

BMS Newsletter

January 2023

It's officially winter in Ohio. Students finally received the gift of a snow day and boy were they happy. The change of weather also brings about preparation for changes taking place at the middle school. Our 8th grade students are beginning to have conversations about transitioning to high school and what that will look like. Additional information about those events are included in this newsletter. We are not looking forward to having to say goodbye to our 8th graders, but we know that's part of the growing process. The middle school teachers have spoken to the high school counselors about recommendations for high school courses. Please speak with your child about these discussions that have taken place and reach out to your child's counselor if you have any questions.

The district initiative for this year is attendance+behavior=academics. Research has shown that attendance matters. It is important that students are in school every single day and on time. Students are allowed in the building at 7:30 and first period classes begin at 7:40. According to The National Center for Education Statistics, "High school dropouts have been found to exhibit a history of negative behaviors, including high levels of absenteeism throughout their childhood, at higher rates than high school graduates." As a building, we have started to create incentives for students to be at school everyday. Brown Middle School has decreased our building chronic absenteeism rate by 10%. That's to be celebrated, and we will continue to do our part to encourage daily attendance with students. We would appreciate your partnership by communicating with your child the importance of daily, on time attendance as well. We genuinely miss our students when they are out.

It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year, but it has been a good year. Teachers are reporting that students are more engaged and students seem happy to be at BMS. We would appreciate it if you would take some time to complete a survey at the following link: [BMS Parent Survey](#). We would like your input as to what we can do to continue to grow as a building and make Brown Middle School the best middle school in Portage County.

Thanks for sharing your children with us!

Catrina Burwell
BMS Principal & Proud Alumni



Important Dates

February

February 15 - 8th Grade Long Shot Photo
February 16 - Interim Grades post on HAC
February 17 - No School - Staff PD Day
February 20 - No School - Presidents' Day
February 22 & 23 - 8th Grade Trip to RHS
February 28 - Last Day to purchase BMS Yearbook

March

March 2 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
3-6:30pm - call the office to schedule
March 11 - BMS Rummage Sale - 8am-noon -
BMS gym
March 17 - End of 3rd Grading Period
March 24 - Report cards post on HAC
March 29 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
3-6:30pm - call the office to schedule

April

April 3-7 - No School - Spring Break
April 10 - No School - Conference Day
April 21 - Interims post on HAC

Need information?

Check out the school website - **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 Quick Links box. This is an excellent way to stay informed about your student's progress!

After School Tutoring

BMS offers after school tutoring on Mondays and Thursdays from 3-5pm. Transportation home is provided as well as an after school snack. Registration is required. If you would like your child to attend, please call the school office or email Emily Jones at emily.jones@ravennaschools.us.

Final Forms

Please be sure to 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. The link can be found on the District webpage under the Parents tab. Change of addresses need to be made through the BMS main office with proper documentation (an updated lease/mortgage statement and a current gas or electric bill).

★ Date Change Due to Snow Day!!!!

8TH GRADE TRANSITION

NIGHT

TUES. FEB. 7TH

A-L 6:00PM

M-Z 6:45PM

Ravenna High School

*Please contact RHS with questions



ARE YOU A **STUDENT** THAT IS UNSURE ABOUT YOUR **FUTURE CAREER**?

DO YOU WANT TO SEE **ALL THE OPPORTUNITIES** THAT EXIST?

DO YOU WANT TO **EXPAND YOUR MIND** AND HAVE **FUN** DOING IT?

THEN...

Spark, Inspire and ExploreAg Mentorship Program is for you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
KRISTI.ACKERMAN@JA.ORG



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**COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

SPARK, INSPIRE, AND EXPLORE AG

WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM?

***16 MONTH MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE WITH A LOCAL AGRICULTURE LEADER.**

(STUDENTS WILL BE MATCHED WITH A MENTOR FROM THEIR AREA AND BE IN GROUPS OF APPROXIMATELY 5 STUDENTS PER MENTOR.)

***STUDENTS WILL MEET WITH THEIR MENTOR MONTHLY FOR APPROXIMATELY 1-2 HOURS**

(VIRTUALLY OR IN-PERSON-MONTHS MAY VARY BASED ON MENTOR)

***CULTIVATE YOUR 4-H, INSPIRE, AND EXPLOREAG EXPERIENCES INTO FUTURE CAREER PATHWAYS.**

***DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS, EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS, AND TECHNICAL SKILLS TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN POST-HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING OR EMPLOYMENT.**

***DISCOVER YOUR SPARK THROUGH SELF-EXPLORATION OF STRENGTHS, INTERESTS, SKILLS, AND VALUES TO CONNECT FINDINGS TO FUTURE PURPOSE AND CAREERS.**

- **STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN TWO
FUN AND INTERACTIVE CAMPS**
 - **OHIO 4-H SPARK**
 - **OHIO FARM BUREAU EXPLOREAG**

***STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT'S INSPIRE CAREER FAIR AND CURRICULUM.**

***STUDENTS WILL BECOME 4-H MEMBERS AND COMPETE AT THE STATE LEVEL AT THE OHIO STATE FAIR WITH HELP FROM THE MENTOR.**

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