

BOLIVAR-RICHBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



HOME OF THE WOLVERINES

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Sept. 1	Labor Day
Sept. 2-3	Superintendent's Conference Days
Sept. 4	First Day of School
Oct. 9	Go Home Early Drill
Oct. 10	Superintendent's Conference Day (No Students)
Oct. 13	Columbus Day
Nov. 11	Veterans Day (Observed)
Nov. 24-25	Students AM, Parent/Teacher Conf PM
Nov. 26-28	Thanksgiving Recess
Dec. 22-31	Christmas Recess
Jan. 1-2	New Year's Holiday
Jan. 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 20-23	Regents Exams
Feb. 17	Lunar New Year
Feb. 17-21	Presidents' Day/Mid - Winter Recess
Mar. 13	Superintendent's Day (No Students)
Apr. 3-10	Spring Recess
May 19	Budget Vote Day
May 25	Memorial Day
June 17-26	Regents Exams
June 19	Juneteenth
June 24-25	Last Half Day (PK-6)
June 26	Last Day Teachers; Rating Day
June 28	Graduation

MEET YOUR TEACHER NIGHT & COMMUNITY PICNIC

Tuesday, September 2

PreK/Elementary
Elementary Building
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Middle/High School
MS/HS Building
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.



SAVE THE DATE

Yearbook Club and SADD will
be bringing the Circus to town
on **Saturday, January 10, 2026**

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL BE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Jeff Margeson, Superintendent of Schools



Dear Bolivar-Richburg Wolverine Family,

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer, filled with meaningful moments spent with family and friends! As we prepare to open our doors once again, I am filled with optimism and gratitude for the opportunity to begin another chapter together in our district.

We enjoyed the opportunity to see so many past graduates and their families during Pioneer Oil Days and Bolivar's Bicentennial. It is always nice to hear the stories and relive the memories of those who have built the foundation of our small communities. We have also been working hard to finish our Capital Improvement Project, provide summer school and student enhancement opportunities, cleaning our buildings and grounds, and preparing for the best year possible!

As a leadership team, and in collaboration with the Board of Education, we are doing our best to address the gaps, both educationally and financially speaking, to ensure that our students are the best-prepared for future success while we develop and refine a process that our community members and tax payers can be proud of at the end of the day.

The most essential priority in this equation is for our school to continue building strong partnerships with our families and community through clear and collaborative communication. Your support plays a vital role in student success and we encourage open teamwork and active involvement throughout the school year. Together, we will meet challenges with resilience and celebrate achievements with pride.

On behalf of our entire Wolverine team, I send our most sincere thank you for being part of our school community. I look forward to seeing the incredible things we will accomplish this year. Here's to a successful, joyful, and meaningful school year ahead!

Respectfully,
Jeff Margeson, Superintendent

PreK4 – Grade 5 Picture Days

September 15

Flyers/envelopes for the Elementary School will be sent home with your child. Picture retake day will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025.

PreK3 Picture Days

September 19

Flyers/envelopes for the Elementary School will be sent home with your child. Picture retake day will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025.

MS/HS School Picture Days

September 16 & September 19

Flyers for Middle/High School can be picked up in the Main Office. Picture retake day will be held on Monday, November 3, 2025. Pictures will be taken during P.E.

PERMISSION FOR STUDENT PICTURES

Throughout the school year, students at the early childhood building, the elementary school, and the middle/high school participate in a variety of activities such as concerts, plays, sporting events, assemblies, field days, classroom projects, and more. From time to time, photos of these events may be published in our district newsletter, on our website, on official social media channels, or in local newspapers.

Many students enjoy seeing themselves and their classmates featured in these spaces. However, if you do not wish to have your child's photo used for these purposes, please send a written request to the Main Office secretary at the school your child attends.

If we do not receive a written request, we will assume permission has been granted.



BOARD OF EDUCATION & B-R.C.S. PERSONNEL • 2025-2026

Board of Education:

Baldwin, Erin	Member, 2027
Bell, Jarrod	Member, 2026
Blankenship, Stephanie	Member, 2028
Clark, Michelle	Member, 2027
Duell, Aaron	Vice President, 2026
Ferris, Norene	Member, 2027
McDonnell, Amanda	President, 2028

Administration:

Baldwin, Ray	Director of Educational Technology & Information Systems
Bokman, Susan	Director of Data & Accountability
Duke, Megan	Elementary Principal
Ginnitti, Amy	School Business Administrator
Margeson, Jeffrey	Superintendent of Schools
Pettit, Jim	Secondary Assistant Principal
Snyder, Mary	CSE Chairperson
Talbot, Jessica	Secondary Principal

Faculty:

Allen, Casey	Physical Education/Health
Allen, Dustin	Science/Athletic Dir.
Auman, Amanda	Physical Education
Bailey, Patrick	Chemistry/Physics
Baldwin, Eric	Social Studies MS
Bell, Kelly	Grade 4
Bentley, Kristin	Grade 4
Bess, Brock	Special Education
Brennan, Jonathan	Music/Chorus
Brewsaugh, Rebecca	Special Education
Britt, Julie	English 6
Britt, Ryan	Social Studies HS
Broughton, Katelyn	Kindergarten
Burdick, Sarah	Social Worker
Burke, Elissa	Physical Education
Butler, Ryan	Grade 3
Childs, Sherry	Special Education
Clark, Leah	Grade 1
Clayson, Brandon	Special Education
Crandall-Bean, Christy	School Counselor
Dempsey, Kathryn	Literacy
Dunham, Doris	Special Education
Elliott, Demi	Special Education
Emery, Mark	Physical Education
Ferris, Heather	Remedial Reading
Fleming, Gisela	Teacher Assistant
Freeman-Brauen, Rebecca	Band/Orchestra
Gaeta, Janelle	Art
Gardner, Gina	Grade 1
Geiger, Jonnie	Occupational Therapist

Glover, Elizabeth	Pre-Kindergarten
Hackett, Alisha	Grade 3
Higley, Cynthia	Special Education
Hillman, Hannah	Grade 5
Hooker, Hadley	Grade 5
Howard, Tasha	Teacher Assistant
Hyson, Jackie	Math JS/HS
Hyson, Matthew	Math
Johnson, Jacklyn	Pre-Kindergarten
Johnston, Tori	Grade 1
Jones, Alex	Living Environment
Jones, Amy	Psychologist--BOCES
Jones, Jennifer	Teacher Assistant
Keir, Christopher	Music
Kinnicutt, George	Technology
Kottwitz, David	Social Studies 10/12
Lasnick, Brandi	Spanish
Livingston, Gina	Grade 2
Llewellyn, John	Teacher Assistant
Louser, Hannalee	Grade 3
Lovell, Brooke	Math/Math Support
Mahon, Brandi	Special Education
Majot, Kim	Teacher Assistant
Mallery, Stephanie	Remedial Reading
Margeson, Kari	Special Education
McClellan, Carol	STEAM
McDonnell, William	Math
Mitchell, Meghan	Pre-Kindergarten
Moskeland, Joanna	Speech
O'Neil, Jenna	Grade 2
Peelman, Malibu	Art HS
Perkins, Jamie	Remedial Math Elementary
Perrin, Rebekah	Grade 4
Perry, Kimberly	Remedial Math Elementary
Peterson, Nicole	English 11/12
Renyck, Heather	Earth Science
Robinson, Michelle	Guidance Counselor HS/MS
Schena, Mary	Special Education HS
Scholla, Tanya	Speech Therapist
Schryver, Angela	Guidance Counselor Elementary
Scott, Sally	Remedial Reading
Smith, Dawn	Grade 5
Smith, Kelly	Special Education MS
Smith, Rebecca	Spanish JS/HS
Smith, Steve	Social Studies 6
Stopha, Jane	Art
Stutzman, Paige	Kindergarten
Taylor, Shantia	Special Education HS
Thomas, Amanda	Teacher Assistant
Thomas, Justin	English 9/10
Thornton, Shane	Science 7/8

Walters, Susan.....Remedial Math Elementary
 Werner, Margaret Librarian
 Winchell, Taylor.....Guidance Counselor Elemenary
 Zilker, Michael.....hysical Education

BOCES Staff:

Allen, Colby.....Computer Technician
 Babbitt, Jeff.....PR & Communication Specialist
 Topor, Ryan.....Computer Technician

Non-Instructional Staff

Aides: Deb Adams, Darien Champlin, Macy Childs, Sarah Crump, Char Davison, Jen Foster, Sarah Gardner, Kerry Garrey, Alice Hackett, Ashtin Harenda, Catherine Ingalls, Brian Lewis, Brooke McDonald, Marcia Metz, Haley Mascho, Julie Ratzel, JoEllen Sisson, Kristen Taylor

Cafeteria: John Mesler (Manager), Marian Burdick, Heidi Crowley, Jessica Proper, Vicki Simard, Kelly Walp, Nicholle Metz, Tami Ritchie, Jen Jennings

Maintenance: Randy Harmon (Director of Facilities), Joe Bell, Holden Cole, Kevin Dent, Courtney Doane, Kim Doane, Joe McDonald, Kristen McDonald, Theresa Walsh, Phillip Wulf, Charlie Winchell, Vicki Simard, Ray Gilliland

Nurses: Stephanie Pierce, Jordan Dowling

Offices: Amy Shelp, Tricia Root, Chris McPherson, Grace Zilker, Sheila Sorensen, Deb Sisson, Hilary Hadden, Tonia Childs, Wendy Smith, Denise Kasperski

Transportation: Ed Eling (Supervisor), Jim White, Wally Dillon, Nick Dodson, Bob Garrey, Jeff Harmon, Ray Mannix, Lynn Pinney, Don Skinner, Troy Steiner, Lisa Taylor, Tim Tripp, Randy White, Charlie Winchell, Sherry Blauvelt, Steve Childs, Lynn Davis, Nicholle Metz, Maxine Ordway, LuAnn Shingler, Jade VanNatter, Megan Price, Jen Jennings, Judy Perkins, Sierra Adams

SUBSTITUTE APPLICATIONS

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District is accepting applications for the 2025-26 school year for the following positions:

Elementary & Junior/Senior High School:

- Substitute Teachers and Teacher Aides
- Substitute Custodial Workers
- Substitute Nurses
- Substitute Cafeteria Workers
- Substitute Bus Drivers/Monitors

Please contact either main office for an application at 585-928-2561 or find it on BRCS website.



ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mrs. Auman and Mr. Emery

We hope everyone had an amazing summer and kept active, staying energized and ready for the year ahead! We’re so excited to welcome you all back and can’t wait to kick things off together!

You will see a new face in the gym this year. Mr. Emery will be joining Mrs. Auman in the gym. He is coming from the high school building with lots of coaching and teaching experience and is excited to meet our younger Wolverines.

To begin, our littlest learners in PK-2 will focus on building their foundational skills—think running, kicking, throwing, and catching—while also getting into the groove of routines and teamwork. For our students in grades 3-5, it’s time to take things up a notch! They’ll refine those basics and dive into sport-specific skills and exciting activities.

As always, our top priority is fun and safety. To make sure everyone can fully participate and stay safe, please ensure that students wear proper rubber-soled sneakers that cover both the toes and heels. And a quick tip—help your child practice tying their shoes at home! It’ll save them time and give them more moments to enjoy the action.

Also, if girls are wearing dresses, please make sure they have shorts or tights underneath for comfort and ease during class.

Let’s make this year a blast, full of movement, growth, and fun memories!





Dear BRES Families,

It is hard to believe that I am preparing for my fifth school year here at Bolivar-Richburg Elementary! I have sincerely enjoyed working for such a wonderful community and am eager to open the doors for our students and staff for another successful school year. I want to take this moment to officially welcome you

back to BRES for the 2025-2026 school year!

With the recent Capital Improvement Project complete, it has been a quieter summer. However, there is still plenty of behind-the-scenes work that gets done to prepare for another year. Dedicated teachers have worked hard to prepare classrooms and lesson plans. Our custodial and grounds teams have cleaned, organized, and beautified our school inside and out, while our office staff has been busy preparing class lists and enrolling new students. All of these things are essential in ensuring a smooth start to the new year.

I am also eager to share with you a new addition to the BRES family, Peach, our certified Therapy Dog. Peach began training for her new position at twelve weeks old, starting with basic obedience and working her way up to the AKC's Canine Good Citizen (CGC) course. After completing CGC, she took a final course that prepared her for the therapy dog certification test through Therapy Dog International. This entire process took about two years to complete. There will be no forced interactions with Peach should your child be uncomfortable, but our hope is to use Peach in a variety of ways including: a de-escalation strategy, PBIS incentive, a reading buddy program, and/or general well-being support. In this newsletter, you will find more information on how to notify the office with your preference regarding Peach.

As we begin this new school year, I want to emphasize one essential truth: our partnership with families is the cornerstone of student success. When schools and families work together—communicating regularly, sharing goals, and supporting one another—students thrive both academically and socially. I encourage you to stay connected with your child's teacher, attend school events when possible, and reach out if you ever have questions or ideas to share.

I am looking forward to another great year at BRES. Go Little Wolverines!

Sincerely,
Megan M. Duke, Elementary Principal

PEACH THE THERAPY DOG

Throughout the school year, students may have opportunities to interact with our school's certified therapy dog, Peach. These interactions may include but are



not limited to: classroom visits, reading sessions, emotional support activities, or other school events designed to support students' well-being and social-emotional growth.

If you do not want your child to participate in any interactions with Peach, please send a note to the Main Office secretary in the elementary office indicating your preference.

We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all students and will respect your wishes regarding your child's participation.

NEW ROLLERBLADES AND HELMETS

Bolivar-Richburg Elementary was able to purchase 6 junior size rollerblade inline skates and 36 youth size helmets with the NFL Play 60 mini-grant. This \$1,000 grant was



used to expand our inline skate selection and replace our aging helmets. Mrs. Auman is so grateful for the Bolivar-Richburg families and community for their support in the Kid's Heart Challenge campaigns over the last 10 years. Without that support, we would not have received this grant!



ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES K-5

1. PreK-5th grade attendance will be recorded by each teacher using PowerSchool.
2. **Absence:** All students who were absent or tardy from school **MUST** submit a written excuse upon their return. These excuses are to be sent to the main office. Include the child's name and date of absence, the reason for absence or tardiness and parent signature.
3. **Lateness:** When tardy to school, a student must get an Admission Slip upon arrival from the main office secretary. This slip must be given to their teacher. Announcements will begin at 8:00 a.m. Students should be in their homeroom prior to announcements to be considered on time.
4. Parents are asked to call by 8:10 a.m. if their children will not be attending school.

Excused and Unexcused Absences:

Absences from school which are considered excused include:

- Personal illness
- Death in the family
- Medical appointments
- Dental appointments
- Impassable roads
- Weather conditions
- Religious observance
- Required to be in court
- Quarantine
- Music lessons
- Attendance at health clinics
- Educational trip
- Planned evidence of an acceptable educational experience
- Administrative approval/emergency situations – covers unexpected events which keep a student from attendance. Such cases will be considered individually by the principal or his designee.

Absences from school which are considered unexcused include:

- Visiting family, friends, etc.
- Hair cut
- Overslept
- Baby – sitting
- Needed at home
- Trip with or without parents – recreational purposes
Because vacation periods are provided within the school calendar, trips taken at other times during the school year will be considered unexcused absences.
- Truancy

For items not contained within the lists of excused and unexcused absences, the principal or his/her designee will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES TO PARENTS

*When dropping off or picking up your child(ren) at the elementary building, please use **Richardson Avenue** for this purpose. **Please do not drop off or pick up students on Griffin Street or Park Row Street** as this causes a safety issue with the busses.

*We encourage parents (PreK & Kindergarten) to walk their children to their classrooms for the first week of school, Sept. 4-5. Beginning Sept. 8, please allow your child to walk to their classroom on their own. There will be monitors in the hallways to help, if needed.

* Any change from your child's normal dismissal procedure **requires a written note**. In the case of an emergency, if your child needs to ride a different bus or get off at a different stop, or be picked up, **a written request must be submitted to the school office.**

- The request should contain the date, your child's first and last name, the name and address of where he/she will be going, the number of the bus he/she normally rides and must be signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- If you need to pick up your child instead of him/her riding the bus home, a written note or a telephone call **prior to Noon** is required.
- If you have a long-term need for a change in your child's scheduled transportation, please contact the bus garage at 585-928-2405.

WHO DO I SEE FOR? (ELEMENTARY BUILDING, GRADES PREK-5)

Attendance (excuses/tardies)	Ms. Zilker
Cafeteria (reduced/free lunch)	Mr. Mesler
Health concerns.....	Mrs. Pierce
Help with a personal problem	Guidance Counselor, Psychologist, Administrators, Teachers
Library/Media	Mrs. Werner
Lost/stolen articles	Mrs. Pierce
Student concerns	Classroom Teacher
Transportation	Bus Garage
Use of building.....	Superintendent's Office

CAFETERIA RULES

1. Stay in your seats.
2. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
3. Do not throw food or touch the food of others.
4. Talk rather than yell to the children sitting near you.
5. Listen and obey the cafeteria monitors.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Mrs. Broughton, Mrs. Bell, and Mrs. Stutzman

Welcome to Kindergarten!

The countdown to the school year has begun, and we couldn't be more excited to welcome you and your child to Kindergarten! We've been busy planning a fun-filled year of learning, discovery, and growth—and we can't wait to get started.

We'll kick things off with a unit on nursery rhymes and the five senses, giving students a hands-on opportunity to explore the world around them in exciting and meaningful ways. We'll also begin practicing how to write lines, which will help us build a strong foundation for writing letters and numbers as the year goes on.

We hope your family has had a joyful and adventurous summer! We can't wait to hear all about your summer memories when we meet in September.

Enjoy every moment of these last couple weeks of summer. We're so excited to start this Kindergarten journey with you!

2ND GRADE NEWS

Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Louser, and Mrs. O'Neil

Wow summer has been flying by! We are so excited to welcome our new 2nd graders in September. We have a lot of engaging activities planned for this year! We will start off the year getting to know one another and will learn about fairy tales and the ancient Greeks. We will review our phonics skills from 1st grade and begin to work more with three-digit numbers. We hope that everyone had a great summer break and look forward to seeing you for Meet the Teacher Night! Students learned that they would be able to jump a lot higher on the moon!

Exclamations of "I want to be an astronaut!" and "This is awesome!" could be heard throughout the Challenger Learning Center.

Looking for Something to Do...

Consider donating some of your time volunteering in a elementary building. If you are interested, contact the elementary office at 585-928-2882 for information.

3RD GRADE NEWS

Ms. Livingston and Mrs. Hackett

Welcome to Third Grade!

Can you believe summer is already coming to an end? It really flew by! I hope you had a chance to relax, have fun, and make some wonderful memories. I've been busy setting up our classroom and planning some exciting back to school activities, and I'm so excited to welcome this year's amazing group of third graders.

As we get ready for the start of school, please plan to bring the following items:

- A plastic, squeeze-top water bottle (one that does NOT spill)
- A backpack
- A box of tissues

These can be brought on the first day of school or to our Back-to-School Picnic/Meet the Teacher Night. I can't wait to see some of my old friends and to meet my new third grade friends.

We'll begin the year by learning classroom routines and building our classroom family. Soon after, we'll jump into exciting topics like multiplication, exploring cultures from around the world, and writing paragraphs. The transition from second to third grade is a big one, but we'll work together to make it smooth, engaging, and fun.

A few simple things you can do at home to help your child start the year strong include reading together, practicing math facts, and getting into a routine of a good night's sleep before school days.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic year filled with learning and growth. See you soon!

Enjoy the last few days of summer!

4TH GRADE NEWS

Mrs. Bentley, Ms. Perrin, and Mrs. Ferris

We're so excited to welcome everyone and kick off a brand-new school year! While it feels like summer just began, we're energized and ready to dive in. This year, Mrs. Bentley will be teaching Science, Ms. Perrin will be teaching Math, and we're thrilled to have Mrs. Ferris join 4th grade to lead ELA. We've been busy preparing all summer and can't wait to meet you all! We will see you at orientation on Wednesday, August 27th at 6:00!

FIFTH GRADE MATH

Mrs. Hooker

It is hard to believe that it is already time to go back to school! I am excited to get to know this year's 5th graders. We have a lot to learn in 5th grade math, but I am sure you are up for the challenge! We are going to kick off the year with place value of decimals. It is your last year in the elementary school—let's make it a great one!



Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a restful and enjoyable summer. It's hard to believe that I am starting my second year here in Bolivar-Richburg. I enjoyed my first year immensely and cannot wait to see what this year brings! While this summer has flown by, I am excited to have faculty, staff, and students return to the building.

There have been many things happening at the BRCS MS/HS this summer:

- Teachers and staff have been running our district summer school and providing our students with credit recovery and Regents prep.
- Our summer feeding program has helped many students receive nutritious meals while school has been out of session.
- Many teachers attended professional development opportunities provided by CA BOCES and worked to modify and adjust their curriculum to best serve our students.
- Our custodial and maintenance staff have cleaned our building from top to bottom. It looks great!
- We have moved some classrooms to create a "6th Grade Hallway" and a "7th and 8th Grade Hallway." This will allow students to stay close to the teachers they work with and minimize transitions throughout the building.
- The MS/HS is adopting a common bell schedule that will be used by the other districts throughout Allegany County. This will allow our schools to share teachers and offer our students more Distance Learning opportunities.
- We have also made some changes to our Guidance Office over the summer. Mrs. Crandall-Bean will retire in December. Her new office can be found across the hall from the Guidance Office. Mrs. Robinson will be taking on all Guidance duties and responsibilities for students in grades 6-12 starting immediately. Mrs. Burdick will be at the MS/HS full-time starting in September.

Please continue to utilize Parent Square to contact teachers, administrators, and office staff with questions or concerns about your child. Additional information about student schedules, device handout procedures, and back to school information will be coming through Parent Square messages soon.

For now, I hope everyone can enjoy the last few days of summer. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Go Wolverines!
Mrs. Talbot,
Secondary Principal

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Welcome back to the 2025-2026 school year. Our NHS and NJHS ceremony dates are already planned and on the calendar.

NHS Induction Ceremony
Monday, January 26, 2026
7:00 p.m.

NJHS Induction Ceremony
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Inclement weather date
Thursday, March 5, 2026

All NHS and NJHS students will be expected to complete community service hours. Numerous opportunities will be provided to the students, but students are also encouraged to look for and complete community service activities that are important to them. A letter will be sent home and updates will be added to our website so stay tuned for more information. Look for additional information concerning the qualifications for eligibility for both honor societies on our website and in the November newsletter. Please reach out to Ms. Schena with any questions at mschena@bolivarrichburg.org. Thank you!

SENTINEL NEWS

The Sentinel, our school newspaper, needs you! Please consider joining this club and help to spread the word about the amazing things BRCS students and staff are doing every single day. Come showcase your talents in creating and developing interesting stories, polls/surveys, opinion pieces, etc. Your participation is welcomed and appreciated. For more information, please contact Ms. Taylor and Ms. Schena.



HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE NEWS

New Student Registration:

If you have a student in grades 6-12 that you would like to register for the 2025-26 school year, please contact Sheila Sorensen, Guidance Secretary, at (585)928-2986. The registration packet can also be found on our website.

- ° Parents should bring a copy of their child's last report card, birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization records, and if applicable, any custodial court orders.
- ° All students in grades 6 through 12 who currently receive special education services are required to register in the Pupil Services Suite with Mrs. Tricia Root. Thursday and Friday, August 21st and 22nd are the dates for registering students in the CSE Office. Please bring a current copy of your child's IEP or 504 plans if you have one, as well as your child's birth certificate, physical and immunization record, and any custody documentation. Mrs. Root can be reached at (585)928-2913.

Proof of residence includes any two of the following:

- Automobile and/or home insurance policy
- Automobile registration
- Bank Account and/or credit union statement
- Rental/Lease Agreement signed by Landlord
- Notarized Statement of residency if living with a family member
- Paycheck stub
- Utility bill (electric, phone, cable, etc.)

*All bills/statements must be no older than the previous month.

High School Schedules:

In late August, we will mail schedules for students in grades 7-12. Sixth grade schedules are handed out at orientation. Students, please check your schedule for errors and please contact Mrs. Robinson if you have any questions. All students in grades 7-12 will receive their finalized schedule on the first day of school with their 1-1 devices. High school students: due to scheduling restrictions, some of your first choices of elective courses did not fit into your schedule.

Course Drop/Add Procedure:

Students must stay in their scheduled classes for the first week of school. After that, students have four weeks, until October 9, to make course changes. Late course drop requests that are made after the five-week point will require a drop/add form to be filled out. This form requires teacher, parent, principal, and counselor approval and signatures.

Mrs. Michelle Robinson,
MS/HS School Counselor

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Bolivar-Richburg Students and Families,



I hope this message finds you well and enjoying a restful and rejuvenating summer break. I am so excited for another great year at B-R! The start of a new school year brings renewed energy, goals, and opportunities. Whether your child is entering middle school, adjusting to high school, or preparing for graduation, our team is committed to supporting every student academically, socially, and emotionally.

This year, we will continue to focus on Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience. We will emphasize a safe and inclusive learning environment for our students. We will encourage academic excellence through structured support, and we will strive to engage in family communication and community partnerships.

We're excited to welcome new staff members to our team this year! You'll get a chance to meet them at Meet the Teacher Night. Our educators are ready to build strong connections and foster a positive learning environment for every student.

Important Dates

- 6th Grade Orientation: August 26, 2025
- Meet Your Teacher Night: September 2, 2025
- First Day of School: September 4, 2025

Please mark your calendars and check our website for additional events and updates.

We believe communication is key at B-R! You can reach me via email at jpettit2@bolivarrichburg.org or by calling the Main Office at 585-928-2561. We will continue to utilize PowerSchool for students' academic progress. We also encourage you to follow our school news and updates on ParentSquare, as well as our Facebook page.

Together, we can create a thriving school culture where every student feels valued, challenged, and supported. We're looking forward to another great year of learning, growing, and achieving—together! See you soon!

WE ARE B-R!

Jim Pettit,
Assistant Principal

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICE WELCOMES YOU BACK

Welcome back everyone. Another year has gone by and the beginning of the school year 2025-26 is approaching rapidly. I hope everyone had a good summer.

The Comprehensive Attendance Policy is in the Code of Conduct in this newsletter. If you have had any changes with addresses, phone numbers, parental work numbers, etc. within the last year, please call the Attendance Office, located in the Main Office, 585-928-2901/2018. When students and parents enter to sign in or out of the building for appointments, they must report to the Main Office located on the first floor. Please, have your child bring in an excuse to the Main Office before the start of the school day so we won't interrupt classes asking for their removal later in the day. If a student needs to drive to an appointment, please add that information to the excuse or they will not be excused. **ALL** students should bring back a doctor's excuse when attending an appointment, whether they are in a sport or not. Parents or guardians are the **ONLY** adults allowed to excuse a student unless otherwise noted on the excuse signed by the parent or guardian. A student who is 18 or older IS NOT allowed to sign out of school without written parental permission for their appointment. If a student is absent due to illness, etc., a parent should send a written excuse the next day upon return to school. When a student plans to be absent due to a vacation, he/she **MUST** pick up a **Vacation Form** from the Main Office. (Vacations are NOT a legal excuse.)

Everyone here at Bolivar-Richburg wants to encourage good attendance and good rapport with our parents and students regarding attendance. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 585-928-2561, extension 2901. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Ms. Grace Zilker
District Attendance Officer

Comprehensive Pupil Attendance *This refers to students in grades 6-12*

1. Attendance will be taken daily on a period-to-period basis and reported to the attendance office, Bolivar Main Office (6-12).
2. **Excused Absences, Early Dismissal, and Tardiness** – Pupil will be allowed to make up the classroom assignment in a timely fashion. It is understood that it is not the responsibility of the school or the individual teacher to ensure that missed work is made up. It is the responsibility of the individual student to make up the missed work in a reasonable period of time, which is to be determined by the individual teacher. (Usually within one class day after return to school).

EXCUSED Absences, Tardies & Early Dismissals from school are:

- a. Legal appointments
- b. Educational activities sponsored by the school district
- c. Death of immediate family
- d. Medical illness – personal and/or family member
- e. Music lesson/rehearsal sponsored by the school district.
- f. Medical appointment
- g. Religious holiday
- h. Suspension – In-School Suspension (all students)
- i. Suspension – Out-of-School Suspension (compulsory age students)
- j. Military obligation
- k. Administrative approval/emergency situations – covers unexpected events which keep a student from attendance. The principal will consider such cases individually.
- l. Driver's License Test
- m. Bus late due to conditions beyond student's control
- n. Late with a pass issued by school personnel

This list is not exhaustive and administrative review will be the final determinate in extenuating circumstances.

3. **Unexcused Absences, Early Dismissal, and Tardiness** – Student will be allowed to make-up the homework, classroom assignments, quizzes or exams; however, a penalty may be imposed by the teacher.

UNEXCUSED Absences, Tardies & Early Dismissals from school are:

- a. Babysitting
- b. Birthday
- c. Extra day before or after vacation
- d. Hunting/fishing
- e. Late with no pass
- f. Non-essential appointments
- g. Senior or any skip day
- h. Suspension – Out-of-school (student older than compulsory age)
- i. Transportation issue
- j. Truancy
- k. Vacation
- l. Overslept
- m. Work obligations

This list is not exhaustive and administrative review will be the final determinate in extenuating circumstances.

4. In the event of absenteeism, tardiness, or early dismissals, the following options are available to the administration (or designee):
 - a. Phone call
 - b. Letters of course attendance
 - c. Referral to outside agencies
 - d. PINS (Person In Need of Supervision)
5. Attendance will be taken by period in each classroom and reported to the attendance office. In the event of chronic absenteeism, tardiness, or early dismissal, the following options are available to the administration:
 - a. Referral to the guidance counselor
 - b. Letter sent to the parents

concerning the absenteeism, tardiness, or early dismissal

- c. Home visits made by school personnel
 - d. Referral to the school psychologist,
 - e. Parents and student requested to meet with the attendance committee. The attendance committee will consist of an administrator, teacher, guidance counselor, school nurse, and school psychologist
 - f. Person In Need of Supervision (PINS)
 - g. Disciplinary action
 - h. Referral to an outside agency
 - i. Peer Counseling
 - j. Suspension of extracurricular participation.
6. Once a student has been absent, excused or unexcused, for more than 20% of a given course, they will be required to make-up any missed assignments during a time assigned by the school.

These lists are not exhaustive and administrative review will be the final determinate in extenuating circumstances.

OTHER ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES:

- ✓ Parents are asked to call Bolivar Main Office (6-12) **by 8:30 a.m** if their children will not be attending school. Please send in a written excuse explaining the reason for their absence upon their return to school.
- ✓ A class cut is an unauthorized absence from class when a student is not absent from school. A cut from a given class will result in administrative action. Chronic problems will result in parent notification, alternative post-school, and loss of privileges.
- ✓ Tardiness to school must be accounted for by a written excuse, signed by a parent or guardian, explaining the reason for the tardiness.

Chronic problems will be handled by the office. Anyone with an unexcused tardy three times in a semester could receive detention for each subsequent tardy. Anyone with an unexcused tardy more than ten times in a semester could receive

an extended detention. Any unexcused tardy after 10:00 a.m. will receive an extended detention regardless of the number of times they have been tardy.

- ✓ Teachers are expected to handle tardiness to class to their own satisfaction. Should the problem continue, the administration will be involved for disciplinary action. The action will range from detention to eventual suspension should the tardiness continue.
- ✓ Any parent or guardian requesting the temporary absence of a student (medical appointment, etc., during the day) shall present a written request to the attendance office stating the reason for the absence. Students will be excused from school only in the custody of legal parents or guardians or other such persons designated in writing by the legal parent or guardian.
- ✓ Truancy is an illegal absence without authorization from home or school. Disciplinary action will result in detention or alternative post-school.

WHO DO I SEE FOR?

(Middle / High School, Grades 6-12)

Athletics	Mr. Allen
Attendance	Ms. Zilker / Ms. Smith
Bus/Transportation	Transportation Supervisor
CSE	Mrs. Root / Mrs. Snyder
Cafeteria (reduced/free lunch)	Mr. Mesler
Computers	Mr. Baldwin
Conduct, Student	Mrs. Talbot / Mr. Pettit
Courses (changes of schedule)	Guidance
Curriculum concerns	Mrs. Talbot
Extra-Curricular Activities	Mrs. Talbot
Detention	Mrs. Talbot / Mr. Pettit
Health Concerns	Nurse
Help with a personal problem	Guidance Counselor, Psychologist, Your Teacher, Administrators, County Mental Health
Late to class	Classroom Teacher / Main Office
Library/Media	Ms. Werner
Locker problems	Main Office / Maintenance
Lost/stolen articles	Nurse's Office/Main office
Scheduling	Guidance Office
Student/Teacher concern	Mrs. Talbot / Mr. Pettit
Use of building	Main Office



SUMMARY CODE OF CONDUCT • 2025-26

Any Willful act, which disrupts the educational process, is prohibited.

Definitions

For purposes of this code, the following definitions apply.

Disruptive student – An elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher’s authority over the classroom.

District/School – means the Bolivar-Richburg School District

Parent – Parent, guardian, or person in parental relation to a student.

School Property – means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot, or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school, or in or on a school bus (Education Law Section 11[1]).

School Function – means a school sponsored extracurricular event or activity (Education Law Section 11[2]).

Controlled Substance – means a drug or other substance identified in certain provisions of the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

Discrimination – means discrimination against any student by a student or students and/or employee or employees on school property or at a school function including, but not limited to, discrimination based on a person’s actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.

Harassment/bullying – means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyberbullying as

defined in Education Law §11(8), that either: (a) has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student’s educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional and/or physical well-being, including conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause emotional harm; or (b) reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause physical injury to a student or to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety. (c) Such definition shall include acts of harassment or bullying that occur: on school property, at a school function, or off school property where such acts create or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property.

Cyberbullying – harassment/bullying, as defined above, through any form of electronic communication.

Violent Student – Student under the age of 21 who:

1. Commits an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
2. Commits, while on school property or at a school function, an act of violence upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or at the school function, or attempts to do so.
3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a weapon.
4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a weapon.
5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function, to use a weapon.
6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school

property or at a school function.

7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school district property.

Weapon – A firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, sling shot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, live rounds / ammunition, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other device, instrument, material, or substance that can cause physical injury or death.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Student Rights

The district is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly, and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:

1. Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
2. Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
3. Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
4. To be protected from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, or religious practice, sex, gender/gender identify, sexual orientation, or disability, by employees or students on school property or at a school-sponsored event, function or activity.

Student Dress Code

Student Responsibilities

All district students have the responsibility to:

1. Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
2. Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct.
3. Attend school every day unless they are legally excused and be in class on time, and prepared to learn.
4. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible. Failure to do so could result in a loss of privileges.
5. React to direction given by teachers, administrators, and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
6. Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
7. Ask questions when they do not understand.
8. Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
9. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
10. Accept responsibility for their actions.
11. Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
12. To respect one another and treat others fairly in accordance with the District Code of Conduct and the provisions of the Dignity Act. To conduct themselves in a manner that fosters an environment that is free from intimidation, harassment, or discrimination. To report and encourage others, to report any incidents of intimidation, harassment or discrimination.

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents are responsible for acceptable student dress and appearance. They have the right to determine how the student dresses, provided that their attire is not destructive to School property, complies with requirements for health and safety, does not interfere with or distract from the educational process, or infringe upon the rights of others. Teachers and all other District staff should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and by example help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

A student's dress, grooming and appearance, including hair style/color, jewelry, make-up and nails, will:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational program.
2. Not be revealing or see-through; underwear must be completely covered with outer clothing.
3. Include appropriate footwear at all times. Footwear that is a safety hazard is not permitted.
4. Not include the wearing of headwear during the school day except for a medical or religious purpose.
5. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrate others on account of actual or perceived race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or other legally protected category.
6. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities. Not display any signs of gang affiliation that may increase the level of conflict or violent behavior in schools, or under circumstances in which school administration may reasonably forecast that violence or substantial disruption of school activities will occur.

Each building principal or designee is responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year as well as any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.

Students who violate the student dress code will be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item, and if necessary or practical, replace it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so may be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the student dress code may be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension.

Teachers and all other personnel serve as role models to the students they work with. They should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and behavior, and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance and conduct in a school setting by attending to their own appearance through these guidelines. Staff are expected to wear clothing that is modest, safe, clean, in good repair, appropriate to their program, and not disruptive to the educational process.

Prohibited Student Conduct

All students will conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner in accordance with the *District Code of Conduct*. This includes proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, personnel, other members of the school community, and facilities and equipment.

Discipline should be self-imposed; students must learn to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior. District personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to emphasize the student's ability to develop self-discipline.

Students who do not accept responsibility for their own behavior or who violate these rules may be disciplined up to and including suspension from school or removal

from a program, when they engage in conduct that is disorderly, insubordinate, disruptive, violent, endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others, engage in misconduct on the school bus, or engage in academic misconduct including work/internship sites.

Students are expected to promptly report any violations to a teacher or administrator. Anyone who, in good faith, reports a violation of the law, school rule, or *Code of Conduct*, may not be retaliated against. Students who knowingly make false accusations against another individual may face disciplinary action. This can include, but is not limited to, *knowingly* making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process under Title IX, which is prohibited by this *Code*.

Students may be subject to disciplinary action when they:

A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly.

Examples of disorderly conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Engaging in any act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community, running in hallways, making unreasonable noise, and using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar, abusive, intimidating, offensive and/or racial comments, or that incite others.
2. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
3. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any area of the school buildings, other than the areas they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
4. Misusing computer/electronic communications devices, including any unauthorized or inappropriate use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; evading the District's content filter; using an outside wireless network; or any other violation of the District

Acceptable Use Policy.

5. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of personal electronic devices/equipment (i.e., cell phones, MP3 devices, cameras, and other personal electronic devices considered inappropriate by the administration).
6. Unauthorized use of personal computer, laptop, tablet or e-reader, or other computerized information resources through the District computer system is prohibited.

B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate or disruptive.

Examples of insubordinate or disruptive conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other District employees, or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
2. Missing or leaving school or class without permission, include tardy / late to school or class.
3. Skipping detention or other imposed disciplinary consequences.

C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive.

Examples of disruptive conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, District administrators or other District employees, or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
2. Endangering the health and safety of other students or staff or interfering with classes, or interfering with the education of other students, or District activities by means of inappropriate appearance or behavior as per the District *Code of Conduct*, including inappropriate or unwanted sexual contact.
3. Distributing - by any means - or wearing materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, inflammatory, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others or are disruptive to the school community.

D. Engage in Conduct That is Violent

Examples of violent conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Committing, threatening or attempting an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, biting, or scratching) upon another student; a teacher, administrator, or other District employee; or any other person lawfully on school property Engaging in harassing conduct, verbal threats, intimidation, or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for their physical well-being.
2. Possessing a weapon. Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on School property or at a District function.
3. Displaying what appears to be a weapon, threatening to use any weapon(s), or using weapon(s).
4. Intentionally damaging or destroying District property, the personal property of a student, teacher, volunteer, contractor, vendor, administrator, other District employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a District function, including but not limited to graffiti or arson.
5. Communication by any means, including oral, written or electronic (such as through the internet, email, online learning management systems/ educational platform, other forms of social media, or texting) off school property, where the content of the communication:
 - a. Can reasonably be interpreted as a threat to commit an act of violence on school property; or,
 - b. Results in material or substantial disruption to the educational environment.

E. Engage in conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health, or welfare of others

Examples of conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Lying, deceiving, or giving false information to school personnel. This can include, but is not limited to, knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process under Title IX.
2. Stealing District property or the property of other students, school personnel, or any other person lawfully on school property or while attending a school function.
3. Making statements or representations that demean, denigrate or otherwise harm other individuals or groups. This can include posting, publishing or disseminating written materials, video or audio recordings, or pictures or on the internet, social media, or any District-owned or personal electronic device when this conduct poses a reasonably foreseeable risk that the content would result in substantial disruption to the educational environment, or does result in this disruption.
4. Engaging in acts of harassment, bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, or discrimination, including conduct prohibited by the Dignity for All Students Act.
5. Inappropriate communication of a sexual nature including by means or any personal technology, electronic device, or other means of technology, including but not limited to the taking, sending or receiving of sexually explicit videos, pictures or audio.
6. Displaying signs of gang affiliation or engaging in gang-related behaviors that are believed or observed
7. to increase the level of conflict or violent behavior on school property or at a school function, or under circumstances in which school authorities can reasonably expect violence or substantial disruption of school activities.
8. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with, or maintaining membership in any District or school-sponsored function, activity, organization, club, or team.
9. Selling, using, possessing, or distributing obscene material.
10. Possessing, consuming, selling, attempting to sell, distributing, or exchanging tobacco, tobacco products, and any other products containing nicotine, as well as e-cigarettes, vape pens, or other similar items, including related paraphernalia while on school property.
11. Possessing, consuming, selling, attempting to sell, distributing, or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs/substances; counterfeit, synthetic, and designer drugs; paraphernalia for use of these drugs, including but not limited to, dab pens, cartridges, rolling papers, or being under the influence of any of these substances on school property or at a District function. Illegal and/or prohibited drugs/substances include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana (including any other marijuana-based product or derivative, whether natural or synthetic), synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike substances, drug paraphernalia, and any other synthetic or designer drugs.
 - i. The definition of illegal drugs includes controlled substances. While cannabis marijuana) is a controlled substance under federal law, it has been legalized by New York State for adult use under certain circumstances. However, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase, possess, or use cannabis. Regardless of age, the sale, purchase, possession, and/or use of cannabis is prohibited on school grounds under state and federal laws and/or District policy.
12. Unauthorized possession, use, selling, attempting to sell, distributing, or exchanging prescription and over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, supplements, herbs or other similar substances.
13. Possessing, using, consuming, selling, attempting to sell, distributing or attempting to distribute, or exchanging or attempting to exchange look-alike drugs, or possessing or consuming (without authorization), selling, attempting to sell, distributing or attempting to distribute, or exchanging or attempting to exchange other substances such as dietary supplements, weight loss pills, etc.
14. Gambling and unauthorized / non-educational gaming.
15. Inappropriate touching, including contact of a sexual nature, or indecent exposure.
16. Initiating or reporting warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misusing 911, or inappropriately discharging a fire extinguisher.
17. Violating gender privacy when using school restroom facilities. Also, unauthorized or inappropriate use of restroom facilities.
18. Engaging in conduct that could be construed as sexual harassment in accordance with this
 - i. *Code of Conduct* and/or Title IX.

F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus.

Students must behave appropriately while riding on District buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers, and to avoid distracting the driver. Students must conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with this Code of Conduct. Excessive noise, unauthorized movement out of seat while bus is moving, pushing, shoving, fighting, throwing items, harassment, and discrimination will not be tolerated. Rules for riding the bus are contained in the *School Bus Riders Manual*.

G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. (See Section on Academic Integrity)

Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Plagiarism.
2. Cheating.
3. Copying.
4. Altering records/forgery.
5. Accessing other users' email accounts or network storage accounts, or attempting to read, delete, copy, modify, or interfere with transferring or receiving electronic communications.
6. Violation of the District Acceptable Use Policy.
7. Defacing or damaging school, class, library or others' materials, work or documents.
8. Taking exam, quiz, lab or any other instructional questions answers or forms to further one or more students' grade or progress.
9. Violation of copyright laws.
10. Assisting another student in any of the actions listed here.

G. Engage in Cyberbullying.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, bullying, discriminating, teasing, intimidating, or threatening another student or District employee through any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant message, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website posting (including blogs) which have the effect of:

1. Physically, emotionally, or mentally harming a student.
2. Placing a student in reasonable fear of physical, emotional, or mental harm.
3. Placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property,
4. Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.
5. Creating or foreseeably creating a

risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the off campus conduct, threats, communication, intimidation, or abuse might reach school property.

All forms of bullying are unacceptable and, to the extent that these actions are disruptive of the District's educational process, offenders will be subject to appropriate employee intervention, which may result in discipline. Complaints of bullying or cyberbullying will be investigated promptly, and corrective action will be taken when a complaint is verified. The District prohibits any retaliatory behavior directed against complainants, victims, witnesses, or any other individuals who participated in the investigation of the cyberbullying complaint.

Use of Personal Technology

Personal technology and electronic devices include all existing and emerging technology devices that can take photographs; record or play audio or video; input text; upload and download media; connect to or receive information from the internet; and transmit or receive messages, telephone calls or images, that belong to the student or the student's family, and have not been provided by the District. Examples of personal technology include, but are not limited to, tablets; laptop and netbook computers; personal digital assistants (PDAs), cell phones and smart phones. The District authorizes personal technology and electronic devices for instructional and non-instructional uses as explained below. However, the District does not authorize unacceptable devices including, but not limited to, gaming devices or consoles, laser pointers and personal modems or routers.

Instructional Uses

Instructional uses include, but are not limited to, approved classroom activities, research, college admissions activities, career development, communication with experts, homework, and other activities

considered appropriate by school staff. Students are permitted to have and use any personal technology device as authorized by their teachers and administration for instructional use in classrooms. Students are expected to act responsibly and thoughtfully when using technology resources. While students are permitted to possess and use these devices during the school day, they are prohibited from using them in any manner which invades the privacy of students, employees, volunteers or visitors or that otherwise violates law or any provision of this *Code of Conduct*. If a student violates this prohibition, then they may be disciplined under this *Code of Conduct*. Students should keep any permitted electronic device on school property in a safe and responsible manner as instructed by the building principal. Passwords and personal technology devices should not be shared with others. A student's electronic device may be confiscated and subject to a search in accordance with sections of this Code, if school officials have reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will reveal evidence of a violation of law, the *Code of Conduct*, or other school rules or policies.

Non-Instructional Uses

Appropriate use of personal technology during non-instructional time is also permitted if students follow the guidelines in the AUP and Code of Conduct. Non-instructional use includes texting, calling or otherwise communicating with others during free periods and within common areas of the school building such as the hallways, cafeteria, study halls, buses and student lounges. Other non-instructional uses may include Internet searches, reading, listening to music, and watching videos. Use during non-instructional time must be conducted in a safe and unobtrusive manner while respecting the privacy of others. Devices must be in silent mode to avoid disrupting others.

Teachers and all other personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student behavior including possession and use of electronic devices.

Prohibition During State Assessments

Unless authorized by law, regulation, or government rule, all students are prohibited from bringing electronic devices into a classroom or other location where a New York State assessment is being administered. Test proctors, monitors and school officials have the right to collect prohibited electronic devices prior to the start of the test and hold them while the test is being administered, including break periods. Admission to any assessment will be denied to any student who refuses to relinquish a prohibited device.

Referrals

Students may be referred to a counselor, Family Court (PINS) or County Attorney for a juvenile delinquent proceeding as required by law.

Alternative Instruction

When a student of any age is removed from class by a teacher or a student of compulsory attendance age is suspended from school pursuant to Education Law §3214, the district will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student.

Student Lockers, Desks and other School Storage Places

Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to these places and school officials retain complete control over them. This means that student lockers, desks and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials, without prior notice to students and without their consent.

If you would like a full version, please contact the Main Office

Student Guidelines

Cafeteria

The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program of the school. To encourage good nutrition, a well-balanced breakfast and lunch is offered at a reasonable price.

The lunchroom management and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in:

1. Depositing all lunch litter in wastebaskets.
2. Returning all trays and utensils to the dishwashing area.
3. Leaving the table and floor around your place in a clean condition for others.
4. No food or drink may be taken from the cafeteria.
5. Once a student is seated, they should not make excessive numbers of trips from their table.

Students who do not display proper behavior in the cafeteria will be subject to removal.

Library

Students are welcome to visit the Library Media Center to utilize its resources at any time that the library is open.

In order to sign in to the Library Media Center during study hall or advisement, a student must be passing all of his or her classes. Student eligibility is updated in the LMC system every five weeks; students who regain privileges during the semester are required to provide documentation to the Librarian. To accommodate equitable access to LMC resources, exceptions to this policy may be made at the librarian's discretion.

During study hall periods, students will report to their scheduled classrooms and wait for dismissal to the library. Students are responsible for checking in at the circulation desk upon arrival.

Advisement passes may be checked out at any time during the school day for which the pass is to be used. Students must report to their advisement teachers with LMC passes before returning to the library.

Students who are returning/checking out materials are not required to hold library cards.

Dance Procedures

Bolivar-Richburg is very proud of the student body's positive attitude and appropriate conduct at school dances. Dances are considered an extracurricular activity sponsored by the school, and as such, all regulations pertaining to student conduct are in effect.

Middle school dances (grades 6-8) are scheduled from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Grades 9-12 dance times are from 8:00-11:00 p.m. (Special dance times may vary and will be announced in school.) Generally, all dances will be held on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Students who leave dances early will not be allowed readmittance and must sign out when they leave.

In addition, the following rules apply:

1. Students must attend school the day of a dance (if a school day).
2. If a student leaves a dance, the student must also leave school grounds.
3. No one will be admitted during the final hour of either dance.
4. Admission is limited to students of Bolivar-Richburg Central School unless they are registered
 - a) Sign up as the host (B-R student) and sign up your guest (one host/one guest).
 - b) Sign up no later than one day prior to the date of the dance. The guest sign-up sheet will be in the main office.
 - c) The host student must accompany his/her guest to the dance in order for the guest to be admitted.
 - d) Any student bringing a guest is responsible for the conduct of the guest.
 - e) The guest must be under the age of twenty-one (21) for all regular dances.

Guidance

Guidance services are available for all students; grades K-5, **Mrs. Schryver** and grades 6-12, **Mrs. Robinson** and **Mrs. Crandall-Bean**. These services

include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, occupational information, career information, study helps, help with home, school and/or social concerns, or any question the student may feel he would like to discuss with the counselor.

Students wishing to visit a counselor should contact the secretary in the guidance office to arrange for an appointment.

Health Services

If a student becomes ill in school, the student should report his/her illness to the teacher, who will notify the nurse. The teacher will allow the student to report to the nurse when the nurse is available. The nurse will decide what should be done. Students must not leave the building because of illness without authorization. If the nurse is not in, students are to report to the main office.

Honor Roll

The following requirements are in effect for the junior and senior high school honor rolls:

- **“High Honor”** roll - students achieving an average of 90% or better in their academic subjects.

- **“Honor”** roll - students achieving an average of 85%-90% in their academic subjects.

Students attaining these honor rolls will have their names posted in several display boards in the building as well as printed in the local newspaper. Two Academic Recognition Assemblies, grades 6-8 and grades 9-12, will be held in May of each school year. The most outstanding and most improved student in each subject area will receive a framed certificate. Any student who maintains a 95 or above average for the year will receive a “Superintendent’s Scholar Certificate”, and any student who maintains an average of 90-94 for the year will receive the “Principal’s Scholar Certificate”. Parents as well as students will be invited to attend these Academic Recognition Assemblies.

Textbooks

Each pupil will be responsible for his/her textbooks. All textbooks must be covered with a book cover at the beginning of the school year. Students will be required to pay for any lost or damaged textbooks.

Vehicles

Students who drive a motor vehicle to school must obey the following rules:

- Each student must register the vehicle each year and display the registration tag. The tag must be displayed in the rear window (not the side window). Registration forms may be obtained in the main office. School Street parking is for Seniors and Juniors only. All other student parking is in the stadium lot.
- Each student must park in assigned parking areas.
- Parking in a no-parking area is a direct violation.
- Violations, such as, speeding or careless driving on the school grounds and on streets bordering the school are not permitted and may result in the parking privilege being revoked, detention, out-of-school suspension being assigned, and towing of the vehicle at student expense.
- Notification of violations to the appropriate law enforcement agency will occur.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

FIRE INSPECTION: In compliance with New York State Education Department Regulations, an annual fire inspection was conducted by certified inspectors. All areas are in compliance.

STRUCTURAL INSPECTION: In compliance with regulations, an annual structural inspection was conducted by certified inspectors. All areas are in compliance.

ASBESTOS: In compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), all school districts are required to re-inspect facilities for asbestos containing building materials. Our facilities have been inspected and response actions are planned to ensure a continued safe environment for our students and employees. Activities include training of maintenance staff to prevent disturbance of asbestos and periodic re-inspections and surveillance activities by trained personnel. All asbestos material in the school remains in good condition.

Details of such activities are described in the district’s AHERA Management Plan, which is available for your review in the district office.

Jeff Margeson, Superintendent
Bolivar-Richburg Central School
100 School Street
Bolivar, NY 14715

B-RCS SECTION 504 PARENT/STUDENT RIGHTS IN IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION, AND PLACEMENT

Please Keep This Explanation for Future Reference (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)

The following is a description of the rights granted by federal law to students with handicaps.* The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions

You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her handicapping condition;
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law;
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child;
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-handicapped students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities;
5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-handicapped students;

6. Have your child receive special education and related services if he/she is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
7. Have evaluation, educational, and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources, and by persons who know the student, the evaluation data, and placement options;
8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district;
9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district;
10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, and placement;
11. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
12. A response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records;

13. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is a reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing;
14. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program, or placement. You and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you;
15. Ask for payment of reasonable attorney fees if you are successful on your claim;
16. File a local grievance.

**(29 U.S.C. 706(7), 794; 34 C.F.R. Part 104, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99)*

The person in this district who is responsible for assuring that the district complies with Section 504 is:

Mary Snyder, CSE Chairperson
Telephone number:
(585) 928-2561

PARENT "RIGHT-TO-KNOW NOTIFICATION"

All schools of the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District are classified as Title I School-Wide schools. Under No Child Left Behind, you have the right to request the following information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teacher and paraprofessional staff:

- Whether the teacher has state certification for the classes in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional status.
- The teacher's bachelor's degree major and any other certifications or degrees held by the teacher by field or discipline.
- Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

Should you wish to request this information, please contact the District Office, and we will be happy to provide it to you in a timely manner.

The Athletic Department is excited to be offering the following fall sports: FOOTBALL, CHEERLEADING, BOYS SOCCER, GIRLS SOCCER, AND GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

VARSITY, JV, AND MODIFIED PRACTICES STARTED ON AUGUST 18TH. Please be sure to sign up prior to that date to avoid clearance delays. The online Athletic Registration site has been open for some time with great sign up results.

If you are still interested in participating in a fall sport by the time this newsletter is published, please contact the Athletic Department directly to verify if there is still time to join.

PLEASE COME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR TEAMS!

Please refer to the BR website and check the Athletic Calendar for most recent game postings.

Any of these links can be accessed from the Athletics tab on the Bolivar Richburg home web page.



We are offering the following services this year:

- Late Bus (5:30) after practices (once school starts)
- Study Center (starts October)

New NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Policy

The following has been added to the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Regulations to the state Handbook:

“Any negative, inappropriate, derogatory comments or actions that brings direct attention to a supervisor or school administrator by a spectator or group of spectators are required to be addressed by the host school, sectional or NYSPHSAA representative in the following non-sequential order depending on the comments and the behavior”:

- First Warning: Directing the spectators or group of spectators to refrain from any negative comments or actions
- Second Warning: A personal discussion with the spectators or group of spectators on the above NYSPHSAA expectations and reminding the spectators or group of spectators of the next step, removal of the game or event, will be utilized if the behavior continues.
- Removal from the contest: The spectator or group of spectators will be directed to leave the facility for the remainder of the game or event. If spectators or group of spectators refuse to leave the game or event, play will be stopped until they vacate the premise.

Penalty for being removed from a game or event: Any spectator removed from a game or event will have a minimum penalty of completing the NFHS Parent Credential course and at least a one game suspension before being allowed to attend any interscholastic event, home or away. Once the course is completed the spectator will provide a certificate of completion to the athletic department office. Schools are required to communicate with the offending spectator on the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Spectator Expectations.

- Depending on the severity of the behavior/comments or future disqualifications by the offending spectator NYSPHSAA and the Section may get directly involved in the situation.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

For Most up to date schedules, please refer to the BRCS athletics calendar on our webpage. Schedules can and do change.

Girls' Varisty Volleyball

09/05/2025	At Scio Central School	6:00pm
09/09/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
09/11/2025	At Andover Central School	7:30pm
09/15/2025	At Canaseraga Central School	7:00pm
09/16/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
09/19/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
09/20/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	11:00am
09/23/2025	At Fillmore Central School	7:30pm
09/25/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	7:30pm
09/27/2025	At Port Allegany High School	8:30am
09/29/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	7:30pm
10/01/2025	At Houghton Academy	6:00pm
10/07/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
10/09/2025	At Hinsdale Central School	6:00pm
10/14/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/15/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	7:30pm
10/17/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
10/21/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm
10/23/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:30pm

Boys' Varsity Soccer

08/26/2025	At Allegany-Limestone Central School	5:00pm
09/02/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	5:00pm
09/08/2025	At Portville Central High School	5:00pm
09/10/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/12/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	TBD
09/16/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:00pm
09/18/2025	At Whitesville Central School	5:00pm
09/20/2025	At Houghton Academy	1:00pm
09/22/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:00pm
09/26/2025	At Friendship Central School	5:00pm
09/30/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/02/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	5:00pm
10/06/2025	At Belfast Central School	7:00pm
10/08/2025	At Fillmore Central School	7:00pm
10/10/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:30pm
10/14/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/16/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:00pm

Girls' Modified Volleyball

09/10/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/11/2025	At Andover Central School	6:00pm
09/16/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/18/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/22/2025	At Fillmore Central School	6:00pm
09/24/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	6:00pm
09/30/2025	At Houghton Academy	TBD
10/03/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	6:00pm
10/07/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/08/2025	At Hinsdale Central School	6:00pm
10/14/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	TBD
10/15/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/20/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/22/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm

Boys' Modified Soccer

09/06/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	10:00am
09/09/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	5:00pm
09/15/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/20/2025	At Fillmore Central School	10:00am
09/22/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	5:00pm
09/24/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	5:00pm
09/27/2025	At Scio Central School	10:00am
09/29/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	5:00pm
10/04/2025	At Andover Central School	10:00am
10/06/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/09/2025	At Wellsville Secondary School	5:00pm
10/11/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	10:00am

Girls' Modified Soccer

09/06/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	10:00am
09/09/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/15/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	5:00pm
09/20/2025	At Fillmore Central High School	10:00am
09/22/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/24/2025	Cuba Rushford High School	5:00pm
09/27/2025	At Scio Central School	10:00am
09/29/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	5:00pm
10/04/2025	At Andover Central School	11:30am
10/06/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	5:00pm
10/09/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	5:00pm
10/11/2025	Bolivar Richburg Elementary School	10:00am

Girls' JV Volleyball

09/09/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/15/2025	At Canaseraga Central School	5:30pm
09/17/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/19/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
09/23/2025	At Fillmore Central School	6:00pm
09/25/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	6:00pm
09/29/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	6:00pm
10/01/2025	At Houghton Academy	TBD
10/07/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/09/2025	At Hinsdale Central School	TBD
10/15/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	TBD
10/17/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/21/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	6:00pm
10/23/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	TBD

Girls' Varsity Soccer

09/02/2025	At Cuba Rushford High School	5:00pm
09/08/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/11/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/13/2025	At Naples Community Park	TBD
09/15/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:00pm
09/17/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/19/2025	At Whitesville Central School	5:00pm
09/20/2025	At Alfred Almond Jr Sr High School	12:00pm
09/23/2025	Bolivar-Richburg High School	5:00pm
09/27/2025	At Scio Central School	12:00pm
10/01/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:30pm
10/04/2025	At Genesee Valley Central School	2:00pm
10/07/2025	At Fillmore Central School	7:00pm
10/09/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/15/2025	At Wellsville Elementary School	7:00pm
10/17/2025	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm

Varsity Football

9/5/25	At Portville	7:00pm
9/12/25	At Cuba Rushford	7:00pm
9/18/25	At Southwestern High School	7:00pm
9/26/25	At Fredonia	7:00pm
10/3/25	At Portville	7:00pm
10/10/25	At Falconer	7:00pm
10/17/25	At Springville	7:00pm
10/24/25	Bolivar Richburg High School	7:00pm

*JV & Modified Football Schedules
on Back Cover*



DISTRICT NOTIFICATIONS

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BOLIVAR-RICHBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL HEALTH POLICIES

IMMUNIZATION: State law requires all students entering public or private school be immunized against the following: polio, DPT, measles, rubella, mumps, chicken pox, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenza. New York State no longer allows exemptions for religious reasons. A complete record of immunizations must be presented before a child may enter Bolivar-Richburg Central School.

ILLNESS: A child who appears ill should be kept home. Prolonged or contagious illness should be reported to the school nurse so she may contact parents whose children may have been exposed. If a child becomes ill in school, parents will be notified and are expected to come for the child or make arrangements to have him/her taken home.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS: It is important to have in our files the name and phone number of a friend or relative who may assume responsibility for a child when the parent cannot be reached. Our policy is not to release a child in the custody of anyone other than the parent or a designated person. It is also important to have the name and phone number of the child's doctor.

EXCUSES: School policy requires a written excuse be kept on file for each absence or tardy. It should include the child's name, the date, reason for the absence, number of days absent or tardy and the parent's signature.

EMERGENCY CARE: State law permits a nurse to give one-time emergency care only. Accidents or illnesses that occur at home cannot be treated at school.

MEDICATIONS: A school nurse may not legally give any medication, even aspirin, without a written order signed by a doctor and written permission signed by the parents. Where daily medication is required, the doctor's order and parent's permission must be renewed each year. Never send medications to school with the child. It may change hands on the way to school.

MEDICAL PROGRAM: Physicals are required before entrance to kindergarten. School physicals are required in first, third, fifth, seventh and tenth grades and on all new students who have not had one. Parents will be notified of any conditions the doctor feels may require treatment. Eyes and ears of all students, kindergarten through sixth grade, are screened each year. Parents are notified if any student fails the screening test.

ACCIDENTS: School related accidents are covered by school insurance. New York State Law states that parents must use their own insurance first and then the school insurance will continue coverage. This avoids duplication of payments and keeps the cost of the insurance within reasonable limits.

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

The Board of Education recognizes that learning environments that are safe and supportive can increase student attendance and improve academic achievement. A student's ability to learn and achieve high academic standards, and a school's ability to educate students, is compromised by incidents of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to bullying, taunting, and intimidation. Therefore, in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act, Education Law, Article 2, the District will strive to create an environment free of discrimination and harassment and will foster civility in the schools to prevent and prohibit conduct which is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

The District condemns and prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment of students based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex by school employees or students on school property and at school-sponsored activities and events that take place at locations off school property. In addition, any act of discrimination or harassment, outside of school sponsored events, which can reasonably be expected to materially and substantially disrupt the educational process may be subject to discipline.

Dignity Act Coordinators for the Bolivar-Richburg School District are Mrs. Michelle Robinson and Mrs. Angela Schryver.

ATTENTION TAXPAYERS

Please pay close attention to your tax bills this September. We have made some changes on how to make your payments. We accept payments by mail or in person only.

Tax payments can be mailed to:

Bolivar-Richburg Central School District
Department 5020
PO Box 4110
Woburn, MA 01888-4110

Tax payments made in person:

Community Bank, N.A.
380 Main Street
Bolivar, NY 14715

Taxes are due by September 30, 2025; thereafter a 2% penalty will be applied. Any payments postmarked after September 30, 2025, will need to include the 2% penalty. No partial payment can be accepted.

All payments after October 31, 2025, will be returned and relieved onto your County/Town Tax in January.

All changes to names or addresses need to be made at the assessor's office. The school district is unable to make any updated changes.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy Ginnitti, Tax Collector, at 585-928-2933.

INFORMATION REGARDING NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Bolivar-Richburg Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, military status, political affiliation, race, creed or religion, color, national origin, or disability in the employment and educational opportunities it offers, including career and technical educational opportunities as required by Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The Board of Education affirms its compliance with those sections of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 dealing with program accessibility.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in federally assisted programs or activities solely on the basis of disability. The District shall make its program and facilities accessible to all its students with disabilities.

The District shall also identify, evaluate and extend to every qualified student with a disability under Section 504 a free, appropriate public education, including modifications, accommodations, specialized instruction or related aids and services, as deemed necessary to meet their educational needs as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students are met.

Sexual Harassment of Students

The Board of Education affirms its commitment to non-discrimination and recognizes its responsibility to provide for all District students an environment that is free of sexual harassment and intimidation. Sexual harassment is a violation of law and stands in direct opposition to District policy. Therefore, the Board prohibits and condemns all forms of sexual harassment by

employees, school volunteers, students, and non-employees such as contractors and vendors which occur on school grounds and at all school sponsored events, programs and activities including those that take place at locations off school premises or those that take place in another state. Generally, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when::

- a. Submission to or rejection of such sexually harassing conduct and/or communication by a student affects decisions regarding any aspect of the student's education, including participation in school-sponsored activities;
- b. Conditions exist within the school environment that allow or foster obscene pictures, lewd jokes, sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other harassing activities of a sexual nature; and
- c. Such conduct and/or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with a student's academic performance or participation in an educational or extracurricular activity, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment; and/or effectively bars the student's access to an educational opportunity or benefit.

Complaint Process

Any student suspecting discrimination on the Any student suspecting discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, military status, political affiliation, race, creed or religion, color, national origin, or disability may make a claim of discrimination using the procedure outlined below. Anyone who is aware of or has a complaint about sexual harassment should also follow this procedure. This claim or complaint is

filed with the Superintendent/designee, who will assist with the complaint process if necessary. The following information should be included on the complaint.

1. The exact nature of the complaint – actions, policies, or practices believed to be discriminatory and any person believed to be responsible.
2. The date, time and place of the alleged discriminatory action(s).
3. The names of witnesses or persons who have knowledge about the complaint.
4. Any available written documentation or evidence that is relevant to the complaint.
5. The actions that could be taken to correct the complaint.

The Superintendent/designee shall cause a review of the complaint to be conducted (including necessary meetings and interviews) and a written response mailed to the complainant within ten school days after receipt of the complaint.

If it is agreed that discrimination occurred, corrective action will be taken to restore denied rights.

If there is not agreement, a written appeal may be submitted to the Board of Education indicating the reasons for disagreement. The Board of Education shall consider the appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of the appeal.

A complaint of illegal discrimination may also be filed with the Federal Office for Civil Rights, United States Department of Education.

Title IX Coordinators for the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District

Jeff Margeson
Susan Bokman
585-928-2561

TITLE I PARENTS' RIGHT-TO-KNOW

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*.

Although *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning in order to increase students' academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under *NCLB* was eliminated from the *ESSA*. Despite this fact, all educators in New York still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the *ESSA*, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New York has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Bolivar-Richburg School District. All of our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on *ESSA*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at <http://www.ed.gov/essa>.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,
Jeff Margeson, Superintendent of Schools

CHILD FIND NOTIFICATION

The Bolivar-Richburg Central School District Child Find Policy requires that all children below twenty-one (21) years of age residing within the district who have a disability and who are in need of special education and related services are located, identified, and evaluated in accordance with all federal regulations and state standards. If you suspect that your child may have a disability, please contact:

Mary Snyder
CSE/CPSE Chairperson
Bolivar-Richburg Central School
100 School Street
Bolivar, New York 14715
585-928-2913

PESTICIDES NOTICE

As part of the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District's pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and buildings. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, please complete the information below and submit to:

Mr. Randy Harmon, Director of Facilities
Bolivar-Richburg Central School
100 School Street
Bolivar, NY 14715

Pesticides use Prior Notification Request
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Telephone Numbers

Daytime: _____

Evening: _____

Please Check One:

- ☐ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment inside the building
- ☐ I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment on the grounds of the school.
- ☐ Both of the above.

Signature

Date

NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER FERPA FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day Bolivar-Richburg Central School received a request for access..

Parents or eligible students should submit to the Bolivar-Richburg Central School appropriate building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the appropriate school building principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the Bolivar-Richburg Central School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to privacy of personally identifiable information in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the school has outsourced services or functions it would otherwise use its own employees to perform (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, Bolivar-Richburg Central School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student’s enrollment or transfer.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-8520

FERPA Directory Information:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Bolivar-Richburg Central School, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, Bolivar-Richburg Central School may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Bolivar-Richburg Central School District to include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEA’s) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student’s information disclosed without their prior written consent.¹

If you do not want Bolivar-Richburg Central School to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by September 30. Bolivar-Richburg Central School has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student’s name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mailing address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation of officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honor, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student’s SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.)

¹These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908), as amended, and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c), as amended.

BOLIVAR-RICHBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7*	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2*	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30*	31

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18*	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sept.: 1 Labor Day
2-3 Super. Conf. Day
4 First Day of School

Oct.: 9 Go Home Early Drill
10 Super. Conf. Day
13 Columbus Day

Student Days: 180
Super. Conf. Days: 4
Rating Day: 1

Total Days: 185

Nov.: 11 Veterans' Day
24-25 Parent/Teacher Conf.
Students AM/Conf. PM
26-28 Thanksgiving Recess

Dec.: 22-31 Christmas Recess

Jan.: 1-2 New Year's Holiday
19 Martin Luther King Jr.
Day
20-23 Regents Exams

Feb.: 17-21 (President's Day) Mid-Winter Recess

March: 13 Super. Conf. Day

April: 3-10 Spring Recess

May: 19 Budget Vote Day
25 Memorial Day

June: 19 Juneteenth
17-25 Regents Exams
24-25 Half Days (PK-6)
26 Last Day Teachers-Rating Day
28 Graduation Day

 Super. Conf. Day – No Students

 Parent/Teacher Conf.

 No School

 District Offices Closed

* End of Quarter

 Students Half Day (AM)

Version 2.0: 5.19.25



TRANSPORTATION UPDATE- PRECIOUS CARGO

The Transportation Department at Bolivar-Richburg Central School would like to thank everyone for all of your help in making the transportation of your children as safe and efficient as possible. Listed below are the bus routes for the coming year. Please communicate, as soon as possible, any information needed to ensure that each student is transported to his or her proper location.

Be aware that students will be picked-up and dropped off at their legal address unless the school is notified in writing. Having your house number visible from the road makes locating your address much easier for the bus drivers.

Please be sure to talk to your children about safe riding rules, such as listening to and obeying any direction given by the driver. Also remind your children to stay in their seats while the bus is moving. The bus rider's manual will be sent home with each student. Please review it with your child.

Thank you for your help!

Ed Elling
Transportation Supervisor
585-928-2561 ext. 8

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Town Hall - Plum St.

AM – ride Bus #38

PM – ride Bus # 38

AM – bus stop at High School (Bus # 38)

PM – Friendship St. & High School (Bus # 40)

AM & PM – Liberty St. & first St. & Pleasant St. (Bus # 37)

PM – Second St. & Liberty St. & Railroad St. & Boss St. (Bus # 36)

AM & PM – Bus Stop at Pre-K & Olean St. (Bus # 28)

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Richburg School & Richburg Fire Hall

AM & PM – ride Bus # 29



REGULAR BUS RUNS

Bus # 30	Bus # 28	Bus # 38	Bus # 37	Bus # 29
Driver: Nick Dodson High Street., Ceres Bells Brook School St., Ceres 417W. – Ceres	Driver: Wally Dillon Streeter Brook Ret. 417W – Little Genessee Coyle Rd. South Main St., Bolivar	Driver: Lisa Taylor County Rte. 18 County Rte. 33 Kansas Hollow (S.Bolivar) Beers Hollow Rd. 417E – Wellsville St.	Driver: Charlie Winchell Clarke Rd. McKee Rd. – White Hill Rd. Rte. 417E Homestead Rd. Phillips Hill Rd. Kansas Hollow Rd. (Bolivar side) Kossuth Rd. – Olive St.	Driver: Ray Mannix Rte. 275 County Rd. 8 Dimmick Rd. Zimmer Rd. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Bus # 36	Bus # 42	Bus # 41	Bus # 39	Bus # 40
Driver: Tim Trip Scott & Anderson Hollow Horse Run Rd. Mead & Miller Hollow 417W – Bolivar Refinery Rd. Bartlett Rd. South Main St., Bol. Forman Hollow	Driver: Troy Steiner County Rte. 1 Rte. 305N Moulton Hill Rd. County Rte. 40 Jordan Hill (Rte. 40 side)	Driver: Lynn Pinney Daggett Hollow Rte. 305 Higby Rd. Cty. Rt. 40 to Stewart Rd. Stewart Rd. (lower & upper) Harland Ames Rd. (upper) Pine Grove Rd.	Driver: Don Skinner Phillips Rd. Emerson & Blaine Rd. W. Notch Messer Hill Rd. Deans Flats	Driver: Jeff Harmon Sanford Hollow Rte. 417W Salt Rising Rd (Rte. 5A) County Rd. 5 Halls Crossing Rd.

BOLIVAR-RICHBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL
100 SCHOOL STREET
BOLIVAR, NY 14715

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 1825
Olean, NY
14760

Board of Education:

Amanda McDonnell, President
Aaron Duell, Vice President
Erin Baldwin
Jarrod Bell
Stephanie Blankenship
Michelle Clark
Norene Ferris

Administration:

Jeffrey Margeson, Superintendent of Schools
Susan Bokman, Director of Data and Accountability
Sarah Cartmill, Director of Curriculum
Megan Duke, Elementary Principal
Jessica Talbot, Secondary Principal
James Pettit, Secondary Assistant Principal
Amy Ginnitti, School Business Administrator
Mary Snyder, CSE/CPSE Chairperson

Current Resident

or Local Postal Patron



ATHLETIC SCHEDULES
CONTINUED

JV Football

9/22/25	At Portville	5:00pm
9/8/25	At Silver Creek High School	5:00pm
9/15/25	At Chaugauqua Lake High School	5:00pm
9/29/25	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/6/25	At Salamanca	5:00pm
10/14/25	At Cuba Rushford	5:00pm
10/18/25	At Cuba Rushford	10:00am
10/27/25	At Panama Central School	4:30pm
9/22/25	At Portville	5:00pm
9/8/25	At Silver Creek High School	5:00pm
9/15/25	At Chaugauqua Lake High School	5:00pm
9/29/25	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/6/25	At Salamanca	5:00pm
10/14/25	At Cuba Rushford	5:00pm
10/18/25	At Cuba Rushford	10:00am
10/27/25	At Panama Central School	4:30pm

Modified Football

9/10/25	At Portville	5:00pm
9/18/25	At Franklinville High School	5:00pm
9/25/25	Bolivar Richburg High School	5:00pm
10/2/25	At Jefferson Middle School	5:00pm
10/9/25	At Chaugauqua Lake High School	5:00pm
10/16/25	At Cuba Rushford	5:00pm
10/23/25	At Clymer	5:00pm



TEACHERS OF TOMORROW AWARD RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED

The Teachers of Tomorrow grant program was established in 2000 to assist school districts in the recruitment, retention, and certification activities necessary to increase the supply of qualified teachers in districts that are experiencing teacher shortage areas in specific teaching disciplines. The program aims to offer incentives to encourage prospective teachers to apply and stay teaching in districts that are experiencing teacher shortage or subject specific shortage areas. Mr. Jeffrey Margeson (BRCS Superintendent) and Mrs. Susan Bokman (Director of Data and Accountability) are proud to announce the 2024-25 Teachers of Tomorrow Award recipients.

Award recipients pictured: Kirstie Baldwin, Matthew Hyson, Patricia LeRoy, Stephanie Mallery. Recipients not pictured: Elizabeth Theodore, Reston Pettit, Alex Jones, Patrick Bailey, Rebecca Brewsaugh, Brandi Mahon.