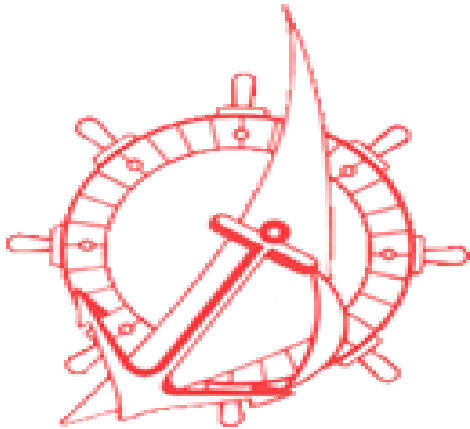


**BELLPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLIPPER P.R.I.D.E.**



Bellport Middle School

**Parent - Student Handbook
2024 - 2025**

Dr. Jamal Colson, Principal
Ms. Rosa Kalomiris Assistant Principal 6th Grade
TBD, Assistant Principal 7th Grade
Ms. Manouchka Daniel, Assistant Principal 8th Grade

[https://southcountry.org/schools/
bellport_middle_school](https://southcountry.org/schools/bellport_middle_school)

Principal's Message to Students

I am excited to have you join us on our 9th year of our journey of discovery and learning here at Bellport Middle School. On behalf of our entire staff, I welcome returning students and new students back for the 2024-2025 school year.

We will continue with our three A's: Attendance, Attitude, Achievement and Clipper Pride.

- **Attendance** – Having daily and timely attendance for each period of the school day.
- **Attitude** – Possessing the mindset of being ready to learn and applying yourself throughout each and every day.
- **Achievement** – Seeing and cultivating within you, the ability to reach and exceed your daily/yearly goals.

PRIDE: P = Prepare, R = Respect, I = Involved, D = Diligent, E = Ethical

We will continue to maintain our commitments:

- We will commit to creating an environment of belonging, dignity and connection for all members of the school community.
- We will commit to providing all students with access, voice, and ownership in their learning experiences.

I wish students, parents, and staff a successful school year filled with learning and with the understanding that the **Mission is Possible**.

Respectfully,
Dr. Jamal Colson

South Country Central School District 2024-2025 School Calendar

July, 2024					August, 2024					September, 2024					October, 2024				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5				1	2	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30	30					28	29	30	31	
					+2														
4- Independence Day					28, 29 - Superintendent's Conference Day					2- Labor Day Weekend 3- First Day for Students					3,4- Rosh Hashanah 12- Yom Kippur 14- Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day				

November, 2024					December, 2024					January, 2025					February, 2025				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
				1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3		3	4	5	6	7
4	(5)	6	7	(8)	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				27	28	29	30	31					
16 + 1					15					18					15				
1- Diwali 5- Election Day/ Supt. Conference Day 11- Veteran's Day 28-29- Thanksgiving Recess					23-31- Winter Recess 25- Christmas					1-3- Winter Recess 1- New Year's Day 20- Martin Luther King Jr. Day 20- Lunar New Year					17- Presidents' Day 17-21- Mid Winter Recess				

March, 2025					April, 2025					May, 2025					June, 2025				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
						1	2	3	4			1	2		2	3	4	5	6
10	11	12	13	(14)	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20	21	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27	28	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27
31					28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30	30				
20					17					20					19				
31- Eid al-Fitr					13- First Day of Passover 14-18- Spring Recess 18- Good Friday 20- Easter					20- School Budget Vote 23-26- Memorial Day Weekend 26- Memorial Day					6- Eid al-Adha 17-27- Regents Exams 19- Juneteenth 27- Last Day of School				

First Day of School
Last Day of School
Schools Closed

Key:	 = School Closing (Instructional Staff) 180+3=183
	 = Teacher Orientation/Superintendent's Conference Day
	 = Daytime Parent Teacher Conference

Daytime Parent/Teacher Conference Schedule	
November 8- BHS and BMS: School Closed 6-12 students	
December 6 Elementary School Closed Pre-K-5 students	
March 14- Elementary Schools Closed-Pre-K-5 students	

Evening Parent/Teacher Conference Schedule	
November 18- Bellport Middle School 6:00pm-8:00pm	February 4- Bellport High School 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
November 19- Bellport High School 6:30 pm-8:30 pm	March 13- Pre-K-5 Buildings 5:30 pm-7:30 pm
December 5- Pre-K-5 Buildings 5:30 pm-8:30 pm	April 10 Bellport High School 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
January 27- Bellport Middle School 6:00 pm-8:00 pm	May 1, Bellport Middle School 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
	May 6- Pre-K-5 Buildings 5:30 pm-7:30 pm

Meet the Teacher Night	
September 4- South Haven (daytime conference)	
September 10- Bellport Middle School	
September 16- Brookhaven ES 2nd & 3rd Grade Kreamer Street ES Verme W. Citz ES	
September 17- Brookhaven ES K & 1st Grade	
September 18- Bellport High School	
September 19- Frank P. Long Intermediate School	

Quarter End Dates (Gr K-12)	
1st-	11/7/2024
2nd-	1/24/2025
3rd-	4/4/2025
4th-	6/27/2025
Trimester Dates (Gr K to 5)	
1st-	11/8/2024
2nd-	3/7/2025
3rd-	6/27/2025

Make-Up Day Schedule	
Make-Up Day #1-	May 23, 2025
Make-Up Day #2-	April 14, 2025
Make-Up Day #3-	April 15, 2025

The Board of Education reserves the right to revise this calendar if emergency school closings during the school year require additional teaching days. Consolidated School Calendar Adopted by the Board of Education on February 28, 2024. Revised March 6, 2024.

BELL SCHEDULES

Period	Start	End	Length
1	7:54 AM	8:35 AM	41 min
Homeroom	8:35 AM	8:38 AM	3 min
1 pass	8:38 AM	8:41 AM	3 min
2	8:41 AM	9:22 AM	41 min
2 pass	9:22 AM	9:25 AM	3 min
3	9:25 AM	10:06 AM	41 min
3 pass	10:06 AM	10:10 AM	4 min
4	10:10 AM	10:51 AM	41 min
4 pass	10:51 AM	10:54 AM	3min
5	10:54 AM	11:35 AM	41 min
5 pass	11:35 AM	11:38 AM	3 min
6	11:38 AM	12:19 PM	41 min
6 pass	12:19 PM	12:23 PM	4 min
7	12:23 PM	1:04 PM	41 min
7 pass	1:04 PM	1:07 PM	3 min
8	1:07 PM	1:48 PM	41 min
8 pass	1:48 PM	1:51 PM	3 min
9	1:51 PM	2:32 PM	41 min
Announcements	2:32 PM	2:34 PM	2 min

1 Hour Delayed Opening		
Period	Start	End
1	8:54 AM	9:28 AM
Homeroom	9:28 AM	9:31 AM
2	9:34 AM	10:08 AM
3	10:11 AM	10:45 AM
4	10:49 AM	11:23 AM
5	11:26 AM	12:00 PM
6	12:03 PM	12:37 PM
7	12:41 PM	1:15 PM
8	1:18 PM	1:52 PM
9	1:55 PM	2:29 PM
Announcements	2:29 PM	2:33 PM

2 Hour Delayed Opening		
Period	Start	End
1	9:54 AM	10:22 AM
Homeroom	10:22 AM	10:25 AM
2	10:28 AM	10:56 AM
3	10:59 AM	11:27 AM
4	11:30 AM	11:58 AM
5	12:01 PM	12:29 PM
6	12:32 PM	1:00 PM
7	1:03 PM	1:31 PM
8	1:34 PM	2:02 PM
9	2:05 PM	2:33 PM

SCHOOL CLOSING PROCEDURES

There may be times when the weather will cause schools to have a delayed opening or close for the day. These decisions will generally be made by 5:30 a.m. All delays and closings will be posted on the district's website at www.southcountry.org and phone calls will be made through the automated call system. School closings and delays will also be broadcast on: WALK 97.5 FM, WBAB 102.3 FM, WBZO 103.2 FM, WRCN 103.9 FM, WBLI 106.1 FM, and Channel 12 TV News.

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The South Country Central School District is pleased to make it possible for parents of Bellport Middle School students to access academic progress and attendance in each class via the Internet. We believe this access will improve parent and teacher communication as well as student responsibility. Through this portal, parents will be able to view schedules, progress reports, report cards, attendance, and grade books.

In order for access to be granted, you must first register for a parent account. After district personnel are able to authenticate the registration information, an e-mail will be sent to you confirming that your account has been activated. A single password and login allows parental access. Each parent/guardian may establish an account (please allow a minimum of 72 hours for approval). Click on the links below for instructions and access to Parent Portal.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

When filling out the application, PLEASE DO NOT ABBREVIATE, USE LOWERCASE LETTERS, OR USE NICKNAMES. The registration will be rejected if you use “Joey” instead of “Joseph”, “Ali” instead of “Allison”, etc. If both parents wish to register, they must fill out two separate applications. Please do not register as “John & Mary Jones”. Use ONE name. When entering the mailing address of where the student resides, please enter it as printed on a report card, progress report, or schedule.

Common Errors or Problems:

1. DENIED an account, the primary reason is that the information you provided does not match our school data. This is for security purposes. Please do not call the school to have the e-mail added. You must print out the letter found on our website under Parent Portal and return it to your child’s school.
2. If you cannot access the Parent Portal, please e-mail parentportal@southcountry.org and someone will answer your inquiries promptly. Please include your name, address, description of the problem, student name(s), and a phone number where we can reach you.

Privacy

The School District wants to assure you that your child’s privacy is of the utmost importance. Access to information is restricted by a secure log-on and password. South Country Central School District will not make your

3 A's	Arrival/ Dismissal/ Bus	Cafeteria	Hallway	Bathroom/ Locker Room	Auditorium/ Classroom
Attendance	Walk with the flow of traffic. Enter in an orderly fashion. Exit in an orderly fashion. Be aware of surroundings as you are walking. Be on time for all afterschool activities.	Walk with the flow of traffic. Remain seated until given permission by an adult.	Walk with the flow of traffic. Arrive to class on time and ready to learn.	Walk quietly. Use time wisely.	Arrive to class on time and ready to learn. Remain seated. Participate when invited to do so.
Attitude	Respect personal space and property. Use language, volume, and tone appropriate for school. Follow directions of all school staff. Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Respect personal space and property. Use language, volume, and tone appropriate for school. Follow directions of all school staff. Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Respect personal space and property. Use language, volume, and tone appropriate for school. Follow the directions of all school staff. Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Respect others' privacy. Respect personal space and property. Use language, volume, and tone appropriate for school. Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Respect personal space and property. Use language, volume, and tone appropriate for school. Follow the directions of all school staff. Keep hands and feet to yourself.
Achievement	Come to school dressed appropriately. All technology sound off out of sight. Tell parents/guardians that you are staying for an afterschool activity. Bus transportation is available for students participating in afterschool activities. Keep your personal property and items with you at all times.	Clean up after yourself. Finish eating and drinking before leaving.	Have a pass when in the halls during class time.	Keep area clean.	Sit attentively. Look and listen to any speaker.

New York State Required Middle School Assessments

Grade Level	Required State Assessments	Dates
6	English Language Arts Math	April 22 — April 23 May 6 — May 7
7	English Language Arts Math	April 22 — April 23 May 6 — May 7
8	English Language Arts Math Science World Languages (These courses culminate with a locally developed examination – FLACS. The same is aligned to the NYS learning standards.)	April 22 — April 23 May 6 — May 7 May 13
All Grades	ENL students are required to take:	NYSESLAT Speaking Exam in April 14 – May 23 NYSESLAT Listening, Reading, Writing Exam in May 12- May 24

username/password publicly available. It is the parent /guardian’s responsibility to keep the password secure at home. Furthermore, posted information to this site is merely a copy of the real information file, insuring that no one can alter the actual permanent records through this application.

Teachers and administrators will update the information that you will be viewing, so you will be able to view attendance, for example, on a near real-time basis. Please allow 48 hours before calling the school regarding any discrepancies in attendance.

Necessary Notifications

South Country School District does not make any guarantee as to the accuracy or timeliness of the information displayed on the Portal. Information retrieved via the Portal site should be regarded as unofficial and non-binding. Any questions arise about individual student progress or grade entries for particular classes, the parent or student should communicate directly with the teacher by phone or email.

As with any educational record, please be aware that disclosure by the South Country Central School District, including the contents of this web site, may occur in the event such information is required by a court order, or other reason required by law.

It is important to note that no data transmission over the internet can be guaranteed to be perfectly secure. As a result, while the South Country Central School District strives to protect your student's personal information, we cannot and do not ensure or warrant the security of any information you transmit to us or from our online services, and you do so at your own risk.

Should you have any additional questions, please e-mail the **eSchool Help Line** or contact **(631) 730-1511**.

Student Portal

In an effort to provide additional support to students in monitoring their academic standing, Bellport Middle School provides students access to eSchool **Student Portal**. This mirrors the information available to parents through eSchool Parent Portal. This tool will allow students to have online access to the following information:

Profile, Attendance, Progress Reports, Report Cards, Gradebook.

In order to access the Student Portal for the first time, students should complete the following:

Web address: <https://studentportal.eschooldata.com/sc>

Username: enter the student 9 digit ID number

Password: AnchorsAway (capital “A’s” are required /no space between words). Upon entry, individual passwords can be created.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

1. Students must provide a note of absence to their homeroom teacher upon returning to school.
2. All notes must include the date(s) and reason(s) for absence.
3. Three or more consecutive absences require a doctor's note. Please note, requests for homework can be made by calling 730-1628. It is important that you call as early as possible so the work can be gathered for your child.

Excused

Medical Excuses	Sanctioned school activities/field trips
Legal/Family Court	District approved religious observances
Death/Funeral	

To qualify for "EXCUSED absent" status, students must furnish appropriate written documentation upon their return to school.

Unexcused

Absences not mentioned above are interpreted under the law as "unexcused absences" including but not limited to vacation, babysitting, over-sleeping, needed at home, cold weather or missing the bus and extended family vacations. Any reason not listed as excused shall be deemed unexcused.

Automated Absence Calls

If your child is absent or is late to school and misses homeroom in the morning, you may receive phone call notification through the district's automated call system. If you have signed your child in at the door or you provided a note for the lateness or absence, this will be documented in your child's attendance accordingly. Please note, you *may* receive an automated call even if you have signed your child in. This will be corrected by the end of the business day.

NOTE: Truancy is defined as illegally absent without parent consent. Excessive absences will be reviewed and dealt with on a case by case basis.

Late to School

Students must sign in at the desk in the BELLPORT MIDDLE SCHOOL lobby and must provide a note explaining the lateness. A student's reasons for lateness will be assessed excused or unexcused as per definitions. In cases of five or more unexcused latenesses, the parent/guardians will be notified.

Principal

Dr. Jamal Colson

Phone: (631) 730-1626

E-Mail: jcolson@southcountry.org

Office Assistants

Sonia Euceda (631) 730-1627

Rita Gonzalez (631) 730-1628

Assistant Principals

Ms. Manouchka Daniel

Phone: (631) 730-1796

E-Mail: mdaniel@southcountry.org

Office Assistant

Aimee Py: (631) 730-1642

Mrs. Rosa Kalomiris

Phone: (631) 730-1640

E-Mail: rkalomiris@southcountry.org

Office Assistant

Georgette Morfis: (631) 730-1641

TBD

Phone: (631) 730-1630

E-Mail: [TBD](#)

Office Assistant

TBD: (631) 730-1631

Guidance

Office Assistant

Maria Lasso: (631) 730-1768

E-Mail: mlasso@southcountry.org

School Counselors

Christina DeNapoli

Phone: (631) 730-1606

E-Mail: cdenapoli@southcountry.org

Kristin Glynn

Phone: (631) 730-3488

E-Mail: krglynn@southcountry.org

Erin Malaney

Phone: (631) 730-1604

E-Mail: emalaney@southcountry.org

Student Support Counselor

Dr. Faith Thompson-Lee

Phone: (631) 730-1799

E-Mail: ftthompsonlee@southcountry.org

School Psychologists

Danielle Gonzalez A – Lo

Phone: (631)730-1646

E-Mail: dgonzalez@southcountry.org

Jon O'Leary Lu–Z

Phone: (631)730-1795

E-Mail: joleary@southcountry.org

Health Office

Martina Cortes- School Nurse

Phone: (631) 730-1633

E-mail: @southcountry.org

Regina Hunt - Health Aide

Phone: (631) 730-1634

Social Workers

Tracy Egger

Phone: (631) 730-1770

E-mail: tegger9@southcountry.org

Gabrielle Coyne

Phone: (631) 730-1778

E-mail: gcoyne@southcountry.org

Marlyne Vecchione

E-mail: mvecchione@southcountry.org

Phone: (631) 730-3475

Speech Pathologists

Kaitlin Cooley

E-mail: kcooley@southcountry.org

Phone: (631) 730-1638

Library

Amanda Mason- Library Media Specialist

Phone: (631) 730-1643

E-Mail: amason@southcountry.org

Teaching Assistant

TBD 631) 730-1645

Transportation- Towne Bus

Phone: (631) 345-9600

Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as Parent-Teacher Association meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register, but are restricted to the area of the function.

Teachers are expected *not* to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.

Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.

All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

Signs will be posted throughout the school building directing visitors to report to the main office.

COMMUNICATION

Clear and efficient home-school communication is essential for student success. Should questions or concerns arise during the school year, consult the communication chains outlined below for the most efficient and effective response.

On Matters Involving Academics On Matters Involving Student Discipline:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Teacher | 1. Classroom Teacher |
| 2. Guidance Counselor | 2. Grade Level Assistant Principal |
| 3. Grade Level Assistant Principal | 3. Principal |
| 4. Principal | |

On Matters Involving Extra-Curricular Activities:

1. Club Advisor
2. Grade Level Assistant Principal
3. Principal

On Matters Involving Transportation: On Matters Involving Athletics:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Transportation Department
(631) 345-9600 | 1. Coach/Assistant Coach |
| 2. Assistant Principal in Charge of
Transportation | 2. Athletic Director |
| | 3. Grade Level Assistant Principal |

GENERAL POLICIES

Backpacks, String Bags and Handbags

Students are permitted to carry backpacks, string bags and handbags to class during the school day.

Bicycles

Students may ride their bicycles to school. They are to be kept locked in the bike racks which are located at the front of the building off Kreamer Street. The school district assumes no responsibility for the security of bicycles.

Bullying

What is Bullying?

- Using words or actions to hurt someone else
- Gossiping about others
- Putting down others
- Leaving others out--- telling others not to be friends with someone.
- Using the Internet and/or social networks to threaten, tease, and/or humiliate students

Signs your child may be a victim of bullying?

- Becomes quiet and withdrawn
- Changes route to school
- Comes home with cuts, bruises or torn clothing
- “Loses” clothing or possessions
- Ravenous when they get home
- Avoids leaving the house
- Does not want to take the bus to school
- Suggests changing schools or moving

What to do you when your child is being bullied?

- Create an open line of communication with your child.
- Be proactive. Discuss a plan of action with your child on steps to take if they should ever become a victim of bullying.
- Report incident to school authorities, i.e. teachers, guidance counselors, social workers, school psychologist, Assistant Principal, or Principal. Adults in the school environment need to be made aware of the extent of the bullying, where and when it happens. **As a school, we cannot fix what we do not know about.**

Bystander Responsibility

Student onlookers need to understand that they are responsible for their actions when they witness a bullying incident. In particular, bystanders should know they will face negative consequences if they decide to join a bully in taunting or teasing a victim, cheer the bully on, laugh at the bullying incident, or otherwise take part in the bullying.

Bullying Websites:

www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov www.pacerkidsagainstabullying.org
www.ubanext.uiuc.edu/conflict/index.html

Bus Ridership

Please check the bus schedule carefully and review this information with your child. It is important that your child knows the bus number he/she will be taking to and from school. Only students who have been designated as bus riders may ride the bus. Students will only be picked-up and/or dropped off from their assigned bus stops.

Any student that wants to ride another bus must receive administrative authorization in advance by submitting a parent’s note to the grade level Assistant Principal’s office for approval DURING HOMEROOM.

The note must contain the following information:

Students’ first and last name.

First and last name of the student they are riding home with.

The number of the bus the student wishes to ride and address of the stop.

Date with Parent/guardian Signature.

Safety:

Wherever possible, a certified trainer or EMT is assigned for games, particularly for sports that involve heavy physical contact. In addition, every coach is required to maintain current certification in First Aid and CPR. All teams are provided with first aid equipment and supplies.

Eligibility

The South Country Central School District’s Eligibility Policy can be accessed on our school website or by following the attached link: http://www.southcountry.org/Assets/Athletics_Documents/091014_BELLPORT_MIDDLE_SCHOOL-BHS_Eligibility_Policy.pdf.

Students ***must be in school for at least 5 periods*** in order to participate in any practice or game on that day.

Late Buses

Late buses are available on Monday - Friday to take the students home from school. The late buses will not drop the students off at their “normal” a.m. or p.m. stop, but at bus stops determined by transportation. Teachers and administrators are available after school to assist students in locating the correct late bus to board.

Lost and Found

Bellport Middle School maintains a lost and found closet. Students can check for missing items during the morning arrival or during their respective lunch periods. Items not claimed will be discarded every two weeks.

Visitors

The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools.

Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.

All visitors to the school must report to the security desk and/or main office upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to sign the visitor’s register and will be issued a visitor’s identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge to the main office and/or security desk before leaving the building.

Fall Sports

All students who wish to try out for the Fall Season (football, soccer or cross-country) must have physical examinations completed by the beginning of school in order to participate on one of these teams. Please refer to the letters from the Director of Athletics, Health and Physical Education and the nurse's packet for more details. *Fall sports meetings occur during the first week of school and announced to students during morning announcements. Our daily announcements are on the Bellport Middle School website each day.

Permission Slips

Student-Athletes will not be allowed to practice or play in games until the coach has received an official permission slip signed by a parent. Slips are distributed by the coach, or may be picked up in the Athletic Office.

Pre-season Meetings

It is customary for most coaches to hold pre-season information and sign-up meetings in advance of their seasons. For the fall, these meetings are held in the late spring and for the winter and spring seasons, toward the end of the season preceding. Details on these meetings are announced over the public address system and are publicized by signs posted around the building.

Practices

Practices are held Monday through Friday afternoons, usually from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, with adjustments possible when inclement weather disrupts outdoor activities. Most teams also practice on Saturdays, generally in the morning. Under no circumstances are teams permitted to practice/play on seven (7) consecutive days. Practices are also held during such vacation periods as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and winter and spring breaks.

Practices may be scheduled at the coach's discretion, contingent on the availability of athletes. Coaches are always asked to provide parents with printed practice (and game) schedules to facilitate drop-off and pick-up times, and to coordinate with other family commitments. Game schedules are on the Section XI website www.sectionxi.org. There are buses at 5:15 PM to transport athletes home from practice sessions. Since games run later than 5:15 pm, parents must arrange for pick-up of athletes on game days and on Saturdays.

Holy Day Observance: On the following days, neither games nor scrimmages may be scheduled:

Rosh Hashanah – October 3-4
Christmas Eve - December 24
1st Day of Passover - April 13
Good Friday - April 18

Yom Kippur - October 12
Christmas Day - December 25
Holy Thursday - April 17
Easter Sunday - April 20

Passes are issued during students' lunch period and not at the end of the day. Phone permissions are not allowed.

Remember that riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right. The same rules and regulations are outlined in the District's Code of Conduct also apply on all school buses. Students not conforming to the rules will be obliged to supply their own transportation.

If you are questioning a change in bus stop or pick-up time, please contact Towne Bus LLC directly at 631-345-9600. For all other safety concerns regarding your child riding the bus, please contact the school at 631-730-1642.

Cafeteria Services

Students will be assigned to either the East or the West cafeteria. Any request for a change of cafeteria will be assessed and decided based on the special circumstance.

All students enrolled in the district, regardless of income level, are eligible to receive a healthy school breakfast and lunch at no charge each day. No further action is required of families. Students will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit a meal application!

Code of Conduct

The South Country Central School District is committed to ensuring that our schools are safe, secure and orderly environments in which teaching and learning take place each day. A safe and supportive school depends upon the efforts of all members of the school community—teachers, students, administrators, parents, guidance counselors, school psychologists, social workers, safety personnel, related service providers, cafeteria, custodial and bus staff—to treat one another with mutual respect. The Code of Conduct promotes responsible student behavior and an atmosphere of dignity and respect by establishing guidelines to help students as they strive to become productive citizens in a diverse society. The district's Code of Conduct in its entirety can be found on the South Country Central School district website: <http://www.southcountry.org>.

Schoolwide Expectations

At Bellport Middle School, all students, staff, and visitors are expected to demonstrate SAFE, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE behaviors at all times. To emphasize this expectation, all students will be introduced to the specific behaviors that should be demonstrated in all common areas of the

building through grade level assemblies and smaller class meetings. Additionally, these expectations are posted throughout the building in all of our common areas. A chart of the expected behaviors can be found on the Bellport Middle School website. Please take a few minutes to review these expectations with your child(ren) throughout the school year. Please review these expectations on the 3 A's Attendance, Attitude, Achievement chart found in the back of the booklet.

Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities

Bellport Middle School offers a large and varied number of clubs and co-curricular activities that are available to all students. We encourage students to make a commitment to as many of these activities as they can possibly balance with their academic life. As students take part in the activities and organizations of their choice they will quickly realize that their contributions can actually make a difference in our school community!

The 2024 - 2025 Extra Curricular Activities are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Art Club | A World of Difference | Peer Mediation |
| Chamber Orchestra | Chess Club | Clarinet Choir |
| History Club | International Club | Jazz Ensemble |
| Junior Honor Society | Math Club | The Barge-Newspaper |
| Robotics | Science Club | Step Squad |
| South Country Singers | Spinnaker | Student Council |
| Tri-M Music Honor Society | Musical | Yearbook |
| Ambassadors Club | Frequent Use Club | |
| Gay Straight Alliance | Food Waste Club | |

Eligibility Policy

The South Country Central School District's eligibility policy establishes the standards by which students shall conduct themselves if they choose to take advantage of the privileges afforded them by participating in clubs and activities. The full policy can be accessed on the district's website:

<http://www.southcountry.org>. Students participating in activities shall commit themselves to meet the standards of this policy and of the District Code of Conduct at all times and in all places during a calendar year.

All participants in the South Country Central School District student activities are provided with the opportunity to enhance their personal success by:

- promoting good citizenship and moral character
- developing discipline and skills necessary for personal success and well

Interscholastic Athletic Program

The Middle School Interscholastic Athletic Program is ONLY available to 7th and 8th graders in good academic and behavioral standing. Our 6th graders may participate in intramural programs.

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Fall Season		Early Winter Season	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Football	Cheerleading	Basketball	Volleyball
Soccer	Cross Country		Cheerleading
Cross Country	Soccer		
	Tennis		

Late Winter Season		Spring Season	
Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Wrestling	Basketball	Baseball	Softball
		Track & Field	Track & Field
		Lacrosse/Tennis	Lacrosse

FIRST DAY OF PRACTICE:

- Fall, Wednesday, September 4, 2024**
- Early Winter, Monday, November 4, 2024**
- Late Winter, Monday, January 13, 2025**
- Spring, Monday, March 24, 2025**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

NEW — We are excited to announce that we are now offering the convenience of online registration for our sports programs through FamilyID. For more information go to BMS website.

The Nurse's office is mandated by state law to maintain accurate health records on every student. New York State mandates that physical exams are required for children entering grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11. If we do not receive your child's exam by October 30th, we will have your child seen by our school doctor. Please call the school nurse if you do not wish your child to have an in-school exam.

As of 2018—2019 a new vaccination, Meningococcal is required for all 7th graders.

Athletic Physicals

Any 7th or 8th grader who intends to compete on an interscholastic athletic team must have a sports physical examination (one per year). New York State regulations require that all student athletes must have a sports physical in order to participate in interscholastic athletics. Sports physicals are in effect for one year from the date that the physical was administered.

You have the option of having the physical given by your family Physician or our school doctor. Anyone receiving a physical exam for athletics must use the Bellport Athletic Physical form. You may get a copy from the South Country website. Click on "Athletics" and then download school physical forms.

Parents must fill in, and sign the Health History section of the physical form and bring both the Health Certificate/Appraisal form and Physical form to the exam.

All completed and signed forms must be returned to the nurse's office or to your coach. If you choose to have your physical performed by the school physician a completed and signed physical form must be brought to the nurse's office at the time of your scheduled school sports physical.

Please note that all sports physicals must have final approval from the school physician. Sport Physicals are administrated in June and January. For any questions or concerns, please contact the Health Office at (631) 730-1633.

being

- promoting the image and identity of the school and community

Students who choose to participate in activities will conduct themselves appropriately at all times both on school grounds and away from the school.

The responsibility of good conduct is an extension of the responsibility to represent the school and community in an appropriate manner.

Dress Code

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Teachers and all other district personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

The following standards of dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails will be observed in all South Country School District schools:

1. All dress, grooming and appearance must be safe, appropriate, non-disruptive, non-threatening and must not interfere with the educational process.
2. Recognize that extremely brief garments are inappropriate and unacceptable. This may include but is not limited to the following: tank tops, backless tops, single shoulder tops, tube tops, skirts/skortis above mid-thigh length, slippers and pajamas, etc.
3. Underwear must be completely covered with outer clothing at all times.
4. Pants must be worn at the waist.
5. Shirts must be no longer than fingertip length.
6. If worn, belts or overalls straps must be buckled.
7. Footwear must be worn at all times and must be appropriate for school activities.

Students found to be dressed inappropriately will be first directed to the Guidance Department to select from the clothing supply available on premises in an effort to avoid any further disciplinary action.

Any who refuses to modify his/her dress shall be subject to disciplinary measures up to and including suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further disciplinary measures, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

Drop Off/Pick-Up

Student drop off in the morning and student pick up in the afternoon occurs in the **East Lot, located on South Street**, off Station Road, one block north of Kreamer Street. Students who are dropped off in this area will be able to enter the building no earlier than 7:30 and will be supervised in the East Cafeteria.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Honor Rolls

In order to make the Honor Roll, a student must achieve an 85.0% - 89.99%, High Honor Roll 90.0% - 100%. Students who achieves Honor Roll status will be recognized by receiving an Honor Roll Certificate and have his or her name displayed on the bulletin board outside the main office.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society is an academic and community service based organization open to 6th and 7th grade students who meet the academic and community service requirements. Eligible students will be invited to join the National Junior Honor Society at the end of the third quarter of their 6th, 7th or 8th grade school year.

In order to be invited into the Honor Society, students must meet the following criteria:

Maintain an 88 academic average per quarter (the average of the 5 major academic areas – Math, English, Social Studies, Science, and Foreign Language) or an 85 academic average per quarter if student is in **BOTH** honors classes (Math and Science) in each of the first three quarters of the school year.

****NOTE:** If a student enrolled in either honors class for the first quarter and subsequently transfers into a non-honors class at the end of the first quarter, through the remainder of the school year, that student must meet an 88 academic average for the remaining quarters.

- Maintain an 88 average in special area classes (Art, Physical Education, Technology, Home and Careers, Music, Health, etc.)
- Have **NO** grades less than a 70 in **ANY** class in **ANY** quarter.
- Have no behavior issues and/or suspensions.
- Participate in at least **THREE** (3) extracurricular activities (Sports Teams, Religion Classes, Band/Orchestra/Chorus, etc.)

- Receive **THREE** (3) teacher recommendations.

Students meeting all the criteria will be inducted into Honor Society at a ceremony in the beginning of June.

Homework

The Bellport Middle School takes pride on providing high quality instruction. Therefore, homework is a tool used as an opportunity for students and parents to review the material reviewed in class. As a result, the frequency in which homework is assigned will be up to the description of the classroom teacher.

Extra Help

Extra help is available to every student during 10th period from 2:40 pm – 3:10 pm. Teachers publish their extra help schedules on line and in the building. However, if a student is having difficulty attending extra help on the days published, he/she should discuss this with his/her teacher so that other arrangements can be made. Please be informed that Extra Help may become a requirement for those students failing two or more assessments in a quarter.

School Counselors and Support Staff

At Bellport Middle School, we have three (3) school counselors, one (1) Student Support Counselor, three (3) social workers, and two (2) psychologists. They offer many valuable resources within both the school and the community. Our school counselors provide information and personal counseling regarding academic requirements and goals, social and developmental needs and instruction in career exploration appropriate for each grade level.

The primary function of our social worker is to intervene in situations where behavioral and social barriers interfere with a student's ability to attain his/her educational potential. Among many of the services they provide, our social workers oversee our peer mediation program. They also work with students, teachers, parents, school administrators, and the community to address issues of student behavior, student attendance, family issues, school issues and access to community support services.

Our school psychologist is a specialist in child development, learning, motivational and social-emotional functioning. This knowledge will be applied when counseling, consulting with children, parents, and school personnel. In addition, the school psychologist helps parents and teachers with special education referrals and procedures.

Health Services