Physical Forms (forms and documents tab) - required for all student athletes
- Medication forms (forms and documents tab) - required for any student needing to take medicine during the school day
- Student Handbook (forms and documents tab) - rules and expectations for students

**You can also access your student's schedule and monitor their grades and attendance on Home Access Center (HAC) from the Quick Links box. This is an excellent way to stay informed about your student's progress!**

### Final Forms

As you know, Final Forms are never truly "final". Every year these forms need to be filled out for each student attending Ravenna City Schools. **Please be sure to review and sign every page in Final Forms as we head into the new school year.** Please update email addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, medical information, etc. as necessary throughout the year. This ensures that we have current information for you and your student. Change of addresses need to take place through Central Registration with proper documentation (an updated lease/mortgage statement and a current gas or electric bill). The link can be found on the District webpage under the Parents tab.

To access and download the BMS Student Handbook please use the link below:

<https://schoolplanner.schoolinfoapp.com/html5/14/home>

## Food Service

The Ravenna School District is very excited to announce that **all Ravenna School District students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast AND lunch at school at *no charge* to families AND AT NO COST TO THE RAVENNA SCHOOL DISTRICT!** The Ravenna School District received a federal grant and will be participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs called the Community Eligibility Provision.

The Ravenna School District is pleased to introduce their new My School Menus™ mobile app available in the iTunes App Store and Google Play. The My School Menus™ app allows parents and students to access nutrition information for the school meal programs direct from their smart phones and tablets. Don't have a smartphone? You can get the same information by visiting the district website. There, you can also print the nutrition information and district menus for posting on your refrigerator at home.



**Brown Middle School collects the following to help our school earn extra funds and supplies:**

- **Acme Community Cash Back Program** - We will earn 5% cash back on Acme Fresh Market store brands. We will be collecting Acme register receipts that are dated August 4, 2022 - December 24, 2022. Invite your friends and family to save receipts for you and turn them into the main office!
- **Box Tops for Education Labels** - Box Tops has gone digital but we are still collecting clipped ones with valid expiration dates
- **Inkjet Cartridges, Smart Phones, Cell Phones, iPads & Tablets, Smart Watches** - With the EcoPhones Recycling Fundraiser, our school earns money for your old/broken phones, tablets and inkjet cartridges. Please bring items to the main office.
- **Coca-cola Give** - Any Coca-Cola beverage that has a product code under its cap or printed on its paper packaging is eligible to be used for donation. Scan or enter the product code on their website to donate. <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/school>



## Brown Middle School

228 S. Scranton St., Ravenna, Ohio 44266 330-296-3849

### Student Supply List 2022-23 School Year

The following is a list of items students will need for the upcoming school year:

#### Grades 6, 7, 8 Supply List

- 1 - 1 ½" 3-ring binder
- 1 - spiral bound wide-ruled notebook
- 2 - packs of wide ruled loose leaf notebook paper
- 2 - (2 pocket) folders
- 1 - pair of scissors
- 2 - glue sticks
- 24 - pencils
- 4 - dry erase markers
- 1 - 12 pack of colored pencils
- 1 - 10 pack of markers
- 1 - pair of earbuds or headphones
- 1 - supply pouch
- 1 - handheld pencil sharpener
- 1 - pack of tabbed insertable dividers
- 5 - (2 pocket) folders with 3 holes to place in binder
- 1 - pack of index cards
- 1 - ruler
- 3 - highlighters
- 1 - pack of erasers (pencil top or large pink eraser)
- 1 - 24 pack of crayons
- 1 - pack of red pens
- 1 - TI-30XIIS scientific calculator

#### Grade 5 Supply List

- Kleenex (2)
- Disinfectant Wipes (1)
- 24 pencils
- Hand held pencil sharpener
- 1 or 1 ½ inch binder
- 2 packs wide ruled notebook paper
- 1 spiral notebook
- 3 (2 pocket) folders
- Scissors
- 1 pack of glue sticks
- Dry erase markers (at least 4)
- Colored pencils or markers
- 1 pair over the head, headphones (These last longer than the earbuds)
- Supply pouch
- Girls - 1 box sandwich bags
- Boys - 1 box gallon bags
- 9"x 12" sketchbook - for art class

#### Class Specific items needed:

- 1 - Composition notebook (**6th grade Science**)
- 1 - *Standard of Excellence Books I and II* (**6th grade band members only**)
- 1 - 1" binder for sheet music (**6th grade band members only**)
- 1 - poly or plastic folder for sheet music (**choir members only**)
- 1 - 1" binder, 5 tab dividers, and plenty of paper and pencils (**6th grade math**)

**Mrs. Coyle's class will only need:** 4 packs of pencils(12/pk), 2 large Clorox/Lysol wipes, 2 boxes of tissues, 2 glue sticks.

**Mrs. Edward's, and Mrs. Ruff's classes:** Instead of the items listed above, will receive a supply list from the teacher.

**Specials teachers may require additional items once the school year begins.**

**Teachers' Wish List (can be given to homeroom teachers on the first day of school):** Tissues, antibacterial wipes, hand sanitizer, paper towels.



### Vaccine requirements for 7<sup>th</sup> graders

The state of Ohio requires all students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> grade to have the meningococcal vaccine (also known as MCV4, Menevo or Menactra) in addition to one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis).

#### **Meningococcal meningitis**

Meningococcal meningitis is a rare but serious disease that develops rapidly and can claim a life in as little as one day. Of those who survive, approximately one in five are left with serious medical problems like amputation, deafness, and brain damage. Teens are at increased risk of meningococcal meningitis. This increased risk may be due to activities like sharing utensils and kissing.

#### **Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap)**

Tetanus causes painful tightening of the muscles, usually all over your body; diphtheria causes a thick covering in the back of the throat and can also lead to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure, and even death; pertussis causes coughing spells and can lead to pneumonia, seizures, brain damage, and death, particularly in infants.

Vaccination is the best way to protect someone from getting the disease.

You may obtain these vaccines from your child's health care provider or other community resource. Vaccines are also available at your local health department.

Students who do not provide documentation of these immunizations to the school this fall are subject to exclusion. If there are medical, religious or philosophical reasons your child cannot receive immunizations, please contact the school clinic for an Immunization Exemption Form.

Thank you,

Jackie Kelley BSN, RN  
District RN Supervisor for Ravenna School District  
Akron Children's Hospital, School Health Services  
jackie.kelley@ravennaschools.us  
330-618-8721

## Ravenna School District 2022 – 2023 Calendar

### Important Dates

#### August

- (15) Staff Convocation Day
- (16) Staff Preparation Day
- (17) First Day of School - Students

#### September

- (5) Labor Day – No School

#### October

- (14) NEOEA Day - No School
- (21) End of 1st Grading Period  
( \_46\_ days)

#### November

- (8) Staff Professional  
Development Day – No School
- (24-25) Thanksgiving Break
- (28) Conference Day – No School

#### December

- (21) Start Winter Break
- (25) Christmas

#### January

- (1) New Year's Day
- (4) Return to School – Winter Break
- (12) End of 2nd Grading Period  
( \_45\_ days)
- End of 1st Semester ( \_91\_ days)
- (13) Record's Day - No School
- (16) Martin Luther King Day – No  
School

#### February

- (17) Staff Professional  
Development Day – No School
- (20) President's Day - No School

#### March

- (17) End of 3rd Grading Period  
( \_42\_ days)

#### April

- (3) Start Spring Break
- (7) Good Friday
- (10) Conference Day – No School
- (11) Return to School - Spring Break

#### May

- (25) End of 4th Grading Period  
( \_43\_ days)
- End of 2nd Semester (85\_days)
- (26) Record's Day – No School
- (29) Memorial Day - No School

#### June

- (19) Juneteenth

#### July

- (4) Independence Day

#### August 2022

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#### September 2022

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#### October 2022

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#### November 2022

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#### December 2022

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#### January 2023

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#### February 2023

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#### March 2023

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#### April 2023

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#### May 2023

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#### June 2023

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#### July 2023

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### OST Testing

	Staff Only ~ No Students
	School Closed
	End of Grading Period

## Annual Notifications 2022-2023

### **Student Insurance Available**

The Ravenna School District Board of Education recognizes that parents may have a need for insurance coverage for their children. Parents have an opportunity to purchase group accident and sickness insurance, at the expense of the parents. Participation is voluntary. School districts are required to share this information. If you are interested, please contact the school office within the first 75 days of the new school year or the first 75 days after enrollment for an application. If you lose your present insurance coverage during the year, you will be eligible to purchase insurance at that time if needed. Coverage is provided by Love Insurance Agency. For more information, please call the Attendance Office at Ravenna High School at 330-296-3844 or Love Insurance Agency directly at 440-975-0309.

### **Emergency Notification**

In the event of a school emergency or closing due to hazardous weather conditions or any other emergency situation, the automated phone messaging system will be used to contact parents/guardians. The message will come to the phone number provided on the registration card (in Final Forms) at the beginning of the year. If your phone number changes, please notify the school secretary.

### **Video Surveillance/Electronic Monitoring**

The buildings, grounds, and vehicles of the Ravenna School District may be under video surveillance at any time. The purpose of video surveillance is to protect Board property and assets from theft and vandalism, through deterrence and video documentation. The system is not designed nor intended to protect individuals from being victims of violent or property crimes, nor to detect other potentially illegal and undesirable activities that may occur, although information may be used as evidence in such cases. The Board recognizes that the use of a video surveillance/electronic monitoring system does not replace the need for the ongoing vigilance of the school staff assigned by the building principal to monitor and supervise the school. Rather, the video surveillance/electronic monitoring system serves as an appropriate and useful tool with which to augment or support the in-person supervision provided by staff. Questions about surveillance can be addressed by the building principal or Mr. Stephen York, Director of Business Operations, at 330-296-7159.

### **Student Records-Directory Information**

The Ravenna Board of Education designates the following as directory information: a student's name; address; date of birth; major field of study; participation in officially-recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; and awards received. Directory information shall not be provided to any organization for profit-making purposes.

Parents and adult students may refuse to allow the District to disclose any or all of such directory information upon written notification to the District within ten (10) days after receipt of the District's public notice. The request needs to be sent to Ben Ribelin, Assistant Superintendent, Ravenna School District, 534 Summit Street, Ravenna, OH 44266 or e-mailed to [ben.ribelin@ravennaschools.us](mailto:ben.ribelin@ravennaschools.us).

In accordance with State law, the District shall release the names and addresses of students in grades ten through twelve (10-12) to recruiting officers for any branch of the United States Armed Forces who requests such information. Such data shall not be released if the adult student or student's parents submit a written request not to release such information to the assistant superintendent.

Whenever parental consent is required for the inspection and/or release of a student's health or educational records or for the release of directory information, either parent may provide such consent unless agreed to otherwise in writing by both parents or specifically stated by court order. If the student is under the guardianship of an institution, the Superintendent shall contact the institution and then appoint a person who has no conflicting interest to provide such written consent.

The district may disclose directory information on former students without student or parental consent.

## **Special Education**

Special education means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parent, to meet the unique needs of a handicapped child. Special Education Programs are provided for all children who have a handicapping disability. A disability in this instance means conditions such as: hearing impairments, visual impairments, speech or language impairments, learning disabilities, multiple disabilities, other health impairments, physical impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury. Every handicapped child in Ohio is entitled to services provided by the school district in which they reside. These services include: evaluation services for all children birth through twenty one years, diagnostic services for all children birth through age twenty one years of age, and educational programs for children three through twenty one years of age. If you know of a child who is handicapped or at risk and NOT receiving services, please call the Ravenna School District Special Services Office at 330-296-9679.

## **Identification of Children Who Are Gifted**

The Ravenna School District follows eligibility criteria as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Department of Education to identify youngsters who are gifted. The District identifies students in grades kindergarten through twelve that may be gifted in one or more of these areas: superior cognitive ability, specific academic achievement, creative thinking ability, and/or the visual or performing arts.

All students' standardized test scores and other school performance measures are reviewed to determine the need for gifted screening and identification. In addition, parents, students, and/or teachers may recommend students for screening for possible identification.

If you have questions about the identification of youngsters as gifted in the Ravenna Schools, please contact Robin Worges, Gifted Program Coordinator at West Main Elementary School (330-296-6522 or e-mail: [robin.worges@ravennaschools.us](mailto:robin.worges@ravennaschools.us)).

## **Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges**

Students on a bus or other authorized Board of Education transportation vehicles are under the authority of and directly responsible to the bus/vehicle driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus/vehicle conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver will be sufficient reason for refusing transportation service to any student.

A student may be suspended from school bus/vehicle riding privileges for all or part of a school year for any violation of established regulations for bus conduct and/or for conduct occurring on the bus/vehicle in violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

Before a suspension from bus/vehicle riding privileges is imposed, the Superintendent or other designated District personnel will provide a student with notice of an intended suspension and an opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or other designated District personnel. Disciplinary suspension periods will be commensurate with the infraction(s) committed as determined by the Superintendent or designated District personnel.

## **ESEA Waiver**

On May 29, 2012, the United States Department of Education (USDE) granted the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) a waiver of several provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). Important provisions of this waiver are available.

## **Title I**

Title I, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA), provides financial assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards. Federal funds are currently allocated to all of our four elementary schools based on census poverty estimates and the cost of education in each state. The purpose of Title 1 funding is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to

obtain a high quality education and reach, at minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. Ravenna School District uses these funds to provide supplemental tutoring, reduce class sizes, provide family nights, and purchase reading and math materials.

### **Title I Teacher Qualifications**

Under the federal education law, ESSA, parents of students in buildings that receive federal Title I money may request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teachers. Information that may be requested includes whether or not the teacher has the state-required certification/licensing credential for his/her assignment and information relating to his/her college degrees and major areas of study. West Main, Willyard, and West Park Schools receive Title I funds. To request information on the qualifications of the teacher(s) that work with your child, please contact the principal of your child's school or Mr. Lee Smith, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, at the Ravenna Board of Education Office (330-296-9679).

### **Drug-Free Schools**

In accordance with Federal Law, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, concealment, or distribution of drugs by students on school grounds, in school-approved vehicles, or at any school-related event. Drugs include any alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, dangerous controlled substance as defined by State statute, or substance that could be considered a "look-a-like" controlled substance. Compliance with this policy is mandatory for all students. Any student who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with due process and as specified in the student handbooks, up to and including expulsion from school. When required by State law, the District will also notify law enforcement officials.

The District is concerned about any student who is a victim of alcohol or drug abuse and will facilitate the process by which s/he receives help through programs and services available in the community. Students and their parents should contact the school principal or counseling office whenever such help is needed.

### **McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Program**

This program is designed to make sure all homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free and appropriate public education as children and youth who are not homeless. This includes preschool education. A brochure has been published by the Ohio Department of Education to explain the rights of families. You may access the brochure through the following link: [Parent Guide to Rights of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness](#)

The Ravenna School District contact for information relating to homeless issues is Mr. Ben Ribelin, Assistant Superintendent, at the Ravenna Board of Education Office (330-296-9679).

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination and Grievance Procedures**

The Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, religion, ancestry, age, military status, national origin, genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes"), or any other legally protected category, in its programs, activities, or employment.

Any person that believes that s/he has been discriminated against or denied equal opportunity or access to programs or services may file a complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, with the District's Civil Rights Coordinator, Ben Ribelin - Assistant Superintendent, Ravenna School District, 534 Summit Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266. 330-296-9679, Ext. 1020. The individual may also, at any time, contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 600 Superior Avenue, Room 750, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

### **Locker Search**

All persons are hereby put on notice that lockers are the property of the Board of Education. Lockers and the contents thereof are subject to random search at any time without regard to whether there is reasonable suspicion that any locker or its contents contain evidence of a violation of a criminal statute or school rule.

**Copyright Officer**

The Ravenna School District's copyright officer is Mr. Jay Newcome, Ravenna School District Board of Education, 534 Summit Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266. His contact information is below:

Phone: 330-296-9679 Ext. 1040

Fax: 330-297-4158

Email: [jay.newcome@ravennaschools.us](mailto:jay.newcome@ravennaschools.us)