Blockbuster 8th Grade Dance on Saturday!

The 8th Grade Dance is on Saturday, June 1, 6:00 - 9:00 pm at Berkeley. This year’s theme - Movie Night: Hollywood Style - has us rolling out the red carpet for our 8th grade stars.

There is a lot of fun in store for attendees. We have a nice spread of food and desserts plus a candy station, DJ, dancing, photo booth, corn hole and more! And of course, there will be lots of popcorn since this is a "Movie Night: Hollywood Style."

Tickets are $10 and will be on sale during 8th grade lunches May 28-31. Please also check out the 8th Grade Dance Sign Up https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4eafad28aa8-bms8th to see where you can VOLUNTEER and/or DONATE. You can even sign up to be the paparazzi, snapping pics of the stars as they arrive and walk down the red carpet!

Please spread the word to all the 8th graders you know. We want everyone to share in the fun!

As we write this, the dance has not yet taken place but we are excited to celebrate our BMS 8th grade stars on Saturday, June 1st. We really appreciate all the parents who have donated gift cards for door prizes and for those who are volunteering to help with decorating and chaperoning at different stations. We have a nice spread of food and desserts plus a candy station, DJ, dancing, photo booth, corn hole and more! And of course, there will be lots of popcorn since this is a "Movie Night: Hollywood Style."

Christy & Skip Jensen, Mike & Katy Loy, Dance co-chairs
A Message from the PTA President

Hello Berkeley Families:

As the school year comes to a close, it’s a good to time to reflect on all the good work accomplished by the BMS PTA this year.

- We began the year with a highly successful membership drive which drew 211 new and returning PTA members.
- We spread school spirit from day one with spirit wear and spirit nights.
- Our Harvest Festival welcomed students and families to celebrate the fall season and the start of the school year.
- We ran a successful I Believe in Berkeley direct donation fundraising campaign, which culminated in our annual Turkey Trot in-school fun run.
- We held nine PTA meetings which were open to all Berkeley families.
- At one of those meetings, we acknowledged all the outstanding student artists who participated in the 50th annual national PTA Reflections Arts Contest.
- Through our Snack Pantry program, we partnered with Erase the Need to provide healthy snacks for BMS students so that hunger is not a barrier to learning.
- We provided teacher and staff appreciation events throughout the year and during Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week.
- We maintained an active membership in the WJCC PTA Council, and in the Virginia and National PTAs.
- We distributed funds to support classroom projects through our Mini Grants Program. This year’s Mini Grants provided funds for hands-on science learning activities (microscope slides and dissection kits), reading materials to support English language learners, a read-and-ride fitness bike for the library, preparatory materials for the Math Counts team, gym equipment for Fun Fridays, and much more.
- We were one of 200 PTAs nationwide to receive a $1000 PTA Connected with Facebook Grant to host a Digital Families Community Event.
- Our 25th annual Block Party was a smash hit with students who enjoyed games, inflatables, DJ and karaoke, food, friends and fun on a beautiful spring day.

As I write this, final preparations are being made for the 8th Grade Dance, which this year has the theme Movie Night: Hollywood Style. This special event celebrates our 8th graders who are leaving Berkeley behind and stepping up to high school.

All of these programs and events were made possible by the active commitment of our PTA’s officers, committee chairs, volunteers, donors, and families. We are very proud of this good work, and we look forward to continuing it next year.

My best,
Lori Jacobson
2018-19 BMS PTA President
Spirit Night – June 6 at Sal’s By Victor

Please join your fellow Bulldogs at the final BMS Spirit Night of the year!

Where:  Sal’s By Victor – 1242 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA (Midtown Row, next to Food Lion)

When: Thursday, June 6th. Dine In or Take Out from 3:00 – 10:00 pm.

Mention Berkeley Middle School to the Cashier when you check out. A portion of proceeds will be donated to the BMS PTA.

Announcing Our New PTA Officers

Congratulations to our newly elected 2019-20 BMS PTA Officers:

President  Lori Jacobson
Vice President  Vickie Sanchez
Treasurer  Ashley Russell
Secretary  Cou Klugh

Reflections Theme for 2019-20

Do you enjoy art, music and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films and taking photos? Then join us and have fun unleashing your inner artist with PTA Reflections.

It’s not too early to start thinking about your entry for the next Reflections competition in the Fall. The theme for the 2019-2020 school year is Look Within.

If you are interested in helping to judge entries please contact Brooke Carr at BrookeCarr80@yahoo.com
Collect Box Tops for Education this Summer
Support our School!

BOX TOPS: What Could We Earn?

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<th># of Students</th>
<th>Box Tops per month</th>
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<th>Box Top Value</th>
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<td>$3,000 *BMS goal</td>
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</table>

Collect Box Tops during the Summer!

✓ Box tops are on hundreds of products you probably already buy
✓ Clip and collect box tops in Ziploc baggies or envelopes

Counselor’s Connection

Expunge Paperwork

As the end of the school year winds down, students may have struggled in high school credit bearing courses. Students can expunge, or remove, grades from their transcripts so low grades will not affect their high school GPA. We recommend students expunge grades from high school credit bearing courses if they have a **C or lower** in a course. Here are the courses students can expunge from their transcript:

- Algebra 1, Sequence 1 (math elective credit in high school)
- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Spanish 1, Sequence 2
- French 1, Sequence 2
- German 1, Sequence 2
- Latin 1, Sequence 2

If a student expunges a grade, students MUST repeat the course the following school year. We will visit several classes this week to give seventh and eighth grade students copies of the expunge paperwork. The deadline for students to return expunge paperwork to their counselor by **June 14, 2019**. Families can pick up copies of the expunge paperwork in the school counseling office. We will also upload the expunge paperwork to the Berkeley website. If students do not turn in expunge paperwork, they will not have the ability to remove the grade at a later date.
Gifted Testing
If you believe your student would benefit from our gifted and talented program (GATE), we will offer another round of testing in June. Parents can print a copy of the referral form and parent consent for testing form by going to the WJCC Gifted page. If a student tests into the gifted program, we will place students in GATE courses for English and History. Please submit your forms to your student's counselor as soon as possible. We will offer the next round of testing in August.

Math Acceleration Testing
Do you have a student who LOVES math? If you believe your student has the skill to move to the next level of math, register your student for math acceleration testing. Here are the upcoming dates and times for the math acceleration test:

- June 6, 2019 (Berkeley Middle School): 8:45 am to 11:00 am
- August 13, 2019 (Central Office): 8:45 am to 11:00 am
- September 12, 2019 (Berkeley Middle School) 8:45 am to 11:00 am

You can get a copy of the registration form by visiting the WJCC Math Course Acceleration page. Please submit the form to your student's counselor 48 hours before the test date. We upload all information into our WJCC database. Dr. Miani (our secondary math placement coordinator) contacts families to finalize testing information. Please arrive to the testing site by 8:40 am!

Save the Date!
We are excited to welcome our newest Bulldogs this summer! New student orientation is August 28, 2019 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We will also have BMS Open House for returning Bulldogs on August 28, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve your students and families this year. Our last day for the 2018-2019 school year is June 20, 2019. We will return from summer break on July 30, 2019. Have an incredible summer!

Ms. Ewing (A-K)
Dr. Dodson (L-Z)

Fallon K. Dodson, Ed.D.
School Counselor (L-Z)
Berkeley Middle School
1118 Ironbound Road
Williamsburg, VA 23188
757-229-8051
Stay Up to Date! Follow Us!

@Berkeley_PTA Berkeley Middle PTA @berkeleymiddlepta berkeleymiddlepta@gmail.com

What's Happening in Sixth Grade?

The 6th grade team will be traveling to the Virginia Air and Space Museum and the 4-H camp next week to end their year. There will also be a picnic occurring on Wednesday, June 13. Look for an email to see how you can help us make this special!!

Science - To Infinity and Beyond
The 6th grade science classes are exploring space. From the characteristics of the different planets, what makes a dwarf planet, and all the “space junk” in-between. Ask your child why Pluto is no longer a planet, and what criteria determines if something is a planet. This will tie in nicely with our upcoming field trip to the Air and Space Museum in Hampton. Our exploration does not stop there. We will be looking at our natural resources and how humans impact these resources. Start sending in your spare shoeboxes so we can make solar ovens as one of our final lab activities.

Math
The 6th graders will end the year researching timely videos and on-line math games to be used in math units next year. They will be presenting their findings via PowerPoint presentations on Friday. Next week we will work on a tessellation project!

History
History students completed their Westward Expansion unit and are learning about the Civil War, as we head to the end of the year. Students are learning about issues causing the Civil War, important people and leaders, as well as strategic battles.

English
Students are completing the novel Freak the Mighty and presenting follow-up projects in the areas of medicine, King Arthur, crimes and punishments, bullying, and learning disabilities. English is also working in collaboration with our librarian, Tonia Eriksen, our reading specialist, Shari Vandygriff, and the community to get every sixth grade student a brand new book for the summer. Students were able to choose books of interest.
What’s New in Seventh Grade?

Mrs. Jones’ English classes are finishing *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown with a project connecting the story of the 1936 Gold Medal Olympic rowing team with other Olympians’ stories. Students will also be videoing performances of *The Tempest*, *Macbeth*, or *Twelfth Night*.

Social Studies classes finished our Cold War unit and are currently studying Vietnam and the Civil Rights Movement. Primary sources are rich and widely available and include a lot of great music and compelling videos. Students will practice using historical perspective in discussions about how the events of the past continue to reverberate today.

Science classes are studying plants and seed germination. Students planted seeds and monitored germination time and growth rates. Some students saw their fledgling plants grow as much as 4 centimeters in one day. Students are also studying instinctive and learned behaviors in animals. They are playing string games like Witches Broom and Cup and Saucer. Ultimately, they will learn how to make “Jacob’s Ladder” and develop an understanding of how repeated trials lead to mastering the skill.

Math classes are working on mini-projects that incorporate some of the skills they have learned this year. One of the mini-projects involves creating tessellations. This project will allow them to tie together math skills with an artistic flair!

We wish all our students and their families a happy and restful summer!

Eighth-Grade News

The eighth grade teachers would like to recognize the following outstanding students: Bryan Aparicio, Elyce Gilstrap, Caroline Peabody, Jacy Ramos, Larissa Smart, Saul Jacobo, and David Sun.

Stepping Up will be held on Monday, June 10 at 6 pm at Jamestown High School. Students will need to arrive at Jamestown by 5:30 pm to prepare for the ceremony. All students will receive 4 tickets for family and friends during their homeroom class the week of June 3. Students should wear ceremony appropriate attire.

On Tuesday, June 11, the eighth grade will have a Field Day to celebrate the end of the school year. Field Day will be a predominantly outdoor event, so please check the weather and ensure that your student is dressed appropriately; the school dress code still applies. Students will be able to participate in various games and enjoy time with their friends. Food will be provided for lunch; please be on the lookout for information about donating time to make Field Day happen.
8th Grade Stepping Up

Congratulations to all 8th Graders who will be Stepping Up to High School!

The 8th grade stepping up program will be held on Monday, June 10th at 6:00 PM. Students should plan to arrive at Jamestown High School at 5:30 PM.

Students will get tickets during the week of June 3rd in their homeroom classes. Each student will receive 4 tickets for family and guests. We encourage those students who will not use their entire allotment of tickets to give them to friends that may need additional. If there is a need for additional tickets, please email the principal with the request. Seating is limited based on capacity and additional tickets are not guaranteed.

Students who receive disciplinary action leading up to this event will lose the privilege of attending this event.

Library/ITRT/Makerspace

The BMS Library and BMS Makerspace are pleased to announce our PTA grant award for the “Read and Ride” stationary bike. The students have been stopping by to take a spin in the library. This innovative program allows students to burn energy or pedal away stress while reading or working. “Read and Ride” makes learning both active and interesting in the BMS library!

In April, we wrapped up another successful session of the Girls’ Coding Club in partnership with the William & Mary Society of Women in Computing.

Summer Reading is off to a great start with Books for Bulldogs. With the help of community sponsors, we are excited to send a new book home with each of our 6th grade students to read over the summer. Let’s have a ball reading!

Student laptop collection will take place in the Tech Training Room on the following dates:

- 8th Grade: Tuesday, June 4
- 7th Grade: Wednesday, June 5
- 6th Grade: Thursday, June 6
- Make-ups: Friday, June 7

6th and 7th grade students will need to keep and hold onto their computer bags until next Fall while 8th grade students will turn in their computer bag with their computer.

Library books are due Thursday, May 30. Overdue notices will go home Friday, May 31. Happy summer reading!

Brought to you by your BMS Library & ITRT Team: Tonia Eriksen, Paul Cosby & Jenny Farley. Questions? Contact Tonia Eriksen, tonia.eriksen@wjccschools.org
It’s Never Too Late to Join the PTA!

Welcome to the 2018-2019 School Year!
Join the BMS Parent Teacher Association

Register online at member.pta.org
or submit the form below!

9/24/18: PTA Meeting, 6-7pm
10/25/18: Harvest Festival, 6-8pm
11/19/18: PTA Meeting, 6-7pm
5/3/19: Block Party, 3-6pm

10/15/18: PTA Meeting, 6-7pm
11/16/18: Turkey Trot, 8:30-1:30pm
12/14/18: Winter Dance, 6-8pm
5/31/19: 8th Grade Dance, 7-10pm

Contact us at berkeylemmiddlepta@gmail.com, wjcschools.org/bms/families/pta/ & Follow us on Facebook: Berkeley Middle PTA, Instagram @berkeylemmiddlepta & Twitter @Berkeley_PTA

Please retain this top sheet for your information or online registration.

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Berkeley Middle School PTA Membership Form 2018-2019

Please tell us how you would like to get involved, thank you!

- **Member** (no time commitment) Pay $5 per parent, teacher, or other supporter
- **Member + Volunteer** (I will help when I can! Add me to your volunteer email list.)
- **Member + Committee** (Reach out to me to find out my interests, skills, talents that can help Berkeley’s PTA! I am interested to assist with __________.)
- **Volunteer** (I want to help, but paying isn’t possible right now. Add me to the volunteer list!)
- **Support Berkeley’s PTA with an additional donation! Donation Amount $______**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total # Memberships: ______</th>
<th>Total Amount Paid: $__________</th>
</tr>
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- Payment by □ Cash or □ Check to BMS PTA (Check #__________)
- Payment by online registration at member.pta.org

First Name: ___________________________ Last Name: ___________________________

- Parent/Family
- BMS Teacher/Staff
- Friend/Community Leader

Mailing Address: ______________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ______ Zip: ___________________________

Email Address: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Additional Member Name: ______________________________________________________

- Parent/Family
- BMS Teacher/Staff
- Friend/Community Leader

Additional Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Student Name: ___________________________ Grade / Homeroom Teacher: __ / __________

Student Name: ___________________________ Grade / Homeroom Teacher: __ / __________

*Return this bottom sheet with any payment to the PTA, school office, or homeroom teacher.*