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7th grade Assistant Principal: Mrs. Dana Ricks
8th grade Assistant Principal: Ms. Kari Tibbs

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web page.



BREAKFAST/LUNCH MENUS:
<http://bit.ly/1OTzak6>

March 9, 2018

Vol. 24, #29

At Berry Middle School, we aim to be *caring and supportive, challenging and engaging, and innovative and relevant*. We create a safe and inviting environment for every student and staff member by building “*Berry PRIDE*” and creating a “*No Put-Down Zone*”.

UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

- **Boys’ Golf – Bradley Johnson Invitational** – Monday & Tuesday, March 12th & 13th
- **Play Rehearsal** – Monday, March 12th- Wednesday, March 14th, 3:30-5 PM & Saturday, March 17th, 1-4 PM
- **Cheer Tryouts** – Monday - Friday, March 12th – March 16th, 3:30-4:30 PM
- **Berry Track @ Spain Park** – Tuesday, March 13th
- **End of 3rd Nine Weeks** – Tuesday, March 13th
- **Law Academy Interviews** – Tuesday, March 13th & Thursday, March 15th
- **S.A.F.E. in Girls’ P.E. Classes** – Tuesday, March 13th
- **Berry Tennis vs. Simmons @ Berry** – Tuesday, March 13th, 3:45-4:45 PM
- **Softball @ Thompson** – Tuesday, March 13th, 4:30-5:30 PM
- **Girls’ Golf vs. Mountain Brook** – Tuesday, March 13th, 4-5 PM. Location TBD
- **Hoover City Schools’ Board Meeting** – Tuesday, March 13th, 5:30-7 PM
- **Softball @ Mountain Brook** – Wednesday, March 14th, 4:30-5:30 PM, MBHS Park Fields
- **Boys’ Golf – Limestone Invitational** – Thursday, March 15th, 11:45-3:45 PM
- **Girls’ Golf vs. Westminster @ Inverness Country Club** – Thursday, March 15th, 4-5 PM
- **Berry Tennis vs. Pizitz @ Wald Park** – Thursday, March 15th, 3:45-4:45 PM
- **Softball Tournament – Bumpus host @ Hoover Central** – Friday & Saturday, March 16th & 17th
- **Engineering Academy Interviews** – Friday, March 16th
- **I-Can Girls in Engineering Field Trip** - Friday, March 16th, 8:30 AM-3 PM

High School Academy Interviews

Attention 8th Graders: Law Academy Interviews will be held on Tuesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 15. Also, Engineering Interviews will be held on Friday, March 16. Interviews will be held in the 1st floor conference room. Please see Mr. Aufdemorte's Google class room for a list of specific interview times. Finally, Health Science Interviews will be held on Tuesday, March 20.



Summer Reading Program

If you are interested in strengthening your child's reading skills/comprehension strategies this summer, please check out this opportunity offered through Auburn University:

<http://auburn.readingprograms.org/8>

For entering 6th - 8th graders, the nearest program is at Samford University May 30-June 27th from 9-11 AM. The tuition is \$299, and there is a \$39 materials fee. If you sign up early, you may qualify for a \$30 discount on materials. See the webpage above and check on the **FAQS** and **ENROLL** tabs for more information.

Free Help with Tax Prep

You don't have to pay to have your taxes done and can either visit the **United Way** building or complete your taxes online at www.unitedway.org/myfreetaxes. If you do not live close to the United Way offices, you are also welcome to visit <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparation-for-you-by-volunteers> to find other free, IRS certified tax preparers.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Birmingham Zoo has volunteer opportunities for teens 13 and older. For more information visit <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/get-involved/volunteer/teen-volunteer-opportunities/>.

The Birmingham McWane Center has volunteer opportunities for teens 14 and older. Visit <http://www.mcwane.org/join/volunteer/teen-program/> for more information.

CLUBS & SPORTS



TEAMS Wins State Competition

Berry Middle School's engineering team has done it again! For the fifth year in a row Berry's TEAMS (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Math, and Science) team has placed first in the state competition. Our team is comprised of 6th-8th graders who compete with other middle schools across the state.

Each year topics are given to all participating schools. The theme for the competition this year was Engineering the Environment. The topics this year were Building a Better Environment, Global Health, Green Energy Basics and Reducing Light pollution. Once the topics are released our students research the topics to understand what types of questions they might be asked. They are essentially trying to become experts on these topics in order to make logical recommendations about implementation.

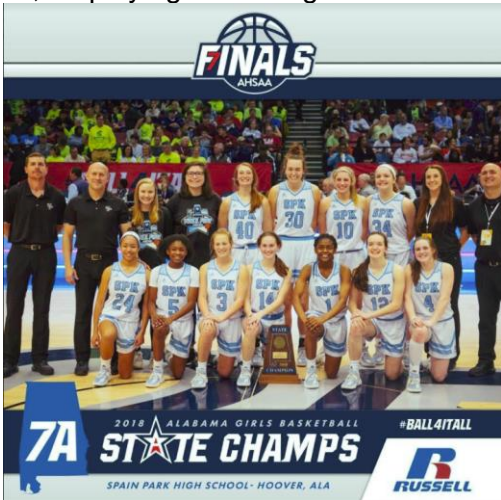
Before the in-person competition, the team writes and submits an essay on one of the topics. The students research a topic, summarize the information, and give educated suggestions. This year's essay topic was LEED Certification. The prompt was: Recent efforts toward greening within engineering have focused on energy saving within buildings. Newly constructed buildings are often built to be LEED certified, meaning they are designed in such a way as to conserve energy.

Boys' Soccer Wins on the Road

Please congratulate members of the Freshman Boys Soccer Team for their road victory against Chelsea last night. The Jags continued our win streak by beating the Hornets 7-0. Special shout-outs go to Seth Walter for his second hat trick of the season, and Nick Carlisle for his goal. Once again, all our Berry players represented the school with PRIDE!

SPHS Girls' Basketball State Camps

Congratulations to Camille C. and Mackenzie C., 8th playing on the high school team!



BERRY LADY JAGS VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS

Volleyball tryouts will be held April 16-18 from 3:15-5:00 in the Berry gym. Current 6th and 7th graders interested in trying out for next year's teams must have an up to date physical and consent form with proof of insurance turned in to one of the coaches prior to the start of tryouts. Parents need to pick their children up no later than 5:15 at the back west entrance of the school. It is mandatory to attend every day. If you have any questions you can email Coach Jolley at jjolley@hoover.k12.al.us or Coach Miller at memiller@hoover.k12.al.us

Metro South Outdoor Track & Field 2018

Weekday Meet Schedule:

March 13th @ Spain Park High School
March 22nd @ Oak Mtn. Heardmont Park
April 3rd @ Vestavia High School
April 10th Bye Week For Berry
April 17th @ Hoover High School
April 23rd Metro Championship @ Mtn. Brook
April 24th Rain Date Metro Championship @ Mtn. Brook

Outstanding Results from the March 6th Meet:

We had 24 students to qualify for the Gold Standard Championship Meet!!!

Girls

Mackenzie C - 1st Place -800m
Mackenzie C - 2nd Place- 1600m
Camille C - 2nd Place - 400m
Keonna T - 2nd Place - Discus
Erin O - 2nd Place - Shot Put
Camille C - 3rd Place- 200m dash
Nadia C - 6th Place - 200m dash
Nadia C - 8th Place - 100m dash
Alexis G - 7th Place - Long Jump
Cadon B - Qualified - Long Jump
Mackenzie M - Qualified- Long Jump

Boys

Keon B- 1st Place - 100m dash
Keon B - 2nd Place - 200m dash
David M - 1st Place - 110 Hurdles
Kayden S - 2nd Place - Discus
David M - 3rd Place - 100m dash
John Robert T - 3rd Place 110 Hurdles
Jaden N - 4th Place- 400m dash
Trevor H- 8th Place - 200m dash
Ethan G - 9th Place - 200m dash
Josh A - 9th Place - 400m dash
Jayden N - 9th Place- 800m run
Wyatt E - 9th Place - 110 Hurdles
Keith W - 9th Place - 1600m run
George G - 9th - Discus
George G - 10th Place - High Jump
DeMarcus D- Qualifier - 100m dash
Zamir F - Qualifier- 100m dash

Ethan G - 1st Place
Trevor H - 2nd Place
De Marcus D - 3rd Place
Zamir F - 8th Place
Connor G - 9th Place
John L - 11th Place
Justin P - 12th Place
Tony L - 13th Place

Boys' Golf

BERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018 BOYS GOLF SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LEAVE</u>
FEB. 26	TOP GOLF	TOP GOLF	2:00
MAR. 12-13	BRADLEY JOHNSON INV. GREYSTONE		TBA
We are volunteering to help the high school program. More info later.			
MAR. 15	BERRY INV.	LIMESTONE	11:43
MAR. 19	HEWITT INV.	TRUSS C.C.	2:00
APR. 4	MBJH	B'HAM C.C.	2:00
APR. 9	HEWITT	TRUSS C.C.	2:00
APR. 12	LIBERTY PARK	OLD OVERTON	2:00
APR. 17	**MTN. BR. INV.	B'HAM C.C.	12:36
APR. 18	**METRO SOUTH TOURNAMENT	TIMBERLINE	11:00

** TOP 3 GOLFERS
COACH SHELNUTT 439-2081
sshelnut@hoover.k12.al.us



Spain Park Dazzler Information

Please contact matherson@hoover.k12.al.us for information about upcoming tryouts.

Spain Park Cheer

The SPHS cheer coaches will also be holding open practices on Wednesdays in March (March 7th, 14th and 21st) for students who want to get feedback and learn basics. This is an optional open practice. Please go to <http://bit.ly/SPHScheerRELEASE> for a copy of the parent release and more details about cost and times.

PROGRAMS & LESSONS

S.A.F.E Inc.

8th Grade Parents: S.A.F.E. Inc. is coming to Berry Middle School 8th grade Physical Education Classes. They will be with the girls' classes on Tuesday, 3/13. The goal of this program is to encourage students to set clear life goals and to make healthy decisions that will build positive self-esteem.

If you **do not** wish for your child to participate please sign and have your child return the SAFE letter (see link below) to their physical education teacher no later than Monday, 2/19. If you would like more information you may contact S.A.F.E. Inc. at: Renee Williams @ wait4it.renee@gmail.com Or check their website @ sexandfamilyeducation.org

[SAFE letter.doc](#)

I Am a Witness – Teen Bullying Prevention

The *I Am a Witness* online campaign aims to put an end to bullying by encouraging witnesses to speak up and to stand up for someone in need. Check out this website for tips, videos and resources: <http://iwitnessbullying.org/>



BERRY POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Protect Your Chromebook

In order to prevent breaks, please consider taking the following precautions to keep chromebooks in good condition:

- Get a chromebook case that stays on the device at all times.
- Only add educational extensions recommended by teachers.
- Don't keep your chromebook in your backpack. It can be cracked by the weight of other books or by handling the backpack too roughly.
- Avoid using the chromebook while walking, and don't leave them on the floor.
- Avoid storing the chromebook in lockers unless necessary.
- Treat them as the fragile objects they are – be careful!

If your chromebook still needs repair:

1. Chromebooks needing repair should be brought to the library.
2. When chromebooks return to Berry, they will be stored in the 7th grade office. They will be delivered to students ASAP.
3. If a student owes a fee for a repair, they may receive a fee slip rather than a chromebook. **However, they may now pay at Berry!** Please send any students wanting to make payments with cash or checks to the 7th grade office. They will receive a receipt to bring home to parents, and I will keep another copy of the receipt for our records. Parents may also pay online at <https://secure4.myschoolfees.com>.
4. Payments made online with a Mastercard or Discover or in person in cash will ensure chromebook delivery in a day or two. Payments by check online will have

to clear the bank before the chromebook can be returned to the student. This could take up to 10 days - a long time when a kid needs a chromebook! Paper checks brought to the 7th grade office must include a phone number, driver's license number, and the student's name.

New Instructions for paying online:

1. Go to <https://secure4.myschoolfees.com/>
2. Log in using the e-mail and password you set up during registration.
3. Select the "Student Items" tab.
4. Select "Show Student Fees" on the **Berry Middle School account** for your child. **Do not use IT account.**
5. Select the chromebook fee.
6. Click on "add to cart"
7. Click on "Checkout."

News from the Nurse

MEDICATIONS

All medication must be delivered to the school office/health room by an adult. Students are not allowed to carry medication to the health room. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

Dress Code Reminders

We have had quite a few dress code violations in the last few weeks. As we start a new semester, please help us remind students of the following Hoover City Schools Dress Code policies:

- #4: Leggings/jeggings/tights are **NOT** considered pants and **must be worn with a long dress or skirt.**
- #7: Pants and skirts with holes above the knee are not allowed.
- #8: Shorts, dresses, and skirts must be hemmed and **not shorter than mid-thigh when student is seated.** Shorts that are torn, in disrepair, or spandex are not allowed.

Lost & Found

Parents, please remind your students to check the lost and found by the concession stand for any missing items. We have plenty! Any remaining items will be donated to charity on March 22nd.



New Attendance Procedures!!

A new e-mail address has been created to receive all attendance notifications. This includes parent and doctor notes, check out/in information, and any questions or concerns about your student's attendance. Please send correspondence of this type to: bmsattendance@hoover.k12.al.us

Morning Carpool Procedures

Parents, please help us to make morning carpool drop-off safer by:

- Making sure your child is ready to exit the car before pulling up to BMS
- Pulling up to the front of the line to drop off your child
- Refraining from driving around other cars taking too long – this creates a dangerous situation for any students, parents, and teachers attempting to cross the parking lot to enter the building

**The Hoover Board of Education offers [Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities](#). We are committed to ensuring electronically distributed information is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you have a disability or face any barriers accessing content and need assistance, please contact (205) 439-1000. [Download Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader](#).