

# Banks Middle School

## May Newsletter

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### Dan Van Winkle - Principal

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### BMS Staff

Leann Gallien - Counselor  
Kim Javorsky - Secretary  
Kim Carson - 6th Grade  
Shannon Dotson - 6th Grade  
Ashley Thomas - 6th Grade  
Kellie Meeuwesen - Art  
Koreen Bennett - Band  
Laura Cummings - Language Arts  
Madalyn Hatcher - Language Arts  
Cole Linehan - Health & Phys. Ed.  
Megan King - Health & Technology  
Cathy Davis - Learning Specialist  
Lori Marston - Learning Specialist  
Kathleen Poulsen - Learning Specialist  
Karla Clark - Math  
Nick Rizzo - Physical Education  
Tony Richeson - Science  
Shawn Speer - Social Studies  
Pat Marlia - Spanish  
Janelle Calendar - I. A.  
Ashlee Croissant - I. A.  
Heather Hardman - I. A.  
Kim Long - I.A.  
Heather Poetter - I. A.  
Shari Ragsdale - I. A.  
Aubrey Rue - I. A.  
Sheri Rue - I. A.  
Judy Stone - I. A.

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9 MAY 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The end of the year is fast approaching and there's lots going on here at BMS. In the final six weeks we have State testing in Math, Language Arts, and Science; P.E. Olympics; '18-'19 Parent Night; '18-'19 electives forecasting; Sixth Grade World Expo; eighth grade Oaks park trip, promotion, and dance; fifth grade visit, and Field Day. All of this, of course is on top of our usual business of teaching and learning. Our "chronically absent" group, or students who have missed more than 10% of the school year, is holding at 46 students. Please help us keep our students engaged and up-to-speed by making sure they come to school consistently until June 8th. Every day counts!

At the end of our fifth six-week grading period, 116 students qualify for honor roll with GPAs at or above 3.5 and our overall attendance for the year is 94.1%. We had 65 students maintained perfect attendance for the fifth six-weeks and only one young man, Trevor Carney, has perfect attendance for the year. Great job Trevor!

We had 118 responses to our parent input survey for the 2018-2019 schedule. Thank you to all the respondents, especially to those of you who took the time to email me with specific thoughts and concerns. I've presented my decision for the BMS 2018-2019 bell schedule to the staff, I will present it to the School Board on Monday May 14th, and I will explain it fully to parents at the 2018 - 2019 Parent Night at 6pm on May 29th. I call it "The 6 - 7 - 8 Schedule"

The key feature of the 6 - 7 - 8 Schedule is that it transitions students from an elementary model to the high school block schedule. Sixth grade students will have 6 classes that meet every day. Seventh grade students will have 7 classes split between every day and a block schedule: Math, Language Arts, and P.E. every morning, and Science, Social Studies, Technology/Health, and an elective in the afternoons on an A/B block. Eighth grade students will have 8 classes on the A/B block schedule. This schedule gives Sixth graders get more than an extra hour per week in Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and P.E., Seventh graders get this extra time in Math, Language Arts, and P.E., and Eighth graders have the opportunity to take two electives. We retain the ability to send eighth graders to the high school for Spanish and advanced Math classes, all fine arts offerings are retained, and a technology elective is added. Study halls will still be available, but they will be offered as electives, just as they are at BHS.

As always, thank you for everything you do to support your child's success at BMS!

Sincerely,

**Dan Van Winkle, Principal**

# Banks Middle School

## Dates to Remember

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May 14 - School Board Meeting  
May 21 - Fine Arts Festival  
May 24 - Music Awards Banquet  
May 28 - No School (Memorial Day)  
May 30 - '18-'19 Parent Night  
June 5 - PTO Meeting  
June 6 - World Expo  
June 7 - 8th grade Oaks Park trip  
                  - 8th grade promotion & dance  
June 8 - Field Day (last day of school)

### 2018 - 2019 School Year

Aug 21 - Registration Night  
Sept 4 - New Student Orientation  
Sept 5 - First day for all students

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## Announcements

### Outstanding Students

The following students have been recognized by the staff as a "Student of the Six Weeks." All of these students have been recognized by the staff as demonstrating excellent peer modeling of safe, responsible, and respectful citizenship and academic effort.

#### Sixth Grade

Kyler Humphrey  
Danielle Bauer

#### Seventh Grade

Wyatt Selleck  
Peyton Wise

#### Eighth Grade

Charlie White  
Mollie Breadon

### Snow Days

As you know, Banks School District missed three days of school as a result of our late-season snow. Mr. Leo, our superintendent, has announced that he is not extending the school year for students beyond the scheduled end date of June 8th. Instead, staff will spend three extra days the following week honing their craft in professional development and collaboration sessions.

### Testing Season

Smarter Balanced and OAKS testing are underway. Seventh and eighth graders will wrap up all their tests this week and sixth grade will begin next week. Results seem to be coming back quickly this year, so we should be able to report scores to students before the end of the year. Following the state testing we will be administering our iReady Spring Benchmarks in Math and Reading. Please encourage your students to give their best efforts on these tests. Both the state tests and our benchmark testing give us important data to help us determine who might need to receive academic interventions next year.

### Jog-a-Thon

We had our First Annual Jog-a-Thon on April 20th and had a great time with it. Props to Mr. Speer's and Mrs. King's classes for getting into the spirit with their class competitions and theme dress-up. As a school we ran over 700 miles and raised over \$2,000! More importantly, the students and staff had a great time running, walking, jogging for an hour on a beautiful Friday afternoon. Samantha Womack was our top girl runner with 25 laps and Jackson Lyda, Caden Peterson, and Dylan Smith were our top boy runners with 31 laps each. Thank you to those of you who volunteered to help with the Jog-a-Thon and to those of you who supported your students with pledges.

### 8th Grade End of Year Events

Eighth grade promotion ceremony on June 7th from 5:30 pm to approximately 6:30 pm. This will be followed by a dance which will end at 9:00 pm. Students are eligible to participate in these promotion activities as long as they are not under an active suspension or expulsion. Earlier that day, we will take them to Oaks Park. A permission slip with details about eligibility criteria was sent home a few weeks ago. Extra copies are available in the office.

### Field Day!

June 8th will be Field Day! We will have outdoor events and games for the students, teachers, and parents including a dunk tank and large inflatables. The PTO has graciously agreed to provide a BBQ lunch starting around 11am and dismissal (for the year!) will be at noon.

