



THE Bear Claw

FROM THE BEAR'S DEN

Midyear MAP Growth Update: CSIP Goals Met

As we close the first semester of our inaugural year at Mary E. Britton Middle School, we're proud to share winter MAP Growth results that show strong progress—and, in many cases, CSIP goals already met or surpassed.

Math MAP Highlights

- ✓ CSIP Proficiency Goal MET
 - Proficient/Distinguished  3.96%
 - Novice  3.16%
- 📈 55.33% of students met or exceeded their math growth goal
- 🏆 Sixth Grade Standout Results
 - Proficient/Distinguished  13.10%
 - Novice  7.14%
 - 73% met or exceeded growth goals
- 👥 Student Group Progress
 - IEP Novice rate  6.8%
 - English Learner Novice rate  10.44%

Reading MAP Highlights

- ✓ CSIP Goals MET for 2025–26 and 2026–27
 - ★ Just 0.2 points away from meeting our three-year CSIP goal
 - Proficient/Distinguished  7.99%
 - Novice  6.25%
 - 📈 64.33% of students met or exceeded reading growth goals
- 🏆 Eighth Grade Exceptional Growth
 - Proficient/Distinguished  14.74%
 - Novice  9.99%
 - 👥 IEP Novice rate  12.66%

Continuing the Work

While we are proud to meet and exceed key CSIP benchmarks, supporting our English Learners and students with IEPs remains a top priority as we strengthen instruction and targeted interventions.

🚀 We are incredibly proud of our Bears and grateful for our families' partnership. The data confirms we are moving in the right direction—and we're just getting started! 🐻💙

THE BEAR NECESSITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Be Curious
- Be Kind
- Be Bold
- Be Responsible

VISION: BRITTON AND BEYOND

- Expose Students to Career Pathways in Health and Medical Sciences
- Ensure Equitable Access to Courses So Every Student Earns at Least One High School Credit.
- Provide Opportunities for Civic Engagement.
- Foster School Pride and a Sense of Belonging.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

- No school for students

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Boys' basketball practice at 4:15 PM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- Get Fit club at 4:15 PM
- Super Cool Variety Club meeting at 4:15 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

- Boys' basketball practice at 4:15 PM
- Tutoring at 4:15 PM. [Sign up here.](#)
- Crash in the 7th grade flex room at 4:15 PM.
- BEARitones jazz band at 4:15 PM.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026

- Dance practice at 7:00 AM
- FCA meeting at 8:00 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- Boys' basketball practice at 4:15 PM
- FFA meeting at 4:15 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026

- BEARS meeting at 8:00 AM
- Boys' basketball practice at 4:15 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

- Cheer practice at LEX Athletics at 9:00 AM

LOOKING AHEAD...

- January 12: Boys' basketball vs. Crawford
- January 13: Governor's Cup competition
- January 14: Boys' basketball hosts Winburn
- January 15: SBDM meeting
- January 19: No school
- January 21: Boys' basketball vs. Beaumont
- January 26: Boys' basketball vs. Southern
- January 27: SBDM meeting
- January 28: Boys' basketball hosts LEX
- February 2: Boys' basketball hosts Bryan Station
- February 4: Boys' basketball travels to Tates Creek
- February 9: Boys' basketball hosts Morton

The mission of Mary E. Britton Middle School is to foster a safe and supportive environment where every student is valued and inspired to reach their fullest potential. Through academic rigor, civic engagement, and strong relationships, we cultivate leaders prepared to thrive today and build a better tomorrow.



Welcome Ms. Barlow and Mr. Barger to the Bear Den

We are excited to share that Ms. Jennifer Barlow and Mr. Brent Barger will be joining Mary E. Britton Middle School beginning in January 5.



Ms. Barlow, our new 6th grade Kodiaks social studies teacher, brings more than 20 years of experience in social studies education, having taught at both the Mercer County School District, Boyle County Schools, and most recently at Burgin Independent School, where she served on the district leadership team and taught high school social studies.

She has held a variety of roles throughout her career, including department chair, mentor and resource teacher for future educators, Civic Seal School Coordinator, and Deeper Learning cohort leader. Her experience also includes teaching a broad range of courses—from Ancient World Civilizations and Kentucky History to AP Government, Criminal Justice, and Law & Justice.

Mr. Barger, our new Behavior Support Room Resource Teacher, brings more than 20 years of experience serving children, teens, and families in community-focused leadership roles. Before joining Britton, he most recently served with Crossroads Church in Cincinnati and Lexington from 2012–2025 in a variety of positions, including teaching, outreach strategy, and training new leaders.

His work focused heavily on supporting young people, coaching individuals through challenging situations, and building partnerships that help communities thrive. Prior to that, he served as a College Pastor in Canton, Ohio, and earlier worked as a Student Pastor in Versailles, KY working directly with middle and high-school-aged students.



We are thrilled to welcome Ms. Barlow and Mr. Barger to the Bear Den!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, December 22... No school
- Tuesday, December 23... No school
- Wednesday, December 24... No school
- Thursday, December 25... No school
- Friday, December 26... No school

STAFF ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, December 22... No school
- Tuesday, December 23... No school
- Wednesday, December 24... No school
- Thursday, December 25... No school
- Friday, December 26... No school

WEEKLY DISCIPLINE

SIXTH GRADE

- Number of referrals...
- Number in detention...
- RESET days...
- Suspension days...

SEVENTH GRADE

- Number of referrals...
- Number in detention...
- RESET days...
- Suspension days...

EIGHTH GRADE

- Number of referrals...
- Number in detention...
- RESET days...
- Suspension days...

INFO

TIMES

- Doors open daily at 8:35 AM
- First period begins at 9:05 AM
- Dismissal is at 3:55 PM
- Walkers and car riders should be picked up by 4:15 PM

LINKS

- [Absence form](#)
- [eOS](#)
- [Campus Parent](#)
- [Canvas](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Voluntary Student Accident Insurance](#)
- [Consent for Outside Traceable Communication](#)
- [Tutoring sign ups](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [PhotoSnap \(Upload pics for the yearbook\)](#)
 - [Access code: BEARS26](#)

CURRENT ENROLLMENT

- 6th grade: 244 (--)
- 7th grade: 180 (--)
- 8th grade: 137 (--)
- Total: 561 (--)**



BEAR HUGS

- The sixth grade boys' basketball team defeated West Jessamine, Bates Creek, and West Jessamine a second time to win the KBC Holiday Classic Gold Bracket tournament on December 14.
- Our fine arts and humanities department treated the residents of Preston Greens Senior Living facility with a concert on December 19, along with providing each resident with a student created Christmas card.



**Preferred Financial Partner of
Mary E. Britton Middle School**
Call us at 859.293.0411

As we wrap up the year, we're especially thankful for our partnership with your school community. Supporting your staffs' and families' financial wellbeing is an honor we don't take lightly. May your holiday be filled with peace, joy, connection and well-deserved rest. Here's to a bright and prosperous 2026 together.



How can we help?
Scan for our website:



lexington.benchmark.us
Call us: 859.293.0411 &
let us know you are a
Britton Bear 

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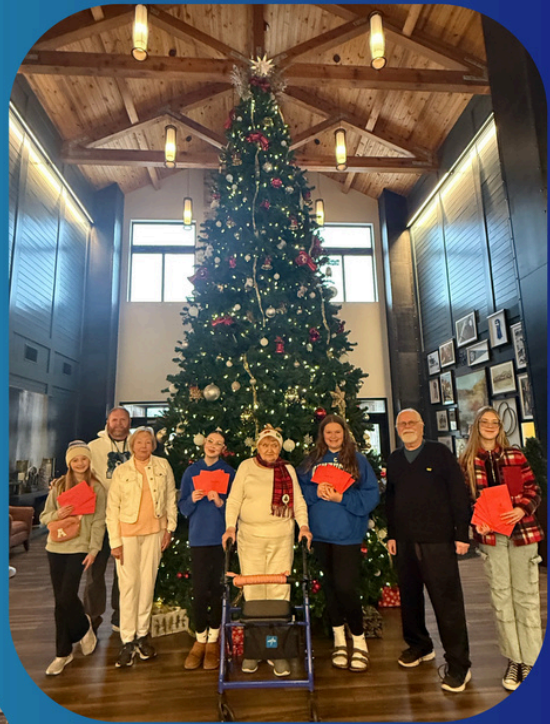


BEAR SNAPS



Left: Congratulations to 6th grade Jadelyn Pettingle, the winner of the PTSA Candy Cane contest. Jadelyn had the closest guess of 320, with the actual amount of candy canes at 351.

Below: Mr. McGuire and several of his visual arts students presented the residences of Preston Greens Senior Living facility with Christmas cards.



BEARS, YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!



What will you remember from this historic year? The yearbook has the complete story of the year – reserve your copy today!

COST: \$35
TO PURCHASE:

Want to make your book EXTRA special?
Cover Personalization/Name stamping
starts at just \$9.15, but hurry, it's only
available until March 1!

To use a credit card, debit card or PayPal, go to **yearbookforever.com** and enter our school name or **scan the QR code**.

For cash or check, bring order form and payment made out to Mary E. Britton Middle School to Room A218.

Student name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of yearbooks _____ x \$ _____ = _____ Total cost

