



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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BCCS 2021-22 New Family Orientation
8/13/21

On behalf of all members of the Byron Center Charter School Community, I welcome you to BCCS. You are joining a small but mighty school and we look forward to working with your students and your families this school year. Due to the continued constraints associated with the pandemic it is recommended that schools limit gatherings of people. Therefore, in lieu of a customary face to face new family orientation meeting, we are again providing a virtual orientation to our new families.

The video and written topics are designed to welcome and help our new families make a smooth transition to BCCS. The intent is to provide parents/guardians with a basic introduction to BCCS and to guide your awareness and understanding of the programs, services, resources and basically how things work.

Video: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/xq2DtbGXd6lcl3vuTlopL3Fb70uPzchmx-ifzU72FU8VYWIA-plvtrNRk8YDoG4.YS8w_K2P-i6h8HwR

Passcode: Z0YE^1CE (please note: the 2nd digit is the number 0)

Video Topics

School Mission and Pillars

- Personal Connections: small class sizes
- Academic Excellence: better than average performance on state and national tests
- Positive Character Traits: monthly celebrations and student recognitions

School Overview Programs and Services

- K-12 School chartered through GVSU
- K-5 music art and PE
- Mid High band (5-12), PE and health, on-line courseware, electives, and Kent Career and Technical Center
- HS Counseling
 - academic
 - social emotional/mental health
 - service hours (45 hrs required for graduation)
- Extra Curricular
 - HS jazz band
 - Mid-High cross country
- Special Education/504 and itinerant staff services
- Title I and At Risk programs and services
 - K-5 Title (SWARM) school day service
 - 6-12 At Risk extended day service

- Breakfast and Lunch program (BCPSs), Hand to Hand food support program
- Secretary, Office Manager, Nurses Aide (posted), Chief Administrative Officer
- Maintenance and custodial services
- K-5 Extended-day services
- Kids Hope Mentoring, community outreach programs
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Important Dates and Activities for Start of Year

- Open House Meet the Teacher
 - 8/26, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 - Staggered 15 Minute Intervals
 - Details sent Next week
- First Day of School
 - Monday, Aug. 30
 - Half Day of School 8:00 am - 11:15 am
 - No Food Services
- No School Friday and Monday. Sept 3 and 6 Observance of Labor Day

Annual School Folder

- Parents Keep
- Includes all Annual Documents
- Return to School Pocket
- Keep at Home Pocket
- Please Complete Federal Government Free and Reduced Price Meals Application/ Used for School Funding Purposes

Daily Operations and Schedules

- School Day 8:00 am - 3:00 pm / Half Days 8:00 am - 11:15 am
- Drop-off between 7:40 am and 7:55 am
- Breakfast/ Grab and Go to classrooms
- Lunch (30 minute) staggered by grade-levels/-span / stay with cohorts and eat in classrooms
- Student Pick-Up 3:00 pm or 3:10 pm (see driveline below)
- K-5 classes have weekly Specials and SWARM schedules
- 6-12 have 6 hr day with 5 minute passing times
- After School
 - Extra Curricular Activities and Mid-High At-Risk program until 4
 - Extended Day K-5 Child Care until 5

Student Drop-Off

- Drop-off along sidewalk/ students exit vehicles on passenger side to right vehicle or
- Park and have students use crosswalk if not ready or need extra time
- Parking lot attendants present for traffic flow

Students Pick-up/ Driveline Program

- 4 Digit number displayed in vehicle
- Staggered Pick-up times
 - Colored paper Green first group (3:00 or 11:15) Orange second group (3:10 or 11:25)

- Designated lanes/color coded for students
- Green or closest lane to school reserved for K-3 students
- Parking lot attendants present for traffic flow

Communications and Contacts

- Contact Teachers via email (on website)
- Contact Office via email (office@byroncentercharter.org) or by phone 616-878-4852
- Contact Principal through office or by email mkasmer@byroncentercharter.org)
- K-5 Teachers weekly folders and newsletters
- Principal sends monthly newsletters and updates as needed
- 3-12 Student Grades access through Powerschool (information forthcoming)
- Quarterly report cards
- Mid-High progress reports midway each marking period

In Closing...

I hope that this information is useful to you in preparation for your entrance to the BCCS School Community and the start of the 2021-22 school year. Further information will be sent next week through a similar correspondence.

Please note that , as with all schools across the country, we are still having to adapt our normal programs and routines as a result of the continued pandemic. Our *Return to Learn Plan* for this school year will be updated and shared via email and placed on our website for your understanding and awareness once approved by the BOE in a couple weeks. Please be reminded this is a fluid situation, and we ask for your understanding and flexibility.

I look forward to getting to know all new members of the BCCS School Community (students and parents). If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call or email the office.

Welcome and let's have a great year!

W/ Care,

Mark Kasmer
BCCS Chief Administrative Officer