

August 27, 2020

Hello BMS Families!

We hope this message finds you and your family well and in good health. It has been a very challenging 5 months, and we're sure you and your student(s) have questions about what school is going to look like to start the year. Normally, you would have received this information earlier in the month of August, however, current conditions have made it necessary to delay this letter until now. We apologize for any inconvenience or uneasiness this delay may have caused your student(s) and family. The staff at Bush Middle School are disappointed that we will not have the opportunity to start school with students in our classrooms, halls, or on our campus. Having said that, the staff members have been working diligently, learning how to plan and teach remotely to start the upcoming school year. Along with you, we all hope that it is for a short time and that we will soon have our students and families back in our school! Below you will find some important dates and information regarding the start of the school year.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Sept. 3rd, 6:00pm - 7:00pm:** Zoom Q&A with BMS Principal and Asst. Principal
 - Purpose of the Q&A is to ask general questions that may pertain to some, many, or all students/families. Individualized questions should be directed to Principal, Shawn Guthrie: shawn.guthrie@tumwater.k12.wa.us or Asst. Principal, David Parascand: david.parascand@tumwaterk12.wa.us or call: 360-709-7400
- **Sept. 9th, 11:30pm - 3:00pm:** Conferences
 - The purpose of conferences is to connect students with homeroom teachers and to learn what remote learning will look like.
 - Conferences can be in person or via zoom depending on parent and/or teacher preference. Conferences will be scheduled through skyward. Email with link coming soon
- **Sept. 9th, 8:00am - 4:00pm:** Students pickup consumables (Math/ELA books, Art supplies, Music instruments, etc.)
- **Sept. 10th, 4:00pm - 7:00pm:** Conferences
- **Sept. 10th, 8:00am - 7:30pm:** Students pickup consumables (Math/ELA books, Art supplies, Music instruments, etc.)
- **Sept. 11th, 8:00am - 11:30am:** Conferences.
- **Sept. 11th, 8:00am - 4:00pm:** Students pickup consumables (Math/ELA books, Art supplies, Music instruments, etc.)
- **Sept. 14th, 8:00am:** Class schedule begins
- **Sept. TBD:** Grade level zoom open house

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Until further notice, students/families visiting BMS in person will be required to wear face masks and to complete a COVID-19 questionnaire.

- Only one family at a time will be permitted in the main office. Total group number cannot exceed 5.
- Student class schedules will be available for viewing on Skyward by September 9th. Families will be notified via email once schedules are ready.
 - Once student class schedules are released, questions can be directed to Counselor, Seana Ditterline: seana.ditterline@tumwater.k12.wa.us
- The student bell schedule and information about the schedule are included in this communication and will be posted on the BMS website.
 - If you have concerns about your student being able to attend the schedule, please contact the teacher(s) of the affected classes.
- Food service will be available for students at BMS.
 - Breakfast, lunch, and 5 day food boxes will be available for pickup at BMS from 8:00am - 1:00pm Monday through Friday.
 - Students will be charged for meals unless on "Free or Reduced Lunch" status.
 - More information regarding food service will be provided when available.
- All student athletics are cancelled until further notice. The hope is that we will be able to resume student sports later in the school year.
- Chromebooks:
 - If you have a 6th grade student or new 7th or 8th grade student to BMS and were unable to pick up your chromebook on Aug. 27th, please contact Kevan Hagen; kevan.hagen@tumwater.k12.wa.us or at 360-709-7400 to schedule a time for your student to get a chromebook.
 - If your 7th or 8th grade student has a chromebook (kept from last year) and are experiencing technical difficulties with the chromebook, please contact Kevan Hagen at: kevan.hagen@tumwater.k12.wa.us
- If you have issues with connectivity (internet) at your home, please contact us, and we will do our best to assist in finding a solution.

We hope the above information is helpful to you as you begin to plan for the upcoming school year. There is still much to be decided and more information to come. As additional details become available, we will be sure to pass the new information on to all of our families. A remote learning model is, by no means, an ideal learning environment for teachers or students. We are confident that the staff at BMS will do their very best to provide a quality education for all of our students!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns, and we will be happy to partner with you to provide a quality educational experience for your student(s).

Take care, and be well!

Shawn Guthrie
Principal
shawn.guthrie@tumwater.k12.wa.us

David Parascand
Assistant Principal
david.parascand@tumwater.k12.wa.us