



Bernardsville Middle School

Principal – Gretchen Dempsey

Assistant Principal – Brian Latzke

Guidance Counselor s– Marcy Craver & Chris Habermas

Nurse - Suzanne Ryan, RN, MSN

Office Staff - Patti Pedota & Debbie Meyer

Home and School Association (HSA) – Marianne Rivello & Lynn Sharp

This evening's conversation

- Similarities and differences between Bedwell and BMS
 - Transition: Supports & Philosophy
 - Resources for your family
 - Students can look forward to ...
 - Summer To-Do List
 - The Big First Day!
 - Your HSA
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The biggest thing won't change

*Teachers and staff are dedicated to
students' overall well-being and
academic success*

Things that will be different

- Team approach
 - School Hours
 - Multiple periods
 - Freedom for students to choose where they sit at lunch
 - Gym almost every day
 - Lockers
 - Parents' point of contact
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What this means ...

Multiple teachers

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Multiple periods

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Greater opportunities for interactions with grade-level peers

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More daily variety

Bedwell to BMS: *Transition Supports*

- Peer Leaders' Character Ed lessons @ BES – March
 - Parent Presentation this evening – early May
 - Student Orientation – May 24
 - BMS Peer Leaders visit Bedwell - June
 - Locker Week/Last Chance Tour – End of August
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Bedwell to BMS:

A Thoughtful Transition

- Primarily private 5th grade wing
 - Most interaction with 6th, 7th or 8th graders is intentional and educational
 - Team of teachers dedicated to 5th graders
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Resources

Staff is collectively dedicated to help your family access the best education possible.

- Health related issues: Nurse Ryan
 - Academic or Social: Guidance Counselor
 - Individual Class/Grade: Individual teachers/Team Leader
 - School policies/ Discipline: Vice Principal
 - Curriculum: Supervisors &/or Principal
 - Anything and everything: Principal
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Looking forward to ...

- Field Trips
 - Canteens, Halloween, Talent Show, School plays
 - Afterschool:
 - Wide variety of clubs
 - Dramatic opportunities
 - Academic supports
 - Birthdays: Decorating lockers (with parent supervision)
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Believe it or not

We start our journey here tonight,
but four years from now we'll be
talking about high school



Over The Summer

School Supplies

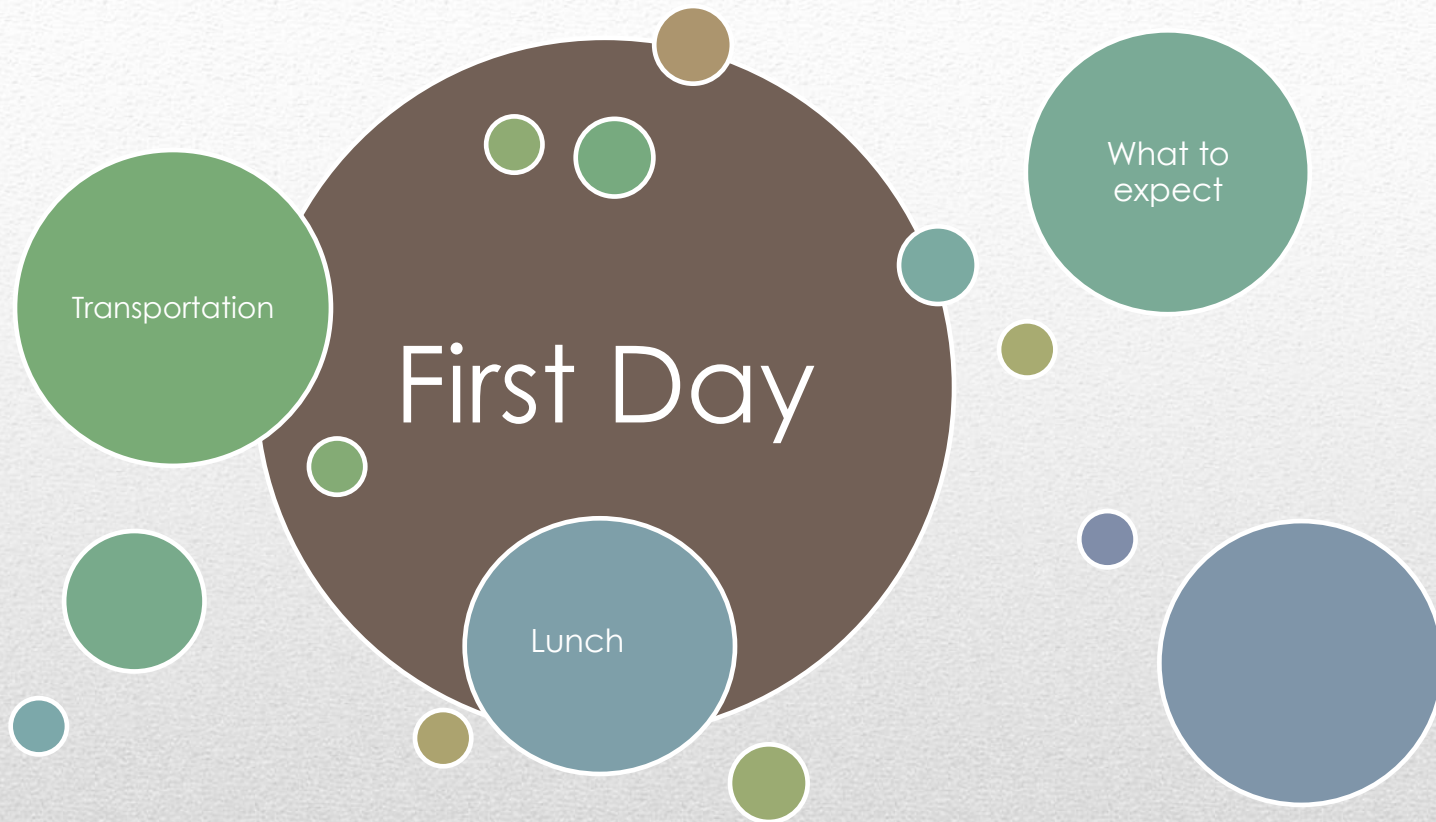
- Check website early in the summer to find a list of school supplies
 - Ask for help from neighbors, siblings, friends
 - Additional supplies may be requested/needed once school starts
 - All 5th graders are enrolled in a cycle class that will help students with organizational skills to promote success.
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The Locker

- Shelves, magnets, mirrors, decorations
 - **LOCKER WEEK!** (Don't worry if you're away)
 - Lockers should be kept clean and organized
 - Locker Checks
 - If you want to help, come after school
 - Students can decorate one another's lockers for birthdays (Parent supervision is required)
 - Each student will receive a lock, to be used for the entirety of middle school
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Communication

- Weekly Friday Folders
 - PowerSchool
 - Report cards, graded assignments/tests
 - SharpSchool/Google Classroom – teacher pages/HW posting
 - SHSD.ORG
 - HSA information, events, flyers
 - Archived Friday Folders
 - HSA summer mailing
 - **New** ... HSA-coordinated 5th grade tour
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Arriving At School

Transportation

- Busing cards mailed (*Note times, new bus routes*)
 - There is a late bus to Peapack/Gladstone (4 PM)
 - Dropping off/Picking up by car
 - AM: Arrive in the middle line (not in front of BMS and not the Bedwell car rider line) and a teacher will direct you to pull up to the stop sign
 - PM: Pull in the same lane as AM drop off OR pull all the way down past the stop sign and have your child meet your car there
 - School Dismissal – Please pre-arrange your child's dismissal plan with him/her
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What to Expect

- First day: Bring school supplies (and locker supplies if necessary), gym clothes and lunch (if applicable)
 - Arrive between 7:30-7:40 and go to the cafeteria
 - Teachers will take students from the cafeteria to their lockers for set up and to their first class
 - 1st Bell is at 7:45am
 - School day ends at 2:46pm
 - Teachers are on hand to assist at dismissal
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Lunch

- Lunch is 30 minutes (including recess)
 - Students choose where to sit
 - 5th and 6th grade eat together on separate sides of the lunchroom
 - Lunch menus and payment accounts can be found on SHSD.ORG
 - No snack time
 - In the case of a forgotten lunch, please drop off in the main office
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Odds & Ends

- Cell phones: Students should keep them in their locked lockers, though they may be used at times (teacher's direction)
 - There is a student phone in the front office
 - If you need to pick your child up early or drop anything off, please come to the main office (*no notes necessary*)
 - Community Service:
 - 5 hours for each grade
 - Hours during the summer count
 - Opportunities are provided but avail yourself of outside opportunities
 - Due in May; track hours in PowerSchool
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Stay connected & join your HSA

- Be on the class coordinator email lists
 - School directory and newsletter
 - Have a vote
 - Monthly HSA meetings in the library at 9:30am
 - Principal and school staff attend each meeting
 - Guest speakers
 - Volunteer with events or Co-Chair a committee
 - Share your talents with the students through library's *Lunch in the Library* program
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HSA-related Events

- Parent Orientation (4th=>5th)
 - Student Orientation (4th=>5th)
 - Back to School Night
 - Assemblies
 - Halloween party (5th & 6th)
 - Fall/Spring canteens, after school social events with DJ, open gym and games (5th & 6th)
 - Field Day
 - Pool Parties
 - Cultural Arts Programs
 - Dances (7th & 8th)
 - Book Fair
 - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
 - Parent Education Programs
 - 8th Grade Trip
 - 8th Grade Dance
 - 8th Grade Graduation
 - Newcomers' Breakfast
 - 8th Grade Car Wash & Wreath Sale
 - Box Tops
 - AND MORE!!
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