

# BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

## AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE WORLD SCHOOL



After four years we can put our construction hats away, watch the turf field and stadium get their finishing touches, and return to B-CC for our home games on *our field*! With the highest number of entering freshmen we've had-- 609 so far, and 2,223 students total, it will be an exciting year full of spirit. Please join us for the grand opening celebration of our new field / stadium on the evening of September 13<sup>th</sup>...more details to come!



Our school's vision is for every student to **access** the rigorous coursework and resources available at B-CC, for all to possess a sense of **belonging** in our school and for all stakeholders to work in **collaboration** with one another, maximizing our potential as a community of learners. *Dr. Jones, Principal*

The **first day of school** for students is **Tuesday, September 3, 2019**. Students should arrive by 7:35 a.m. to have ample time to be in class promptly at 7:45 a.m. On the first day all students will report to their homerooms to get their schedules. Homerooms are assigned by last name and grade level, and homeroom locations for all students will be posted throughout the school.

### **NEW STUDENT INFORMATION, PRINCIPAL'S MEET & GREET and BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

On *Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 4:30 p.m.*, I will hold a **Principal's Meet and Greet** for all families in the main entrance / atrium of the school. There will be light refreshments for all to enjoy, and students and families will be able to walk through the newest spaces of our school.



All ninth graders, as well as any students who are new to B-CC, are invited to **New Student Orientation** on *Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:40 – 11:30 a.m.* School buses will run on the normal [a.m. schedule](#), which can be found in this packet and on the school [website](#). New this year—our PTSA and Educational Foundation have brought a Freshman Transition Program to B-CC called Link Crew, as we welcome students from both Silver Creek and Westland Middle Schools, as well as students from private schools and those who have recently moved to the community.

All freshmen will be divided into small groups of 10 -12 students and assigned to a peer leader who will build connections among the group throughout the school year. Link Crew is an amazing way to help all freshmen immediately become a part of a strong community of students. The August 29<sup>th</sup> orientation day will be the Link Crew kickoff! Students will report to the gym under the direction of our Link Crew leaders. In addition to the exciting team building activities, all new students will receive their schedules and a school tour.

A **New Parent Orientation** is scheduled for the evening of *August 29<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8:00 p.m.* Parents new to B-CC will have the opportunity to visit information tables from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m., and the program begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. I am pleased to be collaborating with Georgette Scott-Nash, our new PTSA President. We will work closely together to help parents stay informed and involved.

**Back-to-School Night** is on *Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>*. The class visits will begin at 7:00 p.m., and parent information tables will be out from 6 – 7 p.m. Parking is very limited so early arrival is strongly recommended. This is an opportunity to meet your child's first semester teachers. Parents will follow their child's class schedule, spending a few minutes meeting each teacher. Your child will bring home a copy of his or her schedule. Please bring the schedule with you to avoid waiting in line to get a copy.

## **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

In high school students take such a wide variety of courses that there is not one set list of supplies. Students should arrive on the first day with a backpack, pens / pencils and paper. Each teacher will provide information on supplies needed for their specific classes.

## **SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS**

If your child has not yet completed his or her summer assignments, please be sure to download the assignments from our [website](#) at:

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/academics/summerassign2019/>

## **STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING (SSL)**

Students must complete 75 hours of Student Service Learning as requirement before graduation. Marie Henry, one of B-CC's counselors, is our SSL coordinator. The deadline for all students who completed SSL during the summer to turn in their [verification forms](#) to Ms. Henry is **Friday, September 27, 2019**.

## **ATHLETICS**

Tryouts for fall sports began on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Updated information about athletics can always be found at <http://barontheletics.net>. [Schedules](#) for games can also be found at [www.countysportszone.com](http://www.countysportszone.com). Winter sport tryouts begin on November 15<sup>th</sup> and spring tryouts begin on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Registration for athletics is now done online, and [instructions](#) can be found on the MCPS website. Dr. Donna Considine, [Donna S Considine@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Donna_S.Considine@mcpsmd.org), is our athletic director. All questions regarding athletics can be directed to our coaches or to Dr. Considine.



## **HOMECOMING**

Our Homecoming football game will be played **on Friday, October 18, 2019 at 7 p.m.** We will play against Gaithersburg HS. The Homecoming Dance will be at B-CC High School in the gym on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **BELL SCHEDULES**

Our classes run from 7:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Traffic around the building during student arrival and dismissal is extraordinarily heavy, so please ensure you and your children allow ample time if you drive them to school. Bell schedules can be found on the school website. Students have seven, 46-minute periods each day, with six minutes passing time in between each class, and lunch from 11:13 – 11:54 a.m. Students are permitted to leave campus for lunch, but it is essential that they return in time for their fifth period classes.

## **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES & FREE/REDUCED MEALS—Online Applications Now Available**

Laura Reese, Cafeteria Manager, **240-740-0419**

The regular price for breakfast for 2019-2020 is \$1.30. Students who received free or reduced meal services will receive breakfast at no cost. The cost for lunch for 2019-2020 is \$2.80. Students who received reduced-price lunches will pay \$ .40.

Free and Reduced-price Meals Services (FARMS) are available to eligible students based upon the family's income. Blank application forms will be sent home *with all students* on the first day of school.

**Households are encouraged to apply for free and reduced meals online at**

<https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application> Students who were eligible to receive FARMS during the 2018-2019 school year will receive free or reduced-price meals until October 16, 2019. All parents must complete a new form to continue meals throughout the 2019-2020 school year.

*Students who qualify for free- or reduced meals might also be eligible for a fee waiver or fee reduction for PSATs, Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests as well as college application fees.* It is important that **all eligible families** apply.

## **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

A school calendar with key dates is enclosed in this mailing. School begins on Tuesday, September 3rd, and the last day of school is Monday, June 15, 2020. School will be closed for B-CC's graduation to enable all staff members to attend. We expect to find out the graduation date later in the fall. We will announce the Class of 2020 graduation date as soon as we know it.

Families must plan for students to attend school the full day through the end of the school year as we no longer have final exams / exam make-up days. In addition, during the 2019-20 school year **Spring Break** runs from *Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> – Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*. To ensure students do not miss valuable instructional time or assessments, families are asked to make every effort to schedule vacations during school holidays or after the last day of school.

## **COURSE FEES and FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

**Technology, engineering, art, photography** and **music** courses could have fees that cover the cost of component parts of a project that will become student property or items that are for students' personal use. During the first week of school your child will be given a notice about fees due in any of his or her classes. Be sure to **pay course fees within the first week of school** at <http://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/>. The same link can be used to pay students' financial obligations, which carry over from year to year (and from middle to high school). Students with financial obligations will not be permitted to be rostered onto team sports or participate in extracurricular activities (e.g., Homecoming dance, etc.).

## **DROP-OFF / PICK UP LOCATIONS—Student Arrival and Dismissal**

Ensuring that none of our students or staff members, including students who drive, become entangled in an accident with families dropping off, it's important that everyone adhere to procedures for pick-up and drop off. Families who drive their students to school must drop-off and pick-up either on the Chelton Road side of the school (by the auditorium) or off of Pearl St. under the covered parking area. The East-West Highway entrance is the student parking area and the school bus entrance. ***Parents dropping off and picking up their students cannot use the East-West Highway entrance to ensure student drivers and school buses can enter and park safely.***

## **EMERGENCY FORMS**

Parents and guardians are encouraged to update their children's emergency contact information in myMCPS Parent Portal. The instructions for doing so can be found [here](#), or by going to [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dtCrobY\\_Gsw\\_ib3Pzf2dnz5L33Ynd-RImhJTkhVZg/preview](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dtCrobY_Gsw_ib3Pzf2dnz5L33Ynd-RImhJTkhVZg/preview)

The email address parents enter on the emergency forms will be used throughout the school year for all messages from the school. Please ensure that all emergency contact information is up-to-date.

## **TESTING UPDATES**

Our International Baccalaureate Diploma Program is externally monitored, so students who take IB courses in their junior and senior year must take the exam, demonstrating that the IB curriculum is being taught with fidelity. Registration fees will be collected in the fall.



***New this year***—registration for Advanced Placement (AP) tests will occur in the fall. All AP test registrations must be completed by mid-November to avoid incurring a \$40 change fee.

# School Policies

All students are expected to adhere to policies found in the [Student's Guide to Rights and Responsibilities](#) as well as the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Students are also expected to adhere to all specific B-CC policies as written in the [2019-20 B-CC Student Handbook](#). The policies most frequently sought by students and families are listed below:

## **STUDENT ATTENDANCE—Kathleen Allen, Attendance Secretary, 240-740-0409**



Arriving to each class every day **on time at 7:45 a.m.** not only ensures students have continuity of instruction, but also demonstrates students' respect for the time and effort teachers put into planning lessons.

**Parents do not need to call the attendance office for students missing school for less than (3) three consecutive days due to unexpected illness.** Upon their return students must submit a note from his or her parent or guardian to the attendance secretary requesting an excuse for an unexpected illness. For the absences to be excused, notes must be received **within 3 days upon the student's return.** Attendance notes must include the student's name and i.d. number as well as the dates of and reason for the absence. Notes submitted electronically are acceptable, but notes have to include a *parent signature*, so electronic copies must be scanned/photographed and emailed to [Kathleen M Allen@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kathleen_M_Allen@mcpsmd.org).

If students have a planned absence from school, parents should write a note ***in advance*** of the absence. Students with a note for an early dismissal should take the note directly to the attendance office. ***Students leaving early or arriving late must sign in and out of school so that we can account for the whereabouts and safety of all students.***

A list of excused and unexcused absences is available in the [Student's Guide to Rights and Responsibilities](#) as well as the school's student handbook. Forged attendance notes will result in an unexcused absence as well as additional consequences for dishonesty. Please note, the ***absences of students who demonstrate a pattern of missing classes on days when assessments are given or on days when major projects are due will be closely examined, even if the students bring notes.*** Please encourage your child to communicate with his or her teachers, counselor and/or grade level administrator about feeling stressed or overwhelmed well before assignments are due. This enables school personnel to help your child problem solve, with the aim of preventing him or her from falling into a pattern of school avoidance.

For unexcused absences teachers may deny students the opportunity to earn credit for missed work / assessments. Students who accumulate excessive absences in any class will be required to complete an [Attendance Intervention Plan](#), and fulfill attendance goals for the remainder of the semester in order to earn a passing grade in the course. Once students have accumulated five or more unexcused absences in any class, additional assignments and time spent after school in a credit recovery program could be required to restore course credit.

## **STUDENT SAFETY—PREVENTING THE ILLEGAL USE OF ALCOHOL and DRUGS**

Ensuring a safe environment for students is our highest priority. The administrative team, counselors and school nurse will work in close partnership with families to educate students and implement intervention strategies to increase awareness of the dangers of alcohol and substance use. The administrative team will also communicate and enforce school policies to keep students safe in the hopes that no family has to endure the tragic loss of their child due to an alcohol/drug-related incident.

Most recently, vaping is a practice that entices some students. The vaping devices are small, odorless and discreet, and the liquids come in flavors young people find appealing. In using the devices students can

be inhaling high amounts of nicotine or a liquid form of marijuana, posing a threat to their health and a threat of addiction. Vaping devices, liquids and paraphernalia are strictly prohibited in school. Resources on vaping can be found at the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention site](#).

Under no circumstances will students be admitted to school events (games, dances, etc.) if they are suspected to be under the influence or in possession of alcohol, drugs, vaping devices or other paraphernalia. Students are not permitted to bring backpacks, water bottles etc. into games or dances. *Students who are found to be under the influence or in possession of alcohol or any substances at school or a school event—or distributing illegal/controlled substances--will be given school consequences and referred to the police. In addition, students will forfeit participation in their extracurricular / athletic activities as well participation in future school events.* If you suspect that your son or daughter is using alcohol or other drugs, screening services are available in Montgomery County. For additional information, visit the county government's [SASCA](#) website. Additional resources include: National Alliance on Mental Illness ([NAMI](#)), [Caron](#) and [Shady Grove Adventist Healthcare](#).

### **CELL PHONE POLICY**

Students are permitted to use cell phones before and after school, in between classes and during lunch. If you must reach your child during the school day, please call or text during one of these times. For emergencies that occur during class time, please call the main office.

Cell phones should be silenced and out of sight during class unless the teacher is engaging students in an activity in which students can use their phones to access the internet. Chromebooks (with internet access) are available in most classrooms, so students are not required to have a cell phone to complete their assignments.

Students who use cell phones at inappropriate times during class or who skip class in order to use their phones are demonstrating disrespect for the significant amount of time their teachers have put into planning and implementing lessons. Students who chronically use their phones at inappropriate times, who use phones in inappropriate ways or who fail to put their phones away when prompted, could lose the privilege of carrying a phone throughout the school day, among other consequences. In some cases, parents will be called to come to the school to pick-up the student's phone.

## ***Communicating with the School***

### **MAIN OFFICE 240-740-0400**

Office hours are 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Se habla español en la oficina central. Pida por Sonia Matus para español.

### **COUNSELING DEPARTMENT, 240-740-0420**

Jeannette Reveron, Resource Counselor

Patricia Parmelee, College & Career Information Coordinator

Marisol Perez, Counseling Secretary

Pida por Jeannette Reveron o Marisol Perez en la oficina de consejería para español.

### **REGISTRAR, 240-740-0426**

Maureen Bonner, Registrar (handles transcript questions)



- The master schedule has already been constructed based upon students' course selections. Contact your child's counselor only to make changes in case your child is enrolled in the incorrect course/level. **We are unable to honor requests for specific teachers.**
- Counselors ensure that students are taking the classes needed to graduate and to meet their post-secondary school college and career goals.
- Counselors also help if students experience any social/emotional concerns, health challenges or family problems. Please contact your child's counselor to alert him or her of issues that could affect your child's school performance.

#### Counselor Assignments 2019-2020

<u>9th Grade</u>		<u>10th Grade</u>	
Reveron	A - Ansari	Reveron	A - Arkin
Palchick	Archer - Coukell	Palchick	Arnold - Cichy
DeMunter	Coyle - Glantz	DeMunter	Cicoella-Diallo - Fowlkes
Gordon	Goelman - Kales	Gordon	Franze - Jackson
Slotkowski	Kanbouris - Langan	Slotkowski	Jacobs - Koker
Fameti	Lara Carranza - Mengitsu	Farneti	Kolton - Miranda
Henry	Menjiver Jr. - Razu Gheri	Henry	Mobille - Renaghan
Showker	Reyes - Stephens	Showker	Rich - Tesfaslasse
Khani	Straus - Z	Khani	Tewoldeberhan - Z

  

<u>11th Grade</u>		<u>12th Grade</u>	
Reveron	A - Alvord	Reveron	A - Barnes
Palchick	Amankaweh-Ayeh - Chirikov	Palchick	Barro - Contreras
DeMunter	Chotiner - Gharib	DeMunter	Cooper - Genana
Gordon	Giacomini - Joholske	Gordon	Geraldo - Johnson
Slotkowski	Jones - Korsa	Slotkowski	Joholske - Lien
Fameti	Kramer - Mervilus	Farneti	Lieppe - Nava
Henry	Messinger - Revutchi	Henry	Navarette - Ross
Showker	Reyes-Lopez - Story	Showker	Rota - Terbush
Khani	Stubbs - Z	Khani	Terceiro - Z

#### **WHO TO CONTACT ABOUT....**

- **Concerns with grades**—Please have your students talk with teachers directly about concerns with his or her grades. If you or your child cannot resolve the matter directly with the teacher, please contact your child's counselor. If the matter is still not resolved, please contact the grade level administrator, and if the issue continues, please contact the principal.
- **Unexcused absences/potential loss of credit**- Contact the attendance secretary if you believe attendance was inaccurately recorded. Contact the grade level administrator to request consideration to make up work missed during an unexcused absence. Students who wish to appeal any unexcused absences recorded must complete [Form 560-26A](#). Students with excessive absences will complete an [Attendance Intervention Plan](#) and could be required to attend a credit recovery program to regain credit.
- **Questions about child's 504 plan or ELL/RELL accommodations**- Contact your child's counselor.
- **Questions about child's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)**- contact your child's case manager or Deb Newman, Resource Teacher for Special Education (RTSE) [Deborah\\_Newman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Deborah_Newman@mcpsmd.org).

#### **GRADE LEVEL ADMINISTRATORS**

Ninth (Freshmen)	Dr. David Mugerwa	Eleventh (Juniors)	Mr. Doug Nelson
Tenth (Sophomores)	Mrs. Rebecca Sutton	Twelfth (Seniors)	Mr. Sam Levine

*Please note that it can take at least 24 hours for administrators and counselors to respond to emails. Any emergencies must be communicated by calling the school.*

## **WELCOME TO NEW STAFF**

B-CC has exceptional educators. Several of our current staff members assumed new leadership roles this year. In MCPS, “resource teacher” is the title for department heads. We congratulate the following Baron staff members on their new leadership roles for 2019-20:

***Leanna Blandford***—Resource Teacher, Career and Technology Education Department

***Christine Smithson***—Resource Teacher, English Department

***Caitlyn Trimble***—IB Middle Years Program Coordinator

In addition, we have added outstanding staff to our team. The knowledgeable, highly committed staff members at B-CC make the school an excellent place for students to grow and learn. I am pleased to introduce:

Dr. David Mugerwa, Assistant Principal

Doug Nelson, Assistant Principal

Gregory Bishop, Building Services Manager

Francis Boison, Building Services- Assistant Manager

Edwin Lara, Building Services

Chelsea Kaplan, Career Education

Mary Slotkowski, Counseling

Cara Farneti, Counseling

Jessica Bello, English

Vanna Chung, English

Derek O’Halloran, English

Belinda Campbell, ESOL Resource Teacher

Elissa Earley Hidalgo, Internship Coordinator

Mike Gates, Mathematics

Jacob Hall, Science (welcome back)

Mandy Novarr, Science (welcome back)

Dan Dutton, Science

Kimberley Lansell, Social Studies

Ethan Sribnick, Social Studies

William Green, Technology Education

Kevin Koperski, Technology Education

Angie Robinson, Technology Education

Heidi Muñoz Lago, World Languages (Spanish)

Mary Wittelsberger, World Languages (Spanish)

I am looking forward to working with you and each of your children for the 2019-2020 school year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to a staff member who can assist you with any questions.

Sincerely,



Donna Redmond Jones, Ph.D.  
Principal

### Attachments:

Annual Notice for Directory Information and  
Student Privacy

Asbestos Management Plan

Attendance Notes

B-CC Educational Foundation Information

Bell Schedules

Bus Schedules

Cafeteria News & School Meals Information

PTSA Information & Membership

School Calendar