



6th Grade Office: 439.2015
fstainback@hoover.k12.al.us
apowell@hoover.k12.al.us

7th Grade Office: 439.2065
fstainback@hoover.k12.al.us
apowell@hoover.k12.al.us

8th Grade Office: 439.2000
anelson@hoover.k12.al.us
Fax Number: 439.2001

Principal: Dr. Chris Robbins

6th grade Assistant Principal: Mr. Ted Flannery
7th grade Assistant Principal: Mrs. Dana Ricks
8th grade Assistant Principal: Ms. Kari Tibbs

QR Code
for school
web page.



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

January 5, 2018

Vol. 24, #20

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

- **Students return to school** – Friday, January 5th
- **Berry Bowling Metro Tournament** – Friday, January 5th, 9 AM – 3 PM, Vestavia Bowl
- **Boys’ Basketball vs. Irondale** – Tuesday, January 9th, 4:30 – 7 PM, home
- **Girls’ Basketball @ Irondale** – Tuesday, January 9th, 4:30 – 7 PM, away
- **Report Cards Go Home** – Wednesday, January 10th
- **Berry Wrestling Quad Match @ Thompson** – Wednesday, January 10th, 4 – 8 PM
- **Indoor Track Meet** – Thursday, January 11th, 2-7 PM, Birmingham CrossPlex
- **Berry Wrestling vs. Hewitt/SMS @SPHS** – Thursday, January 11th, 4:30 – 8 PM
- **Boys’ Basketball @ Oak Mountain** – Thursday, January 11th, 4:30 – 7 PM, away
- **Girls’ Basketball vs. Oak Mountain** – Thursday, January 11th, 4:30 – 7 PM, home
- **Berry Spelling Bee** – Friday, January 12th, 8:30 – 10 AM
- **Career Speaker** – Friday, January 12th, 8:30 – 9 AM
- **I-Can Girls in Engineering** – Friday, January 12th, 8:30 – 9 AM
- **Berry Wrestling BUC BRAWL @ Hoover HS** – Saturday, January 13th
- **8th Graders Visit SPHS** – Thursday, February 8th, Parent Night with transition information will be held that evening - more info coming soon

Community Service Award recognition

Please contact your grade level counselor if you have signed up for the Community Service Program and have documented 60 or more community service hours. Individuals with 60 or more hours are eligible to be recognized at the Winter Awards Assembly on January 18th. Completed hours should be turned in to your grade level counselor by Friday, January 12th.

SPORTS & CLUBS

Physicals for Student Athletes

Per AHSAA rules, each student-athlete must have an up-to-date (within one calendar year) physical to participate in school sports. On Wednesday, January 17th, Spain Park will host school physicals for Berry athletes from 3:30 - 5:00. Physicals will be completed by area physicians and the ATI staff. Physicals will cost \$20 per student-athlete. We encourage our athletes to take advantage of this opportunity because 1. It keeps all of our athletes on the same paperwork cycle 2. More convenient than going to Dr.'s office 3. This serves as a fundraiser for our training staff to purchase supplies that we use throughout the year. However, students can still certainly get a completed physical by their own physician and turn it into the school. Students participating will be walked over to Spain Park gym after school by Berry coaches. Physicals should be completed by 5:00 and students will need a ride no later than 5:15 at the Spain Park Gym.

Directions:

1. Get a blank physical form from outside the main office or print one from our school website (athletics/sports/sports forms/forms/AHSAA Physical).
2. Complete the front side of the physical with parents/guardians. Be sure to both sign and date the front of the physical.
3. Turn physical (front side completed/backside blank) into Coach Bowden (room 118) *along* with \$20 Payment by Tuesday January 16th.

Payment: Cash or checks will be accepted. For checks, 6th and 7th grade students should make checks payable to Berry Middle School. 8th grade students should make checks payable to Spain Park High School. Checks **MUST** have phone # and DL # written on the check.

* If any questions, please email Coach Matt Bowden at mbowden@hoover.k12.al.us

Alabama State Thespian Festival

This year's State Thespian Festival is February 23-24 at Pelham HS. All 7th or 8th grade Drama Club members are invited to attend. The fee is \$65 and includes a t-shirt, registration for two competitive events, and entrance to dozens of workshops on acting, dance, singing, and technical theater. Registration must be completed by December 1st, and fees are due by December 8th. Please email Mrs. Rowe with any questions at drowe@hoover.k12.al.us

Find more details

here: <http://bit.ly/ThespianFestInfo>

Important Dates are:

here: <http://bit.ly/ThesFest18Dates>

The link for REGISTRATION is

here: <http://bit.ly/ThesFest18> (Due Dec 1)

PROGRAMS & LESSONS

Erin's Law

To comply with Alabama's new [Erin's Law](#), HCS school counselors and administrators have created a plan to provide basic child sexual abuse prevention lessons for students. We have prepared a brief [video](#) that outlines plans for elementary, middle and high school levels. Please [click](#) here for more detailed information on HCS's plan to implement Erin's Law, including the option for your child to opt out of these lessons if you so choose. Click [here](#) for this information in Spanish.

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

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.

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

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

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

**See this link for a Non-Discrimination Notice explaining Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities: <https://goo.gl/aqYptm>