



**Welcome to
Bush Middle School**

Parent Information 2025-2026

Agenda

- BMS introduction & overview
- Special Guests:
 - PIE (Partners in Education)
 - True North
 - 8th Grade Students
 - 6th Grade Teachers
- Other optional Activities:
 - Q & A with Principals, Counselors, Teachers
 - Purchase Falcon Gear
 - Visit Community Partners
 - Campus tour with 8th Grade Students

BMS Introductions - Thanks for Joining Us

Administration, Counseling, and Student Support

- Elliott Hedin - Principal
- Shawn Guthrie - Assistant Principal
- Natalie Eaton - School Counselor (A-L)
- Jill Rotter - School Counselor (M-Z)
- Shannon Lininger - Campus Supervisor
- Det. Tyler Boling - School Resource Officer
- Community Partners

Ways to get involved: Join the Bush Parent group



Serve as a communication link between parents and school.

- Raise funds to provide educational and enrichment opportunities for students and demonstrate appreciation for BMS staff.
- We encourage every parent to get involved.

*Get the inside scoop on school activities, district developments, and other school related topics.

*Email: bmspie@partnersineducation.in



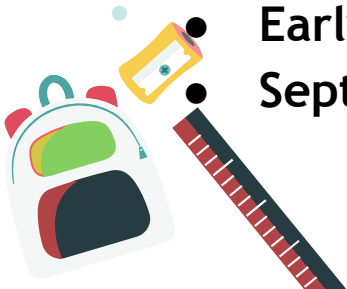
Other ways you can support PIE and BMS:

- *Enroll in Fred Meyer community rewards programs and participate in fundraising events.*



BMS Transition Activities

- **May:** Counselor visits to Elementary schools
- **June 2nd:** 5th grade students visit BMS, meet 6th grade teachers, tour the building, eat lunch
- **Mid August:** Welcome letter and 25-26 Athletic Clearance
- **September:** Open House
- **October:** Curriculum Night
- **First 3 days:** **WEB (Where Everyone Belongs)**, ROCK Walks, Connection Activities, Expectations, Lockers, Schedules, Organization, practice emergency drills
- **Early September:** Chromebook training/check out
- **September:** Middle School Survival Skills lessons in Homeroom



How can Families make the Transition Successful?



*Parent involvement is a key factor in middle school success.
Expect effort and attendance to impact academic performance.*

<p>Help with Organization</p> <p>Use a calendar/planner</p> <p>Check notebooks, backpacks, agendas regularly</p>	<p>Stay Involved</p> <p>Use Qmulative (formerly Skyward) to check grades, Google Classroom and progress</p> <p>Email teachers with questions/concerns</p>	<p>Time Management</p> <p>Review homework daily</p> <p>Ask to see completed assignments</p>
<p>Locker organization</p>	<p>Monitor social media, often</p>	<p>Balance school/activities/home</p> <p>Set Technology boundaries</p>



Middle School Matters

Adolescents experience increasingly rapid and personal developmental changes between the ages 10-15.

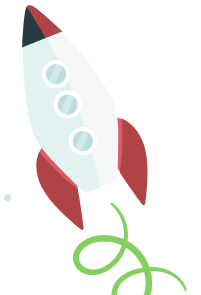
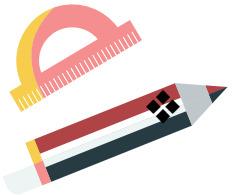
Changes in the way they...

- ★ Think - brain development
- ★ Look - hormonal changes
- ★ Act- personal hygiene, peer relationships, behavior



Characteristics of a Middle School Student

- ❖ They want to be independent.
- ❖ They take social issues very seriously.
- ❖ They are certain no one has ever felt what they are feeling.
- ❖ They frequently exclaim” You don’t understand!” or “That’s not fair!”
- ❖ Difficulty attending to something for more than a minute at a time.
- ❖ Peers are a huge influence.
- ❖ They are willing to learn things they consider to be useful and relevant.
- ❖ They are seldom satisfied with the way they look.
- ❖ They tend to be unrealistically self-critical and are easily offended.
- ❖ They like to negotiate.....a lot.



Falcons Rock!

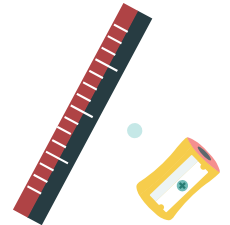


Bush Middle School Falcons
Are.....



- ★ Responsible : Accountable
- ★ Optimistic: Positive attitude
- ★ Courageous: Do the right thing
- ★ Kind: Respectful

Teach, Acknowledge, Incentives, Consistency



Meet the 6th grade teachers:



- ★ **English Language Arts (ELA):** Angie Borovec, Joanna Brown
- ★ **Health & Fitness:** Kaci Anchors, Rich Frazier, Melinda McGill, Patrick Johnson, Ivan Morales
- ★ **Electives:** Karlie Pasion
- ★ **Math:** Justin Martin, Hari Scott
- ★ **Music:** Rachel Landowski, Ben McDonald, Lisa Pearson
- ★ **Science:** Molly Watkins, Justin Overlie
- ★ **Social Studies:** Monica Snider, Angie Stone
- ★ **Special Education:** Cassidy McQuiston, Elijah Johnson, Rylee White



Placement/Scheduling

Student schedules are created using multiple data points.

- 5th grade academic performance
- 5th grade assessment/benchmark scores (SBA/iReady)
- Pre-Registration forms
- Music, HiCap, ML or Special Service needs
- Social conflicts and/or other considerations; adjust as space allows while maintaining balance among classes
- Schedules will be available at open house



6th grade sample schedule



Period 1	Health & Fitness
Period 2	Science
	Homeroom (Monday and Friday depending)
Period 3	ELA
Period 4	Elective or Music
Period 5	Math
Period 6	Social Studies

*Examples of music/exploratory: Art, Innovations, Kids Around the World, Band, Choir, Orchestra



HOMEROOM

- ★ Homeroom teacher is a person you can ask questions and share concerns with
- ★ Homeroom occurs on Mondays and some Fridays
 - Announcements
 - Assemblies
 - Clubs
 - School to home communication
 - School expectations and awards
 - SEL and Community Building



Opportunities: Get Involved

- ★ **Clubs:** Knowledge Bowl, STEM, Dance Team, BIPOC, Lunch Bunch (LGBTQIA+), Chess, Homework Help, Prevention Club
- ★ **Volunteer Service:** Food Drive, Giving Tree, Hats on for Cancer, and more depending on the year!
- ★ **Fundraisers:** ASB, PIE
- ★ **Engagement:** Music Concerts, Talent Show, Art Walk
- ★ **Spirit Days**
- ★ **Athletics:** Cross Country (Co-Ed), Soccer (Girls), Wrestling (Co-Ed), Track & Field (Co-Ed)
- ★ **TYP (Tumwater Youth Programs):** Monthly MS Friday evening activities



Supports for Our Students

- **Teachers:** If specific to a class
- **Homeroom Teacher:** General questions, team meeting request
- **Counselors:** Academics, Mental Health support, friendship issues, scheduling, future planning, questions
- **SST (Student Support Team):** For questions/ concerns regarding student behavior or conflict
- **True North:** Questions/support regarding substance use/abuse education, prevention, treatment
- **Administration:** Can assist with any questions/concerns



Chromebooks - What to expect

- All students will be issued a Chromebook in the first few weeks of school. **They will keep this Chromebook for all 7 years of MS and HS.**
- Students are trained on how to use and basic troubleshooting
- Students are provided with a charger and protective case.
- 7+ hours of battery life will get through the school day.
- Internet filter will follow the device at school and home.
- Devices are protected from viruses and malware.
- **Students are responsible for protecting their device from damage. Fines may be assessed for damage.**



Stay Informed

- ❑ BMS Website and newsletters
- ❑ Classroom expectations/syllabi, Google Classroom
- ❑ Cumulative Family Online Access: Parents should have it.
 - ❑ Online password to monitor academic progress, receive BMS announcements, manage lunch acct., and view attendance.
 - ❑ What if I don't have a password or know how to use Family Access? Request access with Karen Rich, Registrar - karen.rich@tumwater.k12.wa.us
- ❑ Progress Reports
- ❑ Email/Phone contact with staff



Stay Involved!

- ★ Expect some school work to be done outside of class
- ★ Help your student stay up to date
 - Ask them about daily classroom assignments and lessons
 - Ask to show you their completed work within Google Classroom
- ★ Monitor academic grades using Qmulative (1 or 2x's/week)
- ★ Expect progress reports at the end of the Quarter.
- ★ Participate in Semester Conferences
- ★ Report cards at the end of each semester
- ★ **Initiate communication with teachers early on** if you have concerns
- ★ Expect **effort and attendance** to impact academic progress



Things to remember

Support

Don't be afraid to ask questions

Connect with teachers, counselors, or admin early on if there are concerns.

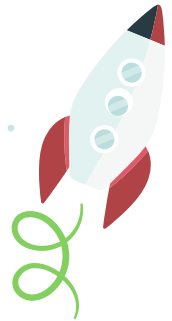
Technology

Set and establish boundaries and expectations for electronics and monitor social media.

Summer tips

Practice using a combination lock

Read and practice Math Facts



Thank you for coming!

Take a tour!

Meet with school staff!