

# BCMS Bulldog Bulletin

Bulldogs Lead

## BCMS Calendar

### IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

Mon. June 3 Seventh Grade Field trip (date has been corrected)

Tue. June 4 Eighth Grade Field trip

Fri. June 7 PBIS BCMS Soccer Cup Finals

Wed. June 12 6th (1:30) and 7th (9:45) Grade End of Year Awards Ceremony

Thu. June 13 Eighth Grade Awards 6:00 pm

Fri. June 14 (Rain Date June 18) Sixth Grade "Best Day Ever"

Fri. June 14 Lip Sync Battle

Wed. June 19 Eighth Grade Picnic

Wed. June 19 Seventh Grade "Survival of the Fittest"

Wed. June 19 Last Day for Students (2 hour early dismissal)

Term 4 Report Cards will be mailed on July 2. They not be available for pick-up.

Families needing a sign language interpreter should contact Mrs. Gee at 240-236-5710 at least 10 days prior to the event.

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School Office Hours

7:30 AM-3:30 PM

## BCMS End of Year Events

Dear BCMS Parents,

As another busy school year comes to a close, it is time to announce the key dates for end of year events. Ballenger Creek Middle School has traditionally done an 8th grade formal dance to commemorate the three marvelous middle school years of being a BCMS Bulldog. The May 10 8th grade formal, "Hollywood- A Red Carpet Event," was coordinated by the SGA. Students picked the theme and SGA advisors created a wonderful experience. Many thanks to all the parent volunteers who helped make it a memorable evening.



Please mark your calendars with dates and times of additional end of year BCMS events.  
(\*Note the events are referral free opportunities. Students who receive a referral during Term 4 may not attend.)

[Click here to open the Schedule of Events.](#)

## FCPS Calendar Handbook 2018-2019



Congrats to our  
Achievement and  
Determination door  
decorating contest winners !



## Announcements from Principal Beck

June 1, 2019

### End of Year

Parents, please be sure to review the grade level announcements below with your students.

We have increased our staff support after lunch to help students with their transition from recess back to class. Please review the pdf calendar above with the list of activities in every grade level.



Congrats to our Titans and former Bulldogs that graduated on Friday !

## Counseling Information

6th grade - Mrs. Megan Fitz-Marurice [Megan.FitzMaurice@fcps.org](mailto:Megan.FitzMaurice@fcps.org)

7th grade- Mrs. Rebecca Pierson [Rebecca.Pierson@fcps.org](mailto:Rebecca.Pierson@fcps.org)

8th grade - Mr. David Ledyard [David.Ledyard@fcps.org](mailto:David.Ledyard@fcps.org)

The number to our counseling office is 301-236-6710 if you need to contact any of our counselors at any time. Additionally, please use their emails to contact them directly.

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### Attention Rising 9th Graders

#### SUMMER SESSION LEARNING- HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

Find details and registration materials for 2019 POSS\* and TRAD\*\* at <https://education.fcps.org/fcvs/> (select "Summer Session Learning Options")

See participation expectations, dates, times and registration fees.

**Deadline: Completed registration forms must reach school counselors before Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 3 PM.**

**Do not delay! Enrollment is limited.** Courses do fill up quickly so return the form as soon as possible.

The FCPS Frederick County Virtual School (FCVS) manages all summer programs offering courses for credit.

Some programs are offered at specific schools and in specialized programs with enrollment by invitation only.

#### PROGRAMS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

The below-referenced POSS and TRAD Programs are held at Governor Thomas Johnson MIDDLE School.

##### \*Partially Online Summer Session (POSS).

POSS is for FCPS high school students who are independent, self-motivated learners; they must be currently enrolled and entering 9th-12th grade in the 2019-2020 school year. The session offers honors and elective courses for grade improvement or original credit. Students work in a blended-learning environment, meeting face-to-face once each week while also completing structured online coursework outside of class (requires internet and consistent computer access).

##### \*\*Traditional (TRAD) High School Summer Session

HS TRAD is for currently enrolled FCPS high school students who benefit from a structured learning environment and want to recover credit in core-content courses required for graduation. In this blended-learning environment, students meet daily with certified FCPS teachers and use online courses to support academic goals

# Keeping You Informed

Inclement Weather?

Here is how to Check School Status:

English: <https://fcps.ezcommunicator.net/edu/Frederick/GetFile.aspx?DocId=5581>

Spanish:

<https://fcps.ezcommunicator.net/edu/Frederick/GetFile.aspx?DocId=7817>



## Late Bus? Use the link below link.

Did you know that FCPS has a transportation delay board. They can communicate with the public and schools when a bus is running 10 minutes or more late. The information may be accessed on the FCPS website at this link: <https://apps.fcps.org/transdelay/>

## Chrome Book 1 to 1

FCPS issued chrome books, chargers and cases will be returned in June. Details TBA.



## BCMS Attendance

**Good attendance leads to success and boosts graduation. Our school goal is 96%.**

Please remember to alert the front office ([BallengerCreek.MS@fcps.org](mailto:BallengerCreek.MS@fcps.org)) if your child is sick and to send a letter when the child returns. **Our goal is to have all students in school and on time.**

### Attendance Percentages

**Dates: May 20 to May 24**

#### Monday

Grade 6 ----95.65%

Grade 7 --- -94.46%

Grade 8 ----92.23%

Total -----94.10%

#### Tuesday

Grade 6 ----97.83%

Grade 7 --- -93.73%

Grade 8 ----95.76%

Total -----95.78%

#### Wednesday

Grade 6 --- -92.75%

Grade 7 ----95.20%

Grade 8 ----93.64%

Total -----93.86%

#### Thursday

Grade 6 --- 92.03%

Grade 7 ----93.36%

Grade 8 --- 94.35%  
Total -----93.25%  
Friday  
Grade 6 --- 92.39%  
Grade 7 --- 89.67%  
Grade 8 --- 90.81%  
Total -----90.96%



BCMS students and Mrs. Smith present the funds earned from the 5K run to benefit Autism Speaks

## Community Liaison Corner

Hello Families,

Transit Summer Student and Kid Passes are now available. Summer student passes cost \$15 for unlimited rides June 1 through August 31. Kid passes are free when accompanied by an adult, June 1 through August 31. Please

visit: <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/318870/Summer-Freedom-Pass-and-Kid-Pass-2019>



## Community Events

**June 1st, 9:00 to Noon,**

FCPS Transportation Department is hiring bus drivers for the 2019-2020 school year and is holding a job fair at the transportation office, 7446 Hayward Rd., Frederick 21702. For more information and to

register to attend, click the following link [REGISTER HERE](#)

**June 1st, June Bloom Housing Fair**, This Saturday, One stop shop for community members to explore housing options from grads looking for rental options to families looking for homeownership to senior options. 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m. 555 S. Market Street, Frederick. Giveaways, including Smart TV's and \$500 Home Depot Gift Cards. Children Activities too! [Please see flyer for the schedule of events.](#)

**Free Food Distribution**, Open to everyone. Every second Saturday of every month. First Missionary Baptist Church, 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick

**June 22nd, Breakfast on the Farm**, Valley-Ho Farm in Middletown, MD. A free event for the family offering a full breakfast, interactive walking tour of the farm focused on the safe care of animals and the process of food production from the farm to your table. 9:00am-1pm. RSVP for your FREE Ticket today at <http://go.umd.edu/breakfast-on-the-farm>

Please take note of the End of the Year Calendar so you are aware of all the events taking place.

Mrs. Moss

Community Liaison for BCMS

[dottie.moss@fcps.org](mailto:dottie.moss@fcps.org)

240-236-5797



June Housing Fair.docx

Housing Fair June 1 10am -2pm Schedule of Events



Download

692.5 KB

## Sixth Grade News

The 6th grade team is excited to announce that our end of year celebration will be held on Friday, June 14th. Our rain date is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18th.

We will be holding our celebration during periods 1-5. Students will be rotating through their normal class periods. However, in lieu of lessons, students will be participating in different activities with their teachers. A formal schedule will be released next week.

We are currently looking for parent volunteers to help assist teachers in running classroom activities (such as bounce house supervision), as well as seeking donations. A list has been provided below of items needed:

- Snack sized bags of chips and pretzels
- Freeze-Pops
- Small bottles of water
- Napkins
- Gel pens for yearbook signing

We are looking forward to celebrating the successes of our students as they end their first year of middle school!

If you have any questions, concerns, or are interested in volunteering, please contact Mrs. Rose Branzell, the 6th grade team leader, at [rose.branzell@fcps.org](mailto:rose.branzell@fcps.org).

## Seventh Grade News

In FLEX we'll be doing our Spanish Country projects over the next couple weeks; students will present various information about a country where Spanish is the official language. It will end with a fiesta and those students who chose to bring a food from their country will share that food with the rest of the class. An email will be going out to parents soon with the exact date and all are welcome to join!

In Sra. Nuckolls' and Srta. M's Spanish classes, we will have a fiesta on the last day of school and all students are encouraged to bring a dish from a Spanish-speaking country to share with the class! Parents and staff will be invited to come enjoy the festivities, as well as eat some native Spanish dishes.

7th grade field trip is Monday June 3rd.

## 7th grade Language Arts

Please return all literature circle novels. If students cannot locate their school-issued novels, they will need to provide replacement copies to their Language Arts teacher.

It's time to start thinking about what books you will be reading this summer! Teachers and literacy experts agree that children of all ages need to read (or be read to) and to talk about books over the summer. Summer reading and book discussions will help students maintain their reading skills, improve their reading fluency, and learn new vocabulary and concepts. Most importantly, when parents and children enjoy summer reading together, children develop a love of books and reading that lasts a lifetime. Please encourage your student to read this summer! Visit my website for ideas:

<http://education.fcps.org/bcms/katienorris>

Thank you!

Katie Zimmerman  
Literacy Specialist

## Eighth Grade News

Reminder:

Field trip to the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore, MD is on Tuesday, June 4th.

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## Help Needed for 8th Grade Picnic

### **Attention Parents and Guardians of 8th Grade Students!!!**

The 8th grade class is in need of your help to make their end of year picnic celebration as awesome as possible! Please follow the link below to sign-up to volunteer or donate needed items. The picnic will be held on the last day of school for students, Wednesday, June 19th. Please contact Chelby Vachon ([ChelbyMay@msn.com](mailto:ChelbyMay@msn.com)), PTSA president, with questions regarding the sign-up or Erica French ([Erica.French@FCPS.org](mailto:Erica.French@FCPS.org)), 8th Grade Math Teacher, with questions regarding the picnic plans. Thank you in advance for your support of our near-highschoolers!

Sign-Up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b49abab2ca0f49-8thgrade1>

## HAC Home Access Center (Grades Online)

Please remember to check your student's grades using the HAC button above. The link can also be found on the FCPS and BCMS web sites.



HACTriFold.pdf  
HAC Quick Reference Guide for Parents (Trifold)

[Download](#)  
657.6 KB



**Mrs. Highfield's students used old t-shirts and fabric scraps to make dog bone toys to donate to a local dog shelter. Toys are pictured below.**



## From the World of Music

Bulldog families,

Congratulation to the BCMS 7th and 8th grade choir for qualifying for states with a rating of a superior on April 9th. Since then, the group worked hard and performed a great performance on May 9th at the State Adjudications where they received a rating of Excellent. Great work!

The instrumental and vocal ensembles are gearing up to head to Hershey Park on June 1st. Hoping to bring back another 1st place trophy, Mrs. Schmidt and Ms. Jones would like to wish the students luck and thank you to the parents for helping us maintain the high standards of excellence to compete on the National Level. Good luck Bulldogs, and bring home the gold!

The Lip Sync\* Battle has been moved to June 14th. Come out and support the SGA as we continue our community drive to raise awareness to Arthritis and Autism. Admissions is \$5.00

As we end the school year, music department would like students and parents aware of the new lock and lunch dismissal policies. It is important that we all stay focused until the end. This includes bringing your chromebook to all classes charged and in working order.

Exposed!, the spring play, went very well. Our student actors and tech did an amazing job. We can not wait to see what talent next year will hold.

## Mentor programs LEAD in the community

The students of Girls with Pearls and Guys with Ties mentoring programs have done a great job LEADing the way with changing first impressions, academic performance, and willingness to complete community service projects. As this program serves out 8th grade students, the mentors Michelle Early, Kia Jones, Windy Schmidt, Elton Haydel, David Ledyard, Mr. and Mrs. Beck want to wish them much success in high school as they take the tools they need to LEAD the way.

## PBIS

Our last PBIS event of the school year is the BCMS Cup soccer tournament. Grade level teams will compete for a slot for our final tournament games on June 7th. Students will follow a 1 hour early dismissal schedule and report to the events of their choice. This year, we are planning a snack time and are asking for donations of water, popsicles and parent volunteers. Please email PBIS coach [Windy.schmidt@fcps.org](mailto:Windy.schmidt@fcps.org) for more details. As we get closer to the event, more announcements will be made.

Instead of a schoolwide carnival, each grade level has planned events. As with all PBIS events, the grade level events are referral free events. Please check out the End of the Year events calendar for specific dates.

## SGA-

The Student Government Association of Ballenger Creek Middle School wants to send a huge thank you to the students, staff, and community for your support. This year we held a talent show to support the local food banks, school wide Glow Party dance, the Penny Wars to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation, and put on a great 8th grade Formal. This year was: Hollywood - A Red Carpet Affair.

Penny Wars brought in over \$270.00 to donate to the Arthritis Foundation. Frederick County Student Council Association is hosting a walk for Arthritis awareness on May 18th at Baker's Park from 8am until noon. Email [Windy.schmidt@fcps.org](mailto:Windy.schmidt@fcps.org), the SGA Advisor, for more details.

We would like to wish our eighth grade students luck next year as they start high school and the journey for the rest of their lives! Forever a Bulldog, you will LEAD!

## Media Center Corner

### Beach Books for Middle School Students

May is the time to start dreaming about summer days at the beach. Some of you might be sticking your toes in sand at the beach, and some of you might stick your toes in the sand at the neighborhood sandbox. No matter where you are grab your sunglasses, sunscreen, lounge chair and check out these great beach books for middle school students.



#### 1. **I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives**-By Caitlin Alifirenka

The true story of unlikely pen pals that begins in 1997, when 12-year-old American Caitlin and 14-year-old Zimbabwean Martin are randomly paired by their schools. It's told in the first person, with chapters alternating between Caitlin's and Martin's points of view, as the two forge a life-altering friendship despite significant cultural, economic, and geographical differences. The disparity between their lives is stark; Caitlin is a typical middle-class American teen engaged in petty dramas involving friends and boys, while Martin goes hungry daily and struggles to find the funds to stay in school. When Caitlin sends him a dollar so he can see American currency, he can buy enough groceries to feed his family for two weeks. Martin is hesitant to disclose just how poor his family is but eventually opens up to Caitlin as his situation grows more desperate. Caitlin, with help from her tireless mother, ultimately changes Martin's life, as well as the lives of his family members. Martin, in return, opens Caitlin's eyes to the world outside her small rural town.

#### 2. **The Boy Who Challenged Hitler**-By Philip Hoose

During WWII, Denmark didn't resist Nazi occupation, and this deeply shamed 15-year-old Knud Pedersen, who **along** with his brother and some classmates started a small, secret club of political resisters in 1941. Full of brave but naïve teenage boys desperate to undermine the Nazi regime, the Churchill Club committed 25 acts of sabotage -- disabling German vehicles, stealing Nazi arms, and destroying and defacing German property -- before being arrested in 1942.

#### 3. **Summerlost** – By Ally Condie

It's the first real summer since the accident that killed Cedar's father and younger brother, Ben. Cedar and what's left of her family are returning to the town of Iron Creek for the summer. They're just settling into their new house when a boy named Leo, dressed in costume, rides by on his bike. Intrigued, Cedar follows him to the renowned Summerlost theatre festival. Soon, she not only has a new friend in Leo and a job working concessions at the festival, she finds herself surrounded by mystery. The mystery of the tragic, too-short life of the Hollywood actress who haunts the halls of Summerlost. And the mystery of the strange gifts that keep appearing for Cedar.

#### 4. **Listen, Slowly** – By Thanhha Lai

Born and raised in California, 12-year old Mai can't wait to spend the summer on the beach with her friends. When her parents tell her she will be spending the summer in Vietnam with their grandmother, she is beyond bummed. Her grandmother fled the country after the war and was never able to reunite with her husband, Mai's grandfather. She is determined to find out what happened to him and embarks on a search for answers. Grumpy Mai accompanies her and finds herself slowly warming to Vietnam.



### Teen Summit.pdf

2019 Teen Summit and Resource Fair Saturday June 1 at 9am to 1 pm at FHS

Download  
482.4 KB



### FundraiserFlyer BJ.pdf

Click here for fundraiser for ProjectLIT at THS

Download  
6.8 MB

## Maryland 529 College Savings Options

### Maryland 529 College Savings Options

The State of Maryland offers two 529 college savings options to help families save and reduce the need for burdensome student loans. Maryland 529, formerly College Savings Plans of Maryland, can help give the families in your schools a jump start on their college savings for as little as \$25 a month. The Maryland Prepaid College Trust allows a family to lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's prices, with flexible payment plans. Additionally, low and middle income families may be eligible to receive a \$250 or \$500 State Contribution. To see the program details and income limitations go to:

<https://maryland529.com/Save4College>.

[Click here](#) for more information about the Maryland 529 Plans, or refer to the attachments for sample documents, details on how to request flyers for distribution or to schedule a presentation for your staff or your schools. **The program's application deadline is May 31st.**

## Summer Enrichment Opportunities

### University of Maryland TERP Discovery

<https://oes.umd.edu/middle-high-school-students/terp-discovery>.

7th and 8th graders get a 2-week preview of college life with our Terp Discovery Program. Students attend classes, take field trips, complete coursework and more.

**“Terp Discovery** welcomes academically talented middle school students to an outstanding learning opportunity at the University of Maryland. For two weeks, students expand their skills and experience an early immersion into campus life. Terp Discovery is designed for students to challenge themselves, develop social skills, and discover the possibilities at UMD.

**Terp Discovery** scholars are exposed to intensive learning through high standards and expectations. In the classroom, innovative instructors encourage creative problem solving as students attend class and work on projects. Open to rising 7 and 8 grade students, acceptance is competitively based on academic performance and recommendation.”

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### Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted & Talented Students

[www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters)

Maryland Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students are sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education and are held in locations throughout the state.

**Students:** Explore space science, global languages and cultures, or help save the Chesapeake Bay ecosystems. Have you ever explored the endless possibilities studying the humanities, writing, mathematics, science, or civic leadership? If you are a gifted and talented student, then we have summer opportunities designed just for you.

## Teens on Campus Programs

### · **Teens at Monroe**

Career Exploration Camps at Frederick Community College:

<https://frederick.augusoft.net//index.cfm?method=templates.CustomTemplatePreview&ContentID=253&>

Middle and high school teens are invited to explore future career interests in one or more weeklong morning programs at the Monroe Center this summer.

### · **Explore STEM: LEGO, Technology, Robotics and more!**

Programs feature unique learning opportunities for participants including computer coding, video game design, LEGO® robotics and so much more. In the spring and fall, Saturday classes offer a selection of one-day learning opportunities. During the summer, week-long morning and afternoon programs take place from mid-June to early August with topics focusing on science, technology, creative & culinary arts, literature & cultures and health & wellness.

[https://frederick.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassListing.ClassListingDisplay&int\\_category\\_id=7&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=101&int\\_catalog\\_id=](https://frederick.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassListing.ClassListingDisplay&int_category_id=7&int_sub_category_id=101&int_catalog_id=)

· For a full summer listing see the PDF:

<https://frederick.augusoft.net/Customers/Frederick/files/2019%20Youth%20Summer.pdf>

Please email [Christine.Brown@fcps.org](mailto:Christine.Brown@fcps.org) if you have questions about summer programs or need assistance with the application process.

## NJROTC Program



Are You Interested in gaining leadership skills?

Working in a Team environment?

The Naval Junior Reserves Officer Training Corps (NJROTC)

Program at Governor Thomas Johnson High School may be right for you.

Please visit <http://patriotnjrotc.com> to learn about joining and applying to the NJROTC Program.

Returning cadets are encouraged to reapply for the upcoming school year.

Please contact Chief Rodrigues ([Michael.Rodrigues@fcps.org](mailto:Michael.Rodrigues@fcps.org))

or Commander Gillespie ([Jeremy.Gillespie@fcps.org](mailto:Jeremy.Gillespie@fcps.org))

for additional information or any questions.

## Boys and Girls Club at BCMS

"Need a plan for the summer!!!! Come to the Boys & Girls Club. The Middle School Camp at the Club is a cool exciting place for your child to spend time this summer. In collaboration with Frederick Community College Monroe Centers called "Kids & Teens on Campus," members will have a great time exploring many careers. Each session is a week long and there is 4 different sessions. In addition, your child will participate in swimming and fun field trips!!! Our summer program is an affordable way for kids to make friends, learn new things and just have fun. The total cost of The Club is a \$1,000. With payments of \$100 Deposit, and 3 separate payments of \$300. Included in the price is the sessions at FCC, going to the pool twice a week, lunch and snack everyday and field trips once a week. The dates are July 1st to August 16th.

Contact Suzanne to register 240-831-4330, 301-600-1875

[Suzannes@bgcfc.org](mailto:Suzannes@bgcfc.org)

If you have more questions about the summer program or the cost contact Suzanne.

Wayne Toms

# Welcome to the Ballenger Creek Middle School Health Room!

**Frederick County Health Department / Frederick County Public Schools**

Health room hours: 7:45am-3:15pm

Phone number: 240-236-5708

Registered Nurse: Rebecca Montes, RN

Health Room Technician: Briony Hill, HRT

School Health Services in Frederick County Public Schools are delivered by the Frederick County Health Department, utilizing a cluster model of care. School nurses are Registered Nurses (RN) who serve as the leader of the school health team and oversee the health room in 2-3 schools. A dedicated Health Room Technician (HRT) is assigned to each school health room and carry out day to day operations.

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### **Note to parents of student with food allergies -**

Please assume at any school events, such as PBIS events and other celebrations, that food may be offered or consumed. Your child is welcome to bring their own snack to these events, if they do not feel comfortable, or are unable, to consume what is offered.

