



Welcome Class of 2030

Ambridge Area High School Freshman
& New Student Orientation

Welcome:



Dr. Pasquerilla –
Superintendent of
The Ambridge Area
School District



Dr. Zupsic – Principal



Agenda for Thursday, August 13, 2026

- Welcome: Learn Requirements and Resources
- Attendance, Expectations at the High School, and Questions
- Tour and Review Schedule
- Visit Educational Booths
- Sign-ups for Clubs and Activities in the Lunchroom

Daily School Information Summary:

Start of Day: Report directly to 1st Period, which is the same as Homeroom.

Arrival Time: Doors open 7:05 AM – Free breakfast is available

Schedule:

- **Start of Day: 7:30 AM** *Will be marked late if not in Homeroom by 7:30 AM
- 42-minute class periods
- Nine total class periods daily
- Four lunch periods (Periods 4, 5, 6, and 7)
- **End of Day: 2:26 PM**

Meals:

- Free breakfast and lunch provided for all students
- Use 6-digit student ID as PIN
- Snacks available at cost from the snack bar

Additional Notes: Special bell schedules and assemblies may apply



Student Entry & Security Procedures:

Entry Protocol:

- All students must enter through the Front Bridge Entrance at the High School.
- Security screening is mandatory for all students upon arrival.
- There is no opportunity for entrance through another door or for students to let anyone in **ANY** door at the school.
- Students should **never** prop open any door that permits access for entrance to the building
- There is an adult supervising the Front Bridge entrance.

Evolv Scanner Guidelines:

- Walk through scanner after placing your laptop on the table .
- **Clear backpacks and Clear water bottles Only**
- Items that may trigger alerts:
 - 3-ring binders, ,mint tins, laptops chargers, eyelash curlers, umbrellas
- If an alert is triggered, you will undergo a secondary search.

Transportation:

- Bus Drop-off: Stadium Entrance and Front Entrance
- Parent Drop-off: Front Bridge Entrance
- **Guest Entry**

Photo ID required at Front Check-In for all visitors



Laptop and Daily Procedures:

Required: Please ensure your student has their laptop charged for immediate use on arrival.

Laptop Distribution:

- Students will be called by group over the course of the first few days of school
- Students are permitted to bring a clear water bottle for water each day. Water bottle adapters have been installed on water fountains for students to refill during the day.
- Please keep personal items to a minimum to reduce check-in time during morning security protocols.
- Materials can be kept in lockers: Keep lockers locked at all times and do not share with others – All materials in the locker are the responsibility of the student.
- Locker Information listed on their profile in Infinite Campus.



Transportation Procedures:

AM Arrival:

- Bus drop-off: Front of the building, 7:05 – 7:20 AM

PM Dismissal:

- Dismissal begins at 2:26 PM
- Buses line up by number at the Front Entrance
- **Signed Parent excuse required for early dismissal to the attendance office**

Bus Assignments:

- Students must ride their assigned bus
- To ride a different bus, students must submit a written parent note to the front office in the morning for a temporary bus pass
- No exceptions without a valid pass

Transportation Info & Safety:

- Route changes/questions: (724) 266-2833, x1203
- All school rules apply on buses; violations may lead to disciplinary action
- Buses are equipped with cameras and audio recording



TECHNOLOGY:

INFINITE CAMPUS: Student and Parent Accounts for all updated information

PARENT USERNAME: E-mailed to e-mail on file

PARENT PASSWORD: E-mailed to e-mail on file

Parents can check grades, missing work, active attendance, periodic attendance (did they attend each class) daily - Infinite Campus

- **TRU** – ABSENT
- **LTC** – LATE TO CLASS
- Discipline is also reported on Infinite Campus

Bridger Blasts: Sent to the first contact on file in Infinite Campus

Includes important information and updates including but not limited to:

- Student and Parent Event Nights / Critical School Information and Updates
- Testing Information

Need help with Infinite Campus Sign-in or Bridger Blasts Information:

E-mail Christian Morrison: christian.morrison@ambridge.k12.pa.us

To ensure you are signed-up for Bridger Blasts: Assigned first Emergency Contact will be assigned on enrollment – Check e-mail for updates



Mrs. Benedict – 9th and 10th School Counselor
Mrs. Ford – 11th and 12th School Counselor
Mrs. Prevost – Prevention Specialist



Graduation Requirements:

ENGLISH: 4 CREDITS

SOCIAL STUDIES: 4 CREDITS

SCIENCE: 3 or 4 *CREDITS (7 Total of Science/Math)

MATH: 3 or 4* CREDITS (7 Total of Science/Math)

HEALTH AND PE: 2.0 CREDITS

Total ELECTIVES*: 6.5 CREDITS

Cumulative Senior Project: 1.0 CREDITS

Everfi: Required for Graduation 9-11th (Listed on each schedule in 10th Period – Completed in Social Studies Classroom)

***Please check full year schedule on Infinite Campus for Semester 1 and 2 Classes**

Language not required: College University 2- Years of a Language

4 Years Math / 4 Years Science: Check Specific

College Application / NCAA Requirements



Graduation Requirements:



Social Studies – American Cultures I / Honors American Cultures

English – Practical English 9 / College Prep English / Advanced English 9 / Advanced 10

Science – Life Science / Biology/ Honors Biology

Math - Algebra I through Honors Plane / Solid Geometry

Health & PE – HPE I, HPE II ,HPE III and a Senior Level Gym (all are semester courses) over the course of 4 years

Health and PE: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – Gym (.3 Credit) Tuesday, Thursday – Health Classroom (.2 Credit) = .50 credit of Health and PE

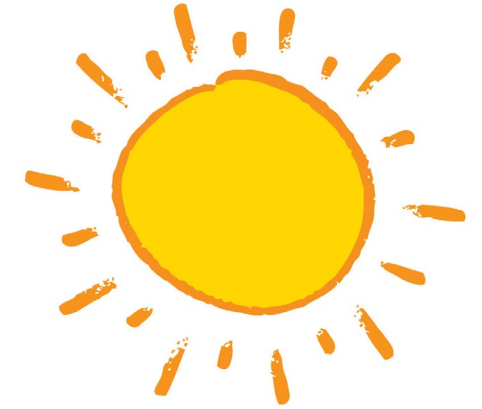
Period 10 – Edgenuity self-paced class that need preapproved. Students will receive an e-mail on how to log-in to their class the first day if they have been approved for these courses. Please see the Cyber Coordinator in the Media Center for information on how to log into the Cyber Class.

Study Seminar: Assisted Study Hall – Qualify will see it on your schedule

Middle School: *Spanish I, II, III / Italian I, II, III, Algebra (honors) II and Higher, Geometry (honors) and Higher, counts as credit on 6-8th grade transcript towards graduation

In order to be in STEEL DRUM I, II or STEEL DRUM, MUST BE IN BAND OR A PERFORMING ART (CHORUS)

Credit Recovery: Summer School



Transcript: Educational Record of all classes

Passing Grades: Final grades are the average of all 4-nine weeks final grades, or 2-nine weeks grade if a semester course. 60% and above is passing. Failure to pass a core class results in Credit Recovery.

Credit Recovery: Credit Recovery is required if failing a required course for graduation – Students must achieve a final grade of (D) 60% or higher for credit

Summer School: Students that fail a required course for graduation, i.e. Math, English, Science, Social Studies and Health / PE re required to attend summer school and make-up the credit prior to graduation.

Frequently asked Questions?

Tutoring: Academic Teachers of Record are available 2:30 –3:00 PM at an arranged time. Please speak with your student's teacher for assistance in tutoring.

Withdraw-Fail: Dropping a class after the pass/fail deadline. Students cannot change classes after the 5 day policy.

National Honor Society: Students must have five semesters (Freshman: Fall (1) / Spring (2) ; Sophomore: Fall (3) / Spring (4) Junior: Fall (5) – application) completed fully for application, and a 3.6 cumulative GPA from five semesters of enrollment at Ambridge High School. This occurs for all students Fall of junior year.

Beaver County Career and Technology Center: (Vo-Tech) Begins in 10th grade for cosmetology, and 11th grade all other programs (HVAC, Electrician, Welding, Culinary, etc.)

CCBC High School Academies: Begins in 11th grade – Aviation, Education, STEM, Health Academy, Criminal Justice – Apply Spring of Junior Year



Frequently asked Questions?

Dual Enrollment: Earning College Credits while in High School – Advanced Course Work – Listed in Course of Studies

AP – Advanced Placement: College Credits based on the Exam at the end of the course

Keystones: Algebra I, Biology, English level 10

Clubs/Activities: Club day in the school – Announcements will discuss where to report to each room; Sign-ups in the lunchroom today.



Schedule Changes:



Schedule Change Appointments: Call Mrs. Misencik 724-266-2833, ext. 2377.

Walk-Ins: Sign-up in the guidance office with Mrs. Misencik starting the first day of school.

Drop/Add: Students must make changes within 5 days of the drop/ add period. Anything after the 5 days of changes will be a withdraw-fail after the deadline.

*Please note, students may be scheduled for a cyber course (Period 10) if the traditional course did not fit in their schedule. Log-in information will be sent to the student and parent/guardian during the first week of school.

*Electives and classes are only offered specific periods

Welcome: High School Guidance Office

Please check in with Mrs. Misencik, Guidance Secretary, on arrival to the office.

Students must have a pass from their Classroom Teacher on arrival.

Social / Emotional Support: Friendships, Anxiety, Transition to the High School

Academic: Speak to your teacher of record; Support for reference of missing work, academic planning;

Career: Beaver County Career and Technology Center (Vo-Tech) 10th grade Cosmetology / 11th grade HVAC, Carpentry, Welding, etc. / CCBC Dual Enrollment Academies – 11th Grade

Reminder: Infinite Campus – Check Grades, Assignments, Missing Work, Attendance

Everything from day one counts when you walk in the building!

Please use your school e-mail: Found on your Infinite Campus Portal – Technology Information Table in the Hallway – Please stop by for help in signing in and retrieving e-mail / Information

Bridger Blast: Ensure signed up for Bridger Blasts! Updated Parent Night information from Guidance!



Counseling (Therapy) In-School:



Available Agencies: In-School Therapy/Counseling held during the School Day:

- Western PA Psych Care & Counseling (WPPC) – Positive Steps
- The Psychology and Learning Center (PLC)
- Drug and Alcohol – Beaver County

Referral Reasons: Including, but not limited to:

- ADHD, anxiety, depression, truancy, bullying, anger, social/emotional concerns
- Behavioral Concerns
- Difficulty making friends
- School avoidance/refusal
- Frequent disciplinary issues

Referral Sources:

Parent, self-referral (14 and over), Teacher, Mrs. Prevost, Ms. Ryan, or School Counselor

Outside Agencies: Please visit the agencies below, and after enter our raffle at the front door!

- Keystone Wellness Systems
- Nicolina's Wishes
- **PSU:** Penn State Admissions
- **BCBH:** Beaver County Behavioral Health
- **SafetoSay**
- Beaver County Crises
- Laughlin Children's Center
- Community College of Allegheny County
- **JTBC:** Job Training of Beaver County
- Drug and Alcohol Services of Beaver Valley
- **BCCTC:** Beaver County Career and Technology Center
- Student Council & Black Student Union Club
- Boy Scouts of America
- **PLC:** Psychology and Learning Center



- Laughlin Memorial Library
- **TIPS:** Truancy Intervention Program
- **CCBC:** Community College of Beaver County **Admissions**
- **CCBC:** Community College of Beaver County **High School Academies**
- **WPPC:** Western Pennsylvania Psych Care
- Highmark Caring Place
- Choices Pregnancy Information
- The Prevention Network
- Pressley Ridge Mobile Crises And Team

Student Assistance Program: (SAP) Mrs. Linda Prevost

SAP is a confidential and voluntary program which provides support to students who are facing barriers that may be impacting their academic or personal life. (Not to substitute therapy.)

Check-ins can focus on:

- Changes in Friend Group
- Cutting Class / Excessive Tardiness / Poor School Attendance
- Engaging in Classroom Disturbance
- Concerns related to Mental Well-Being
- Lying / Sudden Drop in Grades / Defying Authority
- Lack of Interest in Extracurricular Activities



The High School Guidance Department can assist families with:

- Grief/loss, divorce, separation, relocation
- Social/emotional and academic concerns
- Homelessness or accessing community resources: Food, electricity, general necessities

Connect with SAP Services or Programs, Questions, Concerns: Mrs. Prevost

Phone: 724-266-2833, ext. 2102

E-Mail: linda.prevost@ambridge.k12.pa.us

Ms. Kylee Ryan – School Social Worker



Attendance:



After **(1) Unexcused Absence:** Parent/guardian receives automated phone call

After **(3) Unexcused Absence:** Letter notification to parent/guardian via mail requesting excused be turned in for documentation

After **(6) Unexcused Absences:** Truancy Meeting via TIPS (Truancy Intervention Program) and School Social Worker

Additional Accumulated Absences: Potential for further consequences - Magistrate Hearing / Fines and Fees Enforced

Late (Tardy Unexcused) and Missing Period classes during the day can also result in unexcused absence.

Grades decrease, learning disruptions, discipline infractions and fines and fees results from Truancy (Absent) or Tardiness (lateness). Come to School On-Time and Ready to Learn, and attend each and every class throughout the day!

Attendance:

(Pennsylvania School Code requires that all students ages 6-18 **must** attend school)

- Each student is permitted **10** written parent excuses per school year for absences
- Anything beyond 10 written parent excuses must be medical with doctor notes
- If a student is absent due to medical reasons, documentation is required from a medical professional.
- IEP or 504 Plan is not a **MEDICAL EXCUSE – REQUIRED** to have a Doctor note to excuse for any tardiness, absences that exceed school policy

Questions about attendance, student marked absent for a period/day/late call, and/or all attendance questions are to be directed to:

- Mrs. Chickos: 724-266-2833, ext. 2335
 - E-mail: lori.chickos@ambridge.k12.pa.us
- Ms. Ryan: 724-266-2833, ext. 2265
 - E-mail: kylee.ryan@ambridge.k12.pa.us





AMBRIDGE AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Strive For FIVE!

AN ATTENDANCE INITIATIVE.



**STRIVE FOR FIVE
ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO:**

**SHOW UP EVERY DAY READY TO LEARN,
BUILD STRONG HABITS FOR FUTURE
SUCCESS, AND STAY CONNECTED TO
THEIR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!**



Strive For FIVE!

We're excited to introduce our new district-wide attendance initiative:
Strive for Five!

The goal is simple but powerful:
Be at school all 5 days each week.



Consistent attendance is one of the most important factors in a student's academic success. When students miss school, they miss valuable learning time, connections with peers and teachers, and the structure that helps them thrive.



Strive for Five encourages students to:

- Show up every day, ready to learn
- Build strong habits for future success
- Stay connected to their school community

We know that life can sometimes be unpredictable. That's why this program also emphasizes support, communication, and celebration. We're here to help families overcome barriers to regular attendance, and we'll be recognizing students who meet their attendance goals in fun and meaningful ways!

Let's work together to ensure every student has the opportunity to grow, learn, and succeed all five days a week.

Thank you for your partnership and commitment to student success.
Together, we can make every day count!

Mr. Amadio – Assistant Principal and Athletic Director

AMBRIDGE
AREA

Discipline & Detention Overview:

Detention Results From:

- Truancy, class skipping, tardiness, and other policy violations

Tardiness Consequences:

- **1–5 tardies:** Written warning
- **6–9 tardies:** Administrative detention
- **10–15 tardies:** Two administrative detentions
- **15+ tardies:** In-school/out-of-school suspension and loss of social privileges

Loss of Privileges May Include:

- Dances, clubs, field trips, parking pass, work permit, athletic activities, and other events

Additional Guidelines:

- **Bullying (including cyberbullying):** Strictly prohibited; results in disciplinary action and loss of privileges
- **Dress Code:** Enforced as outlined in the Student Handbook
- **Suspensions:** Affect eligibility for after-school activities and events
- **Disciplinary Records:** May impact post-secondary and employment opportunities (Level III or higher offenses)



Eligibility: Grades & Attendance:

Grade Checks:

- NCAA – Requesting to play a sport in College, sign-up for clearinghouse freshman year.

Attendance Requirement:

- **20+ unexcused absences = ineligible** for athletics
- Must attend **45 consecutive school days** after the 20th absence to regain eligibility
- This period may extend into the **next school year**

Spring Grades → Fall Eligibility:

- **Final spring grades** determine **summer/fall participation**
- Must pass **4 full-credit (1.00) classes**
- Failure = **ineligible** without **credit recovery**

Suspension Policy:

- **In-School Suspension (ISS)** = no practice or games that day
- Treated the same as **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** for extracurricular eligibility



Academic Eligibility for Student-Athletes:



Weekly Grade Checks:

- Conducted on the **last school day each week** (typically Friday, or last day of that week)

Eligibility Notifications:

- Sent to **coaches**.
- **Coaches** will communicate with **students and parents**

Academic Requirements:

- Must pass **four full-credit (1.00) classes** weekly
- Failure to meet this = **ineligibility (Friday through Thursday)**

Questions?

- Please contact: Mr. Amadio 724-266-2833 ext.2235

Health & Medication Guidelines:



Medication at School:

- **All daily medications** must be administered by the **school nurse**
- Medication must be in a **pharmacy-labeled container** with the **original prescription**
- **Medication must be dropped off** directly to the nurse
- **Exception:** Students may carry an **inhaler** but must notify the nurse
- Medication form must be on file for **ALL** Prescription and Over The Counter medications

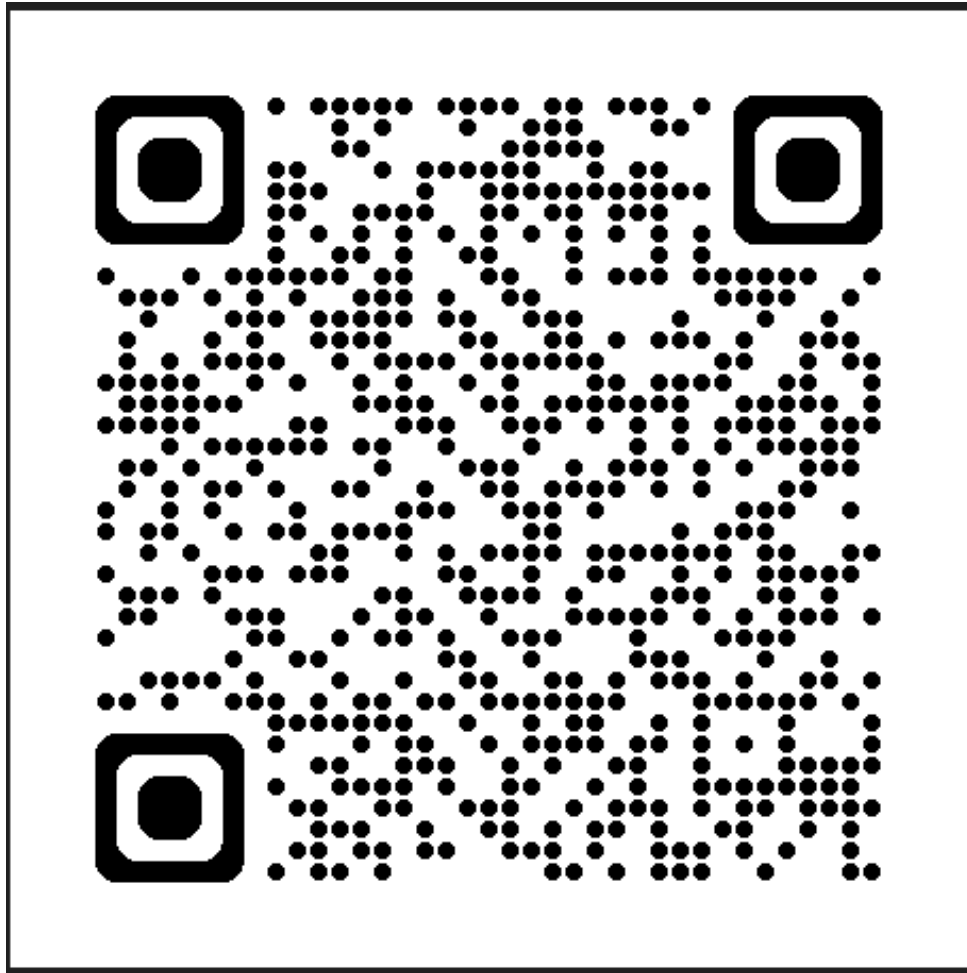
Health Requirements:

- **State-mandated health screenings** are required
- **Emergency Cards & HIPAA Forms** must be completed and returned
- Report **any changes** in guardianship, address, phone number, or emergency contacts to the **front office** with proper documentation

Nurse Visits:

- Students must have a **hall pass** to visit the nurse

Questions? Contact the School Nurse at **724-266-2833, Ext. 2443**



Please scan the QR code
for The Ambridge Area
School District Website!

Go Bridgers!