



# Blair Bulletin

Official Newsletter of JAMES BLAIR MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES

February 10, 2019

From the Principal's Desk

Good evening Parents,

My name is Corey Murphy and I will be the acting principal for James Blair Middle School for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. I currently serve as the Chief of Staff for WJCC schools where my duties include strategic planning, long range facility planning, division equity initiatives, and supervision of the student services department. Prior to coming to Williamsburg in 2017, I spent five years as the principal of Beaufort High School in South Carolina. Before that, I was the principal of Great Falls Middle/High School in Chester, South Carolina. Combined, I bring over 16 years of experience in school leadership to this position.

Since this past October, I have also been assisting in an advisory capacity at JBMS, so many of the teachers and students are already familiar with me. This time has allowed me to become familiar with the school and what I perceive as our strengths and areas of opportunity. While I am still assessing where we are and our path ahead, I can say that I have been extremely impressed with the skill and professionalism of our faculty and staff as well as the enthusiasm and potential of our students. I plan to leverage these strengths to move the school forward and reaffirm the trust you have placed in us to provide your children with a safe and orderly learning environment.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we implement the necessary changes that will help to establish the structures, procedures, and culture of a high performing school. If you haven't already done so, I encourage each of you to become a part of the JBMS PTSA as I will be detailing more of our progress at their upcoming meetings.

I look forward to meeting you and receiving your input as we work together to Elevate beyond Excellence!

Sincerely,

Corey J. Murphy, Ph.D.

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Pictured to the right: Mr. Patterson and Emma Walker at her 1st District Chorus Festival on Saturday, February 9. Way to go, Emma!



**Afterschool Help  
Tuesday & Thursday**

**3:15 - 4:45  
3rd Floor Hub**

Students are invited to stay after school with teachers, tutors and curriculum specialists for support with their homework or concepts in math and reading.

As we move into spring these success sessions will become valuable as students seek to achieve their yearly academic goals.

Jennifer.stanley@wjccschools.org for more details.

## Mark Your Calendar

**03.19 8th Grade Writing SOL  
Multiple Choice**

**03.20 8th Grade Writing SOL  
Essay**

04.08 - 04.26 Spring MAPS

05.14 - 06.07 Non Writing  
SOL

Thank you for being aware of these dates in your family spring planning.

## Counseling Corner

Rising 9th Grade Course Requests:

Thursday, February 14, all three high schools will visit JBMS from 1-3 p.m. to complete course requests for 9th grade.

Students will receive a pass in their homeroom class.

JBMS Career Day:

Friday, February 15, JBMS will be welcoming 21 community members for our first Career Day . Students will rotate through sessions learning from professionals about their experience and how they apply content they learned in middle school to their current profession.



# Nurses Notes

This month we will focus on ASTHMA, a very common problem in our area. Asthma is seen frequently in school age children, especially in the spring and fall when it is associated with allergies.

If your child has asthma and needs an inhaler at school, download the Virginia Asthma Action Plan (VAAP) from our school website under the clinic page or request one from the clinic and have it filled out by the doctor, sign it and provide it with the inhaler to the school nurse.

You can have the doctor check permission for your child to self- carry and administer the inhaler at school (bottom right corner of the form). It is preferable in middle school to have this box checked so students can carry and self-administer on field trips and at after school athletic practices and games.

Please see Ms. Potts for more information.

## SHIP CLUBS

We are happy to join with the School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) to offer various clubs including Step Team, Soccer Club, Running Club, and Cooking Club.

Any student is welcome to participate.

More information is on our website or contact [maureen.mcfarland@wjccschools.org](mailto:maureen.mcfarland@wjccschools.org).



## JBMS Yearbook

Yearbooks on sale now! \$35

[https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1119204/James-Blair-Middle-School/2019-Yearbook/20181013041635773124/CATALOG\\_SHOP/](https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1119204/James-Blair-Middle-School/2019-Yearbook/20181013041635773124/CATALOG_SHOP/)



## Weekly Reminders

- 02.11 A Day  
Musical Rehearsal
- 02.12 B Day  
Musical Rehearsal  
Yearbook Club  
Homework Club
- 02.13 A Day  
Musical Practice  
Homework Club  
Spring Sport Tryouts
- 02.14 B Day  
Homework Club  
Spring Sport Tryouts
- 02.15 A Day  
Spring Sport Tryouts

Remember  
that  
attendance  
matters!

## Transportation

If there are specific problems with your bus run, please call the main office at the school 603-6565 and report them to transportation 565-0808

## Spring Sports

Alanna Bragg, Head Softball Coach  
ALANNA.BRAGG@WJCCSCHOOLS.ORG  
Burt Baker, Head Baseball Coach  
BURTON.BAKER@BAMRISING.COM

\*Pre-season conditioning Dates: February 7,8,11,12 Time: 3:15-4:45pm

\*Try-outs Dates: February 13,14,15 Time: 3:15-4:45pm

Requirements for all try-outs

1. Completed physical form (must have been completed after May 1, 2018)
2. Satisfactory 2nd quarter grades. No more than 1 F



## Aladdin Jr.

JBMS presents Aladdin Jr.  
Many JBMS choir students are involved in our Spring Musical, Aladdin Jr.

Come out and support our students March 22-24 at Warhill High School!

