

# BCMS Bulldog Bulletin

Bulldogs Lead

## BCMS Calendar

### IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

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.](#)





Lip Sync Battle.pdf

BCMS LIP SYNC BATTLE JUNE 14, 2019 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Download  
153.5 KB

## *FCPS Calendar Handbook 2018-2019*



### Announcements from Principal Beck

June 8, 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.

### Final Report Cards

Attention Parents:

Final Report cards will be mailed home the week of July 2nd. There will be no pick-up dates this year. Our building will be under construction at the start of summer to create a vestibule at our entrance to increase security. Please check your HAC account to verify that your mailing address is correct. Please contact our Registrar Mrs. Lotoya Gee immediately at [Lotoya.Gee@fcps.org](mailto:Lotoya.Gee@fcps.org) or 240-236-5710 with any questions. We want to assure that you will receive your students final report card and any important information sent by mail for the 2019-2020 school year.

### 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

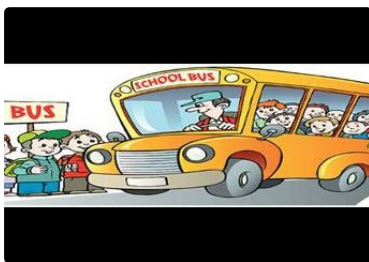
Inclement Weather?

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 27 to May 31**

### Monday

**Grade 6** ----School Closed

**Grade 7** --- -School Closed

**Grade 8** ----School Closed

**Total** -----School Closed

### Tuesday

**Grade 6** ----88.77%

**Grade 7** --- -93.36%

**Grade 8** ----94.35%

**Total** -----92.17%

### Wednesday

**Grade 6** --- -94.57%

**Grade 7** ----95.94%

**Grade 8** ----93.99%

**Total** -----94.82%

### Thursday

**Grade 6** --- 94.93%

**Grade 7** ----97.42%

**Grade 8** --- 96.47%

**Total** -----96.27%

### Friday

**Grade 6** --- 87.68%

**Grade 7** --- 88.56%

**Grade 8** --- 85.16%

**Total** -----87.11%

## Community Liaison Corner

Hello Families,

Please see the information below for some helpful summer information.

### Summer Resources:

**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>

**Frederick County Parks & Recreation** offers discount tickets to several amusement parks in the region. Please visit their website for parks and details.

<https://www.recreator.com/564/Amusement-Park-Tickets>

**Free Food Distribution**, Open to everyone. Every second Saturday of every month. First Missionary Baptist Church, 6430 Jefferson Pike, Frederick. Call 301-662-3110 for times.

**Free Food Distribution**, Open to everyone. Second and Fourth Saturday of every month. Emmanuel Trinity Lutheran Church, 4004 Ballenger Creek Pike, Frederick, Open 10:00 to Noon



**Harvest Market**, 620 N. Market St., Bernard Brown Center/YMCA Training Kitchen, every Wednesday, 3:00-6:00 (\$7 for \$15 worth of fresh fruits and vegetables)

**June 22nd, Breakfast on the Farm**, Valley-Ho Farm in Middletown, MD. A family event offering a full breakfast & interactive walking tour of the farm. 9:00am-1pm. RSVP for your FREE Tickets 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

## 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

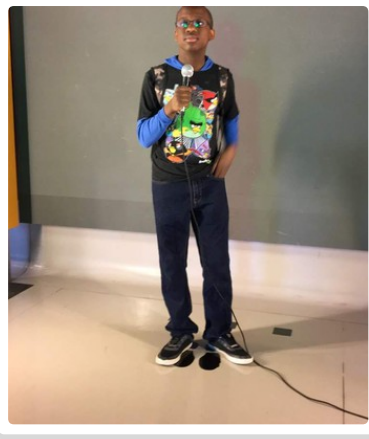
We are looking forward to celebrating the successes of our students as they end their first year of middle school!

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

7th grade end of the year event "Survival of the fitnesses " is June 19th.

We want to thank all the parents that have supported 7th grade this year. We truly appreciated all your support .



Seventh Grade Field  
Trip



Seventh Grade Field  
Trip

## 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

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

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### 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

Site Director BGCFC at BCMS

## 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.