



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 16 BMS PTA Meeting, 6pm BMS Library
- 17 MAPS Testing, 6th Grade Math
- 18 MAPS Testing, 7th Grade Math
- 19 MAPS Testing, 8th Grade Math

MAY

- 4 BMS BLOCK PARTY, After School
- 14-17 SOL Testing
- 21 BMS PTA Meeting, 6pm BMS Library
- 21-24 SOL Testing
- 25 Last Collection of Box Tops
- 28 Memorial Day, School Closed
- 30 SOL Testing

JUNE

- 1 8th Grade Dance
- 11 Stepping Up Ceremony, JHS
- 13 Early Release
- 14 Early Release
- 15 Last Day of School
Summer Break Begins

=====

Stay Up to Date! Follow Us!



@Berkeley_PTA



Instagram

Berkeley Middle PTA



twitter

@berkeleymiddlepta

Questions or comments? Contact the Bulldog Press Editor, Brooke Carr at brookecarr80@yahoo.com.

President News

We hope you all had a terrific Spring Break! We're excited to be back looking forward to warm weather and fun PTA events!

We are looking for volunteers for next year's Committee Chairs and Executive Board. We need your help to fill a number of key positions on the 2018-19 board. Being a volunteer in the PTA is a great way to support your student's school, know what's happening, and make terrific friendships! To learn more, and to offer your support, contact Lori Jacobson jacobson.lori@gmail.com or Brooke Carr brookecarr80@yahoo.com

Our next PTA meeting is Monday, April 16th at 6PM in the Berkeley Middle School Library. We'll be recognizing the Mathcounts students that won and made it to regionals! We'll also be discussing our upcoming events, teacher hospitality plans, and vote on mini grant requests from the teachers. This means we need a quorum. Come and find out what's happening at Berkeley!

Thank you to everyone that went to Papa Murphy's and Moe's Spirit Nights! We raised \$200! Those were the last ones of this school year. Thanks for participating and supporting the PTA!

Our Annual Block Party will be May 4th afterschool. Please check out this link to see what is needed. It ranges from volunteer positions to donations. It's a big event and the students have a blast! Any help is appreciated.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c45aeae29aaf85-block>

We can't wait to see you at our fun events and meetings!

Vicki Hunt

BMS PTA President

Vhunt3@gmail.com

Want to know how to help BMS in easy ways! Check out this link!

<https://wjccschools.org/bms/2017/11/21/please-help-the-pta/>

PTA Nominating Committee

BMS PTA

VOLUNTEER TO LEAD

SHARE YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

Volunteer to lead a committee, support an event, or serve as an officer of the BMS PTA.

BERKELEY MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Nominate yourself. Nominate a friend.

MAKE YOUR SCHOOL SHINE!

Make new friends. Make a difference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Lori Jacobson | jacobson.lori@gmail.com

Brooke Carr | brookecarr80@yahoo.com

HOW DOES THE PTA HELP BERKELEY?

FALL EVENT

Welcome Back
Bulldogs!

BLOCK PARTY

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Lunches
School Supplies
Appreciation Week

MINI GRANTS

Support Classroom
Projects and Fieldtrips

REFLECTIONS

National Contest for
BMS Student Artists

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Spirit Wear and Spirit
Nights

8TH GRADE DANCE

A Note from the School Counseling Department:

Attention rising Seventh and Eighth grade families: you should have received a copy of your student's elective course request for the 2018-2019 school year. If you would like to make any changes to your student's elective, please complete and return your student's course change request form no later than April 13, 2018.

Our rising Ninth grade student schedules will arrive during the week of April 23 2018, If you would like to make changes to your student's schedule for 2018-2019, please complete the enclosed schedule change request form and return it to your child's counselor no later than May 4, 2018.

What's Happening in Sixth Grade?

The 6th grade Science students will be finishing up the Weather Unit after Spring Break and moving on to Space. Mr. Cosby, our computer guru, taught an interactive technology weather lesson that helped tie in all the different aspects of the weather unit. The students were engaged and participated with enthusiasm. Start saving your shoeboxes for solar ovens at the end of the space unit. Please make sure your student has a pair of ear buds or earphones.

In History, we have just finished our unit on "A New Nation," learning about the Articles of Confederation, Constitutional Convention, Constitution, Bill of Rights and the first five Presidents. We are beginning our study of Westward Expansion, which will continue after Spring Break.

In 6th Grade Visions English, we have finished up our poetry unit with some amazing poetry writing by the students. During the 4th marking period, we will continue our exploration of the theme of heroism by reading books in Book Club about every day heroes. In addition, we will be reviewing text structures in nonfiction, as well as incorporating new vocabulary jamming on vocabulary.com. MAP tests and SOLs await us!

The 6th grade Math students have completed the unit on solving one-step equations and are now working on solving inequalities. They will move into reading circle graphs and comparing the mean, median, and mode. Students will start their review of the year by taking on-line Jefferson Lab quizzes.

The 6th graders taking 7th grade math just finished their unit on Quadrilaterals and Surface Area/Volume of Rectangular Prisms and Cylinders. They will begin a "fun" unit on Transformations – students will slide, flip, rotate, shrink, and enlarge figures on the coordinate plane!!

The 6th grade team has once again planned for our annual end-of-the-year June field trips to Jamestown 4H Camp, Yorktown, and Virginia Living Museum. Lots of fun activities at the end of the year!!

What's New in Seventh Grade?

Social Studies classes are currently studying World War II. Students have been able to access a variety of resources including interactive maps, videos, examples of propaganda, and primary sources. Our ITRT, Paul Cosby, has helped put together a lot of multi-media presentations using Nearpod. Our last two units of study will be the Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement.

Readers from all three grade levels had the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments with a special field trip to Carlton Farms March 28. They learned about the history of fox hunting. They also got to pet the horses, crack whips, and played with the hounds.

Math classes are learning about transformations...translation, rotation, reflection, and dilations.

We can't believe it is already the final quarter of the year. Please continue to check supplies like paper, pencils, and notebooks. This time of year they tend to get sparse! Also, please contact one of the seventh grade teachers if you would be willing to help collect prizes for our grab bag game at the upcoming block party! Thanks and Happy Spring!

Eighth Grade News!

Getting Ready for High School

The 8th grade students have been working busily in all their classes. This time of year is punctuated with various standardized tests that we use to measure the growth of our students. The 8th grade writing SOL test was administered over two days in March. Students will get the results back for this test in late April or early May. Results of their SOL tests will be used to make scheduling decisions in high school next year.

Additionally, all Berkeley students are taking the MAP test in both English and Math over the next two weeks (Thursday, April 12th, and Thursday, April 19th, respectfully). The MAP test is used to measure students' progress throughout the year and specifically at this time of year to target students' strengths and weaknesses in the final weeks leading up to the SOL tests, which students will take in May.

The beginning of the 4th 9 Weeks grading period is a great time for students to re-focus their efforts for the final push of the year. Some 8th graders are taking classes for high school credit, which will appear on their high school transcripts. These grades will "follow" them for not only their high school years, but through college and into their working lives as well. High schools are frequently contacted to provide transcripts for former students years and even decades after they graduate.

All students in 8th grade are being taught content and behavior that are designed to make them successful in high school. Parents can help them understand the importance of finishing this year purposefully and with an eye to their future.

8th Grade Dance

8th Grade dance scheduled for Friday June 1st!!!! *The dance is for 8th grade students of Berkeley Middle School only.* It is a fun celebration for the 8th grade students that had good standing, DJ, photo booth and lots of fun.

Looking for donations of small amount gift cards (\$5- \$10) to give away at the dance. If you would like to contribute, please bring them to the front office at BMS in a sealed envelope to the attention of Amy Coleman or Laurie Adcock, 8th grade dance chairs.

If you would like more information please email amygad@cox.net or Laurieadcock@ymail.com

On Stage!

The theatre department would like to thank our BMS community who so wonderfully supported our recent production of *The Little Mermaid Jr.*

We have an exciting upcoming event May 8th. Our advanced Theatre classes will be performing a Night of One-Act Plays followed by an induction ceremony for qualified candidates into our International Junior Thespian Troupe. This is an Honor Society for Theatre which recognizes theatre and academic excellence together. The performances are free and open to the public but we will be taking donations for a school in Liberia, Africa as a part of our Thespian Troupe Service Project.

Moreover, The Thespians will be hosting a catered dinner prior to the performances to raise money for the Liberian school as well. The dinner is a wonderful way to support this charitable venture but is optional.



On Stage! (continued)



**BMS Theatre Night of One-Acts &
Thespian Induction Ceremony**

May 8, 2018 7pm

The Audition by Don Zolidis



Performed by 8th Advanced

Directed by Mason Lane & Damaris Arias



All The Eases by Alan Haehnel

Performed by Selected 7th Grade Class

International Junior Thespian Society



Induction and Officer Installation

A Fundraising Dinner for our Thespian Service Project will be held prior to the performances @6pm. The service project will raise money for a school in Liberia, Africa. Dinner ticket required .



BMS PTA Block Party

Block Party

Check your calendars to be sure you have changed the date for Block Party to Friday, May 4, 3:15-6:00 p.m.

With that date change comes the return of the rock wall to the after-school festival. Human Foosball and a DIY selfie photo booth are new additions to the annual lineup of a dunk tank, games, food, prizes, and loads of FUN!

Tickets will go on sale the week of April 30. Wristbands will be \$10.00 for unlimited amusements. Tickets for concessions, games, and booth activities will be \$1.00 for 2 tickets. A flyer will be distributed via email and posted on the BMS website closer to the festival date with more information. Permission slips will be sent home with students by April 27. All students staying after school for Block Party must purchase tickets and return a signed permission slip. Additional tickets will be on sale during the event.

Our PTA Block Party Committee is working to make this event a great time for all. Plenty of adult and high school volunteers are needed, so go to the Sign-Up Genius link to find one or more ways to help that fits your schedule: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0c45aeae29aaf85-block>.

See you on the 4th for an afternoon of FUN!

Collect Box Tops for Education – and Win!



Remember to clip and save "Box Tops for Education" labels--each one is worth 10 cents for Berkeley! Box Tops are on hundreds of products, including Ziploc, Kleenex, Cheerios, Progresso Soup, and Mott's Applesauce. Send your collected Box Tops in to your student's home room teacher by **May 25th** This will be the final collection date for this school year.

Now is a Great Time to Join the PTA!

Please Join Berkeley's PTA

Facebook: Berkeley Middle PTA Twitter: @Berkeley_PTA Instagram: @berkeleymiddlepta

The PTA means Parents, Teachers, and Staff working together to benefit all Berkeley Middle School students. PTA is the oldest and largest child advocacy association in America. Today's PTA is comprised of 5 million parents, teachers, grandparents, caregivers, foster parents, and other caring adults who share a commitment to improving the education, health, and safety of all children. **We speak with one voice for every child.**

The BMS PTA is involved in many important activities, including sponsoring programs, providing volunteers, producing the 8th Grade Dance, providing teacher mini-grants, and supplying various kinds of equipment for the school. Statistics prove that children do better when their parents are involved both at school and at home. Grades are higher, test scores rise, self-esteem grows, and schools improve. A simple way to get involved is to **join the PTA.**

Membership in the PTA requires an annual payment of **\$5.00 per member. Parents and staff are encouraged to join.**

To continue to provide the current level of programs and sponsorships, we need your help. **Please join online or fill out the bottom portion of this form and return it to BMS along with payment of \$5.00 per member.** If writing a check, please make it payable to **BMS PTA.** We want to thank everyone for their support in previous years and hope you can support us again this year!

Jomie Wilding
PTA Membership Chair

The most convenient way to join is online at: member.pta.org/join

If you prefer, you can return this form to your child's homeroom teacher. Please consider rounding up to \$10 to include a \$5.00 donation to the PTA. Copy this sheet for your 2017 tax records.

Member Name _____

Member Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____ Homeroom Teacher _____

Total # of Members _____ Amount of \$ Enclosed (\$5.00 per member) _____

Yes, I would like to volunteer for the PTA.