



BARNWELL ELEMENTARY

9425 Barnwell Rd Johns Creek, GA 30022 470-254-4960

Fulton
County Schools
Where Students Come First

A Note from the Principal, Takisha Benning August 8, 2026

New Information

Dear Barnwell Families,

What an incredible first week of school! On behalf of our entire staff, thank you for sharing your very best with us each day. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with you as we begin another exciting school year. It was wonderful welcoming both new and returning Barnwell Bears into our classrooms!

Our students have jumped right into learning and are doing an amazing job getting to know their teachers, classmates, and daily routines. Over the next few weeks, we will continue teaching and reinforcing our schoolwide expectations to ensure every student has a safe, positive, and successful school year.

Attendance Matters!

This week we are kicking off our “**95 to Thrive Attendance Campaign**”! Every day a student is present, they will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win some exciting prizes. Please click the link for our spirit days this week.  [August Attendance Flyer.pdf](#)

Remember, Everyday Counts! Our goal is for students to **miss 8 days or fewer** throughout the school year. Regular attendance is one of the greatest contributors to student success.

If your child must be absent, please be sure to follow the appropriate attendance reporting procedures.

FCS ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance at school is critical for all students to learn and grow. District policy this year states that students can have no more than 8 total absences in a school year. **These absences include all personal illness and pre-approved absences.** Our school board does provide the following options for students that cannot be at school:

- **Personal Illness Absence:** This is your typical sick day for illness. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours prior to returning to school. To excuse your child's absence for a sick day simply send a doctor's note or email to your child's teacher upon his/her return to school.
- **Pre-Approved Absence:** Use this option when traveling or for family events. To request a pre-approved absence, please email our Principal at (Benning@fultonschools.org) one week prior to trip for approval.

- **Participated Remotely:** This option allows students to be counted as present even though they are not physically at school for up to 5 days each semester. All requests for Participated Remotely require prior approval 72 hours in advance by completing and submitting the [Participated Remotely Request Form](#) to an administrator. Please email your request to either our principal at, (Benning@fultonschools.org) or our assistant principal, Ms. Morris- Diggelmann at (DiggelmannR@fultonschools.org).

PBIS Town Hall Meetings:

This upcoming week, we will host grade-level **PBIS Town Hall Meetings** to review our schoolwide expectations and reinforce what it means to be **Kind, Respectful, and Positive** at Barnwell. These meetings help establish a positive culture where every student can thrive.

Morning Carpool Reminder:

Please remember that **morning carpool closes promptly at 7:35 a.m.** Our traffic officers will close the main carpool entrance at that time, so we encourage families to arrive early to help ensure a smooth start to the school day. Parents are required to park and sign their students in if they are late.

Transportation Changes:

Please communicate any changes to your child's dismissal transportation **as early as possible**. Last-minute transportation changes can create confusion for both students and staff, so timely communication helps us ensure every child arrives home safely.

Any changes in dismissal transportation must be submitted to the student's teacher using our [Dismissal Change Form](#) which is also 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.

Snack Reminder:

Many classrooms have a daily snack time. Please remember to send your child with a healthy snack each day. Because we have students with food allergies, we encourage families to send snacks from home that their child can safely enjoy during snack time.

Visitor Reminder:

As a reminder, all visitors must present a **valid photo ID** when entering the building. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and secure learning environment for all students.

Curriculum Night – Thursday, August 27th

Mark your calendars to attend our Curriculum Night on Thursday, August 27th during the following times:

Date	Time	Grade Levels
Thursday, August 27 th	5:15 PM- 6:00 PM	3 rd thru 5 th
Thursday, August 27 th	6:15 PM – 7:00 PM	Pre-k thru 2 nd

PTO Information

Join our PTO:

Your Barnwell PTO has been actively planning programs and events to enhance the student experience. To learn more, make a donation, or become a business partner, visit our PTO hub: [Barnwell PTO](#).

Thank you again for an outstanding start to the school year. We truly appreciate your partnership, support, and trust. Together, we will continue creating a school where every student feels welcomed, challenged, and loved.

Here's to another amazing week of learning at Barnwell!

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 - Diggelmann@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](#)

[Here Comes the Bus Info](#)

[Dismissal Change Form](#)

[Birthday Celebration Form](#)

Takisha Benning
Principal