



A Note from the Principal, Takisha Benning March 19, 2026

New Information

As we approach the first day of spring, it certainly feels like we've experienced all four seasons in one week! Despite the changing weather, there is so much to celebrate here in the Den, and this time of year always brings renewed energy and excitement.

We would like to extend a huge congratulations to our students who participated in the Spring Chorus Concert, what a dynamite performance! A special thank you to Ms. Kim for putting together such a memorable event for our school community.

We also want to thank everyone who came out to support our Art and Student Talent Showcase. The displays were amazing, showcasing the creativity and talent of our students. A big shoutout to Ms. Pate and Ms. Kim for highlighting our students in such a talented way!

Congratulations as well to our Science Olympiad Team for representing Barnwell with excellence at their recent competition. Thank you to Ms. Stiers and all of our supportive families who helped make this experience possible.

We are now just two weeks away from Spring Break, and as the weather warms up, we kindly ask for your continued support in reminding our students to always be kind, respectful, and positive—true Barnwell Bears!

There is so much to be proud of, and we are excited for all that is still to come this spring!

Staff Appreciation Week – Thank You!

On behalf of our entire Barnwell staff, thank you for an incredible Staff Appreciation Week. Our teachers and staff truly felt celebrated, valued, and supported throughout the week. Every thoughtful gesture, treat, and act of kindness meant so much to our team. We are deeply grateful for all you do for our students and staff, thank you for helping make our school such a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Student Art Show Pieces

Thank you to everyone who purchased framed artwork—these keepsakes will be treasured for years to come! If you were unable to attend the art show, you can still purchase your student’s framed artwork online through Monday, March 23rd. Framed reproductions are also available throughout the remainder of the school year and make wonderful gifts for grandparents, relatives, and loved ones.

A few quick FAQs:

- **Pre-Purchased Artwork:**

If you pre-ordered but couldn’t attend, you may pick up your framed piece at the front office between 7:10–3:00.

If you prefer for it to be sent home with your child, please email patem@fultonschools.org and I will deliver it to their classroom next week.

- **After-Show Purchases:**

Any reproductions or additional orders placed after the show will be shipped to the school within three weeks and sent home after arrival.

Reproductions purchased after March 23rd will be shipped directly to your home and will include shipping costs.

- **Student Artwork:**

All student artwork—including pieces not purchased—will be returned before the end of the school year.

If you have any questions about the art show or your purchases, please reach out to Ms. Pate (patem@fultonschools.org).

FCS Schools Closed for Spring Break – April 6th – 10th

All Fulton County Schools will be closed for Spring Break April 6th – 10th. Please click [here](#) for the 2025-2026 school calendar. We will welcome all students back to school on Monday, April 13th.

Georgia Milestone Testing

As we begin preparing for the upcoming Georgia Milestones Assessment, we want to share our testing schedule in advance so that you are aware of when your child will be participating in each portion of the assessment.

These testing days are extremely important, and we ask for your support in ensuring that all students are present, on time, and ready to do their very best. Consistent attendance during this window is critical to your child’s success.

We kindly ask that you schedule any appointments outside of testing days whenever possible so that students can be present for each session. Being in the building and engaged in testing helps set our students up for success and allows them to demonstrate all they have learned this year. **Testing will begin promptly each day at 8:00 AM.**

Please remind students not to bring any electronic devices to school during testing (i.e., cellphones, smartwatches); all devices will be collected and returned after testing each day should students have them.

Milestone Assessment Testing Dates for 3rd through 5th Grades:

Content Area	Testing Date
ELA Section 1	April 29 th
ELA Section 2	April 30 th
ELA Section 3	May 1 st
Math Section 1	May 5 th
Math Section 2	May 6 th
Science (5 th Grade Only)	May 7 th

All Pro Dad's Breakfast – March 20th

Friday, March 20th at 6:45 AM, Barnwell dads and students are invited for breakfast in the cafeteria. Take a chance to connect with your student, our school, and discuss topics that help students to build character. Upcoming topics include: Patience, Friendliness, and Compassion. (No child should feel left out - Moms and Guardians are welcome too!) PLEASE RSVP at allprodadchapters.com/chapters/4353

Middle School Parent Night for AMMS – March 24th

Autrey Mill Middle School will host their Rising 6th Grade Parent Night on Tuesday, March 24th at 6:00 PM.

Barnwell's SGC Needs You!

Barnwell has **one parent/guardian SGC position** open for election this upcoming school year. If you have a child that will attend Barnwell for at least two consecutive years, you are eligible to run for election.

Our School Governance Council (SGC) plays a critical role in the success of our school. The SGC works with school leadership and the community to help determine the long-term direction of the school, participates in the approval of the school budget, designs innovative solutions to increase academic achievement, and serves as school ambassadors to the local community.

The candidate declaration period is now open and ends Friday, March 27th with elections being held April 22nd -April 29th. If you are interested in running for a position on SGC, click [here](#) for a candidate guide and/declaration form. For specific information about Barnwell's SGC, feel free to contact me at Benning@fultonschools.org.

Kindergarten Round-Up—Tuesday, April 14th

Do you have a child—or know someone—who will be five years old before September 1, 2026? If so, help us get them ready for kindergarten!

Join us for Barnwell's Kindergarten Roundup on Tuesday, April 14th. Families will have the chance to tour the school, meet our wonderful teachers, and staff, and learn what to expect in kindergarten.

Spread the word—we can't wait to welcome our newest Barnwell Bears! To RSVP, please click [Barnwell Kindergarten Round Up RSVP](#).

[Barnwell Spring Walk to School Day- April 15th](#)

Get ready to lace up your sneakers and enjoy the fresh spring air! Spring Walk to School Day is happening on Wednesday, April 15th, and we invite all families to participate in this fun and healthy way to start the day.

Walking to school promotes physical activity, reduces traffic congestion, and builds a sense of community. Whether you walk from home or park a little farther away to join in, we encourage everyone to participate!

Let's make it a great morning together—see you on the sidewalks!

[Principal's Coffee Chat – April 15th](#)

Please join me for our Principal's Coffee Chat on Wednesday, April 15th at 8:00 AM! Our middle school assistant principals will be “spilling the tea” on how to navigate middle school life.

Whether you have a rising middle schooler or want to learn more about Spring testing, this is a great opportunity to get insight, ask questions, and prepare for the next big step. Please mark your calendars, I hope to see you there!

Recurring School and Community News

[Youth Baseball Community Night – March 27th](#)

Youth Baseball Senior Night at Johns Creek High School on March 27th. Please click [here](#) for more information.

[Class of 2026 Graduating Seniors Barnwell Elementary Grad Walk:](#)

Attention all graduating seniors! Barnwell Elementary invites the esteemed Class of 2026 to commemorate your incredible journey by taking one final stroll through the halls where it all began. If you are a proud student of Barnwell Elementary, we cordially invite you to join us on **Monday, May 11th at 1:45 PM** in the school cafeteria. The walk will begin at **2:00 PM**. Let us come together and celebrate the remarkable path that led us here, from the very beginning.

To RSVP for this special event, please click [Barnwell's Class of 2026 Senior Walk](#) to confirm your attendance by Wednesday May 6th. We encourage you to share this information with your classmates, whether they attend schools in surrounding counties or private schools. Don't forget to wear your cap and gown for this momentous occasion. If you have a T-shirt that signifies your college plans, kindly wear it underneath your gown. We eagerly anticipate this joyous reunion with all of you! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Katie Stiers (StiersK@fultonschools.org).

Student Pickup/Building Entry

A driver's license or government issued ID is required for all student checkouts and any entry into the building. Please have your ID available to present to the camera when you ring the bell to be buzzed in.

Changes In Transportation

Any changes in dismissal transportation must be submitted to the student's teacher using our dismissal change form which is available on our school website. If there is a last-minute change in dismissal, please call the front office. Students are only allowed to ride the bus assigned to their home address.

Dates to Remember

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	3/20	6:45 AM-7:30 AM	Cafeteria
Girl Scout Mom/Daughter Lunch	3/20	During regularly scheduled lunch	Cafeteria
STEAM Week	3/23-3/27	School Day	Classrooms
AMMS Rising 6 th Grade – Parent Night	3/24	6:00 PM	Autrey Mill Middle School
Spring Break	4/6-4/10	FCS Closed	-----
Kindergarten Roundup	4/14	8:00 AM-9:30 AM	Cafeteria
Spring Walk to School Day	4/15	7:10 AM-7:40 AM	-----
Principal Coffee Chat	4/15	8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Media Center
All Pro Dad's Breakfast	4/17	6:45 AM-7:30 AM	Cafeteria

Administrative Team

Throughout the year, I encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher with any classroom questions or to our Administrative Team with any school-wide questions:

- Renee Morris Diggelmann, Assistant Principal – Diggelmannr@fultonschools.org
- Alysia Muse, Curriculum Support Teacher - Musea@fultonschools.org
- Chelsea Garcia, School Counselor – GarciaC2@fultonschools.org
- Dr. Helen Herring, Instructional Support Teacher – Herringh@fultonschools.org
- Takisha Benning, Principal – Benning@fultonschools.org

Quick Links

[Attendance Options](#)

[Bus Stop Information](#)

[Dismissal Change Form](#)

[Birthday Celebration Form](#)

[25-26 Lunch Schedule](#)

Takisha Benning
Principal

