

BLACKMON ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Where the Pursuit of Learning is Boundless

PENNY BOWEN GORUM
PRINCIPAL

KEITH WELLS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Parents,

It is time to start our virtual year! Our classes will begin with A Day on Monday, August 17th at 9:00 AM. I have attached a copy of the A/B virtual schedule. This schedule will work on a rotating basis meaning that every other day will be A or B. Our Fridays will alternate. Teachers will remind students each afternoon of what day it is and where they should be signing in the next day.

A Day - Periods 1, 3, 5

B Day - Periods 2, 4, 6

The Nest is a news show designed for students to get important news/information. A news link to the show can be found on the school website and BRMS Friday Flyer. Encourage your child to tune in to this daily show.

8:00 AM- 6th Grade News

8:15 AM- 7th Grade News

8:30 AM- 8th Grade News

We do not expect students to spend 7.5 hours a day on the computer listening to teachers lecture. Our teachers will engage students for the first 15-25 minutes (longer if needed or the content calls for it) of each class period with direct instruction. During the rest of the class, they will assign an assignment or activity for your child to complete. However, teachers will remain available if your child needs assistance via Zoom and/or other electronic platforms. Please note that these classes are covering grade-level standards, and each child is expected to keep up with their learning just as if they were sitting in a classroom. The grades that they make during their virtual classes will count going forward toward their current academic year.

Prior to the first day of school: Students should make sure they can access Canvas through the clever portal. Students should open their Chromebook, enter the GTID number and password (mmMMDDYY). To access the student's courses, click on "Courses" and then "All Courses." Spend some time getting familiar with each teacher's course and Canvas page. Make sure to read the instructions and helpful hints on the flyers you picked up during verification and/or on the BRMS Friday Flyer. All flyers can be found on the BRMS website.

First Day of School: Students will visit the BRMS website and use **The Nest** Zoom link to join in on school news for their assigned grade level time. They will then log into Canvas no later than 8:55 for their first class. Once student is in Canvas, he/she should click on his/her 1st period teacher's Canvas course. Students should then click on the Zoom Link provided by the 1st period Teacher. (The ILT teacher and the 1st period teacher are the same). The student should then click, "Share my video." The student should always use their real name as their screen name. Students may have to wait to be admitted into the zoom session. Once class is over, students should return to the "Courses" tab on Canvas to click on their next class and join the Zoom meeting.

7251 Blackmon Road
Columbus, Georgia 31909
(706) 565-2998 Office (706) 565-3006 FAX
Website: <http://blackmon.muscogee.k12.ga.us/>

Parent Tech Resources: click here: <https://bit.ly/31Cnf9k>: The district has created an amazing help page for parents and students. If you have trouble or need help signing into canvas, zoom, or using district programs, you may click the link above. You may also go to the Muscogee County School District web page, click the Families and Students tab and you will see a large black box "Parent Tech Resources." Click that box and click the tab where you need help. If the tab is not there you may call the school and we will try to assist you.

ILT: Increased Instructional time/Social Emotional Learning: Students have access to ILT times each day from 3:20 PM to 3:50 PM. A child's ILT teacher is the same as his/her 1st period teacher. If your child is having a difficult time emotionally during virtual learning, please reach out to their teacher or to our counselor Ms. Rubio. The counselor will make contact with your child as soon as possible.

Attendance: Please remember that teachers are taking attendance so it is very important that you have your child up and ready for class each morning. (They are not allowed to participate in pajamas or from their bed.) If your child is absent from a class, please send an email to your child's teacher explaining the absence and why your child was absent. Remember, your child is expected to be in class each and every day and complete all assignments! Attendance notes should be submitted to the school office in order to be excused. Please follow MCSD student handbook/BRMS student handbook for a list of what is considered excused. Students should always set their Zoom names to be their legal name at all times during the instructional day.

Virtual Etiquette: It is important to have a place set aside for your child's daily learning. Please remove as many distractions as possible so that your child will stay engaged in the learning process and focus on the teacher and their lesson. Cell phones can be a huge distraction so if there is a way to remove the phone from the learning environment, we will greatly appreciate it. Please do your best to try to make sure your child is dressed appropriately before school starts each morning. (Ex: No pajamas, tank tops or distracting clothing.)

I appreciate your ongoing involvement in your child's education. We are here to serve you at Blackmon Road Middle School.

Sincerely,

Penny Gorum, Principal
Blackmon Road Middle School

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