

Oct 30, 2025 | 📅 BHMS Governance Meeting

Members: Alexis Leyse Amanda Ross Hope Harmon Jalee Wilson James Curtis
Karen Kelly Kelly Aguilar Martellis Curtis (non-voting) Michael Heitzman (non-voting)
FERGUSON, SHALANDA A Elizabeth Bach

Action items

- ☐ Welcome and Invocation
- ☐ Review Governance Team Norms and Expectations
 - ☐ Maintain a school-wide perspective on issues
 - ☐ Regularly participate in SGT meetings
 - ☐ Participate in information and training programs
 - ☐ Act as a link between the SGT and the community
 - ☐ Encourage the participation of parents and others within the school community
 - ☐ Work to improve student achievement and performance
- ☐ Elect Officials for the 2025/2026 School Year
 - ☐ Chair (Mr. Heitzman)
 - ☐ Co-Chair
 - ☐ Secretary
- ☐ Review Academic Data from BHMS
- ☐ Review Discipline Data from BHMS
- ☐ Governance Team Budget
 - ☐ Ratify Purchase of Radios
- ☐ New Business
 - ☐ Discussion on BHMS Cell Phone Policy and Distraction-Free Education Act (for K-8 Schools)
 - ☐ Any other new business?
- ☐ Closing

Referrals by Behavior

2023

Ben Hill County Middle School

Problem Behavior	Frequency
(Local)Technology Misuse	2
(Local) *Minor - to be used for Step Behavior documentation	18
(Local) Bus Misconduct	4
(Local) Classroom/On-Campus Disturbance	1
(Local) Student Incivility	4
*Teacher Behavior Referral	9
Battery Level 1 - Battery With No Injuries	3
Battery Level 2 - Battery With Mild or Moderate Injuries	2
Bullying-Level 1 First Incident	5
Completion of Step Plan	30
Disorderly Conduct-Level 1 Minor Disturbance	8
Disorderly Conduct-Level 2 Moderate Disturbance	10
Disorderly Conduct-Level 3 Severe Disruption	1
Drugs-Level 3 Possession or Distribution	1
Electronic Smoking Device-Level 1	18
Fighting-Level 1 Fighting with No Injuries	9
Fighting-Level 2 Fighting with Minor or Moderate Injuries	5
Gang Related-Level 2	5
LOCAL Attendance Related	5
Other - Possession Unapproved Items-Level 1	1
Other - Student Incivility-Level 1	187
Other - Student Incivility-Level 2	24
Other - Student Incivility-Level 3	4
Profanity, Minor	4
Sexual Harassment-Level 1	1
Tobacco-Level 2 Intentional Possession	3
Vandalism-Level 2 Minor Damage	4
Weapons - Knife-Level 1 Unintentional Possession	1
Totals	369

2024

Referrals by Behavior

Ben Hill County Middle School

Problem Behavior	Frequency
(Local) *Minor - to be used for Step Behavior documentation	522
(Local) Academic Dishonesty - Cheating	2
(Local) Student Incivility	4
*LOCAL Completed Step Plan	23
*Teacher Behavior Referral	115
Academic Dishonesty-Level 1	2
Battery Level 1 - Battery With No Injuries	2
Battery Level 2 - Battery With Mild or Moderate Injuries	1
Disorderly Conduct-Level 1 Minor Disturbance	1
Disorderly Conduct-Level 2 Moderate Disturbance	3
Drugs-Level 3 Possession or Distribution	2
Electronic Smoking Device-Level 2	12
Electronic Smoking Device-Level 3	1
Fighting-Level 1 Fighting with No Injuries	2
Fighting-Level 2 Fighting with Minor or Moderate Injuries	8
Gang Related-Level 2	7
Other - Student Incivility-Level 1	48
Other - Student Incivility-Level 2	14
Other - Student Incivility-Level 3	2
Repeated Offenses-Level 1	1
Sex Offenses-Level 1	1
Threat/Intimidation-Level 2 Individual	1
Totals	774

2025

Referrals by Behavior**Ben Hill County Middle School**

Problem Behavior	Frequency
(Local) *Minor - to be used for Step Behavior documentation	695
(Local) Bus Misconduct	2
(Local) Dress Code Violations	2
(Local) Student Incivility	8
(Local) Theft - Petty (Under \$25)	1
*Teacher Behavior Referral	53
Battery Level 1 - Battery With No Injuries	1
Completed Step Plan	18
Disorderly Conduct-Level 1 Minor Disturbance	2
Disorderly Conduct-Level 2 Moderate Disturbance	1
Disorderly Conduct-Level 3 Severe Disruption	1
Electronic Smoking Device-Level 1	1
Electronic Smoking Device-Level 2	2
Fighting-Level 2 Fighting with Minor or Moderate Injuries	8
Other - Possession Unapproved Items-Level 1	14
Other - Student Incivility-Level 1	84
Other - Student Incivility-Level 2	5
Repeated Offenses-Level 2	1
Totals	899

Ben Hill County Board of Education

Purchase Order

PO DATE

Oct 24, 2025

PO NUMBER

20255

VENDOR ADDRESS

MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS OF AMERICA
3303 GILLIONVILLE ROAD

ALBANY, GA 31708



SHIP TO

BEN HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
BOOKKEEPER
134 JC HUNTER DRIVE
FITZGERALD, GA 31750

VENDOR NUMBER

005639

ATTENTION:

Gennifer Gamble

QTY	UNIT	DESCRIPTION	ITEM AMOUNT	LINE AMOUNT
6	EA	Portable Radio SL	\$535.00	\$3,210.00
6	EA	Portable carry solution swivel belt cli	\$12.50	\$75.00
6	EA	Programming	\$15.00	\$90.00
1	EA	Shipping	\$35.00	\$35.00
		Governance purchases		
			TOTAL	\$3,410.00

PR NUMBER:

26673

GENERAL LEDGER

[illegible]**BILL TO:**

509 West Palm Street
Accounts Payable
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

Contact: DONNA THOMPSON
donna.thompson@benhillschools.org
229-409-5500 ext5585

Stephen Harden

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

To the greatest extent practicable, Ben Hill County Board of Education provides a preference for the purchase of goods and materials produced in the U.S.

Cell Phone & Accessory Use and Possession

Cell phones, smartwatches, earbuds, headphones, and related accessories are allowed on campus but must remain out of sight and unused during instructional hours. These items should be stored in a book bag or purse and not visible (e.g., hanging from pockets). Devices that are used or visible during instructional time will be confiscated.

Consequences for Unauthorized Use:

- **1st Offense:** Parent must pick up the device
- **2nd Offense:** 10 school days or \$10 retrieval fee
- **3rd Offense:** 20 school days or \$20 retrieval fee
- **4th Offense:** 30 school days or \$30 retrieval fee
- **Additional Offenses:** Each subsequent offense increases by 10 school days and \$10

Refusal to surrender a device when requested will result in **3 days of home suspension**.

Unauthorized use will result in a discipline referral under **Rule 34: Possession of Unapproved Items**.

Ben Hill Middle School Cell Phone, Smart Watch, and & Accessory Policy

To reduce distractions and support a focused learning environment, Ben Hill Middle School enforces the following policy regarding cell phones, smartwatches, and related accessories (e.g., headphones, chargers):

- Upon entering the building, all devices must be placed in the main compartment of the student's backpack.
- During Hurricane Time, these items will be collected by the teacher and securely stored in a locked closet for the duration of the school day.
- Devices will be returned to students at the end of the instructional day.

Failure to follow this policy will result in consequences as outlined in the **Ben Hill County Schools Handbook** regarding unauthorized electronic device use. In addition, violations of the BHMS policy will result in an **office referral for student incivility**.