AUGUST 3, 2026 ISSUE NO. 6

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TERRIER TIDBITS

SMALL BITS OF BIG NEWS AT WILLIAM BYRD MIDDLE SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

BY PRINCIPAL KATIE HUTCHISON

It's hard to believe we're less than two weeks away from the start of the 2026–2027 school year! While many of our teachers have already been hard at work preparing their classrooms over the past few weeks, we are thrilled to officially welcome our entire staff back today. There's an unmistakable energy in the building as our fall sports teams—cheerleaders, football players, and volleyball players—kick off their seasons with practices focused on building skills and teamwork.

As we gear up for a great year, I want to remind you that last week's email included both the WBMS Family Handbook and the WBMS Student Handbook. We encourage all families to take a moment to review these important resources before the first day of school. Additionally, last week's newsletter featured key back-to-school information, including details about orientation and open house, ANVER, immunization reminders for 7th graders, school meals, and supply lists.

We are especially excited to welcome our students and families on August 10 for New Student Orientation and Open House. You'll find reminders about this event—and other important topics such as student schedules and arrival/dismissal procedures—in this issue of our newsletter.

We hope the updates and resources we've shared over the past few weeks have helped you feel informed and ready for a strong start. Our mission remains unchanged: to develop effective **communicators**, **collaborators**, **critical thinkers**, and responsible **citizens**. We're committed to ensuring all our students are **Opportunity Ready**—for high school and beyond.

If you have any questions as we approach the start of the school year, please don't hesitate to contact us at 540-890-1035. Our front office team is always happy to help!

UPCOMING DATES

A GLANCE AT THE MONTH AHEAD

August:

- **August 1-28:** Schedule Change Pause - With the exception of level changes, courses may not be adjusted from the date schedules are released through the first two weeks of the school year.
- **August 3-12:** Teacher Work Days
- **August 3:** Fall Sports Parent Meeting – 6:00 PM
- **August 7:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team vs. SMCLA – 8:00 PM
- **August 8:** Game Day!
  - Volleyball Jamboree at WBHS
- **August 10:**
  - New to WBMS 7th & 8Th Grade Orientation – 1:30-2:30 PM
  - 6th Grade Orientation – 3:00-4:30 PM
  - Open House for All Students – 4:30-6:00 PM
- **August 13:** First Day of School & Game Day!
  - Volleyball at HVMS – 5:30 PM
- **August 15:** Game Day!
  - Football A & B Teams at Blacksburg
- **August 17:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team vs. Fleming – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball at Ben Franklin – 5:30 PM
- **August 20:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team at HVMS – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball vs. CSMS – 5:30 PM
- **August 24:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team vs. Ben Franklin – 5:00 PM
- **August 26:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team vs. Covington – 5:30 PM
- **August 27:** Game Day!
  - Volleyball vs. ALMS – 5:00 PM
  - Football A Team at Ben Franklin – 5:30 PM
- **August 31:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team at Northside – 5:00 PM
  - Volleyball vs. Northside – 5:00 PM
  - Students may request schedule changes under the following circumstances only:
    - Failure of a course that is a prerequisite for a scheduled course or a graduation requirement (high school only);
    - Human or computer error;
    - Grouping adjustments and/or balancing of class sizes;
    - Recommendation of Child Study,504 or IEP Committee;
    - Acceptance or removal from an Apprenticeship (high school only)







UPCOMING DATES

A GLANCE AT THE MONTH AHEAD

September:



- **September 1:** Fall Picture Day
- **September 2:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team vs. Northside – 5:30 PM
- **September 3:** Game Day!
  - Volleyball at RMMS – 5:30 PM
- **September 7:** Labor Day - Schools Closed
- **September 8:** Game Day!
  - Volleyball at CSMS – 5:30 PM
- **September 10:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team at Blacksburg – 5:30 PM
- **September 11:** Nine Weeks Interim
  - TIP: Review your child's grades with them to check their progress
- **September 12:** Game Day!
  - Choir Jump Start at NHS
  - Cheer Competition at Heritage HS
  - Cross Country at Knights Invitational (Greenhill Park)
- **September 14:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team at ALMS – 5:00 PM
  - Volleyball at ALMS – 5:30 PM
  - Last Day to Drop High School Credit Class
- **September 15:** National IT Professionals Day
  - Thank you Mr. Thompson (Technology Technician) and Mr. Edwards (ITRT)!
- **September 17:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team vs. Covington – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball at NMS – 5:30 PM
- **September 18:** Club Day – During school day
- **September 19:** Game Day!
  - Cross Country at HVHS
- **September 21:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team at PH – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball vs. RMMS – 5:30 PM
- **September 23:** 3 Hour Early Release – Dismissal at 12:25 PM
- **September 24:** Game Day!
  - Football A Team vs. CSMS – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball vs. HVMS – 5:30 PM
- **September 26:** Game Day!
  - Cross Country at Alleghany (Jackson River Sports Complex)
  - Cheer Competition at WBHS
  - PTO Appreciation Day
- **September 28:** Game Day!
  - Football B Team vs. RMMS – 5:30 PM
  - Volleyball vs. Ben Franklin – 5:30 PM



ORIENTATION & OPEN HOUSE REMINDERS

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST STUDENTS TO ORIENTATION ON AUGUST 11! WE ALSO CANNOT WAIT TO SEE OUR RETURNING STUDENTS. BELOW IS INFORMATION REGARDING OUR ORIENTATION AND OPEN HOUSE.

New 7th & 8th Grade Student Orientation, *August 10 1:30-2:30 PM* – All new 7th and 8th grade students to WBMS are invited to join us during this time. Parents/guardians should return to reunite with your student at 2:30 PM. Following the end of your orientation, you may walk with your student to their classes. Parents/guardians are also invited to join us for the parent portion of 6th Grade Orientation at 3:00 PM in the Auditorium.

6th Grade Orientation, *August 10 3:00-4:30 PM* – All 6th grade students are invited to join us during this time. Doors will open at 2:40 PM. As indicated on the map below, please park in the orange area between the middle school and high school and enter through Door 20. Students should report to the Cafeteria and parents/guardians should report to the Auditorium. Students will have the opportunity to meet our teachers and learn the location of their classes, while parents/guardians will be introduced to our support staff and learn about critical information to our daily operations. Beginning at 4:15 PM, students will be reunited with their parents/guardians in the Cafeteria and will have the opportunity to introduce them to their teachers.

- ***If you do not wish to attend the parent/guardian portion of Orientation,*** please drop your student off following the area marked in yellow. Please return by 4:30 PM following the same area marked in yellow to meet your student outside Door 1.



Open House, *August 10 4:30-6:00 PM* – All students are invited to join us during this time. ***Doors will open at 4:30 PM, but no earlier to ensure our 6th grade students are able to reunite with their parents/guardians in a timely manner.*** Please park in the area indicated in orange on the map above and enter through Door 20. Upon arrival, please report to the Main Gym to pick up your student's schedule and ensure your student has everything ready to start the school year. Once your student has picked up their schedule, they may go around the building and meet their teachers.

We cannot wait to see all of our students on August 10 as we set the stage to assist them in becoming effective **communicators**, **collaborative** learners, **critical thinkers**, and responsible **citizens**—ensuring every student is prepared and **Opportunity Ready** for the future.

Terrier Strong. Future Ready.

SCHEDULE REMINDERS

Schedules are now available in ParentVue and StudentVue.

Annual Verification (ANVER) Forms are due in ParentVue and must be submitted before you are able to view your schedule.
If you are having trouble logging into your ParentVue account, please call us at 890-1035 and we can assist you. ***It is critical that you complete your ANVER forms as soon as possible. Your student will not be issued a laptop until these forms are completed. The deadline is August 7.***

UNDERSTANDING YOUR NEW SCHEDULE

Terms:		
1st nine weeks (Aug. 13-Oct. 9)	Term 1 = 1st nine weeks (Aug. 13-Oct. 1)	FY = Full Year
2nd nine weeks (Oct. 13-Dec. 18)	Term 2 = 2nd nine weeks (Oct. 2-Nov. 30)	S1 = Semester One
3rd nine weeks (Jan. 5-Mar. 11)	Term 3 = 2nd & 3rd nine weeks (Dec. 1-Feb. 4)	S2 = Semester Two
4th nine weeks (Mar. 16-May 27)	Term 4 = 3rd & 4th nine weeks (Feb. 5-Apr. 8)	T1, T2, & T3 = elective rotations for 7th graders
	Term 5 = 4th nine weeks (Apr. 9-May 27)	R1, R2, R3, R4, & R5 = elective rotations for 6th graders

Meet Days:		
A Day classes meet only on" A" days	Blocks 1, 3, 5, and 7	Science, History, Electives, PE
B Day classes meet only on "B" days	Blocks 2, 4, 6 and 8	Science, History, Electives, PE
AB classes meet every day of the week	Blocks 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8	English, Math

Note: Most 8th grade elective courses are semester long courses. A few are yearlong courses.

7th and 8th Grade Jazz Band
****There is no zero period Jazz Band class the first week of school.***

- Block 9 Jazz Band 7 will meet on A days.
- Block 10 Jazz Band 8 will meet on B days.
  - Mr. Plybon will be in contact with you with further details.

8th Grade Students Taking a Class At WBHS
If you are an 8th grade student taking World History or French, your class will meet at WBHS on the days they are scheduled. A staff member will walk these students over to WBHS and to the classroom as a group during the first few days of school. If your Block 7A or 8B is at the high school, please report to the cafeteria on the first two days of school.

8th Grade Student Schedules
8th grade elective choices are not guaranteed unless it is a high school credit class (Spanish, French, Latin, World History, or Earth Science). Every effort was made to give students their top elective choices, but schedule constraints do not always make it possible. The deadline to drop a high school credit class will be September 14.

Schedule Changes
The deadline for changes to course requests is July 31. Please note that schedule change requests will be placed on hold from August 1-August 28, except for level changes (e.g. Advanced to General) and changes required to implement a student's IEP or 504 Plan. This temporary pause allows us time to balance class sizes, finalize schedules, and ensure adequate space is available for newly enrolled students.

Beginning August 31, changes from one course to another will be made under the following circumstances only:

- Failure of a course that is a prerequisite for a scheduled course or a graduation requirement (high school only);
- Human or computer error;
- Grouping adjustments and/or balancing of class sizes;
- Recommendation of Child Study,504 or IEP Committee;
- Acceptance or removal from an Apprenticeship (high school only)

****** All schedules received prior to the start of school are subject to change due to the balancing of classes following student enrollments or withdrawals. ******

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

PLEASE REVIEW THE PROCEDURES BELOW TO ENSURE A SMOOTH ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCESS FOR SCHOOL.

NOTE: Any change in transportation needs to be made by 2:00 PM. Transportation changes can only be accepted by a note sent in with a student and a phone call answered by the office. Do not email teachers or school staff members with transportation changes. These changes must be through a written note or phone call to the office.

Bus Transportation

Safety- For the safety of all students who ride buses, appropriate and safe behavior is required at all times while on the bus. This includes speaking quietly, staying seated, and not disturbing the driver. Please refer to your Student Conduct Code (Student Transportation) and review bus safety rules/procedures with your child.

Bus Route- Specific bus routes can be found on the Roanoke County Public Schools website under Departments > Transportation > Bus Routes > William Byrd Middle School. If you need assistance finding information about your child's bus route please contact the front office at (540) 890-1035.

Bus changes- For safety reasons, a written note from a parent/guardian is required for a student to ride a bus other than the one designated to them. This must turned into the front office in the mornings. Emails will not be accepted due to the chance of the email going to our junk mail or if our front office staff is absent.

Car Riders

Morning Car Rider Drop Off Procedures:

To maintain a safe environment, we have established guidelines for the morning car rider drop off. These guidelines are for all students, 6th-8th grade:

- Parents/Guardians should go through the car rider line outside Door 1 facing the flagpoles to drop off their student(s).
- Parents/Guardians should pull up to the next available space in order to keep the line moving. Please do not stop at the door if there is space to pull up in front of you.
- Parents/Guardians should stay in their vehicle throughout the car rider drop off.
- Whenever possible, children being dropped off at WBMS should be seated on the passenger side of the vehicle so they can safely exit the vehicle onto the sidewalk.
- We have several staff members assigned to car duty in the morning to expedite the process. Please respectfully follow their directions to ensure smooth drop-off.
- Students should be ready to exit the car when the school employee opens the car comes to a stop.

*Middle School students riding with a high school student should exit the car at the high school student's parking space. The middle school student should walk across the parking lot to the closest sidewalk.

*If you wish to meet with a staff member in the mornings, please be mindful that all of our staff, including administrators have supervision duty during arrival. For your convenience, please contact the staff member via email or phone to schedule a meeting. This ensures you do not experience excessive wait times.

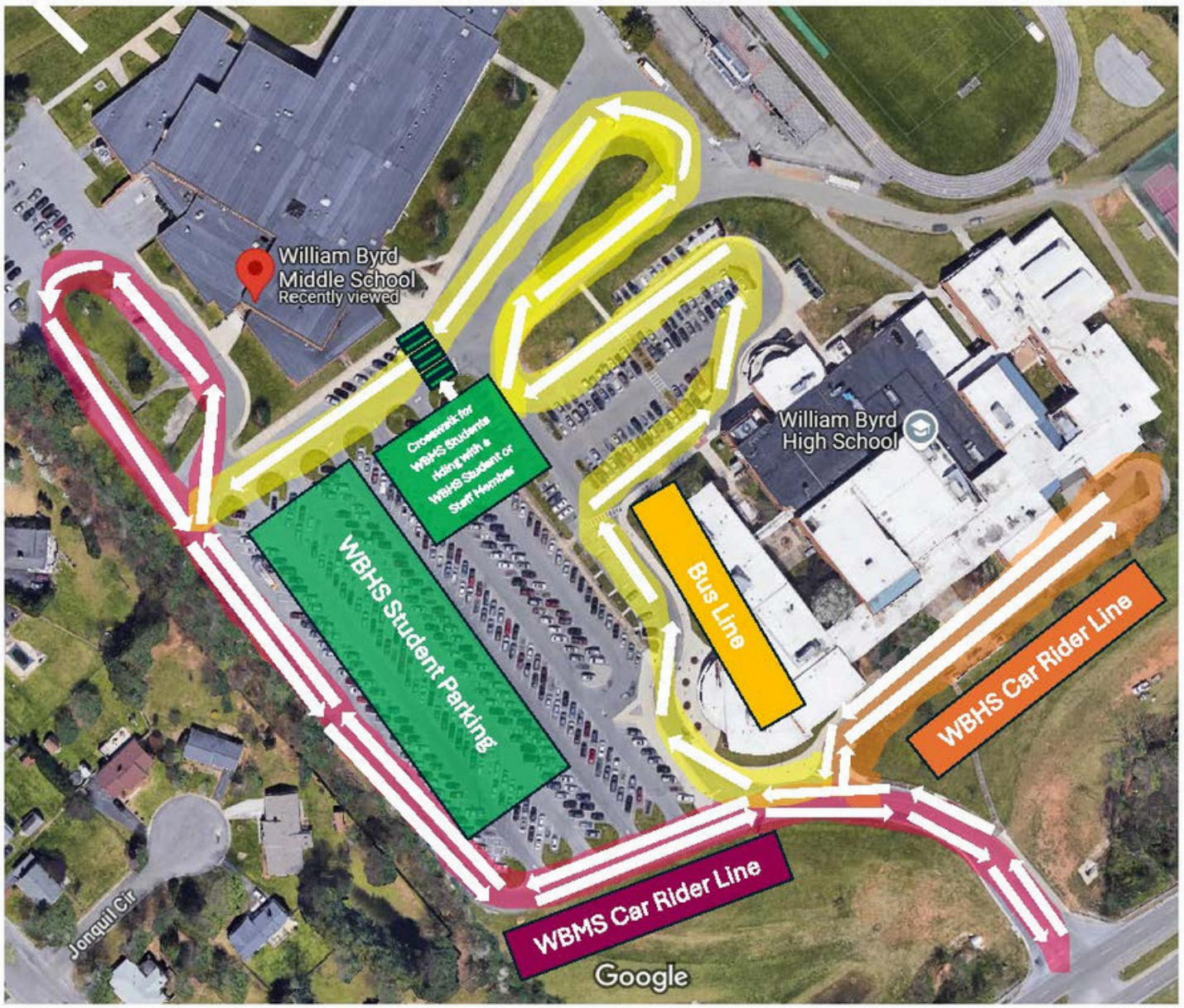
Afternoon Car Rider Procedures

- Car rider dismissal will begin at 3:25 PM.
- Parents/Guardians should line their cars up along the sidewalk outside Door 1 facing the flagpoles.
- Once your student is safely in your car, please respectfully follow the directions of the staff members directing traffic.

Other Dismissal Information

- If a child is checking out early, they will be released from their classroom only when the parent or adult designated by the parent in our database comes to the Attendance Office and signs the child out.
- When someone other than the parent/guardian or adult designated by the parent in our database picks a student up, a note or a phone call from the parent is required.
- For safety reasons, a picture ID is required before a child is released.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES



Please refer to the map above for detailed arrival and dismissal procedures.

In the mornings, one of our School Resource Officers (SROs) will be directing traffic on Washington Avenue. WBHS staff will manage traffic flow at the intersection where the WBHS Car Rider Line, WBMS Car Rider Line, and Bus Line meet. WBMS staff will be stationed at the intersection where buses exit into the WBMS car rider line.

The only change in the afternoon is that buses will no longer exit with the WBMS car riders. Instead, they will exit between the parking lot and WBHS. WBHS staff will continue to manage the intersection during dismissal, and an SRO will again be present on Washington Avenue to assist with traffic flow.

We kindly ask all families to remain patient and courteous to our staff members as they work to ensure the safe and efficient arrival and dismissal of all students on the William Byrd campus.

SUPPLY LISTS

WILLIAM BYRD MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Home of the Terriers -

6th Grade Supply List

(OPTIONAL)

All students need:

- Loose leaf paper
- Index cards
- Pens + Pencils
- Colored pencils/markers
- Pen/pencil pouch
- Skinny dry erase markers
- Tissues

In addition, specific subjects request the following:

English

- A durable (3) subject spiral notebook + 2 pocket folders
- Highlighters, scissors, and glue sticks

Math/Pre-Algebra 6

- 1 subject notebook, a pocket folder & black expo markers

Accelerated Math Only (AMP 6)

- A binder or spiral notebook (student choice)
- Student google account (must be set up by parent)

History

- 1 pocket folder

Science

- 1 (one inch) binder (to keep in classroom)
- 2 plastic pocket folders and a set of earbuds

SUPPLY LISTS

WILLIAM BYRD MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Home of the Terriers –

7th Grade Supply List

(OPTIONAL)

All students need:

- Loose leaf paper
- Index cards
- 2 packs of pencils + 1 pack of colored pencils
- Pens (black and red)
- Pen/pencil pouch
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- Tissues

In addition, specific subjects request the following:

English

- 3-subject notebook + a 2-pocket folder

Math/Pre-Algebra 7

- Spiral notebook (80+ pages)
- Graph paper
- Dry erase markers
- Pack of loose-leaf paper (to keep in classroom)

History

- 2 spiral notebooks + a 3-ring binder

Science

- Single subject notebook + 1 pocket folder

Algebra

- Dry erase markers (fine tip)
- 2 (one) subject notebooks and graph paper

SUPPLY LISTS

WILLIAM BYRD MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Home of the Terriers -

8th Grade Supply List

(OPTIONAL)

All students need:

- Loose leaf paper
- Index cards
- Pens + Pencils + Colored pencils
- Pen/pencil pouch
- Highlighters
- Tissues
- Earbuds (not headphones that completely cover the ears)

In addition, specific subjects request the following:

English

- 1 (one inch) binder, a 3 subject composition notebook, and 1 pronged pocket folder

Math 8/Pre-Algebra 8

- Expo markers and 2 pocket folders

Algebra

- Dry erase markers
- 3 or 5 subject notebook
- A handheld scientific calculator
- 1 (one inch) binder/folder to keep papers

Geometry

- Handheld scientific calculator
- Dry erase markers (fine tip)
- 3 or 5 subject notebook

Civics

- One 3 ring binder

Science

- (2 inch) binder to keep in classroom, 2 dividers & a 4 function calculator

Spanish I

- A (1 inch) binder with (5) tabbed dividers + a spiral band notebook
- Extra index cards and 2 pocket folders
- Glue sticks and a pair of scissors

WBMS APPAREL FOR SALE

William Byrd Terriers Back to school

You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:

1. Scan the QR code or go online to **https://wb-backtoschool-25.itemorder.com/**
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card

Online Store Deadline: **Tuesday August 26th, 2025 (11:59pm EDT)**

Snapback Trucker Cap - 112



$18.00

60/40 cotton/polyester100% polyester mesh backStructured, six-panel, mid pro profilePre-curved...

Sport-Tek UV Micropique Colorblock Polo ST741



$27.00

Be bold and sun smart when you support your team with this moisture-wicking colorblock...

Sport-Tek Dry Zone Colorblock Raglan Polo. T476



$33.00

The moisture-wicking, odor-fighting performance of Dry Zone technology in a colorblocked raglan...

Sport-Tek PosiCharge Competitor Polo. ST550



$28.00

Our #1 performance tee fabricA offered in a color-locking, moisture-wicking poloA to expand your...

Unisex Heavy Cotton™ T-Shirt - 5000 Terriers



$15.00

5.3 oz./yd² (US) 8.8 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton, 20 singlesBlackberry, Dark Heather, Graphite...

Gildan Heavy Blend™ Youth Hooded Sweatshirt



2 Colors

$28.00

8 oz./yd² (US) 13.5 oz./L yd (CA), 50/50 cotton/polyester, 20 singlesClassic fitDouble-lined...

Youth Heavy Cotton™ T-Shirt - 5000B



2 Colors

$15.00

5.3 oz./yd² (US) 8.8 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton, 20 singlesAsh Grey is 99/1 cotton/polyesterSport...

C2 Tee



2 Colors

$16.00

Double-needle hemSelf-fabric...

Gildan Heavy Blend Hooded Sweatshirt



2 Colors

$28.00

8-ounce, 50/50 cotton/polyDouble-needle stitching at waistband and cuffsDouble-lined hood with...

Gildan 18000 Heavy Blend Crewneck Sweatshirt



2 Colors

$23.00

8.0oz., pre-shrunk 50/50 cotton/polyesterHeather Sport colors are 60/40 polyester/cottonReduced

Gildan 5400 Heavy Cotton Long Sleeve T-Shirt



2 Colors

$19.00

5.3 oz., pre-shrunk 100% cottonAsh is 99/1 cotton/polyesterSport Grey is 90/10...

Badger Adult BT5 Fleece Hood



2 Colors

$43.00

100% Polyester moisture management fleece fabricSide and underarm textured waffle weave...

Questions?
Dave Graboski
540-489-1200
info@fullarmorcustomapparel.com
http://www.fullarmorcustomapparel.com

WBMS APPAREL FOR SALE

William Byrd Terriers Back to school

You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:

1. Scan the QR code or go online to **https://wb-backtoschool-25.itemorder.com/**
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card

Online Store Deadline: **Tuesday August 26th, 2025 (11:59pm EDT)**

A4 Long Sleeve Hooded Tee



2 Colors

$31.00

This trendy lightweight hoodie is made from our exclusive high performance 5-Star Fabric. It will...

A4 Softek Long Sleeve Tee



2 Colors

$26.00

The earth-friendly Softek tee combines the performance of polyester with the comfort of cotton. ...

Badger B-Core 7" Shorts



$22.00

3.5 oz./yd, 100% polyester moisture management/antimicrobi performance fabricAthletic cut and...

Athletic Fleece Jogger Pant



$31.00

9.5 oz. Ringspun 60% Cotton/ 40%...

Sport-Tek Women's Club 5" Short LST442



$21.00

Start strong with a moisture-wicking, odor-fighting and carbon-reducing short made with 100%...

Port Authority Pocket Cinch Pack. BG611



$15.00

This colorful cinch pack is a tremendous value and it features a front storage pocket for easy...

OGIO Logan Pack. 411092



$56.00

This pack makes a bold statement while protecting all your techie toys.840D poly dobby with PU...

CornerStone Women's Select Snag-Proof Polo. CS413



$38.00

Tough enough for most general work environments, this high-performance polo defies snags, resists...

Port Authority Women's Core Classic Pique Polo. L100



$28.00

An indispensable polo for just about every uniforming need. Designed for everyday wear, this pique...

Gildan Ultra Cotton® Women's T-Shirt Terriers



$16.00

6 oz./yd² (US) 10 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton, 18 singlesDark Heather Colors & Safety Pink are...

Gildan Ultra Cotton® Women's T-Shirt WB Terriers



$16.00

6 oz./yd² (US) 10 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton, 18 singlesDark Heather Colors & Safety Pink are...

Unisex Heavy Cotton™ T-Shirt - 5000 WB Terriers



$15.00

5.3 oz./yd² (US) 8.8 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton, 20 singlesBlackberry, Dark Heather, Graphite...

Questions?
Dave Graboski
540-489-1200
info@fullarmorcustomapparel.com
http://www.fullarmorcustomapparel.com