



*North Buncombe Middle School  
51 N. Buncombe School Road  
Weaverville, NC 28787  
Dr. Jamie Johnson, Principal*

August 23, 2021

Dear Parents or Guardians,

Welcome to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade! We are very pleased to have your child in our classes this year. We are looking forward to a very rewarding and productive school year. It is in your child's best interest that we work together to ensure his/her academic success. Research proves that student achievement is much greater when parents and teachers work together as a collaborative team. Communication is the key to success; therefore, please consistently monitor homework assignments and behavior.

### **PowerSchool and Communication**

We wanted to start the school year by reminding you and encourage you to check PowerSchool regularly. For information on how to access you child's PowerSchool check <http://bit.ly/NBMSPowerSchool>. Each team will email a weekly newsletter to help you know what is going on in our classes.

### **NBMS Website**

Check the NBMS website for individual teacher websites, athletic and event schedules, bus information, news, reminders, policies, rules, faculty email addresses, etc. You can find the school website at <http://nbms.buncombeschools.org> and you can also find information about what is going on at NBMS through our official Facebook page.

### **Materials, Backpacks, and Lockers**

Individual teachers may require additional materials other than the ones that were posted online. Lockers will not be issued to students this year. Students may bring their backpacks into their classes with them.

### **School Issued Laptops**

Students need to fully charge their laptops each night. Just to be sure, students should bring their chargers with them to school.

### **Cell Phones in Class**

The expectation is that students use their phones during class change and at lunch. It is a school rule that students will place their cell phones in the designated location provided by the teacher at the beginning of each period. Each infraction will be documented with the 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction being an office referral. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please call the main office and they will get the message to your child.

### **Rules and Procedures**

This year we will once again be focusing on **Having Respect, Acting Responsibly, Working Together, and Keeping on Task**. Behavior expectations are laid out in detail in the NBMS Student Handbook which is available on the school website. Please review this will your students.

In the event that a student does NOT fulfill the behavior expectations as laid out in the Behavior Management section of the Student Handbook – available on the NBMS website. Lunch or team after school detention may be assigned by individual teachers or by the administration. For excessive behavior issues, referrals to the administration will be used.

### **8th Grade Washington, DC trip (April 20 – 23, 2020)**

We are still making plans for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip to Washington DC this Spring. More information will be available in the coming months as we see how things play out with the pandemic. Chris Brown is the coordinator for the trip. Please contact her (christine.brown@bcsemail.org) if you have questions regarding the trip. Please be aware that behavior and attendance requirements begin on the first day of school. Your child will forfeit the right to participate in the trip if he/she has any of the following:

1 Out-of-School Suspension  
2 Bus Suspensions

2 assignments of full day trips to In-School Suspension

### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is vital to your child's academic success. A student who exceeds 14 absences (excused and/or unexcused) will be required to make up days missed. Students who are planning to go on the Washington DC trip cannot exceed 10 absences (excused and/or unexcused) from August 23, 2021 to April 20, 2022.

### **Tardy Policy**

Attendance will be taken each morning at 7:50 so students should be in HR by the bell. Students not in homeroom at 7:50 will have to sign in through the front office to get an admit slip. Please see the Attendance section of the online Student Handbook for additional information on the tardy policy.

### **Breakfast and Lunch**

We are fortunate to be able to offer free breakfast and lunch for all students this year. Students who wish to have breakfast from the cafeteria need to do so BEFORE coming to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade hall. Once students come to the hall they will not be allowed to go back to the cafeteria. Students choosing to enjoy breakfast will go to the cafeteria when they arrive on campus.

We have thoroughly discussed these expectations with your child, but would appreciate your reviewing them with him/her before signing and returning this letter. We encourage parents to communicate with us via email, as it is a very fast and efficient means of communication (staff emails can be found on the school website in the staff directory under the Our School and About Us tabs). The 8th grade counselor, Christie Clarke (Christie.clarke@bcsemail.org), is a great resource for additional support.

### **8th Grade Academic Teams**

#### **Visionary**

Chris Brown – SS  
Stephanie Hyatt – Science  
Laura Lavezzo – ELA  
Kate Patterson - Math

#### **Legendary**

Aubrey Cooper – ELA  
Kasey Hensley – Math  
Joshua Hughes – SS  
Elizabeth Thomas – Science

#### **Epic**

Brittney Blackwell - SS  
Kerri Hampton – ELA  
Allison Singleton - Science  
Missy Smart - Math

#### **Exceptional Children**

Joe Morrill                      Sheri Moss

Please sign below to indicate that you have read this letter. For your reference, a copy of this letter can be found on the school website under the Academics and 8th Grade tab.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_