MARY E. BRITTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 1, 2025

Dear Mary E. Britton Middle School Families,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Mary E. Britton Middle School! As the founding principal, I am honored to partner with you in building a school community that prioritizes academic excellence, civic engagement, and a strong sense of belonging for every student.

Our vision for Mary E. Britton Middle School is rooted in the legacy of Mary E. Britton, who was a teacher, doctor, and civil rights activist. Inspired by her dedication to education, healthcare, and advocacy, we are excited to develop a Health and Medical Sciences program that will provide students with hands-on learning experiences in the medical field. Additionally, we are committed to ensuring that every student leaves our school having earned at least one high school credit, setting a strong foundation for their future academic success. Beyond academics, we will cultivate a civically engaged student body that takes pride in contributing to the community, and we strive to create a school environment where students are excited and proud to attend each day.

To begin building relationships with our students and families, our administrative team will visit our feeder elementary schools, as well as Crawford Middle School and Edythe J. Hayes Middle School, to introduce ourselves and connect with students. We look forward to meeting many of you during these visits and sharing more about what makes Mary E. Britton Middle School a special place.

We understand that transitioning to a new school can come with many questions. To support families in this transition, we will be offering mini sessions beginning June 19 and occurring every Thursday. These sessions will provide opportunities for parents to practice drop-off and pick-up procedures, tour the building, and allow students to experience arrival and dismissal routines before the first day of school. We will send out additional details about scheduling in a separate communication.

As part of our commitment to fostering an engaging and focused learning environment, Mary E. Britton Middle School will be a phone-free school. We will implement the Yondr phone pouch system, ensuring that students can fully engage in their learning and social interactions without the distraction of mobile devices during the school day. Included in this packet is additional information about the Yondr system, and how we will implement it.

We are also excited to invite you to our dedication ceremony, which will be held on Thursday, June 12 at 3:00 PM. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the opening of our school and honor the legacy of Mary E. Britton. We will also have some exciting announcements to make about our various community partnerships that will benefit our entire stakeholder community.

(859) 422-1195
britton.fcps.net
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2185 Polo Club Blvd,
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meb-help@fayette.kyschools.us

In the meantime, please continue to check our website for updates on staffing hires, dates for sports tryouts, and information on our academic programming.

Below, you will find a QR code and a link for students to sign up for Pathways courses (our term for exploratory or specials classes). Please use the links within the form to review available options before making your selections. All 7th-grade courses are either semester or year-long, and most will offer an industry certification (such as CPR and first aid). Students have until March 28, 2025, to sign up. They must log into Google using their FCPS login ID and password, as personal Google accounts will not work.

We are thrilled to embark on this journey with you and appreciate your support in making Mary E. Britton Middle School a place where students thrive. Please stay tuned for additional updates as we prepare for an exciting school year ahead.

Thank you for being a part of the Mary E. Britton Middle School community. I look forward to meeting you soon!

Best wishes,

Dave Hoskins
Principal

7th Grade Pathways Sign Up Form

OR
https://bit.ly/MEB7thGradePathways

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Dear Parents,

We will be making our school a phone-free space to improve teaching and learning using a program called Yondr. Yondr has been implemented in thousands of schools across 27 countries to facilitate an engaged learning environment.

We believe that phones have great utility. We have also found that learning and student mental health improve drastically when students are fully present with their teachers and classmates.

The Yondr Program utilizes a simple, secure pouch that stores a phone. Every student will secure their phone in a personally assigned Yondr pouch when they arrive at school. Students will maintain possession of their phones and will not use them until their pouches are opened at the end of the school day. Students are required to bring their Yondr pouch to and from school each day and are responsible for their pouch at all times.

In an annual survey of over 1,200 of schools that implemented the Yondr Program:

- 86% saw a positive impact in student safety and wellness
- 84% saw a positive change in student engagement
- 72% saw a positive change in student behavior
- 68% saw a positive change in academic performance

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school directly at (859) 422-1195, or attend one of our summer Thursday mini sessions, beginning June 19 at the school.

If there is an emergency and you would like to get in contact with your child during the school day, please call the main school line at (859) 422-1195.

To best serve your child, we appreciate your full support in adoption of the Yondr Program at our school.

Thank you,

Dave Hoskins
Principal

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HOW YONDR WORKS

As students enter school, they place their phone in their assigned Yondr Pouch.

Students close and secure their Pouch, keeping it on them throughout the day.

When leaving school, students tap their Pouch on a Base to retrieve their phone.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I want to reach my child during the school day?

- We want our students to be engaged in their learning. If you need to contact your child during the school day, contact the main office at (859) 422-1195.

What if there is a school emergency?

- In case of a school emergency, we direct our students to safety first, following our school emergency preparedness protocol.

Will my student's phone be safe?

- Students are in possession of their phone - in their Yondr pouch - for the entire school day. We will advise students to store the pouch in their backpacks where it is completely safe.

What if the Yondr pouch gets damaged or a student is caught on their phone?

- The Yondr pouch is property of Mary E. Britton Middle School. Following is our process for damages to the pouch, losing the pouch, or not using the pouch as instructed:
    - Damaging a Yondr pouch
        - $25 restitution
    - Losing a Yondr pouch
        - $25 restitution
    - Failure to use the Yondr pouch or using a "dummy" phone
        - 1st offense: Confiscation of phone and returned to student at the end of the day
        - 2nd offense: Confiscation of phone and parent required to pick up the phone
        - 3rd offense: Phone turned in daily to the front office
- Note: Damage consists of any signs that the physical integrity of the pouch has been compromised, whether intentional or unintentional, as determined by the school or Yondr staff.