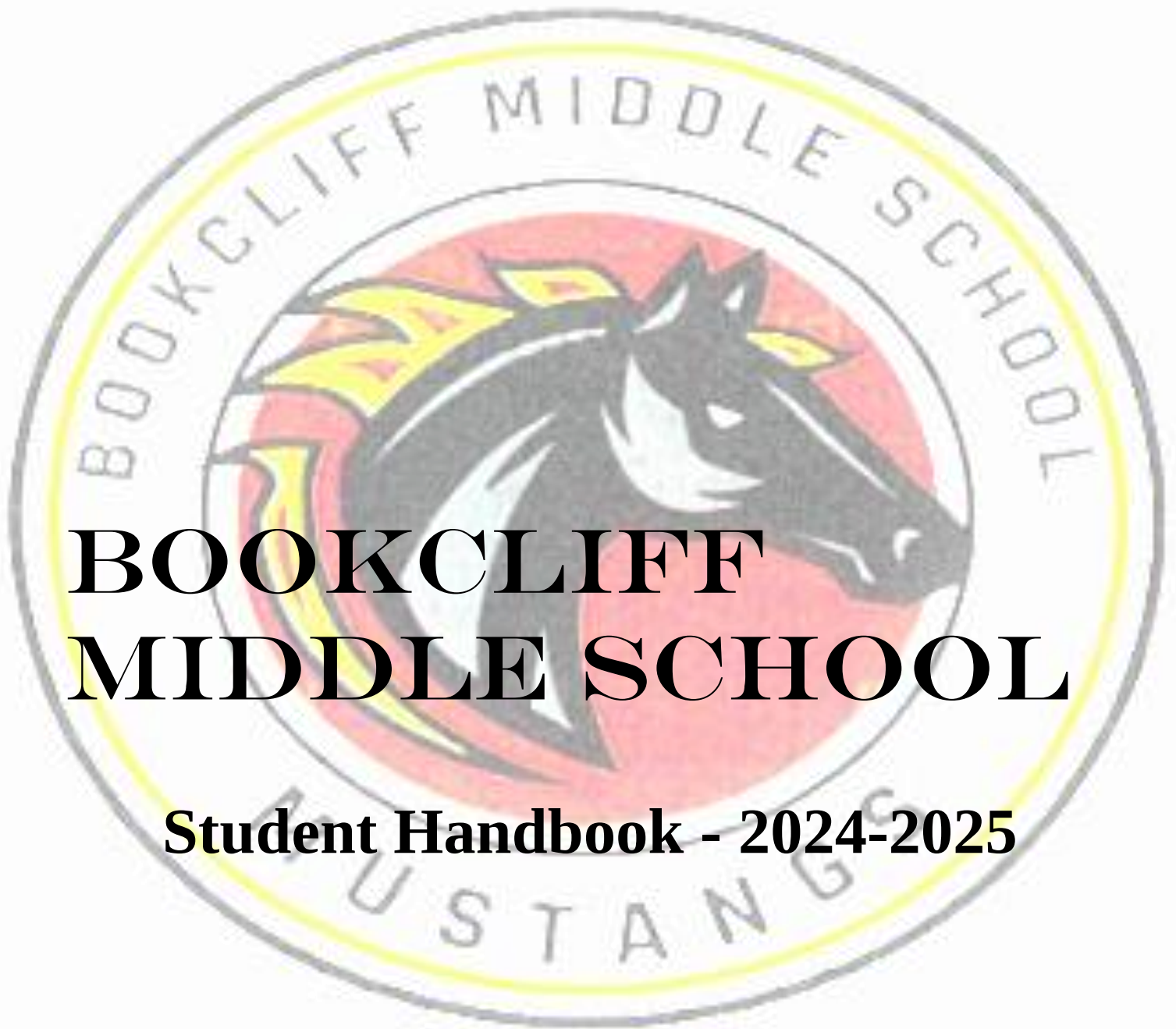


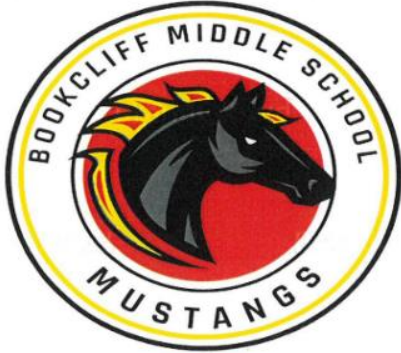
Making a Difference in Student Learning and Students' Lives



BOOKCLIFF MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student Handbook - 2024-2025

Bookcliff Middle School
540 29 1/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81504
Main Office: (970) 254-6220



***BMS Students Show HEART:
Honesty, Excellence, Attitude, Respect, Trust***

BMS MISSION STATEMENT

To create a positive learning community committed to high academic achievement and social responsibility.

BMS VISION STATEMENT

To honor every learner with diverse life opportunities.

Mesa County Valley School District 51 Standard Based Grading Policy

We believe that in order for students to demonstrate progress in their learning, frequent feedback on how the student is progressing on his/her content standards and grade level expectations are critical. As a Performance Based Learning (PBL) system, you can expect to receive feedback both academically and on behaviors key to your success on a weekly basis. Students should use this feedback, and self-assessment, to grow in their understanding of what they know and are able to do. This ongoing cycle of learning will help students develop proficiency for their current learning, effectively helping them demonstrate mastery of the standards they are working on.

D51 Academic Achievement Grades are based on a body of evidence measured against the Standards

- Grade Level Expectations - knowledge and skills of a standard at each grade level that are articulated progress toward high school graduation
- Proficiency level is derived from a body of evidence that focuses on the most recent evidence and trends
- Honors the professional judgment of teachers
- Student revision of work leads to higher learning and improved accountability and engagement

Content Knowledge Descriptors for Grading:

- 4 = **Refining**-The student consistently meets and at times exceeds the standard as described by the grade level expectations.
- 3 = **Mastering**-The student regularly meets the standard as it is described by the grade level expectations.
- 2 = **Progressing**-The student is beginning to, and occasionally does, meet the standards as described by grade level expectations.
- 1 = **Emerging**-The student is not meeting the standard as is described by grade level expectations for this grade level.

ADVISORY

All BMS students are enrolled in a daily advisory period, which starts at 8:00am. Advisory period is where students build positive relationships with peers and adults, receive academic advising and coaching, and participate in community-building lessons and activities which increase student sense of belonging and increase academic success.. Students should make every effort to get to school on time every day so they don't miss this essential daily learning. Students will earn a learning behavior grade for advisory.

AFTER-SCHOOL HOURS

As a matter of student safety, we expect students to be off campus no later than 3:30 pm, unless they are attending REC or a school-sponsored activity.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Students are not permitted on campus before **7:40 A.M.**, unless you have made special arrangements with a staff member i.e., extra help, music practice, or early arrival due to special circumstances, (e.g. athletic practice). If you have made special arrangements to be in the building, enter through the main entrance door. Students with band instruments will enter through the music room in the mornings.

Students may enter the building at 7:55 A.M. at their designated grade-level outside entrance door.. You will have five minutes to report to class. At the end of the day, unless you are involved in an after-school sponsored activity, **you will exit the building through your grade level door unless you need to go to the band/orchestra room to pick up your instrument and then will exit through the 6th grade doors.** Parents, please arrange to have your student picked up by **3:30 P.M.** .

ATHLETIC EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

Students are welcome to attend after school activities and events. If you are attending an athletic event, you must remain seated in the bleachers except for trips to the bathroom. You will be asked to leave the building/grounds area if you are involved in horseplay or other disruptive behavior during any school sponsored event. When attending an event in the gym, the school's hallways and outside ground areas are off limits. Please ensure that you have made arrangements to be picked up no later than 5:30pm, or 15 minutes after the end of the event.

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Participation fees of \$70.00, a parent signed insurance form, signed participation forms for each sport, and a minimum of practices are required before a student may participate in any contest. Interscholastic sports programs, those with other middle schools competing, are offered to grades 7th and 8th after school throughout the year. Sports include: basketball, volleyball, wrestling, and track. The goal of each program is to promote good sportsmanship, attitudes, coordination, and enjoyment of the sport. Eligibility criteria may be established by BMS Administration and will meet the minimum criteria as outlined by the District policy. These criteria will be published and shared by the coaching staff with their participating athletes. Eligibility criteria will include attendance, academic performance, and behavioral considerations.

ATTENDANCE

In order for optimal student learning to occur, all students are wanted, and expected to attend school: on time, all day, every day. A school focus is for students to be on time to all their classes. This will minimize classroom and learning disruptions. Each day that you are absent, your parents should notify the Attendance Secretary between 7:25 and 8:30 A.M. **Parents will be contacted if we do not receive a phone call.** Bookcliff Middle School follows District and State guidelines in attendance matters.

CAFETERIA

All students can have breakfast (and lunch) free this school year. During breakfast, enter and exit the cafeteria through the cafeteria front entrance door. Students who want breakfast should head directly to the cafeteria as soon as they arrive on campus. After finishing breakfast, students should report to their grade-level outside entrance door. If a student arrives at school tardy, they should head to the cafeteria immediately after signing in at the front desk.

Always show the **HEART** (Honor, Excellence, Attitude, Respect, Trust) and be courteous to other students, cafeteria staff, supervisors, and guests.

- **Please walk while in the cafeteria**
- **Stand in a single file line (without cutting) while going through the food line.**
- **Once you select where you would like to sit to eat, please remain at that table.**
- **If needing to leave the cafeteria, ask for a hall/bathroom pass from a duty person.**
- **Dispose of trash and recycle objects in their proper receptacles.**
- **When you finish with your lunch, wipe your table off**
- **Take ownership of your actions.**
- **Food/beverage are to remain in the cafeteria unless permission is given by a person on duty.**

CHROMEBOOK USE

Students will be issued a chromebook to be used every day throughout the school day. It is the student's responsibility to take care of their chromebook. Students that purposely damage their chromebooks will face disciplinary action and may face payment for the cost of repairs.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The provisions set forth in the policy statements of the Board of Education and the District 51 Student and Parent Handbook govern students. All local, state, and national laws apply to all students and staff. **Parents, students, and staff are responsible for all the information contained in the school and district handbooks including announced/posted changes.** Students are also expected to follow classroom rules and regulations as defined by the classroom teacher.

At Bookcliff Middle School, there are five categories of non-negotiable student conduct. These categories could lead to suspension, expulsion, and or law enforcement consequences for your student.

- 1. Disruption of a safe and orderly environment.**
- 2. Behavior that endangers oneself or others.**
- 3. Use, possession of, or distribution of controlled substances.**
- 4. Any form of harassment.**
- 5. Weapons**

Examples of weapons may include: guns, airsoft guns, cap guns, knives, rubberband guns, lead pipes, etc.

Please do not bring any item (facsimile) that may be seen as a possible weapon.

Controlled substances include prescription and over the counter medication, tobacco, illegal/controlled drugs and alcohol.

CREATING A CARING COMMUNITY through HEART

Honor, Excellence, Attitude, Respect, Trust (HEART) are the foundation for the expected behaviors for all members of our BMS' community. The purpose is to positively impact the whole school community and acknowledge positive behavior. These behaviors are presented and modeled throughout the year and will become positive lifelong behaviors.

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

It is expected that all students maintain good grooming and dress in a way that creates a safe and focused learning environment. Student dress will be suitable to a school setting in reflecting decency and appropriateness for school activities. Any clothing or accessories that are deemed to interfere with the school learning environment will be considered disruptive and will not be allowed. If the clothing does not meet the dress code expectations students will be given options: they can call home for a change of clothing or access clothing from our Wardrobe. If it is a shirt that needs to be changed, they can choose to wear the shirt inside out.

DRESS CODE EXPECTATIONS:

- Shoes (no slippers) must be worn at all times. (OSHA Guideline)
- Undergarments need to be covered with appropriate clothing.
- Shirts that do not have shoulder straps (tube tops, etc.) are not allowed. Students' faces and heads need to be uncovered. This includes hats, visors, beanies, hoods, sunglasses, hairnets, or face paint. (Safety and Security Issue)
- No costume clothing or pajamas. Examples include: capes, flags, ears, tails, masks, props, etc.
- Clothing that exposes excessive skin.
- Clothing that is degrading or offensive to any individual or group, or refers to gangs, illegal substances, alcohol/tobacco/drugs, obscenities, weapons, sexual themes or violence may not be worn to school/school activities. Bandanas, chains or spikes are not permitted.

The administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of a student's attire/apparel.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES, including cell phones, earbuds, headphones, smart watches - [Board Policy JICJ (5/2024)]

Students shall not use personal electronic devices as follows: Students in grades PreK - 8 are prohibited from using personal electronic devices on school premises during the designated school day. The school day includes but is not limited to instructional time, lunch periods, recess, school-sponsored programs, events or activities, or any other time during the designated school day. All personal electronic devices shall be kept in designated areas and turned off.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that personal electronic devices are turned off and placed in designated areas during times when use is not authorized. Personal electronic devices (1) that produce any audible sound, a ring tone, or vibrating alert, whether through a speaker, earbuds/earphones, buzzer, or other means, or (2) that are displayed or in plain view at such times shall be deemed to be used in violation of this policy.

Violations: Students violating the policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion. Personal electronic devices that are reasonably suspected of being used or possessed in violation of this Policy shall be subject to temporary confiscation by school authorities. Students shall be required to turn personal electronic devices over to any teacher or other school official upon request. Students who refuse to surrender a personal electronic device upon request by a teacher or other school official shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The following progressive disciplinary actions will be implemented for violations:

- 1st - 5th incident = Lunch detention; parent/guardian notified; item returned to student at day's end
- 6th incident = In school suspension; parent/guardian conversation or meeting with administrator to make a plan for student compliance; remedial discipline plan begins; item returned to student at day's end
- 3rd incident = Out of School suspension; remedial discipline plan updated
- Subsequent incidents: Out of school suspension, possible perusal of expulsion

The administration reserves the right to modify the consequences for habitual offenders.

Using any electronic device to record either audio, pictures, or video, is a direct violation of this policy. As stated in school board policy, under no circumstances will the school or district be held responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen electronic devices that a student chooses to bring to school.

FEES

In order to sustain the programs that BMS offers to our students, it is essential that the established Mandatory Instructional Student Fee (\$42.00) which covers equipment maintenance/repairs/replacements, classroom supplies and materials, and lab fees be paid. BMS requests that these mandatory student fees be paid in full prior to any additional purchase (Yearbook) or fees (Athletic participation) being accepted.

GANG-RELATED BEHAVIOR (Board Policy JICF)

Bookcliff Middle School is committed to a strict "no tolerance" policy toward gang-related behaviors. Gang-related apparel is prohibited at all times. This includes articles of clothing or accessories that identify with gangs or gang colors. These decisions will be made at the administrator's discretion. Students may not display gang-related graffiti or display gang-related hand gestures.

HALLWAYS/RESTROOMS

We have a lot of people in our building throughout the school day. To help keep a two way flow of traffic moving smoothly, we will walk on the right side of the hall. Students who need to leave a classroom will get a pass from their classroom teacher. The pass will designate where the student is going. If a student does not have a pass, the student will be directed to return to the classroom and obtain one from the teacher. When receiving a bathroom pass, the student will also need to provide what time he/she leaves and returns on the classroom sign out sheet that is located close to the door. This will help us locate students should we have an emergency or a drill. At Bookcliff Middle School, teachers enforce a 10-30-10 rule. Students may not leave the classroom during the first and last 10 minutes of class, unless there is an emergency situation.

INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE

Cussing, name calling, racist and vulgar language is not acceptable.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA USE

Use of the Internet and electronic media resources of the school/district is a privilege and not a right. You and your parent/guardian must sign a **Responsible Use Agreement (RUA)** form. When you use these resources, you must accept personal responsibility and demonstrate an understanding of the acceptable and unacceptable uses of the Internet and electronic media. Improper usage will be considered a serious violation of the **Code of Student Conduct and may lead to loss of internet use.**

PETS/ANIMALS

Due to health and safety concerns, **pets are not permitted at school.** BMS will follow district policy regarding animals on school premises (IMC).

PIT CREW (Parent Involvement Team)

This committee meets, at a minimum, once each quarter in the evening. Membership is open to interested parents who would like to stay involved and informed with the educational topics and conversations going on at BMS. The group consists of parents, staff and other invited guests.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION (PDA)

Inappropriate consensual contact is not allowed. PDA should be limited to hand holding and brief hugs. Students will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension.

SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, ROLLER BLADES, BICYCLES, ETC.

Skateboards, roller blades, hoverboards, shoes with wheels, and bicycles may not be ridden on campus at any time. Please dismount and walk these on school grounds. Transportation policies prohibit these items on District buses. Students are responsible for providing their own lock to secure these items to the bicycle rack. The school is not responsible for damages to any personal property, or to secure anyone's property in the building, or for lost or stolen property. Students will be expected to store and lock scooters outside at the bike racks

STUDENT OF THE MONTH BREAKFASTS

These breakfasts are hosted once a month to honor students for showing HEART. They will be from 7:00-7:45 am in the library. Families/students will be notified by invitation if they are receiving this award.

VALUABLES

Bringing valuables to school increases the potential for distraction to the learning environment. In these cases, the items can be taken from the student, and parents will be asked to come and pick up the items. This includes sunglasses, electronic devices, excessive cash, or expensive jewelry that must be removed before participation is allowed in an activity. When a student is withdrawn from BMS during the school year, they have two weeks from the time of withdrawal to pick up all personal items. After that, unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity and BMS will not be responsible for any items that were not picked up. **The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

WATER BOTTLES:

Water bottles are allowed at schools. We do ask that they are not plastic bottles that can be squeezed. This will help deter misuse of the water bottle. There are drinking fountains that can be used to refill the bottles if needed.

8:00-8:40	8th GRADE Period 0 (Advisory)
8:43-9:33	Period 1
9:36-10:26	Period 2
10:28-10:58	Lunch
11:02-11:47	Period 4 (Exploratory)
11:50-12:40	Period 5
12:43-1:33	Period 6
1:36-2:21	Period 7 (Exploratory)
2:24-3:15	Period 8

8:00-8:40	7th GRADE Period 0 (Advisory)
8:43-9:33	Period 1
9:36-10:21	Period 2 (Exploratory)
10:24-11:14	Period 3
11:14-11:47	Lunch
11:50-12:35	Period 5 (Exploratory)
12:38-1:28	Period 6
1:31-2:21	Period 7
2:24-3:15	Period 8

8:00-8:40	8th GRADE Period 0 (Advisory)
8:43-9:28	Period 1 (Exploratory)
9:31-10:21	Period 2
10:24-11:14	Period 3
11:17-12:07	Period 4
12:07-12:40	Lunch
12:43-1:28	Period 6 (Exploratory)
1:31-2:21	Period 7
2:24-3:15	Period 8

STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGN OFF PAGE

I have read and understand the information, policies, and procedures presented in the student handbook.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

H _____

E _____

A _____

R _____

T _____

